A drawdown is a controlled ink application on a substrate

Benefits of Creating a Drawdown
Creating an ink drawdown is an economical method to conduct laboratory tests to determine ink coating thickness, substrate penetration, fluid compatibility, bonding to a substrate, etc. The use of wire-wound bars allows the technician to make these tests with a minimum of effort and investment.

Tests Performed with Drawdowns
- **Color Element Test**
  Each color has its own distinct appearance, based on three elements: hue, chroma and lightness. Ink drawdowns allow you to test for these important elements.

- **Color Matching and Appearance Test**
  Test for the visual appearance of an ink using the full-color spectrum of the ink drawdown. This test helps to determine the tolerance for an acceptable visual color match, using the three-dimensional boundaries of hue, chroma and lightness.

**Color Communication between Ink Manufacturer and Printer**
- Ink manufacturers who want to simulate color matching tests being conducted by their customers with wire-wound bars using their inks, use wire-wound bar testing. The bars most commonly used by manufacturers are No. 0, 1 and 2.
- Print shops wanting to maintain quality control of the incoming inks also use wire-wound bar testing. The bars most commonly used by print shops for the approval of incoming inks are No. 0 and 1.

**Drawdown Table**
The manual application device provides a simple yet effective means of applying coatings on many different substrates, including paper, carton, plastic film, glass and wood. Two or more coatings can be applied side by side in one single operation, making it an ideal product comparison system.