

One of the UK's leading privately owned web offset houses steals a march on the competition by installing the first 32-page Komori System 38 in Europe.

The new machine has been in nonstop operation since the first weeks of commissioning thanks to its quick learning curve and total compatibility with Komori 16-page presses.



Commercial Web

York Mailing Installs Europe's Komori System 38/1250 Web

Europe's first 32-page Komori System 38/1250 web offset press is now in full production at UK printer York Mailing, following an additional £4.5m investment programme that includes the installation of new pre-press and CTP facilities. The new press, the company's fourth Komori web offset machine within three years, proved its value within the first few weeks of operation, as chairman Mike Newbould explains.

'Sophistication without complexity'

"You could easily expect

a press of this size and calibre to take several months to bed in, but the System 38/1250 has been in production 24 hours a day since the first weeks of commissioning," he says. "The practical design of the controls means that the press offers sophistication without complexity, and the learning curve has therefore been very quick.

"The philosophy behind the 32-page System 38/1250 fits perfectly with the culture of York Mailing. We already operate three 16-page Komori System 38S web offset presses, and while we needed to signifi-

cantly increase capacity, we did not want to go for the larger pagination presses, which serve a different market. The new System 38/1250 has already been used to print the broadest range of formats."

'Print quality is of vital importance'

"The essential element of the Komori press is print quality and this is of vital importance to us," says Mike Newbould. "Plus, of course, there is total print compatibility between our Komori 16-page presses and the new 32-page press."

York Mailing specialises in promotional print material such as retail flyers, media inserts, catalogues and door drop packs. The company, founded in 1998 by Mike Newbould and Chief Executive Chris Ingram, is one of the UK's leading privately owned web offset houses, employing around 220 people between its 65,000 sq ft premises in York and its 30,000 sq ft site in Northampton. Group sales this year are expected to be £33m.

Fourth Komori web in two years

The company installed its

first 16-page Komori System 38S in 2002 and now operates four-, five- and six-colour models. These include the high-speed 60,000iph System 38S demonstrated on Komori's Drupa 2004 stand. All of the 16-page presses and the new 32-page version are

16-page web offset house. The 32-page web version offers the same print quality, makeready times and versatility as the 16-page presses. The high level of automation allows us to change plates and folder formats in a similar time to our Komori 16-page press-

es," says Mr Newbould.

Adds Chris Ingram: "Already, the new press has run a wide range of paper weights and we're able to handle run lengths as low as 15,000 as well as jobs requiring several million copies."

"The expanded press

capacity, along with our additional prepress and finishing facilities, means we can now ensure that our clients can bring their promotional print to market to ever more competitive deadlines."



First 32-Page Offset Press

equipped with spine gluing and rotary trimming facilities.

Because the 32-page System 38/1250 press uses the same 965mm reels as the 16-page versions, York Mailing has been able to integrate the new press without further investment in its reel handling or despatch facilities.

'Komori listens to its customers'

"We have also found that Komori listens to its customers, and what it has created with the new 32-page System 38 provides a natural progression for a

