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**CONTROL OF PRINTING PROCESS STABILITY IN NARROW WEB
UV-FLEXOGRAPHIC PRESS**

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***Research Methodology.*** *Label printing has been done at eight-ink flexographic press of linear type Graficon Ilma MP340 using UV-inks of JD series (Sericol). As an instrument of actual quality control of the technological process, we have used the method of Shewhart control charts, principles of application of which are grounded by the international standard ISO 7870-2: 2013. We have used the rotational viscometer Brookfield RVT to measure the structural viscosity of flexographic UV-inks.*

***Results.*** *As a result of experimental studies we have revealed minor variations in optical density of inks Pantone 485 and JD135 / 5 Red after brief stops of a printing press. The laboratory studies have found that the reason for the change in optical density of these inks is the increased ability to structure formation, which is proved by defining the indicator of viscosity anomaly. The research of the temperature effect on the ink viscosity proves the positive impact of the temperature control of UV-inks on the stability of the optical characteristics of imprints.*

***Novelty.*** *As an instrument of actual quality control of the technological process, we have used the method of Shewhart control charts which allowed to analyze and establish the factors influencing this process and thereby to predict and provide the quality of finished products. A minor impact of the temperature increase on the change of viscosity anomaly has been established, indicating a simultaneous decrease in both a maximum and minimum indicator of structural viscosity of UV-inks and consequently improving the ink transfer.*

***Practical Significance.*** *The results of experimental studies in specific production conditions have helped to make practical recommendations to ensure the stability of colour reproduction in the process of flexographic UV-printing.*