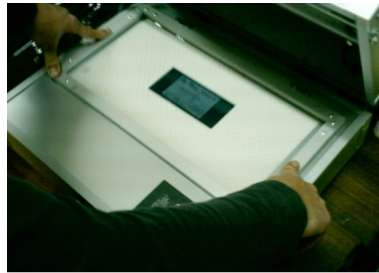
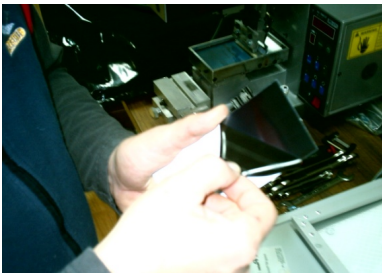


ARD-A06 PLATES PROCESS

Step 1: Exposure

Depending on your exposure unit, film and image to print, exposure time may vary from 1 to 3 minutes. After exposure the exposed area will become a bit darker, contrasting with the unexposed image.



Step 2: Developing

Developer for ARD-A06 is supplied in solid state inside bag A containing the amount necessary to solve in 1 litre of water. Rub gently on the surface of the plate with a piece of cotton moistened with developer until the desired image appears. Wash the plate with abundant water. Work at a normal temperature of 15 to 25 °C.

It is not necessary to dry the plate after development and before etching. If you still want to dry to check if there is a defect to be touched up with a touch-up pen, do it in one of two ways:

Option 1: Dip the plate in the etcher for a moment (1 sec.). This will cause the coating to return to its original consistency. Wash immediately with water and dry. The unexposed areas will have turned black, but still without any depth. This will allow to more easily detect any defect that should be covered with a touch-up pen.

Option 2: While washing with water, gently rub the plate with your hand, a soft cloth or a piece of cotton to remove the very thin soft coating layer remaining in the unexposed area.



Step 3: Etching

Put the developed plate inside a tray containing ATR-N etcher (18% Nitric Acid). Advised time for etching is around 1 min. 50 sec. at room temperature (20 – 25 °C). During etching process, rub softly the surface of the plate with the help of a soft brush to get a more uniform etching. Wash the plate with abundant water once etching finished. **In case etching does not start wash the plate with water and repeat step 2.**



Step 4: Strip coating

Once etching is finished all coating on the surface of the plate has to be removed. Bag B is supplied for this, containing the amount of caustic soda to solve in 1 litre of water. Dip the plate in the resulting solution and leave it there. After about 2 minutes you will see a thin blue film starting to peel off from the plate. When you see it starts to peel off, you can already wash it with plenty of water, which will help to remove the coating. At any time, you can help yourself with a piece of cotton. Wash the plate with abundant water and dry it.

