

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MITSUBISHI VARIABLE CUTOFF PRESS REDEFINES COMMERCIAL WEB OFFSET PRINTING

Diamond 16 MAX-V Allows Printers to Produce Different Press Signature Cutoffs with One Press

LINCOLNSHIRE, Ill. — Up until now, the circumference of the plate cylinder has basically defined web offset press signature cutoffs. Mitsubishi's Diamond 16 MAX-V commercial web press changes this definition.

Introduced at Drupa 2004, the Diamond 16 MAX-V represents an entirely new approach to commercial web printing. This one press is designed to handle a variable range of cutoffs from 21.5 inches to 24.6 inches. The cutoff range will allow printers to print A-size magazines, B-size inserts or textbooks, and American letter-size jobs on a single press with a simple changeover.

The press achieves the variable cutoffs by utilizing different diameter plate and blanket sleeves on the printing unit. These different-size sleeves are refitted over the plate and blanket cylinders. This replacement process is relatively easy, taking approximately four minutes per unit. The upper and lower ink trains and dampening rollers are automatically repositioned to

accommodate the new cutoff size. In the folder, the speed of the nipping belts is adjusted to accommodate the different web cutoffs.

The Diamond 16 MAX-V features a single web path. It is engineered with a shaftless drive design. The shaftless design relies on the synchronized control of high-precision motors, resulting in significantly lower power consumption, quieter press operation, faster makeready times and simpler press maintenance. It also contributes to greater stability during high-speed operation.

Mitsubishi demonstrated the prototype Diamond 16 MAX-V at Drupa 2004. The Drupa model featured a single-width combination folder. Since Drupa, the press has been expanded to four printing units. It has undergone extensive print testing and will continue to do so for the immediate future. A beta model will be delivered to a printing site in Japan by the end of 2005.

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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