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NPES AND NAPIM ANNOUNCE REVISION OF SAFETY STANDARD FOR THREE ROLL PRINTING INK MILLS

An important revision to a safety standard affecting three roll printing ink mills was announced today by NPES The Association for Suppliers of Printing, Publishing and Converting Technologies and the National Association of Printing Ink Manufacturers (NAPIM).

B65/NAPIM 177.1-2007, *Safety Standard – Three-Roll Printing Ink Mills*, which revises and replaces B177.1-1997, was approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and is currently available from NPES. The 2007 standard incorporates significant changes to the 1997 version.

"Similar to the recently revised safety standard for vertical post mixers, this standard is a concise, detailed guide for developing safe work practices, training programs and equipment guards," says George Fuchs, NAPIM Manager of Environmental Affairs and Information Systems. "Three-roll mills are still prevalent within the ink industry, and the periodic revision of these safety standards is intended to raise the bar for both equipment design and work practices for its safe operation."

"We were pleased to work closely with NPES in developing this standard; it provides another example of how the concerted efforts of NAPIM members can translate into a benefit for the entire industry," says Jim Coleman, NAPIM Executive Director. Coleman also stated that the NAPIM Regulatory Affairs Committee intends to develop a training video based on this standard.

"This is an excellent example of a successful joint effort between both equipment manufacturers and equipment users to develop a safety standard, within a formal consensus standards development environment, in the best interests of the industry," noted Mary Abbott, NPES Director of Standards Programs.

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The B65 Committee was accredited by ANSI in 1983 to develop safety standards for the printing, publishing and converting industries. Other B65 subcommittees address safety for printing press equipment and systems, binding/finishing equipment and systems, cutting machines and stand-alone platen presses. Membership on the Committee is open to anyone seeking increased involvement in the user community to assist in ensuring that the standards meet their needs. Applications for B65 Committee membership are available online from the NPES Standards Workroom at: www.npes.org/standards/workroom.html. For more information contact NPES Director of Standards Programs Mary Abbott at phone: 703/264-7229 or e-mail: mabbott@npes.org.

About NPES The Association for Suppliers of Printing, Publishing and Converting Technologies

NPES The Association for Suppliers of Printing, Publishing and Converting Technologies is a U.S. non-profit trade association representing more than 460 companies engaged in manufacturing and importing for sale or distribution of machinery, equipment, systems, software and supplies used in every printing, publishing and converting process from desktop design and image generation and processing to multiple output options and targeted dissemination systems. NPES serves as the Secretariat to ANSI CGATS, ANSI B65 and the U.S. TAG to ISO TC 130 (Graphic Technology). Complete information about the Association is available online at: www.npes.org, via e-mail at: npes@npes.org, by phone at: 703/264-7200 or fax at: 703/620-0994.

About the National Association of Printing Ink Manufacturers

The National Association of Printing Ink Manufacturers is a trade association whose purpose is to provide information and assistance to its members to better manage their businesses, and to represent the printing ink industry in the United States. Information about NAPIM can be found at: www.napim.org.

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