



Simple, efficient and cost-saving **Upgrading a bookbinding line with Robatech's SpineCoat 80 gluing system – little effort for maximum benefit**

Early 2016, the printing company "Druckerei Berger" in Horn (AT) was looking for a solution for enhancing the gluing process in their bookbinding line. With Robatech, the Swiss manufacturer of adhesive application systems, the printing company found the ideal partner for the project. Robatech offered a book spine gluing upgrade with easy integration into the existing system. Among others, this solution enabled adhesive savings of almost 50 percent.

Adhesive application solutions for bookbinding. Within the scope of process optimizations, "Druckerei Berger" was looking for a more efficient solution for book spine gluing. Thereby, the existing system with drum melter should be replaced. Robatech's solution, the RobaPUR 40 MOD melter with SpineCoat 80 coating head, convinced the print specialist. Thanks to the simple and fast retrofit, the production interruption was limited to a minimum and the investment paid off quickly.

The applied SpineCoat 80 coating head was specially developed for book spine gluing with PUR hot melt adhesives. The coating width of the application head can be continuously adjusted from 2 to 80 mm. The geometry of the slot-type nozzle ensures uniform coating of the entire book spine. With that, the self-contained system guarantees a wafer-thin, reproducible adhesive application. It is designed for books and magazines with a length of 100 to 500 mm. The non-positive closing valve additionally ensures a precise adhesive tear-off. The adjustable brackets enable optimum positioning of the SpineCoat

application unit towards the book spine. The coating head is ideally supplemented by the RobaPUR 40 MOD melter.

Gluing technology – efficient and cost-saving. "As one special feature of the Robatech solution, the adhesive circulates continuously in the circulation system. It is either applied using the SpineCoat 80 coating head or returned into the RobaPUR 40 MOD via the restrictor system," explains Harald Laher, General Manager of Robatech Austria. "This way, a uniform thickness of the adhesive layer is ensured from job start to end even at high speeds of up to 14,000 books per hour," he adds. Using the Melt-on-Demand (MOD) technology, the melter also offers adhesive processing on demand. Only the required quantity of hot melt adhesive is prepared and delivered. The energy- and consumption-optimized surface coating solution ensures gentle handling of the PUR hot melt adhesive. The quality and adhesive properties of the adhesive always remain the same during this gentle preparation and processing and the risk of messy adhesive in the tank or nozzle blockages is reduced to a minimum.



Advantages for Berger. The system enables significantly shortened setup and adjustment work and fast format changes. Furthermore, the continuous gluing process enables production at higher speeds and melter filling is possible during running production opposite to the previous drum melting solution. Together with reduced maintenance work, this results in simplified handling and reduced production costs. This increased efficiency further contributes to a positive cost balance.



Magazine before application

The previous gluing system of “Druckerei Berger” was designed for a clocked process. In clocked operation, the substrate had to be applied with a thickness of 0.8 millimeters to ensure reliable adhesion. Thanks to uniform coating using the SpineCoat 80, the adhesive quantity could be significantly reduced while maintaining the same quality level. This is made possible by continuous adhesive circulation in the system. Adhesive is either applied or returned into the melter. The valve in the melter simulates application. Thus, there are no differences during adhesive delivery, which would have to be compensated through a thicker adhesive layer. “Using the new Robatech system, the application head is continuously supplied with adhesive. This way, the SpineCoat 80 is always ready for operation and the coating

thickness could be reduced to 0.4 millimeters. This means significant adhesive savings of almost 50 percent for us”, mentions Michael Schwayda, Production Management at “Druckerei Berger”. “Thanks to the optimizations introduced by Robatech, we produce more efficiently, resulting in a clear economic advantage for Berger,” adds Mr. Schwayda happily.



Magazine after coating

For Berger, the optimization resulted in the desired enhancements and savings and supported the company in achieving its objectives. Even in the time of smartphones and tablets, the printed word is still of considerable importance. Besides the content, the quality of the book or magazine is decisive. They must be robust and attractive at the same time. With the SpineCoat system solution, Robatech developed a powerful bookbinding system fully tailored to specific production requirements and with potential for the future.

For further information refer to www.robatech.com

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About Robatech:

Robatech with headquarters in Muri/AG in Switzerland is a worldwide leading provider of adhesive application systems for a variety of industry sectors. The product portfolio of the service and technology leader for green adhesive application solutions comprises hot melt adhesive and cold glue as well as PUR solutions. Robatech is present in more than 60 countries. Since 1975, the company has delivered high-quality controls, application heads, and dosing systems that are unmatched in terms of speed, precision, and reliability. Further information under <http://www.robatech.com>.

About Berger:

Printing company Druckerei Berger with headquarters in Horn (AT) was founded in 1868 by Ferdinand Berger I. and has been family-owned to this day. With more than 300 periodicals throughout Austria, Berger is one of the largest magazine print producers. Latest data processing, printing, and finishing – everything at one location – are prerequisite for flexibility, quality, timeliness, and reliability. After receiving the Eco-label for sheet-fed offset printing in 2006, the printing company was also awarded the Austrian Eco-label for web offset printing and digital printing in 2010. Therefore, Berger fulfills highest ecological requirements in all areas. Further information under <http://www.berger.at/>

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