

# SMART BELT IS NEW

FOSBER LAUNCHES LATEST GENERATION BELTED SINGLE FACER FOR ITS 2.5M AND 2.8M CORRUGATORS.



It is well documented that corrugated board producers are running lighter weight recycled papers and finer flute profiles on the corrugator, as packaging specifiers look to ensure a truly sustainable and circular economy. At the same time, brand owners are engaging with box plants to produce even higher quality printed images, whether using HQPP or digital print

– and to achieve this, box plants need board with a perfect print surface on both sides.

In a bid to help board plants produce the ultimate quality sheet – irrespective of paper weight or flute profile – Fosber has launched a new belted single facer for the global corrugated market: the Smart Belt.

“This new belted single facer has been developed very much

from customer demand,” explains Massimiliano Bianchi, President and Managing Director of Fosber Group. “It was interesting, because the discussions were being held with customers in America concurrently with customers in Europe, even though the drivers for development were different by region”.

Alfio Brandi, Commercial Director, adds, “The American customers

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MASSIMILIANO BIANCHI, PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF FOSBER GROUP

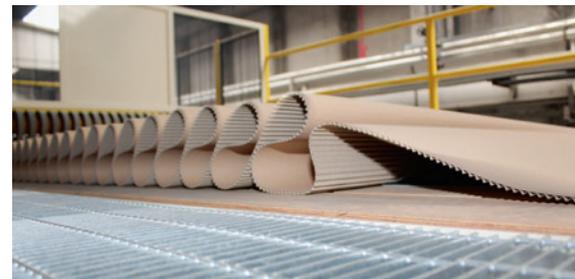
wanted a machine that produced board that could be printed on both sides. Yet for the Europeans, they were looking for a belted cartridge single facer in order to run very light papers. So you can see, the demand for a belted single facer became apparent and we set about designing the new Smart Belt single facer.”

### Fast Machine

This new single facer is available in a 370 m/min and a 420 m/min version. It features a similar cartridge and corrugating roll technology used in the Smart single facer, meaning rolls are inter-changeable. It uses a Teflon coated, durable cloth belt and ensures easy maintenance; the company says

the belt can be replaced in a very short time. The belt's rolls (one driven, one passive) continually fine-tune while running, by way of two hydraulic plungers. This allows the belt to be constantly aligned and tensioned.

The new single facer uses curved hot plates; this allows the unit to be more responsive and makes for



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MAURO ADAMI, GROUP TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

easier removal of condensate. There is also an integrated ‘WaterDeck’ – designed according to Kohler patented technology – on the liner path (optional for the fluting), which Fosber says results in better heat transfer, less glue consumption, lower energy requirement, and ensures less starch contamination on the belt. The WaterDeck applies a microns-thick film of water across the entire width of the paper, which flashes to steam, improving heat transfer efficiency and lowering energy. It conditions the bonding surface, reduces warp, and improves the combined board’s long-term dimensional stability.



Waterdeck

“The Smart Belt is a totally new design of machine,” adds Mauro Adami, Group Technical Director. “But of course, this new design benefits from the innovation, reliability and technology associated with all Fosber machines. Paramount in our design concept was the safety of the operator; with expansive glass guarding, user-friendly operating console and a full safety locking system, this new generation of single facer is a truly state-of-the-art machine.”

He continues, “The new Smart Belt utilises the same negative pressure system that was developed for the Edge single facer, which of course is



Console

well proven. This negative pressure system holds the fluting tight against the upper corrugating roll, thanks to the vacuum created in the slots on the roll. It results in one of the cleanest pressure systems in the market today and is easy to maintain.”

Fosber confirms that the first machine has been successfully

installed and is running at a plant in Italy. “Although this new single facer is predominantly being promoted with new lines, it can be retrofitted to an S/Line machine that has been installed within the last few years,” concludes Simone Roberti, Operations Director. “A second Smart Belt single facer will be installed in Italy in August.” ■