



Newly qualified printer Josef Haltmaier being presented with his certificate as the state and national best by Horst Seehofer (l), the Minister-President of Bavaria, and Otto Kentzler (r), President of the German Confederation of Skilled Crafts (photo: Upper Franconian Chamber of Skilled Crafts and Small Businesses)

## Fuchs-Druck apprentice national best

Josef Haltmaier, an apprentice at Fuchs-Druck in Miesbach, Germany, recently carried away the title of state and national best in his final exams to qualify as an offset printer. He was presented with his certificate by the Bavarian minister-president, Horst Seehofer, and the president of the German Confederation of Skilled Crafts, Otto Kentzler. Josef Haltmaier was trained in-house on a two-colour KBA Rapida B1 (41in) perfecter press. He is planning to remain with the firm and take a master's certificate later on.

Fuchs-Druck is a family business founded in 1968 by Erich Fuchs. His son Klaus, who took over as managing director in 2005, believes that regular investment in new production kit is essential to stay abreast of customer demand. He is delighted with the public exposure his company has now received. Since there are only 26 staff, training is not a part of the established routine, so he is particularly proud of the fact that Josef Haltmaier achieved such an outstanding result. For Fuchs, the company's focus on quality is bearing fruit.

### New Rapida 105 for broad product spectrum

One reason for Haltmaier's decision to stay was the installation at the turn of the year of the company's fourth medium-format KBA press in total but the second in the present fleet. It is a five-colour Rapida 105 with coater and delivery extension plus capabilities for printing substrates ranging from 40gsm (>30lb book) LW paper to covers and 1.2mm (48pt) board. Such flexibility is vital - Fuchs-Druck prints packaging and patient information leaflets along with commercials, books, brochures, financial reports and calendars. The new press boasts inking-unit temperature control, washing units for the blankets, rollers and impression cylinders, and a non-stop roller facility. The coater has quick-action plate clamps plus a pumping and cleaning system controllable from the console. Quality is monitored and controlled via DensiTronic Professional, while a KBA LogoTronic network connects all the Rapidas with each other and with the in-house MIS.

## GLUNZ & JENSEN acquire Degraf S.p.A., Italy

As part of its long-term growth strategy, Glunz & Jensen signed an agreement for the acquisition of 83.5% of the Italian graphic company Degraf S.p.A. The acquisition has strengthened Glunz & Jensen's position as the world leader in developing, manufacturing and distributing equipment for the offset prepress industry. Degraf has specialised in the packaging industry globally, which is expected to continue to grow quantum-wise.

With the acquisition of Degraf, Glunz & Jensen expands within the growing flexo printing area, which is the most common printing method for packaging: Labels, tape, plastic bags, aluminium foils, folding cartons, corrugated boxes, etc.

### Facts

Degraf develops, manufactures and distributes flexo plate making systems globally to the packaging industry, both, in its own name through a worldwide distribution channel and to large users such as Tetra Pak and security printing industry, as well as OEM products to multinational consumable suppliers such as Asahi, DuPont, Flint, Kodak, Mac Dermid, Toray, etc.

In 2010, Degraf group had a turnover of 8.4 million euros, and is a profitable and well run company located in Lacchiarella near Milan. Moreover, Degraf has a subsidiary in Nancy, France, where a limited number of products are manufactured and distributed. Degraf's prepress products cover the entire process flow for Flexo plates and sleeves.