## Case study 809

## Humidifier hire helps maintain production at printworks

Companies operating in the printing industry are dependent upon a well-balanced and humid environment to guarantee consistently high-level products, reduced wastage and longer life cycles. But it's not just the final print quality that can be affected by moisture content in the air. Printing presses and other machinery operate more efficiently, with paper jams and other malfunctions occurring far less frequently as a direct result of relative humidity being properly controlled.

We received an enquiry during winter from a Birmingham-based catalogue and magazine printer after they encountered some issues with their production line. Our client cited paper curling, web breaks and static build-up as causing some difficulties, with these problems generally exacerbated further during the cooler months due to the fact that cold air holds less moisture.

The majority of web roll paper is produced to stay in equilibrium with air with a relative humidity of between 50-55%. When the ambient humidity falls below this range, paper loses water to the atmosphere which affects its physical properties. Our customer was therefore keen to source some temporary humidifiers for hire to help maximise production capability and protect print work being stored on site.

Given the delicate nature of the project and the various intricacies involved, a local engineer visited site to gain a better perspective of the application. Following an assessment, we recommended the use of four H60 humidifiers which were deployed evenly around the workshop and storage area to ensure that relative humidity was accurately controlled at 55% throughout the entire area. Our humidifier hire arrangement remained in place for six weeks in total, with the units we provided performing exactly as expected and to the client's satisfaction.







Duty Rated 30% rh. 21°C 2.5 l/h Air flow (max) 800 m3/h Power supply 230 V 1 ph 50 Hz Run 0.23 A Noise level 29 dBA @ 1 metres Weight 18.8 kg empty / 52.8 kg full Dimensions (L x W x H) 625 x 316 x 720 mm Reservoir capacity 34 litres Average power consumption 53 W/h Control Integral humidistat



