

30.01.2002 - 08:00 Uhr

Heidelberg to relocate U.S. postpress manufacturing facility from Ohio to New Hampshire / Move will concentrate high-volume finishing operations at single site

Heidelberg, Germany (ots) -

Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG (Heidelberg) will move all operations from its Dayton site (Ohio, USA) to recently expanded facilities in Durham (New Hampshire, USA) during 2002. The relocation will combine the development and manufacturing functions for high-volume postpress systems at a single site, allowing Heidelberg to maximize efficiency and synergy.

Heidelberg will continue to produce its extensive range of postpress products for commercial web and newspaper production at the Durham site. The Dayton plant was responsible for manufacturing these products, while engineering and support functions were located in Durham and nearby Dover, New Hampshire.

"Combining the Dayton and New Hampshire operations will have a synergistic effect that will be reflected in increased efficiency and better products and service for our customers," stressed Heidelberg CEO Bernhard Schreier. "Establishing Heidelberg as the leader in the postpress sector remains an important part of our strategic plan, and this move will assist us in reaching this goal," he added.

In the middle of last year, as part of its repositioning effort, Heidelberg identified the finishing market as one of three areas of growth and established a dedicated Postpress Solution Center. Products that will now be produced in Durham include Pacesetter saddlestitchers, Universal Binder adhesive binders and newspaper inserters as well as a wide range of high-volume postpress auxiliary components. Heidelberg will complete the relocation in a manner that will ensure continuity of service. Delivery schedules for existing and upcoming orders will not be impacted.

The closure of the Dayton plant will effect around 200 employees, most of whom will be offered the opportunity to transfer to the Durham site. The phased relocation will begin in April, 2002 and is expected to be completed by the fall of this year.

The Heidelberg facilities in Durham and Dover, New Hampshire are the worldwide headquarters for the company's Web Systems Solution Center. In addition to high-volume postpress systems formerly manufactured in Dayton, the two New Hampshire sites will continue to manufacture and support web presses for newspaper and commercial printing applications.

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