

Introducing the exciting new world of digital solutions

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Digital printing and finishing technologies today are not just about short runs

- ✓ They are more to do with rethinking the economics of the label and packaging supply chain
- ✓ Finding creative new ways to make labels and packaging more exciting, more visual and more tactile
- ✓ Offering new possibilities for brand protection and traceability
- ✓ Improving the bottom line for both converter and customer



Where did it all begin?

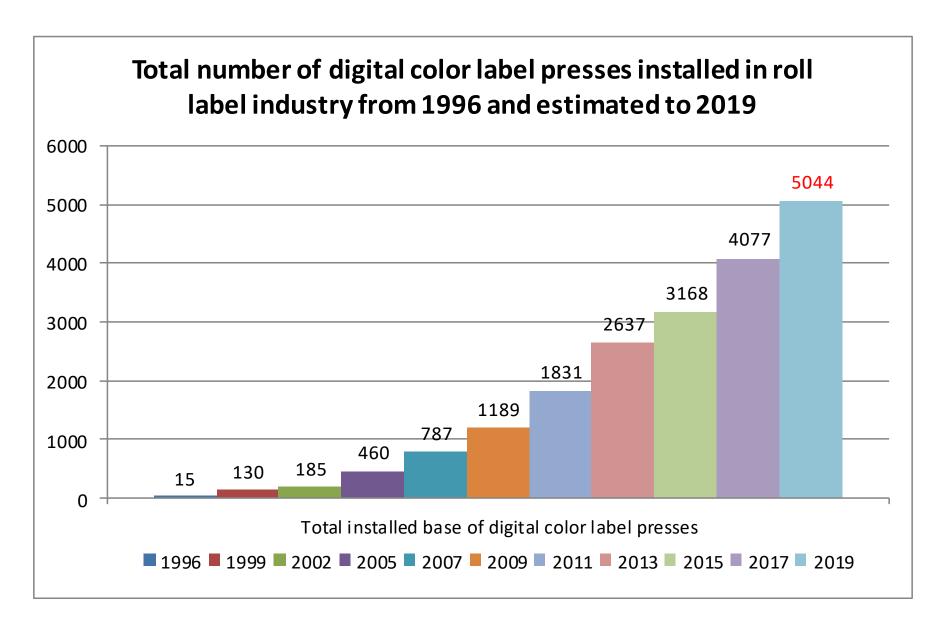
- □ Print-on-demand digital color label printing had its beginnings in the mid 1990s
- ☐ The early success of digital label printing was limited
- ☐ Less than 200 digital label presses had been installed in the global label industry by the end of February 2003
- □ Converters required some performance and technical issues to be resolved
- End users were still cautious about greater use of the technology
- ☐ Growth was not matching forecasts of late 1990s



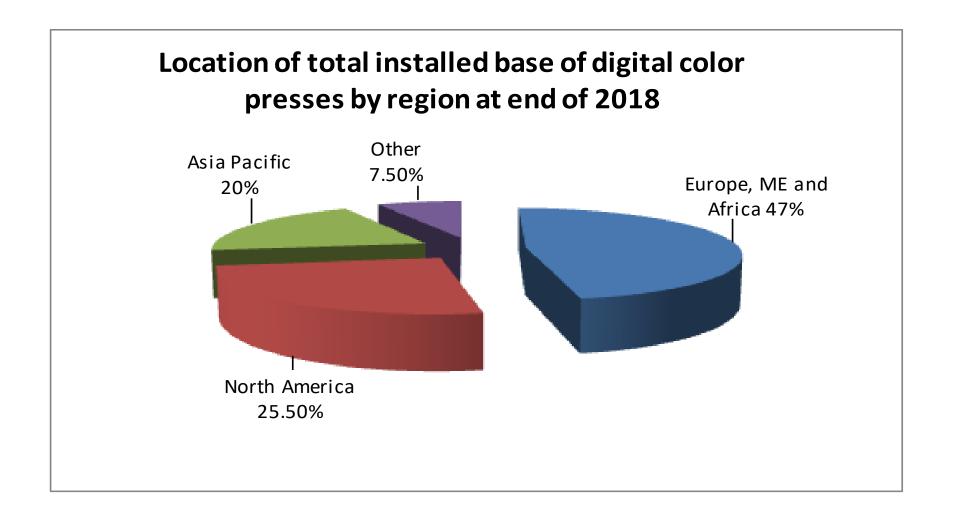
What happened next

- □ New generation (HP Indigo and Xeikon) presses introduced from 2003
- □ Digital presses now built more like conventional label printing machines than office machines
- ☐ Digital presses became faster and more reliable
- ☐ They offered enhanced output and a higher breakeven against conventional printing
- ☐ They now started to be accepted as a viable and profitable label printing process



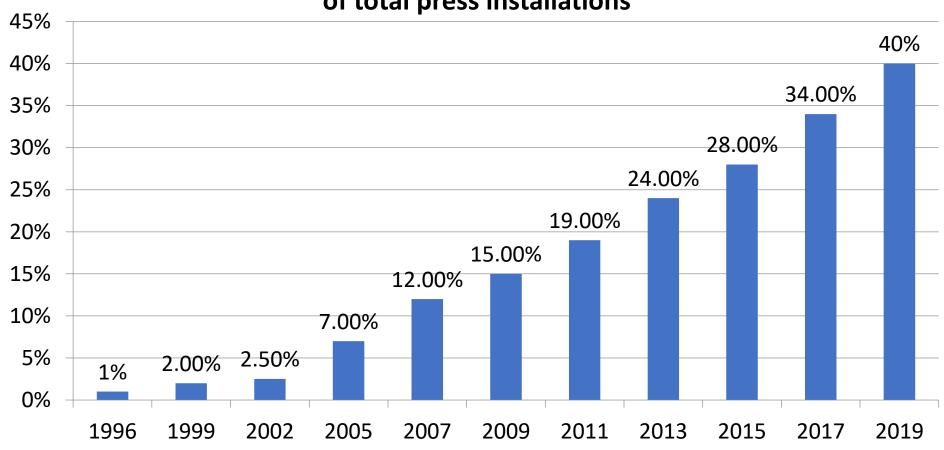








Market share of annual digital label press installations as a % of total press installations





Digital printing technologies

What are the main digital POD color printing and ancilliary technologies available today?

Electrophotographic printing

- Liquid toner, offset
- Dry toner

Inkjet printing

- UV Inkjet
- UV LED Inkjet
- Water-based Inkjet

Hybrid analogue/digital

Laser finishing

Digital security features and digital watermarking

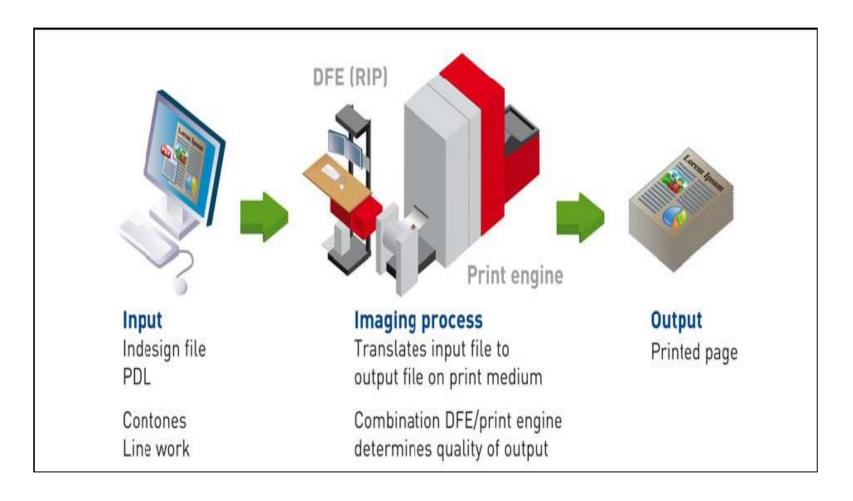


KEY FACTS TODAY

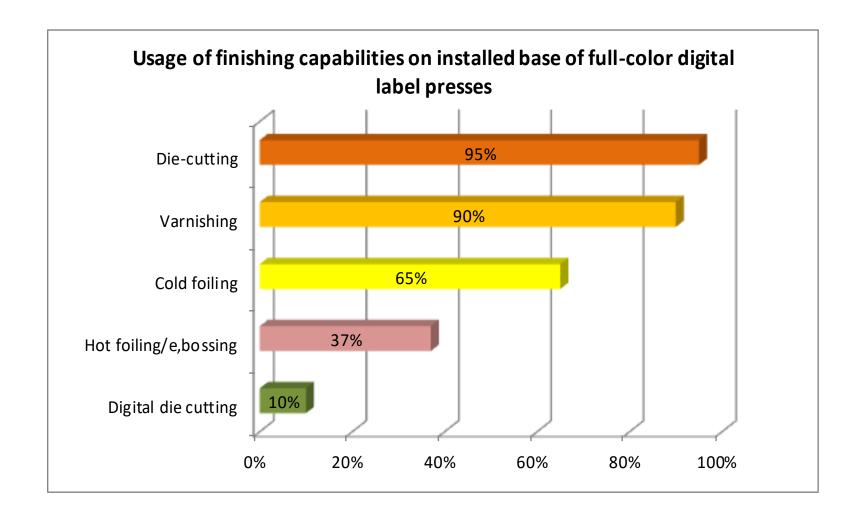
- □ Electrophotographic toner technology makes up over two-thirds of the total current installed base of digital color label presses
- ☐ HP Indigo has the largest installed base of toner-based presses, followed by Xeikon
- ☐ Inkjet units from Gallus, EFI Jetrion, Durst, Domino, Epson, Screen Europe, Xeikon Panther, Astra Nova, KPG, etc, make up most of the remaining base of color POD presses
- ☐ There is a growing, market for hybrid conventional/digital presses Nilpeter Panorama, MPS EF Symjet, FFEI Graphium, Focus Label D-Flex, Gallus LabelFire 340, Mark Andy Digital series HD, Omet/Durst XJet, Bobst Mouvent, etc
- ☐ Global digital label and package print market now estimated at over \$10 billion
- ☐ Value of digitally printed labels and packs growing at 21% per annum



What are the key elements of the digital printing process?









What other factors need to be considered when buying a digital press?

Additional investment

Investing in a digital press and finishing line is often only the first step in building a successful digital business.

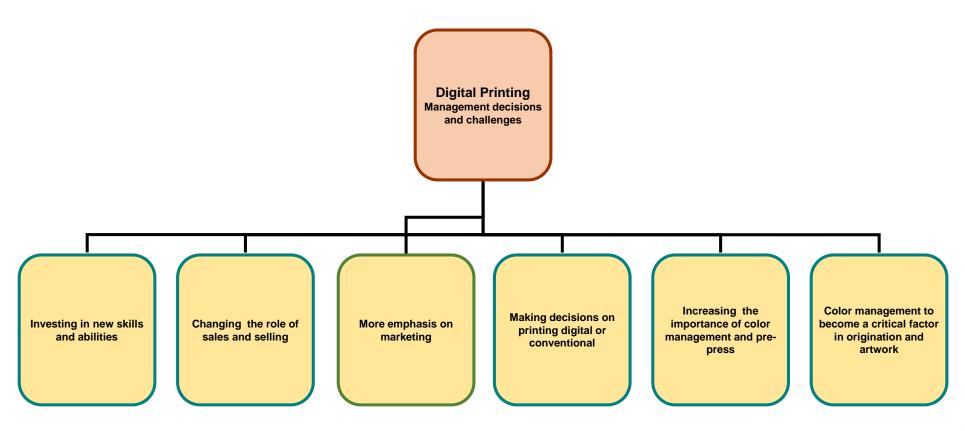
Investment may also be required in the press-press department, in a more sophisticated Management Information System (MIS), and in building an integrated and more sophisticated and seamless digital workflow

Benefits of additional investment

- Improved production efficiencies
- A reduction in errors
- Faster and more accurate workflow throughput
- A quicker response
- Overall cost and waste reductions
- Enhanced management information
- Better customer information



What are the management challenges and opportunities when investing in digital printing?





Why invest in digital printing?

- ☐ To meet the changing market, technology and production demands and requirements of customers
- ☐ To reduce costs while improving margins, so as to be more competitive and profitable on shorter runs.
- ☐ To be more innovative and to offer customers new added-value solutions and opportunities that may include personalisation, sequential numbering, versions, seasonal promotions, coding, etc
- ☐ To widen the converter's capability and provide an enhanced level of service and solutions to customers.



Deciding what label press to invest in 40 years ago was relatively simple.

- 70% of all machines installed in Europe were rotary letterpress
- Some flexo and flatbed screen
- Some hot stamping

Today, the decision is much harder, with a choice of:

UV Flexo Offset Litho Letterpress Screen Process
Combination process Digital Dry toner Liquid Toner
UV Inkjet Water-based inkjet Hot stamping
Hybrid



What other press and finishing line options need to be considered to add value or new opportunities?

Depending on the manufacturer, other options can include:

- Hologram stamping
- Screen printing
- Carton converting
- Coding and numbering
- Missing label detection
- Waste shredding
- Folding
- Turret rewind
- Coating
- Hot and cold lamination
- Fully integrated camera inspection systems, etc
- Laser engraving, perforating and cutting



Points to remember

- Digital label presses are now being installed at their fastest rate ever
- Digital design and printing offers many and varied opportunities for the future
- Planned and targeted digital investment can provide for a successful, more profitable, future
- ☐ The future for digital label and package printing looks assured

