

**OUR PURPOSE** - To be the recognised global leader in the design and manufacture of reliable and affordable industrial computers fit for demanding environments.

# CAPTEC

## Tried, tested and Trusted

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INVESTORS IN PEOPLE



**Strenuis Ardua Cedunt** - Difficult things fall to the strong

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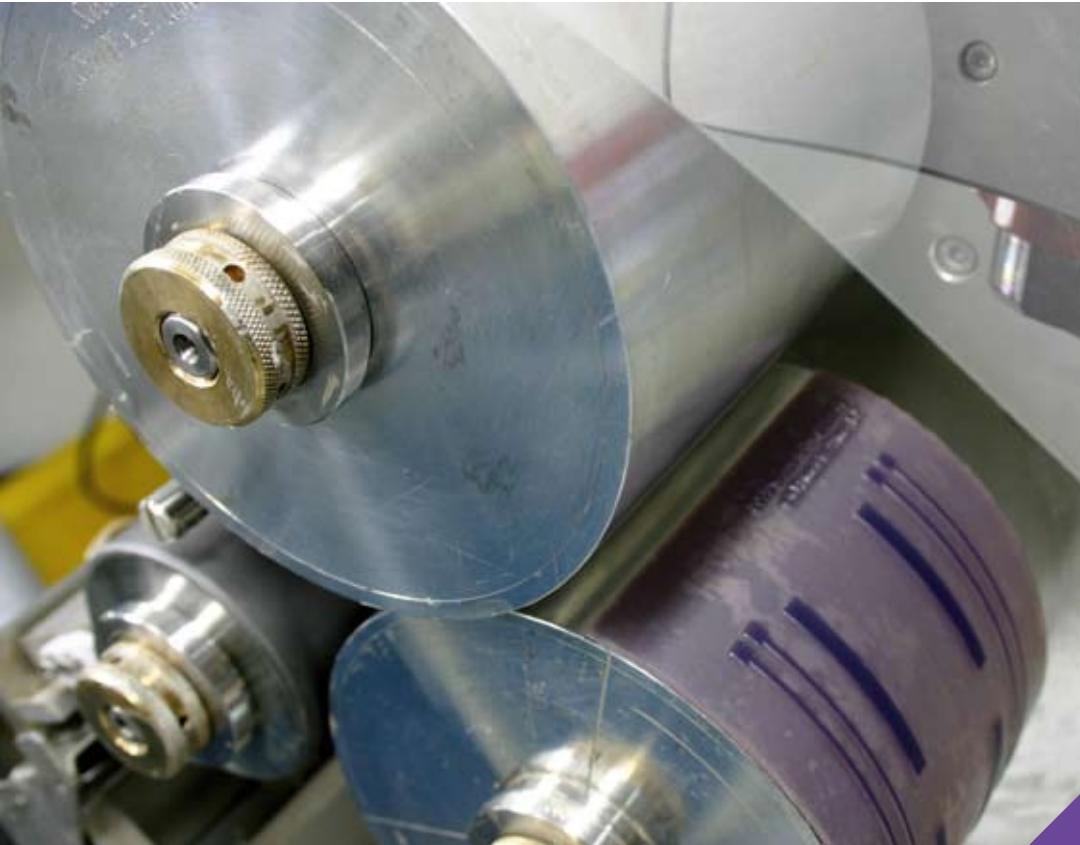
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# Case Study

## Broadcast & Media

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## The customer

The customer, part of the world's largest broadcast and media organisation with interests in television, cable, satellite, magazine and book publishing, is a leading national newspaper publisher, operating 24 hour printing processes at several UK locations, to produce a diverse range of printed material for a variety of markets and audiences, including four of the UK's top national newspapers.

Over the last five years, the printing process has become far more complex, taking advantage of increasingly sophisticated technology. Quality, efficiency and equipment reliability are paramount to the core business operation.

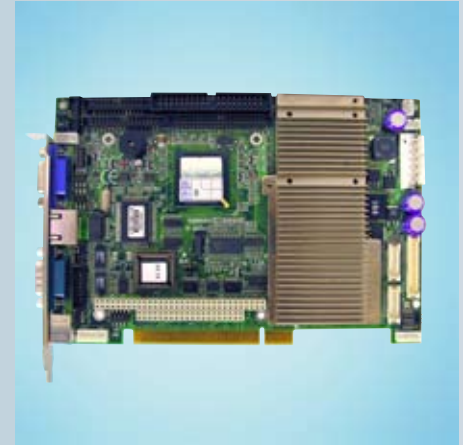
## Printing Press Monitoring & Control

## Requirements and issues

- The customer requirement was for an upgrade of the live monitoring and reporting system of the newspaper production process at its five main UK sites.
- The new equipment had to fit within existing fan-cooled cabinets, from where old equipment had been removed.
- The monitoring system collects detection and signalling activity data from the printing process and counts finished copies and bundles of newspapers. This raw production data is transmitted to central monitoring and reporting servers. More efficient and faster data collection, in real time, was a key requirement for the monitoring of the production process, to improve efficiency and decrease production downtime due to supply and shortages issues.
- The customer required an upgrade from legacy Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC) to a network of Industrial Personal Computer (IPC) platforms, with integrated measurement and control capability.
- The customer required a more robust and cost effective solution, compared to the legacy system, and wished to take advantage of industry standard equipment and software application tools.
- The customer required greater connectivity of the monitoring system to the management reporting system, and the ability of the platforms to operate in the hostile printing environment, where raised heat levels and dust ingress are key factors.



## The value proposition



The capability to provide the industrial computing platform within the customer required microbox form factor to fit into the customers existing production line furniture.

The provision of high reliability systems solutions through the selection of high MTBF components, quality assembly and integration, extensive pre-delivery soak testing and total system component traceability.

Knowledge and experience of heat dissipation technologies for IPCs and their inclusion into computing platform design.

The design, research, development and operational capabilities to provide a microbox computing platform suitable for enclosure in the customer's pre designed fan-cooled cabinets. Access to an extensive and well established global supply chain network to obtain best price/value components, and the ability to leverage volume purchasing over multiple projects to obtain best value for the customer.

The opportunities for cost reduction by leveraging Commercially-off-the-Shelf (COTS) component technology.

Providing overall project risk reduction, working with an industry leader with a Tried, Tested and Trusted reputation.

The provision of expert consultation and analysis of the customer's requirements, particularly those concerning robustness of product and the hostile production environment, and the ability to interpret and encapsulate those requirements in the resultant solution.

# The solution

# The outcome



**Microbox IPC customised - ideal for small spaces and for added reliability.**

**PCI slot based data acquisition and control interfaces.**

- ✓ The customer was supplied with a robust and cost-effective solution for their production process monitoring system compared to the PLC's and previous generation bespoke hardware.
- ✓ The customer benefits from hardware manufactured from standard interchangeable components that are widely and readily available.
- ✓ Following installation of the Captec PCs, the newspaper production process has experienced increased levels of efficiency due to less down-time on the printing line.
- ✓ A solution was a successful roll-out of 100's of units nationwide in all distributed printing locations.
- ✓ The implementation of change and material control mechanisms to future proof the computer platform.
- ✓ The customer has experienced minimum in-life failure rate to date.