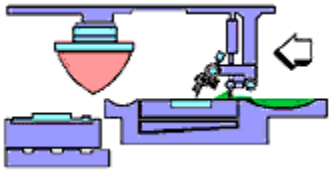
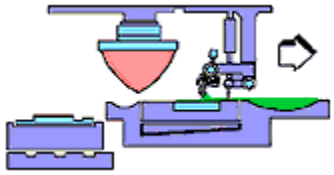
BASIC THEORY: How does transfer pad printing work?

SP series Pad printers

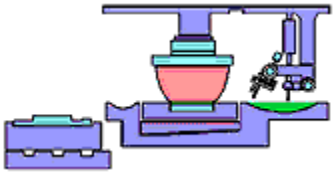
Open Inkwell Pad Printing



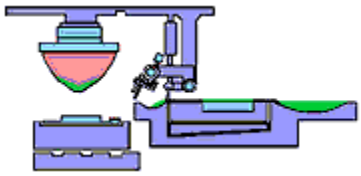
1. In standard open inkwell pad printing, the spatula scoops ink out of the inkwell and over the entire cliché plate surface with the doctor blade lifted off the surface.



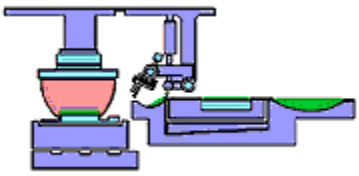
2. The pad slide moves to the right as the doctor blade removes excess ink from the cliché.



3. The transfer pad, or tampon, is then pressed against the inked plate and lifted.



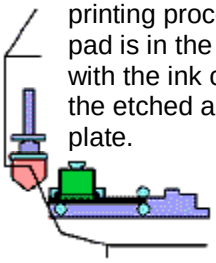
4. As the transfer pad (now holding image) moves left toward the object to be printed, new ink is deposited onto the plate.



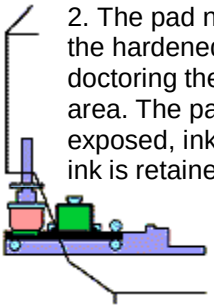
5. With the new image now slightly tacky, the pad descends to the part, leaves the imprint, and the process is then repeated.

SPC & TPC series Pad printers

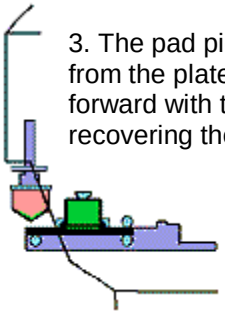
Sealed Ink Cup Pad Printing



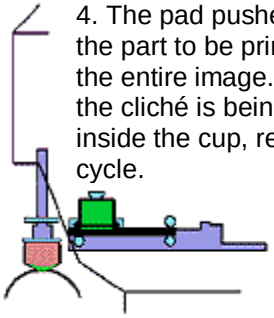
1. In the sealed ink cup pad printing process, the transfer pad is in the starting position with the ink cup positioned over the etched area of the cliché plate.



2. The pad now moves backward with the hardened ceramic lip of the cup, doctoring the excess ink off the image area. The pad then descends onto the exposed, inked image. All remaining ink is retained in the cup.



3. The pad picks up the image from the plate then moves forward with the sealed ink cup recovering the etched image.



4. The pad pushes downward onto the part to be printed and releases the entire image. At the same time, the cliché is being exposed to ink inside the cup, ready to repeat the cycle.