Errors II: Miscuts

This is, by far, the most common type of error. Even after the printer has verified the text, centered the text, correctly applied the colors, checked spelling, etc., something may cause the sheet alignment to go out of kilter, and the covers may be cut incorrectly. Although, it should be noted that, seen from another perspective, one could call miscuts 'misalignments' or 'off-center printing'. Calling them miscuts focuses your attention on the cardboard; calling them misalignments or off-center-printing focuses your attention on the text or design. Since I already have an 'off-center printing' category for another type of error, I go with the former focus and term the covers shown below as 'miscuts'.

Two types are shown below. #1 *lower left]* is the typical miscut. The cover size is correct, but part of the design has been cropped off A personal guideline that I apply to this type of error is that there must be at least a partial loss of design in the miscutting; the missing portion of the design is normally seen appearing, at least in part, on the opposite side of the cover. Otherwise, you simply have a design which appears slightly off-center, and in that case I do not count it as a 'significant' error. #2 *[third from left]* is an example of miscutting as a result of incorrect cover size. Here, a 10-strike design has been miscut as a 20-strike. The particular example below actually shows both types of miscuts: cropping and size miscutting. As far as errors go, this type of miscutting is frequently seen in 40-strikes which are actually two uncut 20s. Also, with miscut covers, sometimes the miscut text/design will only be on the outside, sometimes only on the inside, and sometimes on both.

Other types in the miscut category include covers which do not have parallel sides and those which have simply been cut too short or too thin (almost always the latter, by the way.

[Note: Errors come in all sizes; I'm normally using 20-strike examples in this series simply because it makes the layout easier.]