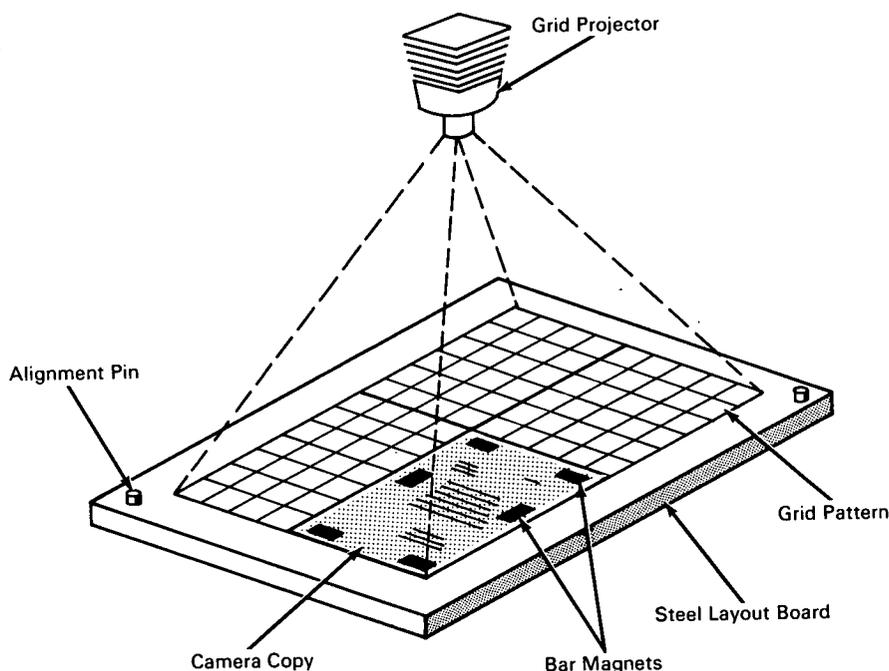


NASA TECH BRIEF



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Modified Procedure Speeds Camera Copy Layout for Offset Printing



The problem: Present camera copy layout (pre-stripping) procedures for photo-offset reproduction generally require precise layout board measurements to enable proper copy alignment, and the use of pressure-sensitive tape to fasten the aligned copy to the layout board. These procedures are tedious and time-consuming, and the pressure-sensitive tape may damage fragile original camera copy.

The solution: Projecting a grid pattern on a steel layout board to facilitate camera copy alignment eliminates the measurement problem. Small flat bar magnets are used to fasten the copy to the layout

board. The entire assembly can easily be transferred to the camera location.

How it's done: The layout board consists of a thin steel plate with a white coating on one surface. Alignment pins are used to position the layout board on a supporting table, thus ensuring uniform copy position during both the prestripping and the photographic process. When the grid is projected on the white surface of the layout board, the camera copy can readily be lined up with the grid lines. The bar magnets are placed along the camera copy margins to hold the copy in place.

(continued overleaf)

Notes:

1. The use of prepunched film mounted on alignment pins on the film vacuum board ensures proper camera alignment.
2. This procedure can be adapted to different page layouts and sizes simply by changing the projection lens or the grid slide.
3. The procedure reduces the time previously required in the prestripping process by approximately one-half and permits repeated reuse of the layout board and original camera copy.

4. Inquiries concerning this innovation may be directed to:

Technology Utilization Officer
Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, Maryland, 20771
Reference: B65-10373

Patent status: NASA encourages commercial use of this innovation. No patent action is contemplated by NASA.

Source: Leo F. Smith
(GSFC-424)