

Company name: Welfare Printing Ltd.

A new solution for short deadline color newspaper printing LED-UV greatly shortens production time

Welfare Printing Ltd. has its headquarters in Macau, China and boasts the territory's largest printing facility. The company's main business consists of printing local newspapers, magazines and tourist pamphlets, and their integrated production system enables them to meet customer needs for a quick turnaround. To cope with growing orders for color newspaper printing, Welfare Printing purchased an LED-UV equipped RMGT 920PF-8 A1-size 8-color convertible perfector in April 2016, then in March 2017 they added an LED-UV equipped 920ST-4 A1-size 4-color press.

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Executive Director: Chao Sio Seong

Growing to become Macau's largest printing company

Welfare Printing is Macau's largest printing company and has two production facilities in the territory. The Macau factory opened in 1979 and the Zhongshan factory opened in 2009. The Macau factory is their main facility, with 2,000 m2 of floor space and a staff of more than 50 workers. Its integrated production system offers one-stop service from prepress to press to postpress. The company's main clients include the Macau government, publishing companies, advertising agencies, schools and hotels. They offer lead times as short as 24 hours for small-lot work such as newspapers, periodicals, advertising pamphlets and tourist maps. Utilizing advanced printing technology, Welfare Printing has consistently won top prizes at printing competitions jointly sponsored by the printing industry associations of China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macau. Throughout their 30-year history, the company has followed a management philosophy of "introducing the latest



Color printing of Chinese, English and Portuguese editions of daily and weekly newspapers

equipment and developing staff skills in order to achieve optimum production efficiency and provide customers with products of the highest quality". As a result, they have earned the trust and confidence of many loyal customers and enjoyed continuous growth.

Enhancing efficiency for color newspaper printing

Newspaper printing is one of the main types of work at Welfare Printing's Macau factory, and shortening turnaround times is essential. The Macau factory's night shift prints 7 newspapers in 3 languages (Chinese, Portuguese and English) every day, and including weekly editions they print 10 different newspapers on weekends. This means 110 to 160 plates a day, and the work needs to completed about 4 to 6 hours before dawn. The work demands speed, but increasing the printing speed



LED-UV equipped 920PF-8

with a conventional oil-based printing press greatly increases the risk of smudging. In addition, during the day shift the plant's work includes perfecting for magazine, book, and catalog covers and printing on special substrates such as metalized paper and pearl-tone paper. Since this type of work requires 1 to 3 days to dry, they were unable to meet customer demand for shorter lead times. To resolve these issues, in April 2016 Welfare Printing purchased a 920PF-8 A1-size convertible perfector. It is equipped with two eco-friendly, low power consumption LED-UV curing units, one over the perfecting device and

another over the delivery section, enabling one-pass instant-drying perfecting.

Expanding sales using two LED-UV presses

Welfare Printing's purchase of the 920 PF-8 immediately resolved the issues they faced. In their newspaper printing busi-



Newspaper printing on the 920PF-8

ness, one-pass instant-curing perfecting increased the number of jobs they could handle and shortened work time by more than an hour. For the perfecting of magazines, etc. as well as printing on special substrates, instant curing enabled printed sheets to be immediately sent to the binding process, shortening the time required by more than a day. Shorter production times also led to lower production costs. Printing quality also increased, especially regarding halftones and contrast. For color newspapers, customers were also extremely pleased that the ink no longer rubbed off onto their hands. Based on their success with the 920PF-8, in March 2017 Welfare Printing additionally purchased an LED-UV equipped 920ST-4 A1-size 4-color press. Along with their purchase, the company is currently expanding their postpress systems. Using the enhanced production system achieved with the addition of the two LED-UV presses, Welfare Printing expects to greatly increase sales.