

51/2008 | 2008-12-02 | P.1/5

## **Book production line for photo books as well as medium-sized run length**

**PRINT FINISHING.** The Kolbus book production line model BF 512 has a proven track record in production. With its capacity of up to 30 cycles/min. it is very suitable for companies with medium-sized run length requirements. Deutscher Drucker visited three companies who use this technology for various products.

When it comes to using a book production line of the calibre of the BF 512 from Kolbus GmbH, one initially thinks of commercial book binderies that process average-size editions. Practical experience has shown the wide application possibilities of this means of production in three different companies.

### **PHOTO BOOK PRODUCTION.**

Cewe Color AG & Co. OHG (Oldenburg, Germany) is Europe's largest photo finisher. 2005 marked the entrance into the digitally printed photo book market. This market segment has shown very quickly a very positive development for this service provider. The company offers a variety of designs from which to choose - from the brochure to the most sophisticated hardcover book. Rapidly increasing demand led to the decision to organise the hardcover production of photo books on a commercial scale. It was necessary to optimise personnel productivity and use of space. The company chose the Kolbus book production line model BF 512 based on a market analysis. This machine has been in operation since the beginning of 2007: It is notable that 859,000 Cewe photo books were produced in the first half of 2008. Managing Director Dr. Michael Fries comments on this development: "On the one hand we decided to go with the BF 512 because of the performance data and the compact design of the machine. But even more important was the reliability of the system in terms of quality, because in photo book production you always have to print from the first edition, where you cannot plan any compensation. The incoming photo book orders are sorted by size and thickness and produced in batches starting with the smallest format. Nevertheless, this still requires between 50 and 100 change-over per day, each being less than five minutes. For single edition production it is imperative that the correct book case is always bound together with the correct contents (barcode control). The book cases are produced on the Kolbus DA 260 casemaker.

Dynagraph traces its roots back to the 1970s. Dynagraph is at the cutting edge of transfer of printing technology.

Dynagraph for Printing Industry Ilc, Dubai serves as a regional hub, operating from the commercial capital of the United Arab Emirates to coordinate all activity in the Gulf.

Dynagraph for Printing Industry Sal (Offshore) and Dynagraph Lebanon sal cover the near eastern markets.

Dynagraph is a small to medium size business with 90 employees.

Dynagraph aims for a balanced product mix between supplies, pre-press, press, after press, converting, consumables and services

In prepress with both standard and bespoke hard and software solutions from DTP to high-end systems Dynagraph deals with manufacturers such as Fuji Film Graphic Arts or DuPont.

In press, sheet and webfed MAN Roland is Dynagraph's partner provides a wide range of highly developed presses and services, whether in commercial, packaging or publishing printing.

In after press, our partners in this sector are leading manufacturers like Kolbus, MBO, Schneider\_Senator, Theisen & Bonitz, and others.

Kolbus offers the most extensive machine range in the industry. Hardcover as well as adhesive bound products such as catalogues, magazines, schoolbooks, paperbacks, and a variety of other products.

For special types of projects for the packaging and converting industry, Dynagraph works together with world leading manufacturers and foremost suppliers of products for solid board, corrugated board and flexible packaging industries e.g. Mark Andy, Winkler+Dünnebier,

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**INTEGRALIS**

The Integralis Industriebuchbinderei, Lettershop und Fulfillment GmbH of Hanover, Germany (Commercial Book Bindery) was strictly a brochure manufacturer, but has supplemented its range of services with its entrance into hardcover production. Managing Director and bookbinder Frank Volland explains: "For years I have not been able to get one sentence out of my head – a real bookbinder also need to manufacture hardcover products. We have been providing classical threadsewn books for nine years now and we have currently optimised our existing value. In the summer of 2007 we expanded the machinery with the new Kolbus book production line BF 512 with an upstream backgluing and backlining line (Sigloch), a three-knife trimmer type HD 130 (Kolbus) and ribbon inserting machine (Sigloch). We use this book line for a very broad range of products from non-fiction books to sophisticated coffee-table books. We also produce the book cases ourselves with the DA 260 casemaker from Kolbus. We chose this particular machine builder because we had already had positive experience with a perfect binder from Rahden, Germany."

Since August 1994 Integralis has been in a constant state of growth. Work procedures have been improved and rationalised; the quality standard has been continuously enhanced. The once small craftsman's shop with four employees has grown into a modern commercial book bindery with a staff of 102 expert technicians and their own training programme (currently nine apprentices). It is unusual for a book bindery to employ its own software developers, yet it is also strategically favourable for many solutions, for instance, customer requests can receive a response within minutes.

**CONNEXUS BINDS AND FINISHES**

This is the advertising message of the commercial book bindery Connexus GmbH in Braunschweig, Germany at the heart of which are both Managing Directors and bokbinders Karsten Wiedemann and Andreas Spalek and their 35 employees.

Wiedemann explains why they selected the book production line BF 511 thus: "Our edition sizes for this book production line run roughly in the cost-efficient framework of 500 copies up to the 10,000 range. The high degree of automation involved in changing to other formats makes it possible for us to produce cost-efficiently upwards of the mentioned number of copies. From our perspective, Kolbus has developed very strongly, technologically speaking, over the past few years. Examples of this, in my opinion, are perfect binding technology and the book production lines. Moreover, the reliability and expert competency of the Kolbus technicians are a further plus." Production with the BF 511 started at the beginning of 2008, after the backgluing and backlining machine from Sigloch was added to the Kolbus book production line. At present, some 20 percent of the titles are delivered in the form of hardcovers. For this reason the workload of thread-sewn technology is continually increasing. A Kolbus casemaker model DA 260 is in operation for production of the book cases.

**Book production line type BF 512**

Technical data:

The book production line type BF 512 is a compact design and is equipped with an integrated book forming and pressing machine. It offers fully automated adjustment via a touchscreen monitor with graphical operator dialogue. The optional features include the Management Report System Kolbus 3.60 –as well as remote diagnosis capability.

- Mechanical capacity up to 30 cycles/min

- Format range of finished book:

max. 315 x 385 x 90 mm

min. 105 x 105 x 6 mm

- Format range of book block (selection):

max. 280 x 375 x 80 mm

max. 305 x 370 x 30 mm

min. 100 x 100 x 2 mm

- Format range of open case:

max. 660 x 385 mm

min. 210 x 105 mm

*(Ref. Kolbus GmbH & Co. KG)*

*For more information on Kolbus and its product range kindly contact your local Dynagraph partner.*



At the Cewe Color AG the variety of the photo books, in regard to formats and volume of contents, presents a particular challenge for the organisation of production on the Kolbus book production line BF 512. A format change requires only a single program call-up and two manual changes. A format change takes no longer than five minutes. PUR glue is used.



Cewe photo books can be ordered in formats ranging from 13 x 14 to 30 x 42 cm with up to 90 pages of contents.



Integralis Managing Director Frank Volland with ambitious examples from his company's hardcover production.



Machine operator Christoph Grybsz knows no other speed on his book production line BF 511 at Connexus than 30 cycles/min.



An employee at Connexus GmbH positions book blocks in the Sigloch gluing line, which boasts a long drying zone.



The Kolbus book production line model BF 512 has a proven track record in production.