DOMINO

Kern places its trust in the Domino **K6**00i ink jet solution for printing its high-security documents

Overview

Kern is a Swiss company founded more than 60 years ago, offering management, processing and computer vision solutions. It relies on Domino for the printing of high-security documents, incorporating a K600i ink jet printer into its secure document handling line.

"The K600i printer offers us guaranteed reliability, low maintenance and cleaning costs, and high print quality enabling us to provide a productive and efficient solution"
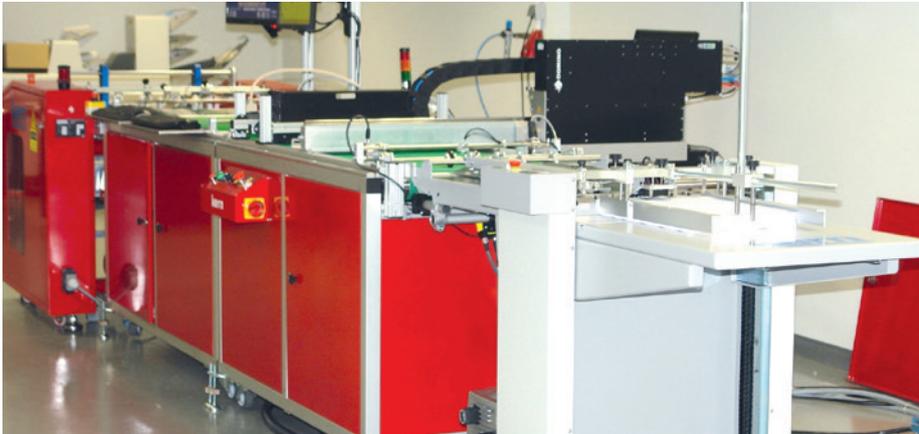
Juan Lozano, CEO of Kern Spain

Fast facts

- Kern is a Swiss company that offers document management, processing and computer vision solutions.
- High-security document printing solution with Domino's **K6**00i ink jet printer and Kern's computer vision system.
- Printing of uncoated and coated substrates, with native print quality up to 600dpi.
- Direct and indirect printing of PDF documents, normal read & print and quality control.
- Reliability, low maintenance and cleaning costs, and high print quality.

Juan Lozano, CEO of Kern Spain

Domino. Do more.

"From the outset, Domino offered the flexibility we needed to adapt its solution to our needs" Juan Lozano, CEO of Kern Spain

Kern is a Swiss family-owned company, founded more than 60 years ago by Marc Kern, the father of the current Chairman Uli Kern, and operates in 12 countries, mostly in Europe, although it also does business in the USA, Canada and Russia.

Its main business line involves solutions for documentation management and processing, especially inserting equipment. It operates in two other areas, the first involving pre-processing, with winding machines and cutter lines in its factory in France. The second involves the cards division, with credit card personalisation, tipping and inserting to provide the highest level of security.

The Spanish subsidiary of Kern also has an additional business line, focusing on complex vision systems designed for the paper, packaging and pharmaceutical sectors. In fact, it was through this business line that the partnership with Domino was born.

Kern was in the process of developing a documentation management project with specific computer vision requirements for one of its clients. It began to look for a suitable and integrated printing solution that would give sufficient reliability and security.

This document handling line installed by Kern incorporates a computer vision camera that can read any type of QR code, barcode, 2D Datamatrix and other codes. With this system, when the pre-printed document passes through the printing line, the camera detects it and sends the information about the actual printing required for this document to the printer. Hence the need for ultimate printing precision and coordination without losing any resolution or speed.

To develop the project, printer manufacturers and document handling and vision manufacturers were consulted separately but nobody could offer integrated solutions to meet the requirements.

Kern systems had to look for a specific solution for their client that matched their explicit specifications. This required integrating Kern's high-security document transport system with a specialised printing solution.

This was a new situation for Kern and they had to research the market looking for alternative products from its usual partners, trying to find the best possible solution.

Following an exhaustive evaluation of the options put forward, Kern chose Domino as its partner in the project. The perfect solution was to incorporate the **K6**00i ink jet printer, which can print onto a wide range of uncoated and coated substrates and plastic media, with a native print resolution of up to 600dpi.

The CEO of Kern Spain, Juan Lozano, says "From the outset, Domino offered the flexibility we needed to adapt its solution to our needs". In fact, continues Juan Lozano, "Domino modified and adapted its Editor GT software, to enable us to print PDF documents directly and indirectly. Normal printing, read & print, and print and final quality control were also possible".

In addition, and with reference to the specifications of the **K6**00i ink jet printer, the CEO of Kern Spain highlighted as a fundamental advantage "the automated cleaning and capping system of the Domino printing head with **CleanCap** technology. This guarantees that no time is lost with daily, manual print head cleaning and that the risk of print nozzle blockages are significantly reduced resulting in increased production capacity".

Furthermore, print head alignment and image stitching is achieved using the **i-Tech StitchLink** micromotor technology. This provides accurate registration and maximum precision using an automated procedure as opposed to having to do this manually, improving the response time for the user and satisfying Kern's requirements.

Domino's solution has been a resounding success. On the one hand, "the established reputation as a printer manufacturer and the ability to develop a "tailored" solution, and, on the other hand, what the **K6**00i printer guarantees us in terms of reliability, low maintenance and cleaning costs, and print quality have been decisive for offering a productive and efficient solution," says Juan Lozano, CEO of Kern Spain.

Domino. Do more.