

**27 March 2007**

## **Alpha's range of winders expanded with new unwind for intermittent process**

Alpha Converting has sold its first narrow width ALPHAREEL unwind for intermittent applications. The machine, to be delivered to Hellermann Tyton's factory in Wythenshawe, Manchester, will feed film into a bagging unit.

The new machine has a cantilevered air inflated unwind shaft for rapid loading of the rolls of film. The shaft is driven by a variable speed AC motor operating in closed loop control from a dancing roll.

This ALPHAREEL will bring a significant productivity improvement to Hellermann Tyton – the machine's operator will be able to set precisely the unwind tension and maintain that tension with the intermittent motion of the bagger over the full diameter range of the film. Previously, variations in unwind tension resulted in quality issues downstream.

"This application expands the ALPHAREEL family to cover every type of winding situation," says Simon King, Alpha Converting's Managing Director.



**ALPHAREEL narrow width unwind for intermittent process.**

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## Alpha's range of winders expanded with new unwind for intermittent process – 2

“As the equipment being integrated with ALPHAREEL unwinds and winders can lead to the need for differing winding solutions, we have developed combinations of winding technologies that process efficiently a wide range of web materials. Hellermann Tyton is just one example,” he said.

The ALPHAREEL range includes shafted, shaftless and cantilevered units for multiple web configurations, plus a long list of options to individualise units for specific winding situations.

They are normally supplied with their own control systems and can run independently or be integrated into a production line and supplied with accumulators for non-stop operation.

“With increasing demand for high performance textiles from the automotive, footwear, clothing, medical, furnishing and safety product manufacturers, sophisticated web handling equipment is now essential, particularly as users want minimum operator involvement, without, in our experience, the cost of full automation,” says Mr King.

“ALPHAREEL units allow the user to select the level of automation required, which typically reduces the operator input to functions such as reel changes,” he added.

ALPHAREEL winders can handle reels up to 2.5 metres diameter and 3 metres wide at speeds of up to 600 metres/minute.



**ALPHAREEL driven shaftless unwind for technical fabrics.**



**ALPHAREEL shafted rewind for technical fabrics.**



**ALPHAREEL twin unwind. Back to back feeding of two webs into a laminator or sheeter.**

— Ends —