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Fairfax Media Ltd., Australia, New Zealand

## A fitness program for the newspaper

Australian media group Fairfax Media Limited is adapting newspaper production to changing conditions. A decentralization concept is set to realign capacity in the press hall and in the mailroom. In June 2014, two printing facilities, Chullora near Sydney and Tullamarine near Melbourne, will close and production will be transferred to the Ballarat site, west of Melbourne, and North Richmond, to the north of Sydney. Decentralization of production should help lower production costs by around 60 percent. " We have reorganized the products within the group in order to optimize our line utilization", says Bob Lockley, Group Director Print & Distribution at Fairfax Media.

Thanks to the decentralization project, Fairfax is also reshuffling its cards in the mailroom. Ferag is supporting Fairfax with this project and integrating existing components from Tullamarine into the facilities in Canberra, North Richmond and Newcastle in Australia, and also into the two New Zealand sites in Wellington and Auckland. It's mainly the integration of the MultiDisc winding systems and the MSD MultiSertDrum inserting drums that will give the separate locations greater flexibility and enable them to cope with higher production volumes and tighter deadlines.

Integration of the separate components had already begun in the spring of 2013, and all work was accomplished with no interruptions to production. Here, Ferag can bring to bear its experience in the area of project

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management and equipment manufacturing, and thus ensure that integration is problem-free. Balancing of the components' control software can also be necessary, which Ferag enables across several system generations thus underlining once again the fact that the company takes investment security seriously..

((Legenden))



((fp1339\_01)) "The regional facilities are an important step in securing the future of our titles." Bob Lockley, Group Director Print & Distribution.



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As part of the decentralization project, the facility in North Richmond is being extended.

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