



MAN Roland plans additional plant concentration measures

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In order to assure a sustained turnaround in its sheetfed press business, will have to implement additional measures to adjust capacities and to improve operating results in that sector.

MAN Roland broke even operationally in 2004, putting it in the black. Earnings came to EUR 3 million. In the web offset sector, MAN Roland achieved very good operating results of EUR 44 million (previous year: EUR 30 million). Despite an improvement of EUR 15 million, the sheetfed press sector however operated at a loss in the amount of EUR -41 million (previous year: EUR -56 million).

MAN Roland expected to achieve a sustainable turnaround in this sector in 2005 through implemented cost reduction measures. Due to the difficult situation in the graphic arts industry and the recent increases in energy and steel prices in addition to high currency volatilities, additional measures are now necessary.

Designed to continuously strengthen the sheetfed press sector, the package of measures passed by the Supervisory Board will significantly reduce costs, increase productivity and flexibility, and make it possible to adjustment to market contingencies.

The **Geisenheim** plant will be closed for the short term, with the products assembled there transferred to Offenbach and with a number of Geisenheim employees to be kept on there. Negotiations will soon commence with the appropriate committees to discuss compensation and related issues. This closure comes against a background of a reduction in business volume since august last year, due to a weaker market, which makes capacity adjustments necessary. A total of 314 employees work at Geisenheim (as of Feb. 28, 2005).

At the **Mainhausen** facilities, negotiations are currently underway to reduce costs to necessary levels in order to improve operating results.

The measures underway will not interfere with the current product range for the small-, medium- and large-formats.

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