

SCHOOL IN-PLANT GAINS SUMMER LABOR EFFICIENCIES: Automated Punching & Collating Cuts Labor by 50%



The Graphic Arts Department of EBR Parish School operates as the In-Plant print facility servicing 90 schools and over 40,000 students with all of their print & finishing needs.

“It’s like having another worker.”

**CHAD
SIMPSON**

*Production Manager
Baton Rouge, Louisiana*

Finishing Jobs Completed with 1 Operator Versus 2 Executive Summary

Since the installation of the [Tornado Autopunch EX®](#) in April 2018, EBR’s in-house print operation has been able to automate the collating and punching steps for their unique finishing jobs that include a variety of media that were previously hand-collated and punched. Their savings metrics include:

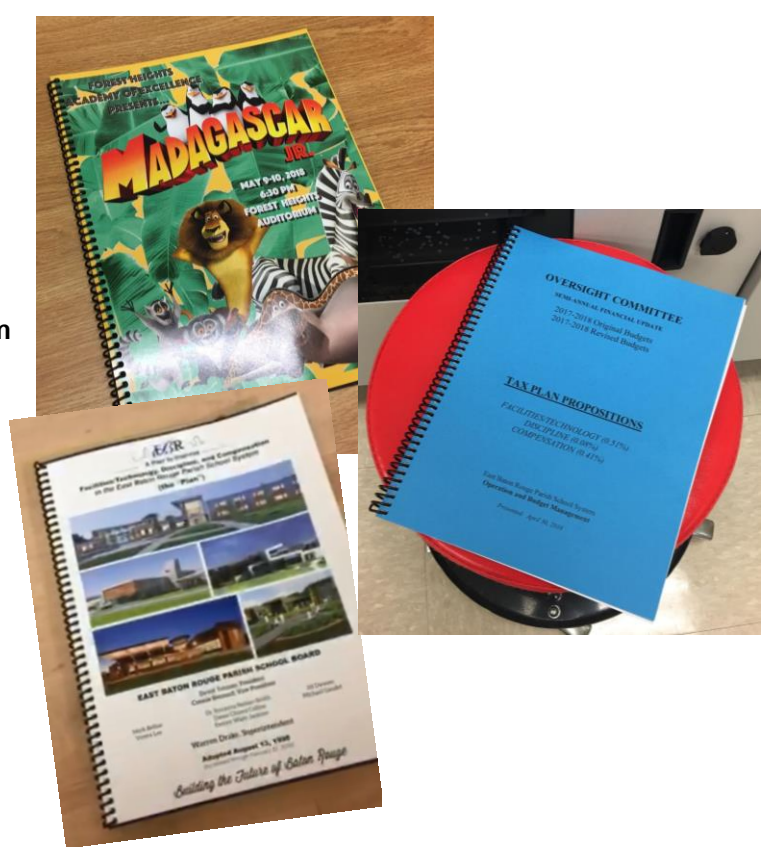
- 👉 50% reduction in labor – they went from 2 operators punching, collating and binding to 1 operator binding while the EX is auto-punching and collating.
- 👉 Auto-collation of hard-to-feed book components has eliminated errors of manual hand-collation of covers, index tabs, and inserts.
- 👉 Improved workflow management for school handbooks, calendars, workbooks as the busy season begins July – August.



Challenges

Historically the applications for EBR Graphic Arts department include a variety of coil-bound books including Tax Plan Oversight Committee Book, Facilities Plan Book, Student Handbooks, Calendars, & Student Workbooks. Their main challenge is that many of the application components require a secondary finishing process that does not allow them to run the full document in-line on their printer. For example, common book components include:

- ❖ 100lb. UV-Coated Front and Back Covers
- ❖ 100lb. UV-Coated – All Pages
(Madagascar book shown)
- ❖ Clear Plastic (Acetate) Front Covers
- ❖ Black Vinyl Back Covers
- ❖ 20, 60, 65lb. Multi-Colored Insert Sheets within 1 book for separation of sections
(Tax Plan Oversight Committee Book shown)
- ❖ 5-Bank Index Tabs that are printed on an HP Indigo printer and sent out to be tabbed
- ❖ Mylar-Coated Index Tabs



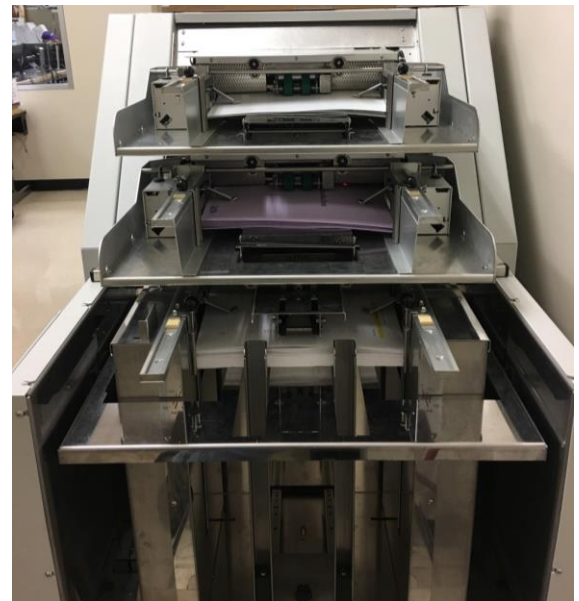
Prior to the Tornado Autopunch EX®, the finishing process required a series of manual steps by trained operators. All of the UV-coated covers were hand-collated into each booklet, as well as front and back covers. Because their printer cannot print/run index tabs in-line, it is a separate process to send them out for tabbing followed by manual insertion. This forced EBR Graphic Arts Department to run the documents and its components uncollated. This made their jobs more difficult and took more time to complete.

The Solution

Now, EBR Graphic Arts department is using the [Tornado Autopunch EX®](#) for all their inserting and punching of book components that were a pain to manually insert before. The speed of the machine is fast enough to produce offset book stacks while the operator runs their automatic coiling machine enabling concurrent binding, reducing operators from 2 to 1.

The Results

“The machine doesn’t make mistakes – the confidence level is there that if the 1st book and last book are correct, everything in the middle is right!”
says Chad Simpson, Production Manager.



For More Information

Please visit www.rhin-o-tuff.com or call us at 800-390-5782.

