

WPF COURIER

HOME OF THE NEWSPAPER PRODUCTION COMMUNITY

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One-of-a-Kind Community

The World Printers Forum: the pioneering and truly unique print community at the heart of WAN-IFRA

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WAN-IFRA's World Printers Forum is the beating heart of the global news media print community. It's a unique assembly

of printing houses, materials suppliers, and equipment manufacturers spanning the entire print production spectrum from prepress stages to press operations, from product finishing to delivery logistics. The Forum is where you find

answers to the entire spectrum of print-centric issues and is forged from shared expertise and collaborative innovation.

The World Printers Summit, is the global gathering for the exchange of ideas, fostering

collaboration, and nurturing cooperative ventures.

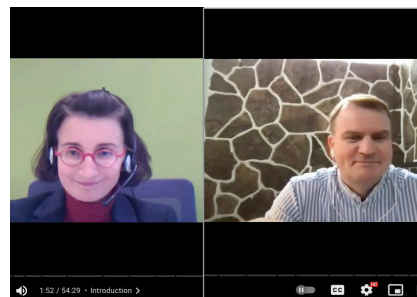
So what can you expect to learn about? The World Printers Forum encompasses all aspects of print, from production planning and prepress data management

to press and mailroom operations. Whether your questions are about technological advancements, or the human issues of management, the Forum is where you will find the answers.

- International Color Quality Club
- Sustainability and PrintInnovation Awards
- WPS Special reports
- World Printers Forum webinars



International Color Quality Club



World Printers Forum Webinars



WAN-IFRA special reports

International Color Quality Club

Benchmarking your print production against other newspapers from all over the world

Take your print standards to the next level with the International Color Quality Club

Are you a newspaper or magazine publisher striving for excellence in print quality? Looking to enhance your competitive edge and inspire your team in the process? Then look no further, the answer is the International Color Quality Club (ICQC) contest, presented by the World Printers Forum (WPF).

The ICQC stands as the premier quality competition for newspapers and magazines globally. Designed to elevate the standards of reproduction and printing, this contest also serves to boost competitiveness, while fostering motivation among staff. Participants are recognized for their colour quality working within the framework of ISO 12647-3 standards specific to the newspaper manufacturing and printing industry.

Why Participate? The ICQC contest offers publishers an exclusive opportunity to benchmark their print quality against international counterparts. It provides an unrivalled platform for competition, comparison, and collaboration, enabling participants to showcase and be recognized for their commitment to excellence and adherence to global standards. It is particularly valuable for newspapers that don't own their print operation and want to benchmark their printing.

Evaluation Criteria: Entries undergo rigorous evaluation based on the ISO 12647-3 standards, focusing on technical aspects and process capability parameters such as news shade, dot gain, color conformity, color space, and grey balance. Additionally, a panel of industry experts assesses the visual print quality from the reader's



perspective, taking into account factors such as color accuracy, image sharpness, contrast, and color registration.

Hall of Fame and Recognition: Achieving excellence in the ICQC contest comes with its rewards. Winners in the Publications category earn a star; accumulating these stars over time

paves the way for entry into the Elite Star Club for those reaching 5+ stars and the Millennium Club for those achieving 10+ stars throughout their participation.

Embrace the challenge, benchmark your standards, and join the ranks of industry leaders committed to print excellence.

World Printers Forum Webinars

Navigating the Challenges of a Changing Newspaper Production Landscape

Faced with the unprecedented challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the World Printers Forum rose to the occasion, launching a series of virtual events known as the World Printers Webinars. These carefully curated sessions addressed the pressing concerns and pivotal topics at the forefront of executives' minds within the print industry. In parallel with the Summit itself WAN-IFRA continues to propose webinars for its members.

A Spectrum of Topics:

From strategies to safeguard employee well-being during a global health crisis, to insightful discussions on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) reporting, the webinar topics have been both timely and relevant. Each session delves into critical issues, offering actionable insights and best practices tailored to the evolving needs of the industry.

Engaging and Interactive:

Scheduled bi-monthly, and free to WAN-IFRA members, these webinars provide an invaluable platform for knowledge-sharing and collaborative learning. Each session features an interactive Q&A segment, meaning you are able to speak directly to



Laetitia Reynaud policy advisor from Intergraf gave a inspiring presentation about the European Green Deal

the experts about the issues that matter most to you.

Collaborative Endeavors with OPHAL:

In a strategic collaboration, the World Printers Forum has partnered with the Optical and Paper Handling Groups (OPHAL) to broaden the scope of the webinars. This partnership brings specialized insights to issues related to paper handling, enhancing the depth and breadth of topics covered, and further enriching the learning opportunities available to participants.

The World Printers Forum Webinars are testament to the Forum's commitment to supporting and guiding the print industry through times of change and uncertainty. By fostering a culture of continuous learning, collaboration, and innovation, these webinars play a crucial role in equipping industry professionals with the knowledge and tools needed to thrive in the ever-evolving ecosystem of print.

Past World Printers Forum webinars are available for WAN-IFRA members on WAN-IFRA's YouTube channel.

World Printers Summit

Where the global newspaper print community comes together

The World Printers Summit is the annual opportunity for the members of the World Printers Forum to meet, greet, network, and learn. This event addresses the entire spectrum of professionals' print-related inquiries. In the process it brings together printers, materials suppliers, and equipment manufacturers from all corners of global print production.

In 2021 the European Printers Summit started in Klassikstadt, Frankfurt. Covid restrictions limited the number of attendees but the goal of facilitating meetings between suppliers and publishers was immediately appreciated. Paul Huybrechts CEO of Coldset Printing partners in Belgium gave the Keynote and a 'speed dating' approach maximised exchanges while minimising contact. The following year saw Covid restrictions lifted, but the speed dating idea had proved so popular it was kept and numbers grew. Speakers included Gundula Ullah and Dr. Bertram Stausberg.

2023 saw the first fully in person World Printers Summit at the Literaturhaus, Frankfurt. This event welcomed guests from all over the world with seven key speakers. It was clear there was now a community forming, with common interests in learning more about the fast-shifting technology landscape.



The newspaper industry has seen astonishing advancements through automation and enhanced production across pre-press, press, and post-press. Publishers are keenly aware of the need for efficiency, competitiveness, but also sustainability—both financially and environmentally. The Summit has proved the perfect opportunity to learn more about the solutions that deliver when it comes to these dynamic shifts.

The World Printers Summit unfolds over two immersive days, offering a treasure trove of insights into both the present and future of print media. Supplier meetings and conference sessions offer the chance to get to the heart of the issues that matter as we move forward.

It offers the chance to take part in 'to be part of' the global community of printing professionals, to expand your network, and engage with the thought leaders shaping the future of print.

Prices are rising, new technology presents both threats and opportunity, and the industry is under pressure to adopt and publicise sustainable practices. What print professional can really afford to miss out on such a prime opportunity to learn and share best practices with international peers as we face the challenges of tomorrow?

World Printers Forum board

Global board of newspaper production executives and supplier executives

The World Printers Forum (WPF) Board represents the print community within the World Association of News Publishers. It advises WAN-IFRA in all aspects related to the production of newspapers. The director of WPF is Ingi Rafn Olafsson

The Board consists of 15 members, representing publishing and printing companies and materials and equipment suppliers. Board members represent different regions like North America, Asia, the Nordic, and European Countries.

Members of the World Printers Forum Board:

- Chairman: Max Garrido, Corporacion Bermont,
- Vice chairman: Rainer Kirschke, ECO3,
- Andreas Gierth, Frankfurter Allg. Zeitung,
- Sanat Hazra, Independent,
- Kari Murto, UPM Communication papers
- Thomas Isaksen, DDPFF,
- Menno Jansen, Q.I. Press Controls, EAE
- Frank Kreisel, ManRolandGoss web systems,
- Gundula Ullah, Funke Medien,y
- Sally Pirri, The Globe and Mail,
- Andreas Ullman, Presse-Druck- und Verlags-
- Rick Stunt, DMG media
- Snehasis Roy, Bennett Coleman,
- Paul Huybrechts, ColdsetPrinting partners,
- Marcel Binder, Ferag



From left: Gundula Ullah, Andreas Gierth, Vincent Peyrégné CEO of WAN-IFRA, Paul Huybrecht, Max Garrido, Thomas Isaksen, Andreas Ullmann, Sanat Hazra, Frank Kreisel, Sally Pirri, Rainer Kirschke, and Ingi Rafn Olafsson director of WPF, kneeling are Menno Jansen and Thomas Jakob COO of WAN-IFRA.

Sustainability and Print Innovation Awards

Recognising outstanding newspapers for sustainability and print innovation

The Print Innovation Awards were launched in 2018 by the World Printers Forum, celebrating sustainability and innovation in Print. This year we are re-branding the competition as the Sustainability and Print Innovation Awards where we reward notable innovations in Sustainability in print production as well as Print innovation.

In an era where sustainability and innovation are paramount for the print industry, the World Printers Forum of WAN-IFRA is thrilled to announce the Sustainability and Print Innovation Awards 2024. Open to newspaper and magazine publishers, as well as advertisers and advertising agencies, this prestigious competition shines a spotlight on groundbreaking initiatives redefining the future of print.

Why Participate in the Sustainability and Print Innovation Awards?

Focused Recognition: Unlike generic media awards, this competition zeroes in on print-specific sustainability and innovation, offering a niche platform for industry leaders.



Global Recognition: As a worldwide competition, the awards celebrate excellence on an international stage, setting the gold standard in print innovation.

The Sustainability and Print Innovation Awards by the World Printers Forum offer a one-of-a-kind platform to showcase and celebrate the industry's trailblazers in sustainability and innovation.

Categories for Entry:

Product Innovation:

Recognizing innovations that enhance existing products, reach new audiences, extend brand reach, attract new advertisers, or enable new business models.

Products for Young Readers:

Celebrating print products tailored for younger audiences, covering topics of interest and presenting general news events in accessible

formats. These initiatives play a pivotal role in nurturing the future reader base.

Press and Technology Retrofits:

Highlighting projects that address the challenge of rising costs by extending the lifespan of production and press equipment through innovative retrofits.

Green Energy Projects:

Has your company initiated a green energy project? Have you started using solar, wind or other kinds of sustainable energy sources? If so, this category aims to recognise companies that have taken proactive steps towards reducing their environmental impact through the implementation of green energy initiatives.

Green Building Projects:

Focusing on sustainable infrastructure solutions, this category applauds publishers' efforts to enhance the eco-friendliness of their facilities.



Technology shifts and Sustainability

The World Printers Forum focuses on how Sustainability and Technology will change production

In 2024, World Printers Forum has decided to focus its energy on two primary topics for the coming years. We will continue our efforts on **Sustainability** in the broadest sense. Also we will focus on how **Technology** will change production of newspapers.

In the past years the World Printers Forum events have focused on how Sustainability can be achieved in print production. We have also looked at the financial sustainability of newspapers and will continue to do so. Carbon neutrality has also been addressed both in past webinars as well as in the World Printers Summit 2023. Within the WPF board there is a group that has actively been looking at sustainability issues and how the World Printers Forum can assist its members in that respect.

Technology advance is not a new issue the WPF members are faced with. For the past 50 years



Image created in the AI software Midjourney with the keywords, Print production executives meet and share ideas.

printers have been through major technological advances. Today we are looking at AI, and the threats and possibilities that come with it. Publishers are both excited and wary at the same time. The WPF will explore how this new technology can be of service for the industry to increase productivity and profitability.

We are all of us faced with the challenge of getting AI to work for our advantage in order to make workflows smoother and to eradicate mundane tasks.

In the upcoming events and work of the WPF these issues will be tackled, discussed and examined. The aim is to help the WPF community to understand better how best to use modern technology to its advantage.