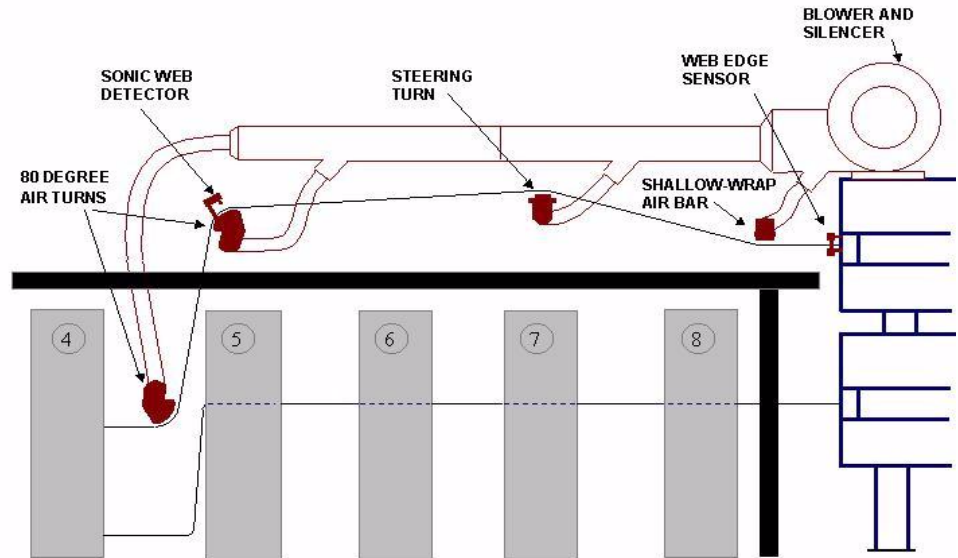


Pathfinder Air Turn System

The Pathfinder air turn system is designed to handle a broader range of web weights than any other air turn system available today. From the lightest to the heaviest of printed web weights, the Pathfinder smoothly turns and guides the web at any press speed.



A typical Pathfinder layout with two 80 degree turns followed by the web guide turn and the dryer entry stabilizer bar.

Compact Design

The Pathfinder uses two 80 degree air turns to elevate the web above the print units, followed by a fast-response center pivoting shallow wrap turn. This center pivoting steering turn precisely controls the position of the web to eliminate web movement before, during and after start-up, splices and blanket washes. A stationary shallow wrap turn steadies the web just prior to entering the dryer.



Ultra-sonic sensor will precisely measure and control the air gap between the web on the upper air turn.

Precise Air Gap Control

A key component of the Pathfinder is ASI's patented ultra-sonic web measurement and clearance control. Mounted on the air turn itself, the ultrasound detector precisely measures the distance between the web and the face of the air turn to within ± 0.003 inches. A dedicated controller uses this continuous measurement to modulate the supply air flow to maintain web clearance stability to within 0.35 inches. However, the operator may also select a different clearance (between 0.1 and 0.6 inches) to accommodate differing web characteristics.

Web Position Control

The side-to-side position of the web is constantly monitored by the photosensitive measurement "eye" that is positioned after the last air bar and before the dryer. Web movements as small as ± 0.02 inches are measured and processed by a dedicated controller. As required, the controller sends an appropriate correction signal to the center-pivot steering turn to move the web back to the proper position. The web positioning control is immediate and completely automatic.

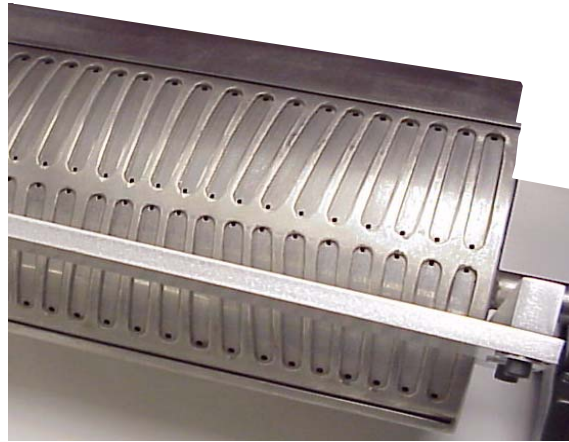
Pathfinder Air Turn System

Effective and Efficient

The Pathfinder will handle greater web tensions (15%+) and use 20% less air than competitive air turns. And, no adjustments are required when varying web width.

The Pathfinder is yet another example of ASI's continuing leadership in engineering innovation and practical designs for the graphic arts industry.

Pathfinder's many benefits and advantages are all designed to improve your press performance, productivity and profitability.



Angled labyrinth areas create a positive air pad across the full web width. Wide webs or narrow webs, there are no slots to plug nor adjustments to make.



The remote mounted control panel contains all control functions in a simple layout that includes web tension read-out and auto/manual controls for web positioning and air turn clearance.

Features and Advantages

- Web weights from 15 to 200 lbs./3300 ft²
- Compact 80 degree air turns require less space between print units
- Center-pivot steering turn eliminates web weave during start-up, splices and blanket washes
- Ultra-sonic web clearance measurement controls web clearances to within 0.03 inches for solid web stability
- Fast-action PLC-based steering and clearance controls
- Web positioning is precisely controlled to provide proper exit location going into the dryer
- Stainless steel construction



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