Press Release

## Grand Master produces with five Rapida 106 presses

Sheetfed offset press technology for the largest print company in Armenia

* Production centre with 43 printing and finishing units now switched fully to Rapida
* Highly modern equipment for the full process of packaging production
* Modern quality assurance and comprehensive automation

Radebeul, 02.05.2019
The print company Grand Master in Masis in Armenia’s Ararat region has modernised its entire machinery base since 2010. Four Rapida 106 presses are already in use at the company – and a fifth is set to join them in May. Production start-up is scheduled for early summer. At that point, the print centre will have been switched fully to sheetfed offset presses from Koenig & Bauer.

Since 2006, Grand Master has belonged to Grand Holding, the largest employer and taxpayer in Armenia with a workforce of 9,500 employees. It is at the same time the country’s biggest investor and number one exporter. The print company Grand Master also works with flexo and gravure presses. It produces packaging primarily for the tobacco industry and possesses modern equipment to handle the complete process from design and prototyping through to actual folding carton production. A total of 22,000 m2 of production space is available. Further investments are already planned for this year, for example in corrugated production capacities, and a factory for paper recycling is likewise in the pipeline.

With the exception of one six-colour press with coater and extended delivery, Grand Master has each time chosen an eight-colour configuration with inline coating facilities and fully automatic plate changing. It is thus the proud owner of 43 Rapida 106 printing and finishing units.

All five Rapida presses are equipped with board-handling accessories and stand on 450 mm raised foundations. The most commonly used substrate is 1 mm board. The presses run at speeds up to 18,000 sheets per hour. Important automation features include automatic non-stop pile changing at the feeder, non-stop roller racks in the delivery, FAPC plate changers and multi-function CleanTronic washing systems. Mention must also be made of the environment-friendly VariDryBlue dryers installed in the swan neck and the delivery extension. Quality assurance is handled with QualiTronic Professional, providing not only colour density control, but also sheet inspection. Together with the new press, Grand Master is implementing a new workflow based on LogoTronic Professional.

With these latest press installations and the already planned future investments, Grand Master is continuing strongly on its course of further growth.

#### Photo 1:

The two newest eight-colour Rapida 106 coater presses in the production hall at Grand Master

#### Photo 2:

The delivery platforms of two presses are joined together; this allows ideal access to the deliveries and consoles

#### Photo 3:

Part of the extensive company premises of Grand Master

#### Photo 4:

The conspicuous landmark of Mount Ararat is always within sight of the company

#### Photo 5:

Mikael Harutyunyan, general director of Grand Master, received a model of the fifth Rapida 106 from sales manager Michael König (right) from Koenig & Bauer Sheetfed

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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 more than 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 2018, the approximately 5,700 highly qualified employees worldwide generated annual sales of more than EUR 1.2 billion.

Further information can be found at [www.koenig-bauer.com](file:///%5C%5CW9%5CVM%5C%40GMT-2019.04.09-10.16.26%5CPresse%5CPresseformular%5Cwww.koenig-bauer.com)