

Quality assurance: Sibress presents new SibScope microscope

Starnberg (Ger), 05 May 2015 - Sibress, manufacturer of measurement and analysis systems for quality assurance in flexographic and package printing, at Starnberg near Munich, launches the newly developed SibScope microscope and SibView measurement software on to the market.

The newly developed Sibress SibScope microscope undertakes the task of examining objects such as anilox, gravure and flexo plates, with the highest image quality and precision. At maximum magnification, objects are displayed full-screen with a size of 97 μm , via 80x lenses (relative to 60 cm screen diagonal). SibScope can be used both on round or cylindrical surfaces (from 6 cm diameter) as well as on flat surfaces.

Highest sharpness of detail thanks to filter technology

The microscope is equipped with five planachromatic lenses (flat field lenses). The desired magnification is selected by simply rotating the nosepiece. SibScope comes with the following lenses: 5x, 10x, 20x, 40x, 80x, as well as optional 4x and 100x. A variety of available mechanical filters makes it possible to display surfaces in sharp detail and with rich contrast.

For object viewing, the user can switch between the 10x binocular supplied, and the built-in, high-resolution microscope camera. The image can then be examined on a PC monitor. The optical microscope can be moved in X, Y and Z directions (height adjustable). For height/depth determination, a digital dial gauge with a 1 μm resolution is integrated into SibScope. The manual height adjustment allows accuracies of significantly below 1 μm , so that even the finest surface structures can be brought into focus, and thereby examined in razor sharp detail.

During measurement, the height measurement values are immediately transmitted to the newly developed, also by Sibress, supplied SibView software, via an interface which has been specially designed for the microscope. SibView also fully automatically displays the currently selected planachromatic lenses. Thus, the calibration parameters stored in the

software are automatically selected for each lens, and measurements displayed correctly.

SibView - more than a measuring tool

The system is delivered calibrated in the X, Y and Z axes. The SibView software offers various measuring tools, such as distance measurement, angular position, angular positions comparison, widths distance measurement with angular position, circle, circumference, and area. Additional comments may be added to the image.

When capturing with a height measurement, image and height measurements are stored together, and can also be reloaded as such. A specially developed image quick save function allows the user to save the image, with corresponding depth/height information, in a fraction of a second, by pressing any key. The image and height/depth information is stored in a freely selectable folder, without having to assign the image a special name. On this basis, the captures can be used to create a 3D image using third-party software.

SibScope - more than a surface inspection microscope

The SibScope microscope can also be used to evaluate flexographic printing plates, with the optionally available Sibress Versatile@Flex software. The Flexo software, well-established in the market over many years now, fully automatically analyses parameters such as dot percentage, dot size, screen ruling, and many more. At the same time, the precise stencil depth of flexo plates can also be determined. Dots can ultimately be examined at the highest resolution, and viewed in real terms. This is specially designed for high-interest HD-flexo applications. The exact height difference between individual dots also allows us to determine the actual circumference of a point at each location.

The combination of both software packages makes SibScope also an ideal solution for flexographic printing operations with their own repro, who want to analyse both their anilox rolls and their flexo plates.

Moreover, thanks to its optical filter, SibScope is also excellent for engraving operations, or for inspecting printed circuit board structures. It is useful for all applications, where it is important to examine and evaluate the smallest details, through excellent image resolution and sharpness.

More information on the Sibress product range can be found at www.sibress.com.

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