

## 700 PROCESSING TIPS

### 701 INTRODUCTION

The following processing tips are condensed from Section 400 - Processing the Metalphoto Family and Section 600 - Sealing the Metalphoto Family.

### 710 METALPHOTO PLATES

1. Be sure the Zip Processor is level and all rollers are completely wet with chemicals.
2. Keep cover on Zip Processor at all times.
3. Turn off Zip Processor when not in use. At start-up, 1 minute is needed to wet rollers.
4. Rinse plates thoroughly before sealing.
5. Seal at a rolling boil.
6. Change *both* Zip Developer and Zip and Tray Fixer when developer rolls are not completely wet. Always change Zip and Tray Fixer when you change Zip Developer.
7. For tank *or* tray processing use either Metalphoto Tray Developer or Metalphoto Zip Developer and Metalphoto Zip and Tray Fixer. *Always dilute the chemicals one part chemical to three parts water.*
8. Use Image Intensifier to get an improved black on any Metalphoto plates.
9. Handle plates only by the edges.
10. Always check for uncovered plates before making an exposure or turning on white lights.
11. Never store plates in cardboard film boxes. Store only in their original, black plastic pouches in their original cartons.

### 720 PRE-DYED METALPHOTO PLUS PLATES

1. Be sure the Zip Processor is level and all rollers are completely wet with chemicals.
2. Keep cover on Zip Processor at all times.
3. Turn off Zip Processor when not in use. At start-up, 1 minute is needed to wet rollers.
4. Rinse plates thoroughly before sealing. Wipe both sides to remove excess dye.

### 750 SELECTIVE COLORING

5. Seal dry Pre-Dyed Metalphoto Plus plates at a rolling boil.
6. Change *both* Zip Developer and Zip and Tray Fixer when developer rolls are not completely wet.
7. For tank *or* tray processing use either Metalphoto Tray Developer or Metalphoto Zip Developer and Metalphoto Zip and Tray Fixer. *Always dilute the chemicals one part chemical to three parts water.*
8. Be sure stainless steel clips and rods used for sealing are completely *clean* and *dry* prior to use.
9. Handle plates only by the edges.
10. Always check for uncovered plates before making an exposure or turning on white lights.

### 730 ULTRACOLOR PLATES

1. Make sure UltraColor developer is at the proper working strength of 0.3% hydrogen peroxide.
2. Bleach pre-dyed plates under white light (make sure all unexposed or undeveloped plates are covered before turning on white lights).
3. Use only Solvent Soluble InstaColor Dyes or PolyColor Dyes for dyeing Clear UltraColor.

### 740 BACKGROUND COLOR

1. Metalphoto Water Soluble Background Dye powder must be completely dissolved in deionized or distilled water before use.
2. Adjust pH of the Background Dye solution before use. Monitor the pH if a large number of plates are to be dyed.
3. Both sides of the plate must be thoroughly rinsed and completely *dried* before *dyeing*. Residual fixer from standard Metalphoto process or Cleaner from UltraColor process contaminates both Background Dye and Dye-N-Seal solutions.
4. Seal the same number of plates per batch (no more than 4) after background dyeing or when using Dye-N-Seal.
5. Dye-N-Seal solutions, Metalphoto No-Nickel Liquid Sealing Concentrate and Metalphoto Liquid Sealing Concentrate solutions must be at a rolling boil before immersing plates.

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1. Be sure the plate is completely dry before coating with Instacolor Resist.
2. Avoid baking the resist (making it too hot) during the drying process.
3. Prepare InstaColor developer solution (0.3% hydrogen peroxide) on the day it is to be used.
4. Store Solvent Soluble InstaColor Dye solutions in tightly sealed containers to avoid solvent evaporation.
5. Streaking during dyeing is generally caused by high dye concentrations. Compensate for this by adding additional isopropyl alcohol to the solution of InstaColor Dye. Streaking can also occur if the plate is not thoroughly dry before color is applied.
6. Use PolyColor Dye solutions as received. These dyes are generally easier to use and give fewer problems with streaking than InstaColor Dyes.
7. Use anhydrous (water free) isopropyl alcohol to dissolve Solvent Soluble InstaColor Dyes. Commercial rubbing alcohol contains too much water for effective use.
8. Dry plates only in a well ventilated area away from heat or spark sources.