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PRESS RELEASE

22nd November 2006

BALDWIN JETSTREAM REVOLUTIONIZES WEB CLEANING AT LA VOIX DU NORD NEWSPAPER

The installation of Baldwin Jetstream 1000 systems at French newspaper printer *La Voix du Nord* has revolutionised web cleaning on the company's two MAN Colorman 35s and 80-page tabloid format KBA Express presses. The three presses produce around 3.3 million newspapers every week, the largest title being *La Voix du Nord* – the daily average of 390,000 copies makes it France's third biggest regional newspaper. Other newspapers printed at the Lille site include *Nord Eclair*, *Nord Littoral* and *La Voix des Sports*.

"The investment in the Jetstream technology was primarily intended to make washing blankets by hand superfluous," says production director Philippe Ceugniet. "In the past, a six-strong team of cleaners was kept busy every single morning. Despite the high costs this entailed, intermediate cleaning was still required during the long hours of production on a Saturday. However, since introducing Jetstream we have been able to largely dispense with manual washing."

Jetstream overcomes the single most important cause of dirty blankets in newspaper printing – paper fibres and dust that build up with ink on the blankets. Baldwin has installed 15 Jetstream units at *La Voix du Nord*, each with a working width of 1,620 mm. Jetstream is a revolutionary approach to improving print quality, productivity and profitability on a web offset press, whether for commercial or newspaper applications.

The special aerodynamic nozzle, positioned close to the web surface, works via a combination of vacuum in the cleaning module and a high velocity air flow, which moves along the web surface and into the cleaning module. The airflow breaks the boundary layer on the paper and forces the particles that were trapped in this layer into the cleaning module. Removal of dust and other debris is aided by an ionizing bar, which eliminates static electricity. The compact system requires little space, maintenance is minimal and one module will clean both sides of the paper web just prior to

it entering the first set of printing cylinders.

“We liked the simple operating principle, freedom from maintenance and low energy consumption of the Jetstream system,” says Mr Ceugniet. “In addition, the only consumables required are the central filter elements that have to be replaced from time to time.” The efficient removal of web dust also reduces dust deposits on press components, as well as the build up of paper fibers and dust on ink rollers, thereby increasing the variety of newsprint the company can use. Philippe Ceugniet expects that it will now be easier to print on newsprint he has so far avoided because of its tendency to dust.

“As well as the reduced costs of personnel, we expect to save around 20,000 litres of wash chemistry per year, not to mention the enormous quantity of cleaning cloths. Jetstream also eliminates disposal costs of cloths and is kinder to the environment,” he says.

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EDITOR'S NOTES

About Baldwin

Baldwin Technology Company, Inc. is a leading international manufacturer of press accessory and controls for the commercial and newspaper printing industries. Baldwin supplies market-leading automated cleaning; dampening and temperature control; drying and curing, and web accessory technologies, products and systems.

With headquarters in Shelton, Connecticut, USA, Baldwin has operations strategically located in the major print markets and distributes its products via a global sales and service infrastructure. Established in 1918, Baldwin employs approximately 510 people worldwide. Since 1987, Baldwin Technology Company, Inc. has been listed on the American Stock Exchange.

For further information, visit the Baldwin website at: www.baldwintech.com

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