



The ENDPAPER

Newsletter of the Library Binding Institute – AUGUST 2005

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LBI Members To Exhibit at PRINT 05, September 9 – 15, McCormick Place, Chicago

Plan to visit the following LBI members who are registered to exhibit at PRINT05 in Chicago:

GP2 Technologies, Inc. – Booth #5453
Heckman Bindery – Booth #111
J.A. Flesher Co. – Booth #5654
On Demand Machinery – Booth #4762
Paulymark - #17049F

Show-At-A-Glance

HOURS: Friday through Wednesday 10 am – 5 pm; Thursday 10 am – 2 pm

NUMBER OF EXHIBITORS: Nearly 800

NUMBER OF ATTENDEES: 80,000

SIZE: Over 750,000 square feet of exhibits

NUMBER OF SEMINARS: Nearly 90

BAGGAGE CHECK: Located at the convention center. The charge is \$2 per item. The baggage check rooms will be at S100c and N139. Both rooms are close to the taxi and shuttle drop off locations.

PRICE: \$30 in advance (by August 5) or \$45 at the door, which includes: 7 days show floor admission.

LBI Fall Meeting September 15 – 17, 2005 Knickerbocker Hotel, Chicago

Hotel Reservation Cut-Off: August 22

Reserve your hotel room now for LBI's fall meeting in Chicago. The room rate at the Knickerbocker Hotel is \$159 single/double and is available beginning Sunday, September 11, based on availability. Call 1-866-866-8086 or 312-751-8100 to make your reservations. The cutoff date for LBI's room rate is August 22.

The Millennium Knickerbocker Hotel is located at 163 East Walton Place, Chicago, IL 60611, (312)751-8100, Guest Facsimile Number: (312)751-9205 www.millenniumhotels.com

Airport/Transportation to/from Hotel

From O'Hare

Taxi – Approximately \$45 one way
Shuttle – Continental Air Transport - \$24 one way

From Midway

Taxi – Approximately \$25 one way
Shuttle – Continental Air Transport - \$22 one way

LBI Fall Meeting Schedule

Thursday, September 15

- 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm Registration
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm Welcome Reception

Friday, September 16

- 7:30 am – 8:15 am Continental Breakfast
8:15 am – 8:30 am Welcome
8:30 am – 10:00 am Frank Romano
10:00 am – 10:30 am Break
10:30 am – Noon Frank Romano,
 Werner Rebsamen
Noon – 1:30 pm Lunch
1:30 pm – 2:15 pm Rick Lamos
2:15 pm – 2:45 pm Break
2:45 pm – 4:15 pm Rick Lamos
5:15 pm – 10:30 pm Adobo Grill & Second
 City Comedy Club

Saturday, September 17

- 8:15 am – 9:00 am Continental breakfast
9:00 am – 10:30 am LBI Board Meeting
10:30 am – 11:00 am Break
11:00 am – 12:30 pm LBI Membership
 Meeting
12:30 pm – 2:00 pm Lunch
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm Thomas Teper,
 Charles Wilt
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm Break
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm Meeting Wrap-Up

LBI Members Participate in Changing Book Conference July 22 - 25, 2005 Iowa City, Iowa

Coverage of the Changing Book Conference in the *July Endpaper* neglected to mention the full extent of LBI member participation.

Conference sponsors included LBS, LBI, The Heckman Bindery, and ICIBinding Corporation.

Conference speakers included Jim Larsen of Bridgeport National Bindery and Paul Parisi of Acme Bookbinding.

Several LBI member companies participated by sending representatives to attend the conference including ACME Bookbinding, Bridgeport National Bindery, Bound to Stay Bound Books, Campbell-Logan Bindery, The Heckman Bindery, Houchen Bindery, ICIBinding Corporation, Kater-Crafts Bookbinders, LBS, and Wallaceburg Bookbinding.

2006 LBI Spring and Fall Conferences Scheduled

2006 Annual Meeting, May 5 – 7
Sheraton Sand Key
Clearwater Beach, Florida

2006 Fall Meeting, Sept. 21 – 24
Grouse Mountain Lodge
Whitefish, Montana

Mark your calendars!

Life On Demand

By Debra Mills Nolan, CAE

Did you know that you can go to www.indemand.com and order Howard Stern on demand? Really.

According to the web site, "*Howard Stern On Demand* is a subscription video on demand television offering that will be available from multiple television service providers. It will also be the only way you can watch Howard Stern's radio shows on television, with the convenience of On Demand viewing."

The web site also describes on demand as a "part of most cable companies' digital cable offerings. It lets you select programs, watch them whenever you want, and pause, fast-forward or rewind them using your cable remote."

Wow. If you can get Howard Stern on demand, what else can you get on demand? After surfing around on Google, I discovered a few other items:

Games on Demand
gamesondemand.yahoo.com

Innovation on Demand
www.stardock.com

Weather on Demand
www.earthwatch.com

Lightning on Demand
www.lod.org

Lyrics on Demand
www.media.fastclick.net

World Radio Network News on Demand
www.wrn.org/ondemand

Amazing!

In his recent presentation at the Changing Book Conference, LBI member, Jim Larsen, compared on demand printing to ordering a PC or laptop from Dell Computers. Larsen remarked, "Print on demand is to publishing what Dell is to computers."

Having purchased a Dell laptop computer in the last three months, I reflected on my own experience. The ordering process had been effortless - I had my choice of going through a live person who could discuss the range of options with me, or via the Internet where I could pick and choose my options with minimal outside influence. I got exactly what I needed, nothing more or less, although Dell threw in a few extras with certain items. My new laptop arrived via UPS, earlier than expected, within 2 days of my original order. And, I could begin using it right away, no hoops, phone calls, or sales gimmicks to entice me to buy more. The whole process was customized, quick, and painless. I got what I wanted with little effort and fast.

Successful businesses seem to get this concept of making things available to individuals and companies quickly, accurately, and just the way they want it. It is kind of ironic that products or services purchased on demand can either save time and money through streamlined ordering/expenditures, or cost time and money if the buyer, embroiled in the heat of the moment, charges headlong into a purchase they might later regret.

It will be interesting to see what the next wave of technology brings - a lifelike image of Howard Stern, delivering comments and jokes, bantering with live guests, beamed Star Trek fashion into our living rooms? Now that's a scary thought...

Technical Director's Report

By Werner Rebsamen

Print 05 – Here we come!

One of the biggest shows ever for printing and binding will open in Chicago on September 9. With roughly 750,000 square feet of exhibition space, 800 companies from all over the world will display their latest developments.

Most of us will not be interested in pre-press systems or commercial printing. The same goes for converting, packaging and machinery for commercial print-finishing equipment, such as folders, saddlestitchers, high-speed perfect binders, etc. Do not expect to see much in regard to hardcover equipment. Most machinery suppliers for such equipment will have a booth where they show movies and offer information on request. There are of course exceptions.

Some of our own members will exhibit and have machinery up and running. What will be of great interest to us are digital printing and finishing. Expect many in-line, digital finishing systems. Muller Martini will have its Sigma line up and running at various places (They won the GATF InterTech Award for this new development.). There are others – too many to list. However, all these digital printing and finishing systems will concentrate on booklets, saddlestitching, perfect binding, etc. Virtually nobody will have hardcover systems which means that this is your chance to look into new markets and possibilities. I will arrive at the show at approximately noon on Wednesday. This will give me enough time to look around and report my observations to you on Friday.

A unique, affordable new Perfect Binder for Books with features like no others

Library binding itself shows no growth. In fact, it is in a decline and there is not much we can do about. What is growing is on-demand digital printing and binding. Not so long ago, we were proud of the U.S. statistics that we published over 60,000 titles every year. Well, last year that number was

193,000! However, the units produced have not changed much which means, our industry has changed – we are now in a short-run environment. Jobs coming in require 20, 50, or a few hundred to be printed and bound in a most efficient manner. Some jobs have to be in soft cover, a losing proposition for library binders as they most often lack the necessary equipment.

Some who have invested in relative low cost, single clamp binders quickly found out that they are not competitive and that the quality produced left much to be desired. While visiting library binderies, I have seen many such “perfect” binders collecting dust in a corner – 30,000 to 50,000 dollars spent for nothing! For hard cover bindings, most library binders could and do use the Ultrabind. However, let's face it, the heavy duty and expensive backlining applied to the spine is not the most ideal and economical way to produce a lightweight, conventional hardcover binding at a competitive price.

What a library binder needs to be competitive is an all new binder that is just coming onto the market. The very first such binder for the U.S. is being installed in September at a law book publishers print and bind facility in the Midwest. It also includes in-line trimming and hardcover binding made by ShortRun Solutions. Several binders are up and running in Europe as is one of their case binding lines in New England.

In order to keep our members abreast of new developments, I traveled to Leipzig Germany to see this revolutionary binder. This on a tip in a German Binders trade magazine which had the title: “A Perfect Binder like we never had!” ShortRun Solutions is a company founded by Kurt Richter, himself a legend in our business like Jack Bendror. Kurt headed the Book Technology Group and after Muller Martini took it over, started to concentrate on the

(Technical Director's Report Cont.)

emerging markets for short run book manufacturing.

Very familiar with all requirements and as a mechanical engineer, Kurt hired some of the best engineers and started to build machinery for these particular markets, for production runs from 10 to 1500. Charts shown to me were very much convincing and showed that within this parameter, you will outdo competition in regard to productivity and costs. Even after runs of 1500, the equipment stays very competitive. As Kurt said, we used to change over from one job to another in hours, then minutes and now, with our new equipment, it is in seconds!

Shown first as a prototype, but not running at DRUPA, was the ShortRunBind Perfect Binder. It was an idea that generated lots of interest. Now being tested in actual production, it is the most compact and versatile binder I have ever had the pleasure to see in operation. And that goes for the three-knife trimmer as well. The new SRS Binder is no larger than the Ultrabind. The in-feed is manual but can be connected to a gathering unit, though, in most cases, would defeat the purpose. After all, short-run binders need to process all kinds of materials – stacks of single sheets, folded signatures, sewn book blocks, etc.

The very first "thing" you will have to do, is to tell a well designed, touch screen computer what you intend to bind. Softcover, hardcover with endpapers, gluing-off and lining-up sewn book blocks, lay-flat binding, etc. If it is a softcover, the infeed will measure the thickness and adjust the cover scoring. Side-gluing is automatic. Press a few buttons and you are ready to run 20 books a minute! If you intend to produce a perfect bound bookblock, tell the computer to apply endpapers. After spine preparation, the endpapers drop down and are glued flush with the binding edge. This will guarantee excellent openings in the hinge.

A lining paper covers the spine and can be glued to the sides onto the endpapers. Spine preparation is adjustable; that is you can space the notches as required, all depending on the papers processed. If sewn book blocks are processed, the milling station is simply deleted. No manual, mechanical changes are required! The ShortRunBind is available with Hotmelt, PVA or PUR.

My recommendation would be to spend a little more money and go with PUR. This way, you produce superior binding quality with all papers and, best of all, the finished products will lay open flat like no other. Cleaning-up the PUR extrusion head is quick. At the end of the production day, all you need to do is wipe off the application head with a towel. Everything on this new binder is motorized. There is no need to exchange parts. Communication with the computer is very simple. Best of all, it is an affordable perfect binder starting within the cost range of the Ultrabind. Just imagine the possibilities for your particular operation – Softcover, Hardcover, Sewn books, Lay-flat bindings, etc. However, it should be stated that this particular binder is not a replacement for the Ultrabind. It is, as Kurt Richter said, not a machine to bind single, variable library books. That new binder is a worthwhile extension into the On-Demand, short-run binding business, our future.

Books need to be trimmed on three sides. The problem in this industry is we have not yet found a fast change-over three-knife trimmer. Changing pressing blocks and other parts takes time. Kurt Richter went to work on such a trimmer as well. Within seconds, not minutes, the operator changed the entire trimmer from a 2-inch thick, approximately 6 x 9 inch bookblock to an oblong, odd size ¼-inch thick book. All he did was tell the touch screen what he wanted the trimmer to do.

(Technical Director's Report Cont.)

The secret of the trimmer is the pressing device which is unique and fully automatic. The shutter-like pressing device guarantees excellent pressure. The swing-cut knife movements guarantee superior trim quality. Such optimized cutting force and pressing are unique and an industry's first. Both the binder and trimmer are worth investigating to cope with your company's future. Those who neglect to plan for the future will soon find out that they are no longer competitive. Believe me, in my 50+ year career in bookbinding, I have seen many examples of success and failure.

For further information on the ShortRun*Bind* and ShortRun*Trim*, go to: www.srshortrun.ch or contact info@srshortrun.ch. They have an excellent CD with movies showing all of their equipment, including casemaking and hardcover binding. ShortRun Solutions will have a booth at Print 05 where most likely, you will have a chance to discuss your requirements and see the CD.

Look forward to see you in Chicago.

Address Changes

The following former LBI executive offices have moved:

Sally and Wes Moyer
7150 Cahill Road, Apt. 303
Edina, MN 55439
(952)941-8508
wesmae@earthlink.net

PII Office
70 E. Lake Street, Suite #540
Chicago, IL 60601

Something to Think About...

"So documents do not merely carry information, they help make it, structure it, and validate it. More intriguing, perhaps, documents also help structure society, enabling social groups to form, develop, and maintain a sense of shared identity. Viewing documents as mere information carriers overlooks this social role."

-John Seely Brown and Paul Duguid,
The Social Life of Information

LBI Office Closed Week of August 22

The LBI office will be closed the week of August 22.
