

Brochure

Operator Candidate Selection Criteria

For PageWide Web Presses





HP PageWide Web Press Operator Candidate Selection Criteria

Selecting an operator with the proper qualifications is an important step in establishing a productive HP PageWide Web Press environment.

It is common practice to define a certain level of education required for a specific job. Successful operators of HP PageWide Web Presses have a wide variety of backgrounds, where competencies are more important than specific school certificates.

It is not necessary that the machine operator and the prepress specialist be the same person. There are many successful sites where two operators are trained, each specialising in one of the above aspects and at the same time providing backup for each other.

How do you pick the right person to fulfill the role of operator?

Minimum Desired Competencies

- An inquisitive personality
- Understanding of the use of common hand tools, and good manual dexterity
- A methodical “procedure-oriented” approach to tasks
- An affinity for detail for quality control purposes
- Good communication and interpersonal skills

Education

- High school or vocational/technical school diploma or certificate
- Additional courses in print production, operations, or similar functional areas
- Courses in chemistry, electronics, colour theory, are desired

Experience

- Background and experience in conventional offset operation, preferably in colour printing
- An understanding of prepress functions
- Experience in operating mechanical/ electromechanical equipment
- Experience in basic computer operation

Core Competencies

- Ability to follow written instructions
- Positive attitude and willingness to learn new things
- Understanding of the core mission and vision of the business
- Awareness that every press is different and the ability to optimise press operation in a unique environment
- Ability to match or detect subtle differences between colours, including shades of colour and brightness
- Mechanical aptitude and skills to perform adjustments and maintenance on mechanical systems
- Good organisational skills
- A preference for a clean and orderly work environment



Above Average Competencies

- Good problem solving skills
- The ability to work independently as well as part of a team
- Ability to evaluate print quality and performance against defined standards
- Ability to use data and information to make decisions

Equipment Dependability

An HP PageWide Web Press operator who exhibits the characteristics that follow will positively influence press reliability by:

- Performing routine maintenance, on schedule and according to procedures. This is essential to promote machine stability and dependability
- Performing adjustments accurately, efficiently and according to procedures, minimising unexpected downtime and maintenance calls
- Monitoring the printing process to maintain print quality. Lost productivity and wasted consumables are often attributed to output problems that go unnoticed
- Understanding the capabilities of the machine to achieve optimum print quality

Workflow Efficiency

Maintaining workflow efficiency requires evaluating processes at each stage of production. The ability to measure workflow efficiency depends on:

- Predictable inputs
- Predictable processes
- Proper inspection of the results to ensure predictability at each stage of the workflow process

The operator has the potential to positively influence every aspect of the workflow:

- Operator influences the inputs through proper handling of consumables
- Operator determines whether the process will be predictable by:
 - Correctly performing preventative maintenance routines
 - Ensuring that each job is properly set up
 - Performing routine printing procedures, most of which require specific skills and aptitudes
 - Inspecting for adherence to procedures using, visual discrimination, print quality analysis, and judgement
 - Recognising when routine adjustments are necessary and identifying errors at the earliest possible stage to minimise production rework

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