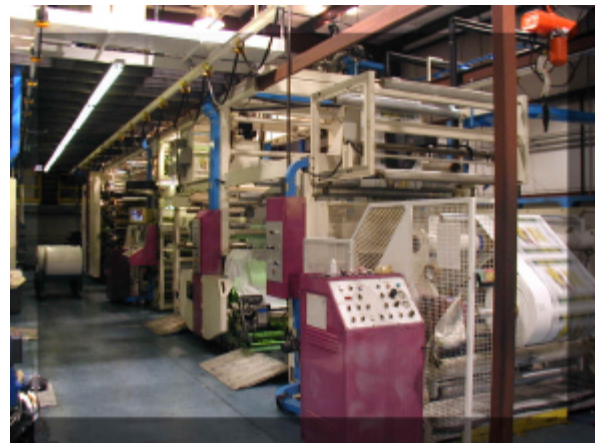


HOW PLASTIC BAGS ARE MADE AND PRINTED

Unlike other promotional products, printed plastic bags are not carried in stock. First the film has to be extruded according to the bag size, color, and gauge of the poly that your customer orders. A photo of the extrusion process is shown. It is much like making a bubble with bubble gum. First the gum is made very soft by chewing, then the tongue forms a smooth even lining, and then softly blowing outward creates the bubble. The temperature of the poly and the diameter of the tube are controlled by computers.



These two photos show the printing process after the poly has been extruded. The poly tubing is printed in 1-6 colors on one side of the film. It is then folded like a bed sheet to create the second side printing. It is then put on the bag machine where the flat tubing is cut, sealed, handle applied, and boxed, all in one operation. There are many steps causing some waste in the process. That is why there are under runs or over runs on custom printed bags.

On small run imprinting where plain bags are taken out of the carton and overprinted, there are no overruns.