

**"We love the CRF-362. We call it our hot rod. We use it for scoring and perfining brochures over multiple shifts and have used it to finish millions of units. We rave about its ease of set-up, and the scoring quality is exceptional." — Jon Tardiff**

From left to right:

Nicole Dyer, Digital Finishing Operator, Frank Leary, Digital Finishing Manager, DJ Everett, Production Manager



J.S. McCarthy, Augusta, Maine.

**J.S. McCARTHY PRINTERS**  
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## Reliability and Automation of Horizon Finishing Equipment is Key.

Based in Augusta, Maine, J.S. McCarthy is a second-generation family-owned general commercial printer with 225 employees and a 24/7 operation. "Business is great and we are extremely busy," says Jon Tardiff, Vice President and Owner at the company. "In order to keep up and continue to deliver an excellent customer experience, we have taken a hard look at our operations for any opportunities we can find to automate and streamline. Particularly in our digital operation, where we have a growing volume of fast-turn short-run jobs, specific focus has been placed on the bindery." The company has grown both organically and through acquisitions.

J.S. McCarthy operates with a blend of offset and digital print, offers mailing and fulfillment services, and has a complete bindery. "We are in the process of revamping our facility in order to create a separate area for our digital printing operation," Tardiff adds. "This will be a room that contains our digital presses and finishing equipment. Co-locating everything will improve our efficiency even more."

Digital printing at J.S. McCarthy consists of digital color presses from HP, Kodak, and Canon, as well as two Canon black & white printers. Its robust digital finishing

Standard Horizon SmartSlitter



department features a number of Horizon solutions, including an AF-566F right angle buckle folder, a CRF-362 Creaser/Folder, an SPF Bookletmaker with 3-tower VAC Collators, a BQ-270C Perfect Binder, an HT-30C Trimmer, and most recently, a Horizon SmartSlitter. "We consider Standard Finishing and our local dealer, Offtech, to be critical business

partners," Tardiff comments. "They have been great in helping us make our buying decisions, get through an efficient installation, and accomplish the necessary training. And both companies are always available to help us troubleshoot when questions or issues arise."



Jon Tardiff, Vice President/Owner

Tardiff particularly appreciates the ease of use of Standard Horizon equipment and the consistency in user interface across products. "This makes it very easy for operators to move from machine to machine without having to switch mental gears," he says. Tardiff also points out that set-up and make-ready times on the equipment are fast. "Horizon is at a completely different level than the competition in this regard," he says.

In making the decision to acquire the SmartSlitter, Tardiff was looking for the same great scoring quality he was getting from his CRF-362, with the added capability of cutting. J.S. McCarthy was one of the first SmartSlitter installs in the nation. "The SmartSlitter is phenomenal from a set-up and quality standpoint," he says. "We get better scoring quality than you can achieve with a letterpress or die cutter! In fact, this piece of equipment is so outstanding that following a recent peer group meeting with six other companies at our facility, one member purchased one as soon as he returned home from the meeting. If you produce digital print, the Horizon SmartSlitter is a must-have."

The automation offered by the SmartSlitter is important to J.S. McCarthy as well. Tardiff explains, "Each job on the HP Indigos includes a barcode. We set up a handful of templates to cover the most common types of jobs we run. We can literally fill the stacker with multiple jobs, push start and walk away. The system calls up the appropriate template and automatically changes the settings on the fly. Because its camera examines every sheet, it doesn't matter how many sheets are in a job. It's very easy for our operators, and an efficient use of their time."