Press Release

# Investments by government printing houses in Saudi Arabia

Rapida sheetfed offset technology for state and university printers

* Four successful tenders
* Applications in commercial and securities printing
* Optimum proximity to the users

Radebeul, 13.08.2019
Industrial packaging printers in Saudi Arabia operate sheetfed offset presses from Koenig & Bauer, among them Al Obeikan Folding Carton, Noor Carton for Packaging and Al Jawad Printing Press. Meanwhile, Rapida presses have also been strengthening their foothold among commercial users, and here in particular in government-run printing houses. Koenig & Bauer was recently successful with four tenders in relatively quick succession, and can now point to four new customers for its modern technology.

An order for two new presses was placed by **Gouvernement Printing Press** in **Riyadh**. The company operates a Rapida 106 with six printing units, a coater and perfecting after the second unit. Alongside stands a six-colour Rapida 76 with coater and provisions for UV printing. Both presses print a variety of documents on paper and plastic substrates, for example passports, ID cards, driving licences or residence permits. Accordingly, the long list of features also includes corresponding facilities for rainbow printing. The high-end presses for half and medium formats are both engineered for production speeds up to 18,000 sheets per hour.

**King Abdulaziz University Printing Press** in **Jeddah** has been using a Rapida 105 since last year. The four-colour press prints books and magazines for the university and also incorporates board-handling equipment to cope with substrates up to 1.2 mm. That provides for maximum flexibility in production.

Further Rapida 105 users are **Um Al Qura University Printing Press** in **Mecca** and the **Islamic University** in **Medina**. Both presses are configured with four printing units, coater and extended delivery. The main products are likewise university magazines and books.

One important reason for the positive acceptance of press technologies from Koenig & Bauer is the first-class and absolutely transparent advice given by regional sales partner Al-Kharafi. The close cooperation with the factories in Germany is another key factor, as it permits the fast realisation of tailored solutions in response to special customer wishes. Furthermore, local service units have been created to cover all the industrial centres of this enormous country and to ensure optimum proximity to the users.

Through such successes on the Arab market, and elsewhere, the oldest printing press manufacturer in the world has again demonstrated that forward-looking developments to the benefit of users remain possible, even in times of shrinking markets and reduced margins.

#### Photo 1:

A Rapida 106 is in production at Gouvernement Printing Press in Riyadh. Jörg Winkler, service director for Koenig & Bauer Sheetfed, Yousef Al Khazaly, printing manager at Gouvernement Printing Press, Sven Strzelczyk, sales director for Koenig & Bauer Sheetfed, and Abdalah Alhareri, general manager of Al-Kaharafi (left to right), met at the new high-end press to celebrate successful commissioning.

#### Photo 2:

Festive reception with representatives of King Abdulaziz University Printing Press at the commissioning of the Rapida 105

#### Photo 3:

Al Qura University Printing Press in Mecca also relies on sheetfed offset technology from Koenig & Bauer

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#### About Koenig & Bauer

Koenig & Bauer is the oldest printing press manufacturer in the world with the broadest product range in the industry. For more than 200 years, the company has been supporting printers with innovative technology, tailor-made processes and a wide array of services. The portfolio ranges from banknotes, via board, film, metal and glass packaging, through to book, display, coding, magazine, advertising and newspaper printing. Sheetfed and webfed offset and flexo printing, waterless offset, intaglio, simultaneous perfecting and screen printing or digital inkjet – Koenig & Bauer is at home in virtually all printing processes and is the market leader in many of them. In the financial year 2018, the approximately 5,700 highly qualified employees worldwide generated annual sales of more than EUR 1.2 billion.

Further information can be found at [www.koenig-bauer.com](file:///%5C%5CW9%5CVM%5C%40GMT-2019.08.07-09.00.09%5CPresse%5CPresseformular%5Cwww.koenig-bauer.com)