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ONLINE ISSN : 1882-4935

PRINT ISSN : 0914-3319

Journal of Printing Science and Technology

Vol. 42 (2005) , No. 2 pp.74-77

[\[PDF \(436K\)\]](#) [\[References\]](#)**The Trend of FM Screening in Japan**Shoji MIURA¹⁾

1) Creo Japan Inc. Professional Service & ViP Technical Consulting Department

Abstract

Recently, FM (Frequency Modulation) screening technology is remarkably attractive along with the spread of CTP (Computer to Plate) system. FM screening is an old screening technology developed by Gerhard Fischer from Germany in 1984. It was announced respectively by the brand name of "Diamond Screening" by Linotype-Hell Co. and "Crystal Raster" by Agfa-Gevaert Co. in 1993. After that they were also introduced as new screening technology by the two companies in Japan. Because it was necessary to reproduce a minute microdot on the printing plate in FM screening accurately, it was very difficult to reproduce by the conventional film/PS plate process. However, the output of an accuracy, steady plate became possible by development of CTP system, and FM screening technology was back to life as a new technology. Followings are the features on FM screen.

- The moire is not generated.
- Color gamut (reproduction region of the color) extends.
- The consumption of ink can be reduced.

Because it has the feature which makes up for the fault of the AM screening, FM screening is expected as the tool to make big improvements in the print quality. FM screening will become the big power for the universalization of the fine printing though taking the place of the AM screen with its history of the 150 years. And it is a target for the future.

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