

JME Ink Jet Web Solutions – 330 to 880mm

There is an ink jet web tsunami coming from China! Chinese industry has foregone developing modern offset presses, they just skipped a technology straight to ink jet web presses. There are over 1500 ink jet webs currently installed in China.

Their strategy is simple:

- Buy famous-brand Japanese ink jet heads in huge quantities at mega-wholesale prices = Epson, Kyocera, Ricoh and Canon.
- Develop their own electronic head drivers
- Make their own ink, both water-based and LED UV.

This means that Chinese ink jet webs can be sold at slightly over half the price of Western brands, **while using exactly the same heads**. Then serviced by Australian companies.

Importantly, their LED UV and water-based ink is about 60-70% of the cost of Western ink, which makes their presses far more competitive with offset.

When Pressnet was visiting major Ink Jet Web brands of China, (*GIP, Shield, Flora, Spade, Gaole, Yijiyi, E-Jet, Yintech, & JME*) we found that, at the heart of this industry is one guy, Steven Fan of JME technologies.

Steven makes almost all the paper path infrastructure for the manufacturers of these presses. JME use Fife web aligners and Rex Roth servo motors, so basically the paper path is Western technology too.



Productivity matches an A2 size x 8c offset, running at 7,900 sph. Job setup time = 0 secs

Ink Jet printing doesn't like interruptions, so roll-to-roll is the most productive configuration to run. A non-stop re-winder saves each job on a different spindle. Pressnet is working with JME, HB, IBIS and Bindex to develop affordable **roll-to-binding solutions** for folding, perfect/PUR binding, Wire "O" binding, and saddle binding. Printing roll-to-roll, then roll-to-bind. This labour saving increases the competitiveness of ink jet web. Combinations of flexographic and ink jet are available for packaging applications.

This is all coming down the road, email Pressnet for updates: pressnet@pressnet.com.au
