

## Press Release – August 2011

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Thema / Subject

**Gallus EM 410 S raises the bar**

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### **Gallus EM 410 S raises the bar**

*By commissioning a Gallus EM 410 S, Obchodní tiskárni Kolín (OTK), one of the leading packaging and label manufacturers on the Czech market, is boosting productivity and expanding its range of applications many times over.*

Obchodní tiskárni Kolín (OTK), a print shop based 60 km east of Prague, has always been one of the most important packaging and label manufacturers on the Czech market and remains so to this day. OTK's product portfolio ranges from flexible packaging and forms to graphic and adhesive labels. The company extensively updated its production facilities for self-adhesive labels at the start of June this year, installing a new Gallus EM 410 S nine-colour flexographic press – the only one of its kind in the Czech Republic. A further flexographic press from Gallus has long been in use at OTK and is greatly valued for its reliability. However, after purchasing this Gallus press more than twenty years ago, OTK equipped its pressroom with other brands of flexographic presses until the management team decided this year to return to tried-and-tested Swiss quality. The new machine is now located next to the older, still fully functional narrow-web Gallus R 250-F press, providing an interesting contrast between the very latest cutting-edge technology in narrow-web printing and a machine that is several generations older.

As its name suggests, the new nine-colour Gallus EM 410 S press can handle a maximum printing width of 410 mm, with a maximum motif length of 660 mm. Its high level of modularity and versatility supports a wide range of jobs. Options include combining flexographic printing with further printing and finishing processes in a single pass. A whole range of substrates, including paper and various film types (PP, PET, PVC and PE), can also be processed by the Gallus EM 410 S. Furthermore, the newly installed press provides a significant productivity boost throughout the labels sector, not least as it can be operated at a proven speed of 150 metres/minute. The letter "S" in the name of the press stands for servo drive technology, which replaces the central shaft, and sleeve technology. Servo drive technology cuts setup times for job changes quite significantly, lowers startup waste and enhances the quality of the final print. The unique seamless sleeve system used on anilox and printing cylinders for rotary presses in the EM and S series plays a considerable role in reducing

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operating costs. Sleeves are changed from the operator's side in a process that is extremely simple. All these features make the Gallus EM 410 S ideal for cost-effective processing of a wide range of production jobs. While the high production speed enables processing of high-volume jobs, the fast job changes create the necessary scope for producing shorter runs with minimal waste.

### **First installation in the Czech Republic**

The new Gallus press is unique not just because it's the first of its kind in the Czech Republic but also because its features have been customised to OTK's specific requirements. As well as the nine flexographic printing units, a screen printing unit can be added at any location, which also extends the options for special-effect and other special inks. Screen printing is currently used, for example, for printing Braille – a legal requirement for labels in the pharmaceutical industry. Naturally the press is also fitted with delamination and relamination mechanisms, which enable printing directly on self-adhesive substrates. An optional turnover fitting also allows double-sided printing. The Gallus EM 410 S narrow-web rotary press also has a module for lamination and hot foil embossing, and the end of the production line features a trio of workstations that can be fitted with tools for die cutting, perforating, embossing etc. An unusual option here is notably the installation of embossing tools in the third finishing module. In the future, OTK would also like to retrofit the Gallus EM 410 S with a special embossing system that will enable the embossed motif to be placed in a particular position regardless of the running direction of the printed substrate. However, investing in this type of module depends on the number of jobs requiring this process.

### **Official commissioning of the press**

The new press was installed at the print shop in May this year and the official commissioning ceremony took place on 14 June, with OTK's guests including not only its most important customers but also representatives from the supplier company Heidelberg Praha. The event aimed to introduce the customers to the varied processing and production capabilities of the new Gallus EM 410 S, which greatly extends not only capacity but also the range of applications at the print shop thanks, among other things, to its optional functions. Josef Squerzi, head of self-adhesive labels, confirmed that investing in the state-of-the-art Gallus press opens up new opportunities for OTK, particularly in the field of labels for the pharmaceutical industry. The company also aims to use the press extensively for high-quality and technically complex labels and special labels such as in-mould. Franz Schöny, Managing Director of Heidelberg Praha spol. s.r.o., responsible for supplying the new press to OTK, underlined the importance of the collaboration between OTK and Heidelberg in his speech. He also explained that his company is looking to enhance this further through new technologies and service support.

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Even though the new press in itself has already increased OTK's overall production capacity for self-adhesive labels, it has been running in three-shift operation since commissioning. It has already been decided that the new Gallus EM 410 S will not be the only installation in the self-adhesive label line, as it is soon to be augmented with a rewind and cutting system and multifunctional high-performance diecutting unit.

"This investment is in line with our strategy to continue developing our self-adhesive labels line," said Petr Ryska, CEO of the OTK Group, commenting on the purchase of the new press. He explained that the Gallus EM 410 S is the first press in OTK's self-adhesive business that no longer works using the older solid cylinder technology but instead harnesses cutting-edge sleeve technology. Ryska added that he sees a considerable increase in the speed and ease of performing setup and changeover work in particular. The company opted for Gallus aluminium sleeves, he said, because they exhibit high mechanical resistance and excellent dimensional stability and therefore ensure high print quality.

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*Photo captions:*

*gallus\_otk\_1: The Gallus EM 410 S*

*gallus\_otk\_2: Keen interest from customers at the official commissioning of the Gallus EM 410 S*

## **The Gallus Group**

The Gallus Group is a world market leader in the development, production and marketing of narrow-web reel-fed presses for label printers. The Group's folding carton business develops and markets narrow and wide-web reel-fed presses and die-cutters for the cost-effective inline production of folding cartons and cardboard products. Besides its portfolio of presses, the Group also provides consumables and a global, decentralised service and spare parts network. Gallus and Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG, the global market leader in solutions for the print and media industry, have been working in partnership since 1999. The Gallus Group has a workforce of 565. This includes 260 employees in Switzerland, where the Group has its headquarters in St. Gallen.

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