6.1: Introduction to Imaging

Learning Objectives

- Describe digital printing methods and their differences
- List the various inks used in inkjet printing and their characteristics
- Identify the key components of electrophotography
- Explain the seven steps of the electrophotographic process
- Describe the differences between toner types and how they affect imaging
- Evaluate the suitability of a paper for a project based on its characteristics
- Convert between paper basis weights and grammage
- Describe the key differences between page description languages
- Acknowledge the historical significance of Postscript in desktop publishing
- Explain the differences between PDF/X versions
- Describe the function of a RIP in a DFE
- Explain why calibration is critical in electrophotography
- Describe the key component in variable data printing
- Identify key benefits of open standard VDP formats

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digital press is often used to describe commercial digital printers. In the past, speed was the determining factor of this designation. Today, we have specific criteria published by Idealliance, a not-for-profit member organization that develops standards and best practices for the digital media supply chain (Idealliance, n.d.). Apart from speed, color accuracy to meet a specification and consistency over long print runs are key parts of Idealliance’s certification process.
You can find out more at this webpage:
http://www.idealliance.org/certification/digital-press