

Title (en)

Device and method for changing the printing image during the operation of a printing press

Title (de)

Vorrichtung und Verfahren zum Wechseln des Druckbildes während des Betriebs einer Druckmaschine

Title (fr)

Dispositif et procédé pour changer l'image d'impression pendant l'opération d'une machine d'impression

Publication

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Application

EP 98113657 A 19980722

Priority

US 90873697 A 19970807

Abstract (en)

[origin: US6119593A] An apparatus and method allowing the changing of image plates or cassettes in an offset printing apparatus without the need to stop the press. Each blanket cylinder is associated with two image cylinders, where each image cylinder carries an associated image plate or cassette. When one of the image cylinders is engaged with the blanket cylinder, thereby transferring an image for printing on the web, the other image cylinder is disengaged from the blanket cylinder. As a result, the other image cylinder is stopped, allowing the image plate or cassette to be changed without the need to stop the entire press operation. After the image plate or cassette is changed on the stopped image cylinder, that image cylinder may be subsequently engaged with the blanket cylinder, while the other image cylinder is disengaged, thereafter allowing that image cylinder to have its image plate or cassette changed. The present invention can include a driving and clutching arrangement which allows an image cylinder which has been stopped for image plate or cassette exchange to be restarted and engaged with the blanket cylinder, while the other image cylinder which was engaged with the blanket cylinder and printing on the web is stopped. In an alternative embodiment of the present invention, two image cylinders and inking units are mounted together on a frame for lateral movement relative to the blanket cylinder, such that lateral movement of one image cylinder and inking unit away from and out of engagement with the blanket cylinder results in lateral movement of the other image cylinder and inking unit toward and into engagement with the blanket cylinder. In an alternative embodiment, each of the plate cylinders has an auxiliary motor. Each auxiliary motor accelerates and decelerates one of the plate cylinders individually.

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