

European suppliers keen on QuikWash

Flexo Concepts (Hall 11, stand C34) is using drupa to launch its environmentally friendly QuikWash wash-up system into Europe.

Interest has been high from suppliers in countries new to the system, which promises to cut wash-up times and reduce chemical consumption by 50%-70% by employing a thinner – and thus more precise and rigorous – blade as an alternative to traditional wash-up blades.

While the system is already established in Japan, the US and Canada, with close to 1,000 installations worldwide, Flexo Concepts has received proposals from consumables dealers in Germany, Italy, the UK and India at drupa.

“Interest in the system has been a little overwhelming,” said vice-president of sales at the company, Christopher Nolin. “We’ve had between 50 and 75 companies express an interest in supplying it.”

Nolin attributes this surge of interest to the fact that the system’s TruPoint DeltaFlex plastic wash-up blade, launched a year ago, has been developed so that it can now be used with a wide range of offset presses.



Nolin: QuikWash employing a thinner – and thus more precise and rigorous – blade than traditional wash-up blades

“We can now cater for less popular and older press models,” said Nolin. “We have developed a plastic that can be used with the more aggressive chemical cleaners used in some countries.”

Nolin added that the blade not only helped printers reduce their use of volatile organic compounds through cutting wash-up times but also allowed printers to use eco-friendly cleaning solutions that might be incompatible with traditional systems.

“The downside to some environmentally friendly washes is that they don’t evaporate as quickly, but this is less of a problem with the QuikWash blade,” Nolin said.

“Reducing the impact of the wash-up process is vital for printers wanting to make their operations greener, particularly as run lengths get shorter and shorter.”