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Print Store in Kingston-upon-Thames has installed one of the first Crease Matic (CM) Auto50 high speed SRA2 suction fed, fully programmable card creasers, manufactured by KAS Paper Systems in the UK and distributed by Ashgate Automation.

The creaser can be programmed anywhere along the length of the sheet. Up to 28 creases per sheet can be programmed with 99 memories for regular jobs. Stock can be creased in sizes from CD to SRA2 (max sheet 500 x 700mm). It is supplied with four creasing width tools to cover the stock range of 80-400gsm. 3 steel matrix creasing tools are supplied. The fourth is a matrix bar to which Channel Matrix self-adhesive matrix can be attached. These Channel matrix are available in many sizes and are inexpensive to use. They have proved very popular for creasing lightweight stocks 80-150gsm. This system is popular for providing a single point crease rather than the square box crease made by the metal tool, especially useful if the job is to be stitched. It has a rotary perforating system as standard.



Carmel Micallef, Print Finisher, explained,

“Three years ago we bought a CreaseMatic150 handfed creaser from Ashgate. We were very pleased with it at the time but it was hand fed and A3 format. When we saw the SRA2 fully automated Crease Matic Auto50 being launched at Digital Print World, it gave us so much more productivity and versatility. We didn’t look elsewhere because it did everything we wanted at a very competitive price. We were also able to trade in our previous model.”

The automatic feeder has saved us a lot of time as we previously hand fed the sheets into the machine. The matrix style creaser is very accurate. We are mainly using it for scoring litho printed jobs produced on our Heidelberg GTO two colour press and four colour PrintMaster but we can also score digitally printed jobs from our Xerox 3535 printer. We can score 400gsm card which is laminated both sides.

It operates at 7000 sheets an hour using a bottom feed suction system for continuous production. It is robustly built, the crease is very accurate and it is quick and easy to set up and adjust from one job to another.

Although it hasn’t won us any new work yet, we are putting larger format work through it, which wasn’t possible on the old A3 model. It certainly offers value for money for the features it offers.