

KOENIG & BAUER

October 2017

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Products | Practices | Perspectives

Report



200 years in the business:

KBA becomes Koenig & Bauer again see Page 3

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■ In Brief

Thank you for the last 200 years

And on we go with verve and a new outfit

Dear customers and friends of our company,

A good two weeks ago we celebrated the 200th anniversary of Koenig & Bauer AG with many customers and business friends from all over the world, our workforce and many visitors at our headquarters in Würzburg. These were enjoyable festive days. Many of our guests praised Koenig & Bauer for having remained a reliable and creative partner in the print industry with a strong customer focus, despite many crises and upheavals. This makes us happy and is an incentive for the next hundred years.

I would like to thank all those who often came a very long way for the festivity. A big thank you also to those who, with their donation, made it possible for us to transfer a sum of 26,500 Euros to the organisation "Doctors without Borders" for their humanitarian work in many crisis regions in the world. We will double this amount to 53,000 Euros with our own donation. In his much-acclaimed keynote speech, our former German Federal President Horst Köhler very clearly pointed out that responsibility in politics and industry knows no national boundaries in the age of globalisation. I absolutely agree with this statement.

Last but not least, my special thanks go to our many long-standing customers as well as suppliers for their trust and their suggestions, all active and former colleagues on the Executive Board as well as the many managers and employees who, by their commitment and loyalty, have made it possible for the company to reach this impressive age. We shall manage this legacy in a responsible manner.

After difficult years for the print industry, Koenig & Bauer is doing very well again, not only on the stock exchange. We have oriented ourselves towards growth markets such as packaging and industrial printing, without neglecting our traditional clients in other segments. Thanks to many new developments and numerous acquisitions in the last 25 years, the Group is engaged in most of the viable printing processes and applications.

This unique diversity and our decentralised organisation, with companies acting independently in their respective markets, make the company more robust and flexible for structural changes. They also guarantee technical competence and dynamism which are indispensable for developing solutions for new print markets.

However, the numerous products and the companies who have recently joined the Group, each with their own history, can also easily lead to a heterogeneous market presence. We have therefore decided to use this special birthday of the parent company to replace the abbreviation KBA, which was introduced in 1990, with the completely repositioned brand Koenig & Bauer, and to place this as an umbrella brand over everything in the Group.

The complete implementation of a new market presence, including product design, in a mechanical engineering group does not take place overnight, but step by step. Much is already visible, more will soon become visible. Stay curious, remain faithful to us, or discover the premium brand Koenig & Bauer for your business.



Yours, Claus Bolza-Schünemann



Claus Bolza-Schünemann
president and CEO,
Koenig & Bauer AG

Relaunch of the ageless brand

KBA becomes Koenig & Bauer again

The oldest printing press manufacturer in the world is starting off the company's 3rd century with a new market appearance. The brand KBA, introduced in 1990 after the takeover of Albert Frankenthal AG (initially for Koenig & Bauer-Albert) is returning to the 200-year-old original brand Koenig & Bauer. This is, however, being done in a completely new outfit for the logo, the business equipment, the means of communication and the product design.

KOENIG & BAUER

CEO Bolza-Schünemann at the presentation of the new market appearance: "Koenig & Bauer AG today has 33 subsidiaries. Twelve of them produce their own products for their own customers. We see the company anniversary as an ideal time to place all activities of the Group under a strong common roof again."

Traditional brand in a new outfit

The relaunch of the brand is intended to strengthen the pride of the group's workforce in the common brand Koenig & Bauer and allow customers to feel the strength of this traditional and innovative brand even more, through a modern appearance and product design.

ly symbolises the brand core. Mr Bolza-Schünemann: "Our mission is: we bring together what moves our customers forward." The ampersand combines these values, which are "Tradition & Innovation", "Requirements & Technologies", "Approachability & Professionalism." Since the company anniversary, it has been standing as a 3 m high cast column beside the new Demo Center in Würzburg. It is used for promotional activities, trade fairs, drawings, spare parts and applications with little space.

New guiding principle: "we're on it."

The new company guiding principle "we're on it." communicatively

Back to the roots while looking ahead: the newly designed word mark (logo) of the Koenig & Bauer Group

we're on it.

The new company guiding principle "we're on it." puts the values and competences of Koenig & Bauer in a nutshell for all target groups

puts the values and competences of Koenig & Bauer in a nutshell for all target groups.

... and new product design

The new product design makes the extraordinary quality, performance and user orientation of the presses and systems supplied by the Koenig & Bauer Group even more visible. The forms of the individual aggregates are geometric structures that demonstrate clarity and self-confidence. The company's blue colour has become significantly warmer while its use has been reduced. It harmonises perfectly with the black, grey and silver tones. Added to this is an interface design that is also attractive for "digital natives". The new design is to be implemented successively up until Drupa 2020 for existing product families, and immediately for new products.

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* For the brand relaunch and the new product design, Koenig & Bauer was creatively supported by the Hamburg agencies MUTABOR and Design3.



The ampersand from the word mark as a short form of the new logo visually symbolises the mission of the company

The ampersand from the word mark Koenig & Bauer is the short form of the logo. It visual-



The new design is to be successively introduced for all products till Drupa 2020



200 Jahre im Geschäft

Former German President Horst Köhler and three CEOs as keynote speakers

Colourful anniversary week on the company's 200th birthday

At the official ceremony in the Vogel Convention Center, CEO Claus Bolza-Schünemann was able to welcome 650 guests from all over the world

The festive week for the 200th anniversary of Koenig & Bauer AG in Würzburg drew to a close with more than 13,000 visitors on the Open Day on 23 September. 650 guests from all over the world attended the official ceremony in the Vogel Convention Center (VCC), with the former Federal President Horst Köhler as main speaker. Many customers and business partners visited the spruced-up main factory in Würzburg. In an international press conference at the beginning of the festive week, the Management Board had presented its strategy for the company's third century, as well as the new market appearance.

number of titles, he sees possible solutions in the automation of production processes, the finishing of printed products, the division of labour in the online sector as well as in digital printing.



At the press conference, CEO Claus Bolza-Schünemann presented the new brand appearance of the Koenig & Bauer Group

Hans Schur, owner and CEO of the Danish packaging group Schur International, spoke about the "World of Packaging", and in view of the growing world population, emphasised the often-overlooked role of packaging for the shelf lives of foodstuffs. Besides the role of elegant packaging, this function is becoming more and more important as a silent salesman at the point of sale, since the growing online trade with food calls for suitable packaging solutions.

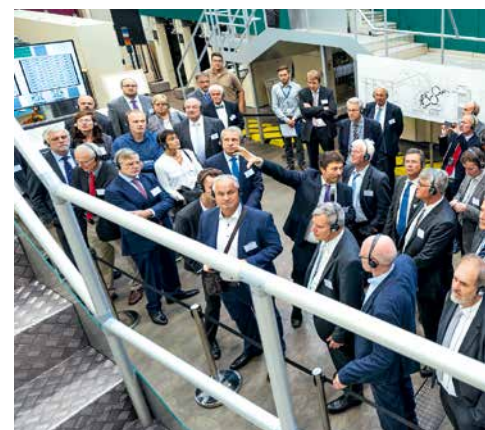
In his welcoming speech to the guests in the VCC, CEO Claus Bolza-Schünemann thanked generations of customers, executives and employees for their contributions to the company's long history. Mr Bolza-Schünemann: "Print has been keeping our company and its employees moving for 200 years now. In a digitalised world, it is always an exciting task finding new technologies, solutions and applications for print with which our customers can be successful."

World of Media, ... Packaging, ... Security and Brands

With brand expert Professor Dr. Karsten Kilian from the Hochschule Würzburg-Schweinfurt acting as anchor man, three CEOs spoke about the current situation and future prospects of print. In his short lecture on the "World of Media", Axel Hentrei, CEO of the Bertelsmann Printing Group, explained the impact of the Internet on publication printing. In the light of reduced volumes with a growing

The "World of Security" was the topic of Ralf Wintergerst, CEO of Giesecke+Devrient in Munich. The

Many customers used the jubilee to take a tour round the Würzburg plant





The brand expert Karsten Kilian from the Hochschule Würzburg-Schweinfurt presented the speeches for the World of Print



With Axel Hentrei from the Bertelsmann Printing Group, Hans Schur from Schur Packaging International and Ralf Wintergerst from Giesecke+Devrient, three CEOs gave an insight into different segments of the print market



Former German President Horst Köhler called for a global partnership to meet the challenges posed by population growth, scarcity of resources and digitalisation

cy in circulation is continuing to rise world-wide.

In his short lecture on the "World of Brands", Karsten Kilian pointed out the enormous importance of brands for business success. His credo: "A great idea is the basis of every major brand." His conclusion: "Especially in our times of increasing digitalisation and dynamic change, we need strong brands for orientation purposes."

Former German President Horst Köhler calls for global partnership

Horst Köhler, former Federal President of Germany and expert on Africa, presented the conflict between the growth of the world population, the scarcity of resources and digitalisation as the central points of his impressive speech. Prof. Köhler: "You can regard these three trends as big trains heading towards each other. To be successful, we must all keep an eye on much more than just our own back garden. In the 21st century, we need nations that realise that they are all sitting in the same boat. We need political answers that merge into a new paradigm of global partnership. We need a global economy that allows all people on earth to live in dignity, without destroying our planet."



Spectacular commemorative publication in the anniversary box

For its 200th birthday, Koenig & Bauer presented an unusual commemorative publication in an elaborate anniversary box with the title "People – Machines – Ideas". The almost 2 kg heavy tome contains a hardcover booklet with exciting stories and hand-drawn illustrations of outstanding personalities in the history of the company, 13 content-rich and lovingly designed posters about selected machines and printing processes from the last two centuries, and a workshop magazine with a modern layout and with facts, figures, statements and interviews dealing with all aspects of the printed products of today and tomorrow. Marketing Director Klaus Schmidt: "This is not a chronological enumeration of the events and achievements of the last 200 years, but a printed declaration of love for the past, the present and the future of print."

Prof. Köhler described the founders of Koenig & Bauer as having the wealth of ideas, creative drive and entrepreneurial spirit needed to solve the questions of the future.

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Further development of KBA-Sheetfed measuring and control systems

QualiTronic 2: One camera system for multiple applications

With effect from the beginning of 2018, KBA-Sheetfed will be restructuring its programme of measuring and control systems for Rapida sheetfed offset presses. A single camera will then suffice for three typical inline quality control functions: Colour measurement and control, production monitoring and comparison with a pre-press PDF file. The times in which several cameras were required for different measurement and control functions will belong to the past.



Register measurement and control are realised with the proven QualiTronic ICR system and can still be used independently of QualiTronic 2.

Fully integrated into the console

Colour measurement and control are realised through QualiTronic ColorControl 2, and all displays and functions are fully integrated into the press console. The operating concept has been optimised and the number of operator actions reduced to a minimum. QualiTronic ColorControl 2 forms the basis for the two alternative systems PrintCheck and PDFCheck.

Inline sheet inspection has also been revamped. QualiTronic PrintCheck inspects the printed image in comparison to the first good sheet, while QualiTronic PDFCheck additionally checks a freshly printed sheet against the reference PDF from pre-press.

Operation of the inline sheet inspection system QualiTronic PrintCheck is similarly integrated into the redesigned console. Two new functions reduce makeready significantly. Firstly, the whole inspection process runs fully automatically, from teach-in via inspection through to final documentation by LogoTronic. At the same time, independent parameterisation of the inspection tolerances simplifies the adaptation to different print qualities.

Outwardly, the QualiTronic 2 cameras are hardly distinguishable from their predecessors. One new feature is that PDF comparisons are also possible alongside colour measurement and sheet inspection.

It is only for sheet inspection at up to 300dpi (QualiTronic PDF HighRes) that additional cameras are necessary

QualiTronic PDFCheck functions with the same QualiTronic 2 camera resolution as QualiTronic PrintCheck, namely 90dpi in medium format. In addition, however, the inline sheet inspection provides for a complete PDF comparison. At the start of a job, the currently printed sheet is compared with the PDF file used in pre-press, again fully automatically. This means that any defects or deviations can be detected already before production commences.

QualiTronic PDF HighRes: Sheet inspection at up to 300dpi

Users can also opt for sheet inspection with QualiTronic PDF HighRes, a proven, independent product which is aimed above all at those who print pharmaceuti-

The use of a single camera system for colour control and sheet inspection brings significant benefits for the user:

- It is only necessary to invest in one system.
- There is only one system to be maintained.
- The camera system scans the whole area of every sheet.

As a result, colour is controlled much faster than with other systems. Makeready times are shortened further, even less waste is produced, and quality control is unbroken.

The functionality for inline register control remains unchanged:



cals packaging or patient information leaflets. Such applications demand a resolution of up to 300dpi for the sheet inspection. While the other two variants use colour cameras, this system works with two black-and-white cameras whose resolution is four times higher. QualiTronic PDF HighRes is thus the only inline system on the market which satisfies the strict requirements of the pharmaceuticals industry without limitations.

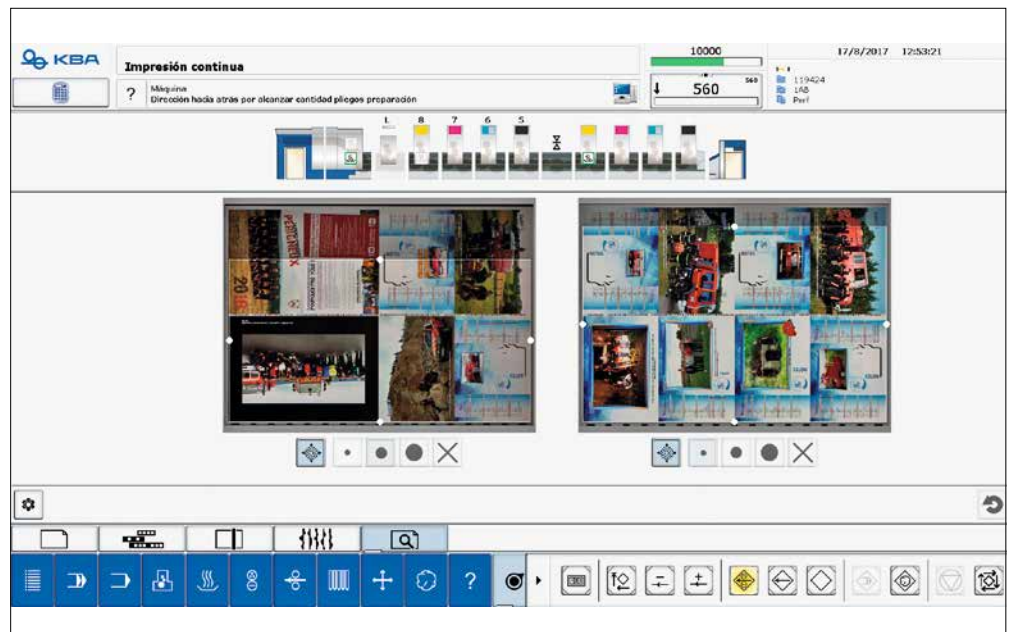
QualiTronic PDF HighRes offers the highest resolution and thus the highest precision currently available for inline sheet inspection on an offset press. Even a missing dot on the letter "i" of 6pt Arial type can be detected at full production speed. An additional barcode function is interesting above all for companies which print food packaging.

Application-oriented report functions

In all versions, QualiTronic PDF offers reporting functions tailored specifically to the individual applications. This includes statistical data and the saving of error images together with details of the sheet number and type of error. The comprehensive inline report is suitable primarily for internal evaluation purposes. A short report presenting the job data and a summary overview of print quality, on the other hand, serves as convenient proof of quality for the customer.

Application-specific features

QualiTronic SheetIdent is an additional module for QualiTronic PDFCheck or QualiTronic PrintCheck and provides for numbering of the sheets on the feed table of a Rapida press. An inkjet head is used to print a consecutive number on the sheets entering the



QualiTronic ColorControl 2 reduces operator actions to a minimum. The photo shows the whole user interface for QualiTronic Print-Check. Operation is menu-driven on the basis of icons and is thus language-independent.

Under the new operating concept, the console monitor is also used for the screen displays of the measuring and control systems



infeed. When QualiTronic PDF-Check or QualiTronic PDF HighRes detects a flawed sheet, it links this error to the relevant sheet ID number and records the find in the pile report. The flawed sheet can then be removed by hand.

QualiTronic PDF PileView is an option which has already been implemented by a number of users. Software is installed on the computer to enable virtual assessment

of the individual sheets in a printed pile by the company's quality manager at any later time. The errors flagged by the sheet inspection system can then be judged and acknowledged as appropriate.

The whole spectrum of measuring and control systems can be ordered from January 2018.

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Brilliant print results thanks to HR-UV

Four years with the Rapida 76 at robstolk in Amsterdam

In spring 2013, KBA and Wifac installed the world's first KBA Rapida 76 at print company robstolk, right in the centre of Amsterdam. Company owners Tanneke Janssen and Jacqueline van As can now look back over four exciting years: "With the kind of products we print, this press is perfect for the job."

Late one Friday afternoon, the printer at the press is casting a critical eye over the sheets on the desk. He is testing how to maximise colour intensity when using fluorescent inks on the Rapida 76. That is typical for robstolk, where great importance is attached to exploring process and technology limits. "No road is too long for us when looking for the best results," says van As. Janssen: "Every customer, every job and every print run is handled with the same attention to detail. We are also happy to try a different kind of paper if the original choice fails to deliver the desired result."

Black is black

The company's ink supplier developed highly pigmented inks specifically for the Rapida 76 with its HR-UV drying. Van As: "We have a lot of customers for whom quality is more important than quantity. The price goes hand in hand with this approach. We have specialised above all on uncoated paper grades. Here, too, black must really be black, and the colours must shine on the paper."

Above left: Tanneke Janssen (l) and Jacqueline van As are absolutely satisfied with their highly automated Rapida 76 with HR-UV drying

Above right: At robstolk, everyone is committed to achieving outstanding print quality even on difficult substrates

Spectacular examples are placed on the table: Books and brochures in the most varied forms. Even a set of colour references for the ink manufacturer, with a work of art on one side and a matching colour sample on the reverse. robstolk uses not only CMYK inks, but also numerous PMS colours. That makes for lively print products even on uncoated papers.

Print is already dry when it leaves the press

Van As: "In spring 2013, we commissioned the first Rapida 76 in the world. The underlying principle appealed to us from the start: Printing with highly reactive inks and HR-UV drying at every unit, which means that the sheets are already dry when they leave the press. Furthermore, there is plenty of scope for experimentation to achieve special effects by printing wet-on-dry. The results are pin-sharp. The ink stays on the surface of the paper rather than penetrating deep into its fibres."

The five-colour Rapida 76 with additional coater prints in B2 format. Important features alongside fully

automatic plate changing are the inline colour measuring system QualiTronic ColorControl and the energy-saving HR-UV dryers. Two highlights which are unique in this format class are the DriveTronic feeder and the sidelay-free infeed DriveTronic SIS, which have been inherited from the larger Rapida 106. Fast makeready and a broad spectrum of substrates are similarly typical for a Rapida press.

Absolutely satisfied

Janssen: "When you are the first company to work with a new press, you know in advance that the learning curve is unlikely to point steeply upwards the whole time." She and van As are nevertheless full of praise for the support provided by Wifac and the KBA engineers in Radebeul. The same is long since true for the press itself. "We would definitely chose the Rapida 76 again. For us, this press is perfect for the job. But even more important is that we are constantly able to surprise our customers with new ideas," they say. The company robstolk will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of its founding this year. Tanneke Janssen and Jacqueline van As took the business over from the founding family of Rob Stolk in 2003.

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Swiss Saint-Paul group invests in printshop workflow

Long Rapida 106 followed by a modern MIS

The Saint-Paul printing facility in Fribourg/Switzerland already shared the headlines with KBA-Sheetfed back in 2012, when it took delivery of a twelve-unit Rapida 106. At that time, the eight-colour perfecter press with additional coaters and intermediate drying towers was the only one of its kind in Switzerland. It is used to print high-quality commercial products with inline finishing, and enables four colours and a coating to be applied to both sides of the sheet in a single pass.



This year, St. Paul Holding followed this up with an investment in a modern management information system. After intensive evaluation together with KBA and its Swiss subsidiary Print Assist, the decision team opted for the Complete Optimus Dash MIS sold by KBA. Alongside the inherent user benefits of the system, it was the excellent service offered by Print Assist and KBA, as well as absolute satisfaction with the Rapida 106,

which sealed the choice for the Saint-Paul group, which not only operates its own printing plant, but also holds interests in various other companies in the print and media branch.

Flexibility spoke for Complete Optimus Dash

The fully-featured Complete Optimus Dash MIS comprises the basic system, JDF functionality, a planning chart, the Cloud Mobile mod-

With its high flexibility, the Optimus Dash MIS from KBA-Sheetfed was an ideal choice for the printing operations of the Saint-Paul group

ule for mobile access to all data, an interface to financial accounting, and a CRM module. It is to be used by 55 staff members at three locations in Switzerland. The three business units of the Saint-Paul group in Fribourg, Bulle (Glasson Print Bulle) and Estavayer-le-Lac (Centre d'Impression de la Broye) will thus be able to work integrally with their central customer base.

One important point in favour of the Optimus Dash system offered by KBA-Sheetfed was the philosophy based on lean management processes. It supports multiple languages, which is an absolute prerequisite in Switzerland, and provides highly flexible templates for calculations and order processing. Intuitive handling was another factor which underpinned the investment decision. The administrators can also adapt the Optimus system to any corporate changes or to future production challenges, without Saint-Paul being dependent on a single supplier. The MIS is expected to be fully implemented by the end of the year and can then go live on 1st January 2018.

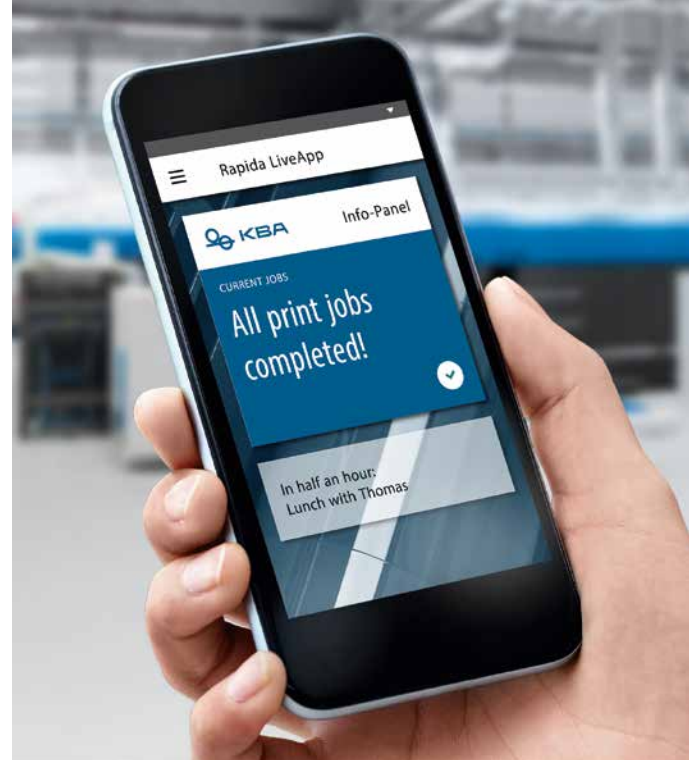
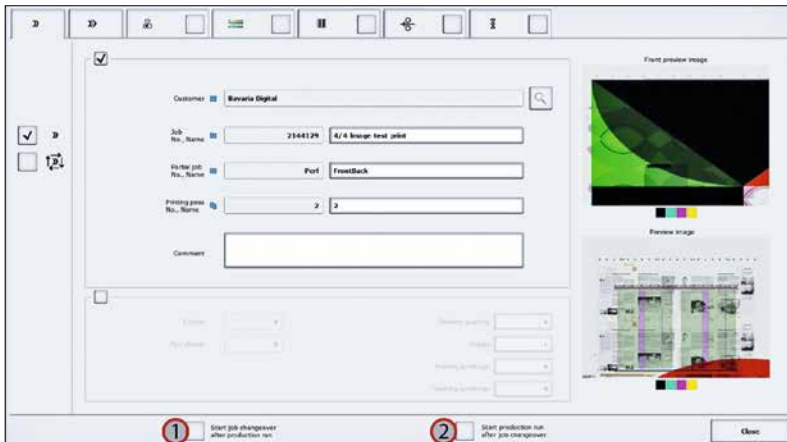


Finely attuned partners (l-r): Thomas Burri (director, Saint-Paul), Dany Gaberthüel (Print Assist AG) and Markus Bauknecht (project manager)

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Two clicks are all it takes to activate autonomous printing at the ErgoTronic console

- ① Job change starts at the end of production
- ② Production starts at the end of a job change



Autonomous printing – Made by Koenig & Bauer

Industrial print production with ErgoTronic AutoRun

Automation of the individual print production steps is today more important than ever before. It is often the only way to achieve significant increases in productivity and competitiveness, by helping to exploit the capabilities of pressroom technologies to the full. A great deal has already happened in this direction – job changeover times are today dramatically shorter, workflows are supported by closed-loop processes, and the first users are enjoying the benefits of data-driven services such as performance reports and benchmarking.

The Rapida presses from KBA-Sheetfed already incorporate extensive automation: For top production speeds up to 20,000sph, for lightning-fast makeready and even flying job changes, for precise inline quality control, and for increased economic efficiency through reduced non-productive times and minimised waste. With ErgoTronic AutoRun, KBA-Sheetfed is now able to present the next level of process automation for industrial print production.

Intelligent systems relieve operators

ErgoTronic AutoRun starts a job change fully automatically as soon as the production of the previous print job is completed – and then resumes production automatically once the job change is completed. This cycle is then repeated over

and over until either the operator cancels the auto-run function or else all the jobs on the prepared job list have been printed. For section changes and web-to-print jobs, it is not even necessary to configure a new makeready process. Start of makeready, job changeover, start of production, colour and register control – all the individual steps are triggered automatically at the appropriate moment. Press crews simply monitor the process sequence and are thus relieved of further routine tasks. They must only place the new plates in the corresponding channels of the plate changers, ensure that the necessary substrates and consumables are available when needed, and then take care of pile changes – insofar as pile changing is not also automated.

Above right:
With ErgoTronic AutoRun, Rapida sheetfed offset presses configure themselves, change jobs fully automatically and then return to production without manual intervention

The principal field of application for ErgoTronic AutoRun is autonomous printing for the commercial sector – for example short-run jobs or multiple sections for products with high page counts. Language variants are a further possibility. Autonomous printing also benefits online printers with their highly standardised and automated processes. And in packaging, too, it can be useful to be able to start makeready automatically when the predefined run length is reached, or to return to production without further intervention upon completion of a complex job change.

KBA-Sheetfed laid the foundations for ErgoTronic AutoRun back in 2013 with the launch of its award-winning TouchTronic operating concept. The job changeover program on the ErgoTronic console possesses a very clear and logical structure. The printer sees all the relevant settings at a glance and can initiate a job change with just a single tap on the screen (One-Button Job Change). An interactive job list presents all the currently planned jobs to the operator, who can then re-arrange the order at

any time, for example to group together products which are to be printed on the same substrate or in the same format. Already at this stage, it is possible to enter and configure all the necessary make-ready functions for each job.

ErgoTronic AutoRun coordinates the existing automation modules and in this way automates the print process as a whole. At the end of a shift or after processing of the complete job list, the press can be stopped manually in the usual manner.

The console goes mobile with the Rapida LiveApp

Operators are similarly more flexible than ever before when it comes to monitoring of the production process. They can now carry a mobile control console in their pocket. With a smartphone and the Rapida LiveApp, they are always in touch with their press – even while taking a break in the canteen. A glance at the display provides details of the job which is currently in production and how much longer it will take to complete. The press

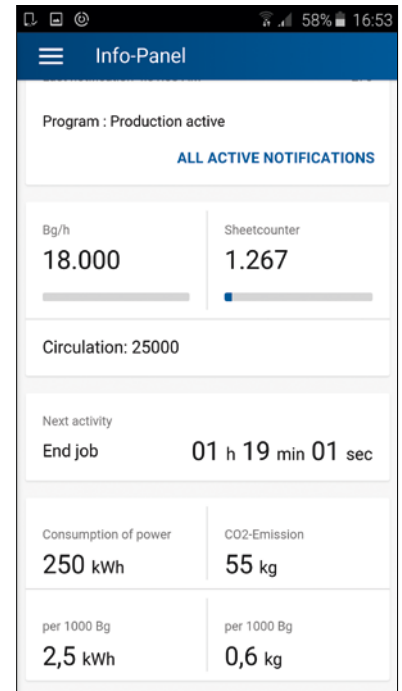
Right: Info panel with details on current production, energy consumption and CO₂ emissions

crew can then decide at leisure when they need to be back to load up the plates for the next job, for example.

In addition to the press status, the app provides a raft of live information from the running production, including even energy consumption and the equivalent carbon emissions per 1,000 sheets. With the batch data function, consumables such as paper and ink can be tracked either manually or by way of QR codes and assigned to the relevant job. The place of consumption, for example a certain inking unit, is determined automatically and saved in the data record. Whether inks, substrates, blankets or plates: All data are made available for tracking purposes or inventory management – without further intervention. The data are sent from the mobile device to the console, and automatically passed on via LogoTronic Professional and JMF to the management information software.

The integrated maintenance manager draws attention to the press

The console goes mobile with the Rapida LiveApp

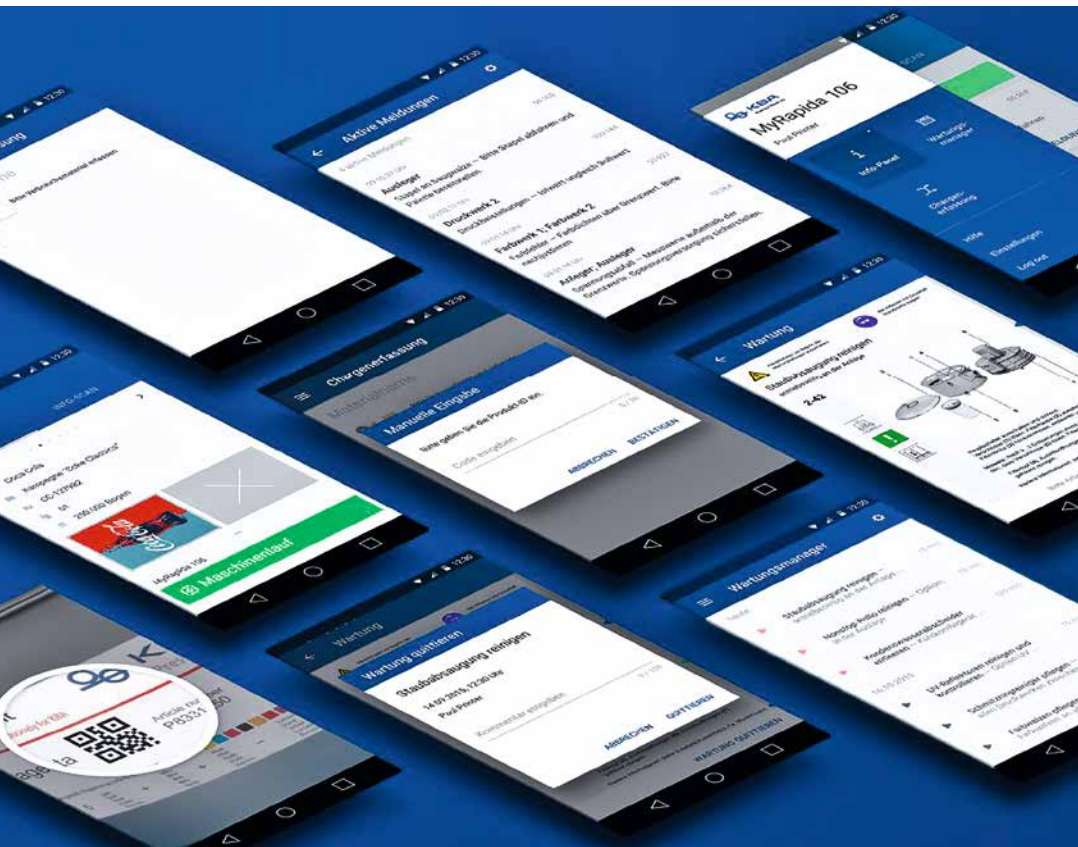


care required on the current day, as well as tasks which are scheduled for the coming days. Specification of the time needed for each task enables maintenance work to be planned such that it does not disturb production. Step-by-step instructions explain the individual tasks to the operator. This further simplifies the maintenance process and avoids misunderstandings. Each maintenance step can be marked as "done" after completion and the operator can also add individual comments, where appropriate.

Standards for automation in print

It is the continued intention of KBA-Sheetfed to define new standards for sheetfed offset with innovative solutions and proactive services. ErgoTronic AutoRun and the Rapida LiveApp are examples of such standards. They further enhance the capabilities of the presses, take workload off the operators and generally brighten up the work environment with modern operating sequences. In a nutshell: They boost the competitiveness of print companies who use them.

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**Dedicated Rapida RSP 106 with
calender and screen printing unit**

Rapida RSP 106

Rotary screen printing as a key to new market segments

On the fringes of the drupa trade show a year ago, KBA-Sheetfed Solutions officially unveiled the rotary screen printing press Rapida RSP 106, which enables an array of finishing options which are not possible by way of a conventional inline process on sheetfed offset presses.

As a direct printing process, screen printing boasts a number of unmistakeable benefits: Excellent high-gloss coating results with impressively sharp contours and superior layer thicknesses, the processing of larger pigments up to 150µm (6 thou), and the use of inks and coatings with the most diverse viscosities, irrespective of whether UV or water-based.

In the past, screen printing was generally considered a craft rather than an industrial process, but that has all changed with the Rapida RSP 106. With the exception of the screen printing unit, the press configuration corresponds to that of a sheetfed offset press. The calender unit achieves a significant quality improvement compared to typical screen printing systems without calendaring. At up to 8,000sph, the production speed is also far beyond that attainable in flat-bed screen printing. Rotary screen printing on the Rapida RSP 106 is thus an especially interesting proposition for run lengths of 10,000 sheets and more.

Finishing process with a future

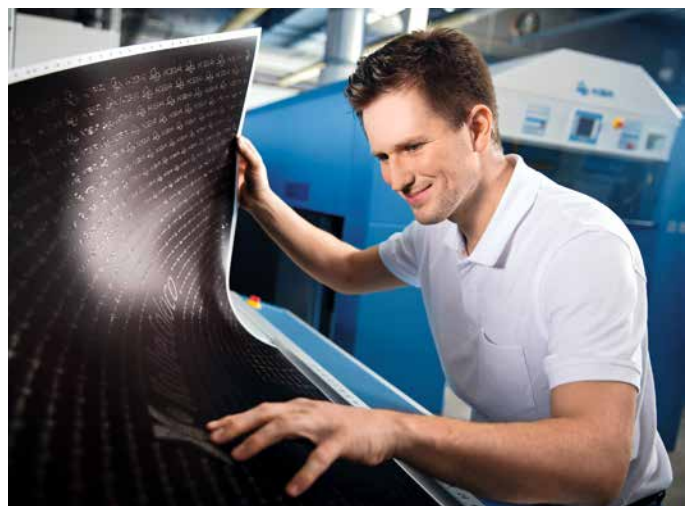
Producers of premium packaging, in particular, are constantly on the lookout for finishing variants which will distinguish them from the crowd. After all, standard coatings and double coating finishes are to be found all over the market. Torsten Uhlig, screen printing expert and consultant, sums it up: "Industrial-scale screen printing is here a genuine alternative – and is furthermore still underestimated by many producers and creatives." Packaging with high-quality screen-printed finishes grabs the eye at the point of sale. Thanks to the rotary process, even medium to long runs can be produced very economically. The previous limitations no longer apply. Torsten Uhlig has no doubts: "Finishing based on screen printing offers enormous potential."

The still young field of printed electronics is another possibility for the Rapida RSP 106, as screen printing is able to deliver the higher layer thicknesses required.

Spot coating effects are just one application for the Rapida RSP 106. Functional coatings such as barriers or non-slip effects, as well as printed electronics, are further possibilities

Screen printing goes industrial

The Rapida RSP 106 runs just like a Rapida offset press, and handling is practically identical. The same front and side lays permit exact registration and enable the trouble-free processing of much thinner substrates than in flat-bed screen printing. Printers who are already familiar with Rapida presses require only a minimum of additional training to be able to work on the Rapida RSP 106.





The Rapida RSP 106 enables industrial screen printing for finishing without run length limitations



Rotary screen in the printing unit of the Rapida RSP 106



Printing and finishing with coater, intermediate drying towers and a screen printing unit



Rapida 106 with eight printing units, double coating facilities and a screen printing unit

Another benefit of the Rapida RSP 106 is the automatic filling of the screen. Quality fluctuations resulting from manual filling, which are often a problem in a conventional production process, are a thing of the past. Breaks in the coating are also avoided. The sheets are held firmly in grippers through the whole process. An optional powder sprayer in the delivery counters any glass-pane effect with all-over UV gloss coatings. The saving of job data and press settings on the ErgoTronic console forms the basis for standardised production, also in the case of repeat and follow-up orders. Non-stop solutions for the feeder and delivery contribute to maximised productivity.

Many application possibilities

"The spectrum of screen printing applications is sheer endless. It would be narrow thinking to concentrate solely on typical possibilities such as UV spot coatings. The only limitations are those dictated by the downstream further processing," says Torsten Uhlig. Rotary screen printing on the Rapida RSP 106 has made the process fast, reliable and reproducible. Eliminating the previous process "bottleneck", it enables the production of all kinds of packaging and eye-catching advertising materials with significantly improved efficiency. Its products generate attention, influence purchase decisions in a fraction of a second and – with the exception of "taste" – appeal to all the human senses at once: Seeing and

hearing, smell and feel – better and more comprehensively than any other printing technology.

In addition to dedicated screen printing presses with calender and screen units, KBA-Sheetfed is also planning the incorporation of screen printing units into its sheetfed offset presses. The ideas range from presses with conventional coating and drying towers plus a screen printing unit, to an eight-colour Rapida 106 with double coating facilities and subsequent screen printing. When the screen printing unit is deactivated, these presses run as normal at their full production speed.

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Ravensburger: Productivity boost thanks to large-format offset

Exciting puzzles and games – all produced on Rapida presses

Ravensburger is a leading European provider of puzzles, games and activity products, and a leading publisher of children's and youth books in the German-speaking region. The blue triangle is one of the most renowned trademarks in Germany. Founded by Otto Meier in 1883, the company today counts 2,100 employees, who together generate annual sales of almost €500m (\$585m). Two Rapida offset presses stand in the competence centre for print production, one each in medium and large format.



Light-flooded:
The press room
at Ravensburger
with a Rapida 105
(right) and the
new Rapida 145

Both presses
are usually to be
found running at
full speed

by a staggering 80 per cent. But even that is only half of the story. As makeready is no longer such a major factor in production costs, classic games such as "Ludo" can be printed more frequently. Consequently, less space is required for finished and semi-finished products, and less capital is locked up in intermediate storage.

There are typically up to 18 job changes per shift. The record to date was 50 makeready cycles in 24 hours. Production is generally spread across gang formes for maximum flexibility. Pre-press decides whether a particular product is to be placed on the sheet once or several times, depending on the overall quantities required and the delivery schedules. Between four and sixteen different products are printed together on one sheet. CtP is also the stage at which it is decided whether to assign the job to the medium- or large-format press.



ses now run in high-speed unison – the Rapida 145 at 15,000sph for 98 per cent of the time.

The recent investments became imperative due to the increasing proportion of short-run production jobs. Print volumes have increased from 39 million sheets in 2010 to 48 million sheets, but the number of individual jobs has risen even more sharply from 7,600 to 11,000. Overall, average run lengths have fallen from 4,950 sheets in 2010 to 3,900 sheets in 2016. Faced with this challenge, there was no alternative but to minimise makeready times and raise production output

Faster makeready processes for more print jobs

That is all child's play for the Rapida 145. Thanks to the facilities for parallel processes (DriveTronic SPC with Plate Ident, CleanTronic Synchro and a DriveTronic SFC coater with AniSleeve), makeready times have been slashed

The large-format Rapida 145, with five printing units and inline coater, was commissioned just last year to replace an old large-format press. The medium-format Rapida 105 had also been in production for over a decade, but has now been given a new lease of life. Within the framework of extensive restructuring measures in the print centre, it has been turned by 180° and treated to a comprehensive retrofit. The total investment, including renovation of the hall, amounted to almost €4m (\$4.7m). Both pres-

More than pleased with the new large-format Rapida (l-r):
Gavin Elflein, KBA Germany; Günter Märker, head of
production, Ravensburger; Udo Feichtmeier and Christian
Pischel (both Ravensburger)





All that is missing is the lid on the puzzle boxes ...

... then they are ready for shipping

Günter Märker:
"Print quality is extremely important for us. With the Rapida presses, we are ideally equipped for the future."



The Ravensburger headquarters is something of a local landmark

A plate lift raises the plate trolleys up to the press gallery level, and the printers only have to distribute them to the individual printing units



On the Rapidas, one test sheet is normally sufficient before actual production commences. In the past, three or even four correction steps were necessary. As a result, the amount of makeready waste has been halved. Alongside the direct material savings, the Rapida presses are in this way also contributing to the conservation of natural resources.

Benefits on unusual substrates

Günter Märker, head of production at Ravensburger: "We can swear by our Rapidas for their advantages in board printing." Typical board weights lie between 120 and 450gsm (81 to 304lbs). "Both must run equally well," says Märker. Playing cards are printed on virgin pulp stocks.

Even though production is organised so as to group together common formats and substrates, it is still necessary to perform two to three coating forme changes and one or two anilox roller changes every day. DriveTronic SFC and AniSleeve are here real time-savers. Coating plate changes run parallel to other makeready processes, and an anilox roller sleeve can be changed by a single operator – without physical effort and without the need for a crane or the like.

One small detail is especially appreciated by the press operators at Ravensburger, namely the plate lift. Whole plate trolleys are lifted up to the press gallery level, and the printers only have to distribute them to the individual printing units. Climbing steps with an unwieldy plate has become a thing of the past.

Extensive know-how also in post-press

Before the investment plans could be implemented, there was one important point to be clarified: How to accommodate continued use of the existing die-cutting tools, despite the switch to a new large-format press model. After all, considerable money and know-how had gone into their production. The answer was amazingly simple: The Rapida 145 uses narrower colour bars, and thus the gripper margin required for die-cutting is still available.

There are 32 employees in Ravensburger's competence centre for print production. They work three shifts and are also responsible for cutting. The post-press department and the associated store occupy much more floor space than the relatively small printshop with its 250m² (2,700sq.ft). The total production space amounts to approx. 20,000m² (215,300sq.ft). The departments for die-cutting and lamination of the puzzles and for box-making are much larger. Most machines here are the product of extensive specialist know-how – for example the lidding machine which places a lid on the finished box sets.

A company like Ravensburger is naturally a source of many superlatives. The largest Ravensburger jigsaw puzzle, for example, came onto the market in 2016. It comprises 40,320 pieces and weighs around 20kg (44lbs). Puzzlers can look forward to some 600 hours of fun to complete the puzzle measuring 6.8 x 1.9 metres (22.31 x 6.23ft).

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Around the clock, inline and online...

Powerful services for your sheetfed offset printing presses

Your Rapida sheetfed offset presses are running at full speed. You are enjoying the high level of availability of modern technology. The job list is well filled. At the most inappropriate moment, however, a wheel sticks. Fast support is needed...

This or a similar problem has certainly also occurred in your printing company. From KBA-Sheetfed you can now quickly get the help you urgently need, frequently without any trouble. A strong service organisation with experts for every detail is in constant motion to help you.

Here you can find a graphic overview of the machinery that ensures that your Rapida press will soon be back in operation.

1. 24 / 7 – Increased availability through fast expert help: 24 / 7 accessibility to remote maintenance allows the fastest possible identification and solution of problems.

Downtimes are reduced and the availability of the press is increased.

2. 80% of all cases can be solved immediately via remote maintenance: in only about 20 percent of all remote maintenance cases are subsequent on-site operations necessary. All other problems are solved directly by re-



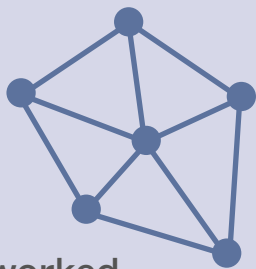
24 / 7 – Increased availability through fast expert help



80% of all cases can be solved immediately via remote maintenance

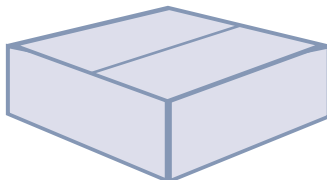


4.0 – Digital solutions for better services



4,000 networked presses in the world

94 % availability of spare parts from stock



mote maintenance. This allows rapid startup again in the event of malfunction-related production downtimes.

3. 400 service employees worldwide to help you: a global network of over 400 service employees allows a comprehensive worldwide supply of services and products. For the fastest possible advice on site.

4. 4,000 networked presses in the world: with more than 4,000 presses, far more than half of all functioning Rapida presses are networked. Users benefit from improved solutions through digital services.

5. 94 % availability of spare parts from stock: in 94 percent of all

enquiries, the spare parts are supplied from stock immediately. In this way, worn or defective parts can be replaced as quickly as possible. This high availability of parts contributes to fast recommissioning of the press.

6. 22,000 different spare parts available from stock: over 22,000 different spares and components as well as constituent spare parts are available from stock millions of times. You can rely on a constant and continuous supply of spare parts and parts subject to wear.

7. Switch from reactive to proactive service: the expansion from classical reactive service to proactive service aims at identifying potential sources of error at the earliest possible point in time. This

helps to avoid unplanned downtimes, to the best of one's knowledge and belief.

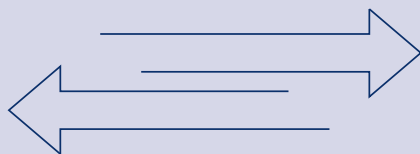
8. 4.0 – Digital solutions for better services: the term 4.0. describes, among other things, the digital transformation of the service business into data-based solutions for improved production performance. A 360° view of all parameters enables you to achieve the best possible provision of the necessary services.

9. 100 sales and service partners worldwide: with about 100 sales and service partners worldwide, you can count on a comprehensive global network of contacts for service issues. Directly on site for the fastest possible resolution of your problems.

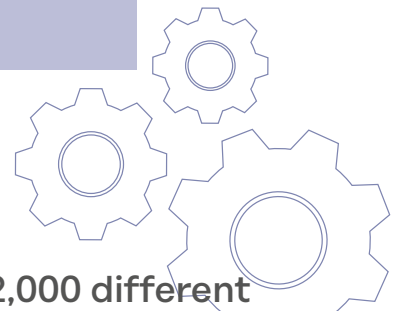
400 service employees worldwide to help you



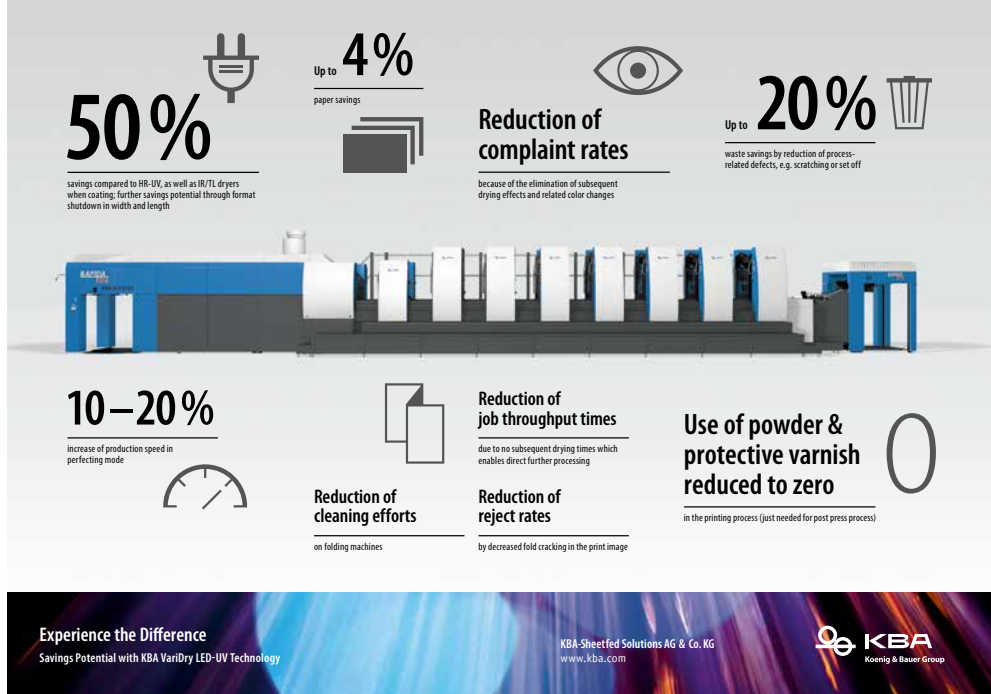
100 sales and service partners worldwide



Switch from reactive to proactive service



22,000 different spare parts available from stock



- Up to 4 per cent paper savings
- 10 to 20 per cent higher production speeds in perfecting mode
- Faster job turnaround as the sheets can be passed on immediately for further processing
- Lower rejection rates thanks to the reduced risk of fold cracking
- Powder and protective coatings are no longer necessary
- Fewer problems and shorter cleaning times in downstream finishing

Objections such as

- higher investment outlay for the dryers,
 - higher ink costs and
 - poorer de-inking of the printed products in later recycling
- were also discussed openly. Important objectives of the symposium were to demonstrate the potential of the technology, to present developments and improvements, and to dispel the reservations which naturally accompany any new technology.

Panel discussions with users and suppliers

Three panel discussion sessions were moderated by Klaus-Peter Nicolay as an independent print expert, branch analyst and publisher of the magazine Druckmarkt.

The first session looked at practical experience, design solutions, handling recommendations and service topics under the headline "What does the LED-UV technology offer for a modern print company".

Tailored consumables packages were the topic of a second round

Well-attended symposium at KBA-Sheetfed

Updates for print professionals interested in the LED-UV technology

In April, almost 300 existing and prospective users of the still relatively new LED-UV technology met at KBA-Sheetfed in Radebeul to pick up first-hand information on the current state of development. Alongside printers from 21 different countries, numerous representatives of the supplier industry were also present.

KBA-Sheetfed is one of the international technology leaders in the field of LED-UV. The first Rapida 106 with LED dryers went into production in mid-2014. Further milestones included the first medium-format perfecter for 4-over-4 production with LED-UV at the end of 2014 and the first Rapida large format installation in 2015. In the meantime, some 50 half-, medium- and large-format Rapidas with LED drying are in use around the world. The majority of these installations can be found in Germany, Japan and France. But in Great Britain, Austria, Belgium, Italy, Poland, the USA and other countries, too, Rapidas with LED-UV facilities are proving increasingly popular, especially among commercial printers. Alongside classic five- and six-colour coater presses, numerous eight-colour perfectors have also been equipped with this future-oriented drying technology.

Above: Overview of savings potential with VariDry LED-UV

Process benefits

Enthusiastic KBA users have already discovered the benefits of LED-UV both for their own companies and for their print customers. Environmental friendliness and short delivery times are just two of many. Further important aspects include:

- 50 per cent energy savings compared to IR-UV or IR/hot-air drying for coating applications
- Up to 20 per cent less waste
- Fewer quality complaints

On the Rapida 106, 80gsm (54lbs) self-adhesive label paper was printed from a reel using LED-UV inks – at a speed of 20,000sph





Above: Game-changer: Folding cartons were die-cut and stripped at speeds of 13,000sph on the rotary die-cutter Rapida RDC 106. After fast changing of the die cutting forme, this was followed by the kiss-cutting of self-adhesive labels – at 15,000sph!

of discussions with representatives from Toyo, Actega, Scheufelen, Papyrus, StoraEnso and Igepa. Alongside recent further developments in inks and coatings, the manufacturers spoke about standardised measuring and analysis methods, health and consumer protection, migration and food contact compliance, as well as the de-inking properties of substrates. According to Dr. Wolfgang Rauh from FOGRA, the success of de-inking seems to be dependent on the particular combination of ink and paper. In case of doubt, therefore, it is always advisable to consult with the ink and paper suppliers concerned.

The third module was reserved for the users: Ingo Klotz from Druckerei Joh. Walch (Augsburg/Germany), Jürgen Ostendorf from Hofmann Druck (Nürnberg/Germany), Patrick Leus from Albe de Coker (Antwerp/Belgium) and Jonas Hoffmann from FarbWerk (Detmold/Germany) presented their LED-UV concepts, compared the

Above right: Users reported on the many benefits of the LED-UV technology (l-r): Ingo Klotz (Joh. Walch), Jürgen Ostendorf (Hofmann-Druck), Patrick Leus (Albe de Coker) and Jonas Hoffmann (FarbWerk), with moderator Klaus-Peter Nicolay

Below: The printers and presenters lined up with print samples from the two presses



ROI of LED-UV to that of conventional alternatives, and provided information on attainable quality standards and energy efficiency. The extended colour space often spares the need to print spot colours, and significantly higher densities are achieved. The print quality on uncoated papers comes close to that otherwise associated with coated stocks, which expands opportunities in the premium quality segment and enables new marketing strategies. At the same time, many participants indicated that LED-UV printing is able to serve as a strong regional USP.

Print demonstrations confirm the experience of users

A series of print demonstrations confirmed the reported user experience. During production on a Rapida 75 PRO and two Rapida 106 presses, the symposium guests were able to monitor en-

ergy consumption in real time via VisuEnergy.

On the five-colour Rapida 75 PRO coater press, the focus was placed on production on uncoated papers. It was also shown how the jobs could be passed on for immediate finishing on a Perfecta 132 TS high-speed cutter.

The production of in-mould and self-adhesive labels, with and without cold foil, was presented on a six-colour Rapida 106 with coater tower. After the job with cold foil transfer, the press was converted for production with an opaque white primer. The final job was a cigarette pack forme on metallised card. All three images illustrated how LED-UV is gaining an ever greater foothold also in packaging printing.

As an absolute world first, Koenig & Bauer then presented LED-UV drying in conjunction with autonomous printing on an eight-colour Rapida 106 coater press (see also the article on page 10). Another world novelty was the die-cutting of packaging with automatic stripping on the Rapida RDC 106 rotary die-cutter. This was immediately followed by the kiss-cutting of self-adhesive labels, showing that job changeovers on the Rapida RDC 106 are significantly faster than on a flat-bed die-cutter.

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Fourth Rapida printing secure documents

Twelve-unit Rapida 106 for Canadian Bank Note

”

“KBA understands our unique needs with regard to a high level of security and quality.”

Sean Pentland

When you face the ultimately demanding task of producing high-quality secure documents such as passports, driver's licences or identity cards on a variety of substrates for customers both throughout Canada and abroad, you naturally seek the finest, high-tech equipment in the industry. That was also the approach of Canadian Bank Note (CBN), a well-respected 120-year-old private printing business based in Ottawa. In December 2016, CBN turned to KBA-North America to deliver a specially tailored 12-colour Rapida 106 for its main production facility.

“Ever since we purchased our first 12-colour Rapida in 2003, we have felt that KBA presses are both innovative and well-designed,” says Sean

Pentland, senior director of pre-press and print development at Canadian Bank Note. “We reviewed and tested all the leading press manufacturers, and Koenig & Bauer came out on top. Koenig & Bauer understands our unique needs with regard to a high level of security and quality, and supports us accordingly.”

Proud of the new flagship at the main Ottawa plant: Mark Norlock (l), KBA regional sales manager for Canada, and Ronald G. Arends, president and CEO of Canadian Bank Note

In the meantime, Koenig & Bauer has supplied four Rapida presses to the CBN production facilities in Ottawa. The repeated orders are not least attributable to the high productivity of the presses and the strong partnership forged by the two companies.

Lauded for its print production

CBN is well established as a leading producer of secure identity documents. Supporting governments in their endeavours to thwart the counterfeiting of such documents and thereby also to minimise the risk of abuse by thieves or even terrorists, it uses its Koenig & Bauer equipment to provide intricate security solutions for its customers.

Fast assistance in time of need

In June 2016, a fire at the main plant destroyed a 10-year-old Rapida, which then needed to be replaced as quickly as possible. Koenig & Bauer provided a used press immediately and a new long Rapida 106 followed in record time. Sean Pentland: “I can only emphasise the high level of support we received from the entire Koenig & Bauer group after the fire. Koenig & Bauer did absolutely everything they could to ensure that we were back in production as soon as possible.”

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Interesting website:
www.cbnco.com



New Rapida 106 for Cedar Graphics in Iowa

Double productivity with LED-UV

Cedar Graphics in Iowa prints a broad spectrum of high-quality products with eye-grabbing coatings and special effects for customers all over the USA. To continue this mandate, the company recently purchased an eight-colour Rapida 106 for straight and 4-over-4 production. It is the first perfector press with LED-UV drying in the USA and runs at speeds up to 18,000sph.

Owner and CEO Hassan Igram: "The driving forces in our decision to purchase the Rapida 106 were its productivity and the LED-UV capabilities. We're anticipating a plethora of benefits: Double productivity, a streamlined workflow, the highest print quality and additional business with new specialty work."

With a glittering array of Gold Ink awards lining its hallways, Cedar Graphics has earned the nickname "first impression printer". Cedar Graphics is a full-service printing and communications giant with a global clientele including numerous Fortune 500 companies. The job mix comprises 65 per cent offset and 30 per cent digital products. The remainder is accounted for by posters and signage. One thing common to all Cedar customers is their demand for colour consistency. This is where the Rapidas play out clear advantages.



Interesting website:
www.cedargraphicsinc.com

Cedar Graphics management with representatives from KBA North America at the press acceptance in Radebeul

The team at Cedar Graphics (l-r): Marketing solutions manager Justin McDonald, owner and CEO Hassan Igram, production manager Scott Burnett and president Humza Igram



Unique features boost productivity

"We felt that Koenig & Bauer offered us unique print features which make super-fast press speeds possible. Plate Ident, for example, recognises and registers the plates, and saves makeready time by automatically verifying the job data and preventing errors," says Cedar Graphics president Humza Igram. "KBA's investment in LED-UV technology is another important point. We were at the forefront of UV curing and we anticipate that LED-UV will become the next big trend."

LED-UV brings faster job turn-arounds, benefits when printing on plastic substrates, expanded finishing options, a cleaner press environment as there is practically no need for powder, and important ecological effects such as energy savings and lower ozone and carbon emissions.

Marketing solutions manager Justin McDonald: "We are known for printing amazing products for innovative brands and creatives. These customers are always looking for new substrates and interesting finishes like soft touch, UV grit or strike-throughs. We love experimenting with special substrates and coatings, and the new Rapida with LED-UV gives us even more flexibility to do so."

The Rapida 106 was installed in early summer and replaces an older ten-colour perfector press.

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From commercials to packaging

La Fotocromo Emiliana swears by its KBA-Sheetfed jumbos

La Fotocromo Emiliana in Castel San Pietro Terme, nestled in the hills around Bologna, already installed its first large-format Rapida in 1999. That was a Rapida 162a in a four-colour version. Since then, the company has taken delivery of three more large-format presses from KBA-Sheetfed.



The latest acquisition is a Rapida 164 with six printing units, coater and a triple extended delivery for sheet formats up to 1,205 x 1,640mm (47.4 x 64.6in). Automation features such as DriveTronic SFC and AniSleeve enable coating forme changes to be performed parallel to plate changes or fast simultaneous washing of the blankets, impression cylinders and ink rollers with CleanTronic Synchro and DriveTronic SRW. The anilox roller sleeves in the coater can easily be changed by a single operator within the same time. And the Rapida 164 at La Fotocromo Emiliana incorporates yet another

novel function: It is the first press in Italy which is able to stretch the plates without manual intervention – all controlled remotely from the console.

Second large-format Rapida in four years

Founded in 1966, La Fotocromo Emiliana is a family company with dynamic business ambitions. It has now invested twice in new large-format technology within a period of just four years. Production is focussed on commercial work, and here especially on printed matter of all kinds for schools. But numerous packaging jobs are

Bright and shiny:
The new Rapida 164 at La Fotocromo Emiliana stands on raised foundations and incorporates time-saving logistics components

also handled, and the new Rapida 164 will cater for an even broader product spectrum. The commitment to diversification began already with the installation of the first Rapida 162.

The latest Rapida jumbo prints on the most varied substrates from thin papers to 600gsm (405lbs) board. It is furthermore the company's first press with logistics components at the feeder and delivery – a major advantage for folding carton production.

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Rapida 106 for an especially broad substrate range at Bloch AG

Dual strategy “commercial & packaging” with Rapida technology

The print company Bloch AG was founded over 85 years ago and has since developed into a modern media provider serving the most varied customer needs in the commercial segment. Thomas Bloch represents the third generation of the founding family. He took over the company in 1991 and today manages a team of over 50 employees.

Customer and quality orientation, unceasing innovation and dependable know-how are factors which drive constant advancement in terms of services and products, employee expertise and technical infrastructure. The same can be said of technology- and process-related topics. This approach fosters sustainable growth and has secured a firm market standing for the company in the Basle region.

With the recent acquisition of packaging print company Gantenbein AG, itself a established market player founded in 1951,

Above: Company headquarters of Bloch AG with its new extension

After signing of the contracts (l-r): Customer adviser Dominik Müller, managing director Thomas Bloch, CEO Peter J. Rickenmann from Print Assist and technical manager Alfred Kälin

Thomas Bloch and his team have expanded their product and service portfolio. Industrial production for both the commercial and packaging segments, from a single location and with a single press, is by all means an ambitious strategy. It calls for flexible, high-performance equipment along the whole chain from pre-press, via print to post-press and infrastructure, not to mention the qualified support of reliable suppliers.

Rapida 106 replaces two existing presses

Koenig & Bauer satisfies these requirements with its high-end press technology and exceptional competence in the fields of commercial and packaging printing. After detailed evaluation, demanding print tests and careful consideration of the optimum press specifications, Bloch and Gantenbein chose a highly automated Rapida 106 with five printing units, coater, triple extended delivery and UV dryers. The new press will be replacing two five-colour coater presses and is scheduled for installation in spring 2018.

The prime objective was to find an efficient, innovative and future-oriented overall solution. With the chosen press configura-

tion, Bloch is ideally prepared for all coming challenges. Ultimate substrate flexibility from 0.04mm (1.6pt) paper to 1.2mm (48pt) board, the economical handling of both ultra-short and long runs, extremely fast makeready and minimal waste are key characteristics of the new press.

Comprehensive automation

One decisive plus is consistent implementation of the Drive-Tronic concept with a sidelay-free infeed (SIS), simultaneous plate changing (SPC) and simultaneous coating forme changes (SFC). Further highlights are the plate identification system with automatic register presetting (Plate Ident with DataMatrix), the inline colour measurement and control system QualiTronic ColorControl, the new ErgoTronic console, facilities to disengage unused inking units and automatic anilox roller changing from the console (Anilox-Load). The energy-efficient Vari-Dry^{BLUE} (IR/hot-air/UV) drying system permits a diversity of finishing options. Ink is supplied to the units via an automatic can dispensing system from Betz. The production planning and control system LogoTronic Professional, with its proven interfaces for data exchange with pre-press and the company MIS, provides for efficient integration of the press into the overall production workflow.

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Rapida 106 at Statim in Périers on the English Channel

Maximum flexibility for thick cardboard and thin labels

At Drupa 2016, the medium-sized company Statim, based in Périers on the English Channel in Normandy, invested in a seven-colour Rapida 106 with coating tower. The high-performance Rapida at this still young packaging printing company replaced a press with the same format, and since the end of last year has been printing not only cardboard boxes made of solid board but also paper labels at a print speed of up to 20,000 sheets per hour. Only Rapida presses can offer this flexibility.



The new Rapida 106-7+L in the high-speed version reaches an incredible 20,000 sheets per hour

Everything and at once

In order to continue to survive on the market when circulation was falling and price competition was hard, the company owners Cédric Ladroue and Christophe Pitrey had decided to modernise their press pool. Since its foundation in 2005, Statim has achieved 50 % of its turnover with outer packaging made of solid board and 50% with paper labels for food cans and fresh goods. While most of the folding boxes are printed on 200 g to 600 g solid board (recycled cardboard, kraft, GD and GC grades), the company also processes 70 g to 110 g thin label paper.

With its incredibly wide and unique range of substrates, the management wants to offer its customers

a maximum of products and services. Cédric Ladroue: "In order to maintain our position in a food industry that is dominated by large international companies, we rely on strong customer orientation, hence the name of our company. Statim comes from Latin and essentially means "on the spot" or "immediately". We always have an open ear for our customers, and try to convince them through the quality of our products and through our responsiveness."

Rapida 106, highly automated and flexible

Impressed by the substrate versatility of the Rapida presses, their outstanding printing quality and top production performance, the management board ultimately decided in favour of a seven-col-

our version of the setup-time and speed world champion Rapida 106 with coating tower. Cédric Ladroue continues: "For a whole year we carried out print tests with all manufacturers, visited the production sites of various European colleagues and did a lot of market research. The new press had to meet the specific requirements arising from our dual activity. It had to process both cardboard and thin printing paper perfectly, and had to do this at maximum speed in high quality with fast job changes. We also wanted easy-to-use pile logistics, since our teams only use this occasionally. The inline colour measuring system also played a decisive role."

To meet all of these requirements, the Rapida 106 was delivered in the high-speed version with 20,000 sheets per hour and with a high level of automation. Fully automatic plate changing, automatic roller washing including EasyClean ink fountain, non-stop systems at the feeder and delivery, pile logistics by Krifft&Zipsner as well as the QualiTronic ColorControl inline colour measuring and control system are among the most important automation modules.

33 per cent increase in productivity

The management hoped to achieve greater productivity, higher print quality and less startup waste from the investment in a new printing press. After a trial period

of about six months, can one say that these objectives have been achieved? Cédric Ladroue: "With our old press, we were working at the limit. Our capacity utilisation was about 110%. We even had to work on Sundays to meet all of the requests from our customers. With such a high level of utilisation it was impossible to expand our existing business, let alone acquire new customers, although the demand was there."

Today, after the usual period of adjustment, Cédric Ladroue is pleased to say that productivity is improving. In May, for example, production increased by 33 % compared to production with the old press. The productivity gains are especially striking in the field of cardboard products. In this area, Statim steadily prints between 18,000 and 20,000 sheets per hour, with a number of orders being executed at maximum speed.

The managing director continues: "With thick substrates, the logistics and non-stop systems mean enormous time savings for us. Our requirements concerning quality and waste were also met. We can now print faster and with greater consistency. QualiTronic safeguards our printers and accelerates the inking-up process many times over."

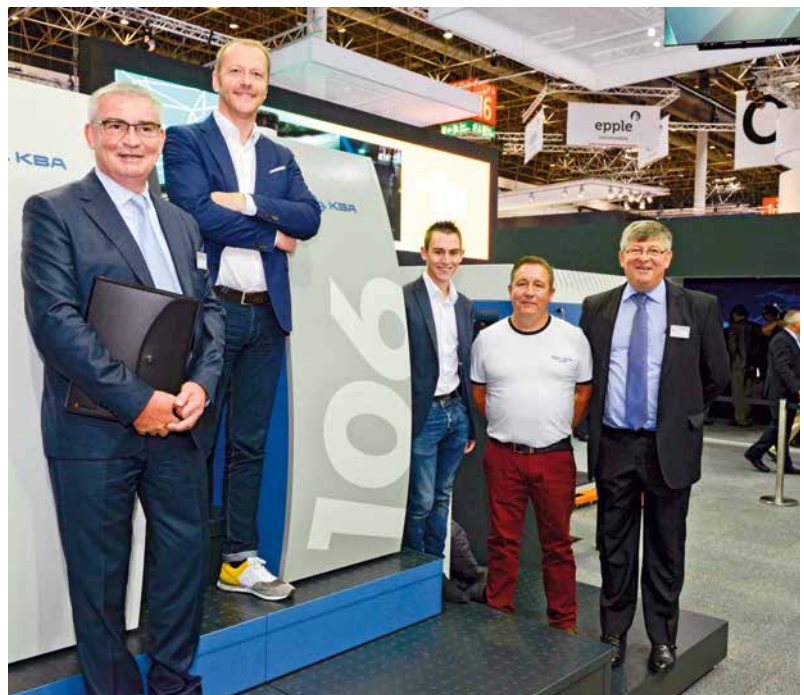
On course for growth

With the acquisition of the Rapida 106, the investments by the Normandy-based packaging printing company are by no means over. "Since our new printing press started up, our further processing in the cardboard sector has not been able to keep up. In the next six to twelve months, therefore, we will have to invest in additional flat-bed presses. We also want to switch our entire production to

The automated pile logistics at the feeder and delivery further increase the productivity of cardboard printing



Owner and Sales Manager Cédric Ladroue, co-owner and Technical Director, Christophe Pitrey and printer Pierre Pitrey are looking forward to receiving their new press at Drupa 2016



printing with low-migration and low-odour inks by the end of 2017. So far we have been using organic inks or food-safe inks, depending on the job. Recently, however, the demand for low-migration and low-odour inks has risen to 30 to 40%. This means that it makes economic sense for us to change our production accordingly."

While Statim with its approximately 40 employees generated a turn-

over of €6.2 million in the years 2015 and 2016, Cédric Ladroue hopes to increase this figure to €8 million within the next three years through the investments already implemented and still pending. And so a promising future lies before the packaging printing company in Normandy.

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Expanding markets with a new Rapida 145

Artenvas: Perfection in quality and service

Continuing traditions which reach far back into the last century, the third management generation at Artenvas is pursuing further market development with enthusiasm, resolve and a clear vision. Once specialised on packaging for the shoe industry, the Spanish company is now targeting new fields of business. These include perfumes and cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and dental products.



L-r: Jan Drechsel, sales director KBA-Sheetfed; Miguel Iborra, sales director KBA-Lauvic; Pablo Roca, service director KBA-Lauvic; Anastasio Antón Martínez, production manager Artenvas; Heliodoro Vidal, commercial and personnel manager Artenvas; José Antonio Díaz, KBA-Lauvic; Mike Engelhardt, sales manager KBA-Sheetfed; Carlos Vilaplana, managing director KBA-Lauvic

As a former family business, Artenvas is today trading new paths to develop broader markets and to remain successful in the future. The company behind the brand name Artenvas is Industrias Gráficas del Envase, which has gathered more than 50 years of experience in board processing and grew up serving the shoe industry which was once especially strong in Eastern Spain. Managing director Juan Antón Martínez: "There were originally two separate companies, but they later merged to optimise their services for the shoe industry in our country. By bundling their resources, they could adapt bet-

Heliodoro Vidal, Anastasio Antón und Heliodoro Vidal are very satisfied with the Rapida 145 at Artenvas

ter to customer demands, develop new products together and introduce new technologies."

Geographical expansion

The printing of packaging for shoes calls for great care and attention in respect of materials and production processes. Everything must be geared to customer service. "The special point is that the boxes are normally supplied fully assembled, which demands close proximity to the shoe manufacturers. Otherwise, logistics becomes very complex. Even in those days, we wanted to grow and to supply our products also in other regions with a strong shoe industry. Our strategy was to concentrate the initial production at our central facility and to establish a network

of logistics centres with assembly machines and a local fleet of vehicles for efficient distribution of the finished packaging in the individual regions."

Investment plans were elaborated, and our infrastructure was expanded and improved. New technologies enabled faster and more efficient processes. Production manager Anastasio Antón Martínez: "But it is not only the technical equipment which matters.

Interesting website:
www.artenvas.es





Trained and qualified employees are equally imperative. Many of our employees have been with us for over 40 years. That is a great advantage. We live the philosophy of a family company and can count on the loyalty and commitment of our workforce."

With this backing, Artenvas is able to tackle every challenge with positive expectations. "An entrepreneur must be able to delegate. After all, no-one can do everything alone," says Juan Antón Martínez. "That frees up the time necessary for innovations, which we then present at branch meetings, fairs or other events organised with relevant institutions. Such activities are indispensable, as they define the course for the future of our company."

Successful diversification

After a number of difficult years when the shoe companies began to relocate their factories, Artenvas

decided to adjust its product portfolio. Today, the company also supplies smaller packaging to other branches. Wherever die-cutting and high-quality lamination processes are required, the experience of an established specialist is priceless. That is certainly the case with regard to perfumes, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals. Anastasio Antón Martínez: "If it can be packaged in a folding box, then we have a solution. We are genuine all-rounders." The packaging design is a key aspect. It must appeal to the consumer, whether through visual impact (colours, print, images) or structural properties (form, size, features for opening and closing). All these elements must promote immediate recognition of the brand and product in the marketplace.

Rapida 145: Optimum productivity and versatility

The need to optimise quality, to add more colour to packaging and

The product portfolio at Artenvas is today wider than ever before

Artenvas in Elche near Alicante produces packaging for the shoe industry and other branches

to accelerate job changes in the face of ever shorter runs led to the purchase of a six-colour Rapida 145 with coater and UV drying. Anastasio Antón Martínez: "An increased focus on UV production is not least due to the materials we handle. Our previous experience with KBA presses has been good and we are very happy with the Rapidas. We are convinced that this is the best technology for our packaging production."

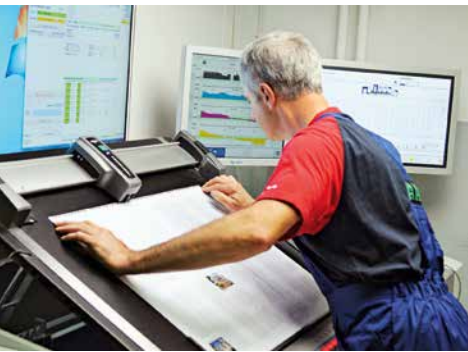
A portfolio of approx. 2,000 different packaging products naturally means a broad diversity of substrates to be handled, each with its own quality requirements and processing solutions. The Rapida 145 contributes significantly to reduced production times and helps to ensure that every customer receives their packaging as quickly as possible. "The press incorporates all the necessary automation modules to reduce job changeover times and to enable reliable production at high speeds."



Artenvas proves day after day that it is possible to expand successfully with a mix of longstanding and new diversified products. "We are almost obsessed with being punctual," says Anastasio Antón Martínez. "When we specify a date, the customer can be absolutely certain that we will be delivering on that very day."

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Left:
The practice-oriented automation of the Rapida 75 PRO increases net output and simplifies work for the operator



Bernardinum commissions a Rapida 75 PRO

Blessed technology in Pelplin

On 14th June, the recently commissioned Rapida 75 PRO in the print centre of the Bernardinum publishing house in Pelplin/Poland received official blessing. The four-colour press extends the production capacity of the dynamically active church-owned print company. A five-colour Rapida 75 coater press was already installed there three years ago.

The Bernardinum publishing house is currently the largest employer in Pelplin and surroundings. Alongside its printing activities, it is also responsible for a variety of special publications. It was the increasing interest of regional customers wishing to have their work printed by Bernardinum that led to the decision to purchase another sheetfed offset press, and the choice fell in favour of the half-format Rapida 75 PRO which was unveiled by Koenig & Bauer at drupa 2016. Pastor Wojciech Węcowski, managing director of the publishing house, explains: "The objective was to increase our production capacity and at the same time to complete another phase in the modernisation of our equipment base."

The Rapida 75 PRO was delivered in March. It is configured for the enlarged format 605 x 750mm (23.8 x 29.5in) and incorporates a whole host of special features: Air-cushioned sheet guiding, inking unit temperature control, CleanTronic Synchro for the simultaneous washing of blankets and impression cylinders using dry cloth, VariDry IR dryers and the online measuring system ErgoTronic ColorDrive with spectral and Lab add-ons.

At the commissioning of the new Rapida 75 PRO (l-r): Grzegorz Szymczykowski, Michał Drożdż (both KBA CEE), diocesan bishop Ryszard Kasyna and pastor Wojciech Węcowski, managing director of the Bernardinum publishing house

Grzegorz Szymczykowski and diocesan bishop Ryszard Kasyna set the Rapida 75 PRO in motion

The Bernardinum print centre in Pelplin also handles some exceptionally demanding jobs, eg a facsimile edition of the Gutenberg bible in the seminary library

Bernardinum is specialised on the production of books, magazines and other commercial products, including a number of very complex publications such as a facsimile edition of the famous Gutenberg bible in the seminary library in Pelplin. The comprehensive technical features of the Rapida 75 PRO, in combination with its experienced operators, enabled significantly faster completion of the job.

It was no coincidence that the second sheetfed offset press was also ordered from Koenig & Bauer. Wojciech Węcowski: "I would like to thank everyone for their assistance and support. The co-operation to date has shown that, working together, we always find a suitable solution. We share a true partnership. Jan Korenc from KBA CEE can be just as proud of his employees as I am of mine."

Jan Korenc, CEO of KBA CEE, adds: "It is a very good sign when a second order is received just three years after the purchase of a first press. The print centre in Pelplin now possesses two highly automated half-format presses for its own publications and for the constantly growing volume of external work. It is especially pleasing



Interesting website:
drukarnia.bernardinum.com.pl

that the company is also creating new jobs. We wish Pastor Wojciech Węcowski and his team continued success both for the publishing house and the print centre.

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Karton-Pak starts up yet another Rapida

“The Magnificent Seven”

On 22nd June, Karton-Pak welcomed numerous guests of honour to the official inauguration of a new production plant in the Polish town of Nowa Sól, and at the same time to its presentation of a new seven-colour Rapida 145 with coater and triple extended delivery. This is the seventh Rapida to join the current press line-up at Karton-Pak, and already the eleventh to be installed over the course of a 30-year partnership with Koenig & Bauer.

Jerzy Sarama, managing director of Karton-Pak, thanked his guests for their various contributions to the new production plant. With a total floor space of 23,000m² (247,600sq.ft), it has been laid out to accommodate three production lines in B0 format, which will process around 45,000 tonnes of board each year. The Rapida 145 was the first to come on stream in January 2017. “Last year, we printed 28,000 tonnes of board at our existing factory. Now, we can process 40,000 tonnes at both locations, and our aim is to raise that figure to 70,000 tonnes per year. That places us on a par with the major packaging printers on the European market.”

To promote further development, Karton-Pak recently signed a cooperation agreement with two other packaging printers: Norgraft Packaging in Spain and Acket in the Netherlands. This cooperation is intended to enable more direct response to the needs of customers in various regions of the continent, while strengthening dynamic growth and overall process reliability.

Enormous increase in productivity

There are presently four production lines in operation at Karton-Pak – two each in the B0 and B1 formats. Each line is built around a Rapida press. The new Rapida 145 is already boosting the production potential. Jerzy Sarama: “When we opened the new plant, productivity went up by around 40 per cent. We have transferred the majority of our high-performance jobs to here. At the same time, we have gained various new jobs over the past few months. Both the new Rapida and the level of automation realised in pre- and post-press were instrumental in enhancing our productivity and profitability to this extent.”

As the managing director of Karton-Pak went on to emphasise, the new Rapida 145 is proof of the continuous technical development brought to the market by Koenig & Bauer: “It was an easy decision after our last press. The Rapidas are foundations of our production infrastructure. The operators know them inside out and all our experience to date – also in service – speaks clearly for Koenig & Bauer. In fact, the only question which remained was the configuration of the press, which had to

be matched to the constantly increasing expectations of our customers and the potential of the market.”

Strong features

The Rapida 145 prints substrates between 0.1 and 1.2mm (4 to 48pt) at speeds up to 17,000sph. It features the sidelay-free infeed DriveTronic SIS, fully automatic FAPC plate changers, automatic non-stop pile changing at the feeder and delivery and integrated pile logistics. Further acceleration and automation of the production process is achieved with comprehensive colour measurement and control functionality: QualiTronic Professional, ErgoTronic Color-Control, QualiTronic PSO Match and ErgoTronic ImageZoom. LogoTronic Professional provides a link between the Rapida 145 and the company's management information system.

“The automated logistics is one of the keys to our productivity,” says Jerzy Sarama. “The solution we installed together with a Rapida 145 a few years ago has proved itself in every respect, and so we simply had to choose it again this time. Guests and customers from all over Europe are really impressed by our ultra-modern production facilities.” Jan Korenc, CEO of KBA CEE: “We are proud of our long-standing strategic partnership with such an important player on the European packaging market. And similarly that the two companies with which Karton-Pak cooperates are also using Rapida presses.”

At the new Rapida 145 (l-r): Grzegorz Szymczykowski, KBA CEE; Jerzy Sarama, Karton-Pak; Jan Korenc, KBA CEE; Jörg Henkel, KBA-Sheetfed Solutions; Walde-mar Sulikowski, Karton-Pak

Pile logistics at the feeder of the Rapida 145

Interesting website:
www.kartonpak.pl

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Right: The highly automated eight-colour Rapida 145 perfector is the new centrepiece in the production department at Neografia

Left: Patrick Schwab, managing director of Neografia, checks the print quality of the new press



Slovakian book printer installs large-format perfector press

Eight-colour Rapida 145 for Neografia

Book printer Neografia from Martin/Slovakia recently took delivery of an eight-colour Rapida 145 in a configuration for 4-over-4 perfecting. After comprehensive testing, the newly installed press was officially handed over on 1st June at a ceremony attended by representatives and shareholders of Neografia, as well further professionals from the regional printing industry and representatives of KBA CEE.

Modern technologies for the BO format

The Rapida 145, with its production speeds of up to 18,000sph in straight mode and up to 15,000sph in perfecting, is the most modern sheetfed offset press in its format class. The eight-colour perfector version chosen by Neografia handles sheets up to a size of 1,060 x 1,450mm (41.7 x 57.1in) – which adds up to 32 A4 pages printed in full colour on both sides on a single pass through the press. When working with very thin papers, the maximum output is 13,000sph. These figures equate to almost 10 million A4 pages per day.

In times of ever shorter production runs and growing publication diversity, however, the high production speed was not the only factor in the investment decision. Even greater importance was attached to the automation of job

changeovers and shorter make-ready times. With the simultaneous plate changing system DriveTronic SPC – a feature still unique in this format class – all eight plates on the Rapida 145 can be changed in just 1:20 minutes. This even happens parallel to washing of the blankets and impression cylinders with CleanTronic Synchro. PlateIdent reads data matrix codes on the plates to check the correct assignment to the individual printing units and also initiates necessary register adjustments before actual printing begins. At the same time, full presetting of the press (format and sheet thickness, feeder air settings, sheet guiding elements, inking, delivery sheet brake and more) is accomplished via LogoTronic Professional.

When a new job begins, the combination of colour measurement

The Rapida 145 was already exceeding the targeted performance parameters before the official hand-over

with QualiTronic ColorControl and automatic register control with ErgoTronic ACR ensures that start-up waste is kept to a minimum. The sidelay-free infeed DriveTronic SIS, together with contact-free sheet guiding and the





proven Koenig & Bauer perfecting unit, provides for stable production over the whole length of a run.

In the print business for 150 years

Neografia is one of the oldest and largest print companies in Central and Eastern Europe, and can look back over a 150-year history. The focus of its production is placed on books in all variations. Both sheetfed and web presses are in use. Neografia exports a large pro-

Below left: CEO Jan Korenc (l) from KBA CEE presented a model of the new Rapida press to Neografia managing director Patrick Schwab

Below right: Everything under control: Practically all operating functions are managed through the ErgoTronic console

portion of its production to more than 15 European countries, and many leading international publishers are to be found on its list of customers.

Performance demands exceeded from the very beginning

Following up a move to new production facilities in 2013, a further significant investment in efficient printing technology was seen as an imperative response to continued transformation of the book market. The new Rapida 145 has lent a considerable boost to both capacity and flexibility in the production department, and has greatly accelerated throughput times.

Neografia has in this way further strengthened its position as a major player on the European print market. During the official inauguration ceremony, the company management reported that the Rapida 145 had already exceeded the targeted performance parameters during the first months of operation. Hynek Greben, director of sales and service at KBA CEE, sees this as confirmation that Koenig & Bauer is not only a technology leader in the packaging segment, but equally a strong partner for all commercial and publication printers.

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Long Rapida 106 for Russian packaging specialist

High-quality packaging by Grafobal in Rostov-on-Don

Grafobal is a multinational company with headquarters in the Slovakian capital Bratislava and production facilities in Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Lithuania and Russia. It all began with the printing of cigarette packaging. The printing plant in Rostov-on-Don has been part of the Grafobal group since 2005 and is today one of the leading print companies in Eastern Europe with around 300 employees.



During the past twelve years as Grafobal Don, the company has expanded to become one of the most important packaging printers in Southern Russia. It has invested regularly in new technology, uses only high-quality substrates and consumables, and works according to Central European standards.

The initial start signal for the Rostov plant can be attributed to Grafobal's cooperation with cigarette manufacturer Donskoy Tabak. It was quickly clear that the packaging production needed to be located in the immediate vicinity of the customer's factory. A suitable building was purchased and renovated, and two printing presses and die-cutters were installed. In addition to the production equipment, around 20 experts from Grafobal came to the new plant to train the local personnel. Only in that way was it possible to ensure the imperative quality from the very beginning. In the meantime,

the whole workforce is recruited locally.

First twelve-unit Rapida in 2013

Around 2008/2009, Grafobal felt that it needed to switch to a new manufacturer of sheetfed offset presses. After thorough analysis and countless tests, the decision fell in favour of the Rapida presses from Koenig & Bauer. All the Rapidas which have since been installed were configured with the highest level of automation.

In 2013, the Grafobal plant in Rostov-on-Don took delivery of the first medium-format Rapida with twelve printing and finishing units. The eight-colour Rapida 106 features the sidelay-free infeed Drive-Tronic SIS, double coating facilities and a two-section extended delivery. This is nowadays a standard configuration for the printing of cigarette packaging. The four scale colours are supplemented by three or four Pantone colours,

With its fully equipped Rapida 106 presses, Grafobal Don has constantly expanded its production capabilities. The photo shows one of the eight-colour double-coater presses.

silver and/or gold, and appropriate coating finishes.

Ivan Gvozdyak, CEO of Grafobal Don, explains the philosophy behind all further investments: "We simply follow market principles. For our first press, we wanted all the features which are available. And as this Rapida 106 met all our productivity expectations, there was no doubt in our minds when

One section of the modern and functional production plant of Grafobal Don



it came to further investment decisions." A second Rapida 106 in a practically identical configuration followed in 2014. The main difference compared to the first press is the ability to use both conventional and UV inks and coatings.

2017: The third long Rapida

Earlier this year, the third long Rapida 106 arrived at the company – again an eight-colour double-coater press, but this time with a triple extended delivery. It, too, is configured for production with both conventional and UV inks and coatings. Further highlights are the FAPC plate changers, Easy-Clean ink duct plates for fast ink changes, CleanTronic Multi washing systems with all the necessary provisions for UV production, installation points for UV interdeck drying after each printing unit and QualiTronic Professional (inline colour density measurement and sheet inspection). The press – together with two die-cutters – has been installed in a new production building which Grafobal Don added last year to extend its capaci-

Not only cigarettes: Grafobal is printing more and more packaging for the food sector



The new Rapida 106 with triple extended delivery during installation

The console of the latest press features a wallscreen and QualiTronic Professional for inline sheet inspection



ties. Production and warehouse space has been increased by 40 per cent.

Not only cigarettes

Production at Grafobal Don is not limited to just cigarette packaging. The portfolio already includes packaging for various other products, but even greater volumes of folding cartons for brand names in the food and pharmaceuticals sectors are targeted for the future. After all, the production facilities meet all international standards for high-quality packaging.

Grafobal has held environmental management certification to ISO 14001:2004 for the plant in Rostov-on-Don since 2008. Its health and safety provisions also comply

with the OHSAS 18001 standard. Quality management was certified to ISO 9001 in 2007. All specified standards are observed and documented along the whole production chain through to delivery of the final products to the customer.

"We guarantee our customers maximum reliability – as a stable company providing excellent service," says Ivan Gvozdyak. Where 5,000 tonnes of board were processed in the first year after installation of the Rapida 106, this figure increased to 11,000 tonnes in 2009 and today stands at more than 14,000 tonnes.

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Next Generation in Half Format

Rapida 75 PRO for Länggass Druck in Bern

Länggass Druck AG was founded in 1878 and is a successful long-established Swiss company in the heart of Bern. It sees itself as a competent service provider and offers a broad portfolio of conventional and digital products, comprising media prepress, printing, equipment as well as logistics.

Within the framework of a strategic reorientation, the two Managing Directors, Tomi Reinhardt and Markus Geiger, after intensive evaluation, decided in favour of a single press concept with the new Rapida 75 PRO.

Since 2008/2009 Länggass Druck has been using two Rapida 75 half-format presses, a five-colour press with coating and a four-colour perfector. These are now to be replaced by a highly automated Rapida 75 PRO with coating unit. Länggass Druck now has the ideal preconditions for providing optimum solutions for the many different customer requirements.

Greater productivity ...

Greater productivity and production efficiency is expected from the higher press output of up to 16,000 sheets per hour, as well as from the rest of the equipment, automation and process integration. The customer-specific service concept of Print Assist AG including 24/7 remote maintenance by the factory means ideal support for the medium-sized company.

The Rapida 75 PRO featured at Drupa 2016 proves convincing with short, effective makeready times, a practice-oriented automation concept, a high level of operating comfort, excellent print quality and functional design. The lower energy and space requirements in comparison to other presses is ideal for Swiss requirements.

Looking forward to the new generation of presses (from left to right):
Tomi Reinhardt, Managing Director Länggass Druck;
Peter J. Rickenmann, CEO Print Assist;
Markus Geiger, Managing Director Länggass Druck and Philipp Feller, Production Manager Länggass Druck



... thanks to a wide range of features

Its comprehensive technical equipment includes: fully automatic plate changing (FAPC), disengagement and engagement of unused inking units from the control console, parallel washing processes (CleanTronic Synchro), coating unit with semi-automatic coating plate changing and automatic rinsing, VariDry^{BLUE}

IR/TL dryer with high energy-saving potential as well as QualiTronic ColorControl inline colour measuring and control technology. With the "One-Button-Job-Change" program on the new ErgoTronic control console, time savings of up to 50% can be achieved.

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Eman invests in Rapida 106 hybrid press

All-rounder for a variety of packaging

"Our company is characterised by productivity and flexibility."

Ricardo Sempere

Eman in Usurbil, Spain (near San Sebastian) is responsible for the production of packaging in the Grupo Docuworld. A creative management and 60 experienced employees realise the wishes of their customers perfectly. In addition, Eman is characterised by its strong environmental awareness: all construction materials for the 6,500 m² production building were selected from an ecological point of view. Scrupulous attention is paid to recycling and reutilisation.



Interesting website:
www.emanpackaging.com



Managing Director Ricardo Sempere: "We are constantly thinking about quality, but also about sustainability, which our customers demand. We also take our social responsibility very seriously." The Docuworld Group is a family-run public limited company with four production plants: digital printing for security documents and packaging with two plants, Eman for carton packaging and Navarra de Etiquetajes, which specialises in self-adhesive labels. Turnover is between 9 and 10 million euro.

Enthusiasm for packaging

The customers of Eman come from the pharmaceutical sector (30%), the field of electronics, construction materials, automotive (30%), as well as food and beverages (30%). 12 to 15 percent of the turnover comes from exports, mainly to France. Ricardo Sempere: "We also want to be active in other markets such as cosmetics,

for our production plants are now ideal for the production of premium packaging."

At the last Drupa, Eman ordered a Rapida 106. Ricardo Sempere: "We traditionally use sheetfed offset presses by Koenig & Bauer, formerly a Rapida 105 and a Rapida 106, which are still in production with conventional printing inks. We mostly applied coatings in a second sheet run on a different press. This meant that so far we had no means of printing on non-absorbent substrates using the UV process. We were therefore looking for a press with the latest technology and maximum productivity so that we could also be active in new markets."

The new Rapida 106 makes Eman even more versatile in printing and finishing

Eman's new company building was built using ecological building materials

Luxury packaging from the product portfolio of Eman



"With the new Rapida 106 with hybrid equipment, we can produce packaging for luxury goods on a wide variety of substrates. The production change-over from conventional to UV inks and vice versa is almost as fast as a job change."

Creative and productive

The Basque Country is an industrial region in which advertising and marketing play a major role. "We cooperate closely with our customers to produce high-quality packaging efficiently and competitively," explains Ricardo Sempere. "And we have state-of-the-art technology. The propensity of our owners to invest was very great in the last few years, not only in the printing area, but also in terms of finishing. Soon we shall also be installing new folding technology."

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Happy faces at the new C16 (l-r):
Hans Geideck, technical manager B&K
Offsetdruck; Werner Stimmler, com-
mercial manager B&K Offsetdruck; Ste-
fian Segger, sales director KBA-Digital &
Web; Jörn Kalbhenn, managing director
B&K Offsetdruck



Second C16 comes on stream

Successful partnership with B&K Offsetdruck continues

The second C16 at B&K Offsetdruck in Ottersweier came on stream right on schedule on 1st June 2017. "The quality of the products which come off our new 16-page press is outstanding. Teamwork, cooperation and perfect coordination were the keys to success," says B&K managing director Jörn Kalbhenn.

B&K Offsetdruck now operates three commercial web presses from Koenig & Bauer (a Compacta 217 and two C16 presses).

High automation and many innovations

The latest five-unit C16 runs with a maximum production speed of 65,000 cylinder revolutions per

hour. It was configured with a raft of innovations, including a new superstructure concept with novel ribbon leads. Automation functions such as EasyTronic, in conjunction with the ErgoTronic console technology, serve to enhance productivity while at the same time minimising makeready and waste.



"The quality of the products which come off our new 16-page press is outstanding. Teamwork, cooperation and perfect coordination were the keys to success."

B&K managing director Jörn Kalbhenn

At the request of the customer, the C16 has again been equipped with a cutter. In this way, investment and production costs are reduced, and production output is increased.

Stefan Segger, sales director for KBA-Digital & Web: "Our press was once more able to convince B&K with reliability, quality and cutting-edge technologies. The cooperation between our two companies is excellent. Another new chapter has now been added to the success story of longstanding partnership between B&K and Koenig & Bauer."



B&K uses the cutter mainly in the production of magazine covers

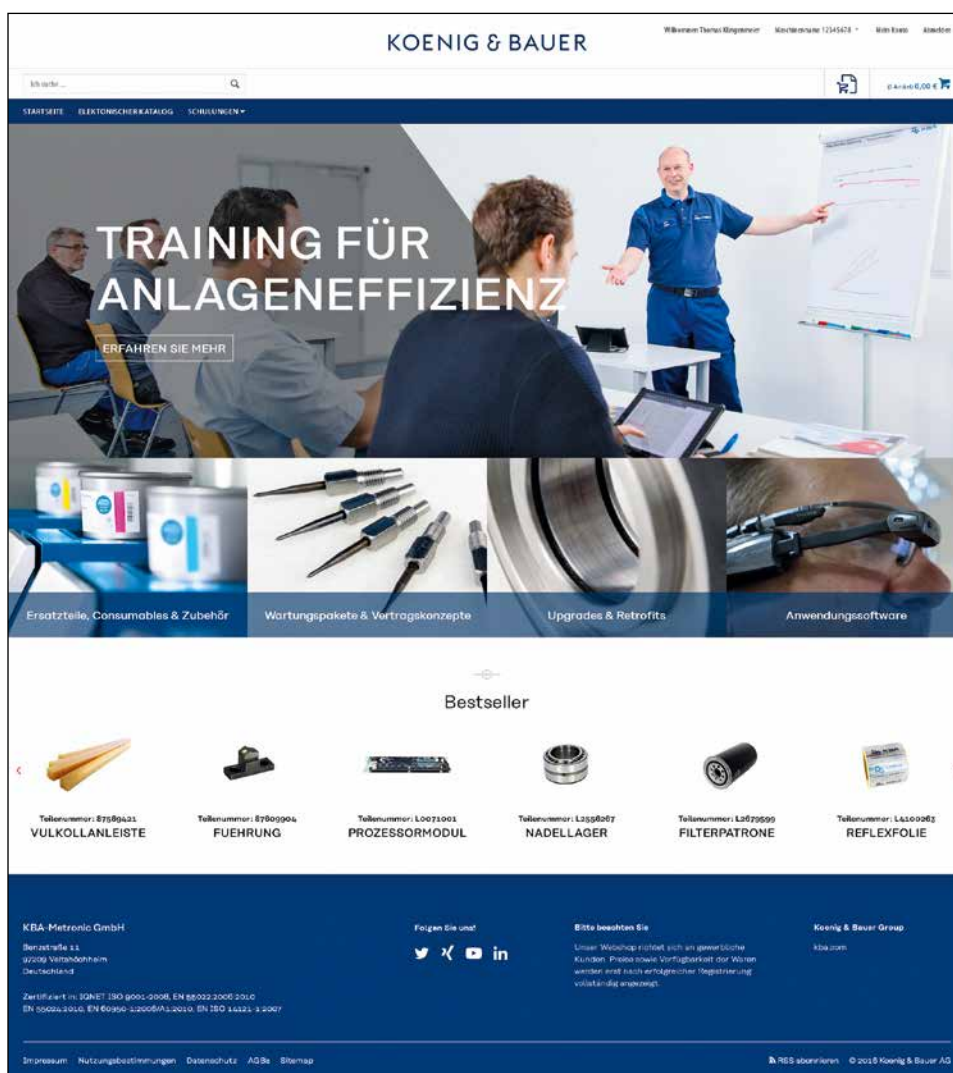
Jörn Kalbhenn manages the family business founded by his father and can count on the support of more than 200 employees at B&K Offsetdruck. Over the past years, the company has recorded constant healthy growth.

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Modern, customer-oriented and efficient

New WEBSHOP for spare parts, consumables and services

Enhanced features, a fresh design and a high level of user-friendliness – with its new WEBSHOP for spare parts, consumables and services, KBA-Digital & Web offers its customers many advantages via the constantly growing Internet sales channel. “Building on experience gained with the already successful predecessor, we have incorporated many ideas and tips from our customers into the new version,” says head of service Thomas Potzkai.



Solutions, KBA-NotaSys SA, KBA-MetalPrint GmbH, KBA-Metronic GmbH und KBA-Flexotecnica S.p.A. by the end of year. The updated online portal is one of many initiatives within the framework of a group-wide service project aimed at further increasing customer satisfaction.

Many new features

The shop can be used on PCs as well as on all common mobile devices, and with the update it has now received numerous new features and search options. A shopping cart function, for example, includes an option to define automatically recurring orders for consumables and wearing parts. An availability indicator is another very useful feature which enables customers to optimise their purchasing planning and stores management.

“The WEBSHOP is of course an on-going process. We will continue to add new features and develop our shop further – with ‘flowless coupling’, for example, so that orders can be triggered via customer-specific ordering systems,” says Thomas Potzkai.

The new WEBSHOP went live right on time for the company’s 200th anniversary. Intuitive and user-friendly navigation makes it easier for customers to find their way around and to access all the relevant content.

Above: Thanks to the many new features, customers have access to a further expanded range of services

Group-wide introduction

The WEBSHOP is first being launched step by step for the worldwide customers of KBA-Digital & Web Solutions. Subsequently, the installation will be expanded to embrace also KBA-Sheetfed

In addition to the broad product range, the new WEBSHOP can also be used to request press-related services, such as a thermography audit or network testing.

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KBA-Digital & Web cooperates with Tolerans AB

New lateral stitcher makes it possible to stitch all newspapers

To improve user-friendliness, the trend in advertising agencies and newspaper publishers is away from “loose” newspapers and towards “fixed” newspapers, i.e. the newspaper pages are held together by staples. For many years now, inline ribbon and section stitchers have been used in tabloid products for product finishing as additional features in web presses. For broadsheet newspapers, however, longitudinal glue application was the only – expensive – solution up to now. This will now change radically with the introduction of the new lateral stitcher by Tolerans AB.

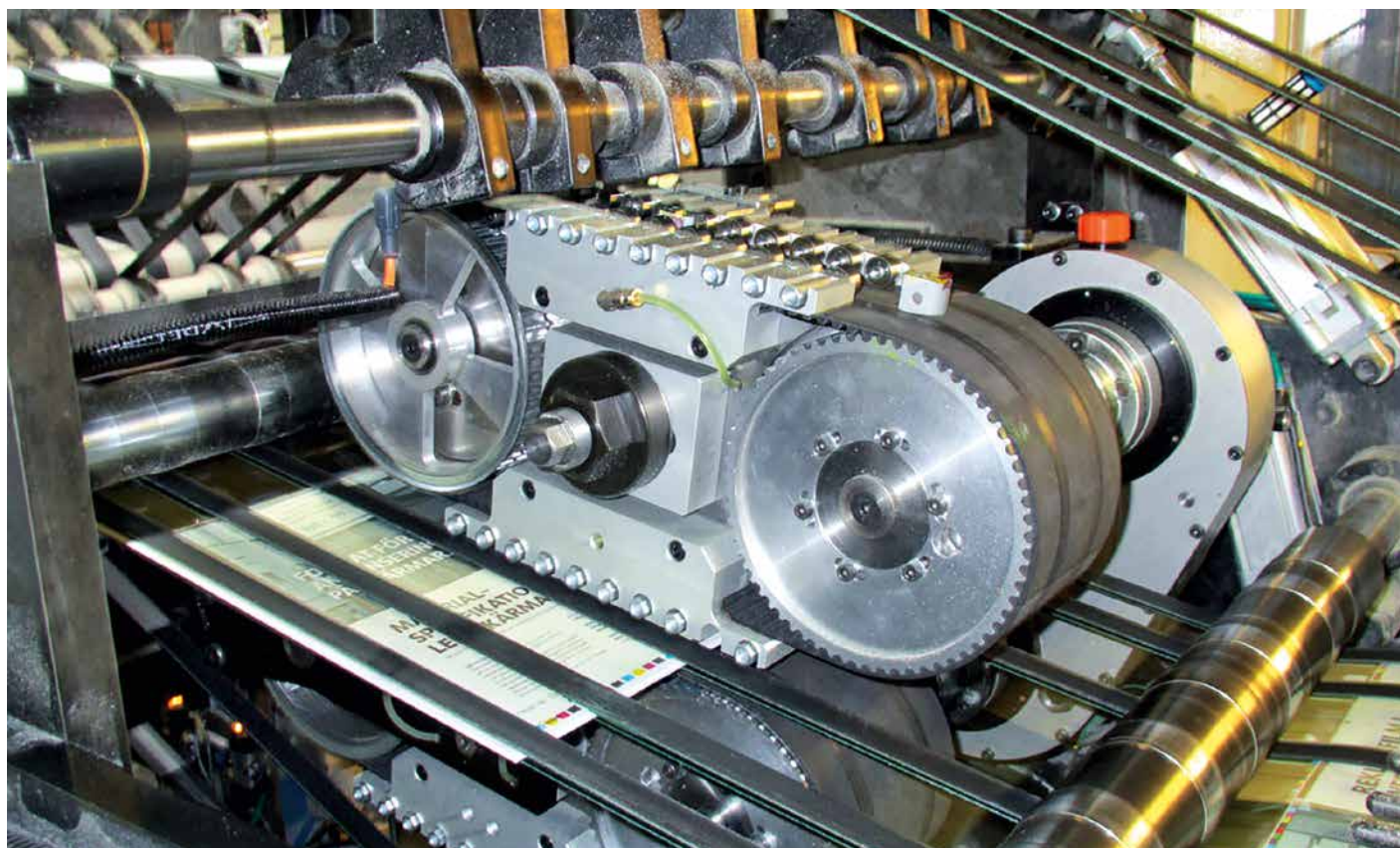
When installed on a former, each section of a newspaper can now for the first time be stitched in the first fold – also called former fold – continuously or intermittently in the direction of web travel. Two staples per page length is standard here. Although the official market launch of this inline longitudinal

stitching option for broadsheet products only takes place at the World Publishing Expo (WPE) in Berlin in October 2017, KBA-Digital & Web has already received enquiries from prospective customers for three staples per page length. Under certain circumstances, this wish can also be implemented.

Successful pilot installation in Sweden

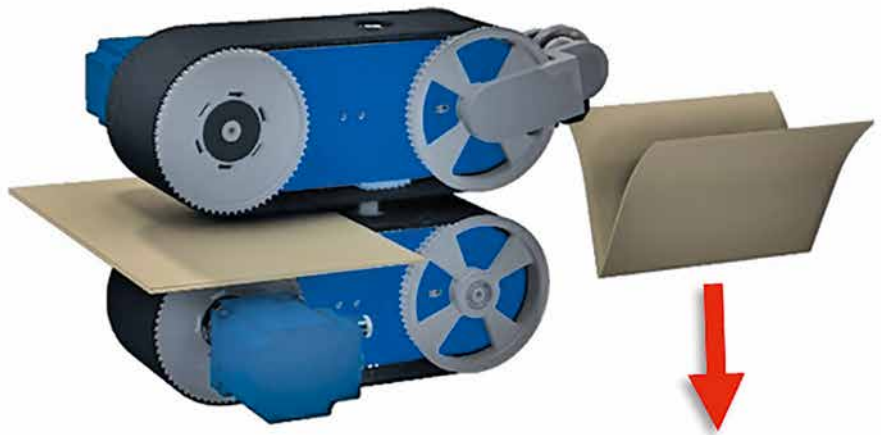
The revolutionary lateral stitcher concept is not limited to the stitching of broadsheet products. This is shown by the world's first pilot installation in a Commander press at Herenco Press in Jönköping in Sweden. There the belt guide of

**Lateral stitcher
as a retrofit in the
folder**





Lateral stitcher for quarter fold stitching in the folder or as an additional module before the quarter fold



the KF 80 folder was adapted with a quarter fold module retrofitted by Koenig & Bauer in 2015, and a lateral stitcher was implemented.

With low investment costs, Herenco Press is now in a position to stitch quarter fold products inline in a format close to A4. The stitched and folded products go

directly into the rotary three-knife cutter via the Ferag conveyor chain and then into the compensating stackers for "bundling".

Lower costs and less work

During the very first production runs, Björn Ross, General Manager of Herenco Press, had a big smile on his face as an expression of his satisfaction. With the new lateral stitcher from the Flowliner series, without great investments in further processing and without additional space requirements, he can expand his portfolio by a new magazine-format product which he can produce inline at full press speed. "Inline production also leads to significant economic advantages," says Björn Ross, "for this eliminates the manual stages of offline processing in the gang-stitcher."

This also leads to savings in paper, printing and labour costs, which are frequently incurred when waste that is produced during offline stitching has to be compensated for through overproduction. Another significant factor for Herenco Press was that stitching was carried out by an external bindery, which resulted in additional costs for transportation and logistics. In addition, significantly more time was required between printing and delivery, to the detriment of topicality. "All of these addition-

al costs and disadvantages have been eliminated with the integrated lateral stitcher," Björn Ross continues.

CEO Jan Melin and Technical Director Tomas Annerstedt of Tolerans are excited by the new Flowliner stitcher. 15 years after the introduction of the Speedliner product line with ribbon and section stitchers for classic tabloid stitching, the lateral stitcher is a milestone, making it possible for the printing industry to offer new products and production options.

Albrecht Szeitszam from KBA-Digital & Web: "Our customers benefit from this cooperation with Tolerans AB, which has been in place since autumn 2015. The integration of lateral stitchers in a folder with one or two quarter fold modules or the retrofitting of a lateral stitcher and quarter fold module as a complete package can now be effected by a single source. Prospective customers need not worry about integration or interface problems. This of course also applies to the subsequent integration of lateral stitchers in formers for broadsheet stitching."

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Lateral stitcher for stitching broadsheets on the former

Product traceability is gradually becoming standard

Marking and verification in a single process

Suppliers must frequently verify the markings and codings printed onto products. Inkjet printers are considered the ideal solution for inline marking on the most varied surfaces. With the combination of its widely proven alphaJET continuous inkjet system, the inspection software “code-M camera” and a VeriSens camera system from specialist sensor manufacturer Baumer, KBA-Metronic offers a dependable solution for printing and verification in a single process.

The alphaJET inkjet printer and the VeriSens camera are integrated into the production line and linked to each other directly. Unlike other complete systems, the reading and marking unit does not require the installation of an additional PC workstation. That saves space and costs, and avoids potential interface problems. In addition, the camera settings cannot be upset inadvertently at the PC.

Reliable image processing

The Baumer VeriSens camera provides the full spectrum of modern, image-based quality inspection functions. Within a defined print area, it is able to read, compare and monitor up to 32 features such as text or 1D and 2D codes in real time. If an error is detected, a message is sent to the alphaJET printer, which then triggers an alarm signal. Error images are

presented on the printer's graphic display, and the last 16 errors detected can be recalled at any time. The errors are evaluated and rectified via the user interface of the printer.

Flexible and variable

Code-M camera is installed on the alphaJET inkjet printer, identifies the printed image and compares it with the original data immediately after application. With the code-M



The alphaJET mondo with integrated camera solution is a popular choice in the packaging branch

Benefits at a glance

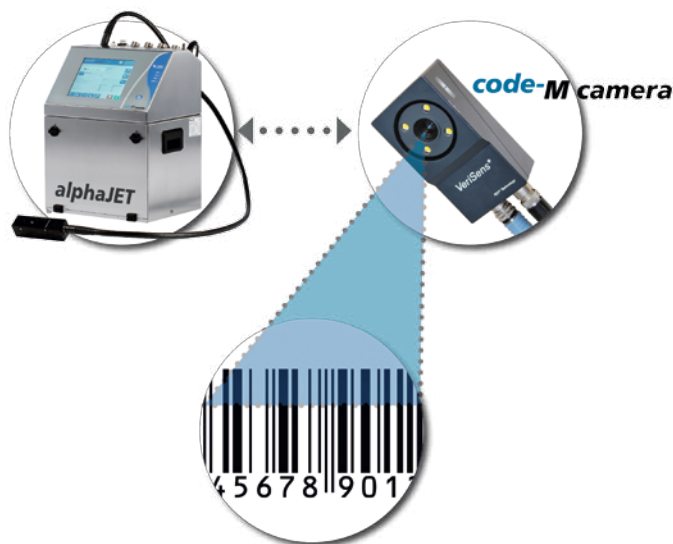
- 100% image monitoring with code-M camera
- Cost- and space-saving solution without additional computer
- Manufacturing history saved to uphold traceability
- Increased output thanks to high production reliability

software suite, KBA-Metronic offers modular program packages which – tailored to individual needs – serve to optimise production processes. The ability to handle variable data is not something which can be taken for granted. The standardised code-M camera system combination, however, enables even constantly changing texts such as time stamps to be printed and verified in real time.

Proven and precise

All continuous inkjet printers of the alphaJET family are compact, precise, powerful and simple to use. They satisfy the highest demands placed on the quality of texts and graphic elements. Absolute dependability is a standard feature. Even the entry-level system alphaJET mondo is compatible with the integrated camera solution, and is thus a popular choice for packaging companies worldwide.

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Traceable marking of packaging with the proven continuous inkjet system alphaJET

Error prevention with udaFORMAXX

Dragonfly eliminates the encoding bottleneck

Since its foundation in 1984, the company Dragonfly Foods, based in Devon, England, has been producing vegetable protein foods such as burgers, soya sausage and tofu products for health food stores and supermarkets. Dragonfly does much of the work by hand, and produces between 3,000 and 5,000 products a day, packed in boxes and cartons. Its customers include Holland & Barrett, Ocado, Morrison and Abel & Cole. The articles are exported to Sweden, Denmark and Australia.



For more performance and fewer errors in product dating, Dragonfly successfully uses the offline udaFORMAXX marking system with an alphaJET inkjet printer

Business with tofu products is booming. The udaFormaxx by KBA-Metronic has eliminated a production bottleneck

jet printer by KBA-Metronic. The user-programmable inkjet printer alphaJET prints the encoding data clearly and accurately for the 15 different product lines.

In half the time

udaFORMAXX marks folding boxes as well as the banderoles of packaging trays quickly and precisely. An operator loads the magazine with the flat packing material, selects the quantity and the desired encoding, and presses the Start button. The offline marking system automatically transports the substrates past the print head of the alphaJET inkjet printer and on into the storage magazine.

Now the production team can be confident that the correct mark is

on the relevant product. The time required for marking has been reduced by more than half.

Burton explains: "What I particularly like about udaFORMAXX is that we set it up once with the correct data and then there is no risk of the code being altered mistakenly. The automatic function is a real time-saver for us. In the morning, the employee only needs half an hour to set it up. Previously, an employee had to stand at the end of each line labelling for three hours. That was a real bottleneck."

Now it is easy for the production staff to mark the packages of a whole day's requirements. The production manager: "We have stored all of our packaging units, so that the parameters are easy to select: simply fill the magazine, choose the quantity and carry out the labelling."

In view of the growing demand, manual date encoding became a critical bottleneck. At the end of production, the units were labelled using hand labellers, just like in supermarkets. Production manager Gareth Burton: "That was outdated and very error-prone. There was also the risk of the label falling off, and if a product was marked with an incorrect date or no date at all, we risked having to pay fines. The customer relations we had built up over the years would also have suffered."

Today, Dragonfly relies on the off-line udaFORMAXX marking system in conjunction with an ink-

Information in brief

- 5,000 packages marked in 30 minutes
- 15 different product lines
- udaFORMAXX offline marking system with the alphaJET continuous inkjet
- Replaces the error-prone manual coding process
- User settings and password controls ensure correct code
- Precise placement of the print
- Support by long-standing Metronic partner in the U.K. www.printsafe.co.uk

The demand for Dragonfly Foods products is growing rapidly. Burton: "In the last few weeks, our production figures were higher than ever before. Especially for our tofu products." This is why the company is planning a further alphaJET inkjet printer for a new product line to print the date on foil packaging directly in the production process.

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METPACK 2017

A show of superlatives for KBA-MetalPrint

At METPACK 2017 in Essen, KBA-MetalPrint underlined its standing as the technology leader in metal decorating with the highly innovative CS MetalCan for the vast 2-piece can market, the similarly new MetalDecojet digital press for metal packaging, and a raft of further developments for printing and coating applications.

Notable confirmation of its innovative strength was received in the form of a silver METPACK Innovation Award for the development of the CS MetalCan. Visitor interest surpassed all expectations, and the daily live presentations were always well-attended. Under the banner "Creating your future", this was KBA-MetalPrint's first appearance as a solution provider for all fields of metal decorating. In conversation with exhibition presenter Sascha Hingst, managing director Ralf Gumbel, sales manager Nelson Schneider and sales engineer Gerhard Grossmann presented the impressive line-up of new products.

CS MetalCan, MetalDecoJET and MetalCanjet light up the branch

The CS MetalCan (see also page 44) stands for a new generation of printing units for beverage can production with its ten inking units and automatic plate and blanket changers. The significantly faster plate and blanket changes compared to alternative systems were demonstrated live during the exhibition. Customer interest was correspondingly high.

During the live demonstrations of the new MetalDecojet digital press, visitors were invited to assess the quality for themselves on the inspection desk. But digital metal decorating is not only a process for flat sheets. The new MetalCanjet from KBA-MetalPrint extends the capabilities to containers. Here, too, visitors were

able to verify the quality at first hand.

New features for the MetalStar 3

The highly successful MetalStar 3 packs similar innovative strength for the 3-piece market. An extended range of automation functions translates into significant gains in production time. The sidelay-free infeed DriveTronic SIS eliminates a conventional vacuum side lay and offers ultimate alignment accuracy. The new tool-less and program-controlled blanket changing system RBC (Rapid Blanket Change) requires only 2 minutes per printing unit and thus slashes blanket changing times by more than half. Interested users were able to see this for themselves during a subsequent symposium at customer Pirlo in Kufstein/Austria, where a six-colour MetalStar 3 could be seen in action with the new features.

New MetalCoat 483 with benefits for coating application

The new MetalCoat 483 with its 3-roller system is the answer to

KBA-MetalPrint offers digital printing solutions for both flat sheets and containers



the growing diversity of compositions of modern coatings. BPA-free coatings, in particular, behave differently during application. The MetalCoat 483 combines the high level of automation of the 480 series with the flexibility of a 3-roller coating unit.

The service lounge on the KBA-MetalPrint stand was also extremely popular. Line optimisation, for example, is a means to significantly improve the productivity of existing installations, while upgrades prepare older systems to face future challenges. One new service segment is KBA-MetalPrint Consumables. Recommended lubricants, cleaners, blankets and inks are specifically matched to the company's presses and guarantee maximum performance.

METPACK was at the same time taken as a fitting occasion to announce a partnership agreement between MetalPrint and Sun Chemical. The two companies will in future be cooperating in the field of printing inks for the 3-piece can market. Sun Chemical will be supplying inks for the starter kits of all new MetalStar 3 and Mailänder presses.

Managing director Ralf Gumbel: "Our products were the talk of the exhibition and we expect brisk post-exhibition business. The first MetalDecojet digital press was already sold to user Litalsa from Spain during the exhibition itself."

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Individual, economical and migration-free

Industrial inkjet for metal packaging with the MetalDecojet

The MetalDecojet from KBA-MetalPrint is the first industrial inkjet printing press developed exclusively for use in the metal packaging industry, enabling cost-effective short-run production with high print quality and excellent processing properties. Its water-based inks allow the MetalDecojet to be used for food packaging and it even satisfies the strict demands of the Nestle Guidance Note.

The direct digital decoration of coated metal sheets brings a number of advantages for the user:

- Printing without plates and ink changes
- Lightning-fast job changeovers with minimal waste
- Proofing and production on the same press
- Production start only minutes after receiving the print data
- On-demand production with fast delivery times
- Significant reduction of capital-intensive storage
- Process stability for trouble-free repeat jobs
- Increased overall productivity in combination with existing offset presses.

New market opportunities

Previous limitations with regard to minimum run lengths are eliminated, and users are offered a whole new spectrum of possibilities to fulfil customer wishes for differentiation, as the key to new lucrative business models such as event marketing, regional branding, web-to-print business, batch personalisation and traceability through marking and coding.

Enhanced efficiency

But even before developing new market opportunities, immediate cost benefits are achieved in existing short-run production. In contrast to the time-consuming changeovers on a conventional offset press, the MetalDeco-



Digital metal decorating with the new MetalDecojet opens the door to lucrative business models

Top right: With the MetalDecojet, the on-demand production of individualised short and ultra-short runs is now also possible on metal substrates

jet requires merely the loading of a new print file, changing of the pallet and a few manual format adjustments. The cost savings can amount to 50 per cent for a run length of 50 sheets. Indirect

Highlights

- CMYK multi-pass printing unit
- Developed for the metal packaging industry
- Food compliance (Nestle Guidance Note)
- Absolutely flat, high-gloss ink layer
- Trouble-free processing and sterilisation
- Non-toxic water-based inks and cleaning agents



cost benefits relating to logistics and storage, which derive from the fact that printing is genuinely "on-demand", are still not taken into account in this comparison. The productivity and efficiency of a parallel conventional printing line is also increased through the concentration on higher volumes.

Unique position with regard to further processing and migration

The aforementioned aspect of cost reduction actually applies to other industrial digital printing systems available on the market. In practice, however, these systems fail to realise the potential benefits due to the inferior appearance and process-related properties of the UV inks used. Matt and inhomogeneous relief-like surfaces, a lack of flexibility in case of deformation, odour and migration problems, and risks for the downstream processing stages have prevented the installation of UV inkjet systems in the metal packaging industry to date.

With the new water-based ink system of the MetalDecojet, however, it has become possible to apply an extremely flat and smooth ink layer without any compromises whatsoever for further processing of the decorated sheets in an existing production process. The special ink formulation, which even meets the demands of the Nestle Guidance Note on Packaging Inks, provides a basis for realisation of the cost benefits from a digital print process in metal decorating, and opens the door to new sales markets.

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CS MetalCan from KBA-MetalPrint

Proven keyless inking technology now also for beverage cans

Koenig & Bauer has pioneered the keyless inking technology for many decades. In the field of waterless offset, keyless inking units are today to be found in the sheetfed Genius 52 UV and in the quality-acclaimed newspaper press Cortina. This know-how will in future benefit also the 2-piece can branch.

At the METPACK 2017 trade show in May, KBA-MetalPrint unveiled the CS MetalCan, a new printing system specifically for mass beverage can production, which was engineered together with KBA-Digital & Web and is now to be marketed under the new label Can Solutions (CS). With its 10 keyless inking units for an indirect letterset process, automatic plate and blanket changers and many further innovations, the CS MetalCan is set to redefine the standards in beverage can decorating. The wholly positive response among visitors to the show confirmed that Koenig & Bauer is the innovation leader in many fields of packaging printing.

High-speed production

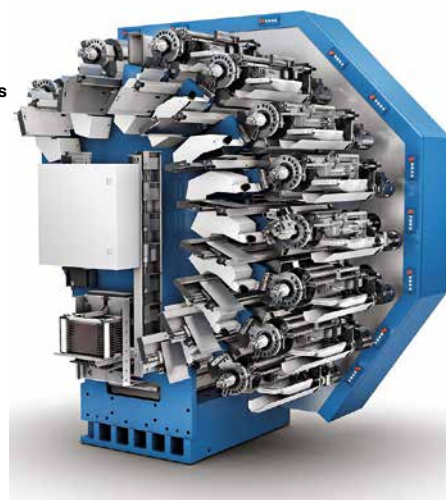
The keyless inking units of the CS MetalCan were specially adapted

to the demands and production conditions of beverage can printing. High-performance motors are the basis for a maximum rated speed of up to 2,500 cpm (cans per minute).

Fast makeready processes

Analyses of beverage can production have identified the printing process as the bottleneck in integrated line production. Job changeover delays constantly result in interruptions for the entire line. With automatic plate and blanket changing, job changes are faster than ever before and line stoppages can be avoided. Each inking unit is provided with its own automatic plate changer, enabling plates to be changed simultaneously in less than one minute. The twelve blankets on the central blanket wheel can also be

Operator side of the CS MetalCan with its 10 keyless inking units and automatic plate and blanket changers



changed at once. This permits the operator to concentrate on other makeready tasks.

Benefits for users and brand owners

Where manual tasks used to be necessary inside the machine, the operator can now simply select intuitive commands via the 24" touchscreen display. The unique number of 10 inking units opens up a whole new spectrum of options for brand owners, answering the modern trend towards increasingly colourful and more complex can designs.

Ralf Gumbel (r), managing director of KBA-MetalPrint, during presentation of the CS MetalCan at the METPACK exhibition in Essen

Benefits of the CS MetalCan at a glance:

- Significantly faster makeready processes
- Improved safety for the operator
- Higher line output
- Enhanced print quality and more colours
- Significantly higher ink transfer stability over the production run
- Reduced spoilage during job changes and in case of line stoppages.

Growing beverage can market

The volume of the beverage can market is estimated to be around 320 billion units per year (2015), with a healthy average growth rate of approx. 3%. In mature markets like the USA, per capita consumption lies between 300 and 350 cans per year. With the new CS MetalCan, KBA-MetalPrint offers an outstanding solution for the highly demanding process of beverage can decorating.

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Technical insights and live demonstration of the new MetalStar 3

KBA-MetalPrint symposium in the beautiful town of Kufstein

Shortly after the METPACK and Interpack trade fairs, KBA-Metal-Print organised a branch symposium in Kufstein/Austria over a period of several days in May. Alongside technical presentations, the agenda included live demonstrations of the newest 6-colour MetalStar 3 UV line in production at local metal packaging specialist Pirlo. KBA-MetalPrint and Pirlo were able to welcome more than 100 participants from 24 countries.



The central topic of the event was efficiency maximisation in multi-colour printing. It is here not merely the printing press, but rather the entire production process which is decisive. Accordingly, KBA-Metal-Print invited a number of its partners to give presentations.

Greater efficiency in multicolour printing

Sun Chemical took a closer look at the “ink kitchen of the 21st century”, and at how to minimise the time spent on the mixing of spot colours in order to avoid expensive press downtime. Information was also conveyed on the use of “monopigmented and high-performance inks”. The company offers an extended colour space for the basic Pantone colours, so as to be able to achieve better reproduction on tin substrates. The so-called high-performance inks use pigments with outstanding re-

The technical presentations focussed on ways to enhance press line efficiency

During the live demonstration of the MetalStar 3, Thomas Groß explained the individual work steps and the latest features to accelerate make-ready

sistance to light, heat, organic solvents and sterilisation processes.

Michael Müller from IPM Müller und Resing GmbH captured the attention of his audience with a presentation on the topics of process standardisation and quality management in metal decorating. He introduced the concept “Living PSO”, the core of which is employee qualification to facilitate application of the relevant processes in everyday production. IPM supports companies in the introduction and implementation of standardised and industrial print production along the whole process chain.

Damian Pollok from ISRA Vision AG presented inspection solutions for the field of metal decorating. He discussed the benefits of the print inspection system DecoStar, which is already in use on numerous MetalStar press lines. Subsequently, he addressed also the new CoatStar system. This coating image inspection facility is very simple to use and can be retrofitted into an existing coating machine.

Another well received presentation addressed the production planning and control software LogoTronic Professional. The software solution developed by Koenig & Bauer permits bidirectional communication with the console of the MetalStar 3. It is thus possible to send not only presetting data from pre-

press to the console, but also the complete job data from a management information system. In case of a repeat job, saved data can be recalled to shorten makeready time on the press.

Thomas Groß from KBA-Metal-Print reported on the latest innovations incorporated into the MetalStar 3, for example DriveTronic SIS (Sensoric Infeed System) and RBC (Rapid Blanket Change). Such functions serve to save valuable makeready time.

Pirlo: Specialist for metal packaging

Founded in 1908, the Pirlo company group with its three locations Korneuburg, Pionki and Kufstein has built up an international reputation as a supplier of modern metal and plastic packaging. It produces individually designed tin cans and laminated tubes for the chemical/engineering, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and food branches. The company motto “If anyone can – we can!” is borne out by countless patents and awards from recent years.

A final highlight of the event was the live production demonstration of the highly automated MetalStar 3, which took no more than 25 minutes for a four- to six-colour job change (including fine-tuning of registration and colour).

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The two-hundredth K15 CNC screen printing machine at Pepper Decor

Milestone celebrated in the Czech Republic

Two-hundredth K15 CNC supplied to Pepper Decor in Prague

Together with Czech customer Pepper Decor, KBA-Kammann recently celebrated the delivery of the two-hundredth K15 CNC screen printing machine for the direct decoration of glass containers. Koenig & Bauer Report* took the opportunity to speak to owner and managing director Sergiy Perets.

Report: Mr. Perets, you are relatively new to the glass container market. When and why did you found the company?

Sergiy Perets: I actually come from a different segment of the screen printing industry. My company in Ukraine produces ceramic decals for tableware. Business is good, but the growth rates are quite low. For that reason, I started to think about new business options, both geographically and with regard to products, and one of those ideas was printing on drinks bottles and flacons for cosmetics. I knew KBA-Kammann, of course, but I had never seen a machine in production. During drupa in May 2012, however, I received an invitation to the factory in Bad Oeynhausen. During this visit, we evolved a concept for a market analysis and began the search for

a suitable location. In the end, we chose Prague. I founded the company Pepper Decor in 2013 and the first Kammann machine was already delivered in 2014.

Report: Why did you call the company "Pepper Decor"?

Sergiy Perets: My family name is Perets, which is Ukrainian for "pepper". And I think we have used that to build up quite a good corporate identity.

Report: Did you face any particular difficulties in this start-up phase?

Sergiy Perets: As a new company, we naturally had no customers. But the news that a modern KBA-Kammann K15 CNC machine was being installed in Prague caught a lot of attention. We received enquiries from existing market players who

Opposite page, top left: Matthias Graf (l), commercial director of KBA-Kammann GmbH, in conversation with Sergiy Perets, owner of Pepper Decor, and Axel Bohlmeier, regional sales manager for KBA-Kammann



"Most important is to remain creative and to develop new ideas."

Sergiy Perets



were interested in a reliable partner to cope with production peaks, but also from new customers who were looking for a supplier able to delivery uncompromising high quality at short notice. After a few



months of single-shift production, we had to organise a second and then a third shift to handle the increasing numbers of orders.

At the beginning, it was the training of new staff which caused the most difficulties. But with the aid of KBA-Kammann, we soon overcame that problem.

Report: Now, three years after the first installation, you have bought a second machine. It is the two-hundredth K15 CNC built by KBA-Kammann. What are your growth plans, and which long-term objectives are you pursuing?

Above right:
Modern and future-oriented:
The new premises of Pepper Decor near Prague airport

Sergiy Perets: The present market for the decoration of glass containers still holds significant growth potential. From our base in Prague, we can offer our services all over Europe. We are also planning to move into the segment for hollow plastic containers. Our new machine can handle both plastic and glass. With our expanded portfolio, we are pushing at open doors with our customers.

A new production facility near Prague airport will establish the necessary infrastructure: 3,000 to 4,000 m² warehouse space, 2,000 to 2,500 m² production space and

300 m² offices, all tailored exactly to our needs. The new premises have been designed for a staff of more than 100 and we hope to be moving in by September.

My long-term objective is to remain creative and to develop new ideas together with KBA-Kammann. That is what is most important.

Report: Mr. Perets, thank you for your time and all the best for the future.

*** The interview was conducted by**
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Japanese ink manufacturer Dainichiseika invests in EVO XD

Dainichiseika Color & Chemicals mfg.co., Ltd., one of the leading ink manufacturers in Japan, has ordered an EVO XD flexo press from KBA-Flexotecnica to drive forward

The EVO XD for Dainichiseika is designed for the use of water-based inks

the development of ink for flexible packaging. "The technology and quality of the EVO XD meet our high demands," says Naoki Tanimoto, Technical Division Manager.

Dainichiseika wants to test new water-based inks for foil printing on the EVO XD. Packaging printers can also test innovative consumables on the press without having to interrupt their own production. The EVO XD has already gone into service at the production site in Tokyo.

On the market since 1931

Dainichiseika Color & Chemicals was founded in 1931. Worldwide, more than 4,000 employees are

now working for the company, which in many areas has become established as an ink manufacturer. The Japanese company develops functional printing inks, offset inks for flyers, books and packaging materials, but also inorganic, organic and prepared pigments for paints and other applications.

Designed for water-based inks

The eight colour CI web press EVO XD has a web width of 1,320 mm with cut-offs from 370 to 850 mm. It is designed for the use of water-based inks on foil, very sensitive "breathable" LDPE, laminated material and paper and is equipped for fast job changes with low makeready waste.



Successful China Print for Koenig & Bauer



The Koenig & Bauer exhibition stand at the China Print was extremely well attended

This year's **China Print** in Beijing was very successful for Koenig & Bauer, in keeping with the motto "Origin & Future – 200 Years Koenig & Bauer". On the 1,000 m² large exhibition stand, the numerous visitors from China and other countries of the region found a wide range of solutions in offset, flexo, screen and digital printing for the commercial, publication and packaging markets. Walter

Zehner, CEO of KBA-Greater China, sums it up: "The reception and the sales results were well above our expectations."

Ralf Sammeck, CEO of KBA-Sheetfed: "In the past few years, Koenig & Bauer has developed into a well-known specialist for individual requirements in the printing sector. Our customers are looking for special or complete solutions – for

example for high-quality finishes. Our sheetfed offset presses are becoming longer and longer, and more and more automated. This also applies to China."

The Rapida 75 PRO, which was on exhibition, was handed over to the subsequent user, the Hucais Group, on the first day of the exhibition. At the end of the fair, the Rapida 106 was transported to Liuyang Shuangfu Packaging Printing in the province of Hunan. The greatest demand at the exhibition was for medium and large-format sheetfed offset presses. Among the medium-format presses are two Rapida 105, each with eight inking units and coating module, one of them with a Vinfoil Optima cold foil module. In the large-format sector, Koenig & Bauer remains the market leader with further orders. All in all, the number of orders received was just as high as at the Print China two years ago.

Grup Maculart increases capacity for pharmaceutical customers

Grup Maculart in Cerdanyola del Vallès (Barcelona) is one of the leading Spanish manufacturers of folding boxes and package inserts for the pharmaceutical industry. In August 2016, the company invested in a five-colour Rapida 105 PRO press with coating tower. It was presented to the company's pharmaceutical customers at a specialist event which also dealt with the trends and challenges in this highly specialised market.

The productivity effect which the owners had hoped for from the Rapida 105 PRO was achieved. LogoTronic Professional for the exchange of data with MIS and

prepress, FAPC automatic plate changers, EasyClean ink ducts for fast ink changes, CleanTronic washing units, DriveTronic SRW and coating unit with AniloxLoader, inline quality control with QualiTronic ColorControl as well as QualiTronic PDF for the automatic detection of the smallest misprints – particularly useful on the pharmaceutical market – the list of automated processes is long.

The ErgoTronic control console with wall screen also facilitates the operation of the press, which is equipped for UV/mixed operation. EES and IPA-reduced printing ensures a healthy working environment. The Rapida 105 PRO creates a futuristic effect thanks to its individual KBArt design. With the Rapida 105 PRO, Grup

During a presentation for pharmaceutical manufacturers, the Rapida 105 PRO is shown to its best advantage

Maculart can offer its customers the best quality at the best price. In the past year, the growing company produced 69 million folding boxes and 77 million package inserts. On the more than 4,000 m² large production area, there are also departments for large-format digital printing and print advertising, as well as Akewuele, a company that has specialised in scent marketing.



Interesting website:
www.maculart.com

Double-coating Rapida for Deluxe Packages in Pakistan

In the course of these very days, a seven-colour Rapida 106 with double coating equipment is going into operation at **Deluxe Packages** in Karachi, Pakistan. It is the longest sheetfed offset press in the 60-year history of this company, which is being managed by Rehan Shafi Siddiqui and Zeeshan Mustafa Shafi Siddiqui in the second generation. Deluxe Packages produces packaging for the pharmaceutical, cosmetics and confectionery industries, as well as POS stand-up cards.

Deluxe Packages has more than 4,000 square metres of production area in its existing plant. A new plant will provide another 16,000 sq. m. With 150 employees, the company is one of the lead-

ing packaging companies in Pakistan. Up to now, four to six-colour half-format and medium-format presses were in use. With the eleven printing and finishing units of the new Rapida 106, Deluxe Packages is breaking into a whole new dimension.

Since the design of the packaging is becoming increasingly complex, there is a need for additional inking units for special inks as well as double-coating equipment for high-quality multiple coatings and UV finishes. The press for UV/mixed operation has additional packages for cardboard and foil printing and has been set 450 mm higher. The high level of automation includes FAPC plate changers, the combined washing units



At the signing of the contract at Drupa 2016, from left to right: Zeeshan Mustafa Shafi Siddiqui, Deluxe Packages, Bhupinder Sethi, Sales Koenig & Bauer, Mikayil and Amaan Siddiqui, Deluxe Packages, Rehan Shafi Siddiqui, Deluxe Packages, and Akhlaq Khan, Imprint Packaging Solutions

CleanTronic Multi for changing ink use and CleanTronic UV. The installation of a cold foil module is currently being prepared.

Rapida 105 for Al-Resala Printing Press in Kuwait

In 1968 Jassim Mubarak Al-Jassim founded the **Al-Resala Printing Press** printshop in Kuwait. The journalist wanted to make his company the top address for high-quality, modern publications. However, the change in the media world also affected Kuwait and Al-Resala. The printshop had

to shut down one of its two web presses. In the sheetfed sector, on the other hand, it still saw a growing demand in the market, and invested in a Rapida 105.

General Manager Marzouq Al-Jassim: "We evaluated all sorts of press types and equipment, and came to the conclusion that for us, the Rapida 105 is the best choice at the moment."

From the very first day, Al-Resala has been using presses by Koenig & Bauer. The new Rapida 105, a five-colour press with coating tower and delivery extension, started production at the beginning of the year. Adel Al-Salem, Press Manager of Al-Resala Printing Press: "Our team appreciates the press concept. Here it is not a question of the maximum possible auto-



From left to right: Magdy Gomaa Ahmed, Senior Sales Manager Kharafi, Marzouq Al-Jassim, General Manager Al-Resala, Adel Al-Salem, Press Manager Al-Resala, and Nouredine Amalou, Sales Manager MENA, KBA-Sheetfed Solutions, within the framework of a project meeting in front of the customer centre of KBA-Sheetfed in Radebeul

Top address for high-quality, modern publications – the printshop Al-Resala in Kuwait

mation, but of the sophisticated technical basis, from the excellent paper transport system through the perfect interplay of inking and damping units to user-friendliness."



Ten-colour Rapida 106 for Park Communications

After the delivery of a six-colour Rapida 106 with coating tower in spring 2016, the renowned commercial printers **Park Communications Ltd.** in the London Docklands recently installed a new ten-colour press of the same type for 5 over 5 printing. It is the first Rapida 106 in the United Kingdom with ErgoTronic AutoRun and the QualiTronic InstrumentFlight quality measurement and control system on a grey balance basis.

Alison Branch, Managing Director of Park Communications: "We are pleased that we can guarantee our high quality standards, cut production times and reduce change-over times to only a few minutes with this hi-tech press."

ErgoTronic AutoRun stands for autonomous printing. This top level of automation allows for the production of several successive jobs without manual intervention by the operator. QualiTronic ICR (Integrated Camera Register) automatically ensures register-true printing.

The simultaneous change of all printing plates in 50 seconds with DriveTronic SPC, the Flying JobChange option with recto printing jobs, the simultaneous washing of impression cylinders, blanket cylinders and inking unit, QualiTronic Professional for quality control as well as integration into the printshop workflow through the existing LogoTronic

Professional system, all this leaves nothing to be desired.

Park Communications Ltd. was established in 1991. The company is known for the quality of its printed products and its excellent customer service far beyond London, it is certified for its consistent environmental orientation, and it offers its customers, who mainly come from the financial, fashion, real estate and art world, a complete service in three-shift operation.

The branch office of the renowned commercial printshop in the London Docklands in the eastern part of Canary Wharf



First Rapida 75 PRO with LED UV in Poland

As the first half-format press with LED UV drying in Poland, a Rapida 75 PRO went into operation at **ColorPressArt** in Kielce, Poland, some months ago. In the course of an open-house event, the new Rapida 75 PRO was presented with different substrates, including non-absorbent substrates. The event was supplemented by lec-

tures about LED UV printing and the consumable materials used.

Robert Tokarski, CEO of ColorPressArt, is delighted about the level of automation, energy efficiency and environmental friendliness of the press. It has five inking units, a coating tower and a three-fold delivery extension. Both with LED UV as well as conventionally, the half-format press, which has been set to a higher level, can print and coat standard and natural paper, cardboard boxes up to 0.8 mm thickness as well as foil and plastic at up to 16,000 sph in high quality.

The comprehensive automation includes FAPC automatic plate changers, Plate Ident, CleanTronic Synchro Speed, inking units that can be disengaged, control console with wall screen, ErgoTronic ColorDrive, ErgoTronic Lab, Quali-



Sales Director Dietmar Heyduck (l.) from KBA-Sheetfed and Managing Director Jan Korenc (r.) from KBA-CEE presented Robert Tokarski with a model of the Rapida 75 PRO

The Rapida 75 PRO sets new standards with its high level of automation

Tronic ColorControl with LiveView, DotView, QualityPass and ACR automatic camera register system.

"Apart from technological advantages, the LED UV technology also has economic advantages, including lower energy consumption and significant material savings," confirms Robert Tokarski.

ColorPressArt was established in 1996 as an owner-managed company. The full-service company produces high-quality commercial products, books, labels, pharmaceutical packaging and much more.



New Rapida 105 at the top employer Royle Printing in Wisconsin

For almost 70 years, the private printing company **Royle Printing** elects the best “craftsman” from its 250 employees at the branch office in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin. The prize is awarded for the personal attitude towards the highest quality when printing catalogues, magazines and other publications, as well as willingness to communicate and dedicated cooperation within the company and with customers. Thanks to its commitment and its corporate culture, the company is regularly placed near

the top of the list of the best employers by the Printing Industries of America association (more at: www.royle.com).

President Chris Carpenter: “Our strong growth and our success

are based on one word: culture. By that I mean the care with which we address the needs of our customers and staff.”

The company recently expanded its capacity with a five-colour Rapida 105. From the new press with a coating unit for conventional and LED UV coatings, they expect greater productivity and cost-effectiveness in the production of covers for the numerous magazines and catalogues. In addition, Royle takes account of the continuous growth with the expansion of the company site, the construction of a new warehouse, the acquisition of a third high-performance web offset press and a new adhesive binder.



The associates at Royle Printing are delighted about the new Rapida 105 in the pressroom in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin

Hederman Brothers rely on Rapida 106 with LED UV

With over 200 customers, employees and guests, the 119-year-old family-owned business **Hederman Brothers** near the capital of Jackson in the US state of Mississippi celebrated the start of production of its new 20,000 sph Rapida 106 with LED UV drying in its new branch office at the end of April.

Doug Hederman, President and CEO: “As one of the leading commercial printers in the region for

From left to right: Sam Creel of KBA North America, President and CEO Doug Hederman, Printshop Director John Shaw and Technology Director Chris Travis of KBA North America at the Open House

over 100 years, we are delighted about our new technology and especially about the Rapida 106 with LED UV, the first with this modern LED UV technology in North America. Our beautiful new printing plant, our consistent customer orientation and many years of experience in the business make us proud and allow us to grow and to invest in the best technology.”

In addition to the construction of the new production site, the company has invested considerably in printing, digitization and finishing, and has significantly expanded its capacities. The new six-colour Rapida 106 with coating unit and LED UV is the first Koenig & Bauer press at Hederman's. As a quality-oriented commercial printer and champion of new technologies, they appreciate the high colour brilliance on a wide range of materials using the LED UV process, the ability to further process the printed sheets

immediately and the option of dispensing with powder.

Thanks to this technology, which is also very suitable for natural paper, Hederman's has been able to gain new customers. Frequently, even the given finishing options, including spot coating, is used. With LED UV, the company, founded in 1898 by the two brothers Robert and Tom Hederman in Jackson, Miss., has introduced new perspectives into American commercial printing.

The predecessors of the current generation of the family purchased the first sheetfed offset press as early as 1928, and in 1993 the first six-colour press in B1 format with a dispersion coating unit. For their 100th birthday in 1998, Hederman Brothers were ISO certified. At that time, they also entered the digital printing market under the name Hederman Direct.

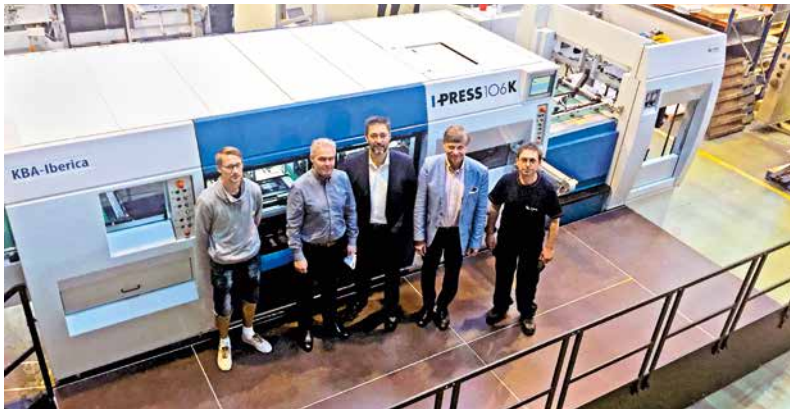


Kafab in Sweden invests in an I-Press 106 K die-cutter from KBA-Iberica

Even after 30 years on the market, the large Swedish packaging producer **Kafab Forpackaging AB** is still putting its money on

growth and has therefore invested in a medium-format I-Press 106 die-cutter press with automatic blanking unit. Kafab expects a

significant increase in productivity from the investment. General Director Thomas Nyberg: "I am proud to invest in a KBA-Iberica machine. This allows us to give a quicker response to our customers and become more effective."



Kafab Forpackaging 106 expects a significant increase in productivity from the new medium-format flatbed die-cutter.

The I-Press 106 has been designed for high quality standards, and its equipment has been tailored to the requirements of Kafab. With the blanking section, the productivity will increase and manual processes will be reduced. "This investment will consolidate us as leaders in our market" explains Mr. Nyberg.

Special press for large Indian packaging printing company TCPL

At the drupa, **TCPL Packaging**, one of the largest packaging printing companies in India, ordered three Rapida 106 presses from KBA-Sheetfed. The first was installed in the autumn of 2016 in the TCPL plant in Silvassa. The second started production in the Guwahati plant at the end of August. This is a special press with six inking units, coating tower, two intermediate drying units, each with a further inking unit and coating tower, and a three-fold delivery extension. It has a UV function, pile logistics and has been set 450 mm higher for packaging production.

Now a total of six Rapida 106 high-performance presses are in operation at TCPL – two at each



On the occasion of the commissioning of the latest Rapida 106, Sales Director Dietmar Heyduck of KBA-Sheetfed presented a model of the press to Managing Director Saket Kanori of TCPL (2nd from left). Also on the photo: Akshay Kanori, Director of TCPL (right), and Aditya Surana, Managing Director of the Indian representation Indo Polygraph Machinery

long Rapida 106 with eight inking units, coating tower, delivery extension and cold foil module, has been printing for two years. It is equipped for printing cardboard and foils as well as UV/mixed operation and, among other things, is automated with pile logistics, a non-stop automatic function and FAPC plate changing.

The six Rapida 106 presses at TCPL contain a total of 50 printing and finishing units. They were all installed between 2012 and 2017. With this very modern and automated pool of presses, TCPL produces economically and offers top quality.

The company was established in 1990 and today employs a staff of 1,200, and has all the usual certifications for quality management and food packaging. Many of the products of TCPL have won international awards.

Interesting website:
www.tcpl.in

of the locations Haridwar, Silvassa and Guwahati. The seventh will be coming shortly. In Haridwar, a



The cooperation agreement with Sun Chemical was announced at the METPACK 2017 in Essen: On the photo from left to right: Carlo Musso, Corporate Vice President & Group Managing Director Southern Europe; Rudi Lenz, President and CEO Sun Chemical; Ralf Gumbel, Managing Director KBA-MetalPrint; Klaus Schmidt, Marketing Director Koenig & Bauer; Yoshiyuki Nakanishi, President DIC Corporation; Hideo Ishii, Director DIC Corporation; Felipe Mellado, Chief Marketing Officer and Board Member, Inaki Lloa – Global Business Leader, Metal Deco Inks

Strategic partnership on metal decorating inks

At the METPACK fair in Essen in May, **Sun Chemical** and **KBA-MetalPrint** announced their cooperation in printing inks for metal decorating. This partnership focuses mainly on the segment of three-piece cans. The metal sheets are

printed on presses of the Metal-Star and Mailänder series and then usually coated and dried inline on equipment by KBA-MetalPrint.

The cooperation between Sun Chemical and KBA-MetalPrint in

the 3-piece can market includes the initial provision of the Metal-Star 3 and Mailänder 280 with printing inks by Sun Chemical and professional support for users in technical and procedural questions. The starter kit for the Metal-Star 3 and Mailänder printing presses contains UV or conventional ink series, depending on the application.

They plan to cooperate in the optimisation of customer systems. A further objective of the cooperation is to further the development of printing inks specifically for the metal decorating market. This strategic global partnership also includes joint appearances at trade fairs and customer events.

New foil coating unit by KBA-FT Engineering

KBA-FT Engineering in Frankfurt has developed a foil coating unit for the manufacture of high-gloss or matt foils with solvent-based or solvent-free UV coatings. The coated foils have special visual and tactile effects as well as a higher scratch resistance and resistance to chemicals. The unit can process foils with a thickness of 12 - 100 µm. In the coating

unit, customer foil reels are unwound and fed through a tensioning system to an application unit.



The foil can travel through the application unit with chambered doctor blade directly and indirectly, depending on the product.

The foil is then fed through the downstream continuous dryer (only necessary when using solvent-based varnishes) and a driven roller transfer frame to the tempering roller of the excimer and UV system by IOT Leipzig. This is where the desired matting of the foil takes place. The foil is then wound up again.

The system is finished in accordance with the ATEX guidelines in all relevant areas and can be extended individually according to customer requirements, e.g. with an ESH system by ESI.

The excimer and UV technology can also be used together with an ESH system in a décor paper printing press. KBA-FT Engineering is your competent partner for integration into existing systems.

Press data

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Production speed: | 100 - 200 m per min. |
| • Web width: | 600 - 1,600 mm |
| • Coatings: | solvent-free / solvent-based |
| • Unwinder/winder reel diameter: | max. 1,000 mm |
| • Reel weight: | max. 1,600 kg |
| • Winder accuracy: | +/- 1 mm for 1,000 mm bale diameter |
| • Material winding direction: | Coating facing inside / outside with lay-on roller |
| • Tensioning cones or tensioning shafts: | 3" (76.2 mm) and 6" (152.4 mm) |

Beatus Cartons invests in a Rapida 106 double-coating press

The packaging printing company **Beatus Cartons** in Porth in Wales has invested in a Rapida 106 with double-coating equipment. The highly automated seven-colour press replaces a different brand and is currently being installed. It is part of a comprehensive investment package, which also includes a new innovation centre for packaging design and new digital proof technology.

Beatus Cartons in the Rhondda Valley near Porth

Beatus supplies printed folding boxes made of cardboard, laminated corrugated board as well as plastic packaging for food, pharmaceutical products, confectionery, car parts, glassware, health and beauty products. Many of the 55 employees have been with this family-owned business, which was

founded in 1940, for a long time; the company generates an annual turnover of around £5 million.

Managing Director Clive Stinchcombe: "With the new Rapida 106 we can, for the first time, offer seven-colour printing. Add to this a significantly higher production output, a substantial reduction in makeready times and waste, and a wide range of coated inline finishes. Thanks to the extensive automation in the new press, we believe that we will be able to increase our turnover by at least 50 per cent."

Besides technical aspects, the great success of KBA-Sheetfed among folding box printing companies was a crucial point in the choice of press. Clive Stinchcombe: "As printers of folding boxes, you have the feeling that you have to go to KBA-Sheetfed. There they are technologically fully focused on

From left to right:
Steven Lord, CEO
Beatus Cartons;
Peter Banks of
KBA-UK and Clive
Stinchcombe,
Managing Director
of Beatus Cartons

packaging printing and on customer support in this market, in terms of consultancy and service."

The 18,000 sph double-coating Rapida can produce using normal and UV inks and coatings, and is optimally equipped for the printing of packing materials such as cardboard and plastic packaging for substrates up to a thickness of 1.2 mm, a lay-free system, automatic plate changing, disengaging of inking units that are not required, blanket cylinder, impression cylinder and simultaneous roller wash-up device, cleaning of inking units that are not required, even in ongoing production.

Beatus Cartons is the first company in the United Kingdom to use the ideal quality control system for the packaging of pharmaceuticals, QualiTronic PDF. The press also features QualiTronic ColorControl for inline quality measurement and control.

Major investment in the First Sample Printshop in Chechov, Russia

A major investment in the branch office of the **First Sample Printshop** in Chechov has been successfully completed with the complete new installation of prepress, printing technology and finishing.

The investment package consisted of two eight-colour Rapida 164 presses for 4 over 4 printing as well as a five-colour Rapida 105 with coating unit, an HP Indigo 10,000 digital printing press, a large-format Magnus VLFQ2400 printing plate production line from Kodak, cutters by Perfecta, automatic embossing and book cover units by Kolbus, large-format folders by Herzog + Heymann, pile turners by Baumann, a gold cutting machine by Ochsner, a thread-stitching line by Meccanotecnica and other auxiliary machinery. The installation

and commissioning of the presses and aggregates from five supplier countries was effected by the end of 2016 according to a time and implementation plan carefully coordinated by Koenig & Bauer project manager Peter Benz.

25 years ago, print production made Chechov the largest location for magazines and other high-circulation products, with over 5,000 employees. Today, in the branch office of the First Sample Printshop in Chechov, approximately 400 employees produce about 22 million hardcover and softcover books a year in different formats and with different types of processing. Add to this brochures and leaflets, photo books, calendars, cards and photo wallpaper.



Project manager Peter Benz (r.) from KBA-Digital & Web in Würzburg with Printshop Manager Nina Butrina in front of one of the two eight-colour Rapida 164 perfector presses

LacherDruck: Commercial and packaging printing with the Rapida 75 PRO

It was 45 years ago that **LacherDruck** in Memmingen converted a former ballroom restaurant into a printshop. There are still visible signs today – the parquet floor, stucco ceilings and an area which was no doubt once a stage for the dance bands. In the meantime, the only dancing is that of the screen dots on the paper, the pallets which move back and forth between the presses and finishing machines, and the printed sheets as they are folded and gathered.

LacherDruck produces a broad spectrum of commercial and packaging jobs for the regional B2B market. Alongside, the portfolio includes various own products and a number of specialties such as sheet music. Two years ago, the managing directors Walter Demartin and Christian Bittner decided to invest in new technology in order to offer customers print products of the highest quality and to facilitate further business. Market changes, search as ever shorter run lengths, left no alternative to the purchase of a new sheetfed offset press, and after a long process, the decision was made: a five-colour version of the Rapida 75 PRO in the came into the company.

Satisfied with the Rapida 75 PRO, from left to right: Christian Bittner, managing director LacherDruck; Gavin Elflein, KBA Germany; Reimund Degen, Flint Group; Walter Demartin, managing director LacherDruck, and printers Manfred Steiner and Mario Lodo

The Rapida 75 PRO incorporates accessory packages which reflect the wide range of substrates handled by the company. Important features include the facility to disengage inking units which are not in use, CleanTronic Synchro washing systems, an ErgoTronic console with ColorDrive and LogoTronic CIPLinkX.

Print quality has improved significantly with the new press. The dot is clearer and more stable. Inking unit temperature control provides for constant process conditions and a high degree of stability over the length of a run. Makeready times are considerably shorter and washing results are flawless.

Thanks to its CIP3 interface, the Rapida 75 PRO comes into colour – and thus production – much faster. As a result, smaller jobs can be handled much more efficiently. After all, up to 2,500 jobs with average run lengths between 500 and 5,000 sheets are printed every year.

For approx. 40 per cent of all jobs, the fifth inking unit is used to apply a protective coating. Otherwise, it is available for the printing of spot colours. That, too, makes the press more flexible than a straightforward four-colour model.



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