Flexographic Package Printing & Converting Industry

Success starts with an FTA membership
Your Partner for Success, Today and Tomorrow

The future is approaching with remarkable speed, bringing with it new challenges and changes in the way the flexographic industry will conduct business. Membership in FTA guarantees that each new development will be met head-on and that you will be prepared to respond to change.

Simply put, an FTA membership is the best way to ensure your success, today and tomorrow.

“Membership in FTA is an investment in your company that will come back to you tenfold if you take advantage of all the education and hands-on experience your membership includes.”

John Crammer, Best Label Company, Inc. (member since 2010)
Who We Are. What We Do.

FTA is the world’s leading professional association committed to advancing and shaping the future of the flexographic print process. With 1,400 companies and 52,000 individuals worldwide, FTA represents the interests of every facet of the flexographic supply chain.

Shaping the future means delivering the best opportunities through premium membership benefits. Learn how FTA can help shape your future by linking you to the right people, information, experiences, tools and education that grow your business, advance your skills and boost your prosperity.

At FTA, we believe that by sharing best practices and ideas, our industry will grow stronger and more innovative. That’s why we have structured our membership so that when you join FTA, everyone at your company location automatically becomes a member too—complete with full membership benefits.

Learn more >> flexography.org

“FTA’s conferences and exhibitions are an excellent source of new technologies, and the technical speakers are invaluable to your company’s success in a very competitive market.”

Bill Rund, Mac Papers Envelope Converters, Inc. (member since 2003)
Annual Forum

What do you get when you combine four days, 1,900+ attendees from around the world and more than 50 presentations from industry experts? A 90% approval rating and the single best opportunity for learning, implementing, networking and idea generation.

Forum is the year’s best, not-to-be-missed event for the package printing and converting industry. It’s where all members of the supply chain come together to discover new concepts and best practices that will make them better package printers and converters.
INFO*FLEX Exhibition

For the last five years running INFO*FLEX has seen record breaking growth. Attendee/exhibitor participation has averaged a 10% increase year-to-year. The show floor alone has grown by 25% to 280 booths.

For two days, 1,900+ of the industry’s leaders, representing the entire supply chain, congregate on the show floor. It’s where buyers meet sellers and sellers meet buyers. 75% of 2014 attendees identified new solutions, while 89% of exhibitors met new business prospects.

INFO*FLEX is the definitive show for the packaging printing and converting marketplace, and it’s reputation as the longest running, most comprehensive and cost-effective event in the industry is unmatched.

“INFO*FLEX provides superb opportunities to find solutions to workflow and production challenges. The interaction with suppliers and manufacturers offers a unique occasion to network, second to none.”

Josh Burke, C-P Flexible Packaging (member since 1976)
Fall Conference & Tabletop Exhibit

More than 300 attendees and 50+ exhibitors gather annually at FTA’s Fall Conference & Tabletop Exhibit. Three days of dialogue, discussion and debate center on the most relevant, timely issues facing the industry. Anyone looking to learn, network and stay current on the forces affecting the future of flexography should make attending this annual event a priority.

Rich & Varied
Leading Edge
Information

Complimentary Member Webinars

What better way to gain knowledge on highly-focused topics than from the convenience of your own desktop?

2014 WEBINAR SERIES

• Process Control for Digital Platemaking
• Real-time Production Management
• Doctor Blade Metering
• Selecting the Right Mounting Tape for Your Process
• Basic Color Theory & Color Measurement
• Showcasing Your Flexographic Product
• Printed Electronics & the Flexographic Process
• FIRST: Evolving Your Flexo Process
• FLEXO: A Year in Review

Learn more >> flexography.org >> Conferences & Events
Changing technology. Keeping up with customer demands. Developing a skilled workforce. Proving your process to your customers. These are all challenges you face daily. That’s why FTA offers the most robust online training and certification programs—all designed to meet these hurdles head-on.

“The FIRST Certification program provided an opportunity for us to increase our knowledge and expertise while implementing world class standardized processes and workflows in our plants.”

Mary Jean Irving, Master Packaging, Inc. (member since 2003)
FIRST Operator Certification

Exceptional print quality. Better color management. Greater process control. Improved efficiency and speed in packaging production. Lower costs. First-time approvals. These aren’t just common buzz phrases, these power-packed statements represent the backbone of FTA’s FIRST Certification program, hosted by its TEST (Technical Education Services Team) business unit.

Those who have achieved the elite designation can attest: Processes are streamlined; employees are learning how to do their jobs better, quicker and more eco-friendly than ever before; consistency is established; and firms can prove their process is operating at peak performance. As a result additional business is being won and repeat orders are being fulfilled.

Available certification tracks:

- FIRST Press Operator
- FIRST Prepress Operator
- FIRST Implementation Specialist
- FIRST Company Certification

To date, 3,400+ have sharpened their skills and improved their productivity with FTA’s FIRST Operator Certification program.

Learn more >> flexography.org >> Training & Resources
FLEXO Magazine

FLEXO Magazine covers a vibrant industry, responsible for better than 60% of the world’s printed packaging with output valued at $150 billion+ in the U.S. alone. As the voice of FTA and its members, the magazine stands committed to process control, continuous improvement, skills enhancement and adaptation of technologies designed to deliver quality, consistency, repeatability and profitability. Its innovative, imaginative and insightful approach to reporting on the science behind print is appreciated, respected and relied on by printing professionals across the globe.

Additional resources to keep you informed:
- Sustainable FLEXO
- FLEXO SourceBook
- Inside the FTA eNewsletter
- EHS Direct eNewsletter
- flexography.org
- FLEXO Show Daily
- Industry News

Learn more >> flexography.org >> FLEXO Magazine
Honors & Awards

Excellence in Flexography

In the more than five decades since the founding of FTA’s Excellence in Flexography Awards, many things have changed. One constant: the value of winning an Excellence in Flexography Award. Every year judges evaluate some 600 flexographically printed pieces and select only the finest work for inclusion in the winner’s circle.

Technical Innovation

Innovation powers the future of flexography. For nearly 20 years, FTA has celebrated the incredible achievements made by pioneering individuals and companies that have contributed to flexography’s growth.

Hall of Fame

The Hall of Fame Award recognizes individuals for a lifetime of personal achievement, industry commitment and dedication to the goals and objectives of the FTA.

Additional Awards & Scholarships

- President’s Award
- FFTA/Rossini North America Flexographic Scholarship
- FFTA Flexography Scholarships
- TEST Educational Leadership Award
- Sustainability Excellence

Learn more >> flexography.org >> Honors & Awards
If you wear many hats, your need for resources is as diverse as the roles you play. Sometimes you’re faced with a problem in need of an immediate solution and other times you need to take a longer-lens look at a strategic issue. From concise, topic-specific booklets to in-depth material on process control, FTA provides a variety of resources you need to succeed.

“The benefits of FTA membership continue to grow every year. The educational resources give us the competitive edge necessary to grow our business and service our customers at the highest levels.”

Debbie Hobbs, Global Packaging (member since 1997)
Resources to Give You That Competitive Edge

FIRST 5.0 (Flexographic Image Reproduction Specifications & Tolerances)

If you’re looking to control and optimize your processes, improve color consistency and minimize downtime, look no further. FIRST is the industry’s most comprehensive set of specifications designed to help all members of the flexographic supply chain achieve high-quality and consistent print results, pressrun after pressrun.

“After using FIRST, we saw a 64% press scrap reduction, quicker set-ups, first time on approvals and improved quality and confidence for our customers.”
Jennye Scott, Berry Plastics Corporation (member since 1958)

Flexography: Principles & Practices 6.0 (FP&P)

Before you seek to control the process, you must first understand it. Now in its sixth edition, FP&P features everything you need to know about the flexographic print process, complete with an extensive troubleshooting guide.

FLEXOGRAPHY 101 Booklet Series

Looking to build your foundation of flexographic knowledge? Consider these titles: An Introduction to Flexography; Anilox Handling & Care; Ink Handling & Maintenance; Plate Mounting; and Plate Making.

Have a question? FTA has a cadre of experts ready to provide the technical information you need, right when you need it.

Learn more >> flexography.org >> Training & Resources
Environmental, Health & Safety & Sustainability Resources

FTA offers myriad resources to assist you in reducing your carbon footprint, including:

- Carbon Footprint Calculator
- Hazard Communication Training
- The Flexo Environment Book
- In-Plant EHS Self-Assessment for Flexographic Printers
- Monthly EHS Direct eNewsletter
- Informative articles in FLEXO and Sustainable FLEXO
- Industry representation with regulatory agencies
- Staff assistance

Sustainable Green Printing Partnership (SGP)

FTA is a proud supporter of SGP, a voluntary certification program designed to demonstrate a facility’s commitment to sustainability. By meeting credible and transparent criteria, printers can become SGP certified and their print buyers can meet their sustainability goals. If you are seeking to become certified, FTA can help you interpret the criteria and assist you through the certification process.

Learn more >> flexography.org