

think big ... think no limits! The new offset print plant from Gissler & Pass

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The fourth customer open day, to which Gissler & Pass traditionally invites representatives of international branded companies and strong trade markets once every three years, for significant new developments, this year has the motto "think big – think no limits". The focus is the new offset printing plant, which will be supplemented with two ROLAND 900 XXL printing machines in a 7B plus size format. Apart from the tailor made printing plant concept, this day is all about current trends in the sector and innovative packaging and display solutions.

Guest speaker Jens Lönneker, general manager of the rheingold Institute, Cologne, gave a lecture about the tension field of international brands on the one hand and strong trade marks on the other.

Thomas Gissler-Weber, general manager of Gissler & Pass GmbH, seizes upon the theme and reports on the direction of Gissler & Pass as a partner of "both sides" – trade mark manufacturers and branded companies. Gissler & Pass's competence in the area of communicative packaging is evident in the production mix of the company. The wide product spectrum includes all current printing and refinement techniques and most customers buy offset as well as flexo printed packaging and displays from the Jülich based corrugated paper specialist.

G&P achieve 75 % of their turnover with packaging, which have a white outer cover – 60 % of this packaging is printed with three or more colours. 25 % of the turnover comes from the display business.

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"As an owner managed, medium sized company in the fourth generation, we can make investment decisions, when market chances appear, independent of any head quarters," says Gissler-Weber about the advantages of the medium sized business. "In this way we also directly decided on this new, offset print pant, which is in itself a further growth in the area of high quality printed and refined offset packaging and displays."

Herbert Breuer, general manager of Gissler & Pass GmbH, presented the guests with the sophisticated print shop conception with the double installation of the Roland 900, XXL 7B plus.

"There is a clear goal behind the new printing shop concept," says Herbert Breuer, "high productivity, top quality, the highest consistency for copying tasks, maximum environmental standards and short time to market." The central offset printing plant supplies both of the laminating operations of Gissler & Pass in Jülich and Rodenberg (Hanover) with offset sheets and is in close vicinity to the significant carton suppliers.

The installation of the two XXL printing machines is until now unique in European package printing. "With the larger insertion depth we can significantly increase the economic viability, as in the packaging sector more uses per sheet are possible and displays can be produced in one piece instead of two or two pieces instead of four. Therefore the average sheet size has risen by around 20% since the installation of the printing machines", explains Herbert Breuer. The manual work for affixing displays etc. is significantly reduced by using large formats.

According to the market trend many competitors are installing all inclusive, very complex printing machines (7 to 8 colours plus double varnish). Gissler & Pass has consciously equalised the complexity and set two printing machines against this trend: a highly productive 6 colour printing machine and a 3 colour printing machine with a UV varnish unit for refinement procedures. The total output of all machines can be refined via this MAN 903. The advantages: high production capacity, significantly shorter set up times, a high level of flexibility and higher brilliance with offline varnishing.

As is usual at all Gissler & Pass factories, the highest environmental standards and a GMP orientated quality management (Good Manufacturing Practice) also apply to the printing plant. "A significant example for the implementation of environmental protection is ventilation and air conditioning technology. This enables the heating of the whole building with the waste heat from the printing machines. Furthermore the central colour provision, together with the colour mixing system brings a significant reduction in colour remains (spot colours) and colour waste (colour tins). Due to the close colour system the cleanliness will be significantly increased", says Herbert Breuer.

With the final **print plant tour** interested visitors will experience the state of the art logistics concept and the efficient material flow for themselves: from the loading/unloading zone within the print plant the plain carton reaches the printing machine via the individual pile preparation (each printing machine has a pile turner). A fully automatic transfer wagon takes the completed printed sheets and transports them to the automated stretch and maturation system. The high level of automation leads to efficient use of personnel.

A comprehensive **product exhibition** with the most diverse packaging, displays and promotional material rounds off the print plant tour and gives the guests an insight into the competence fields of development/ design, printing, production and refinement by Gissler & Pass. As a partner for high quality packaging and displays Gissler & Pass offers a broad spectrum of printing procedures (pre-print, flexo, offset), various types of corrugations and combinations as well as refinement techniques. Apart from high quality printing, special or neon colours, varnish effects, hot foil embossing, pearl shine pigments or various surfaces offer the opportunity to design packaging and displays in a way which is effective for advertising.

Benchmark data for central offset printing plant for G&P:

Beginning of construction: 07/2007Total area: $4,800 \text{ m}^2$ Printing hall: $2,500 \text{ m}^2$ Logistics area: $2,300 \text{ m}^2$ Investment: Approx. €15 million

Machine system: MAN ROLAND 905

(transferred from the previous printing

plan)

5 colours + dispersion varnish Format 6 (1.020 x 1.420 mm)

MAN ROLAND 906 XXL 6 colours + dispersion varnish Format 7B plus (1,260 x 1,620 mm)

MAN ROLAND 903 XXL

3 colours + dispersion varnish and UV-

varnish unit

Format 7B plus (1,260 x 1,620 mm)

Tasks: Approx. 200 printing tasks per week

of which approx. 30-50% are new print

images (changes seasonally)

Ø Task size: 4,000 sheets

Output: Approx. 40 – 45 million sheets /year

About Gissler & Pass

Gissler & Pass is an innovative family company in the fourth generation and offers its customers Europe-wide a comprehensive service spectrum for individual, creative packaging and display solutions.

As the development partner for international branded companies and strong trade marks, the company produces transport and sales promoting packaging, cartons for counters and shelfs, floor and pallette displays as well as advertising media made of corrugated board in all corrugation types. The Gissler & Pass refinement programme encompasses the print procedure of high quality flexo direct printing up to six colours, high quality offset printing up to eight colours, pre-printing up to eight colours in roll pre-printing, as well as varnishing, coating, embossing and lamination on all types of corrugation.

In the business year 2007 Gissler & Pass made a turnover of approx. €90 million with 470 employees in the four factories in Jülich and Rodenberg (Hanover).

The concentration on Europe of Gissler & Pass is also guaranteed by the networking company Alliabox - a European incorporation of 9 owner managed, independent corrugated board companies, with 50 sites in 18 countries. Many of the Gissler & Pass customers are also customers of Alliabox.