Grade Development for HP Indigo Digital Presses

ImPress™ ID-115 Surface Sizing Agent

**Customer Challenge**
A North American specialty paper mill was looking for a way to expand into the fast growing HP Indigo Digital Press paper market.

Paper for this specific market requires the use of special additives designed to improve indigo press adhesion and runnability. Additionally, paper performance has to be certified by a HP Indigo Digital Press approved evaluator. Approval ratings are given as 1 star, 2 star or 3 star performance with 3 star being the most difficult and of the highest value.

**Recommended Solution**
Solenis recommended using imPress ID-115 surface sizing agent at six active pounds per ton, added along with the mill’s standard size press solution. The paper was assessed by an evaluator from Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) to confirm Indigo certification.

**Results Achieved**
The results exceeded expectations. Paper machine runnability was excellent and both broke re-use and press performance such as offset were acceptable.

At RIT, the paper achieved the coveted 3 star rating, with near perfect results in all categories including adhesion, blanket compatibility, and press runnability. The customer achieved 98% - 100% adhesion including black and photo mode. Following this trial, the mill has received 3 star certification on the rest of their grade structure including all basis weights.

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**RECORDED BENEFITS**

- **Cost effective** (30 – 50% lower cost than traditional treatments)
- **Ease of runnability** – no changes required for machine setup or size press chemistry
- **Works with standard size press starches** including ethylated, oxidized, and cationic starches
- **No problems with other types of presses** including offset, inkjet, and electrographic printers

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