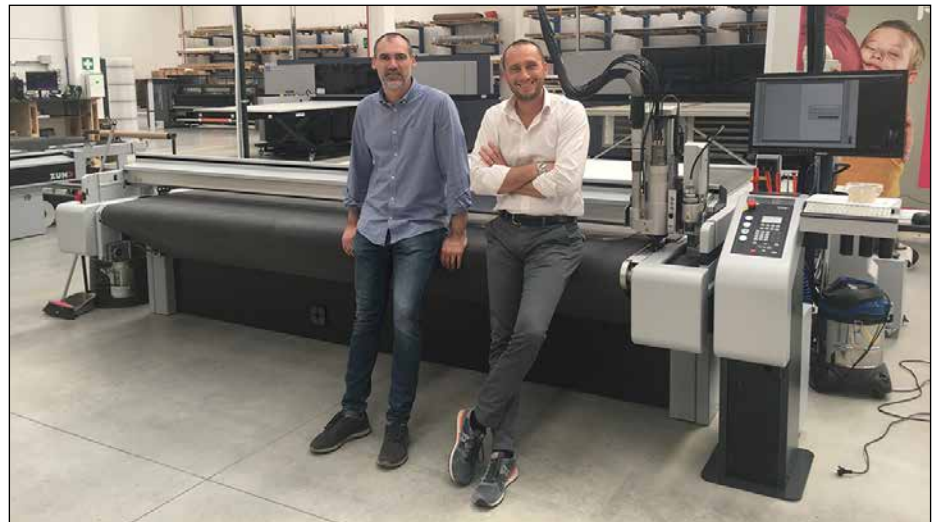


Zünd cutters allow Masserdotti to use one machine for processing anything

Masserdotti invests in new Zünd Cutter

Italian Masserdotti Group again opts for Zünd digital cutting technology. By investing once more in a Zünd G3 cutter, this specialist in digital printing is able to substantially increase its routing capacity.

Equipped with "little technology but all the more imagination and creativity", the company that began as an automotive repair shop 50 years ago has established a reputation in visual communication that reaches far beyond the nation's borders. Now in its 2nd generation, Masserdotti is led by Alberto Masserdotti and has approximately 40 employees. It is located in Castel Mella, a Northern Italian town not far from Brescia. As early as back in the 90s, Masserdotti was known as a digital printing pioneer and, through continuous digitization of all its production processes, has managed to create new business opportunities along



In the past two years, Italian company Masserdotti has invested twice in Zünd cutting technology: CEO Alberto Masserdotti (r.) with Production Manager Federico Messali.

the way. For the past ten years, the company has been successfully manufacturing goods for the interior design market. It was an almost foregone conclusion that it would also expand its product line into digital signage, which it started doing in 2011.

The latest chapter in the company's history began in spring 2018 with the opening of a new production facility. A 10,000m² space accommodates all the latest manufacturing technologies. In the past two years, this also included a Zünd G3 cutter for digital finishing which is now in operation three shifts per day. In the fall of 2017, Masserdotti added another Zünd G3 and at the same time also invested in a 3.6 kW RM-L Router Module. This addition brought with it a significant expansion in performance and flexibility for applications involving tough materials such as acrylics and wood. Comments Alberto Masserdotti: «Whenever we are about to make an investment, we want to make sure the production equipment we are considering easily integrates in our existing workflow and helps increase our quality

levels. Zünd's digital cutting systems pass these tests with flying colors». By opting for the automatic router bit changer ARC, Masserdotti also continues its mission to further automate every aspect of production. From its investments in Zünd cutting systems, Masserdotti derives yet another benefit: "We are continually expanding our material palette. Zünd cutters allow us to use one machine for processing anything from polyester fabrics to PVC and all manner of rigid materials."

Bosch-Druck installs HP Indigo 12000 Digital Press

Bosch-Druck GmbH is expanding its machine park with an HP Indigo 12000 Digital Press. The company supplies print products for the automotive industry, marketing, online shops and publishing houses. Bosch-Druck expects the new digital press to shift small offset print volumes to digital printing and thus help with the development of new markets. Bosch-Druck GmbH has relied on the HP Indigo technology since 2000. Fol-

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lowing the 3000, 5000, 5600 (S2) and 7800 series, the HP Indigo 12000 Digital Press is already the fifth HP Indigo installed by Bosch-Druck GmbH. The new digital printing machine with B2 (50 x 70 cm) offers a larger printing format for new applications that were previously not feasible on smaller machines, for example posters, packaging or book covers. Furthermore, it allows for printing of different formats on a single sheet. This increases productivity and redefines the economic efficiency compared to offset printing. All the advantages of digital printing, such as personalization or individualization, can thus also be utilized for medium-sized runs.

Andreas Duerschmidt, Managing Director Bosch-Druck GmbH: "Our numerous years of experience with HP were a pivotal and positive influence on our decision to invest in a new HP Indigo 12000. Our team is well-trained in the use of HP Indigo digital presses and we trust the technology as well as the robust design. Expanding our machine park, enables us to be more productive and profitable in the long run. In addition, we can offer a growing number of customers a larger product range." The 75 cm format of the HP Indigo 12000 Digital Press is suitable for a wide range of applications and delivers the highest print quality. The printing machine - successor of the proven bestseller HP Indigo 10000 Digital Press - offers groundbreaking printing functions with unique, profitable opportunities for lasting business success.

BOBST collaborates with BPIF Cartons to deliver hands-on training

The courses cover key areas of the production line and include a mix of practical and theoretical training to give insight into packaging manufacturing. The aim is to widen the knowledge of new employees working in the industry or for those not necessarily working on the production line but where insight would be useful.

BOBST has collaborated with BPIF Cartons to deliver specialist, hands-on foundation level training sessions to the industry. Two Foundation Level

training courses will take place at the Bobst UK & Ireland Competence Centre in Redditch, UK. On September 18, 2018, the focus will be on folder-gluing. Participants will receive hands-on experience setting up and running a job on VISIONFOLD 110-A2 + 4&6C.

The second session takes place October 17, 2018, when the focus will be on die-cutting, with demonstrations on BOBST NOVACUT 106 E, as well as a chance for participants to meet the BOBST team during an office tour.

Jon Clark, General Manager at BPIF Cartons, said: "We are thrilled to be collaborating with BOBST to deliver these courses, offering a unique opportunity for attendees to get invaluable hands-on experience of the carton manufacturing process using BOBST machines."

The first Foundation training courses were held earlier this year with great success. Attendee Nicola Whitmore, Key Account Manager at Graphic Packaging International, said: "It was incredibly informative to be able to see the key parts of carton manufacturing first-hand, giving me the chance to truly understand exactly what goes into the process and where any potential pitfalls may be. I look forward to applying what I've learnt to my work and would recommend BOBST and BPIF training to anyone within the industry."

BPIF Cartons is the folding carton Special Interest Group of the British Printing Industries Federation, the business support organisation for employers in the printing, packaging and graphic communications industry. It promotes the benefits of carton over other mediums and supports, advises and encourages members to strive for excellence in the industry.

Plockmatic Group acquires Watkiss Automation Ltd.

Plockmatic Group, one of the world's leading developers and manufacturers of document finishing technology, has acquired Watkiss Automation Ltd. based in the UK. The acquisition extends the Plockmatic booklet making range into the high-end market segment where digital prints are created using both toner and advanced high-speed inkjet technology.

Watkiss machines are sold by the world's leading printing systems manufacturers under the PowerSquare™ brand. The newly acquired company also sells offline booklet making systems through a worldwide network of dealers, plus a range of selected finishing products through a direct sales team in the UK.

Watkiss Automation is a leader in the development and manufacture of high-end booklet making systems known for their robust engineering. Most recently, the company has launched the PowerSquare PSQ160 that operates both offline and inline in a compact footprint and supports the increasingly popular landscape booklet format. The company will be a wholly owned subsidiary of Plockmatic International AB and will be part of the Plockmatic Group which includes the well-known Morgana range of finishing systems. The Swedish firm's CEO, Jan Marstorp, will head the expanded group of companies.

"Customers the world over are using Watkiss systems to serve the growing requirement for digitally printed product manuals, promotional materials and customized catalogs often produced around the clock," says Marstorp. He adds, "we've built a worldwide supply chain, marketing, sales and service organization unique in the industry, and it's ready to make these powerful systems available to even more customers."

Paul Attew, Sales Director of Watkiss says, "our team has spent years building a business around our customer's requirements. We believe Plockmatic is best-positioned to look after our customers and serve new ones. We know the business is in great hands, and Plockmatic has what it takes to grow it to its full potential."

The Plockmatic Group of companies is part of Grimaldi Industri Group, a diversified Stockholm-based holding company. "The acquisition of Watkiss demonstrates our commitment to our customers, and to the document finishing business," says Salvatore Grimaldi, owner and CEO of Grimaldi Industri. "This significantly expands our offerings and will help our customers deliver more value to their customers. I'm delighted to wel-

come Watkiss to our group of companies.”

Epson opens new Technology Center in California

Epson America, Inc. has announced the opening of the Epson Technology Center in Carson, Calif. The Epson Technology Center will showcase unique Epson printing solutions and applications, while providing a comprehensive, hands-on experience for customers and dealers with the full Epson wide-format printing portfolio, including dye-sublimation, signage, photography, and direct-to-garment printing solutions.

“Whether new to Epson technology or expanding their current offerings, this Technology Center provides an outstanding opportunity for customers and dealers to experience the capabilities of Epson professional imaging technology in a single location,” said Andreas Goehring, director, Professional Imaging, Epson America, Inc. “We know that purchasing new imaging hardware is a major investment, and this Technology Center will allow customers to experience our latest technologies using their own files, helping them to make a more informed purchase.”

In addition to the Epson Technology Center, Epson will be working with dealers to launch Epson Certified Solution Centers in key metropolitan areas later this year. The Certified Solution Centers will provide potential customers with a closer look at Epson’s award-winning professional imaging technology, the opportunity to engage with product experts, and run test print samples using their own files.

The new Carson Epson Technology Center will give customers and dealers a deeper look into how to expand their services and improve workflow with Epson solutions, including the SureColor F-Series dye-sublimation and direct-to-garment printers for textile applications; the SureColor T-Series wireless technical printers; SureColor P-Series aqueous printers for photography, proofing and graphic design; and the SureColor S-Series solvent printers for signage, vehicle graphics and fine art reproduction.

In addition to Epson’s professional im-

aging products, the Technology Center also includes factory automated robots and color label solutions.

Standfast & Barracks encourages own customers to join wave of innovation provided through Durst

Digital production now accounts for more than half the business revenues at Standfast & Barracks with customers being encouraged be part of the new wave of innovation provided through Durst, manufacturer of advanced digital production technologies. Less than three years since a devastating flood closed the factory for more than four months, Standfast & Barracks continues to cement its partnership with Durst. It expects 60% of turnover to be from digital production by the start of next year. The cutting-edge technology is also helping to drive export growth that by the end of 2018 will represent 20% of sales, of which half are to the USA.

Standfast & Barracks produces more than 150,000 yards of printed fabric per month. And until five years ago, this was all done by conventional printing. Turnover at £15.4 million is now back at the same levels prior to the flooding, with sales success largely down to digital print production advances. The UK fabric printing company has two Durst Alpha 190 systems, which are part of a new generation of super high-performance multi-pass printers with the One-Step Greentex P ink.

Standfast & Barracks has now trademarked its innovative direct-to-fabric Greentex pigment printed collection, Ecofast, which is sustainable and has highest lightfastness in its class. Using the system that allows printing on almost any type of surface, Standfast & Barracks plans to formally launch the new Ecofast line at Heimtextil in January 2019. Durst’s technology will enable the company to open up market opportunities in areas such as contract and apparel, including outdoor and roller-blinds.

Standfast & Barracks, with a heritage stretching back almost 100 years, employs 200 people and is one of the most versatile and distinctive printers in the world. It is part of the British

luxury furnishings group Walter Greenbank Plc and has an international reputation for a commitment to quality, innovation and advanced technologies.

A perfect example is the Durst Alpha is the Alpha 190, part of the Alpha Series that features different configurations and print widths for industrial printing of fashion garment and apparel, home textiles and upholstery. Durst developed the One-Step Greentex P ink especially for the Alpha Series. The environmentally friendly pigment and the reactive and dispersion inks are based on Durst Water Technology.

Stephen Thomas, Managing Director of Standfast & Barracks, said: “Our order books are definitely growing and we are actively encouraging our customers to do more digital printing, pointing out the many benefits. Our investment in Durst’s digital technology continues to trigger new waves of innovation. Digital gives unlimited opportunities and colour variations with the ability to develop new application and products and continue to develop our business - all with the support of Durst. Digital is by far our biggest growth area. It’s the future.”

Martin Winkler, Segment Manager Durst Textile Printing, said: “Standfast & Barracks is an exceptional example of how innovative companies are pushing the barriers by continue to invest in new digital technologies. We take great pride by working in partnership with our customers to help them to bigger and better things. And we look forward to continuing to work closely with Stephen and his great team to further help them grow opportunities that are virtually unlimited with digital.”

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