



Screen wins Walsall Council's vote

25th November 2008: When it came to replacing its platemaking system Walsall Metropolitan Council had a list of specific requirements that Screen's B2 PlateRite 4300E matched perfectly.

Kevin Williams, Walsall Metropolitan Council's Print and Design Manager, explained: "Because we were already used to our existing platemaking system we designed the tender specifications around what we knew we required. That way we could be sure the new system would have everything we needed."

The printing department, with an annual turnover of £1.2m, produces a variety of work from corporate stationery and business cards to brochure work for the council and its partner organisations. Clients also include other unrelated public sector bodies. It offers both litho and digital capabilities on its two Heidelberg SpeedMasters and a Xerox 5000.

Mr Williams added: "We also wanted a system that could operate in daylight, specifically print to the resolutions we required and run plates for two different printing presses. It also needed to be within a certain price range."

And while the PlateRite 4300E met those criteria, there were some extra features that have had an unexpected significant impact on productivity. "What has made a real difference is the software," says Mr Williams whose department produces up to 700 plates a week.

"The Trueflow Workflow has speeded up pre-press efficiency. The higher level of automation means PDF files can just be dropped into folders doing a lot of the work for you. We are still coming to terms with the savings this offers. It frees up operators to do other things."

Walsall's Screen PlateRite 4300E is automated for operator-free running and features include daylight operation, remote monitoring, automated drum balance and internal punching. The affordable, entry-level platesetter, provides printers with the most cost-effective way of incorporating the latest high-quality thermal CtP technology into their business. It can be upgraded to a PlateRite 4300S which is capable of producing 21 plates per hour at 2400dpi.

Trueflow increases prepress productivity with pre-flight, colour conversion, imposition, trapping and RIPping implemented in an automated prepress production workflow. And using

JDF facilitates fast job setups and prevents errors that can occur through the re-keying or miscommunication of data.

“The installation went smoothly and we were up and running very quickly,” added Mr Williams.

Ends

About Walsall Metropolitan Council

Running both litho and digital presses the printing department has two Heidelberg SpeedMaster presses a five-colour and a two-colour – and a Xerox 5000. There are 14 employees and its annual turnover is £1.2m

About Screen

Dainippon Screen Mfg. Co., Ltd (Kyoto, Japan) is one of the world's largest manufacturers and suppliers of system components for the prepress and printing industries. Its large range of equipment includes workflow systems, RIPs, proofing systems, platesetters and digital printing presses for print on demand applications. The company is also a well-known manufacturer of equipment for the semiconductor and flat panel display manufacturing industries.

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