

Press Release

Asahi Photoproducts Brings Solvent ZERO Messaging to the FTA Fall Technical Conference

AWP™ water-washable plates and AFP-R reduced solvent plates will be explained as part of a technical conference speech.

Tokyo, Japan & Brussels, Belgium, October 2, 2024. Asahi Photoproducts, a pioneer in flexographic photopolymer plate development, today reported that it will be attending the Flexographic Technology Association's Fall Technical Conference, scheduled for 7 to 9 October at the M Resort Spa Casino in Las Vegas. The conference theme – Viva Flexo Las Vegas – fits nicely with Asahi's dedication to providing products and services that improve the sustainability and competitiveness of flexographic printing, positioning it against other printing technologies.

"I am pleased to be attending the FTA Technical Conference to present our Road to Solvent Zero," said Dieter Niederstadt, Asahi's Technical Marketing Manager. "This is an important conference for the industry, giving us the chance of talking with attendees about the benefits of a more sustainable platemaking process to ensure the viability of flexographic printing well into the future."

Dieter Niederstadt will be explaining the concept of Solvent ZERO during the "Technical Innovation in Action" session on Wednesday Oct 9 from 8:30 to 10 AM in the Milan Ballroom where he will also present a roadmap to reducing solvent use in flexo platemaking, still being used by about 70% of flexo operations. "Our goal is to make this transition as seamless as possible as companies work to reduce their environmental footprint, driven by customer demand, regulatory changes and a desire for a reduced carbon footprint," Niederstadt noted.

AWP™ water-washable plates use no solvents, and companies can reduce solvent use by approximately 30%, energy costs by up to 50%, and platemaking time by an hour simply by switching to Asahi's **AFP-R** reduced solvent plates without the need for additional equipment investments.





For more information about products and solutions from Asahi Photoproducts that contribute to life and living for people around the world, including Asahi AWP™ water-washable plates, AFP-R reduced solvent plates, and plate processing systems, visit www.asahi-photoproducts.com

A thought leadership interview of Akihiro Kato, Senior General Manager of the Asahi Kasei Photoproducts Division and Jun-ichi Shishido, General Manager of the Photoproducts Division about the future technology roadmap to Solvent ZERO is available on [youtube!](#)

—ENDS—

About Asahi Photoproducts

Founded in 1973, Asahi Photoproducts is a subsidiary of Asahi Kasei Corp., which has a century of operating history. Asahi Photoproducts is a leading pioneer in the development of photopolymer flexo printing plates. By creating high-quality flexographic solutions through continued innovation, the company aims to drive printing forward in harmony with the environment. Follow Asahi

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More information is available at www.asahi-photoproducts.com.

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Image & caption:

AsahiKASEI
Asahi Technology Roadmap

Current Stage

Solvent washout plate

The majority of platemakers (roughly 70%) today still use solvent wash platemaking technologies, which often can generate unwanted odor in the ambient working environment.

Bridging Technology

AFP™-R

Quick and Easy Solution

Approx. 30 % reduction in solvent usage and over 50% shorten platemaking time.

Can use existing solvent installed base processor in the market.

Doesn't need investment and can start right now by just changing the plate type.

Future Goal

Asahi Photoproducts
an Asahi Kasei company

Tap water washable AWP™ x Crystal Clean Connect x AWP-LOOP™

Can achieve super environmental balanced plate making with 90% of recycling waste water. And can minimize labor resource for plate making with fully automated plate making system.

Asahi Photoproducts **50**
Creating for Tomorrow

Caption: The central topic of the presentation at the FTA Fall Technical Conference on Wednesday, October 9th, will be Solvent ZERO and a roadmap to reducing solvent use in flexo platemaking.