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The Flexo Best Practice Tool Box

A unique new collaborative project that brings together international cross-industry expertise to provide a relevant and practical best practice reference for printers and suppliers to improve flexo performance. The project kick-off meeting will be in Milan on September 13/14 2016.

This project brings together a cross-industry platform of associations, suppliers and printers with competent scientific and project resources. The concept is proposed and managed by icmPrint who brings its extensive experience of producing best practice guides underpinned by sound science — this organisation is managed by Prof. Tim Claypole of University of Wales.

“The Flexo Tool Box will be complementary to other industry initiatives. It will collate, complete and communicate global best practices as a generic industry guide delivered at low cost to sponsors and no cost to users” says Tim Claypole.

FTA Europe President Sante Conselvan adds: “To achieve this requires only a small investment shared across the industry because no company, organisation, or region can do this alone. This collective approach will deliver cost effective international synergies to answer needs in both developing countries and mature markets.”

Best practice guides

The systematic application of best practices delivers business benefits from higher productivity, reduced waste, consistent quality, reliability, environmental performance, safer working and improved teamwork across the entire workflow chain.

Concise easy-to-read guides explain how to work more efficiently, prevent errors, improve problem solving, and help introduce new methods, procedures and standards. They assist production managers in supervision and trouble-shooting, and provide a practical reference for both experienced and new staff of both printers and suppliers. Assists print buyers and production managers in supervision and trouble-shooting by providing a practical reference for both experienced and new staff.

The Tool Box concept is an annual series of self-contained guides, each focussing on improving performance in a specific area. Guides would be published in multiple languages as free e-books with print-on-demand versions.

The project kick-off Flexo cross-industry workshop will be held in Milan, September 13/14 2016 with a programme including: Press Approval, Wear and Maintenance, Test Formes to Maximise Colour from Flexo, The Best Practice Concept, Anilox – The Heart of the Press, Comparing Flexo Dot Structures, Flexo Tool Box Development.

To attend the workshop, please contact FTA EUROPE LConti@intergraf.eu or ATIF, the Italian Flexographic Technical Association info@atif.it.

For more information on the Tool Box, contact FTA Europe or icmPrint — Prof. Tim Claypole t.c.claypole@swan.ac.uk.

Who is icmPrint

The International Centre for Manufacture by Printing (icmPrint) brings together several printing organisations into a single not-for-profit resource centre for best practices, technical advice, underlying science, training and innovation development for products where printing plays an essential role in their manufacture. It combines WOCG, PP, APN, and the Welsh Centre for Printing and Coating within Swansea University.

Publications from these organisations include the landmark Web Offset Champion Group's 'Toll Box' best guides, and the recent Lean & Green titles 'Process Standard Offset', and 'Sustainable Print Plants'. Currently being finalised is the 260-page e-book 'Optimised Paper Handling and Logistics'. These are among over 20 guides available as free downloads in multiple languages from printprocesschampions.com.