



22023 68th Avenue South · Kent, WA 98032 USA
www.webpresscorp.com
Telephone: 253-395-3343 · Fax: 253-395-4492
E-mail: info@webpresscorp.com
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NEWS RELEASE

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VERSATILE QUAD-STACK TO DISPLAY AT IPEX

Web Press Corporation is bringing a full sized automated touch-screen Quad-Stack system equipped with UV curing lamps to their stand at IPEX.

The Quad-Stack, a modular system incorporation 4 stacked Universal Printing Modules (UPMs) configured to print 4 over 4 color in a “tower” less than 3 meters in height, has been the color solution add-on answer for more that 100 installations world-wide since its inception in 1998. Compatible with other single-width, one-around press systems, the units give owners of competitive press lines additional options for increasing color. The Quad-Stack’s compact height has also provided a remedy for the niche market of pressrooms where color expansion is prohibitive due to low ceilings.

The Munster Express, located in Waterford, Ireland, added two Quad-Stack units to their existing Linonews press line during 2005. Kieren Walsh, Editor and General Manager, states, “The Quad Stacks have allowed advertising and editorial colour pagination in Munster Express to double.

Improved color quality has resulted and this has led to greater advertising revenue.”

Increased color quality is a result of the unique configuration of the Quad-Stack’s UPM system. The Universal Printing Modules are shaped so they can be placed one on top of the other with each added module enabling the printing of one additional color on each side of the web. Each module consists of four solid stainless steel printing cylinders: two plate and two blanket cylinders. Every UPM also has individual inking and dampening systems. These “stackable” modules are can be mounted above either

a reel stand or a base frame. The floor model Quad-Stack tops out at 2545mm, with the roll under models being just under 3 meters.

“The ability of the Quad Stack to fit into the existing press line without having major building alterations, was a major plus factor for me in making the decision,” states Walsh.

The Quad-Stack is unique in the height area. Most competitive press manufacturers’ 4 color “towers” are exactly that...a 5 to 6 meter structure that consists of 4 stacked full-sized units. Access to the top two decks for plate changes and maintenance is done by climbing a ladder to a second level.

Contrarily, all maintenance to the Quad-Stack can be done from floor level, with a single step on each side, which doubles as a paper-guarding pathway for web travel from roll stands or splicers to the machine. Webs are threaded from the bottom deck to the top, moving from color to color without leaving the system of cylinders, allowing virtually dot on dot color registration without any fan out.

Continues Walsh, “Staff really like them as they are easy to use and do not required too much training, we have also put in ink levers to make them easier to operate.” The base model of the Quad-Stack comes with standard ink screws, but more and more customers are requesting manual ink levers or automatic inking systems.

The IPEX Quad-Stack unit will be fitted with a touch-screen automation system, which makes an “easy to use” system even simpler. Ink and water settings can be made with the touch of a screen, settings for particular publications can be saved, and even wastage figures can be monitored.

The cost involved with start-up waste is uppermost in many printers’ minds. The Quad-Stack has already proven to be a low-waste machine when compared with printing unit to unit. In addition, many Quad-Stack customers are now seeing waste-copy numbers in the low hundreds after having installed optional automatic inking systems from cooperating vendors. With the precision control

available with the Web Press Automation system, it is projected that low waste figures will become a standard for owners of Quad-Stack units and UPM press lines.

The IPEX display unit will also be fitted with UV lights provided by On-Line Energy. UV curing provides a hybrid solution for those pressrooms catering for both newsprint and coated stock applications. Increased revenue resulting from enhanced ability to provide a wider variety of services is helping keep some pressrooms from having to close their doors. Former “newspaper only” plants are now providing magazines, glossy inserts, calendars, and posters to their customers who used to request those items from sheet-fed printers. Web Press Corporation is also receiving orders for complete UV equipped press lines from customers who specialize in coated-stock publications.

Visitors stopping by the Web Press Corporation booth will be able to “explore” the Quad-Stack, participate in “hands-on” demonstrations of the touch screen (which will be displayed in both the Quad-Stack mounted model and a larger multiple-unit console model), and see first hand how UV curing lights fit into the system. Presentations on various aspects of quality pressmanship will be offered at the WPC stand during each day. (Press release on this topic to follow at a later date).

A Quad-Stack UV print sample, in the form of a lithographic tips poster which can be displayed in any pressroom, will be available for all visitors requesting one.

For answers to questions about the products WPC will be displaying at IPEX, please view our website: www.webpresscorp.com; contact Web Press Corporation at 253-395-3343; E-mail: info@webpresscorp.com; or visit IPEX stand 05-B87