# Press Release

L. N. Schaffrath commissions a long Rapida 106 perfector

## Premiere of new sheetfed offset technology to mark the company’s 275th anniversary

* Open day welcoming active and former employees
* New approaches in 4-over-4 production with additional coating
* Automation and quality control at the highest level

Radebeul, 17.09.2018  
On 8 September, L. N. Schaffrath celebrated its 275th anniversary by inviting its active and all former employees, as well as the whole local community, to an open day at its production facility in Geldern. With a traditional “Gautschen” ceremony, a centuries-old custom marking the successful completion of a printer’s apprenticeship, tours of the printshop, the live presentation of a new eight-colour Rapida 106, a fascinating Schaffrath Printing Museum, the humanoid robot Pepper and many other activities for young and old, the company treated its guests to an interesting overview of modern media production in the 21st century.

Technological flexibility

Just a few weeks before the anniversary, the media house commissioned a new eight-colour Rapida 106 for 4-over-4 perfecting with additional coating. With this press, L. N. Schaffrath is treading new technological paths in its magazine production.

On the one hand, the perfector press can print magazine covers in a single pass, including coating of the outsides. That already lends a significant boost to efficiency by eliminating the need for a second production pass, not to mention the otherwise necessary drying times. And secondly, the content pages which are typically a domain for web presses are also to be handled on the new sheetfed press for the first time.

To this end, the Rapida 106 has been configured with an RS 106 reel sheeter, which is able to use the same reels as the webfed C16. Production can thus be switched between the two Koenig & Bauer presses at any time.

Sheetfed printing of magazine content   
The diversity of magazines and catalogues on the market continues to increase. In addition, more and more titles are being produced in different editions and versions, in order to address individual target groups more directly.

This is where the Rapida 106 is able to play out its strengths: Depending on the page count of the final product, sheetfed production can already be more profitable than use of a web press for run lengths from approx. 9,000 copies. Typical jobs from the 16-page web press can then be transferred to the Rapida 106, which is engineered for speeds up to 18,000 sheets per hour in perfecting mode. At L. N. Schaffrath, it now stands alongside a brand new MBO K8 RS folding machine, which itself fears no comparison with the lightning-fast Rapida 106 with production speeds of up to 275 m/min.

Fast, simultaneous makeready processes   
When it comes to automation and quality control, the Rapida 106 incorporates everything which is possible and also meaningful for an established media house: DriveTronic SPC with Plate Ident for simultaneous plate changing, CleanTronic Synchro for parallel washing processes, QualiTronic ColorControl for fast inline colour measurement and control, Lab colour measurement, ImageZoom (digital video magnifier), ErgoTronic ACR (video camera for register control) and extra-narrow colour bars. If it enables standardised production and makes work easier for the printers, then it is present on the Rapida 106.

A very high level of capacity utilisation is planned. “We expect to print around 50 million sheets per year on the Rapida 106,” says technical manager Martin Sellmann. The investment will thus be recouped in a relatively short time. Another new aspect is the gradual transition from a two-press set‑up to a single-press strategy in sheetfed offset. One press has already been dismantled, and the immediate predecessor of the Rapida 106 is to follow as soon as the new press reaches its full performance.

Interesting website: [www.schaffrath.de](http://www.schaffrath.de)

Photo 1:  
Modern location for a 275-year-old print and media house: L. N. Schaffrath possesses over 18,000 m of production space and an extremely modern machinery pool (© Axel Breuer/plan b fotografie)

Photo 2:  
The eight-colour Rapida 106 with perfecting and additional inline coating handles both cut sheets and reel stocks

Photo 3:  
The whole printer team with Bernd Susen (shift supervisor and sheetfed offset training instructor) and the press operators Vivian Saupe, Oliver Janssen, Klaus Richardson and Rainer Faets (left to right) is delighted with the highly automated Rapida 106. The first production came off the new press at the beginning of August.

Photo 4:  
On 8 September, L. N. Schaffrath celebrated the 275th anniversary of the company at a grand open day, whose many highlights included a traditional “Gautschen” ceremony

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About Koenig & Bauer  
Koenig & Bauer is the world’s second-largest printing press manufacturer with the broadest product range in the industry. For 200 years, the company has been supporting printers with innovative technology, tailor-made processes and a wide array of services. The portfolio ranges from banknotes, via board, film, metal and glass packaging, through to book, display, coding, magazine, advertising and newspaper printing. Sheetfed and webfed offset and flexo printing, waterless offset, intaglio, simultaneous perfecting and screen printing or digital inkjet – Koenig & Bauer is at home in virtually all printing processes and is the market leader in many of them. In the financial year 2017, the approximately 5,600 highly qualified employees worldwide generated annual sales of more than EUR 1.2 billion.

Further information can be found at [www.koenig-bauer.com](http://www.koenig-bauer.com)