

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Ken Kodama
Vice President of Sheetfed Sales
(847) 634-9100
Fax: (847) 634-9109

MITSUBISHI 40-INCH TANDEM PERFECTOR DELIVERS TRUE ONE-PASS PRODUCTIVITY

LINCOLNSHIRE, Ill. — Printers need to improve productivity to improve profits. Some printers accomplish this through the equipment they use. The Mitsubishi Diamond 3000TP Tandem Perfector enables sheetfed printers to realize tremendous increases in productivity, and more.

The Tandem Perfector was developed to satisfy the market demands for heightened efficiency, precise color and better returns on the finished products. Whether the need is coffee-table-quality books, direct-mail reply cards, annual reports or folding cartons, the Tandem Perfector gives 40-inch press users a leading edge.

Sheetfed quality, web offset speed

The beauty of the Tandem Perfector lies not only in its ability to print the front side of the sheet in four or more colors and the rear side in one or several colors with barcodes,

product descriptions or instructions. The press prints both sides of the sheet in one productive pass at 13,000 sheets per hour without tumbling the sheet. This allows printers to produce special editions, posters and other smaller runs cost-effectively. On the other hand, medium and high page counts can be printed competitively with commercial half-web presses while delivering sheetfed quality.

The Tandem Perfector adapts to variable applications, sheet sizes, multiple color selections and stock range. The press can be configured with up to six reverse-side units and up to six front-side units. The Tandem Perfector offers a choice of stock thickness — .0016 inches to .024 inches for the typical commercial printer's needs or .008 inches to .032 inches to satisfy the requirements of folding carton applications.

For additional production flexibility, the Tandem Perfector prints on an array of substrates, including lightweight stock, paper and board.

Same gripper edge

A patented three-cylinder transfer design, called the Translink unit, which seamlessly connects the reverse-side and front-side printing units, distinguishes the Tandem Perfector from other perfecting presses. The front side of the sheet is printed after the reverse side, and the same leading edge gripper is maintained throughout the run. This minimizes sheet handling, simplifies register adjustment and ensures consistent color matching. The patent-pending triple-diameter sheet vacuum hold-down cylinder protects the printed sheet against marking or smearing.

Printing freedom

The Tandem Perfector's front-side printing units incorporate double-size impression and transfer cylinders in a 7 o'clock arrangement with plate and blanket cylinders. Reverse-side printing units feature an inverted 7 o'clock cylinder arrangement. Additionally, printing units include high-precision, automated ink key settings, a high-speed printing startup system and Mitsubishi's three-position multimode dampening.

Ceramic jackets on all impression cylinders after the Translink unit overcome the problem of ink buildup. Ink-free impression cylinders ensure clean print and sharp dot reproduction. The ceramic jackets also help eliminate scratches, dirt and other imperfections in solid print areas. There is no observable difference in print quality on both sides of the sheet, even when printing identical images.

Flexible applications

The Tandem Perfector's one-pass printing and high speed rating slash printing time on school annual yearbooks, trade books and book components. The accurate unit-to-unit and side-to-side registration affords the sharpest reproductions in art catalogs, cookbooks and stock photography books. The wide stock range enables the press to master the various applications of folding cartons, blister pack displays, software packaging and CD sleeves. Printers that cater to medical and pharmaceutical clients will find that the Tandem Perfector delivers excellent value in producing both boxes and instruction booklets for medical devices and pharmaceutical items.

Double coating option under development

Mitsubishi offers an inline coating solution, along with fully integrated drying packages, to handle aqueous and ultraviolet coatings. At Drupa 2004, Mitsubishi demonstrated a Tandem Perfector with two inline aqueous tower coaters. When Mitsubishi begins marketing the “double” Tandem Perfector later this year, it will print and coat both sides of the sheet in one pass at the press-rated speed of 13,000 sheets per hour.

Simultaneous plate changing

Mitsubishi has unveiled a new plate-changing system that enables simultaneous plate changing at all color units. Featuring the world’s first automatic, simultaneous plate cylinder-repositioning system, this new plate changer cuts plate-changing times in half. The semiautomatic version shown at Drupa 2004 completed an eight-color plate change in about four minutes — or 30 seconds per plate, which is half the industry standard of 60 seconds per plate. A fully automatic plate changer under development would replace all eight plates in just over one minute.

Workflow solution

Mitsubishi is at the forefront of the implementation of the Job Definition Format (JDF) specification, and is working with other vendors toward full integration of Mitsubishi presses into a JDF-compliant workflow. The DiamondLink III automated control system equips Tandem Perfector for networked printing and JDF connectivity. The press can be linked to prepress, postpress and management information systems (MIS). The Tandem Perfector is available with a spectrophotometer-based closed-loop color control system.

Mitsubishi's ColorLink CIP4 server transmits makeready data from electronic prepress for ink presets.

Mitsubishi Lithographic Presses (MLP U.S.A. Inc.) markets multicolor sheetfed and web lithographic presses manufactured by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. MLP U.S.A. provides complete sales, parts and service for the entire line of Mitsubishi presses. For more information, contact MLP U.S.A. at (847) 634-9100. Information also can be obtained by visiting the company's website at www.mlpusa.com.

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For further information:
Brian Blair
Blair Inc.
7124 Windsor Lake Parkway
Loves Park, IL 61111
(815) 282-9060
Fax: (815) 282-9106