

# Digital Workflow for Corrugated

FPPA Presentation February 19, 2007 Bob Hannum



- Brief Company Overview
- Current State of Digital in North America
- New Digital Technology
- Technical and Economic Fit
- Digital Printing Option



## **DuPont Imaging Technologies**



MIDON

# **Current State of Digital**



# **Digital Imager Installations - NA**

#### **Corrugated Segment**

- 16 tradeshop companies have installed digital imagers
- 2 converter companies have done the same
- A total of 23 imagers have been installed in these locations

 Of the 23 imagers, 12 are installed at traditional "corrugated tradeshops"



### **Plate Thicknesses Used**

A wide variety of plate thicknesses are being used in most a corrugated printing applications (from brown box printing to high-end graphics)





# **Digital Workflow Options**



## Workflow Options

Continuing trends from CPG's and Retailers is the desire to re-purpose digital assets for multiple packaging printing. That leads to a more cost- effective and efficien production environment and revenue stream.

- Direct to Proof (vs. analog)
- Direct to Plate (vs. analog)
- Direct to Plate Cutting (vs. hand cutting)
- Direct to Video Mounting (vs. optical)
- Direct to Digital Printing (vs. conventional printing)



# Is The Time Right For You??



### Why Not All Digital, All the Time?

Technical Fit

• Economic Fit



### **Technical Fit**

• Cyrel® TDR is the industry standard for high quality corrugated printing.

• However, digital plates have a tendency to flute more than analog plates in certain printing applications.

• Recent testing indicates success showing significant improvements in fluting with a new digital technology.

• Following are slides showing the printing conditions and fluting differences.



# **Printing Conditions**

- .112" digital plates (.112" TDR also printed as benchmark)
- .070" Rogers foam
- Bobst Flexo 160 press (Clemson University)
- Anilox 500 3.0bcm; 60 degree angle
- BCM Inks pH 9.6
- Viscosity 17 #4 din cup
- Board Kemiart B-Flute 200g/m2
- Press speed 3600 SPH (sheets per hour)
- Minimum impression = optimizing anilox-plate and then plate-stock
- Over impression = + .020" plate to stock



## **Dot Size Comparisons**

Plate Type	<b>Physical Dot Size</b>
• TDR	42.1%
• DPC	39.4%
New Technology	41.2%

#### Notes:

Measured with a Betaflex 334

35% area measured

Dots were purposely sized the same for true comparison



DPC

#### New Technology





#### **Minimum Impression**

Minimum Impression

**NIL DOM** 

DPC

#### **New Technology**



**Over Impression** 

**Over Impression** 



**TDR** 

#### **New Technology**





#### **Minimum Impression**

Minimum Impression

(NIL DOM

TDR

#### New Technology





**Over Impression** 

**Over Impression** 



### Dot Gain

• Initial dot gain results also show less dot gain with the new digital technology.

• Next steps are to have these plates printed in a production environment on different board types and with different plate thicknesses for comparison.



# **Economic Fit**



### **Total Costs**

• As we all know, on a line item basis digital plates are more expensive than analog plates.

• What's most important though, is that the total delivered cosineeds to be competitive with your current cost position.

 What are your total costs to make an analog plate vs. a digital plate? A liquid plate vs. a digital plate? The paradigm i that it is too costly to go digital for corrugated. Is it?



### **Costs To Consider**

#### **Digital Plate Material**

List price from all suppliers is higher than analog plate

#### **Graphic Arts Film/Imagesetters**

- Raw material costs of film and chemistry will continue rise (double digit increases in 2006)
- Platemaking errors inherent with using film (dust, dirt, kinks, wrong exposure times)
- No new imagesetters are being produced
- Spare parts will become an issue in 5 years
- This is in an end-of-life technology



## **Costs To Consider**

#### Labor

- Film retrieval and storage
- QC and inspection of all films prior to platemaking
- Additional time to prep an analog plate with film vs. digital
- Film stripping could be very costly

#### Plant space

- How much space is required to accommodate film?
- Do you value this space?



# **Costs of Not Going Digital**

- Competitive advantage marketing position with your customers
- Ability to compete in other market segments
- Not able to take advantage of workflow efficiencies
- Platemaking consistency cannot be realized





 Let DuPont work with you to better understand your total delivered cost of an analog sheet or liquid plate in compariso to a digital solution

• The economics need to make sense for everyone and they need to be believable



# **Digital Printing**



## DuPont<sup>™</sup> Cromaprint<sup>™</sup> UV Product Line





# **Graphics & Signage Inkjet Applications**

- P-O-P Signage and Displays (retail in-store)
- Display Advertising
- Pressure-sensitive Decals (Window Graphics, etc.)
- Indoor & Outdoor Flags & Banners
- Posters
- Vehicle Graphics
- Transit Advertising (Back-lit/Front-lit)
- Building Graphics
- Exhibition and Trade Show Graphics
- Billboards













#### DuPont Digital Printing Systems – Knowledge Intensity Skills

#### **DuPont Strengths**

- Workflow, Color, Applications Expertise
- Inkjet Inks / Fluids / IRL Coatings
- Proven System Engineering & Integration
- □ Safety Engineering
- Software Development & Integration
- Direct Marketing & Channel Development
- Service, Training, & Support
- Business Development Partners





#### DuPont<sup>™</sup> Cromaprint<sup>™</sup> UV System Solutions Include:





#### The miracles of science™

