

Precise Tailoring to Customer Requirements with the 3696 Gathering Machine

Be it complex products such as magazines, or simple book printing, the new 3696 gathering machine from Muller Martini can process the widest range of products in its class; the machine can generate processing speeds of up to 12,000 cycles/hour and leaves no doubt about its flexibility.

► The 3696 gathering machine enables bookbinders to adopt the extremely flexible approach they need for tackling a diverse range of jobs as well as helping them maintain optimum efficiency. When producing complex magazines and brochures, single sheets and fold-out signatures can be fed reliably, cards can be electrostatically charged and inserts can be secured in-line. With simpler products such as two-up paperbacks and book blocks, the 3696 gathering machine wins fans thanks to its compact design and impressive size range.

Extensive Feeder Range

The flexible feeder range is a new feature for this performance range, and with its modular design the 3696 gathering machine, which made its global debut a few months ago at a Muller Martini open house event held at the Bookbinding Academy in Felben (Switzerland), can be adjusted to suit the precise requirements of each customer. The base-unit is equipped with two twin feeders as standard. These feeders can be replaced at any point with a sample gluer, a specialty feeder with longitudinal action or – a completely new feature – a handfeeding station.

The feeders provide extremely reliable separation, with even complex signatures being processed reliably and efficiently. Grippers at the back of the signature grasp it firmly and it is removed from the hopper via the shortest route. The signatures are pre-accelerated on the signature transport table so that they are fed gently to the transport finger and precisely lined up.

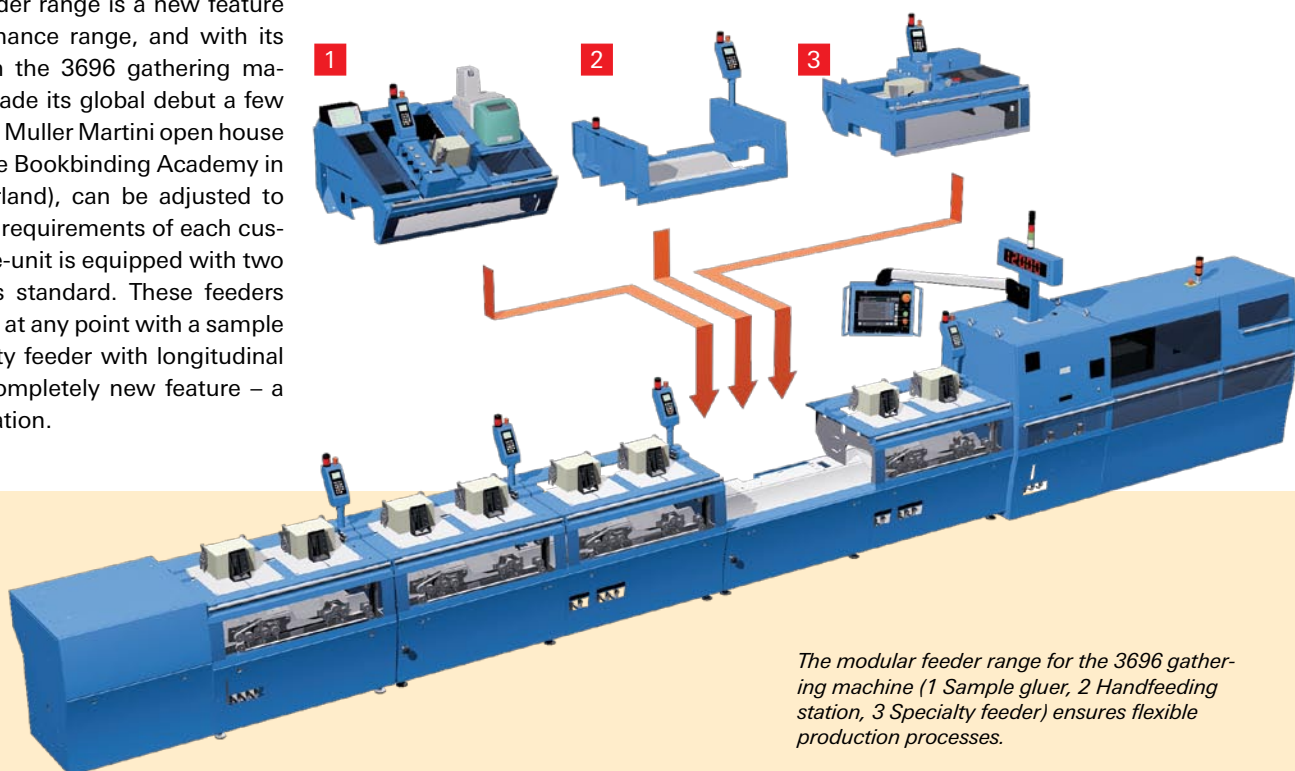
Extremely Short Set-Up and Changeover Times

The transport finger reliably transfers the signatures to the concave raceway, where the signatures are bent slightly giving them

a stable shape for safe transportation. This allows even oblong sizes to be processed with a high net output.

The gathering machine control also includes functions for sample gluer, specialty feeder, reject gate and transfer elements, ensuring extremely short set-up and changeover times. Thanks to a feature supporting loading from both sides, the changeover time required between jobs can also be further reduced by loading and producing on one side and preparing the next job on the opposite side. ◀

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The modular feeder range for the 3696 gathering machine (1 Sample gluer, 2 Handfeeding station, 3 Specialty feeder) ensures flexible production processes.