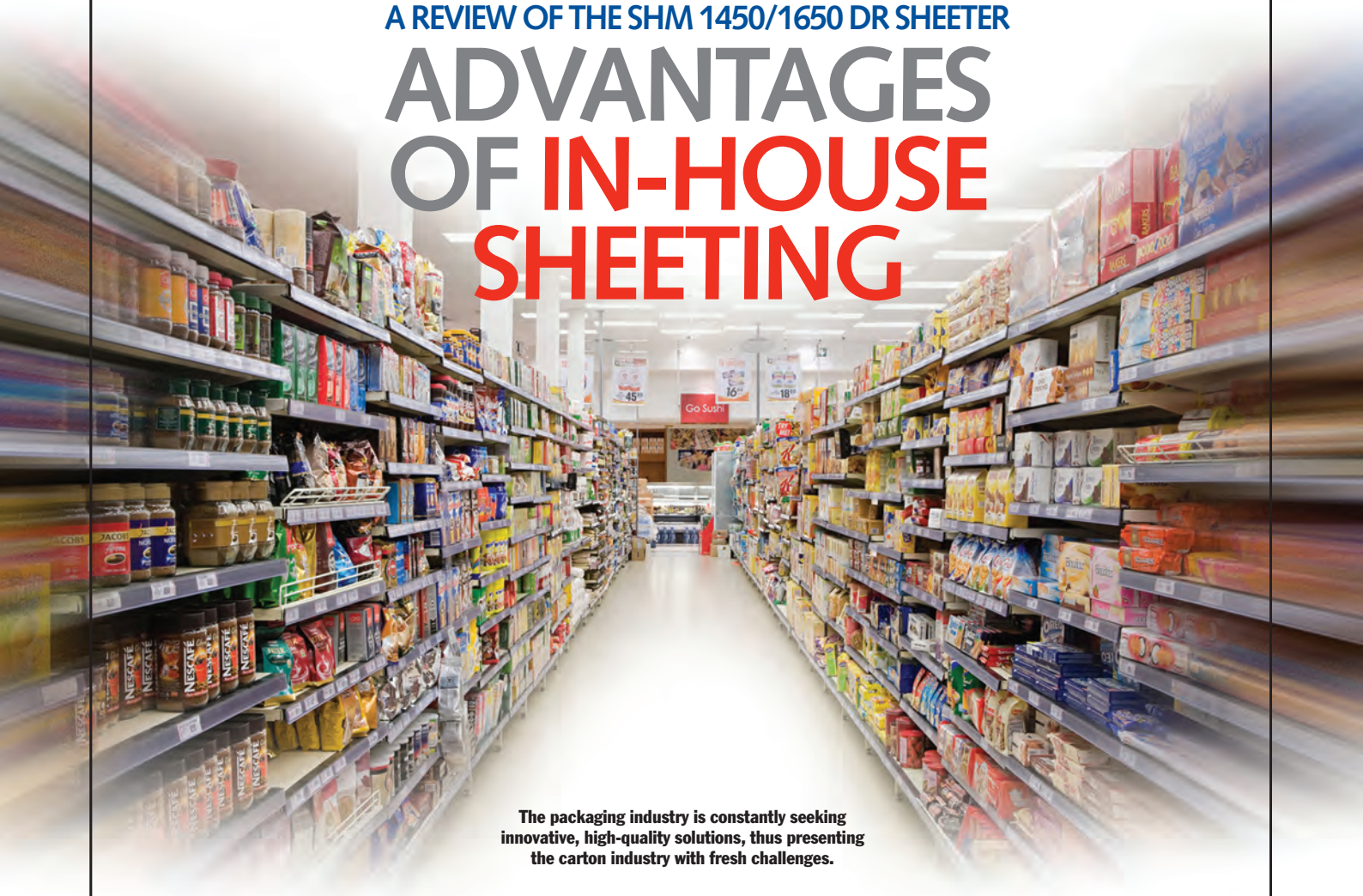
A REVIEW OF THE SHM 1450/1650 DR SHEETER

ADVANTAGES OF IN-HOUSE SHEETING



The packaging industry is constantly seeking innovative, high-quality solutions, thus presenting the carton industry with fresh challenges.

Always seeking a competitive edge, leading cartonboard printers routinely spend several million Euros on a new, improved press every few years. Why disadvantage that investment? Press performance can be further enhanced with a modern in-house folio-size sheeter.

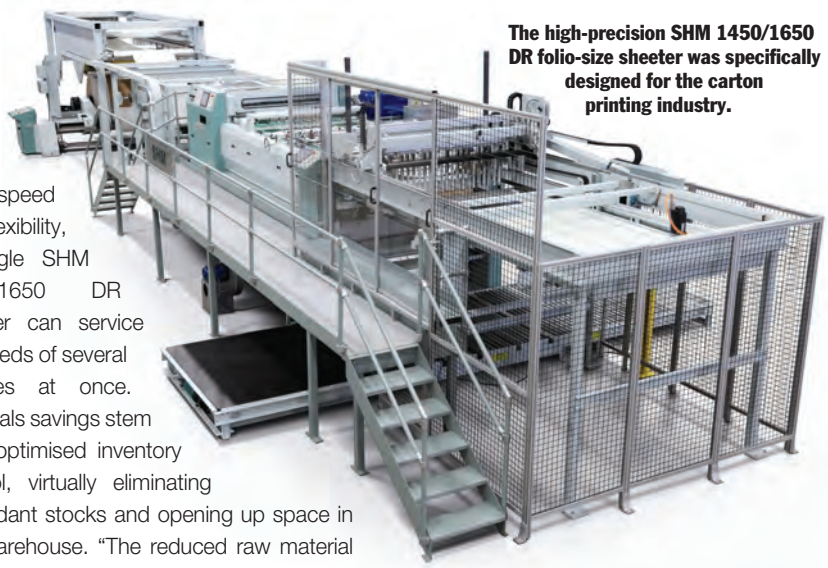
Unlike the UK, where board merchants ensure speedy and to order sheeted stock on a timely basis, some of the larger mainland European and US cartonmakers have invested in efficient in-house sheeting because of its advantages. Direct cost savings in materials and reduced press downtime are the obvious appeals. But there are indirect benefits too. These include the ability to offer customers a fresh, distinctive printed product at a moment's notice, and to access and utilise the ever increasing range of coated and laminated carton substrates being developed globally. Reel stock is also more competitively priced.

The in-house sheeting strategy suits larger converters seeking to merge a JIT philosophy with process quality and cost control

The SHM 1450/1650 DR (dual rotary, 1450 mm or 1650 mm working width) high-precision sheeter from Pemco (Körber PaperLink Group) was specially designed to serve the carton converting and printing industry, giving printers higher productivity, reduced wastage, more versatility and greater ability to meet their markets' demands.

"This sheeter is something of a quantum leap in sheeter technology," says John Finlayson, European Sales Manager for Pemco – SHM products. In particular, productivity benefits include:

- Faster response to market demands.
- Reduced press downtime and minimised operational disruption.
- Press-ready pallets reduce changeover times.
- Precise sheet size reduces potential for sheet jams associated with sheet misfeeds at the press infeed gripper system.
- Industry-leading cut quality and cleanliness virtually eliminates the need for unplanned washdown of blankets.
- Rejection of splices that could otherwise damage press make-ready.
- Running "difficult" sheets at normal operational speed.



The high-precision SHM 1450/1650 DR folio-size sheeter was specifically designed for the carton printing industry.

With speed and flexibility, a single SHM 1450/1650 DR sheeter can service the needs of several presses at once. Materials savings stem from optimised inventory control, virtually eliminating redundant stocks and opening up space in the warehouse. “The reduced raw material costs and freed-up capital improves a printing concern’s cash flow and enables them to invest in other competitive opportunities,” explains Mr Finlayson. Another advantage is that the plant is less reliant on traditional supply chains. “Having an in-house sheeter also enables the converter to respond to customer needs for non-standard sheet formats. They can utilise a wide range of materials more easily, manage those materials more economically and print on them more reliably,” says Mr Finlayson. “It opens up many opportunities – such as substrates with high visual impact, coated or uncoated, foil and holographics. ”

These modern sheeters offer precise sheet squareness, cut length precision (+/- 0.381 mm), cut cleanliness and assured flatness. In addition, controlled reel conditioning virtually eliminates marking, cracking or crazing of coated products that encourage ink migration that can lead to costly returns and reprints. Excellent pallet stability and pile presentation are a given, while the sheeter is easily integrated into existing quality control procedures and are designed for easy operation, set up, adjustment and maintenance.

Upgradability is also part of the plan. After discussing a customer’s needs, Pemco can precisely tailor the specification of its sheeters matching productivity and production efficiency to the customer’s requirements and budget. The SHM 1450/1650 DR can also be equipped with a high-speed automatic pallet change system. If desired, an automatic splicing system can also be added later as press volume increases. The productivity of these sheeters extends right up to totally non-stop operation.