

Effective treatment of infection with the help of a Glunz & Jensen PlateWriter

## Me and my machine:

Thermo Fisher Scientific and its Glunz & Jensen PlateWriter 2000

World leader in serving science, Thermo Fisher Scientific in Basingstoke, Hampshire, uses its Glunz & Jensen PlateWriter 2000 to produce cartridge discs for drugs testing.

“If you go to the doctors with an infection, our tests reveal what your symptoms are and what antibiotics treat it,” explains Print Manager Andy Lear.

“We use the Glunz & Jensen PlateWriter to print plates that are used to create Oxoid Antimicrobial Susceptibility testing, bearing various codes which refer to certain antibiotics for killing different germs. These cartridge discs are produced using blotting paper, which is absorbent. When a germ comes into contact with the cartridge disc we find out which antibiotic kills it.”

He adds: “We had an old negative system - from Mac to negative film - and it would take 45 minutes to make a plate, we can now make up to 10 plates an hour – a much quicker turnaround - there’s a massive difference in speed. We had been saying for years that we needed to change our old system to CtP (Computer to Plate). Our expectations have been met and exceeded.

“We work to tight guidelines and there’s no room for error. Not only did the old system require a lot of adjusting there was spotting on the final plate. With the new system, once the print has been set we don’t need to worry about making anymore adjustments. I would say the PlateWriter offers 70 per cent better quality. It does what it says on the tin. This one machine has meant that we have got rid of five separate machines, too.”

Thermo Fisher Scientific, which also uses its PlateWriter for “general jobbing work” makes 2.5m cartridge discs a year for use by hospitals around the world

Glunz & Jensen Distribution Channel Manager Peter Swann adds: “When Andy Lear called me to discuss iCtP he had tried other plate tests from leading manufacturers on thermal plates, but these did not provide the fine detail he required. The Glunz & Jensen i-plate test run on his bank of small presses went so well the company decided this would be their chosen machine. Some of the text on the test job was Chinese (pictured below) and around six-point in size, printed with really sharp quality.

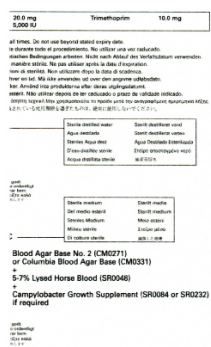
“Modernising their pre-press set up with the PlateWriter means they’ve done away with an image setter, film processor and print down frame, so the new machine takes up only about a third of the space, as well as removing chemistry from the plate making process,” he concludes.

Thermo Fisher Scientific generates annual sales of more than £6 billion (\$10 billion) and it has 35,000 employees serving more than 350,000 customers in pharmaceutical and biotech companies, hospitals and clinical diagnostic labs, universities, research institutions and government agencies as well as environmental, industrial quality and process control settings.

For over 70 years, the Oxoid brand, owned by Thermo Fisher Scientific, has been at the forefront of microbiological development, contributing to the introduction of new and innovative solutions to the world’s microbiological challenges. It is associated with high quality products by microbiologists around the globe. The company does flexographic and lithographic printing and operates a three-colour print machine and an AB Dick 9910 two-colour machine as well as two single colour AB Dicks.



L-R: Intec's Roger Ginnaw and Andy Lear



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Sample cartridge disc