

Boxmaker News



New Short-run Box Making Machines Launched

“output can be increased by up to 50%”



Autobox has just launched its new Generation 7 range of machines, which includes both the Boxmaker, and Hipak ranges. This new generation of machines is a significant leap forward in short-run corrugated box making machines with advanced electronics and enhanced software. The new Generation 7 also has improved hardware, which incorporates the latest control technology and servo drive motors.

As with all Autobox machines, the new versions provide a high degree of flexibility in production and can be set up extremely quickly without requiring any specialist skills. The new software is easier and clearer to program as well as effortless to learn and set up. A simple to use colour touch-screen now means that changing batch orders is quicker and easier, and production data can be readily captured, stored and retrieved. The software can also record timings for future production scheduling and retain batch information.

With all these enhancements the new machines are even faster to set up making smaller runs even more cost effective and production output can be increased by up to 50%. Machine accuracy and repeatability have also been further improved.

Kevin Pilcher, Technical Manager at Autobox, said "we are very excited by the improvements that we have achieved and our customers will agree when they see them – the benefits are clear. The feedback to date has been extremely positive."

The new Generation 7 machines allow companies to manufacture their own corrugated boxes on a just-in-time basis from a vast range of FEFCO styles with a set up time of only a few seconds. Create your own boxes, large or small, from a production run of one to thousands! Check out the new Generation 7 machines and get in touch with your nearest contact for more information about this truly significant advance in short-run box making machinery.

AUTOBOX-25 YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO SHORT-RUN BOX MAKING EQUIPMENT

This year sees the 25th anniversary of Autobox in manufacturing and supplying machines for short-run corrugated box making. Since its creation in 1979, the company has grown from its small beginnings in Leighton Buzzard, UK to become the world leader in its field. Autobox stands out in the industry as a company with extensive experience and which has sold machines to many different countries around the world.

When Autobox identified the short-run box making concept in its early days, it began by supplying 2 pass boxmaker machines to the end user market. Following growth in demand for short-run production of boxes, the company subsequently marketed its machines to sheet plants and the packaging industry and added single pass machines, as well as all the ancillary finishing

equipment necessary to ensure that short-run corrugated box making could then be achieved speedily and economically across all markets.

Today, Autobox is an established and dynamic business in the expanding short-run box making market, with networks located around the world.

Mike Charlesworth, Managing Director, comments "Looking into the future, we continue to anticipate significant growth opportunities in the short-run corrugated box making market and we are well placed to make sure that our customers can profit from both our expertise and equipment. We are very proud to have reached 25 years in this industry."



Autobox Sells its Machines all over the World

Exhibition Success



Autobox has had unprecedented success as a result of exhibiting at the recent Total exhibition in Birmingham UK, at East Pack in New York USA, and at the Drupa exhibition in Düsseldorf Germany.

A record number of orders were taken during the shows and additional orders have been completed since from the enquiries made as a direct result of the company's participation at these events.

Naturally enough, at all of Autobox's exhibition displays, the excellent benefits of the full range of products are actively demonstrated. This makes the exhibition environment an ideal opportunity for potential users to see for themselves the real benefits from the Autobox short-run box making machines. (For details about forthcoming exhibitions where you can see the full Autobox range, see page 4)

Invitation

- Exhibition Diary Dates**
- FachPack 2004: 29 SEPT – 1 OCT 2004, STAND: 9-604
 - PACK EXPO – CHICAGO, 7-11 Nov 2004, STAND: S-3025
 - SUPERCORR – ATLANTA, 8-12 Nov 2004, STAND: 3038
 - SALON DE L'EMBALLAGE – PARIS, 22 – 26 Nov 2004, STAND: 5A G-125
 - INTERPACK 2005 – DUSSELDORF, 21-27 APR 2005, STAND 5B02-11

LAUNCH OF THE NEW HIPAK



FAST, FLEXIBLE, AND PROFITABLE SHORT-RUN BOX MAKING WITH HIPAK MACHINES



Short-run box making has never been more in demand. Sheet Plants and packaging companies can now take advantage of this increasing growth with the Hipak range of machines. Making production runs from one box to thousands has never been as fast, flexible and profitable as it is today with the introduction of the new Generation 7 upgraded technology and hardware.

The new machines are simple to operate and can be set up in seconds by anyone - only minimal training is necessary. And with almost 50 FEFCO styles available, selecting the box size you need has never been easier or quicker. From small regular boxes to pallet boxes and big wraps, the new Hipak range can quickly make whichever boxes you need on demand, just-in-time. Styles and sizes can be changed in seconds making the Hipak machines a profitable addition to any Sheet Plant company's production capability.

The new high quality machines are engineered to stringent specification standards by our engineers. They are very reliable and extremely accurate allowing excellent repeatability of box style and size.

With our 25 year's of experience in supplying the short-run box making industry we can provide any assistance or advice that you may need at any stage, and in the unlikely event of any difficulties there is also an extensive world-wide network of technical support available.

If you would like more information or a copy of our latest CD ROM entitled "Making a Profit from Short-run Box Making" get in touch with your nearest contact.

First Generation 7 Hipak machine sold to Complete Packaging Solutions – Factory throughput trebled!

“the best way was to purchase another machine from Autobox”

Complete Packaging Solutions, UK, started its business eight years ago as a packaging merchant involved in designing, buying and selling corrugated packaging. Over time, the company found that it had developed a niche position in the short run corrugated box market and as this short-run niche business grew, their suppliers were often unable to meet orders and were struggling to keep up with deliveries.

For Complete the only way forward was to become a Sheet Plant operator itself and start its own production operation.

Having considered all of the options, the company took the decision to purchase a Hipak machine from Autobox, which was installed in August 2003. By early 2004 the company's short-run box making business had grown to such an extent that the one machine could not keep up with the high levels of business being generated.



Mark Wright, Director explains, "We could see that our niche short-run business would continue to boom at a really fast rate! The best way to keep this business in-house was to purchase another machine from Autobox. We are very pleased to have had the opportunity to be the first company to purchase the new Generation 7 Hipak machine. By running both of the Hipak machines side by side we have been able to treble the factory throughput." "This improvement in output has enabled Complete Packaging Solutions to offer a guaranteed same day delivery from stock material or next day delivery on cut to size boxes."

With regard to the new software system and touch screen controls on the Generation 7 machine, Mark Wright says, "It's extremely simple to use, allowing us very fast set up times, and we can use this with the new data logging facility to help with future production planning." He adds, "We have a very good working relationship with Autobox and are delighted with the new Generation 7 Hipak machine; the improved speed and accuracy are beyond belief!"

Lean manufacturing concept benefits folding carton manufacturer

“we never run out of corrugated cases anymore”

Thoro Packaging based in the USA is a leading designer and supplier of folding cartons for the medical, pharmaceutical and confectionery industries. Part of the company's production philosophy incorporates the lean manufacturing concept. However, difficulties in obtaining supplies of corrugated boxes just-in-time, every time, created some problems.

The solution came from integrating a Hipak machine from Autobox into Thoro's production capability.

According to Janet Steiner, President "we never run out of corrugated cases anymore. We just make them when needed. The Autobox machine is crucial to our lean manufacturing concept. The Hipak machine has completely eliminated wasted warehouse space making significant cost savings. The machine also allows us to respond very

quickly to our customers' rush orders. Additional benefits are that it is perfect for just about any size job and there is no downtime on this equipment."



box

THE NEW BOXMAKER RANGE



REDUCE YOUR STORAGE COSTS AND QUICKLY MAKE YOUR OWN BOXES JUST WHEN YOU NEED THEM, WITH BOXMAKER MACHINES

Making your own boxes couldn't be more cost effective and effortless than it is today with the Boxmaker range of short-run corrugated box making machines saving your company on both storage space and box costs.

Now with the Generation 7 enhanced technology and hardware, the Boxmaker machines can be set up so quickly and easily that even companies without any previous box making experience can use them.

Up to 50 FEFCO styles are available on the machines, offering an excellent selection of sizes and styles. Setting up production runs from as low as one box to thousands takes only a matter of seconds and any change in style or size is equally fast.

Producing your own boxes in-house can create significant financial savings with reduced inventory levels, smaller storage and warehousing costs as well as a reduction in the actual cost of the boxes themselves - always having the correct sized box available.

Boxmaker machines are extremely durable and are high quality machines manufactured to the highest engineering standards, and with the new Generation 7 technology and hardware they have further improved accuracy and repeatability. In the unlikely event of any difficulties there is also an extensive world-wide network of technical support available.

In addition to the Boxmaker machines, all the preparation and finishing equipment and consumables can be supplied. And with our 25 year's of experience in supplying the short-run box making industry we can make sure that you get any assistance that you may need at any stage, from initial installation right through to production.

If you would like more information or a copy of our latest CD ROM entitled "In-house Box Making" get in touch with your nearest contact.

NEW PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE PACKAGE

Even high quality, well-engineered, durable equipment needs a certain amount of care and attention to make certain that its performance is never compromised. As a direct result of customer demand, Autobox now offers a preventative maintenance package to make sure that customers' machines are not only serviced regularly but that they also provide the optimum performance every time they are required.

The preventative maintenance service is carried out bi-annually by trained technicians, and includes both a mechanical and an electrical service as well

as a comprehensive performance check.

The new Autobox Preventative Maintenance Agreement provides a first rate service that is realistically priced, and which will provide customers with real peace of mind to ensure accurate, just-in-time production of their short-run box requirements.



Wide variety of sizes and pack dimensions required accurate packaging just-in-time

"for us it is essential to be able to turn customer orders around quickly"

Folex is part of a European group of companies manufacturing high quality acetate type films for applications including overhead projection, presentation folders, mouse pads and T-shirt designs. With a wide variety of sizes and pack dimensions requiring accurate packaging and mostly for just-in-time usage to avoid holding large stocks of various sizes and styles of box, Folex have on two separate occasions ordered Boxmaker machines.

The use of the Autobox designed "Fliptop" box not only provides a strong pack for transportation, but can also double as an effective display carton at the point-of-sale.

According to Huw Carden, Operations Manager at Folex, "The fact that we now own two Boxmaker machines speaks volumes. They are fast and easy to use. The first machine that we purchased was good but the second model is even better. We did look at other options but felt that none of the other machines could get near to matching the flexibility offered by the Boxmaker. For us it is essential to be able to turn customer orders around quickly and the Boxmaker machines certainly enable us to do just that!"



Savings of over €300,000 in one year

President is a leading manufacturer of office furniture and part of the Skandinavisk Group producing a range of desks, seating, storage and other office furniture that naturally require many different shapes and sizes. The bulk of orders leaving the factory are less than 100 units, and as a result demanded large stocks of lots of different styles and different sized boxes to be stored in the company's warehouse.



Since installing a Boxmaker machine, all production runs of less than 100 boxes are now manufactured just-in-time. The average cost per box has been reduced from Euro 7.50 to Euro1.95, and together with the reduction in storage space means that over Euro 300,000 were saved in the first year of use. *"a fantastic investment"*

Brian Stanton, Production Engineer at President commented "In addition to the Boxmaker machine we also purchased a Slitter. With these two versatile machines we are now able to make the boxes that we need when we need them, and have also saved over 320 square metres of warehouse space. Our initial outlay was recovered after only three months, a fantastic investment!"

A complete short-run box making solution, no special skills required

REMINGTON



"in fact it's the complete solution"

Remington Products is a world leader with its range of personal care products which include shavers for both men and women, haircare products such as dryers, curling irons and straighteners. Remington's products are distributed internationally through mass merchandisers, catalogue showrooms, drug store chains, specialised shaver shops, mail order distributors and department stores.

The Company receives returns from mail order businesses that they cannot repack, and there is uncertainty about what will be returned at any one time. Remington in the UK has solved this dilemma by installing a complete short-run box making system that includes a Slitter, Boxmaker and finishing equipment.

"As soon as we saw the Boxmaker machine, we knew that it was exactly what we needed and placed the order straight away," commented Remingtons Operations Manager, "The Boxmaker has revolutionised our way of working. It is so easy to use, any number of different operators can work it without the need for special training. It is fast and flexible, in fact it's the complete solution that we were looking for. The efficient, helpful service that we received from Autobox was an added bonus."

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INTERPACK 2005 – DUSSELDORF,
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AUTOBOX SYSTEMS

SLITTING

Combining ease of use with versatility, Autobox slitters provide exact cut blanks of board ready for boxmaking. Creasing tools are available for the production of simple wraps or for assistance with more complex boxmaking.

BOXMAKERS

Make boxes large or small, quickly and easily, just when they are needed. Produce one box or hundreds with the Autobox two-pass Boxmaker Range. Ideal for In-house boxmaking requirements.



HIPAK

With the single-pass Hipak Range produce one box or thousands. With the semi automatic feeder system fitted greater automation and productivity can be achieved, allowing the user to progress work elsewhere whilst boxes are being made.

FINISHING

To finish and close the boxes using hot melt gluing, stapling, or gummed paper dispense. For greater productivity use the Autobox Progluer semi-automatic box closing machine.

