



The premier resource for insight, analysis and technology integration in newspaper, magazine, digital and hybrid production.

Firm contends tower will produce quick color

BY CHUCK MOOZAKIS EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A company affiliated with QuickSet Corp. is rolling out a singlewide tower it contends will produce, within 500 copies, color-ready newspapers and publications

The Quick-Start-Tower, available now, is based on the same continuous-blanket-contact tower design Color Impact International first developed 19 years ago, said Steve Surbrook, QuickSet president and acting sales director of CII, QuickSet's sister company.

The original C-B-C design, in fact, was used as a foundation supporting Web Press Corp.'s Quad-Stack tower, known for its registration capabilities and used by dozens of newspaper and commercial printers worldwide. *(Editor's note: Web Press was liquidated late last year; new owners purchased its assets and intellectual property and the firm has been rebranded as WebPress LLC.)*

Surbrook said CII modified the tower's original C-B-C design, adding a

built-in shaftless drive as well as such features as electronic cutoff register and motorized inch forward and inch reverse for rapid plate changes. The machine automatically times itself after every plate change, Surbrook said.

The patent-pending design also uses larger ink rollers, more robust dampening modules, more efficient heat dissipation and three oscillating ink rollers, resulting in less ghosting and ink starvation.

"The design never releases the web when going from one stacked perfecting unit to another, so there is no need for fan-out control," Surbrook said.

The singlewide tower, with associated QuickSet ink control levers and the Quick-Set Ink Pre-Setting system, will produce good copy within the first 500 printed, Surbrook said, performance the company will guarantee.

QuickSet Ink Pre-Setting uses a combination of software and an onsite printer

to determine the amount of ink to be set. The system uses the actual image on the plate to translate coverage to values in accordance with the exact characteristics measured on the press.

The tower is priced at approximately \$325,000, which includes the ink pre-set software and printer. A folder with quarterfolder is an additional \$95,000, Surbrook said.

The 36-inch-wide press is rated at approximately 30,000 copies per hour and is engineered to be installed where building height and footprints are at a premium.

Surbrook said he's already sold a Quick-Start-Tower to a commercial and newspaper printer that will put the press into operation this fall. ▲