

Alegro and Ventura MC – the Compact Solution that Convinced Resl

A year after investing in a Presto II, D.R.J. Tiskárna Resl s.r.o. in the Czech town of Náchod has taken the next step to upgrade its bookbindery. After increasing the level of automation of its saddle stitching operations, it has now done the same for perfect binding and thread sewing by investing in a new Alegro A6 and a new Ventura MC.



► The Managing Director of the successful family business, Jiří Resl Jr., whose father Jiří Resl Sr. established the family-owned business, which employs 35 people, in 1991, and whose son Jakub is also involved in the company, has a sustainable company philosophy. “Our primary goal is not to provide the market with products at rock-bottom prices. Instead, we strive for in-depth, long-term cooperation, including consulting and service provision, with partners that value high-quality print products and are willing to pay a slightly higher price.”

Scrutiny of Factories

The same philosophy is espoused by Jiří Resl Jr., who discusses major investments with his father, still active for the company at over 70, in depth. They scrutinize the fac-

ories of manufacturers together to gain an impression of the dimensions and mark of quality of suppliers ahead of purchasing a new machine.

That was also the case when the company recently decided to replace two aging perfect binding and thread sewing systems. “Muller Martini didn’t make us the cheapest offer, but the Alegro and the Ventura MC were the most convincing compact solution.”

Identical Operating Philosophy

The company head was convinced, in particular, by the high degree of automation and the identical operating philosophy of the two new systems. “We definitely wanted to reduce our set-up times. And, since Muller Martini systems are operated in a similar way, we can use our personnel at

1 *Managing Director Jiří Resl Jr. (center): “We’re consistently receiving new orders that we wouldn’t have been able to produce with the old perfect binder”. Right Jakub Resl (grandson of the company founder) and Jiří Resl Sr. (company founder), left Lubos Kunze (Managing Director of Muller Martini Czech Republic) and Roland Henn (Regional Director of Muller Martini Eastern Europe).*

2 *The new Granit three-knife trimmer is fully automated and has a wide range of applications in softcover and hardcover lines.*

3 *Products that used to be glued using hotmelt and then needed to be thread-sewn for quality reasons are today glued with PUR using the Alegro (pictured) and do not require additional thread sewing.*

4 *Resl has doubled its thread sewing capacity since commissioning the new Ventura MC.*

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The Czech Republic's First Alegro and First Granit

Resl, which also runs a forwarding company with 60 trucks and two Scania buses, features not only the Czech Republic's first Alegro perfect binder, but also the coun-

try's first Granit three-knife trimmer. The new Granit from Muller Martini impresses with its consistently excellent trim quality thanks to innovative SmartPress technology, confirms Managing Director Jiří Resl Jr. The fully automated equipment has a wide range of applications in softcover and hardcover lines.

The Granit uses patented SmartPress technology, which has proven its worth in the higher performance range, to provide optimal, consistently high trim quality. It ensures a gentle and controlled pressing procedure in which all air between the sheets of paper completely escapes, even if the product is bulky, allowing for the

product to be trimmed perfectly, which is key to consistently high product quality.

The Granit ensures cost-effective production in a wide range of applications. The Granit takes full advantage of seamless automation in a fully networked perfect binding line, such as with the Pantera or Alegro A6 perfect binders. The operator can perform the necessary fine-tuning directly on the central screen of the perfect binder during production. In addition, the trimming cassette and pressing pad can be exchanged in just a few steps, which shortens job changeover times considerably.

different machines. That played an important part in our decision to invest in Muller Martini machines."

In addition, Muller Martini is the only manufacturer of graphic arts machines to have its own agency in the Czech Republic. "That naturally has a lot of advantages for us in terms of after-sale services and language," explains Jiří Resl.

All School Text Books Are Thread Sewn

Tiskárna Resl, which has two Ryobi sheet-fed offset printing presses and finances all its investments without EU support, supplies solely to customers in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Sixty percent of the products are delivered to publishing houses, 30 percent to companies and 10 percent to a range of customers.

While the school text books, with runs ranging from 2,000 to 5,000 copies, are all thread sewn using the Ventura MC, the same is only true of 2 to 3 percent of the catalogs and brochures, where the typical run size is 1,000 to 3,000 copies. The vast majority are conventionally perfect bound using the Alegro.

A Constant Stream of New Jobs

The fact that the new perfect binding line with a 12-station gathering machine, criss-cross outlet for thread sewing, manual feed and the latest Granit three-knife trimmer (see box) features the VPN nozzle system developed by Muller Martini has boosted Resl's position on the Czech softcover market in no time at all. "We're consistently receiving new orders that we wouldn't have been able to produce with the old perfect binder," says Jiří Resl.

Today, products that used to be glued using hotmelt and then needed to be thread-sewn for quality reasons are glued with PUR using the Alegro and do not require additional thread sewing. "That gives us another good sales argument in the market," emphasizes Jiří Resl.

Double the Amount of Thread Sewing

This February, shortly before commissioning the Alegro, the company received a major order of 60,000 perfect bound catalogs from a construction firm. Other Czech printing plants are also increasingly having their products produced in Náchod, since Resl boasts the country's most modern bookbindery thanks to the two latest machines and the Presto II saddle stitcher, which was commissioned in 2013.

Resl benefits from the fact that, in addition to the increase in capacity (thread sewing jobs have rapidly doubled), the new systems also give it far greater flexibility. "We really need that flexibility," says Jiří Resl. "With the school text books it's not so much of a problem, but the lead times have become extremely tight for many other jobs."

Diamant Bookline on the Horizon

Jiří Resl will soon have yet another ace up his sleeve. The company, whose job volume has increased thanks to the favorable economic situation in the Czech Republic, has decided to commission a Diamant MC 35 bookline next year.

"When my father and I tested the Ventura MC at the Muller Martini Hardcover Forum in Bad Mergentheim, we also took a look at the Diamant," says Jiří Resl. "Our customers regularly ask us when we're go-



ing to enter the hardcover segment. Since the Alegro already gives us a solution for backgluing, we'll make that investment for the future in 2016." ◀

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