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Intelligent plate sorting with NELAPSC *Plate Sorting Commercial*

If you sort your offset printing plates according to print job, printing press, or other criteria, NELAPSC is the perfect solution for you. The software is available in different versions and can be adapted to your individual needs.

NELAPSC
allows you to assign a plate trolley, i.e. stacker bin to one specific press. It can also be defined how many plates maximum can be placed into this trolley. When complete, the trolley must be detached and an empty one can be docked for the next production. For automated plate sorting wit NELAPSC the information that is needed for the sorting has to be encoded in a bar code which must be imaged on the non-printing area of the plate. As soon as the barcode has been scanned, the software knows based on the barcode information into which stacker bin or plate trolley the plate must be placed. When you are using the same sorting criteria for specific recurring productions, the software allows you to store patterns.

NELACascading of plates
Depending on the configuration of your stacker system, it is also possible to create several stacks of plates within one plate trolley. A second information item from the barcode determines which plates go into which stack. This allows, for example, that plates for several versions of an order can be placed separately into the same trolley.

NELAPSCsmart extended functions

NELACompleteness check
When you can include information in the barcode on how many plates are needed for one job, then the software provides information whether a job is already complete in the trolley, or how many plates are missing.

NELAVisualization
To find individual plates or orders easily and quickly, the current stacker bin assignment is shown on a large screen that can be mounted above the stacker.

NELATrolleyTracking
With Trolley Tracking, all plate trolleys of your sorter receive a unique code and can be identified even when they are not connected to the sorter. This is very helpful when press-ready plate sets are waiting in a trolley next to the sorter to be brought to the press. Staff will always know where which plate set is and there will be no more wrong plate sets at the wrong press.

Plate automation with NELA – competence and know-how bundled under one roof

As a company with a high degree of vertical integration, NELA bundles all necessary resources to see a project through from start to finish. From the first consultation to the development of hardware and software and the final assembly, at NELA we have everything under one roof. Our global service team supports the customer during installation and all the subsequent years of production. Each department relies on a high technical expertise and is perfectly integrated into the overall planning, production and service processes.

NELA Plate On Demand

Pre-press automation solutions for commercial web printing

In commercial web printing, fast and efficient supply of press-ready plates is a requirement for an on-schedule production of print jobs, which have to be processed ever quicker while cost pressure increases. Very large plate formats and the use of various plate formats, often for both sheet-fed and web presses, can be a challenge for plate production. This is where essential time and cost advantages can be achieved through automation of plate production processes.

NELA Plate On Demand means that exposed printing plates will be sorted in accordance with the production plan and supplied in trolleys to the printing press.

The first step towards Plate On Demand is automated plate punching and bending. The register punching and bending system will be connected in-line with your Ctp-device and the bent plates are placed without scratching in the trolley of a stacker bin.

As a next step, printing plates can be sorted according to customer-specific criteria, such as print job, version, or printing press.

The press-ready plates are transported safely and quickly to the press in the trolleys. The negative side effects of manual plate sorting, for example scratching or missing plates at start of print, are eliminated by automatic plate sorting.

For highest automation requirements – the NELA Indexer. With the Indexer, complete plate sets for the next jobs can be stored until start of print. Because each plate is stored horizontally on its individual shelf, there will be absolutely no scratching of plates any more. The fully loaded trolleys of the Indexer are rolled to the press, where the plates can be retrieved easily.

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Handshake between Prepress and Press – The concept for more effective production flows

Plate transport
Plate transport systems for fully automatic transport of unbent or bent printing plates, customized for your plate format. The plates will be transported safely, without any damage, to the desired location. Additionally we are offering turning stations, hinged elements for transits as well as transport elements for wall breakthroughs. The transport system will always be adapted to your individual demand.

StatusCenter
All activities of the entire line are centrally supervised through the NELA**StatusCenter**. Modifications and interferences are shown on the console terminal immediately. A steady and fast control of all production components and the entire line by the operator is guaranteed. Interferences and interruptions of production are shown in a clear text on the console terminal.
Of course, the NELA**StatusCenter** can also be displayed on tablets or smartphones.

Stacker for very large format plates
To avoid manual handling of very large printing plates (72 pages and more) and prevent them from scratching and other damage, NELA offers this special stacking system that can be connected in-line to your register punching and bending system. The offset plates are stacked vertically and directly into a plate trolley.
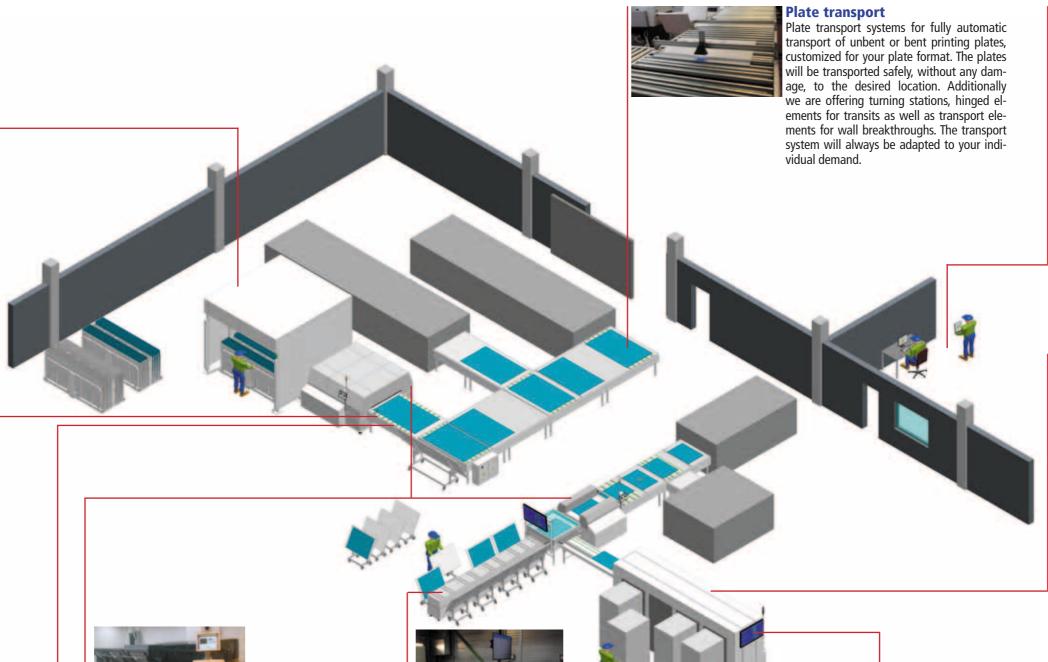
Barcode
Barcodes are needed for several applications, e.g. plate sorting, page tracking or automatic measurement of plate quality with NELA**PQM**$^+$. The required information for each application has to be included in the barcode, which is exposed on the non-printing area of the printing plate. NELA will provide the barcode reader and install it in the appropriate position.

Indexer
The NELA indexer is an efficient printing plate storage for pre-sorting and provision of plate sets for entire print jobs. Thanks to the horizontal storage there is no damage of the printing plates through scratching. The assembled plate trolleys are moved to the printing machine where the printing plates can unloaded easily.

Plate quality management
With the NELA**PQM**$^+$ you are able to measure automatically the quality of your exposed and developed printing plates. A special wedge has to be exposed on the printing plate. NELA will supply you with this wedge. Deviations in quality which would lead to an inferior print result can be detected at an early stage.

Register punching and bending systems
NELA offers systems that have been designed specifically for the plate sizes used in web commercial printing. If you use both web and sheet-fed presses in your production, the NELA benders will accommodate several plate formats. Plate shearing can be integrated as an option. – NELA register punching and bending systems are available with or without optical plate alignment.

Sorting
Printing plates can be placed in the stacking station according to various customized criteria. Frequently used sorting criteria are format, printing job or printing machine. With the NELA sorting software recurring sorting samples can be recorded and new samples can be specified. Each stacking station is equipped with one plate trolley for a quick and careful transport of your printing plates.

Printer
Working sheets which list the content of a fully loaded plate trolley can be printed. The operators can allocate the trolley to a particular job or printing machine with the help of the printed sheets.

Visualization
Production data of current jobs can be controlled and monitored on a large-format screen. Also the completeness of particular jobs can be displayed. The operator recognizes easily in which trolley which printing plates are located and whether the job is complete.