



NEWS

1st Quarter 2003

Surface Treating Technology

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inside

2

Technically Speaking

How an ELF can alleviate your light-weight web handling issues



3

People on the move



Mario Leonardelli promoted to Engineering Vice-President

4

New Publication

2003 Maintenance Planner now available



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Lofton Label reaches lofty heights with the help of surface treaters

How do you earn the trust of a company for label runs in the millions? How can you confidently promise to deliver the job in a matter of a couple of days? Ask Lofton Label's Production Manager Mike Gaughan and he'll tell you its not only a matter of trust, it's a matter of quality.

"Our key to delivering quality products is based on our investment in top of the line equipment. New technology allows our people to deliver high-end jobs with fast turn-around," says Gaughan. At Lofton Labels' facility in Invergrove Heights, Minnesota, Gaughan is responsible for a dozen press lines. Their capabilities include two sided printing and they handle everything from paper labels to unsupported

...continued on page 3



A 24" Universal Roll Treater helps Lofton Label ensure ink adhesion on a variety of films.

Kendall Packaging uses new equipment to follow its mission



Enercon's corona treating system adds to the productivity of Kendall's 1,000 fpm Schiavi laminator.

At a time when many companies are pulling back on capital spending, Kendall Packaging is seeking out systems and equipment consistent with its mission (to be guided at all times by the needs of its customers); contribute to productivity enhancement; and strengthen its competitive position.

Kendall's investments include a Paper Converting Machine Co. (PCMC) Vision II eight-color press with a chambered ink metering system. They also rely on a BST Pro Mark Genius Digital web inspection system. Digital camera technology, dual 17-in. monitors (at the press console and at the central impression drum), and Virtual Repeat Technology,

provide the user with a photographic quality image of the entire repeat. "With Genius you have a real clear picture and it's very operator-friendly. And I can see the whole repeat, which is really cool. I use it all the time. says lead press," operator Bobby McDaniel. Kendall also installed a Schiavi solventless laminator with an Enercon universal-roll corona treater. The laminator sets up fast, runs at 1,000 fpm, and requires only one operator. According to operator Glen Corn, "We feel it produces a better, clearer lamination compared to the gravure-type laminator."

For the complete story On Kendall Packaging visit the October 2002 pffc-online.com archive.

Specify Enercon. From the ordinary to the extraordinary.

A little attention to handling thin gauge film in and out of the corona treater makes a big difference



Tom Gilbertson
VP Application
Engineering

Fierce converting competition and the continued development of thin web materials are generating a lot of phone calls to Enercon. Recently I've fielded several calls from customers running thin gauge film. I'm sure some of you are dealing with the same issues they are, so let me share some thoughts on what we know about running lightweight film through a surface treater.

Many of the inquiries we receive are from customers who are running thinner film than they are used to. For our purposes thin film can be defined as anything less than 1 mil in thickness.

They notice some minor wrinkling and puckering throughout the line. But

Weighing your options

First it's important to identify the true needs of your converting or extruding operation. Your web handling options will vary based on the types of materials you run and how fast you run them. Answering this question accurately is more easily said than done.

For existing lines you already know the scope of applications you handle so specific solutions may be more directly applied. If you're purchasing new equipment you're probably looking to justify the purchase and invest in a system that can handle your needs of the future.

Whether you'll ever need to run 1,000 fpm or handle a wide range of films may or may not happen. But the more future requirements you put on your OEMs the higher the chance you may end up paying for more machine than you'll use. And you also need to consider that there's often sacrifices that have to be made when you try and do too much with a machine.

At Enercon we're ready to assist you in making the tough decisions that keep your project in budget and your lines running smoothly.

when the material goes through the corona treater the problems intensify.

Material handling in and out of the corona treater is critical. Too little tension and the film wrinkles or puckers. This causes uneven treatment. And the surface treatment process will also amplify any wrinkling or puckering. On the other hand too much tension and SNAP!, the web breaks. So what options are there for improved web control around the corona treater?

For printers who run at moderate speeds and print on thin gauge material, or for printers who know they may someday have this requirement, Enercon now offers a new universal ELF (Enercon Low-Friction) roll. This light weight design significantly reduces momentum and inertia. The roll turns more freely than conventional rolls improving production stability, especially during starts and stops. The ELF roll is available on new systems and can also be retrofitted in the field

For high speed applications a nip roll and roll drive may be used to help control the web as it passes through the treater. Another device which improves web handling is a spreader roll. And of course, although you never want to hear this, slowing down the line will minimize your web handling problems.

If you would like some advice on improving your lightweight web handling in and out of your surface treater please give me a call. I'll be happy to help. For a recap of these techniques visit www.enerconind.com/treating.

Improved Website

Speaking of the website if you haven't visited it lately you're in for a treat. New customized sections for converters and extruders provide details on the appropriate systems for each type of applica-



The new ELF (Enercon Low-Friction) Roll adds production stability especially during starts and stops.



Our web redesign allows users to access information based on their application needs.

tion. Content devoted specifically to narrow web and ultra wide web surface treaters make it easier for you to find the information you need.

In addition, there is a new area of the web site devoted to difficult to treat materials and a new frequently asked questions section. Informative technical papers, interesting application studies and useful troubleshooting information have all been updated with the latest information.

Visit the site at enerconind.com/treating and let me know what you think. You can send an e-mail to me at tgilbertson@enerconmail.com if you have any comments or questions. I would like to hear from you.

Lofton Label ... continued from page 1

film labels, to bags and pouches. It operates 12 presses with sizes from 7.5" to 24" and with print capabilities from one to ten colors for film and up to 12 colors for labels.

They convert a wide range of material into a variety of high performance labels for the health and beauty, food, and general manufacturing markets, including primary labels, tags, and custom folded coupons. Its flexible packaging products range from pharmaceutical and nutraceutical packaging to recloseable pouches and dog food treats.



At Lofton Label an Enercon two-sided TL-Max treats material on a Mark Andy Press.

Materials range from 50-gauge BOPP for wraps to 4-mil LLDPE with inline laminating of a 50-gauge PET for gusseted, stand-up pouches. Primarily, the company uses water-based inks, laminated with a heat seal film to sandwich the print. It also has UV ink capability for printing recloseable pouches.

Converting such a wide array of materials requires Lofton Labels' production team to continually evaluate their presses and ancillary equipment. "Our key to delivering quality products is based on our investment in top-of-the-line equipment. New technology allows our people to deliver high-end jobs with fast turnaround," says Gaughan.

The company not only frequently purchases new presses, but it also relies on upgrading press accessories to enhance productivity. High-quality anilox rolls from Praxair, video inspection equipment from BST Promark, and corona treaters from Enercon all help Lofton Label deliver high-quality products.

The corona treaters have been an especially productive enhancement according to Gaughan. The company purchased two, 24" Enercon Universal Roll Treaters (one two-sided and one single sided) through Dotray and Associates. The treaters are capable of treating metallized and non-metallized substrates. It also has one Enercon TL Max 18" two-sided treater. "We treat our entire flexible packaging material in-line, and also some supported film for pressure sensitive labels when needed," he explains

The treaters have enabled Lofton Label to offer its customers a greater range of products. Additionally, primers have been eliminated in some cases with the use of corona treating, which Gaughan believes is a more reliable and cost-effective method of surface preparation than using primers.

According to Gaughan, there were several reasons that Lofton Label chose the Enercon corona treaters. On another press a corona treater is used to pretreat film and a second treater is used prior to lamination. One of the main reasons was the ease of cleaning the electrodes. Other factors included the exhaust placement on the treater and how easily the treater can be threaded up.

With the company's emphasis on short-run, quick turnaround production, the accessibility of the electrodes for cleaning was a major benefit. "The biggest improvement was in cleaning during and after treating metallized material," says Gaughan. "Our old treater took up to two hours to take out the electrodes and clean and reassemble them. Now we can clean the electrodes in a matter of minutes." And productivity improvements like that help keep Lofton Labels growing.

"Our old treater took up to two hours to take out the electrodes and clean and reassemble them. Now we can clean the electrodes in a matter of minutes."

**- Mike Gaughan
Lofton Label**

Portions of this article also appeared in the January issue of Package Printing.

Leonardelli accepts Engineering Vice-President position



Enercon is pleased to announce the promotion of Mario Leonardelli to Vice-President Engineering. In his new position Leonardelli will guide Enercon's engineering team in developing solutions to meet the requirements of end users while seamlessly integrating Enercon equipment into OEM equipment.

Leonardelli's acceptance of this position allows him to blend his responsibilities as OEM Product Manager with the additional duties of engineering management. He will now take an active roll in directing the company's engineering efforts for both OEM and end user surface treating orders.

"Mario's expertise with OEMs and end users provides him with a unique background to support the efforts of our engineering team. His technical knowledge is complemented with real-world experience," says Enercon's Senior VP Sales and Marketing Dave Markgraf.

Leonardelli's experience includes over 10 years in working with customers and OEMs in the converting, laminating, coating and extruding industries. He holds a Mechanical Engineering Degree from the Milwaukee School of Engineering and is frequently asked by customers to speak about surface treating at numerous industry events and seminars.

e In the News

Fox Valley installs new Avanti Press



Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC) recently installed a Universal corona treater and Compak™ 2000 power supply for their new Avanti press.

The treater is capable of treating non-conductive and conductive substrates allowing FVTC to run a wide range of paper, film, foil and metallized film materials on the press.

2003 Upcoming Events

CEMA Coating & Laminating

April 13-14, 2003
Embassy Suites Hotel Chicago, IL
Dave Markgraf will present:
Corona Treaters-The Invisible Bond Between Coating & Substrates
www.cema-converting.org

CMM Show

April 14-17
McCormick Place, Chicago, IL
Booth #1534
www.cmm.org

CMM Conference

April 15
McCormick Place, Chicago, IL
Dave Markgraf will be part of:
Expanding Your Horizons: Color and Ink Management Spell Profits

9th European Place Conference

May 12th-14th
Rome, Italy
Dave Markgraf will present:
Atmospheric Plasma- The new functional treatment for extrusion coating lamination process.
www.tappi.org

NPE

June 23-27
McCormick Place, Chicago, IL
Booth #818
www.npe.org

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e Personnel News

Carew's passport to get Canadian stamp



Dennis (left) checks on a surface treater prior to shipment with Enercon Plant Manager Peter Novacek.

Dennis Carew has been named Enercon's Canadian Sales Manager. He will support Enercon's extensive Canadian sales representative network in serving the needs of the Canadian converting and extruding marketplace.

He brings over six years experience with him to his new post and he will continue to serve his customers in the Northern United States. Dennis is an accomplished airplane pilot and has been known to fly his own plane to meet with customers. Dennis may be reached at dcarew@enerconmail.com.

e New Publication

Free 2003 Maintenance Planner



All the information you need key contact information are to keep your surface treater all included.

operating at peak performance Supplies are limited so contact us today for your free copy. Call your local Enercon representative or Ted Cox at (262) 255-6070. Or e-mail us at enews@enerconind.com.

Maintenance schedules, parts lists, drawings, operation and troubleshooting tips, information on free lab testing and

**Need more information? Call or e-mail us!
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