UV/EB Curing Technologies in Printing

Description: Energy-curing inks and coatings are used for applications in which productivity and durability are at a premium.

Today, there are two main types of energy-curing systems-ultraviolet (UV) and electron beam (EB). Both rely on matched ink and curing systems to cause a molecular reaction that fuses the ink to the substrate when exposed to UV or EB light. UV-curable ink technology accounts for 96% of energy curing manufacturers revenues.

UV/EB curing offers real advantages to commercial printers, converters and brand owners, though not fully understood. Energy-curing ink technologies are less expensive to operate than conventional ink technology; output quality tends to be more consistent and often yields a more vibrant final product.

Although print providers and packaging converters still find it difficult to invest with ongoing price pressure and overcapacity issues, productivity and efficiency benefits from energy-curing ink systems are tangible.

This study projects a 2.5% or greater combined growth rate for energy curing printing manufacturers through 2017 in North America.

Contents:

1. Executive Summary
   A. Introduction
   B. Definitions and Segmentation of UV and EB Curing Technologies
   C. Energy Curing Applications
   D. Equipment and Supplies Manufacturer Revenue
   E. Stakeholder Perspectives on Energy Curing Ink Technology
      - Commercial Printer and Packaging Converter Perspectives
      - The Brand Owner Perspective
      - Energy Curing Printing Equipment and Supplies Manufacturer Perspectives
   F. North American Printing Equipment and Supplies Manufacturer Forecast
   G. Conclusions and Implications for Members
   H. Recommendations

2. Introduction and Methodology
   A. Study Methodology and Scope
   B. Finding Highlights
   C. Report Structure

3. Definitions and Segmentation of UV And EB Curing Technologies and Applications
   A. Introduction
   B. UV Ink Technology
      - Printing Press Technologies
      - UV Ink Chemistry
      - UV Curing Technology
   C. EB Ink Technology
      - EB Printing Press Technologies
      - EB Ink Chemistry
      - EB Curing Technology

4. Applications
   A. Introduction
   B. Energy Curing Applications
   C. Commercial Print
      - Offset Applications
      - Inkjet Applications
   D. Packaging
- Flexographic and Offset Applications
- Corrugated
- Inkjet Applications
EB Applications
E. Coatings
F. The Bottom Line

5. Energy Curing Equipment and Supplies Manufacturer Revenues
A. Introduction
B. Sizing Methodology
C. UV and EB Analog Press Manufacturer Revenue
D. UV and EB Ink Manufacturer Revenue
E. UV and EB Coating Manufacturer Revenue
F. UV and EB Curing Systems Manufacturer Revenue
G. UV and EB Curing Plate Manufacturer Revenue
H. UV and EB Blanket, Roller, Coater, and Other Manufacturer Revenue
I. UV Inkjet manufacturer revenue

6. Commercial Printer And Packaging Converter Perspectives
A. Introduction
B. The Application Fit of Energy curing Inks
C. Application Perspective
D. The Curing-System Perspective
E. Commercial Printers UV Curable Ink and Coating Consideration Process
- Cost Savings vs. Value-Add
F. Energy Curable Ink Consideration Process at Packaging Converters
- UV Inks
- EB Inks
G. UV Curable Ink Consideration Process at Screen Printers
H. UV Curable Coating Consideration Process
I. The Challenges with UV Curing Ink Technology
J. Benefits of UV Curing Inks and Coatings
K. The UV Curable Dividends

7. Brand Owner Perspectives
A. Introduction
B. Brand Owners and Their Perspectives of Energy Curing inks
C. UV Curable Ink Safety Perspective
D. Ink Odor Perspective
E. EB Inks Perspective
F. The Innovation vs. Cost Challenge
G. The Influence of Retailers on Packaging
H. The Nestlé Food/Ink Note
I. Shifting of Food/Ink Safety Responsibility?
J. Implications for Communicating with Brand Owners

8. Energy Curing Printing Equipment and Supplies Manufacturer Perspectives
A. Introduction
B. UV Press Manufacturer Perspectives
C. Flexography Press Manufacturer Perspectives
D. Dry Offset press Manufacturer Perspectives
E. Inkjet Press Manufacturer Perspectives.
F. Screen Press Manufacturer Perspectives
G. UV Plate Manufacturer Perspectives
H. Ink Manufacturer Perspectives
I. EB and UV Curing System Manufacturer Perspectives
- EB Curing Systems
- UV Curing Systems
J. UV Blanket, Roller, Coater, and Other Manufacturer Perspectives
K. UV and EB Coating Hardware and Supplies Manufacturer Perspectives
L. The Bottom Line

A. Introduction
B. Printing Equipment Revenue Forecast
C. UV and EB Ink Revenue Forecast
D. UV and EB Plate Revenue Forecast
E. UV and EB Curing System Revenue Forecast
F. UV and EB Coating Formulations Revenue Forecast
G. UV and EB Blanket, Roller, Coater, and Other Revenue Forecast
H. The Bottom Line

10. Conclusions and Implications for Members
A. Introduction
B. Implications for Press Manufacturers
C. Implications for Ink and Coating Formulation Manufacturers
D. Implications for Curing System Manufacturers
E. Implications for Blanket, Roller, Coater, and Other Manufacturers
F. The Bottom Line

11. Recommendations

12. Glossary

List of Exhibits:
Exhibit I-1: Opening the Door and Changing the Conversation
Exhibit I-2: Energy Curing Print Applications
Exhibit I-3: Energy Curing Printing Equipment and Supplies Manufacturer Revenues, North America, 2012 ($M)
Exhibit I-4 Equipment and Supplies Manufacturer Revenues by Type of Ink Curing Type, North America, 2012
Exhibit I-5: The Challenge of Getting Packaging Converters to Specify Energy Curing Inks
Exhibit I-6: The Challenges Facing Printing Equipment and Supplies Manufacturers in Selling Energy Curing Ink Technology
Exhibit I-7: Printing Equipment and Supplies Manufacturer Revenues by Source, North America, 2012-2017 ($M)
Exhibit II-1: Polymeric Dispersant Used with Energy curing Inks
Exhibit II-2: The Complexity of Energy Curing Segmentation
Exhibit II-3: Opening the Door and Changing the Conversation
Exhibit II-4: Fundamental Challenges for Energy Curing Ink Technology
Exhibit III-1: Major Printing Equipment Using UV Curable Technology
Exhibit III-2: The UV Curing Process
Exhibit III-3: Major Printing Equipment Using EB Curable Technology
Exhibit IV-1: Energy Curing Print Applications
Exhibit IV-2: Coating Methods and Segmentation.
Exhibit V-1: Energy Curing Printing Equipment and Supplies Manufacturer Revenues, WW, 2012 ($M)
Exhibit V-2: Energy Curing Analog Press Equipment Manufacturer Revenues by Type of Press, WW, 2012 ($M)
Exhibit V-3: Offset/Flexo UV Press Manufacturers Included in Revenue Sizing, WW, 2012
Exhibit V-4: Energy Curing Ink Manufacturer Revenues by Type of Press, WW, 2012 ($M)
Exhibit V-5: Offset/Flexo UV Component Cost Ratio vs. Inkjet UV Inks
Exhibit V-6: Offset/Flexo UV Ink Manufacturers Included in Revenue Sizing, WW, 2012
Exhibit V-7: Coating Technology Comparison
Exhibit V-8: Energy Curing Coating Formulation Manufacturer Revenues by Type of Press, WW, 2012 ($M)
Exhibit V-9: Energy Curing Coating Formulation Manufacturers Included in Revenue Sizing, WW, 2012
Exhibit V-10: Energy Curing System Methods and Segmentation
Exhibit V-11: Energy Curing System Manufacturer Revenues, WW, 2012 ($M)
Exhibit V-12: Energy Curing System Manufacturers Included in Revenue Sizing, WW, 2012
Exhibit V-13: Energy Curing Plate Manufacturer Revenues by Type of Press (excluding non-dedicated plates), WW, 2012 ($M)
Exhibit V-14: Energy Curing Plate Manufacturers Included in Revenue Sizing, WW, 2012.
Exhibit V-15: Energy Curing Blanket/Roller/Coater/Other Manufacturer Revenues, WW, 2012 ($M)
Exhibit V-16: Energy Curing Blanket/Roller/Coater/Other Manufacturers Included in Revenue Sizing, WW, 2012
Exhibit V-17: UV Curable Inkjet Printing Equipment Manufacturer Revenues, 2012, WW ($M)
Exhibit V-18: UV Curable Inkjet Printing Equipment Manufacturers Included in Revenue Sizing, WW, 2012
Exhibit VI-1: Print-to-Package: The UV Curable Benefit of Getting Faster to the Conversion Stage
Exhibit VI-2: Applications Best Suited for UV Curing Inks/Coatings, North America, 2013
Exhibit VI-3: Applications Best Suited for EB Curing Inks/Coatings, North America, 2013
Exhibit VI-4: Applications Best Suited for Energy Curing
Exhibit VI-5: Energy Curing Systems Best Suited for Specific Applications
Exhibit VI-6: Commercial Printer/Packaging Converter Perspectives on Energy Curing Inks
Exhibit VI-7: Top Benefits of UV Curing Inks, North America, 2013
Exhibit VI-8: Packaging Converter Perspectives on Best Fit for UV Curing Inks, North America, 2013
Exhibit VI-9: Screen Printer Perspectives on Energy Curing Inks
Exhibit VI-10: UV Coatings: Cost Savings or Value-Add, North America, 2013
Exhibit VI-11: Can Print Service Providers Afford Energy Curing Inks/Coatings, North America, 2013
Exhibit VI-12: Length of Learning Curve among UV Users, North America, 2013
Exhibit VI-14: Top Three Benefits of UV Curing Inks, North America, 2013
Exhibit VI-15: Top Three Benefits of UV Curing Coatings, North America, 2013
Exhibit VI-16: The UV Dividend
Exhibit VII-1: The Brand Owners
Exhibit VII-2: Brand Owner Packaging Specification Dependent upon Type of Brand Owner
Exhibit VII-3: Brand Owner Disconnect Between Familiarity and Usage.
Exhibit VII-4: Brand Owner: Why Not Specify UV Curable Ink and Coatings
Exhibit VII-5: UV Desirability is Highly Dependent upon Output Requirement, Application, and Regulation
Exhibit VII-6: Package Printing Decisions Entrenched by Legacy Requirements
Exhibit VII-7: The Challenge of Getting Packaging Converters to Specify Energy Curing Inks
Exhibit VII-8: Nestlé's Perspective on the Food Packaging Value Chain
Exhibit VIII-1: Challenges Facing Printing Equipment and Supplies Manufacturers in Selling Energy Curing Ink Technology
Exhibit VIII-2: UV Plates: Opportunities for Value Creation
Exhibit VIII-3: UV Curing: A Technology in the Early Stages of the Development Process?
Exhibit VIII-4: Consumables-A Regional Protected Business
Exhibit VIII-5: Energy Cured Coatings: A Competitive Advantage Protected by High- Cost Entry
Exhibit VIII-6: UV Curable Inkjet Coating Print Sample
Exhibit IX-3: Printing Equipment and Supplies Manufacturer Revenues by Source, North America, 2012
Exhibit IX-4: Printing Equipment and Supplies Manufacturer Revenues by Source, North America, 2012-2017 ($M)
Exhibit IX-5: Energy Curing Printing Equipment Manufacturer Revenues by Type of Press, North America, 2012-2017 ($M)
Exhibit IX-6: Ink Manufacturer Revenues by Type of Press, North America, 2012-2017 ($M)
Exhibit IX-7: Plate Manufacturer Revenues by Type of Press, North America, 2012-2017 ($M)
Exhibit IX-8: Curing System Manufacturer Revenues by Type of Press, North America, 2012-2017 ($M)
Exhibit IX-9: Coating Formulations Revenues by Type of Press, North America, 2012-2017 ($M)
Exhibit IX-10: Blanket, Roller, Coater, and Other Manufacturer Revenues by Type of Press, North America, 2012-2017 ($M)
Exhibit X-1: Stakeholders in Energy Cured Ink Technology
Exhibit X-2: The Paradox of Choice: Why More is Less
Exhibit XI-1: Staying a Step Ahead
Exhibit XI-3: Opportunities for Energy Curing Ink Technology

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