

### Crease Matic™ digital creaser increases productivity at Netherne Printing Services

Netherne Printing Services, a Social Firm based in Dorking, has installed a KAS Crease Matic CM150 digital creaser and sheet perforator. This is the second piece of equipment that the company has bought from Ashgate Automation in the last fifteen months.

The company, which runs on a commercial basis, creates employment for disabled people, as well as providing work experience for other disabled volunteers as a means of helping them to get into paid employment.

*“Since we became independent last year, our aim has been to increase productivity through investing in new equipment, so that we can use our trainees most effectively. We have plans to introduce more new equipment to our finishing department as finances allow,”* said Kelvin Bagley, General Manager.



The KAS Crease Matic replaced an old hand creaser. “As the digital print side of our business grew, we were desperate to have a new creaser. Our hand creaser was out-of-date and all the jobs that we print on digitally on card and thicker stock, like table-top calendars, need to be creased before they are folded,” said Kelvin. “Consequently it became a very time consuming process.”

Netherne had a short list of two suppliers. “Ashgate had already supplied us with a Kasfold bookletmaker, which has dramatically improved the turn round times in our finishing department and enabled us to bring in more booklet work, even with short lead times. KAS equipment is very well built and that’s what impressed us about the CreaseMatic. It fits our type of work where most of the run lengths are only a few hundred copies and it also met our budget. Had we been doing a lot of longer run work, I would have been tempted to buy Crease Matic Auto50 but that is in a different price range,” Kelvin commented.

The CM150 has been designed for the short to medium run digital print market to fill the gap between desktop card creasers and the fully automatic suction feed models. With its compact footprint, it is capable of delivering quick and reliable creasing results and at around half the cost of the current auto feed models on the market. Up to 2000 sheets an hours can be stream-fed by hand. The operator can programme up to nine creases per sheet on card from A5 to SRA3 and six page A4. Up to five regular creasing jobs can be programmed in the memory function, which is fitted as standard.

The trainees at Netherne Printing Services also find the perforator very useful. “We used to perforate using the folder but this is a much simpler and more efficient method,” Kelvin recalled.

*“It is important that we give our trainees the right tools for the job, so that they can progress. This has made a big difference to a very simple job where we were struggling before,”* he concluded.