
**Graphic technology — Determination
of the energy consumption of digital
printing devices including transitional
and related modes**

*Technologie graphique — Détermination de la consommation
d'énergie des dispositifs d'impression numérique en modes
transitoires et connexes*

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 130, *Graphic technology*.

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Introduction

The energy requirement of digital production printing devices varies considerably across technologies, output formats, and productivity and quality expectations. Run length influences the overall energy usage, so the energy consumption of devices used for relatively short run lengths is accompanied by the relatively high amounts of transitional energy, including surge power, required to complete the print run. Operating transitions contribute to the overall energy profile throughout the course of operations, with frequent interventions between production printing modes.

As a proportion of the overall energy requirement for short run length jobs, transitional energy, including the surge energy, and waiting energy, including preparatory maintenance, will be substantial. This means that in order for the graphics industry to have accurate energy consumption data, directions are required to assist stakeholders in making accurate calculations for digital production printing devices, whose modes, other than production printing mode, play a significant role in the comprehensive energy consumption. This includes digital printing machines used to produce sign and display work, commemorative prints, photo books and similar high-value, on-demand print in narrow and wide formats.

This document provides directions for measuring any format of digital production press, whose modes, other than production printing mode, play a significant role in the comprehensive energy consumption.

This document can be used to compare the energy efficiency figures for different machine set ups: best-quality (slowest), highest-productivity (fastest) or other alternative combinations.

Application of this document provides the energy efficiency figures that correspond to the energy consumption for a digital printing device. These values can be used to inform the individual production scenarios covering different shifts, printing materials and other factors typical of the graphic arts.

Energy usage is generally estimated according to the connected load of a machine. The connected load is the machine's potential maximum power consumption. But calculated values do not necessarily reflect the machine's energy consumption. Actual energy consumption often differs significantly from estimated values. Power consumption data across devices can therefore not be accurately compared, since the calculations are unlikely to have followed a common framework that takes into account the influence of peripheral equipment such as IR or UV dryers. Nor can they accommodate differences in measurement cycles.

The universal availability of verifiable energy consumption data will enable print machinery buyers, printers and their customers to assess the power consumption of machines. However, the user of this document should understand that the effectiveness of power does not determine acceptable quality levels for the output that customers may require or expect. Power consumption is an important part of all the output requirements and quality expectation. This data can be used in life cycle analyses (LCA) and to calculate the carbon footprint of a printing system and of printed matter. Energy efficiency can be reported in various ways, such as the number of prints printed per kWh. This information can be used to:

- provide data for the LCA of a printing device;
- assess the power consumption and energy efficiency of digital printing production machines and peripheral devices;
- estimate operating costs for investment planning;
- benchmark the energy efficiency of digital production presses;
- calculate the CO₂ footprint of printed matter;
- encourage the energy efficiency improvements of digital printing devices over time;
- provide data to enable companies to claim environmental subsidies;
- provide data for carbon offsetting purposes.

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This document defines how to calculate the electrical energy requirements and therefore the energy efficiency of digital printing devices.

This document can be used to determine the energy efficiency of any format of digital production press, whose modes, other than production printing mode, play a significant role in the comprehensive energy consumption.

Care should be taken when comparing the results obtained from this document that the devices being compared were set up to produce the same print quality using comparable types of printing technology, process and device configurations.

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