



Background

This standard was created to help companies operate to a colour quality management system, which will enable them to print to an accredited colour standard. This factsheet describes the process by which a print company can adopt the standard and prepare for certification.

ISO12647/2: Colour Quality Management Certification Scheme

The ISO12647/2 Colour Quality Management Certification Scheme was created by The BPIF (British Printing Industries Federation). It details what companies need to do to obtain a completely independent ISO certification compliant with UKAS standards.

The Scheme takes ISO9001 and combines it with the core requirements of the distilled ISO 12647 documentation. From this document the organisation will be able to assess the entire production process to ensure consistent compliance to the Standard.

This Scheme is independent of any supplier, providing both the organisation and their customers with the confidence that they are being offered completely impartial support.

The Sun Chemical ISO12647/2 Gap Analysis

The first step is to identify all your company's procedures and practices that do not conform to the Standard. The Sun Chemical ISO12647/2 Gap Analysis can assist greatly: the analysis assesses where your company is in terms of all Scheme requirements.

The Gap Analysis covers the whole production process - pre-press, proofing and press. Being sponsored by Sun Chemical, this significantly reduces the cost of this analysis.

The results of this analysis will be used to create a report, which in turn can be used as a route map for successful implementation of the colour standard requirements.

The Sun Chemical ISO12647/2 Gap Report

The report will highlight any non-conformance to the ISO12647/2 standard, where your company can improve its processes and also identify specific actions the company will need to address in order to progress further with this standard.

Once any non-conforming areas are identified, the following steps are likely to be required:

- **Preparation of documentation: the Scheme is based on 9001, this documentation is essential to monitor conformance.**
- **The BPIF universal colour manual. This can be modified to your company's needs, substantially reducing the time and effort required to generate this critical documentation.**
- **Review the equipment training maintenance record by staff and compliant standards from suppliers.**
- **Assess your company's software and training procedures.**
- **Appoint a senior Colour Champion with appropriate responsibilities.**

BPIF ISO12647/2 Colour Standard Factsheet



COLOUR STANDARD FACTSHEET

How will my company benefit from a holistic approach?

Each part of the production process will have an effect on the product's final colour quality. As a result, the whole production process will need to be assessed against the requirements.

How will this help me?

The ISO12647/2 Colour Quality Management Certification Scheme provides international recognition of your colour quality, distils the ISO12647 documentation to the core requirements, assesses your entire production process to ensure consistent compliance to the Standard, reduces paper and ink wastage, helps you meet client expectations more effectively and improves communication.

What are the main benefits?

If your company follows the process closely, it will gain substantial benefits at each of the stages without even starting the certification audit process. However, achieving certification will bring you further advantages. When you use the certification on tender documents or quotes, it demonstrates to clients, potential clients and other third parties that your company works to an industry-recognised UKAS certification. It also helps you anticipate customer requirements.

"We are BPIF members and we thought it would be good to get some specialist support for this. Malcolm McReath (BPIF associate technical consultant) has been working with us to highlight areas that will need to be addressed in order to implement the colour standard requirements."

Ken Bell, Managing Director at Zenith Print & Packaging

"Many of our customers have critical colour requirements and would demand compliance with ISO 12647/2. This led us to contact BPIF Business for advice. A technical consultant made a GAP analysis of all areas that involve colour production processes."

Tommy Crowe, Director of Print Operation at Bridson Horrox Ltd



Who should I contact for more information?

To find out more about this standard, please contact Philip Thompson at the BPIF on **0207 915 8377** or **philip.thompson@bpif.org.uk**. Philip will be happy to discuss the requirements booklet and also the further support available through one of our colour specialists.