

Solvent distillation as a contribution to active environmental protection.

The market is making higher and more diverse demands than ever on the cleaning of ink-carrying components that are removed from the press after a job change. And because print runs are becoming shorter, necessitating frequent job changes, there are also more parts that need to be washed.

That is why the efficient cleaning of anilox rollers, impression cylinders and press parts is becoming an increasingly important part of the process chain in print shops. The treatment and recovery by distillation of the solvents used to clean press parts is an important contribution to a sustainable production process. Solvent consumption and emissions of volatile hydrocarbons can be significantly reduced through the use of modern distillation units.

State-of-the-art distillation units can measure the filling volume in the distillation vessel by means of load cells whose signals are processed by an intelligent control system, providing important process information and permitting a fully automatic, unsupervised distillation process. The only waste produced is a small quantity of highly viscous residue while nearly all solvent is recovered and available for reuse. This means that distillation minimizes not just the costs of solvent purchase and disposal, but also the required transports, and thereby helps preserve natural resources.

The high solvent recovery rate and the provision of clean washing medium with minimal transport requirements and very low disposal quantities represent an important contribution to active environmental protection.