Integrated Print Quality Control Systems to Improve Productivity for Printing Companies
Improve Profitability by Tackling These Issues

If you want to increase sales, cut costs, and improve quality, you need to take a closer look at your printing environment. For example, the challenges below can be easily resolved by making small changes.

**Increase sales by increasing number of print jobs**

**Cut costs associated with printing and increase profits**

**Reduce the amount of paper waste per job as much as possible**

**Reducing press set up time makes work more efficient**

**Concerns about the environment like saving energy and harmful substances**

**Routinely produce high quality printed materials**

**Not enough experienced operators due to workforce shortages**
Maximizing Press Work

Print Management Solutions (PMS) is our solution that optimizes the printing environment to greatly improve quality. Implementing this solution improves productivity, cuts costs, solves workforce shortages, and other issues facing printing companies.

Productivity

Job changeover is performed in parallel by the press, dramatically reducing changeover time.

Costs

Paper waste is reduced to an absolute minimum because color control is automatically performed at print start-up!

Quality

Exceptional quality is consistently maintained due to register, color adjustment and quality inspections!

Workforce

Less experienced operators can efficiently operate the press by automating register adjustment and color control!

Environment

Reduction of wasted resources through automation greatly reduces CO2 emissions which also reduces the environmental impact.

*May differ in accordance with the conditions
Komori’s Philosophy on PMS

The Ultimate Answer to Short Runs and Quick Turnarounds

What should printing companies do to facilitate future improvement?
Komori believes that printing companies should analyze their current operation and challenges and implement measures to reduce printing preparation time and waste paper while maintaining quality and high productivity.

To that end, Komori came up with the three concepts below to address these challenges.
The range of products developed by Komori offer high productivity and value while generating mutually linked synergies based on these concepts.

1. Connected Automation

The concept of connecting automated production equipment and plant optimization is called “connected automation.” Work progress status and transfer of job data between processes is centrally managed with the aim of increasing efficiency and reducing manual tasks.

2. Autopilot

The function that automates the non-stop process from test printing to production printing without the need for human intervention is called “autopilot.” The function enables a certain level of quality control and time reduction to efficiently complete these two processes.

3. Parallel Makeready

Parallel makeready is a function specifically designed to reduce preparation time. The time required for printing preparation can be dramatically decreased by running the automatic changeover functions that are performed between jobs in parallel.

Print Management Solutions

Komori Print Management Solutions dramatically improves productivity through optimization of the printing environment and objectively analyzing print quality.

KHS-AI is the system handling overall control of the printing process; PDC series checks and adjusts print quality; and PQA series offers continuous inspection features to maintain quality throughout the run, continuously supporting operator tasks.

By utilizing KHS-AI, PDC and PQA together, high-quality prints can be continuously and reliably produced in less time than ever before.

For integrated control
Integrated control system that manages job data, device interlinking, and efficient changeover

For checking print quality
Print quality analysis with automated control to quickly move into production

For maintaining print quality
Print quality is maintained through quality inspections and various automated controls

KHS-AI

This system facilitates a reduction in preparation time and paper waste by integrating control of the entire press.

PDC Series

Standardizes quality by checking and adjusting work to reduce paper waste.

PQA Series

Ensures a continuous high level of quality through in-line print quality inspections.
KHS-AI [Advanced Interface]

Have you considered these challenges?

Reducing the time taken to set-up the press
KHS-AI supports operators with an intuitive interface.

Reducing the time required for changeover preparation
The evolutionary smart sequence shortens changeover preparation time.

Reducing paper waste
The revolutionary smart sequence feature shortens job changeover preparation time.

This system facilitates a reduction in preparation time and paper waste by integrating control of the entire press.

KHS-AI is a revolutionary productivity enhancement system that receives job data from the MIS-linked KP-Connect Pro and integrates control of the entire press.

Since many of the tasks required for changeover are performed simultaneously, preparation time is greatly reduced.

Moreover, as the press is also equipped with the high precision preset function that optimizes preset data according to the changes in materials and printing environment, it is possible to significantly reduce paper waste.

Sheetfed KHS-AI

Easy to use
Our touchpanel is user-friendly, easy to navigate, and designed with intuitive grouping of relevant information on display, reducing the need to change screens. For example, on the "job list" display, the changeover status can be seen at a glance by displaying the ink and paper information. Further, main printing operations such as ink key and plate registration, as well as PDC and PQA operations, can be performed on a single screen.

Smart Sequence
Smart Sequence reduces operator workload, human error, and shortens changeover time through automating almost the entire print preparation process between jobs. Time is further decreased with "parallel makeready" that performs plate changing, blanket washing, and pre-inking (roller cleaning for package printing) in parallel.

For commercial printing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Timebefore</th>
<th>Timesaved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>De-inking</td>
<td>3 minutes</td>
<td>1 minute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanket washing</td>
<td>3 minutes</td>
<td>3 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plate changing</td>
<td>3 minutes</td>
<td>3 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-inking and air/ register adjustment preset</td>
<td>7 minutes</td>
<td>7 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test printing and color adjustment</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Supported models are limited. *The values are the results of in-house simulations. *Effectiveness differs depending on the model, attached options, and settings.

For package printing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Timebefore</th>
<th>Timesaved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>De-inking</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roller cleaning</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanket washing</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plate changing</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-inking</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test printing</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacing ink cartridges (manual work)</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Only the Lithrone GX40 is supported. *The values are the results of in-house simulations. *Effectiveness differs depending on the model, attached options, and settings.

High Precision Preset Function
Paper waste at print startup is reduced to an absolute minimum, makeready time is shortened, and resources are substantially saved by automatically analyzing and calibrating preset data and optimizing color matching according to changes in the machine, the printing environment and printing materials.

Web Press KHS-AI

AI-Link (Integrated Control System for Web Offset Presses)
AI-Link provides total control of peripheral devices like the dryer in addition to control of all units from the splicer to the folder. As the AI-Link controls the entire unit, paper waste can be greatly reduced and productivity increased.
PDC Series

Have you considered these challenges?

Reducing time spent on register and color matching work
Work time can be reduced by using the automated functions in PDC-SX and PDC-SG.

Identifying printing problems during the first printing run
Quality checks that compare data can be performed automatically using the PDF comparator.

Stabilizing quality
Work previously performed by the operator is digitized and automated, standardizing work and unifying quality.

Standardizing checking and adjustment work helps reduce paper waste and shorten adjustment time.

PDC Series devices are systems that support the operator by digitizing and automating register and color matching, and quality checking work that used to be performed manually.

Changeover time can be considerably shortened and paper waste significantly reduced by performing color control at print start-up with the Smart Feedback function linked to KHS-AI.

Compatible with ISO 12647-2, the international print standard, as well as G7 and JapanColor standards, the PDC system is indispensable for standardizing printing.

Moreover, printed material and plate data can be compared by installing the PDF comparator (PDC-SX option.)

Color Control Function
Density, L*a*b* values, dot gain, etc., are measured and digitized by scanning the color bar on the paper with the PDC Series. Additionally, the PDC-SX also accommodates the color bar in the center of the sheet by means of the automatic X-Y travel system.

When the results and the target density differ, the PDC Series links with KHS-AI and automatically adjusts the ink key openings. Furthermore, the results of whether the printed matter complies with standards can be output as a report. Density of measurement sheets, ΔE, dot gain, etc., are tabulated by color, and the average of all patches, and the maximum and minimum values are calculated.

Automatic Register Adjustment Function (PDC-SX)
High precision register adjustment is performed with Komori’s proprietary register marks. Checking of color, front/back register, and image positioning on the paper are performed automatically and fed back to the press immediately if any deviations are found. Not only can human errors be prevented as matching is performed by values rather than human judgment, but accurate matching is possible with less manual checks.

PDF Comparator System (PDC-SX option)
The PDF Comparator System is an offline comparator that can be installed as a PDC-SX option. It uses image sensors to read the printed matter and compares it with the PDF data to enable the operator to check for missing characters, etc. in the initial printing stage. In addition, the required settings are configured automatically up to the start of inspection. Repetitious operations are eliminated and tasks are streamlined. The color bar and register marks are also measured when the printed matter is scanned.

CMS Compatible
Using K-ColorSimulator 2, Komori’s own CMS software, high level color matching between the offset press and a range of printers can be achieved simply by measuring the K-Color chart in the margin of the printed sheet using a PDC-SX. With a proof consisting of a simulation of the offset printing colors that is output ahead of time, waste in the color matching work at printing can be considerably reduced.

PDC-SX line-up: Spectral Print Density Control

Hi-spec model with color control/automatic register adjustment functions
PDC-SX measures the color and register once and the results are fed back to the press. Measurements are possible with the automatic X-Y travel system regardless of the color bar position.

High cost performance model for color control
The measurement results of density and L*a*b* values are fed back to the press. As the spectral measurement head is detachable, it supports not only automatic travel in the X direction but spot measurements as well.
Have you considered these challenges?

### Stabilizing quality
PQA Series systems ensure quality is maintained because all sheets are inspected with the same criteria.

### Preventing defective sheets from being mixed in
Designed to prevent defective sheets from being mixed in. Tape inserter, double delivery*, and sheet numbering* can be selected.

### Resolving workforce shortages
Quality control, register matching, and color control are automated, so the press can be operated efficiently with minimal maneuver.

Maintains a high level of quality control through in-line print quality inspections.

The PQA Series is a quality control system that checks for printing problems such as scumming, ink splashes, color variations, and so on.

Previously, the operator was required to check for these items visually by regularly sampling printed sheets. However, these systems inspect all sheets in-line on the press according to the same assessment criteria to ensure high-level print quality control.

If a defective sheet is found, the operator is immediately notified and defective sheets are prevented from being sent to postpress with the production sheets.

The PQA Series in the system that symbolizes Komori’s Autopilot.

#### Print Quality Inspection Function
An image is scanned with a high-precision CCD camera and lens utilizing light source control technology. Any printing problems are detected by comparing the image to a reference image. Komori’s proprietary inspection algorithm is used to extensively compare the initial reference image with the image printed on the sheet. Any difference found is detected as a defect. The tape inserter and optional double delivery automatically activate, preventing defective sheets from moving to postpress. The inspection history data is saved in a database and can also be monitored over a network.

#### Color Control/Automatic Register Adjustment Functions
PQA-S V5 offers optional functions: color control and automatic register adjustment. Quality can be checked easily in real time by measuring the color bar and register mark in-line. Color and registration can also be controlled automatically to fall within the criteria.

* Operating conditions also apply to the automatic register adjustment function.

**PQA-S V5 offers optional color control**

**PQA-S V5 offers optional automatic register control**

#### Sheet Numbering System
The sheet numbering system can be installed on the PQA-S V5 as an option. By numbering each sheet on the feeder board, defective sheets can be found more reliably. This also leads to improved traceability and ensures high-level print quality control.

#### Press Interlock Function
The inspection process is extremely simple. At job changeover, the system is linked to the job data from KHS-AI, and the job name and printing paper information necessary for inspection is automatically set. Simple, automated operation is assured by Komori’s total integrated system, including the automatic start of inspection by a link to the production sheet counter of the press when production printing starts.

**Detection mode changed automatically according to press status**

- Start of production printing, blanket washing etc.

#### Automatic Mask Creation Software
Automatic mask creation software can be selected optionally. Data is created from the die-cutting image preventing defect detection in unnecessary areas. This further improves quality control and efficiency for package printing.
This software converts digital data from prepress into a PQC-format ink profile for the press. PPF, CMYK-TIFF, and other data is converted into a PQC-format ink data for Komori presses. Using the preview image from CIP4/PPF data to calculate the area ratio and presetting the ink keys with this accurate data has become standard practice for Komori.

KP-Connect Pro enables digital process management by compiling work schedules and progress information for all printing processes in real time, visualization, as well as with automated links to MIS and production scheduling functions. Connected automation is a Komori ICT concept of automatically linking pre-press, press, and postpress with KP-Connect Pro and converting a printing factory into a smart factory.

The PCC converts digital data into an ink profile

This software converts digital data from prepress into a PQC-format ink profile for the press. PPF, CMYK-TIFF, and other data is converted into a PQC-format ink data for Komori presses. Using the preview image from CIP4/PPF data to calculate the area ratio and presetting the ink keys with this accurate data has become standard practice for Komori.

This is an information display on which all necessary data can be viewed at a glance

KID groups the information necessary for an operator to provide it in a timely manner. Printing press operating conditions, and KHS-AI, PDC, and PQA information is displayed together to support the operator work-load.

* Restrictions apply to presses on which these products can be equipped and combinations of models and functions.
PDC Series Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>PDC-SX</th>
<th>PDC-SG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sensor head</td>
<td>Spectrophotometer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Density control functions</td>
<td>Density, dot gain, trapping, contrast, hue error, grayness, etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color control functions</td>
<td>L<em>a</em>b*, ΔE, etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Compatible models | 26”–44”                | 26”–44”+1
                    | ENTHRONE               |                         |
| Number of colors | Up to 11 colors (up to 8 colors for perfectors and SP machines) | Up to 6 colors (single-sided presses other than Enthrone) |
| Positioning on color bar | Automatic             | Manual                  |
| Patch size (minimum) | 3.0 mm (H) x 3.0 mm (W) | 3.5 mm (H) x 4.0 mm (W) |
| Color bar position | Anywhere on sheet     | The color bar should fit within 40 mm of sheet edge *3 |
| Spot measurement | Automatic measurement of registered locations | Manual (removable measurement head type) |
| Automatic registration | Between colors and front/back printing position | - |
| Defect history  | ISO 12647-2(PSO), GRACol, Japan Color | M0, M1, M2, M3 (switchable) |
| Measurement conditions*2 |                         |                         |

*1 Not compatible with the Lithrone GX series, perfectors, and SP machines.
*2 M3 is a polarizing filter.
*3 There should be a margin between the sheet edge and the color bar. Please contact us for further details.

PQA Series Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>PQA-S VS</th>
<th>PQA-S SG</th>
<th>PQA-W</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Camera</td>
<td>4,096 pixels</td>
<td>2,048 pixels</td>
<td>1,024 pixels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution*1</td>
<td>0.25 mm/pixel</td>
<td>0.5 mm/pixel</td>
<td>1.0 mm/pixel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light source</td>
<td>High intensity white LED</td>
<td>High-frequency ignition fluorescent lamp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max. inspection speed</td>
<td>Maximum printing speed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target defects</td>
<td>Ink splashes, scumming, water splashes, oil splashes, hiccys and color variations etc.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Ink splashes, scumming, water splashes, oil splashes, hiccys, color variations, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target substrates</td>
<td>Plain paper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defect history</td>
<td>Monthly defect history data (monthly for a year)</td>
<td>Retains the most recent 100 jobs. 1,000 records/job</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Retains the most recent 100 jobs. 1,000 records/job</td>
<td>Retains the most recent 100 jobs. 500 records/job</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,000 records/job</td>
<td>Monthly defect history data (monthly for a year)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,000 records job</td>
<td>300 jobs/month, 500 records job</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color control*2</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automatic registration*2</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*1 Actual value depends on press model.
*2 Must be selected when ordering.

Note:
Komori reserves the right to change specifications on machines without notice to improve reliability, functions or design. Komori is under no obligation arising from use that does not correspond to the standard safety measures for the product noted herein and other precautions. The technical information in this catalog constitutes an explanation of the representative operations of the product and grants no rights or license belonging to Komori Corporation or third parties.

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