



Printer Gains Competitive Edge with Humidification System

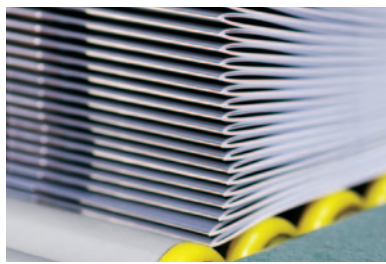
A second-generation family business, Foster Printing was growing rapidly and looking for ways to stay competitive in a demanding marketplace.

Company senior vice president and shareholder, Matthew Griswold said that static was one of the biggest issues impacting his plant, causing productivity and quality issues in all areas of the business.

Bringing in ionizers and static blowers failed to address the problem, so Matt turned to Draabe to help him stabilize the humidity levels throughout the 85,000 square-foot facility. The results, according to Matt, have been tremendous – who says they are seeing less waste, higher run speeds and far less press stoppages since increasing the humidity in the building. “In the end, we are more efficient and we are delivering an even higher quality product to our customers,” says Matt.

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success is in the air



Low Humidity Levels Wreak Havoc in Plant

A full-service printing operation located in Michigan City, Indiana, Foster Printing was concerned about the impact of dry static conditions on its many projects, ranging from magazines and newsletters, to direct mail and other promotional pieces. "I was seeing paper shrink as much as 1/16th of an inch every time a sheet went through the presses, causing a lot of stability problems," says Matt. "The colors were blurry and the dots didn't line up. This was creating a lot of wasted paper and press time. Static was also causing paper to stick together 'like magnets.'"

Draabe System Increases Productivity & Profitability

Immediately after installing a Draabe TurboFog High-Pressure Humidity System, the company went from 10-15% humidity levels in the colder months, to a more comfortable 50% humidity. Problems with static literally disappeared. "We experienced a significant reduction in paper shrinkage and curling, as well as color variation," says Matt, "and production went up 50% in our bindery department. The overall impact has been less downtime and a better end product."

What Foster didn't anticipate is the increased productivity they are seeing in their staff. Matt says that there have been far fewer staff absences and sick days since they increased the humidity levels throughout the building. This is not surprising when you consider that studies show that optimal levels of humidity, between 40 and 60%, can reduce and prevent bacteria and respiratory infections. "We're running a lot leaner today than we used to," says Matt. "So having less staff off sick makes us more efficient and more profitable."

Foster Chooses Reliable, Worry-free Alternative

While Foster looked at competitive products, they chose Draabe because of its excellent reputation and portability. As part of Draabe's unique Full Service Rental Agreement, every six months Foster receives new replacement containers for its system. The reverse osmosis and high-pressure pump system are inside the portable containers so they can be easily removed and sent to Draabe for servicing.

"What I like about the Draabe system is that I don't have to worry about replacing a machine that's getting old," says Matt. "If the system goes down, Draabe responds very quickly. The customer service has been excellent. Bottom line: when I look around the plant and see my people and my machines running at full capacity, I can definitely say the investment has paid off."

Why Humidity is Good for Your Business

- Eliminates paper shrinkage and paper curl
- Higher register accuracy
- Reduced waste
- Less downtime
- Faster production
- Consistent quality

Why Choose Draabe?

- New system containers every 6 months
- Minimal downtime
- Ongoing maintenance & telephone support
- Low cost, energy-efficient system
- Backed by world leader in humidification



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