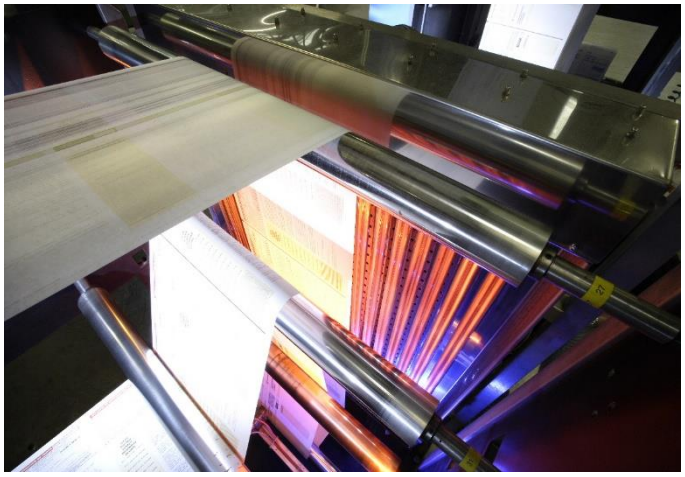
CIR high speed print drying cuts energy bill

By using carbon infrared (CIR) emitters from Excelitas to achieve the rapid print drying demanded by their high-speed print heads, The Lettershop Group, of Leeds has achieved significant savings in energy and running costs compared with their previous short wave infrared system. As it is air-cooled rather than water-cooled, the new drying system has also allowed further operational benefits in terms of reduced maintenance, easier cleaning and less downtime.

Since installation, all four systems have proved extremely efficient, providing annual energy savings of around £30,000 on each line. They have also required very little maintenance, as cleaning now takes around two to three hours compared with the two days of the short-wave system and their original lamps are still functioning perfectly after nearly two years. In addition to saving considerable space, as there is no need for the equipment required for water cooling, the new systems are also proving more tolerant of sensitive papers, as the paper temperature for the CIR system is just 30 - 35ºC, as opposed to the 60-70ºC of the previous short-wave system. Removing the requirements for water-cooling also has a health and safety benefit as it eliminates the potential of personnel being burnt by the hot water pipes.



Features

- Energy savings of around £30,000
- CIR heaters with a longer life time than short wave heaters in the near infrared region
- little maintenance necessary
- air cooling

Technical Data

- medium wave Carbon heaters CIR
- total power densitiy of 140 kW/m^2

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