

# Curtain down!

According to Polytype Converting, curtain coating processes are gaining ground

As one of the leading supplier of coating machinery, Hamburg-based Polytype Converting's secret of success is to always be up-to-date, to recognise requirements of customers and to react on latest market developments.

Just recently, the specialists have witnessed an increasing demand for the multi-layer curtain coating technology. "We see the reasons for this significant growth in the increasing trend for higher productivity, the wish for flexible solutions while minimising downtimes, the demand for reduced use of material and the fast development of automation", summarises Ronald Haunholter, sales and marketing manager of Polytype Converting in conversation with C2.

## Convincing advantages of curtain coating solutions

In the photographic industry, the curtain coating technology is widely used for coatings of multi-layer products for decades and is becoming more and more popular in the converting industry. The technology is trendsetting because it allows the user to process several individual high-quality functional layers for optimised costs. This paves the way for completely new applications. The technology bundles diverse advantages. "Especially convincing is the fact that the

multi-layers can be processed in a single path allowing attractive saving in production costs. "Thanks to compatible functional layers like steam or oxygen barriers, we are able to substitute layers and to reduce the use of material," adds Haunholter.

According to the experts, it is undeniable that curtain coating technology guarantees smallest deviations in coating profiles compared to other coating technologies. Different structures of the surfaces have no influence on the layer thickness. Thus, the stable consistency of the layer thickness opens the doors for the further increase in quality of the final product.

Furthermore, the contactless curtain coating technology scores with the sensitive handling of product relevant materials. This has a positive impact on the die components which are wear-free and only require reduced efforts in handling and maintenance.

A lot of Polytype Converting's customers already use the multi-layer technology in applications like specialty papers, self-adhesive labels, flexible packaging and others.

Besides the design of the curtain coating dies, the company pays special attention to the optimised processing of all further production steps like web guidance and air calming, to assure an even curtain and a perfect edge guidance of the curtain. ■



Polytype Converting has noticed an increasing demand for curtain coating applications

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