



NELA Ternes equipment for Springfield Offset (Gannett)

St. Paul, April 9, 2002. NELA Ternes Register Group announces the completion of a major installation at Springfield Offset (Gannett), in Springfield Virginia, a suburb of Washington DC. Before purchasing NELA Ternes equipment, Springfield Offset, which prints about 60 publications, among them New York Times, USA Today, Winston Cup Weekly, and Army Times, had to deal with many time and money consuming steps to get their plates exposed, punched, bent and in register on press.

Jim Jones, Director of Operations, at Springfield Offset was close to a decision for another brand, when he came across NELA Ternes at NEXPO. "Their equipment was everywhere," said Jones adding, "NELA Ternes had clear advantages with their degree of automation and product quality. The project engineering group tailored the plate handling systems and vision punch/bending machines to our needs."

When the NELA Ternes equipment consisting of two inline vision control positioning (VCP) punch/benders, two standalone punch/benders and a fully automatic plate punch handling 12 different plate sizes arrived on the scene, workflow and process changed significantly:

In the CTP output room plates from two CTP devices are now conveyed by the NELA Ternes system to a single VCP that automatically detects the plate size and configures itself for proper punching, bending, and stacking. There are no switches to flip or knobs to turn; everything is done automatically. Some special sizes are punched and bent on a separate vision punch/bender made especially for these odd sizes. These plates are automatically sorted and stacked outside the system prior to reaching the in-line machines VCP. The main sizes: 50, 54, and 58-inch web-width single and double plates are automatically processed through the VCP and placed in the output stacker ready to mount on the press.

It is much the same in the film output room: plates from a pair of automatic film-to-plate exposure devices are collected by the conveyors of the NELA Ternes system and delivered to a VCP for punching, bending, and stacking.

Gannett is indeed realizing their ROI calculation, which was largely based on reducing the number of press stops and all of the attendant savings such as paper, ink, and labor. Springfield Offset now considers NELA Ternes to be its preferred supplier for all of its pre-press register equipment due to the exceptionally good results with its machinery.

The NELA Ternes Register Group together with its parent NELA forms the largest pre-press register control organization in the world. With world headquarters in Germany and North American headquarters in St. Paul MN, the firm specializes in the design, engineering and manufacturing of register control products and plate handling systems for newspapers, commercial web and sheetfed printers and graphic arts equipment manufacturers around the world.

Pictures of the equipment are available upon request.

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