Archive Today
REGULAR NEWSLETTER SERVING THE INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMUNITY

Serving The National Library Of Scotland

For over 10 years Rab Jackson has been involved with Preservation and Conservation at the Library. As Manager of the department Rab talks about what a difference having a KM-CXD system can make.

The National Library of Scotland

"In 1996 the National Library of Scotland purchased the KM-CXD System to reduce unit costs and improve the method of producing individually sized box-board enclosures to house special collection items. Before the introduction of the system, our box-board enclosures were made by hand requiring an enormous allocation of staff resources.

Newspaper boxes at the NLS

Other significant benefits were a much reduced unit cost and notable space savings over the hand-made design.

The difference in production cost comparing the hand method to the KMCXD method was staggering. Furthermore, the large increase in production capacity has allowed us to make rapid progress in achieving our boxing aims.

The true cost of producing a box board enclosure using the KM-CXD system proved to be 21% of the hand method representing a substantial saving. Using a full cost comparison I calculated 8000 box-board enclosures were required to recover the capital investment.

I was very pleased to report this figure was achieved over a 2- year period and before the end of the financial year in 1998. Since then the Library has enjoyed substantial savings on expenditure and made real progress on achieving objectives in terms of providing protection to the more valuable parts of the collections.

The boxboard enclosure programme alone justified the investment in the system. We did enjoy some spare capacity and utilised this by improving the production methods used to manufacture newspaper boxes and standard file boxes for Library use.

In an average year we will produce 1000 newspaper boxes, 10,000 file and serial boxes and 4000 box-board enclosures.

The cutting table has certainly stood the test of time considering most of the boxes made at the National Library of Scotland are from 1300 micron archival folding box-board for file, serial and phase box enclosures.

Bookbinders board which is a substantial 3000 micron is cut half way through the board along the crease lines to allow accurate folding.

The quality of boxes produced is very impressive and I have found the reliability of this equipment meets even my high expectations.

A standardised collection housed

In May 2003 a second KM-CXD system was installed. The second box-making machine will look after the boxing needs of NLS for the next 8 to 10 years.

The KM503 high performance sample table is more advanced than our existing table. Added advantages of the KM503 include faster cutting and creasing speeds, larger cutting and creasing area, software depth adjustment for cutting blade & creasing wheel and the addition of a mount-cutting tool with blade held at 45 degrees. The added facility of the mount cutting tool opens up a new method of producing labels, window mounts and cradles required for exhibitions.

The second machine has a special cutting area of 1250mm x 1630mm (existing table cutting area 995mm x 1455mm) and operates at a higher speed.

The larger format machine means the largest one piece box made from a board measuring 1250mm x 1630mm would be 1000 x 600 x 65 compared to an existing maximum size of 800 x 400 x 65. Added value of the larger sized cutting area is to have archival folding boxboard manufactured to a special size of 1200 x 1320mm which enables the most popular file boxes (FB5 and Fb4) to be cut out two-up which is convenient and cost effective."

For more information regarding the KASEMAKE CXD systems, please visit...

www.kasemakecxd.com