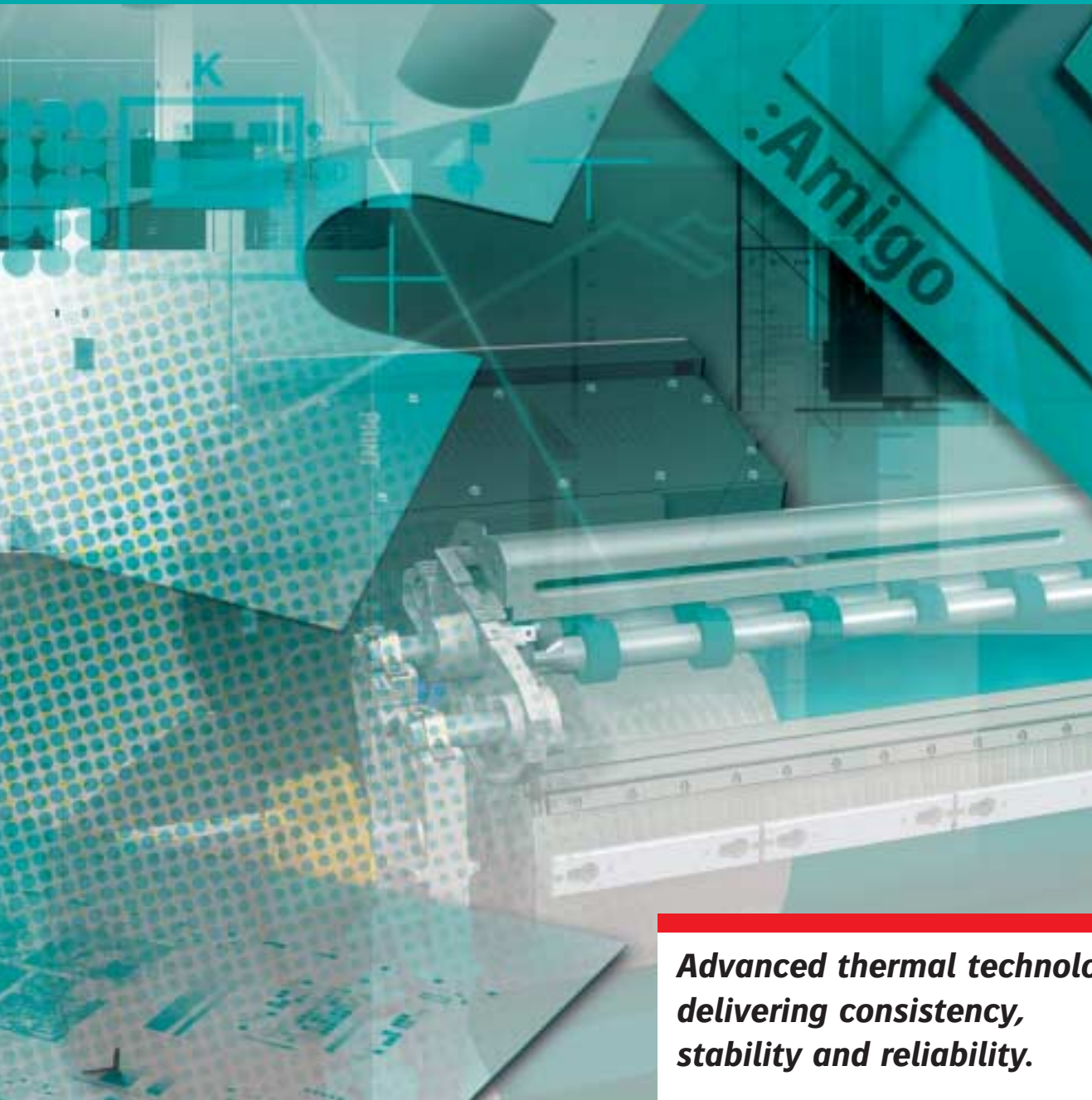


High Performance Thermal Plate Technology

# :Amigo



***Advanced thermal technology  
delivering consistency,  
stability and reliability.***

Agfa's :Amigo uses ThermoFuse technology to deliver robust, high resolution plate performance. :Amigo is able to deliver the highest quality press results with remarkable chemical resistance and extraordinary processing latitude thanks to the use of physical, rather than chemical, plate processing. This means simple platemaking with consistently high quality, plate after plate without the variables seen with other, non-ThermoFuse technologies. :Amigo is daylight working for maximum convenience and can be processed in all plate processors. :Amigo delivers the ultimate in convenience, reliability and quality to the most demanding pressroom.

## **:Amigo - physical imaging**

By using Agfa's innovative yet proven ThermoFuse Technology, which features purely physical image formation, many exposure variables are eliminated. :Amigo's coating is made from millions of individual thermoplastic pearls. It is negative working, so the 830 nm laser diodes expose the image. In the exposed image areas, these thermoplastic pearls are heated, so melt and fuse together, as well as bonding firmly to the substrate.

## **:Amigo - processing at it's simplest**

In the unexposed areas, the pearls are very easily removed by washing the surface with a mild Clean Out Solution. Since the method of removing the non-image area is physical, rather than chemical, there is the widest possible processing latitude. In fact, :Amigo can be regarded as "Development-Free". Small variations in temperature, pH, activity or replenishment settings have little or no impact on the final press-ready plate. This ensures that platemaking is simple, predictable and reliable - plate after plate. The bath life is extremely long at up to 5000m<sup>2</sup> and :Amigo can be processed in any existing CtP or analogue plate processor.

## **:Amigo - superior press performance**

The inherent simplicity of platemaking with :Amigo ensures that the pressroom is supplied with a steady stream of the highest quality plates. The new technology used in :Amigo's coating offers excellent chemical resistance, making :Amigo suitable for a wide range of sheetfed and web offset printing applications. Baking will at least double the run length. The specially developed 'Flat Substrate Technology' ensures optimised ink/water balance, clean out and run length performance.

## **:Amigo - for high quality printing**

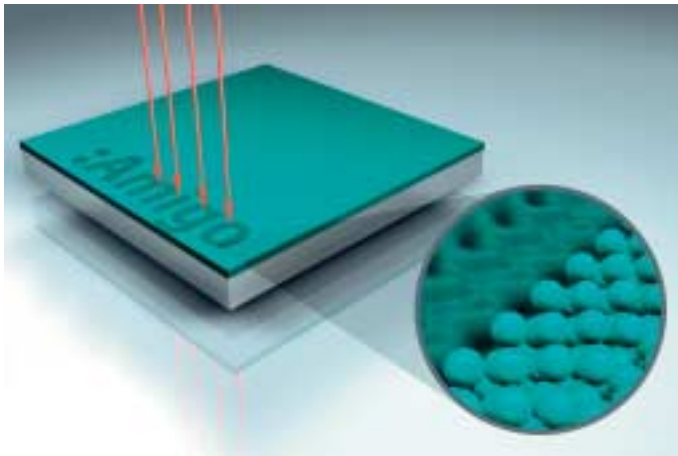
Plate to plate, week to week, the highly stable ThermoFuse technology means that images are highly predictable and not prone to change. This stability is important for reprints - you can be confident that the image will match time after time. The plate stability comes from the elimination of exposure and processing variables that are seen with chemically developed plates.

## **:Amigo - simplifying platemaking**

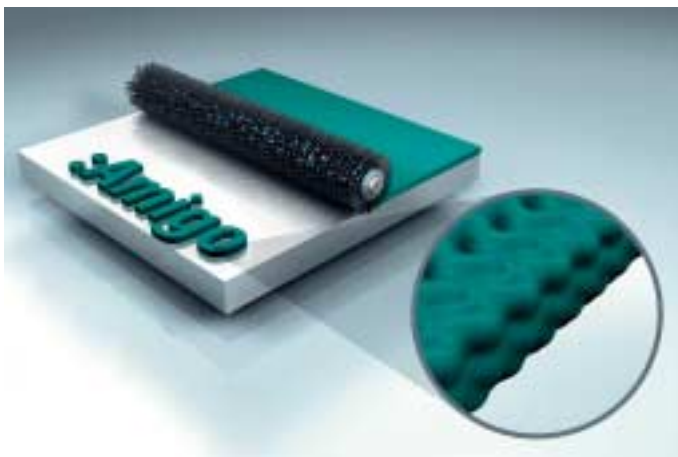
Platemaking has never been this simple and straightforward. :Amigo is tolerant to a wider range of exposure and processing variable than a standard chemically developed plate. That means more consistent plates with less effort. Even processor cleaning is easy with minimal levels of maintenance and upkeep required. :Amigo uses ThermoFuse technology to deliver ease of use and robust, predictable performance.

## **Environmental benefits**

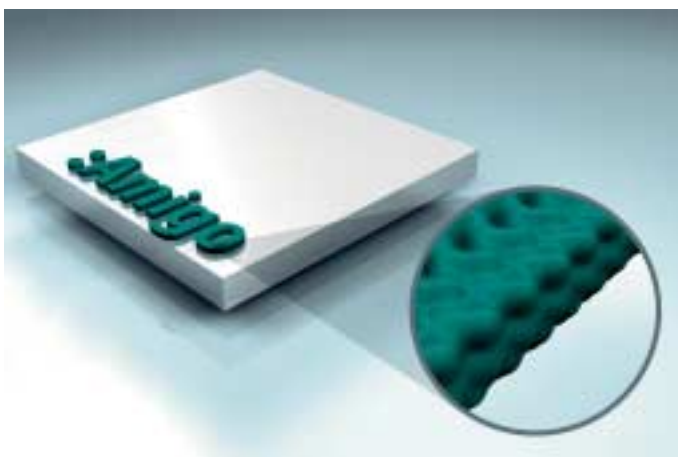
The :Amigo Clean Out Solution is used to remove the non-image areas at a top-up rate of about 50mls/m<sup>2</sup>. This is a significant reduction over other CtP technologies and reduces waste generation and disposal costs. The :Amigo Clean Out Solution gives long bath lives, meaning less processor cleaning and maintenance - saving time and money. The remarkable cleanliness of the :Amigo system means exceptionally clean processors even at the end of a long chemistry cycle. :Amigo combines all the benefits of low chemistry usage, long bath life and unparalleled processor cleanliness.



*Infra-red energy from 830nm laser diodes exposes the image area. During this process the thermoplastic particles absorb the heat energy and melt, forming an insoluble resin that is firmly bonded to the aluminium substrate. Unexposed areas remain unhardened and are in a form which is easily removed with the Clean Out Solution. This physical imaging process is referred to as ThermoFuse technology.*



*The mild, wide-latitude :Amigo Clean Out Solution easily removes the soluble unexposed areas. Only the IR-exposed regions are resistant to the Clean Out Solution. It is the physical imaging that makes :Amigo "Development-Free" and gives the plate the exceptionally wide tolerances towards exposure and processing variations.*



*After clean-out only the image areas remain. The plate is gummed and ready for press. The use of Agfa's Flat Substrate Technology, which uses high quality graining and anodising, ensures a high quality, durable performance on press.*

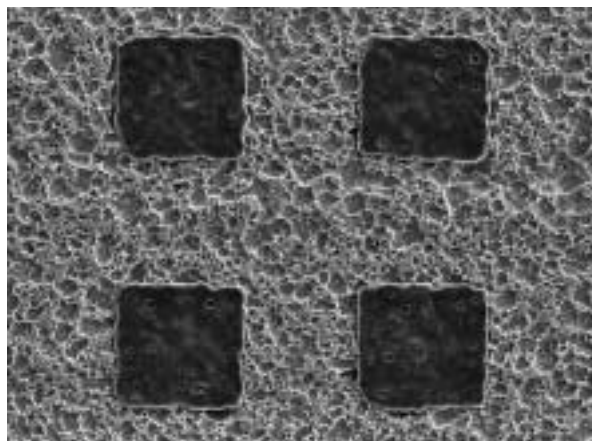
# :Amigo

## Suitable for a wide variety of applications

:Amigo is a multi-purpose plate that has proved suited to many different types of press work. :Amigo will operate on any suitable 830 nm thermal platesetter and is a forgiving plate, which will tolerate fluctuations in laser energy with practically no affect on image quality. Plate processing is simple and clean, :Amigo can tolerate processing variations with the same wide latitude as it can tolerate exposure variations.

## Versatile, robust performance

Using the highest quality grained and anodised substrate, :Amigo delivers the press performance and versatility that you would expect from Agfa. Fast make-ready and stable ink/water balance ensure that your press will deliver the best quality and fast results.



Electron micrograph of 2x2 checkerboard pixels imaged on :Amigo, demonstrating one of the benefits of Agfa's "Flat Substrate Technology".

Plate Specifications	
:Amigo	Performance
Sensitivity	220 - 260mJ/cm <sup>2</sup>
Resolution	1-99% with :Sublima 240, 200 lpi. 25 $\mu$ FM
Non-Image Removal	:Amigo Clean Out Solution
Replenishment rate	30-50mls/m <sup>2</sup>
Availability	all standard sizes and gauges
Run length	Up to 200,000* unbaked, 500,000 baked
Processors	All standard processors, analogue or thermal processors
Substrate	High quality grained and anodised aluminium

\*depending on press and imaging conditions.

Optimised plate care products	
Plate cleaner	Polykleen
Washout gum	Kleergum Plus
Deletion pen or gel	KP010, KP011 or KP012
Normal short-term storage (max 7 days)	RC795
Baking gum	RC510
Desensitizer	PlateEtch Plus
Scratch Remover	Reviva Plate
Fountain solutions	:Amigo is compatible with all Agfa Fountain solutions.
Roller and blanket washes	:Amigo is compatible with all Agfa roller and blanket washes.

Stay Ahead. With Agfa.

Visit [www.agfa.com](http://www.agfa.com) for more info and contact details.

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