

ABSTRACT

CONTROL SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY IDENTIFYING WEBS IN A PRINTING PRESS

A continuous web printing press (100) having a control system (202) for automatically identifying which one of a plurality of paper webs (108, 120) is running through which one of a plurality of compensators (146, 148) is provided. First and second marking devices (138, 140) apply reference marks (142, 144) on the respective webs (108, 120) to uniquely identify each web (108, 120). Preferably, the reference marks (142, 144) are comprised of a magnetized material, such as a magnetized label. A sensor (154, 156) is positioned at each of the compensators (146, 148) for sensing the reference marks (142, 144) located on the web (108, 120) running through the compensator (146, 148) to automatically identify which web (108, 120) is running through which compensator (146, 148). The marks (142, 144) on the web (108, 120) are preferably positioned on the webs (108, 120) to uniquely identify the webs (108, 120). A computer circuit (200) uses this information to control the path lengths of the webs (108, 120) via the compensators (146, 148). A method is also provided for automatically identifying which web (108, 120) is running through which compensator (146, 148).