



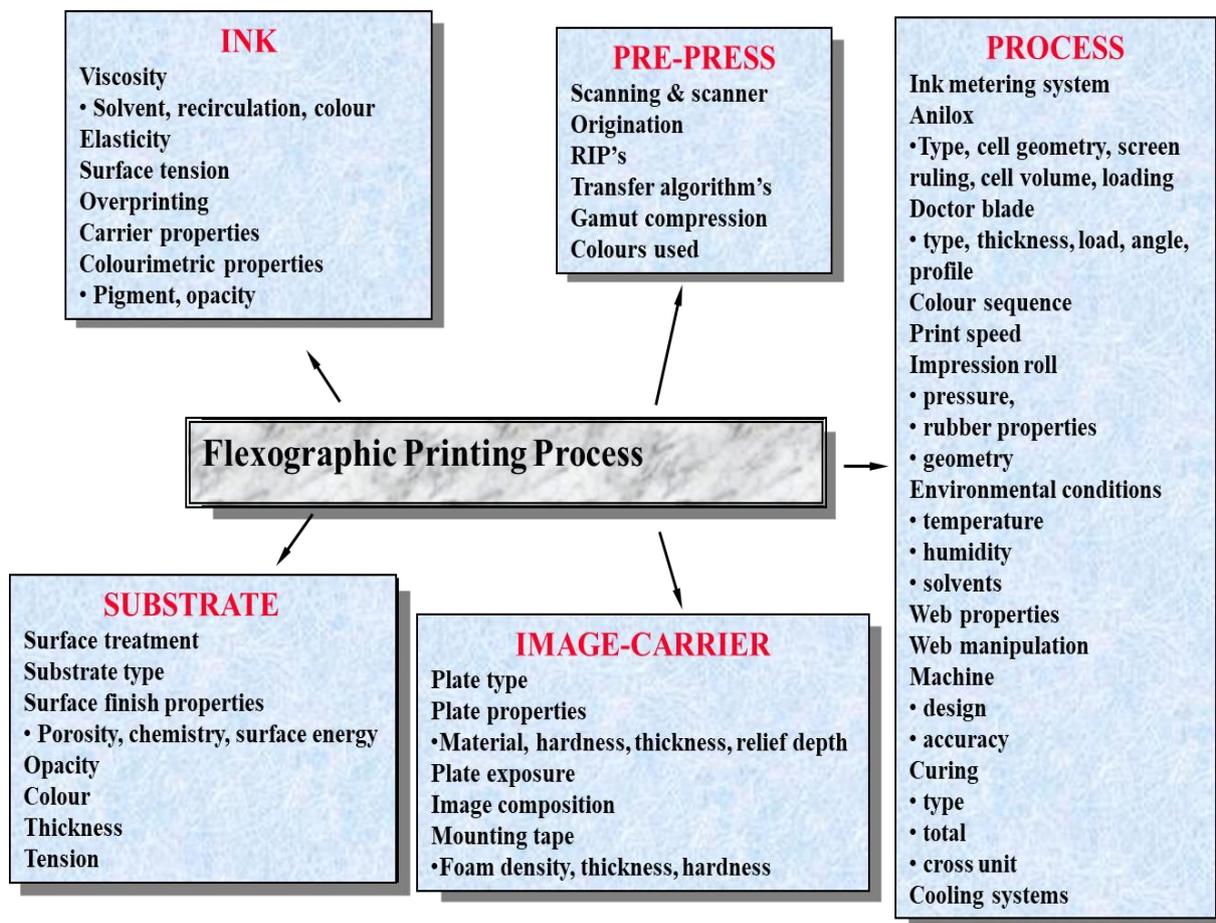
**Creation of the FTA Europe “Flexo Best Practice Tool Box” –**

**First Technical Meeting, 15 May 2017 in Milan**

*Brussels, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017*

On 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2017, the first Flexo Best Practice Tool Box Technical Meeting took place in Milan at the ATIF offices. The technical meeting started the coordination of the works, aiming to prepare and finalise the project over the course of the next months. Representatives of supporting companies, experts from the icm.Print team, and the FTA Europe Technical Committee participated in the meeting.

“If printing was easy, it would be rocket science”, according to Prof Tim Claypole MBE, Director of the Welsh Centre for Printing and Coating and coordinator of this FTA Europe project to create a Flexo Best Practice Tool Box project. “When we started to work on flexo in the mid ‘90’s, my researchers put together this pictorial summary so we knew what we were letting ourselves in for”.



The objective is to capture the Best Practices and troubleshooting expertise resident in the industry before retirement causes it to be lost for ever. “The guides will be a repository of knowledge which will enable our members to improve their profitability” said Sante Conselvan, President of FTA Europe.

With the diversity of applications of flexo from labels and narrow web through to wide web with a wide range of substrates including film and paper, it is a large task. As a starting point, FTA Europe has been gathering together the existing material to use for the guide. The majority of information that the supporters have made available to date has been focused on pre-press and colour control, with a limited amount on plates and tapes.

“As new materials, applications and techniques arrive, it will be essential for the tool box to be a living document” said Wim Buyle, the vice president of FTA Europe, “therefore the guide will be available as an electronic publication so it can be easily updated”.

The toolbox will eventually cover all aspects of the flexo printing process required for consistent, high quality production with minimum waste. FTA Europe experts are already extracting the essence from the documents received, while expert engineers in flexography and smart packaging from the Welsh Centre for Printing and Coating will be ensuring its scientific correctness, identifying where there are gaps in the knowledge.

As today, these are the companies that are providing both expertise and financial support for the creation of the Toolbox:



## **FLEXO BEST PRACTICE TOOL BOX**

### The European Guidelines Explaining Flexographic Printing

#### Companies joining the project:



Companies willing to support the **Flexo Best Practice Tool Box** should contact [lconti@fta-europe.eu](mailto:lconti@fta-europe.eu)

