

Durst launches P5 next-generation technology platform

Durst presents the new P5 series

Durst, a manufacturer of advanced digital printing and production technologies, has launched a new printing platform – the P5 series. The first member of the family is the large format printing flagship, P5 250 HS, with shipping starting from April.

The P5 250 HS is targeted towards high volume industrial production, as well as one-offs in offset quality. P5 relates to five core features at the heart of this technology: productivity, reliability, workflow, versatility and print quality. The P5 technology consists of a series of new generation printers along with newly, in-house developed software and workflow solutions. The family also has state of the art, touch operation based user-interfaces and leading-edge remote service capabilities. Everything is aimed and streamlined to maximize performance and uptime of the printing family, along with unparalleled flexibility in media and job handling. Durst's iconic industrial design, which



The Durst P5 technology offers a print volume capability in two-pass mode up to 240 sqm/h and high resolution modes of 1200 dpi

was originally developed by the famous Ottl Eicher, has gone a further step with the P5. A design studio from Munich canvassed opinions from many customers and operators with a view to integrating their wishes into a new concept. This has been achieved for the P5 - and feedback will be incorporated into many Durst product lines in the future.

When compared to the industry benchmark - Durst P10 250 HS - the new P5 is 70% more productive. Featuring latest MEMS nozzle plates powered by Durst proprietary data-path and electronics, the result is a high-speed printing system with ultra precise drop placement and industrial level reliability.

Durst P5 technology features:

- Print volume capability in two-pass mode up to 240 sqm/h and high resolution modes of 1200 dpi
- Offset printing quality with a drop-size of 5 pcl
- Durst Analytics information platform for pre-emptive maintenance and detailed machine and consumption data to guarantee maximum uptime

- Durst Workflow, which provides an in-house developed suite of applications custom tailored for Durst printers and with unique features - beyond ripping.

Christoph Gamper, Chief Executive of Durst Group, said: "The new P5 platform, including workflow software and advanced service tools, represents our key strategy to further invest into large format printing technology and further afield. We believe that there is a lot to explore in this market space and the P5 250 HS is our first statement. In an integrated world, printers need to change as well. With the P5 family we provide tools for change and profit - and our firm commitment to continue to lead the innovation in the large format market."

Mimakis Tiger 1800B textile printer

Mimaki has announced that textile and apparel professionals received its Tiger 1800B production-class textile printer warmly during demonstrations at a series of industry trade shows in 2016 and 2017. The Tiger 1800B is avail-

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able in direct to textile (reactive ink) and sublimation (heat transfer) versions. With a maximum printing speed of 385 m²/h, the Tiger-1800B fits high-volume production environments that have traditionally printed using analogue printing methods, bringing the benefits of digital printing to these higher volume applications and making it more efficient and cost-effective to produce short runs, customized fabrics and garments, and samples.

"Mimaki was an early mover in digital textile printing, as early as 1998," said Ronald van den Broek, General Manager Sales at Mimaki Europe. "Over the ensuing years, we have developed in-depth experience with printing on textiles and a robust textile printing offering. We have also brought to market an industry-leading array of inks that allows our printers to image just about any fabric on the market. With the Tiger 1800B, we have moved from entry-level and mid-range offerings to a true production model that will help speed the analogue-to-digital transformation the industry is currently undergoing. Digital textile printing has grown by an average of 30% over the past five years, and we believe it is poised to enter the hockey-stick phase of growth over the next couple of years."

Van den Broek points out that the digital transformation is largely being driven by brands and retailers looking to produce faster, change collections more often, reduce stocks and supply chain waste. "We hear from our customers that they can receive orders on a Saturday and have stock in stores the following Saturday, a speed previously unheard of in the industry," he said. Digital printing of textiles also addresses the massive amount of pollution attributed to the textile industry, one of the world's biggest polluters. "Governments, especially in Europe, are moving to rein in this high level of pollution, especially as it affects water quality," he said. "As more textile manufacturing moves to digital, we will see less pollution by the industry. With production level products like the Mimaki Tiger-1800B, manufacturers of garments and home goods can take advantage of digital technology to reduce their environmental footprint,

establishing a more sustainable operation while also providing brands and retailers with the benefits they are seeking."

In another move to encourage the expansion of digital printing in the textile and apparel market, Mimaki Europe formed a joint venture in mid-2017 with BOMPAN, a leading distributor in Italy. This joint venture is tasked with offering total solutions, including pre-processing to post-processing, dedicated to the textile and apparel market, and with promoting digitalization within that market. To ensure a streamlined end-to-end digital textile ecosystem all under one roof, Mimaki acquired La Meccanica, a digital textile printer manufacturer with more than 40 years of history in the market, and Rimslow Global, a leading manufacturer of textile pre- and post-processing machinery.

Van den Broek concludes. "There is huge opportunity within the analogue-to-digital transformation in textiles and apparel, for Mimaki, as well as our customers and the brands and retailers they support. We are proud to be a leader in this vibrant and important market segment, offering sustainable digital solutions like the Tiger 1800B that deliver the speed and quality the market is increasingly demanding. We believe this printer can really help producers earn their stripes in textile printing."

Hatteras expands capabilities with Heidelberg's Speedmaster XL 106 with Push to Stop Technology

With the intent of dramatically increasing productivity as well as adding print embellishments, Hatteras installed the new Speedmaster XL 106 12-unit press - equipped with 8 print units, 2 coaters and 2 drying stations in an LPL Configuration (Print, Coat, Perfect, Print, Coat). This configuration enables Hatteras to better fulfill jobs that require 4-color printing and coating on both sides, which they identified as 50% of their workload after conducting a thorough review of their offset production data. Configured with DryStar LED in addition to mercury UV lamps in the "Y-unit" drying station and delivery,

Hatteras is ensured curing at 18,000 sheets per hour. Additional benefits of the press include the ability to cure UV or dry aqueous coatings on both sides of the sheet in a single pass as well as dramatic improvements in processing as full printed sheets move straight from delivery to the bindery. "We knew the Speedmaster XL 106 was right for us. We are immediately seeing the benefits of one-pass production in our 4-color perfecting work. We're also seeing significant gains in quality and speed while driving our costs down at the same time," said Bill Duerr, President of Hatteras.

The XL 106 is equipped with impressive automation to help shorten customer delivery times. With AutoPlate Pro, all plates are changed in less than 2.5 minutes without operator assistance. Prinect Inpress Control 2 allows Hatteras to automatically measure and control color and registration within the first 60 sheets. When coupled with Prinect Pressroom Manager and Intelstart 2, Hatteras also has fast, reliable job processing with the "Push to Stop" autonomous manufacturing approach, where job data, plate mounting, inking, color control and printing is completed automatically until told to stop. Additionally, the good sheet counter turns on and a tab is inserted automatically when the color reaches the LAB reference value, which reduces paper waste, set up time and cost per sheet - giving Hatteras a competitive edge.

"With all the automation and expanded capabilities we have with this press, we have increased our capacity significantly, which gives us the ability to grow and react to our customers' needs for lower costs, increased quality, innovative applications and increased speed to market," said Duerr. "It doesn't stop there - as with any new technology we've added, there are advantages we knew we would gain on day one. But what really makes us excited are the new opportunities to innovate and add value with our customers. As we grow and expand, it allows us to stay relevant and gain an advantage over the competition."

While the new press will be an advantage to all customers, Hatteras expects that their pharmaceutical and retail clients will benefit the most from this

press. The press also has the ability to do specialty coating effects that they could not offer before.

"We have been a Heidelberg shop since day one," said Duerr. "We looked at competitive technology, and we really felt that Heidelberg had a leg up. We feel that the press configuration combined with Heidelberg's new 'Push to Stop' technology gives us the best off-set equipment in the market. We know we can depend upon Heidelberg, and we're proud to work with them."

CSI becomes first to purchase complete EFI Nozomi Digital Press and ERP Workflow Ecosystem

As North America's first dedicated sheet feeding company, Corrugated Synergies International (CSI) is accustomed to setting new industry trends; the company did just that at the recent EFI Connect users conference when it became the first company to purchase the full ecosystem of EFI technologies for corrugated packaging, featuring EFI Corrugated Packaging Suite manufacturing execution system (MES) software for business ERP and production management integrated with an EFI Fiery digital front end (DFE) and the breakthrough Nozomi C18000 ultra-high-speed single-pass LED inkjet press. "CSI has pioneered many things in our industry," according to CSI Vice President of Manufacturing and Print Jeffery Dumbach, noting that the Nozomi installation means CSI can address the need for analog-to-digital transformation in corrugated print supply chains that often suffer from excess production, storage and obsolescence costs. "With the existing processes, people carry an excess of inventory. But using the Nozomi press, our customers will purchase precisely what they need when they need it," he said.

The Renton, Washington-based company, which manufactures corrugated sheets for box manufacturers, will be the first dedicated sheet feeder to install the Nozomi press, an award-winning, ultra-high-speed production system that redefines the role of digital print in the corrugated packaging space with throughput speeds up to 6,600 2.6x3.3-foot (800x1,000-cm) boards per hour. The 71-inch (1.8-me-

ter) wide LED inkjet device being installed early this summer will include the complete EFI ecosystem of corrugated production options and products, with six-color plus white ink installed on the press and fully integrated top- and bottom-feeding units. That ecosystem of advanced technologies coming to CSI includes the fast, efficient job-processing and color management capabilities of the EFI Fiery NZ-1000 high-performance DFE. The Corrugated Packaging Suite MES workflow coming to CSI facilitates plant-wide management and integration of digital production for a full, end-to-end business and production framework to handle the company's digital, analog flexo, single-face litho-lam and litho label operations.

"We are excited to have the first 'all-in' move to digital in corrugated with both the new Press and the full production workflow from EFI for corrugated packaging," said Dumbach. "The market will move and grow quickly with digital so there are benefits for us and our customers being ahead of the curve. "The Corrugated Packaging Suite is a real advantage," he added, "because it is fluent in everything we do as a company, so it can change how we manage production as our product mix shifts from analog to digital." CSI's new Press provides high-quality output with resolutions up to 360x720 dots per inch with four-level grayscale imaging. A 100% in-line inspection system on the Press is tied to robust print optimization technologies, including inkjet nozzle, alignment and uniformity correction. CSI executives, according to Dumbach, were "blown away" by the high quality of print the Press provided. Last year, those executives also visited the first Nozomi installation in Spain, where Dumbach said he observed long, uninterrupted production runs and seamless, end-to-end production on multiple jobs without downtime for cleaning printheads, stitching or other common changeover issues. Digital printing will add significant value for CSI customers, including box manufacturers serving companies that sell their products at big box and warehouse club retail stores. Digital printing's benefits in quick time-to-market for different designs creates opportunities for regional, customized pack-

aging strategies that boost sell through.

"There are particular advantages with digital for selling new products through warehouse clubs," Dumbach noted. "Oftentimes, a club might order two pallets of a product as an initial order to see how it sells, and that requires a huge upfront investment with analog printing." Using the EFI Nozomi press, on the other hand, makes it easier and faster to create and launch new, superior-quality packaging for those initial club launches - without the minimum run-length requirements, larger prep expenses, make-ready waste and inventory costs required with analog print.

"We completed a thorough analysis of operation and ink costs and saw that there is a pretty big economic advantage to using the Nozomi press," Dumbach also noted. Typically, he said, the corrugated sheets CSI makes can be shipped within a 250-mile radius to its box-manufacturing customers before transportation costs become prohibitive. With the added value that high-quality digital print brings to its customers, CSI can affordably distribute its work even further to reach a broader set of potential customers.

"CSI has set itself on the leading edge of corrugated packaging, and the company is now launching a breakthrough production model for sheet feeders," said Frank Mallozzi, EFI's senior vice president of worldwide sales and marketing. "The Nozomi press and the complete ecosystem of EFI corrugated packaging technologies CSI is installing create a remarkable competitive advantage for CSI, the box manufacturers it serves, and consumer product companies that will benefit from high-end, quick-turnaround corrugated packaging."

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