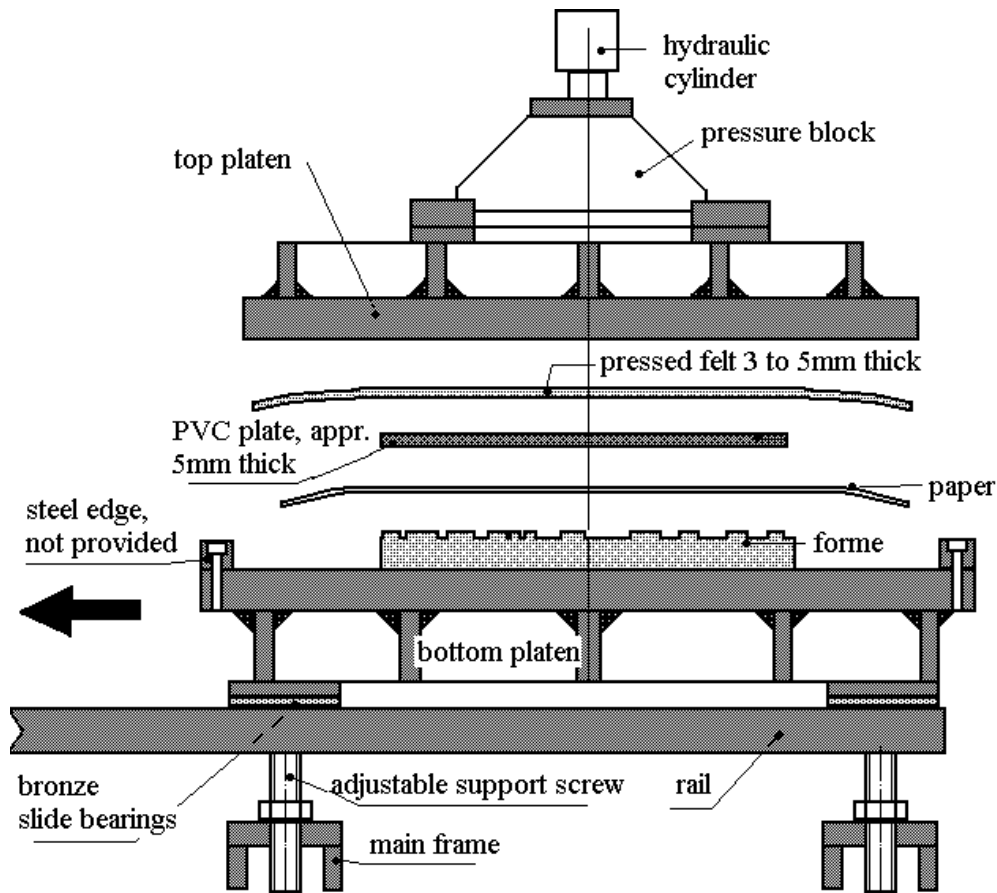


## User Instructions for VPLMR



The image above shows a section of a part of the VPLMR-80x100. These instructions are only intended for use of the platens which is almost the same as the use of the SVP-35.

This press is fitted with a manually driven hydraulic pump. If the lever of this pump is moved up- and downwards (relief valve closed) the top platen will move downwards. This happens relatively quickly, because the pump displaces a large volume of oil at a low pressure. As soon as the platen touches the form, the pressure in the system increases and the pump will switch automatically to the high pressure mode (700 bar). In this mode the vertical movement of the top platen is very slow.

As soon as the print has been made, the relief valve is opened and the top platen moves upwards. The vertical movement is limited to approximately 14 cm. In order to increase work speed, it is advisable to stop the vertical movement after a few cm's. For this purpose two threaded bars are fitted next to the hydraulic cylinder. These bars can be adjusted in height and serve as a stop for the vertical movement of the top platen.

Almost anything can be used as a printing form; composed lead characters, woodcut, lino-cut, cliché, etc. The paper is laid down on the inked form. On top of that a PVC plate approx. 5mm thick is placed, and on top of that a layer of felt. On the image a steel edge is shown, fixed with screws on the lower platen. These edges are normally not provided by Polymetaal. These edges come in handy if a form has to be locked in. (woodcuts + typography, etc.).

No form is perfectly plane. If you make a print of such a form it shows that some parts received the ink more than other parts. The felt compensates for small deviations in the form. The felt however may never touch the paper directly because it can lead to a transfer of the ink to the paper from lower parts in the form. In order to avoid this from happening a layer of 5mm thick PVC is placed between the paper and the felt. PVC is flexible enough to adapt to deviations in the form, but it avoids at the same time the paper touching the hollows in the form.

#### **Maintenance:**

- Hydraulic system. The hydraulic cylinder that lowers the top platen, is driven by a manually driven hydraulic pump. This pump has a reservoir where the oil comes from that is pumped into the hydraulic cylinder. After a few years, some of the oil will disappear (evaporate, leak, etc.) and it therefore needs to be checked every few years to see if there is still enough oil in the reservoir of the pump. If oil is required, a thin (more liquid) hydraulic oil can be used.
- The surfaces of the platens must be kept clean. Any irregularities on the surfaces may show in the print.
- The bottom platen is movable. The platen moves over rails. The lower platen is moved using a handle that drives a rack. The rails and the rack must be lubricated regularly.