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New Generation of Green CTP

paperandprint.com 29 January 2010

Screen has announced a new range of B1 thermal platesetters that consumes less electricity and is compatible with chemistry free plates. The PlateRite 8000N series continues the company's tradition of producing environmentally friendly products.

'This new generation is better for the environment, better for production and better for your pocket,' said Screen Europe marketing manager Tim Taylor. 'The trend is towards lower run lengths but more jobs with more colour. This leads to a need for even greater plate volumes so Screen has increased productivity on all new models and ensured that the full range of automated options that support high plate volumes is available.'

The PlateRite 8000N series ranges from entry level to high end, and offers even better specifications than the previous generation of the PlateRite 8000 series. As well as enhancing environmental features, the development of the new models concentrated on improving speed and reducing power consumption not only in the recorders themselves, but also in the peripherals such as autoloaders. The capability of the 8000N-S to produce 36 plates per hour is a 12.5% increase in productivity on the previous model and also uses up to 28%² less power per plate. This means a reduction in running costs and in its carbon footprint.

Many of the features which were previously options are now available as standard on the new range. A signal light has been integrated in the new design, making it easy to monitor the operation status and for all models the minimum plate size is 304 x 370 mm for greater flexibility. Spekta2 AM/FM hybrid screening gives quality comparable with 650 lpi, which gives highly detailed, moiré free results with the ease of printing a standard AM screen and can also reduce the overall amount of ink that is required.

The new range is available now and will be demonstrated for the first time at Ipex.

Paper & Board Recovery Rose in 2009, Despite Recession

mrw.co.uk 27 January 2010

Waste paper and board recovery rate continues to rise despite the recession.

The Confederation of Paper Industries preliminary data shows that last year the collection rate rose to 78% even though paper consumption in the UK diminished by 10% to a mere 11.5 million tonnes.

Because of limited domestic use, UK paper exports saw an increase of up to 90% that were using fibrous raw materials coming from recovered paper and board.

Recovered paper sector manager at CPI, Peter Seggie said that the fact that the new UK capacity is based 100% on recovered paper is "good news" for the industry.

He added: "The successful St Regis conversion of a machine to lightweight recycled packaging paper, the new Palm newsprint mill and the progress on the SAICA packaging mill all show that there is scope for a vibrant, modern paper industry in the UK where demand for paper products is much greater than that produced domestically."

Further details on the 2009 performance of the paper industry will be available in March.

EDF Use Two Sides Material in New Sustainability Guide to Print & Paper

twosides.info 27 January 2010

EDF Energy's Sustainability Guide explains their approach to sustainability and what they're doing to minimise paper waste.

EDF Energy's approach to sustainability is all about being socially and environmentally responsible without compromising the ability to grow economically; it's about ensuring that everything they do has a positive impact and EDF Energy are committed to developing more sustainable business practices right across their entire business. Naturally this includes what EDF Energy print and send to their customers.

In their Sustainability Guide, EDF Energy explain their reasons for using traditional mail and what they're doing to minimise the impact of doing so. EDF Energy also reveal some of the other initiatives they have launched to reduce waste.

MCR Print Becomes FSC Certified

printweek.com 27 January 2010

Print management company MCR Print has boosted its environmental credentials and become FSC certified.

The company said the certification was also an essential part of its business model.

According to sales and marketing director Bradley Jones, MCR is "fast becoming the South Coast's premier eco-friendly print company".

"As our business grows, so to do the expectations of our customers," he said. "We like to exceed our customers' expectations and, while none of them requested we become FSC certified, we became accredited with our customers in mind."

Jones said that MCR had always supplied sustainably sourced products and eco-friendly stock, therefore becoming FSC accredited was a natural progression for the business.

"The start of 2010 has been a busy period with three new account wins. Two of these accounts are from companies with the environment at the heart of what they do; the reason they joined us, in part, is due to the FSC certificate," he added.

The company has six staff and its markets include retail, publishing, advertising, design and financial markets.

Brazilian Daily Prints on FSC Certified Paper

fsc.org 22 January 2010

São Paulo's daily newspaper Metro is printed on FSC paper. With a circulation of over 150,000, Metro's decision to print on FSC certified paper is an achievement for the world's forests.

Metro's President Marcelo D'Angelo highlights that paper certification is more than necessary and "a fundamental measure if you really want to contribute to the process of conservation and environmental care." According to Marco Cruz, Sales and Marketing Director of Metro's publisher Plural, demand for FSC certified products increased in 2009 compared to previous years.

Consumer awareness of the FSC logo is growing in Brazil. Mr. D'Angelo recalls that Metro's editorial office received numerous letters and emails from readers congratulating the newspaper for using FSC certified paper. Friends of the Earth – Brazilian Amazonia recently conducted a poll to assess the knowledge of the population on environmental issues. Results showed that recognition of FSC among the Brazilian public has increased to 22% in 2009 from 1% in 2006. They also showed that 81% of the population would prefer certified forest products, and are willing to pay a little more than for non-certified products. Printing on FSC certified paper is set to become a trend for newspapers worldwide. Recently, Dutch newspaper "Het Financieele Dagblad" started to print on FSC certified paper. Considering the amount of paper used daily for publication, a newspaper's decision to use FSC certified paper has a strong and positive impact on the world's forests.

First Choice Business Systems Gains ISO 14001 & 9001 Certification

printweek.com 21 January 2010

Becoming ISO 14001 and ISO 9001 certified will play a significant part in First Choice Business Systems' growth, the company has said.

Tony Pond, managing director of the Kent-based company, said he believed that the processes the company has put into place in order to meet the ISO standards had transformed its business.

"Having accreditations means you gain business from clients who previously wouldn't have considered you but, more than that, you know that you're now conducting your business in the best possible way.

"It's great for your customers to see the logos on your company literature and it also means real tangible benefits for both our clients and us as a business."

He added that the move had opened up new avenues and opportunities for the business, which is an authorised Xerox concessionaire specialising in document efficiency.

Adam Seabrook, operations manager at the £5m-turnover business, said the accreditations also fulfilled requirements for larger contracts.

He said: "We are looking to expand and grow the type of business we do and accreditations help us to do this."

The business has 31 staff and plans to expand its business in 2010 in areas such as Managed Print Services.

UPM's Biodiversity Programme Showcased At International Year Of Biodiversity Launch

upm-kymmene.com 22 January 2010

UPM's global biodiversity programme was showcased this week at the launch of the International Year of Biodiversity at the Natural History Museum in Berlin. UPM's strategic approach to safeguarding biodiversity and its biodiversity projects were part of an exhibition by the Business & Biodiversity initiative that aims to engage businesses and highlight the efforts of pioneering companies towards biodiversity protection.

The event was hosted by the German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, and Federal Minister for the Environment, Norbert Röttgen. Chancellor Merkel made it clear that "the conservation of biodiversity has the same significance for society as climate change". Other key note speakers included the Executive Director of the UN Environment Program, Achim Steiner, and the Japanese Vice-Minister for the Environment, Issei Tajima, and Ahmed Djoghla, the Executive Secretary of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity.

"As the Biofore company, biodiversity is a part of our business today. We have dedicated forestry professionals in each country who are implementing our biodiversity programme and carrying out innovative projects aimed at promoting biodiversity as part of modern forest management," says Mr Robert Taylor, UPM's Director for Sustainable Forestry.

UPM's global biodiversity program aims to maintain and increase biodiversity in company forests as well as integrate best practices in sustainable forestry. The programme focuses on six key elements for biodiversity: native tree species, deadwood, valuable habitats, forest structure, water and natural forests and is implemented through country level targets and action plans.

First Book Printed on FSC Certified Paper in China

fsc.org 22 January 2010

Picture book "The Great Paper Caper" by illustrator Oliver Jeffers is printed on FSC certified paper in China. Published by HarperCollins, the book has become a common sight in bookshops around China since last November.

"The Great Paper Caper" tells the story of forest dwellers who see their forest disappear and team up to find out who is threatening their environment. Accompanied by beautiful illustrations, the ecological message of the narrative is reinforced by the book being printed on FSC certified paper.

The first FSC certified book in China is an important milestone for FSC. Following the introduction of books printed on recycled paper, it signals an increasing demand among the Chinese public for environmental-friendly products.

Over 1.3 million hectares of forest area in China are certified to FSC standards. Chain of Custody (CoC) certificates are booming with over 1,200 certificates held in Greater China compared to less than 500 in 2007.

Paper Industry Positive about SAICA Containerboard Mill

mrw.co.uk 20 January 2010

Paper industry experts have told of their support following the news that a new container board mill is to be built in Manchester.

Owned by Spanish paper and packaging firm SAICA, the paper mill will be capable of producing 400,000 tonnes of recycled container board once it begins production in 2012. According to figures from the Confederation of Paper Industries, over 13 million tonnes of paper and board products are consumed in the UK but less than five million tonnes are manufactured domestically.

CPI recovered paper sector manager Peter Seggie said: "In terms of the recovered paper industry; SAICA presents a great opportunity to increase the domestic recycling level of UK recovered paper of which, over 50% is currently exported, predominantly to the Far East, for recycling."

"PALM and SAICA are very positive investments in the UK and will create skilled employment and reduce the UK trade imbalance in paper products. However, for more investment to be forthcoming UK government policy must support growth in the manufacturing sector if investments like PALM and SAICA are to be replicated in the future." In 2009, the Norfolk-based PALM paper mill began operating. It is the biggest newsprint mill in the world, designed to process 400,000 tonnes of paper.

Sevenside - owned by recycled paper and cardboard producer St Regis, which are apart of the packaging firm DS Smith Group - commented: "As a recycling business with our own fibre reprocessing and production facilities, Sevenside has always promoted landfill avoidance and minimising carbon footprint, so we welcome any move that improves the UK's ability to reprocess fibre within our own shores and reduces reliance on overseas facilities."

However, with such a big change to the UK containerboard industry, there was concern that the new mill may force consolidation of operations in the industry.

ACN Europe - the main supplier of recovered paper to China's largest containerboard producer Nine Dragons - managing director Wade Schuetzeberg said: "We've lost container board capacity in the UK over the last six to eight years as the trend for lighter weight packaging has increased, so many firms consolidated.

"Recently, three large mills have been built in Europe and with all these new capacities someone is going to lose out and it will force further consolidation in the UK and European industry."

Schuetzeberg explained that, although it is hard to predict what the market conditions will be like in 2012, there will need to be a lot of support locally in order to spur collections for more recovered material.

Paperback Aims to Double Production Following Funding Line

printweek.com 20 January 2010

Paperback Collection and Recycling is looking to double its production of sustainable and high-quality paper after receiving a £300,000 funding line from Absolute Invoice Finance. The Deeside, North Wales-based paper recycling business collects waste paper, polythene and plastics from commercial customers in the region. The materials are then graded and processed before being sold for reuse.

Gordon Anderson, managing director at Paperback, said the funding line would boost its production so it could double its operations over the next five years.

The company, which was founded by Anderson 14 years ago, has 14 staff and a turnover of £2m. Its clients include UPM and Kimberly Clark.

"Many of our production processes have been manually run but the funding from Absolute's Invoice Finance facility means that we can invest in industry-leading technology," Anderson added.

"This will double the business in size over the next five years and increase the quality in tonnage that we are able to provide to our loyal customer base."

HP Indigo Partners with J&G to Offer Recycling Scheme

printweek.com 20 January 2010

HP Indigo has partnered with print waste management company J&G Environmental to offer its UK digital press customers a 'take back and reuse' scheme.

The company is offering a free used components collection service that will cover take-back of used binary ink developer parts (BID), empty ink cartridges, used imaging oil and bobbin wires.

It aims to reduce the impact of HP Indigo print operations on the environment and to help customers to ensure the used materials are being disposed of in an environmentally sound way.

Components are being collected and processed by Blandford-based J&G in collaboration with its parent company, Cleansing Service Group.

All the waste will be recycled as a source of raw materials, although BID units and bobbin wires will be shipped to Holland for reconditioning and reuse.

HP programme manager Cecile Mesmain said the scheme expanded the company's environmental sustainability efforts.

"We are glad to have J&G Environmental on board as the waste management service provider to execute our programme, because the company has a long-standing history and proven track record in professional waste control in the printing industry."

New Trademark Standard Approved

fsc-uk.org 20 January 2010

FSC has approved a new trademark standard. "Requirements for use of the FSC trademarks by certificate holders" (FSC-STD-50-001) covers requirements for on-product labelling, promotional use of the trademarks and graphic rules.

The variety of FSC certified products has expanded since the trademark standards were developed in 2004, bringing with it new demands. The need for simpler guidance as well as dealing with new market needs, led to decision by the FSC Board of Directors in 2009 to undertake a review of the trademark standards.

The standard introduces new label designs that will begin to appear on products when the standard comes into effect on 1 March 2010. The three variations of the Mixed Sources labels are reduced to one along with more meaningful text for consumers. FSC is also introducing a design for mini-labels that will ensure greater consistency in using the labels on small certified products.

Among the changes, the standard introduces a new promotional panel design that will incorporate all the requirements in a format which mirrors the labels and which will be available to download from the same labelling website. FSC is introducing a trademark license code to accompany all trademark use with a format which links the code number to FSC.

The standard comes into effect on 1 March 2010 for new applicants. Operations certified before this date will need to implement the new requirements by 1 January 2011.

Following the release of the standard for FSC certificate holders, FSC will develop a standard for "non-certificate holders" which is anticipated in the course of 2010.

Mail Solutions Print Becomes ISO 14001 Certified

printweek.com 20 January 2010

Mail Solutions Print has become ISO 14001 certified in order to boost its green credentials and respond to requests from direct mail customers.

The Shropshire-based trade company, which specialises in thermal/souvenir tickets, said it wanted to be at the forefront of environmental awareness, having been the first UK printer to offer FSC thermal papers.

Nigel Souster, factory manager at the £8.1m-turnover company, said: "We are aware that we do have an impact on the environment, and we felt a moral obligation to reduce that impact."

The 50-staff company's other main product is direct mail and, by producing the product on FSC, PEFC or recycled papers, Souster said the company can balance the perception of direct mail as junk mail.

"More and more businesses are requiring their suppliers to hold these environmental credentials as part of their own environment policies," he said.

"With ISO 14001 in place and with large stocks of FSC, PEFC, recycled papers held onsite, we can offer unrivalled choice for our customers."

In the near future, Souster said certifications, such as ISO 14001, would become more of a prerequisite for companies wanting to stay ahead of the competition.

He said: "More and more companies are gaining ISO 14001 certification themselves. When they then approach their suppliers, they need to know the products they are purchasing are being produced by companies with a like-minded approach to the environment."

The company's plans for 2010 include improving its environmental performance further, which will see a £200,000 refurbishment of its Muller Martini A52 press.

It also plans to upgrade its Eltromat process and registration control system in order to reduce paper waste and increase press efficiency.

Greener Options from Repopoint

paperandprint.com 15 January 2010

Repopoint has stepped up its commitment to the environment by adding to its range of Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) approved materials – those used for plotters and plan printers.

The company became fully FSC certified in January 2008.

Managing director Steve Hallett said, 'We have been actively seeking materials for all aspects of our business that meet these exacting standards and the wide format range has, until now, been the one area that has eluded us.

Now our approved products include ColourLink 80 g/m² and 90 g/m² uncoated inkjet paper. It even includes 75 g/m² and 90 g/m² plain paper.'

Last year Repopoint also gained certification to ISO 14001.

Unite Commends UPM on Material Recovery Facility

printweek.com 15 January 2010

UPM's aim to create value from renewable and recyclable materials with the construction of its materials recovery facility in Wales is to be commended, Unite has said.

The paper manufacturer is investing £17m in the facility at its existing Shotton site which, once up and running, will sort dry recyclables such as plastic bottles, cardboard, newspapers, magazines and metals.

Its construction is estimated to be completed by January 2011 and, at full capacity, it will sort 200,000 tonnes of recyclable material, of which 120,000 tonnes will be newspapers and magazines.

Tony Burke, Unite assistant general secretary, said: "This is great news for our members in Shotton and the community at large. It shows the commitment of the company to innovate and invest in green technology."

Burke added that the creation of around 160 jobs in the current economic climate was "more than welcome".

The materials recovery facility investment has been supported by the Welsh Assembly Government, with a £1.7m Single Investment Fund grant.

UPM Shotton Paper is part of UPM and annually recovers around 640,000 tonnes of newspapers and magazines.

The Green Ticket

paperandprint.com 14 January 2010

NCR Corporation has had the paper used in its thermal receipt rolls certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), providing an additional reassurance to retailers, banks, healthcare and travel companies of its environmental and social credentials.

Thermal paper rolls are used in a wide range of sectors to provide consumers with receipts that provide a 'proof of purchase' or useful information. This includes everything from vouchers and lottery tickets in retail to account balance statements via bank ATMs and boarding passes in the airline industry. Beyond this a wide range of self-service kiosks are increasingly being used in sectors as diverse as libraries to healthcare facilities.

Simon McCouaig, vice president, Europe, for NCR Consumables, commented: 'NCR is constantly investing in innovative new products to help its customers reduce their waste and be more environmentally friendly. The certification of our thermal paper by the FSC underlines the steps we are taking to protect the world's forests for the future with every receipt that our customers print.'

The new product range is available in the UK and is part of NCR's Consumables Green Programme. The company recently launched a two sided thermal receipt printer, the RealPOS Two Sided Thermal (2ST) Printer, which uses up to 45% less paper. It has been designed with dual print heads to print simultaneously on both sides of the specially coated FSC certified thermal paper.

The company believes the use of two sided printing will move rapidly beyond the store checkout to paper applications in other sectors such as banking, events, ticketing, gaming and self-service kiosks. Its two sided technology has also been used to develop innovative label products such as the 2ST label, a label and receipt in one, which can be used by courier or logistics companies to avoid the need to have a plastic wallet to seal in the postal receipt/invoice behind the address label. The plastic wallet creates a huge amount of additional waste and makes it difficult to recycle the cardboard.

CMP (UK) Becomes FSC Certified

printweek.com 12 January 2010

Digital printer CMP (UK) has become FSC certified as part of its ongoing commitment to become environmentally responsible and address customer demand.

The FSC assessment was carried out by The Process Group and has taken the 14-staff company four months to complete.

CMP owner Paul Dawe said that achieving the membership was an important step for the £1.4m-turnover business.

"Becoming FSC certified allows us to do business knowing that we are satisfying the ethical demands of our customers, while proving our own dedication to becoming more environmentally responsible," he added.

The Dorset-based company's core business areas include on-demand book publishing, as well as short-run print work for local authorities and higher education authorities.

Dawe said: "The nature of our work type has been the driving force behind seeking FSC certification through a group scheme. CMP has secured a number of publishers over the past year, all of which are keen to support environmental issues and take some responsibility for the products they produce.

"In some cases, publishers will have a minimum standard required of their preferred suppliers and FSC is quite often one of them."

Warren Board Becomes ISO 14001 Certified

printweek.com 11 January 2010

Warren Board has become ISO 14001 certified after achieving a series of targets relating to its energy use and waste minimisation.

The process began 12 months ago when the 28-staff, £16m-turnover company published its environmental policy, which committed it to identifying aspects of the business that had a negative impact on the environment.

As a result of cutbacks, year-on-year electricity consumption has been reduced by 28% and waste to landfill has been reduced by 41%, which has resulted in "significant cost savings", according to operations director David Whitaker.

"We operate in an environmentally sensitive sector so it's important we underline not only the credentials of our product but those of the business itself," he said. "Meeting the requirements of ISO 14001 is a very public way of doing that."

He said that while the certification wasn't a prerequisite, it was one element in the customer-supplier relationship.

"We feel that environmental stewardship is an issue that isn't going to go away, so doing nothing was never an option for us," he added.

Warren Board is an independent cartonboard stockist that offers a wide range of packaging, graphical and point-of-sale boards from sheet stock and reel stock.

Two Sides Ad Campaign Set to Target Printers

printweek.com 08 January 2010

Two Sides has said it is surprised by a PrintWeek survey that found only a quarter of printers have heard about the initiative, as it gears up to launch a campaign later this month.

Findings from the Power of Print survey questioned 300 printers and 150 print buyers and found that just 23% of print buyers have heard of the industry-wide campaign.

Launched in 2008, Two Sides set out to challenge the alleged environmental misconceptions of paper, and director Martyn Eustace said print membership had grown steadily, but slowly.

The focus will now be on raising the rate of printer membership by means of an advertising campaign that will launch later this month.

At the heart of the campaign is research carried out last year by the National Association of Paper Merchants that found 80% of media buyers admit that environmental considerations affect the print buying decision.

"Printers should come on board and ensure, by modest subscriptions, that the industry remains active in promoting the sustainability and effectiveness of print media," said Eustace.

The Power of Print survey also found that 82% of printers said the print industry does not do enough to promote its green credentials.

Two Sides is an industry-wide initiative aiming to dispel "misleading information" surrounding paper's impact on the environment.

CFH Total Document Management to Become Energy Self-Sufficient

printweek.com 06 January 2010

CFH Total Document Management will become energy self-sufficient within two years, according to managing director Dave Broadway.

The Radstock-based company's plans mark a development of its environmental management system, which was recently accredited to ISO 14001.

The transactional mailing specialist is currently researching means of generating electricity, including using waste paper, as a source of fuel.

Broadway claimed that the company's aim to become energy self-sufficient would be of "huge benefit to the environment, and a large saving on costs".

He added that the company, which is FSC and PEFC accredited, had a responsibility to the environment.

"As a large user of electricity we can do more than most," he said.

The company's recently awarded ISO 14001 certification was achieved in the space of one year with the help of consultants Abricon.

Broadway acknowledged the importance of the award in helping to identify areas where CFH can improve, and in "demonstrating our continued environmental commitment to our customers".

"As a company, we have always taken sustainability extremely seriously," he added. "Our aim to become energy self-sufficient on our 10-acre site, hopefully within two years, is a clear commitment to reduce our carbon footprint."

UPM Invests £17m in a Materials Recovery Facility at Shotton Mill

printweek.com 04 January 2010

Paper giant UPM is to invest £17m in the development of a materials recovery facility at its Shotton paper mill in North Wales.

The facility will sort dry recyclables, such as plastic bottles, cardboard, newspapers, magazines and metals, and enable the mill to source high-quality paper from co-mingled sources. Construction on the site will start immediately and is estimated to be completed by January 2011.

Once up and running at full capacity, 160 jobs will be created in order to sort 200,000 tonnes of recyclable material, of which 120,000 tonnes will be newspapers and magazines.

David Ingham, UPM Shotton general manager, said: "Our vision for UPM Shotton is to be the frontrunner in creating value from renewable and recyclable materials.

"Building a materials recovery facility at the site is a natural step towards this vision."

The investment further supports UPM's development to rebrand itself as The Biofore Company, which Ingham said aims to create value from renewable and recyclable materials with sustainable developments.

UPM Shotton Paper is part of UPM and annually recovers around 640,000 tonnes of newspapers and magazines. It is the largest newsprint mill in the UK, producing 100% recycled newsprint.

The Materials Recovery Facility investment has been supported by the Welsh Assembly Government, with a £1.7m Single Investment Fund grant.

Previous investments by UPM at the site have included a renewable energy plant, which began operating in 2006.

Iggesund Bruk Reduces CO2 Emissions by 65%

printweek.com 04 January 2010

Paper manufacturer Iggesund Paperboard has reduced fossil carbon dioxide emissions by 65% at its Swedish Bruk mill.

The reduction of 63,000 tonnes is equivalent to the annual emissions of 17,500 cars, and follows a drive to reduce energy consumption and increase the use of biofuel throughout 2009.

Guy Mallinson, business director sales, said: "Even before this move, our business operations were robust and sustainable.

"Almost 95% of Iggesund Bruk's energy consumption is from biofuel and we have one more investment step left before our vision of a paperboard mill totally free of fossil CO2 will be a reality."

The company has a long-term environmental programme at the mill, with its energy supply based on heat from its own production process, plus electricity.

Iggesund's Bruk site produces the company's flagship brand Invercote.