

# HP Indigo Media Certification Program

RIT's Hewlett-Packard (HP) Indigo Media Certification Program enables substrate manufacturers, suppliers, and HP Indigo Digital Press owners to evaluate substrate compatibility with HP's Indigo digital offset color presses.

The media certification procedure incorporates several assessments. After passing a short initial screening evaluation, the substrate undergoes a more comprehensive evaluation of its performance within the HP Indigo Digital Press.

## Certification procedure

*The evaluation considers the following:*

### Performance indicator:

- runnability

### Assessment criteria:

- This test evaluates how smoothly the substrate runs through the press.

### Performance indicator:

- ink-transferability

### Assessment criteria:

- In this test, the quality of ink transferred from the blanket to the substrate is measured through highlight dots, thin lines, heavy images, and image-edge integrity.

### Performance indicator:

- blanket-substrate compatibility

### Assessment criteria:

- This test looks for the occurrence of the "blanket memory" effect, which is caused by the interaction between the substrate and the blanket. This results in gloss differences between solids and background areas of the previously printed image.

### Performance indicator:

- blanket-temperature operating window

### Assessment criteria:

- The performance of the substrate under a wide range of blanket temperatures is assessed during this test. The wider the blanket temperature range, the greater the substrate's compatibility.

### Performance indicator:

- ink-substrate interaction

### Assessment criteria:

- This test focuses on how well the ink fixes to the substrate or the image adheres to the substrate. It also assesses the resistance of the ink layer to abrasion (which depends on the application). An optional test for this indicator measures the degree to which the ink layer flakes, which signals the printed substrate's ability to withstand various post-press operations.

The overall assessment procedure also ensures the substrate can be used in duplex and collation modes.

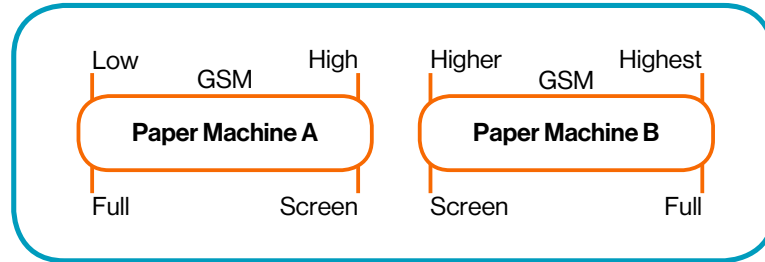
Once completed, a substrate's compatibility is mapped, allowing potential users to decide whether the substrate conforms to their needs. A comprehensive report is then generated for every tested substrate and given to the customer. Details of certified substrates are published so that HP Indigo users can become aware of approved materials and buying sources.

## HP Indigo Media Certification Program Information

### Fee

|                   | <b>Commercial</b>        | <b>Speciality Media</b> |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Screen Evaluation | \$725.00 per substrate*  | no screen evaluation    |
| Full Evaluation   | \$1700.00 per substrate* | \$1200.00 per substrate |
| Interpolations    | \$100 per weight*        | (when applicable)       |

\*To certify a range of weights of the same paper grade, two full evaluations are conducted on the basis of the lowest and highest weight if text and cover weights are manufactured on the same machine. One middle weight would have a screen evaluation performed and all other weights would be certified by interpolation upon approval of the performed evaluations. This provides a cost-effective way of ensuring that a full range of commercial media is certified. For weights manufactured on multiple machines, the diagram below shows an example of what a test plan might look like.



### Scheduling

Scheduling depends on facility availability. Attempts will be made to accommodate all scheduling needs. To schedule a certification or a related service, please contact Michael Leaty at the details provided below.

Michael Leaty  
 Printing Application Lab – RIT  
 Telephone (585) 475-7427  
 email: mplasp@rit.edu

### Shipping

All shipments must be coordinated through Michael Leaty and be scheduled to arrive at RIT at least three days prior to the scheduled certification date. This allows the print media to acclimate to the laboratory environment.

### Packaging

Materials shall be fully wrapped with moisture-barrier packaging material and protected against shipping damage.

### Labeling

The samples must be clearly labeled with the following details:

- company or contact name
- name of the substrate
- grain direction for sheet material
- grammage, basis weight, or caliper
- suppliers reference or batch number

This information must be consistent with that on the substrate data sheet.

Print media should be shipped to the address below.

Michael Leaty  
 CIMS Building, Dock #3, Room 1425  
 Printing Applications Lab  
 66 Lomb Memorial Drive  
 Rochester, NY 14623

For material originating from outside the U.S., the shipment must include an original commercial invoice, and/or a bill of lading. This will assist with clearing the material through customs and reduce shipping delays.

## Commercial / Specialty

### HP Indigo 7500 Digital Color Press (Sheet-fed) Specifications

Substrate dimensions:

preferred: 13" x 19" / 330 mm x 480 mm (text)

acceptable: 12" x 18" / 305 mm x 460 mm (text) (less than 170 gsm - grain long)

preferred: 19" x 13" / 480 mm x 330 mm (cover)

acceptable: 18" x 12" / 460 mm x 305 mm (cover) (greater than 170 gsm - grain short)

Maximum image area: 12.48" x 18.26"

Substrate thickness: 3–16 pt

Number of sheets required:

screen evaluation: 1,000 sheets

full evaluation: 2,500 sheets

specialty media: 1,200 sheets

Paper weight:

simplex/duplex printing: 80–350 gsm / 55 lb text to 130 lb cover (coated), 60–350 gsm / 40 lb text to 130 lb cover (uncoated)

Rochester Institute of Technology

66 Lomb Memorial Drive

Rochester, NY 14623-5604

Phone: (585) 475-2687

[www.printlab.rit.edu](http://www.printlab.rit.edu)

To learn more and to request a certification, visit

<https://www.rit.edu/gis/printlab/hp-indigo-media-certification-program>