

Cicogres sees quantifiable benefits from Xaar 1003 upgrade



At the heart of ceramic tile manufacturer Cicogres, is a philosophy of continuous innovation and improvement in order to provide the best product design and quality for its customers.

Company owner, Israel Sanchez and his team at Cicogres have always believed that digital inkjet technology enables the company to produce differentiated products with a particular focus on product quality and attention to every detail.

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Ricardo Baldayo
Technical Director, Cicogres



XAAR

XAAR CASE STUDY

Not long after the Xaar 1003 was launched, Cicogres, who had been using Xaar printheads for around 8 years, opted to upgrade its tile decoration machine in order to take advantage of improved print quality and uptime.

Technical Director, Ricardo Baldayo, who made the decision to upgrade, explains the main benefits they have seen: "When we upgraded we could very quickly see the improvements delivered by the Xaar 1003. You can really notice the improvements in print quality over the Xaar 1002. There's a huge difference between the two printheads."

Since the move to Xaar 1003 printheads, Cicogres has also seen other advantages. "Line speed has increased because we only need to do routine maintenance when the line is stopped for other reasons," comments Ricardo. "In terms of performance, we see that this printhead is faster than previous printheads. And because we don't need to adjust the printheads or clean them, production uptime has increased as well as print quality."

The benefits seen by Cicogres are the result of a number of innovations introduced with the Xaar 1003. These include XaarGuard which provides mechanical protection to the nozzle which dramatically reduces the frequency of maintenance to once per shift or less. Another improvement is the use of Tuned Actuator Manufacturing which ensures actuator performance in each printhead is optimised; this in turn achieves uniform print quality across all printheads in a print bar, and at different greyscale levels.



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Ricardo Baldayo
Technical Director, Cicogres

As with its predecessors, the Xaar 1003 family of printheads combines Xaar's unique TF Technology with Xaar's Hybrid Side Shooter architecture so that ink is recirculated directly past the back of the nozzle during drop ejection at the highest flow rates in the industry. This ensures that the printhead operates reliably even in the harshest industrial environments. Ink is in constant circulation, preventing sedimentation and subsequent blocking of the nozzles when jetting.

The Xaar 1003 has been designed to enable tile manufacturers using either the Xaar 1001 or Xaar 1002 printheads to easily upgrade their systems due to it being fully backward compatible. Delivering both improved print quality and production uptime, the Xaar 1003 is the ideal choice for tile manufacturers seeking to deliver a greater level of manufacturing performance.

To find out more, visit www.xaar.com/upgrade or email info@xaar.com

The benchmark for single-pass print quality

The Xaar 1003 is the benchmark against which all other single-pass printheads are compared. With its all-round superior performance, this printhead builds on the market-leading Xaar 1002 and its predecessor, the original and groundbreaking Xaar 1001.

The Xaar 1003 printhead family introduces an important new feature – the XaarGuard – which provides the ultimate in nozzle plate protection, and coupled with other design innovations, achieves the longest maintenance-free production runs in the industry*. In addition, the Xaar 1003 provides a step forward in consistent print quality across the wide print widths used in many single-pass applications, due to Xaar's Tuned Actuator Manufacturing process.

Xaar's flagship piezoelectric drop-on-demand printhead is trusted by manufacturers for use in a wide range of applications such as ceramic tile decoration, label, direct-to-shape and other packaging printing, the production of wood laminates, glass printing and many other manufacturing processes.

Like its predecessors, the Xaar 1003 delivers high productivity and versatility. It is available in three drop sizes and incorporates Xaar's unbeaten combination of TF Technology and Hybrid Side-Shooter architecture for use in horizontal and vertical (skyscraper) jetting modes.



*Depending on fluid type and application



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