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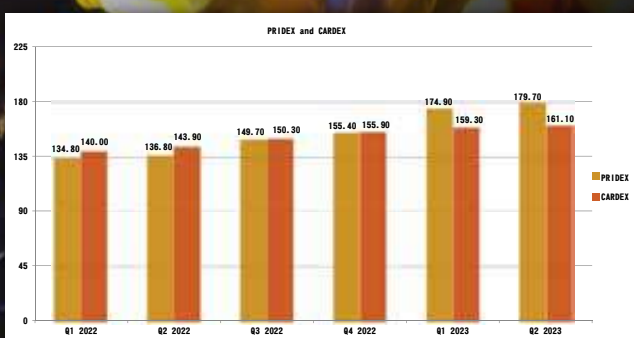
BE FREE FROM ACCIDENTS

Pradip Ghaisas' exhaustive presentation touched upon best practices in health, safety and environment for the printing industry.

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FIVE PILLARS OF PRINT EXCELLENCE

K Panthala Selvan shared the secret recipe for delivering consistent print excellence at the MMS World Print Hub webinar.



05

FIND OPPORTUNITIES; CREATE NEW NICHEs

Rising domestic inflation in the Q2 FY2023 has also contributed to the northward movement of PRIDEX and CARDEX.



We offer Screen printing solutions to many industries...



Kunal Enterprise



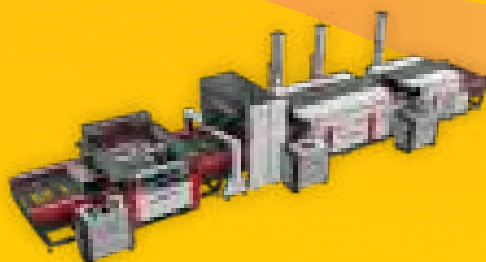
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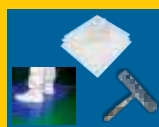
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We are entering the festive season for our industry. LabelExpo has just concluded in India. PackPlus South will be hosted in Bengaluru in December. Team PAMEX has announced PAMEX 2023 Promotional Events for six cities across India. Team BMPS is gearing up to organise Print Summit on February 16, 2023. Mumbai will host Media Expo and PAMEX in March 2023.

We urge you to participate in these industry events and trade shows. Participate in whatever capacity you can—exhibitor or visitor. Whichever side of the table we are, these trade shows, expos and events offer us opportunities to explore the future technologies coming our way, changing market trends that are shaping and reshaping our customer needs and demands, and give us a chance to see what our peers are doing in the market. At the risk of sounding preachy, let us remind you that these industry events are excellent networking, learning and business growth platforms for each of us. And we must make the most of these events.

This issue of Print Bulletin is about reporting the best of what your Associations are doing for the industry. On page 5, we shall read a succinct analysis of the latest published numbers for the AIFMP-CRISIL indices. We can see how the duo indices are moving northward; the input costs are rising sharply for the commercial print vertical, while there is a steady increase in input costs for the packaging segment. We concur with the analysis: we need to innovate and be the early movers in the new market segments or create sizeable market niches to command profitable prices. The robust profitability will keep us strong and ensure our sustainability in the imminent global recession, as some economists and scholars predict in the following year.

The issue also reports about two MMS World Print Hub webinars about fire safety by Pradip Ghaisas and press standardisation by K Panthala Selvan. Both these webinars repeated and reminded us of what we already know. However, both webinars were much appreciated by you. The press standardisation webinar, in particular, had overwhelming participation from across the country, and all participants attended the entire webinar, including the Q&A section. Turn to pages 8 and 10 to read more about these two webinars, and find the links to follow them if you missed them live.

We would like to conclude this letter to you on a positive note. We are pleased that you are participating in the events and webinars your associations organise from time to time. We shall encourage and expect your participation in more significant numbers because we believe the knowledge-sharing, networking, and celebratory events have kept us going through and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

As always, we look forward to hearing from you. Email us your ideas, constructive comments, and thoughtful feedback at ex.sec@mumbaimudraksangh.org and memberships@bmps.org.

Amit Shah

Prakash Canser

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Print Bulletin readers benefit from the advice extended by BMPA's panel of consultants, including up-to-date information regarding tax, banking, export-import and legal updates concerning the print and packaging industry.



Safety doesn't cost; it pays

Mehul Shah
Honorary Secretary, MMS



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We welcome your emails, while reserving the right to edit them for length and clarity. By sending us your letters you permit us to publish it in the magazine. We regret that we cannot always reply personally to your emails.

Find opportunities; create new niches

WHAT ARE THE LATEST NUMBERS?

CRISIL has published Q2 FY2023 (June to September 2022) results for the twin AIFMP indices—PRIDEX and CARDEX. PRIDEX is at 179.70, and CARDEX is at 161.10. In Q2 FY2023, PRIDEX and CARDEX jumped year-on-year (YoY) by 42.90% and 17.20%, respectively. Even in the short term, quarter-to-quarter (Q-Q) PRIDEX has risen by 4.80% while CARDEX has inched northward by 1.80%.

SIGNIFICANCE IN THE BIG PICTURE

While understanding the latest numbers and the indices trend over the years—and finding the answer to the million dollar question: how do we beat the increasing input costs?—let us understand the input cost structures of the two verticals. The costs for the commercial print segment are dominated by paper—especially virgin and Maplitho. These paper grades, in particular, are soaring high consistently in the past two years.

Sanjay Patel, Project In-charge for AIFMP-CRISIL indices, notes, “unlike popular belief, the demand for paper has increased substantially.” For example, after the plastic ban, Gutkha manufacturers have rapidly adopted paper-based pouches.

The need for writing stationery has soared in the past three quarters after educational activities increasingly went back to offline and campus-based. He adds, “the demand for

paper and commercial printing has remained stellar due to these shifts in market demand despite the steep increase in paper prices over the past few quarters. The balance sheets of most paper manufacturers reflect this trend.”

Rising domestic inflation in the Q2 FY2023 has also contributed to the northward movement of PRIDEX and CARDEX. However, the comparatively lower increments in the prices of corrugated and paperboard have somewhat softened the impact of the sharp rise in other input costs (power, logistics, for example) on the packaging converting vertical of our industry. It is

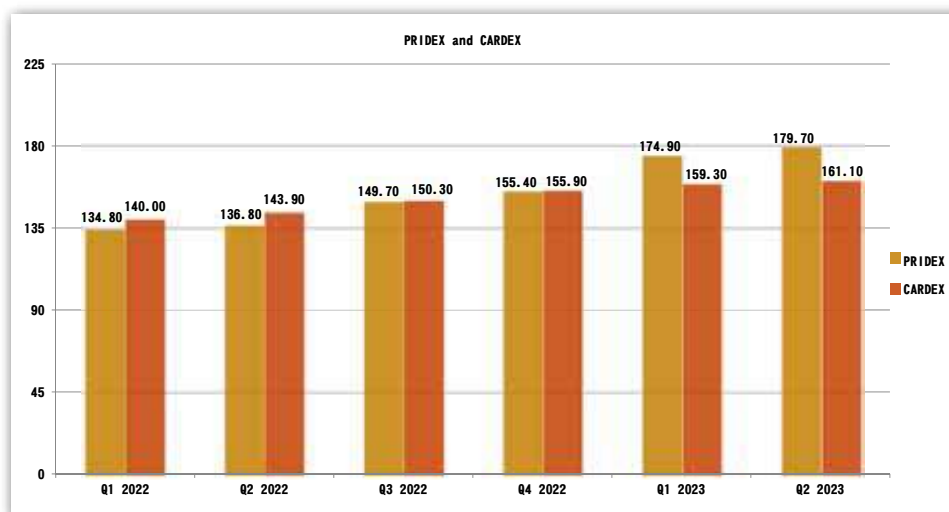
correctly reflected in CARDEX with a minimal 1.80% Q-Q increase.

Let us not ignore that the packaging converting market is highly competitive, extraordinarily price-conscious, and primarily dominated by the brands, not the converters. The highly commoditised market still keeps us at a disadvantage if we don't set SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-based) goals for performance, quality, and profitability.

Ankit Gupta, Director & CEO, ExportersIndia dot com, writes in a Financial Express article, “Over 90% of Indian festive buyers, according to a survey, are likely to try a new brand this year. It's crucial to keep in mind that 8 out of 10 of these customers research new businesses online.” These new businesses, even the local micro-businesses and solopreneurs, present a growing business opportunity for printers at the lower end of the market.

“Agility is the mantra for this new, post-pandemic world.” Sanjay explains, “we need to be flexible to capture new opportunities within our segment by opening ourselves to experimentation, innovation, and marketing outreach to newer market segments.” Whether commercial or

packaging, market conditions are changing and evolving in the new world; early movers in these more unique segments will benefit by being ahead of the curve and beating the rapidly increasing input costs.



WHERE CAN YOU FIND THE INDEX?

To know more about PRIDEX and CARDEX, follow the link: <https://tinyurl.com/yayqnp2k>, and bookmark it on your smartphone's Internet browser for quick access. The detailed methodology used for computing PRIDEX and CARDEX is available at <https://tinyurl.com/yaqr65m>.

FY2013-2014 is the base year for the twin indices, with the index value at 100.

More power to all print company owners through AIFMP-CRISIL indices!

PAMEX 2023: transcending pre-covid success

India's biggest print-industry expo promises to be bigger, better and busier than the last edition organised before COVID-19 hit India. The industry is looking forward to PAMEX 2023 with hope and excitement.

PAMEX 2023, the global business platform for the print, label, converting and corrugation industry, is a highly awaited trade exhibition not only by the suppliers and exhibitors but also by the buyers and visitors who are ready to scale up the already substantial market share.

PAMEX 2023 is scheduled between March 27 and 30 at the Bombay Exhibition Centre in Mumbai. The Expo will also concurrently host the glittering awards ceremony at the Gala Exhibitor's Evening on March 29, 2023.

Bigger, Better And Busier Already

The PAMEX 2023 has surpassed the total booked exhibition area of the last edition in 2020. By the end of October 2022, over 270 companies were on-board, with more finalising their participation in India's biggest print-industry expo.

The highlight of the 2023 edition of PAMEX is the theme: Convergence in Print. Convergence—merging technologies—is a phenomenon that has been manifesting over the past few years. It has gained tremendous momentum in recent years, increasing as we emerge from the unprecedented global pandemic.

At one end, convergence is driven by the printers and the converters diversifying into an industry segment beyond their primary focus. Conversely, emerging technologies allow printers and converters to offer newer applications, enhancements, and embellishments with their equipment.

These technologies and trends will be accessible to the exciting displays, demonstrations, and live machines at the PAMEX 2023. Moreover, the visitors will have plenty of opportunities to interact with the technology leaders in the industry.

Promotional Events In Six Cities In India

The PAMEX 2023 team had formed a core group of leading industry players and stakeholders from the Indian printing and packaging fraternity to help design and finalise the locations of the PAMEX promotional events. Members of the core group include Raveendra Joshi, President, AIFMP; Ranesh Bajaj, Vinsak India; Deepak



Chawla, Technova; Tushar Dhote, Dhote Offset; Amit Sheth, Intergraphic Sales and Services; Harveer Sahni, Weldon Celloplast; Abhishek Bhatnagar, HP; Manish Desai, Mudrika Labels; Hemanth Paruchuri, Pragati Pack; Pawandeep Sahni, Omet India; Nitin Vani, Print Consultant; Sonal Khurana, S Media Group Print and Publishing; and Anil Arora, Print-Packaging.com (P) Ltd.

PAMEX 2023 promotional events are planned in Guwahati, Ahmedabad, Pune, Haridwar, Indore and Bangalore after the feedback from the group members. These cities serve as regional hubs for India's printing and packaging industry. Each location will have a PAMEX-led one-day tabletop exhibition and a half-day conference in the coming months. Organised in partnership with local associations. These events will see printers, converters, and suppliers openly discuss the pros and cons of adopting 'Convergence in Print'. Moreover, the discussions will be steered to map the tangible benefits of convergence in print to boost confidence for new investments in these types of equipment and technologies.

The first promotional event is scheduled at Maniram Dewan Trade Center in Guwahati on November 27, co-located with North East Print Tech 2022. Ahmedabad will be the next stop, where the table-top exhibition and conference are planned for December 9, 2022, followed by Pune on December 23. The dates and details of other cities will soon be announced on www.pamex.in.

Flint Group solutions spark celebrations at FIAUK Print Awards

Leading print and packaging industry supplier, Flint Group, is celebrating after picking up a duo of bronze awards, whilst its products supported more than 10 companies who won accolades at this year's FIAUK Print Awards.

At the ceremony held at Silverstone racetrack in the UK, Flint Group was recognised for the development of inks and coatings which enhance recyclability, support the creation of a circular economy, and have a positive impact on sustainability within the label and packaging value chains.

Flint Group Narrow Web was awarded bronze for its Evolution Primer, and Varnish in the Technical Innovation (Supplier) category and Flint Group Packaging received a bronze award for the prestigious Supplier of the Year, which is voted for by printers and customer partners. Meanwhile, 80% of the awards handed out on the night were won by companies using Flint Group inks and coatings on their packaging.

Thomas Gray, Vice President of Strategy and Marketing, said: "We are extremely proud to supply inks and coatings to so many of the award winners, reflecting our continued commitment to innovation and support to the flexographic industry. We are very honoured to be

acknowledged by the FIAUK for achieving the bronze award in the Supplier of the Year category. This is a testament to the hard work and ingenuity of everyone in our team, who have gone above and beyond this year to push the boundary of what we can achieve for our customers."

Flint Group Narrow Web launched the Evolution Series of coating products in the autumn of 2021. The UV-flexo coating solutions were developed to improve the recyclability of shrink sleeves and pressure-sensitive labels.

Using different chemistries, the Evolution Deinking Primer for shrink sleeves and the Evolution Caustic Resistant Overprint Varnish (OPV) for self-adhesive labels were designed to increase the yield of material in the recycling process. Both coatings have been recognised by the Association of Plastic Recyclers to comply with the critical guidance for PET packaging.

The plug-and-play solutions enable better recycling without impacting ink colour, image quality, code readability or application performance, enabling converters to transition to the new coatings smoothly and easily.



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Be free from accidents

On October 15, Pradip Ghaisas spoke about fire and pressroom safety at the MMS World Print Hub webinar. The exhaustive presentation touched upon best practices in health, safety and environment for the printing industry.

MMS' latest knowledge-sharing webinar series, organised on World Print Hub with media partner PrintWeek, is chaired by Prof. (Dr) Anjan Baral. The second webinar of the series, 'Relevance and Importance of Press Safety', was delivered by Pradip Ghaisas, General Manager—Corporate Safety and Strategic Planning at TechNova Imaging Systems PLC.

"Accuracy, quality, productivity and timeliness are highly relevant points in the printing industry. In the event of an error, long delays and further serious consequences can adversely impact a company's reputation and customer base," said Prof. Baral as he introduced the webinar on pressroom safety. Chairing the series of MMS knowledge-sharing webinars, he is a renowned expert in printing and packaging education and research. He has published over 80 research papers. He is guiding eight PhD students in printing and packaging technology.

While working under high pressure, it is common to overlook the health, safety and environmental (HSE) aspects. However, ignorance or casual ignoring of the safety aspects of our businesses can cost us dearly, particularly in the Indian context. While we are amongst the largest printing industries with over 2.5 lakh presses, an overwhelming majority of these are micro and small, family-run businesses. Thus, even a tiny HSE mishap can severely impact the company, even its existence, in some cases.

Freedom From Accident

"We are rushing to make up for the losses during COVID-19 times. Whenever we are in a hurry, we ignore safety. However, we must not compromise on safety, no matter the reason. Accidents—minor or major—hit the employers' bottom line as they cause operational disruptions," Pradip began his presentation with the basics. He defined safety as "nothing but freedom from accidents".

An accident is an unplanned, undesired event that results in an unacceptable consequence. Accident does not necessarily involve human injury. The consequences may be injuries and/or damage to equipment, machinery, raw material, finished product, or the environment. Throughout

his presentation, Pradip insisted that "96% of accidents are preventable."

Be Safe For Yourself, Not Merely For Compliance

How does one prevent untoward incidents and accidents? Pradip clearly defined four prerequisites to start the safety journey of a company. According to him, safety is a top-down process; therefore, commitment from top management is crucial.

The second point he highlighted was the involvement of the supervisors and the employees. HSE is all about the safety and well-being of humans. Thus the full-hearted participation of everyone in the company is paramount to kickstarting and sustaining the safety culture at the workplace. While the top management must initiate the journey, it is also essential to engage and involve the employees to ensure a fail-safe safety record in a company. Moreover, one must also remember that continuous motivation and engagement are the

key elements to ensure supervisors and employees follow the safety protocols.

Safety programmes have to be proactive, not just reactive. The aim of the safety programme in a company must be 'prevention.' A good safety programme will, of course, include processes and guidelines in case of an accident. However, the focus of the safety

programme implementation must be to prevent incidents with correct measures.

"As Indians, we wear helmets and seatbelts to please the police. We must wear them for our safety," Pradip highlighted the distinction between 'compliance' and 'culture' with a day-to-day example. He rightly pointed out that many companies follow safety programmes only on paper to build their profile for an MNC client or upkeep everything only on the day of the inspection by the law enforcement officers or the representatives from MNC clients. "Follow safety beyond compliance and statutory requirements," he urged by highlighting an example. Profession-appropriate PPE (personal protective equipment) protects the person from unnecessary exposure to hazards.

Fire protection simplified by Pradip Ghaisas

Preventive measures	Control measures
• Good housekeeping	• Fire extinguishers
• No smoking	• Fire buckets
• Permit to Work (PTW) system	• Fire blankets
• Regular training	• Fire detection system and alarm
• Preventive maintenance	• Fire hydrant system
• Good electrical wiring	• Sprinkler system
• Statutory compliance	• Fire fighting training

Source: Presentation by Pradip Ghaisas, TechNova Imaging Systems (2)

Ergonomic Hazard	Chemical Hazard	Electrical Hazard	Mechanical Hazard	Physical Hazard	Workplace Hazard
Carrying, lifting, repetitive motions, manual material handling	Health effects, flammable, corrosive, harmful chemicals	Naked wires, shocks, faulty electrical equipment	Failure of MHE, unguarded machine parts	Fall, slip, trip, falling objects, caught in between something	Poor ventilation, inadequate or incorrect illumination, high noise, blocked or badly designed emergency exits and passages

Pradip Ghaisas, in his meticulous presentation, discussed various safety risks. Particularly in the printing and packaging industry, he identified six significant hazards that must be managed with proactive measures to ensure an incident-free, safe work environment.

Focus On Risk Control At Every Stage

Pradip Ghaisas, in his meticulous presentation, discussed various safety risks. Particularly in the printing and packaging industry, he identified six significant hazards that must be managed with proactive measures to ensure an incident-free, safe work environment. Risk control starts with appropriate PPE for every employee working in hazardous environments. Administrative control ensures setting up and adherence to the right processes and oversight of the programme with monitoring and corrective measures to enhance its effectiveness further. Engineering control ensures physical separation between a hazard and an employee. For example, barring the entry of unauthorised persons to a specific workspace or putting guards on machines to ensure safer interaction with them. Finding substitutes for the sources of hazards makes it efficient to control the risk posed by such sources. For example, substituting flammable and toxic chemicals with

non-flammable or non-toxic ones. Eliminating the sources of hazards sits at the top of the inverted pyramid of risk control. It is the most desirable risk control to eliminate the possibility of an incident. For example, a fire hazard can be eliminated with the proactive routine check of the electrical systems and by eliminating the use or the storage and handling of inflammable chemicals in the workplace.

"Safety is the responsibility of every member of the workplace and at all times," stressed Pradip as he concluded the presentation. Throughout the MMS World Print Hub webinar interaction, he underlined and repeated that safety must be understood and followed by each of us as a responsibility towards ourselves and others sharing the workspace with us.

If you missed attending the webinar, follow the link to watch it again, including access to the Q&A section: <https://bit.ly/3tE3VXA>.



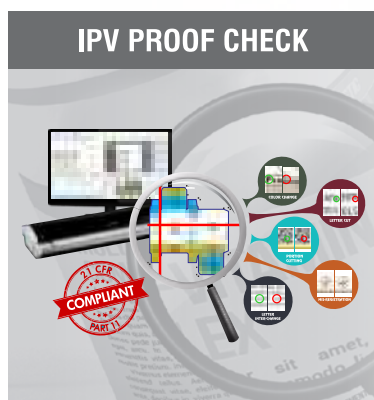


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Five pillars of print excellence

K Panthala Selvan of Pressman Solutions shared the secret recipe for delivering consistent print excellence at the MMS World Print Hub webinar—Standardising The Print Shop Floor—on November 12, 2022.

MMS' latest knowledge-sharing webinar series, organised on World Print Hub with media partner PrintWeek, is chaired by Prof. (Dr) Anjan Baral. The third webinar of the series, 'Standardising The Print Shop Floor', was delivered by K Panthala Selvan of Pressman Solutions.

Opening the webinar as the Chairperson for the webinar series, Prof. Baral said, "Printing industry is very vast. It comprises several diverse sectors, including manufacturers, merchants, different kinds of printers (commercial, publishing, packaging, digital, etc.), and solution providers such as ink, paper and machinery suppliers. Today the printing industry has many technical aspects. Moreover, digital technologies are deployed in pre-press, press and post-press to take care of the needs and demands of print buyers and end users. This complexity demands standardisation to deliver consistent quality results."

Every print company aspires to deliver print excellence, but only a handful succeed. "Brands prefer the same product with the same quality across different global markets, irrespective of the vendors. Therefore, consistently delivering print excellence is the key to success in the current print and packaging market. And standardisation is the solution for sustainability and growth," Selvan simplified the pressing need for press standardisation in the current competitive market right at the beginning of his presentation.

Quality Matters More Than Ever

Selvan shared a real-life hard-hitting example that underscored the importance of delivering print excellence. Typically, we only pick products from store shelves if we find consistent packaging. In short, the packaging deficiencies are transferred onto the product by the customers. Inferior quality packaging communicates less-than-acceptable product quality. Thus delivering consistent product quality—be it packaging, labels, leaflets or notebooks and books—is paramount for our industry. The quality of our product defines the perceived quality of the end product for the consumer; therefore, our product quality has become a priority for our customers.

To achieve and deliver print excellence, we must begin by defining quality. It may mean different things to different people. For some, delivering the final product exactly like the approved sample may be quality output, while excellent colour vibrancy may mean quality for others. Selvan shared a straightforward definition of print quality: All the design data should be delivered in print. And repeating such quality

is consistency.

According to Selvan, print excellence has six key elements: men, machine, material, method, measurement, and management.

Keep Upskilling Your Workforce

India's print and packaging industry is dominated by workers, operators, and supervisors who have acquired professional skills on the job. Thus, experience is highly valued in the industry. However, this trend may be a significant hurdle to press standardisation unless the employing company implements continuous knowledge and training programmes.

It is best to run a business with clear-cut workflows and processes. It is a global practice to implement best practices in companies to enhance productivity, efficiency, and profitability. The printing and packaging companies must consider transcending their experience-oriented approach to training their men and women to follow standard procedures and workflows. Each worker, operator, supervisor, and manager in the company must know the company and the departmental workflow processes to deliver efficient print excellence.

For this transformation, continuous training and knowledge-sharing are critical. Design and implement a training programme in your company. Invite the vendors to impart knowledge-sharing sessions for employees to upgrade their skills and clear their doubts, and address difficulties from time to time. Consider building a library and a training room for employees to sharpen their minds. Making one Internet-connected computer available for the workers would be a good idea. It will ensure that knowledge is accessible to them when they need it. They can go online and search for solutions or clear their doubts; it will encourage self-learning in your company.

Keep It Running Smoothly

Machines work best and deliver good-quality results when operated correctly and maintained meticulously. Machine manuals should be easily accessible for all machine operators and workers. In case they need to troubleshoot something or clear doubts while working with the machine, they should be able to refer to the operating or maintenance manual readily.

Keeping the press and working environment clean goes a long way in motivating everybody in the company to adhere to standard processes.

“

All the design data should be delivered in print. And repeating such quality is consistency.

K Panthala Selvan

Pressman Solutions

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Details of Five pillars of Print Excellence at a glance

Men	• Internal training by management		• Approve or disapprove products based on internal testing.
	• Suppliers like ink, paper, machine mechanics are invited for knowledge-sharing from time to time		• Mark every approve product package with 'approved' label and the expiry date.
	• Create a librate and keep magazines. Make reading compulsory. Keep all operator and maintenance manuals ready for reference.		• Use the materials 'first in first out'.
	• Paste relevant technical specifications, checklists on walls/dashboards at appropriate workstations.		• Storage and handling process should be as per the manufacturer recommendations.
	• Keep one Internet-connected computer in every department/press floor for accessible referencing.		
Machine	• Keep machine manuals ready for reference.	Method	Certain document controls and the method or operation:
	• Keep press environment clean.		• Company and department workflow charts
	• Follow press maintenance schedules.		• Standard operating procedures
	• Ensure correct press calibration.		• Checklists and dashboards
Material	• Study the technical data sheet of the product.	Measurement	• Handbooks and manuals for quick access
	• Test the product and approve/reject based on internal testing.		• Provide for measurement technology to check the results. For example, spectrophotometers, thermometers, humidity measuring devices.
	• Set a test/measurement process.		• Train the concerned people to use, read, and report the measured values.
	• Check every batch sample for quality check.		• Maintain the log of periodic calibration of these measuring devices.
			• Display the expected value the process/the product needs to achieve/meet for each check can be quickly gauged for quality.

The management must set, and the operators and the mechanics must follow routines to maintain and calibrate presses, computer displays and measurement devices. We can ensure these machines deliver consistent quality over time by following these routine processes and checklists.

Press calibration involves multiple aspects—from PDF certification to preparing print-ready files to ISO standards, RIP settings, plate output and final product check. Press calibration must also comply with standards followed in prepress and post-press processes.

Selvan advised the presses to be calibrated to ISO12647-2 standard and G7 specifications.

Routine maintenance and calibration deliver many benefits in press standardisation, including increased productivity, better product quality, higher customer satisfaction, reduced costs, shorter delivery times, better records, and significantly higher employee confidence and morale.

Method and measurement play a vital role in the standardisation and achieving quality. While documented and monitored workflows and processes ensure consistent ways a particular step is carried out, measurement ensures strict quality control of the product output from the processes in the press.

“

The complexity of processes, materials, and technologies demands standardisation to deliver consistent quality results.

Prof. (Dr) Anjan Baral

Quality Control Starts Upstream

All said and done; materials lend the physical form to a design. Therefore, choosing, storing, handling, and using the materials correctly is critical to achieving excellence through standardisation. Consistent quality cannot be reached and delivered if we keep changing papers or inks or don't store and handle them properly. The immense significance of quality control and checking of input materials cannot be stressed enough in any industrialised production process.

These controlled processes allow efficient, cost-effective and predictable production processes. Every person in the workflow knows precisely how the material will behave and the output quality. Without such control, the company risks direct and indirect financial losses, adverse impact on the quality of deliverables, and loss

of reputation in case of an untoward incident. Instead, streamlined intake, testing, approval, storage, handling and use of quality materials ensure efficient and high-quality production order after order, month after month.

You can start your press standardisation journey by following the link to watch the MMS World Print Hub webinar, including access to the Q&A section: <https://bit.ly/3tEHhW>.

PS23

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Manifestation Mentor and Breathwork Coach

Raneesh Bajaj

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PrintWeek Awards honours 44 companies

Manipal Technologies wins top stop at the 12th PrintWeek Awards organised on November 2 at Grand Hyatt in Mumbai.

Manipal Technologies, part of The Manipal Group, a USD three-billion multinational conglomerate, was named the PrintWeek Printing Company of the Year during the 12th PrintWeek Awards, which returned after a hiatus of two years owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Awards ceremony saw the who's who of the industry in attendance. More than 350 industry leaders attended the Award evening. In contrast, more than 120 people attended the special Show and Tell event, where the print professionals shared the stories behind their award-winning print jobs. The three-hour knowledge session was conceptualised by Noel D'Cunha, Managing Editor of PrintWeek and Raahil Chopra, Managing Editor of Campaign India.

Best of the best from diverse categories

During the gala evening, which was hosted by film personality Luke Kenny, 44 print firms were given Awards in 30 categories. This year, the Awards were given in 14 quality categories, five special Covid awards and 10 performance categories. The PrintWeek Awards received 362 entries and more than a thousand samples from 112 companies for this year's awards. Manipal Technologies took home the top award of the night—PrintWeek Printing Company of the Year—for the fifth time.

The biggest winners of the evening who managed to clinch the trophy in two separate categories were Manipal Technologies; Manjushree Technopack; The Mathrubhumi Printing and Publishing; Nutech Print Services; Prayag Advertisers; Any Graphics; and ITC Packaging and Printing Business.

This year, the Innovative Printer of the Year category saw a record-breaking submission of 69 entries and a record-making four companies won the category—Kumar Printers, Sai Paks, Trigon Digipak, and Viraj Prints.

Aligning with the change in a post-COVID world, the PrintWeek Awards this year introduced 24 fresh categories. Some of these categories have evolved from a legacy category to address a wider audience.

Under the Performance category, there were eight new categories this year. While Book Education Company of the Year was a brand-new category, the legacy Packaging Company of the Year and Green Printing Company of the Year categories were divided into four and two subcategories, respectively.

The winners of Packaging Company of the Year were ITC Packaging and Printing Business (folding cartons (volume) category); Parksons Packaging (folding carton (specialisation) category); SB Packagings (flexible packaging category) and Manjushree Technopack (rigid packaging category).

The winners of the Green Printing Company of the Year were The Mathrubhumi Printing and Publishing (large category) and Khetan Corru Case (SME category).



Meanwhile, the Pre-press Company of the Year was now the Pre-press and Design Service Provider of the Year, and the winner was Creative Graphics Solutions.

Under the Quality category, the Awards this year introduced Pre-media Company of the Year. Mumbai-based Bhatia Graphica took home the Prism.

Under the latest Special Covid-19 Awards, there were five different categories to identify and celebrate the achievements during the pandemic period. The company that took home trophies in a different category in the Special COVID-19 Awards were Art-O-Print; Velvin Paper Products; Majushree Technopack; The Mathrubhumi Printing and Publishing; Ardour Pack; S Kumar Multi Products; and NRC Mani of Nutech Print Services.

Sustainability at the core of conversations

Hormazd Sorabjee, Director of Haymarketsac India and the Editor of Autocar in India, welcomed the packed hall of the industry bigwigs to the industry's biggest Award show. Sorabjee also unveiled the all-new WhatPackaging? Magazine website during the opening of the Awards.

The chief guest of the PrintWeek Awards 2022 was Sudhanshu Vats, Deputy Managing Director at Pidilite Industries. In his address, Vats highlighted the importance of sustainability for the industry. "I believe sustainability is a big opportunity as I personally feel that I don't think we have to worry about how it will affect the format. It will need to be a centralised process as it will need to ensure that less goes to landfills and oceans. This will have to be done through circularity—but how does one ensure that? It is here that the three Rs (reduce, reuse and recycle) become important as it helps in meeting the sustainability goals. This will allow room for innovation," Vats said.

Looking ahead, he said digital and technology must work together to build a packaging future which is connected and intelligent. In this light, he spoke about how digital technology can benefit the industry in numerous ways, like automation and IoT.



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Make the most of extensions

Print Bulletin readers benefit from the advice extended by BMPA's panel of consultants, including up-to-date information regarding tax, banking, export-import and legal updates concerning the print and packaging industry.

Goods and Services Tax

GUIDELINES FOR FILING/REVISING TRAN-1/TRAN-2

Following the orders of the Supreme Court of India, dated 22.07.2022 and 02.09.2022 in the case of Union of India vs Filco Trade Centre Pvt. Ltd., the facility for filing TRAN-1/TRAN-2 or revising the earlier filed TRAN-1/TRAN-2 on the common portal by an aggrieved registered assessee (from now on referred to as the 'applicant') will be made available by GSTN during the period from October 01, 2022, to November 30, 2022. The Board has issued the following detailed guidelines for the implementation of the above order by the Supreme Court:

1. The applicant may file the declaration in FORM GST TRAN-1/TRAN-2 or revise the earlier filed TRAN-1/TRAN-2 duly signed or verified through an electronic verification code on the common portal. In cases where the applicant is filing a revised TRAN-1/TRAN-2, a facility of downloading the TRAN-1/TRAN-2 furnished earlier will be made available on the common portal.
2. The applicant shall, at the time of filing or revising the declaration in FORM GST TRAN-1/TRAN-2, also upload on the common portal the PDF copy of a declaration in the format as given in Annexure A of this circular. The applicant claiming credit in table 7A of FORM GST TRAN-1 based on Credit Transfer Document (CTD) shall also upload on the common portal the PDF copy of TRANS-3, containing the details in terms of Notification No.21/2017-CE(NT) dated 30.06.2017.
3. No claim for transitional credit shall be filed in Table 5(b) and 5(c) of FORM GST TRAN-1 in rested of such C-Forms, F-Forms and H/I-Forms which have been issued after the due date prescribed for submitting the declaration in FORM GST TRAN-1, that is, after December 27, 2017.
4. Where the applicant files a claim in FORM GST TRAN-2, he shall file the entire claim in one consolidated FORM GST TRAN-2 instead of filing the claim tax-period-wise as referred to in sub-clause (iii) of clause (b) of sub-rule (4) of rule 117 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017. In such cases, in the column 'Tax Period' in FORM GST TRAN-2, the applicant shall mention the last month of the consolidated period for which the claim is being made.
5. The applicant shall download a copy of the TRAN-1/TRAN-2 filed on the common portal and submit a self-certified copy of the same, along with a declaration



Image: Marcin from Pixabay

Key Highlights of the National Logistics Policy

1. The National Logistics Policy aims to reduce logistics costs from 13%-14% to single digit.
2. Schemes like Saragmala, Bharatmala, and Dedicated Freight Corridors would drastically improve logistics connectivity across India.
3. The total capacity of Indian ports has increased significantly, and container vessels' average turnaround time has decreased from 44 to 26 hours.
4. The efficiency of the logistics sector has greatly improved due to paperless EXIM trade, e-Sanchit, FASTAG, faceless assessment, provisions for e-way bills and single window processing.
5. The unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP) will bring all the digital services related to the transportation section into a single portal.
6. A new digital platform for Ease of Logistics Services (E-Logs) has also been started. Through this portal, industry associations can directly take up any such matters causing problems in their operations and performance with government agencies.
7. GatiShakti and National Logistics Policy should take the country towards a new work culture. This policy focuses on developing the support infrastructure, reducing system inefficiencies and using advanced technology to cut costs.
8. Better tracking and digitisation will also improve the pace of goods movements across the country and beyond.

in Annexure 'A' and a copy of TRANS-3, wherever applicable, to the jurisdictional tax officer within seven days of the filing of declaration in FORM TRAN-1/TRAN-2 on the common portal. The applicant shall keep all the requisite documents/records/returns/invoices in support of his claim of transitional credit ready for making

Goods and Services Tax

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News/Updates

25/10/2022
Advisory on Filing TRAN forms for Taxpayers from Daman and Diu & Ladakh

22/10/2022
Implementation of mandatory mentioning of HSN codes in GSTR-1

21/10/2022
Advisory on sequential filing of GSTR-1

Advisories

Popular help topics

- How can I Opt for Composition?
- How can I use the Returns Offline tool?
- How do I apply for refund?
- How do I file intimation about voluntary payment?
- How to file an appeal?
- How do I register with GST?

Taxpayers (Normal/TDS/TCS)

Register Now Find a GST Practitioner

GST Practitioners

Register Now Find a Taxpayer

Upcoming Due Dates (Download as PDF File)

GSTR-3B (Oct, 2022)	Nov 20th, 2022	GSTR-3B (Oct-Dec, 2022)	Jan 22nd, 24th, 2023
GSTR-1 (Oct, 2022)	Nov 11th, 2022	IFF (Optional) (Oct, 2022)	Nov 13th, 2022
GSTR-1 (Oct-Dec, 2022)	Jan 13th, 2023	CMP-08 (Oct-Dec, 2022)	Jan 18th, 2023

Others:

GSTR-5 (Oct, 2022)	Nov 13th, 2022	GSTR-5A (Oct, 2022)	Nov 20th, 2022
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Mandatory 4-digit reporting of HSN codes (where applicable as per law) on the GSTN portal. Image: GSTN website

the same available to the concerned tax officers for verification.

6. It is pertinent to mention that the option of filing or revising TRAN-1/TRAN-2 on the common portal during the period from October 01, 2022, to November 30, 2022, is a one-time opportunity for the applicant to either file the said forms, if not filed earlier, or to revise the forms earlier filed. The applicant must take utmost care and precaution while filing or revising TRAN-1/TRAN-2 and thoroughly check the details before filing the applicant's claim on the common portal.

- In this regard, it is clarified that the applicant can edit the details in FORM TRAN-1/TRAN-2 on the common portal only before clicking the "Submit" button. The applicant can modify/edit, add or delete any record in any of the tables of the said forms before clicking the "Submit" button. Once the "Submit"

Don't miss November 30!

- The last date for filing TRAN-1 and TRAN-2 returns as per the orders of the Supreme Court of India is November 30, 2022
- The time limit to issue credit notes against invoices for FY2021-2022 is extended to November 30, 2022
- The time limit to rectify the errors in GST returns of FY2021-2022 is not extended to November 30, 2022
- The time limit to avail ITC for invoices/debit notes of FY2021-2022 is now extended to November 30, 2022

button is clicked, the form gets frozen, and details are not edited further. This frozen form would then be required to be filed on the portal using the "File" button with a digital signature certificate (DSC) or an EVC. The applicant shall, therefore, ensure the correctness of all the details in FORM TRAN-1/TRAN-2 before clicking the "Submit" button. GSTN will issue a detailed advisory in this regard, and the applicant may consider the same while filing the said forms on the portal.

- It is further clarified that pursuant to the order of the Supreme Court of India, once the applicant files

TRAN-1/TRAN-2 or revises the said forms filed earlier on the common portal, there is no further opportunity to again file or revise TRAN-1/TRAN-2, either during this period or subsequently, will be available to him.

7. It is clarified that those registered persons who successfully filed TRAN-1/TRAN-2 earlier and who are not required to make any revision in the same are not required to file/revise TRAN-1/TRAN-2 from October 1, 2022, to November 30, 2022. In this context, it may further be noted that in such cases where the credit availed by the registered person based on FORM TRAN-1/TRAN-2 filed earlier has either wholly or partly been rejected by the proper officer, the appropriate remedy in such cases is to prefer an appeal against the said order or to pursue alternative remedies available as per the law. Where the adjudication/appeal proceedings in such cases are pending, the appropriate course would be to pursue the said adjudication/appeals. In such cases, filing a fresh declaration in FORM TRAN-1/TRAN-2, pursuant to the special dispensation provided vide this circular, is not the appropriate course of action.
8. The declaration in FORM GST TRAN-1/TRAN-2 filed/revise by the applicant will be subjected to necessary verification by the concerned tax officers. The applicant may be required to produce the requisite documents/records/returns/invoices to support their claim of transitional credit before the concerned tax officers verify their claim. After the verification of the claim, the jurisdictional tax officer will pass an appropriate order thereon on merits after granting an appropriate reasonable opportunity of being heard to the applicant. The transitional credit allowed as per the order passed by the jurisdictional tax officer will be reflected in the Electronic Credit Ledger of the applicant on the common portal.

Circular No.180/12/2022-GST dated 09.09.2022

Clarification regarding the time limit for certain compliances pursuant to the issuance of Notification No.18/2022-Central Tax

The Central Government has issued Notification No. 18/2022-CT to appoint 01.10.2022 as the date on which the provisions of sections 100 to 114, except clause (c) of section 110 and section 111 of the Finance Act 2022, shall come into force. Resultantly, the time limit for the following compliances in respect of a particular financial year has been extended and fixed as 30th November of the next financial year, or furnishing of the relevant annual return, whichever is earlier:

1. Section 16(4): Claiming of input tax credit in respect of any invoice or debit note in the return
2. Section 34(2): Declaration of details of credit notes in return
3. Proviso to section 37(3): Rectification of particulars in details of outward supplies
4. Proviso to section 39(9): Rectification of particulars furnished in a return

5. Proviso to section 52(6): Rectification of particulars in the statement furnished by a TCS operator

In this regard, it has been clarified that the extended timelines for the compliances mentioned above are applicable from 2021-2022 onwards. It is further clarified that the said compliances in respect of a financial year can be carried out in the relevant return, the statement filed/furnished up to November 30 of the next financial year, or the date of furnishing the annual return for the said financial year, whichever is earlier. It is also clarified that no extension of the due date of filing monthly return/statement for the month of October (due in November) or due date of filing quarterly return/statement for the quarter ending September has been made vide the amendments in CGST Act, 2017, notified through the above notification.

Press release dated 04.10.2022.

Banking and EXIM

Streamlining the process of processing of Drawback Claims under section 74 of the Customs Act, 1962

If imported goods are exported as it is or substantially as original, then there is a provision for a refund of import duty paid at the time of import; this refund is covered under section 74 of the Customs Act, 1962.

To have uniform practice at all custom houses, the procedure is streamlined in the following manner.

The exporter/CHA will make the application for a claim of drawback under section 74 with the following documents:

1	Annexure II
2	Calculation Sheet for the drawback claim
3	Copy of Shipping Bill
4	Export Invoices and Packing List
5	Export Bill of Landing
6	Copy of Import Bill of Entry
7	Import Invoice
8	Import Packing List
9	Evidence of payment of duty at the time of import, i.e. TR-6 Challan
10	Self-declaration for not claiming of IGST amount paid on re-exported goods, if exporter is claiming only (BCD+SWS)
11	If the exporter is claiming IGST amount paid at the time of import then they have to provide the certificate duly signed by the Central/State/UT GST officer having jurisdiction over the exporter, that no credit of integrated tax compensation cess paid on imported goods has been availed or no refund of such credit or integrated tax paid on re-exported goods has been claimed.

12	Affidavit of stamp paper of ₹500/- (notarised)
13	Permission from RBI for re-exports of the goods, wherever necessary
14	Any other relevant document

Documents mentioned in 1-12 above are mandatory for all cases. Documents mentioned in 13 and 14 are required only in certain specific cases.

The receiving staff in the drawback section shall initially receive and enter the application in a separate register.

The staff will give an acknowledgement on the photocopy of the application.

Subsequently, the application will be forwarded to the Document Management System Section for scanning of the application. ₹400/- per application for scanning the documents is to be paid.

After receiving the files from the Document Management System section, the application would be forwarded to the concerned Examiner Superintendent/Appraiser. The examiner/Superintendent/Appraiser shall primarily scrutinise the application.

Incomplete applications shall be returned to the claimant along with the Deficiency Memo within 15 days, along with all the documents.

If the claim is incomplete, an acknowledgement as per Annexure-B shall be issued. The claim shall be registered by assigning a file number.

Deficiency should be replied to within three months, plus 30 days.

After that, the claim of drawback shall be deemed to have been barred.

An order of rejection of the claim will be issued.

After registration, the claim shall be scrutinised in detail.

In case when the goods were originally imported from a custom. House other than this Custom House, NPCINOC will be obtained from the respective Custom House.

Public Notice No.59/2022 dated 17.08.2022.

Amendments in Para 5.11 of the HBP

In exercise. Of the powers conferred under Para 1.03 and 2.04 of the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 (FTP), the Director General of Foreign Trade hereby makes the following amendments in Para 5.11 of the Handbook of Procedures (HBP) 2015-2020, with immediate effect, in sync with RBI's (Reserve Bank of India) A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No.10 dated 11.07.2022:

Existing para	Revised para
5.11: Realisation of Export proceeds	5.11: Realisation of Export proceeds
Export proceeds shall be realised in freely convertible currency except for deemed exports supplies under Chapter 7. Exports in SEZ units/supplies to developers/co-developers irrespective of currency of realisation would also be counted for discharge of Export Obligation. Realisation in case of supplies to SEZ units shall be from foreign currency account of the SEZ unit.	Export proceeds shall be realised in freely convertible currency or in Indian rupees (₹) as per Para 2.53 of FTP, except for deemed exports supplies under Chapter 7. Exports to SEZ units/Supplies to developers/co-developers irrespective of currency of realisation would also be counted for discharge of Export Obligation. Realisation in case of supplies to SEZ units shall be from foreign currency account of the SEZ unit.

Effect of the Public Notice: Amendment in Para 5.11 of the HBP are notified to permit the Invoicing, payment and settlement of exports and imports in Indian rupees (₹) for Export Proceeds under EPCG Scheme, in sync with RBI's A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No.10 dated 11.07.2022. This shall come into force with immediate effect.

International Trade Settlement in Indian Rupees

In order to promote the growth of global trade with emphasis on exports from India and to support the increasing interest of the global trading community in Indian Rupees (₹), it has been decided to put in place an additional arrangement for invoicing, payment, and settlement of exports/imports in (₹).

Banks shall require prior approval from the Foreign Exchange Department of RBI.

Invoicing: All exports and imports under this arrangement may be denominated and invoiced in (₹).

Exchange Rate: Exchange rate between the currencies of the two trading partner countries may be market determined.

Settlement: The settlement of trade transactions under this arrangement shall take place in (₹).

Banks in India have been permitted to open Rupee Vostro Accounts.

For settlement of trade transactions with any country, banks in India may open Special Rupee Vostro Accounts of correspondent bank/s of the partner trading country.

Indian importers undertaking imports through this mechanism shall make payment in (₹), which shall be credited into the Special Vostro account of the correspondent bank of the partner country against the invoices for the supply of goods or services from the overseas seller/supplier.

Indian exporters undertaking exports of goods and services through this mechanism shall be paid the export proceeds in INR from the balances in the designated Special Vostro account of the correspondent bank of the partner country.

The export/import undertaken and settled in this manner shall be subject to usual documentation and reporting requirements.

Letter of Credit (LC) and other trade-related documentation may be decided mutually between banks of the partner trading countries under the overall framework of UCPDC and INCOTERMS.

The exchange of messages in a safe, secure, and efficient way may be mutually agreed upon between partner countries' banks.

Indian exporters may receive advance payment against exports from overseas importers in Indian rupees through the above Rupee Payment Mechanism.

Before allowing any such receipt of advance payment against exports, Indian Banks shall ensure that available funds in these accounts are first used towards payment obligations arising out of already executed export orders/export payments in the pipeline.

The advance will be released only as per the instructions of the overseas importer.

The bank will follow due diligence and verify the claim before releasing the advance.

'Set-off' of export receivables against import payables in respect of the same overseas buyer and supplier with the facility to make/receive payment of the balance of export receivables/import payables, if any, through the (₹) Payment Mechanism may be allowed, subject to RBI guideline.

Bank Guarantee for trade transactions undertaken through this arrangement is permitted subject to conditions of RBI.

The balance in Special Vostro Accounts can be used for:

- Payments for projects;
- Payments for investments;
- Advance against Export;
- Advance for Import;
- Investment in Government Treasury Bills;
- Investment in Government securities.

DGFT has issued a notification that recognises (₹) payment for Exports and Imports in line with the new (₹) payment via Special Vostro Account.

Permission of Invoicing, Payment and Settlement of Exports and Imports in (₹)

Para 2.52(d) is introduced under:

Invoicing, payment and settlement of exports and imports are also permissible (₹) under RBI's A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No.10 dated 11.07.2022.

Accordingly, settlement of trade transactions in (₹) may also take place through the Special Vostro Accounts opened by AD banks in India.

The banks require permission from RBI.

Indian importers undertaking imports through this mechanism shall make payment in (₹). This amount shall be credited into the Special Vostro Account of the correspondent bank of the

partner country against the invoices for the supply of goods or services from the overseas seller/supplier.

Indian exporters undertaking exports of goods and services through this mechanism shall be paid the export proceeds in (₹) from the balances in the designated Special Vostro Account of the correspondent bank of the partner country.

Notification No.33/2015-2020 Para 2.52(d) of Policy.

Labour law

Salient Features of Employee Pension Scheme (EPS) 1995

- Member Pension up to superannuation at the age of 58 years.
- Early Member Pension from the age of 50 years (only if unemployed).
- Disablement Pension on permanent and total disablement of members during service.
- Widow / Widower Pension on the death of Member (including under the first proviso to Para 12(8)) or Pensioner.
- Children Pension for two children at a time till the age of 25 years on the death of the member/pensioner.
- Orphan Pension to two orphans at a time till the age of 25 years on the death of a member/pensioner when there is no spouse or on the death of a spouse.
- Disabled children/orphan Pension for the entire life of the disabled child/orphan.
- Nominee Pension on the member's death and paid for life to a person duly nominated by the member in case there is no family as defined under EPS 1995.
- Pension to dependent father/mother up to the member's death, provided there is no family or nominee of the member.

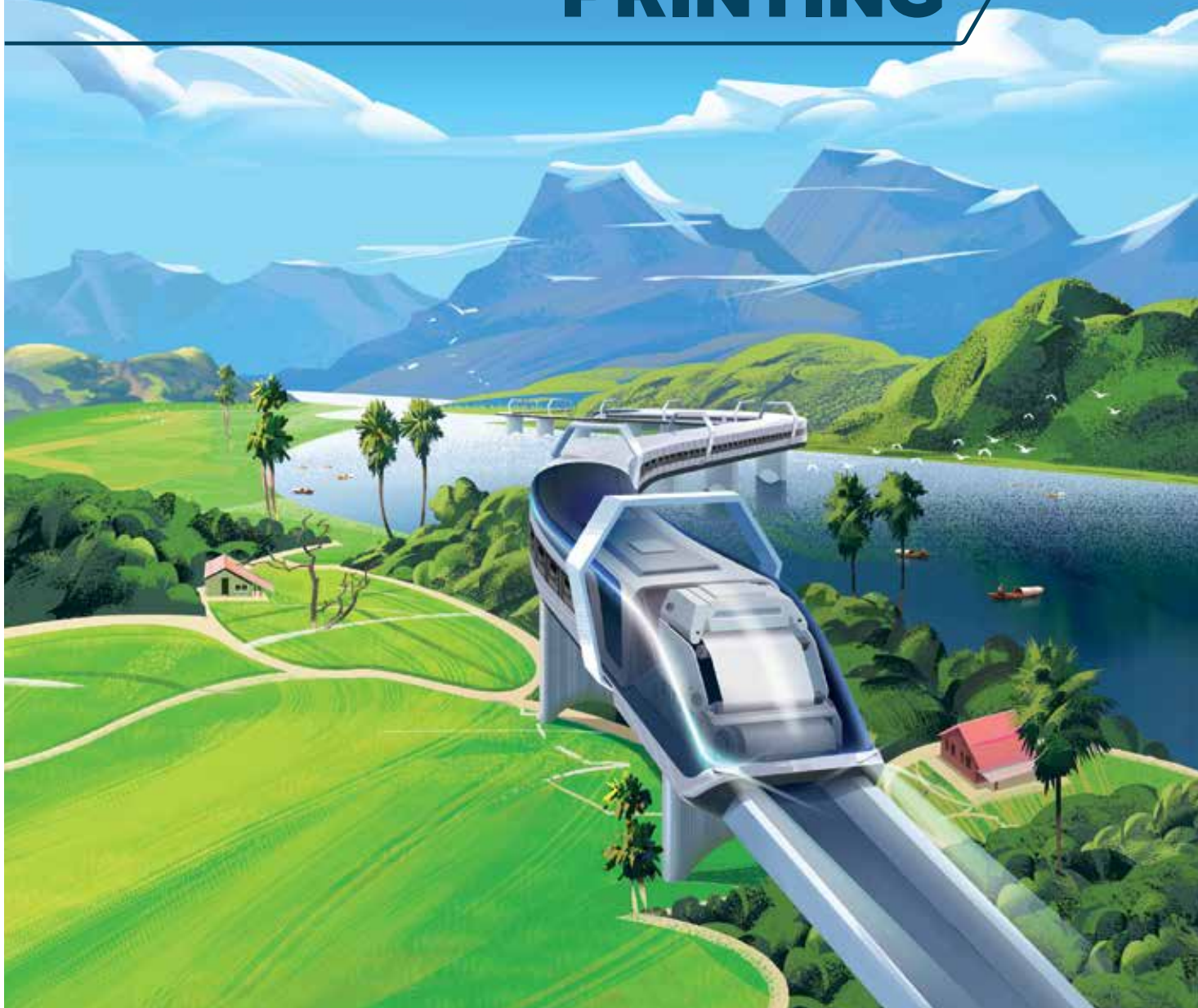
Special survey drive for ESI coverage of uncovered factories/establishments

Vide circular dated 01.11.2022, please note that the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India (ESI Department) will be conducting a Special Survey Drive to cover uncovered factories/units/establishments employees of newly implemented areas and existing arrears too.

Please note that ESI Act applies to factories/units/establishments w.e.f. October 1, 2020, with 10 or more persons (direct + contract). Hence, Print Bulletin readers are alerted to take note of the survey drive, especially those eligible members but not registered under the ESI Act so far.

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Epson introduces spectrophotometer



The first Epson-built spectrophotometer colour measuring tool measures colour for SureColor wide-format printers. Image: Epson Americas

Underscoring its commitment to print quality, Epson America announced the Epson SD-10, the first Epson-built spectrophotometer. Designed to give SureColor wide-format customers a tool to measure colour accurately, the SD-10 is an easy-to-use, fully-featured colour-measuring device.

The SD-10 is a compact, battery-powered device that can be used stand-alone via the built-in LCD or wirelessly connected to a smartphone through the mobile app to make critical colour decisions on the go.

"Many existing colour workflows are labour intensive and communicating colour can be arbitrary and subjective," said Eric Holm, professional imaging, Epson America, Inc. "Well-received by both textile and signage users for its simplicity to measure and communicate accurate colour, the Epson SD-10 allows an entire team to speak the same colour language, from the salesperson to the designer to the print department."

Accuracy on textured surfaces is achieved via a large 7.6 mm aperture, and 360-degree LED illumination reduces shadows and irregularities to increase the accuracy of colour measurements. A built-in LCD makes standalone operation possible, allowing for quick viewing of a measured colour's $L^*a^*b^*$ value.

Source: <https://bit.ly/3CQRnSt>

Tetra Pak Highlights New Milestones in Latest Sustainability Report

Tetra Pak recently published its annual 'Sustainability Report', highlighting the company's achievements and progress in the last year and detailing the actions to help realise resilient and sustainable food systems.

The sustainability challenges underscore the need for a radical new approach to how the Company feeds the world while minimising the impact on the planet. "Sustainability is not just on the agenda. It is THE agenda," said Adolfo Orive, president and CEO at Tetra Pak. "We must 'walk the talk' by maximising our positive impact on nature and society, by continuing to embed sustainability as a key business driver and decision-making criteria."

Tetra Pak's 23rd 'Sustainability Report' highlights the company's achievements and ongoing initiatives—to protect food, people and the planet. These include:

- Reduced operational GHG emissions by 36%, with 80% of energy coming from renewable sources, doubling the solar energy capacity to 5.55 MW.
- Sold 17.6 billion plant-based packages and 10.8 billion plant-based caps in the past year, enabling the saving of 96 kilotonnes of CO₂ compared to fossil-based plastic
- Invested €40 million to support the collection and recycling of 50 billion cartons, contributing to a circular economy.
- Sixty-one million children in 41 countries received milk or other nutritious beverages in Tetra Pak packages through school feeding programs.
- Completed a commercial validation of a polymer-based barrier to replace the aluminium layer in aseptic cartons. Testing has started on a new fibre-based barrier—a first within food carton packages distributed under ambient conditions.
- Becoming the first carton packaging player in the food and beverage industry to launch a cap using attributed recycled polymers in partnership with Elvir, a subsidiary of world-leading milk processor Savencia Fromage and Dairy.
- Partnered with several innovative companies to transform potential food waste into sources of nutritious food, as well as develop alternative protein-based food applications. Along with the potential for a lower carbon footprint, alternative proteins offer scope for significantly reduced land and water use compared with traditional sources.
- Committed to halving food waste, water consumption and carbon footprint of its best practice processing lines by 2030.

"I recognise the long journey ahead and the step change needed by the industry. Collective action, innovation, new operating models and unconventional partnerships will be necessary to accelerate the current pace of change towards a more sustainable tomorrow," Adolfo concluded.

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Koenig & Bauer's significant step towards enhanced sustainability



A new rooftop photovoltaic array produces around 200,000 kWh of electricity per year. It is the first of several installations that the company intends to use to contribute to climate protection while boosting its energy autonomy. Image: Koenig & Bauer

With the expansion of its own green energy sources at the company headquarters in Würzburg, Koenig & Bauer is continuing the implementation of its sustainability initiative. The target set within the framework of the corporate strategy 'Exceeding Print' is for the group's production facilities to achieve full carbon neutrality by 2030. The massive investments in photovoltaic arrays will allow Koenig & Bauer to cover a proportion of its power requirements on the basis of sustainable on-site generation. Besides contributing to climate protection, this also aims to boost the level of energy autonomy. The first array is already in use, and more photovoltaic and solar thermal installations are set to follow in the months to come.

Positive impact on the global carbon footprint

At the beginning of October 2022, Koenig & Bauer commissioned a photovoltaic array for on-site power generation on the roof of the Customer Technology Centre at group headquarters in Würzburg. An annual yield of around 200,000 kWh of electricity is now available for direct consumption at the Würzburg facility with immediate effect. Based on the specific greenhouse gas emissions for the German power mix overall, the photovoltaic array will benefit the environment by saving more than 80,000 kilograms of CO₂ emissions per year.

Additional investments in solar thermal and PV installations planned

Already in the summer of 2022, a new hot water system that uses solar thermal modules was commissioned to supply Koenig & Bauer's factory vocational school in Würzburg. More solar water heating systems are currently being installed at the canteen in Würzburg and in other common areas used by employees. In addition to two more photovoltaic arrays that are scheduled for completion at the Würzburg facility this year, concrete plans are also being drawn up to expand green power generation by using photovoltaic installations at the other Koenig & Bauer group locations.

BOBST launches 3D CONFIGURATOR for DIGITAL MASTER series



BOBST 3D CONFIGURATOR for the DIGITAL MASTER series is available for both desktop and mobile devices. Image: BOBST

BOBST has announced the DIGITAL MASTER series 3D CONFIGURATOR, a new online tool that allows customers to create and visualise the exact press configuration they need for their business. By integrating digital and flexo technologies into one workflow, label converters can enhance their capabilities, reduce waste and improve efficiency. This new family of all-in-one, all-inline solutions is available in 340 and 510-mm print widths and combines digital and analogue technologies in a single press. Based on a fully modular and upgradable architecture, this enables customers to build a press that fulfils their current and future needs.

From simple pressure-sensitive to multi-layer and high-value embellished labels, the DIGITAL MASTER 340 and DIGITAL MASTER 510 provide converters with the high flexibility needed to maximise their productivity and adapt their production floor as well as cope with manpower shortages and substrates management.

"At BOBST, we understand that every customer has unique requirements, which is why we have developed the unique DIGITAL MASTER series platform. Now, converters can experience the modularity and versatility with the new 3D CONFIGURATOR, which enables them to configure their press based on their specific requirements," said Patrick Graber, Strategic Marketing Manager.

With BOBST's new 3D CONFIGURATOR, converters are given instant online access to view all possible modules—including flexo, delam/relam, multi-layer, combo coupon, hot foil, combo lamination, screen-printing, and semi-rotary and rotary die-cutting—which can be added, arranged, combined or removed from the base machine according to their current job basket. Each module is visualised in 3D with descriptions detailing its use and potential.

Once the configuration has been finalised, a full report with the details, including press dimensions, will be presented. Customers can also get in touch with their local BOBST sales representative via the online tool to discuss and validate choices.

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Forty years of innovation in die-cutting

Despite leading the pack for many years with Visioncut, Expertcut and Mastercut, BOBST has not relied on its laurels of developing cutting edge die-cutting machines. It is in fact celebrating the 40 years of innovation in die-cutting.

Ever since the SP 102-CE Autoplaten® stole the show at drupa in 1982, BOBST's flatbed die-cutters with cam-driven movement have paved the way for mass production of high-quality consumer goods. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the revolutionary mechanism that made it all possible.

Beginning of an era

"Often copied but never equalled," is how Marco Lideo, Head of Product Line Die cutter Stampers, Flexo, Litho Lam describes BOBST's cam-driven platen system, which was first granted a patent back in 1982 and subsequently launched at drupa that same year. Originally devised by inventor and engineer Georges Polic, it still remains one of the greatest innovations in die-cutting technology after 40 years on the market.

This unique mechanism for the cutting station in the Autoplaten® press—which itself was invented by BOBST and launched in 1940—has been implemented across evolutions of the company's world-leading portfolio of flatbed die-cutters. Customers across the globe have benefited from the much smoother operation and faster speeds enabled by this invention, which allowed the first SP 102-CE model to deliver a record-breaking 10,000 sheets per hour.

"Right from the very early days, BOBST has led innovation in die-cutting with superior technologies and machines that supported the acceleration of the consumer-oriented market," said Marco. "From the early 1980s, when mass consumption first took hold, to today's e-commerce driven society, BOBST continues to provide solutions capable of supplying products at the most competitive productivity rate thanks to revolutionary mechanisms that allow for easy integration into the substrate converting process."

The patented cam platen technology, which is still the reference point in the industry today, drives the current VISIONCUT, EXPERTCUT and MASTERCUT 106 and 145 models, the SP 162 CER, and the MASTERFOIL 106, along with many legacy machines that have withstood the test of time. Such is the quality of the early flatbed die-cutters that many are still in operation after decades of faithful service, providing customers with enviable speeds and high productivity, year in and year out.

Success based on BOBST die-cutting technology

To mark this amazing achievement, BOBST invited a group of long-standing customers to an anniversary celebration in Switzerland, to thank them for their loyalty and commitment. Hosted at the Competence Center in Mex, the visitors were given a presentation of the product line, a tour of the factory, and the demonstration of the MASTERCUT 1.65, NOVACUT 106 with ACCUREGISTER and the Digital Inspection Table, before enjoying a celebratory lunch.

Speaking to representatives from some of the big companies that attended the event, it is clear that the BOBST die-



cutting technology has contributed to the success of their businesses. This is evidenced by the fact that they all continue to put their trust in the Swiss manufacturer.

One such customer is Leopold GmbH Verpackungen in Germany, which processes more than 65,000 tons of carton each year across its three production plants. The company has a total of 11 cam-driven BOBST machines, including five 145 PER die-cutters lined up in a row on the production floor of Works III. "BOBST is more than just a supplier. They have been a reliable partner for us for over 20 years now—from initial consultancy to operations and services—and the machines always deliver superb quality and reliability," said Valeri Lach, Head of Works III. "We serve a very wide range of segments, and the versatility, high productivity and unbeatable product quality of the BOBST equipment help us fulfil any market requirements."

LIC Packaging in Verolanuova, which celebrates 70 years in corrugated board production this year, is another loyal customer with a host of BOBST equipment at its disposal. Technical Services Manager R&D Renato Pietta also praised the product quality, but added, "Productivity is a given and so is the high quality; it is the longevity of the BOBST machines that is the real differentiator, coupled with the excellent after-sales service. The comprehensive Maintenance+ programme continues to be an important deciding factor for us."

Founded in Trieste, in Italy, in 1868, Modiano specialises in the production of playing cards and other paper products. The company has three BOBST die-cutters for producing folding carton boxes. Speaking about BOBST as a supplier, partner and innovator, President Stefano Crehici said, "I see BOBST as an innovation leader in this market. To be honest, I never really looked at the competition, because we trust in the proven longevity of their equipment."

"As we celebrate an incredible 40 years of cam-driven platen technology and the many, many businesses that have benefited from this innovation over the years, we also look ahead to many more opportunities for our customers to break productivity records and secure their futures with BOBST die-cutting technology as a foundation," concluded Marco.



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