**Osako Stitchers – Since 1916**

**Osako, manufactured north of Tokyo in Yamagata, Japan, has been producing Saddle Stitching equipment for over 50 years. Best Graphics has represented Osako for more than 20 years. With over 3,000 installations worldwide, Osako is an established and reliable brand within the Graphic Arts and Bindery markets.**

Presently, there are three models – and a variety of machine configurations – within the Osako portfolio:

* **Micro**: 9,000cph, 14”+ Spine
* **Estar Alpha**: 10,000cph, 17 or 18.5” Spine
* **Tener Alpha**: 12,000cph, 18.5” Spine

All Osako models include a color touch screen for makeready setup, preventative maintenance assistance, and operator safety. All three models offer automation packages to increase machine productivity and reduce job setup times. When preparing a new job, all core functions are done through the color touch screen automatically, *or* at key sections of the machine.

**Key Sections of a Saddle Stitcher**

The setup of a Saddle Stitcher can be broken down into four core areas:

* Three-Knife Trimmer
* Saddle Stitcher
* Cover Feeder(s)
* Signature Feeder(s)

At the **Signature Feeder**(s) of a Saddle Stitcher, when changing from one size format to another, an operator needs to adjust the stop for the new signature’s spine length; time each feeder to the line chain; and adjust the suckers, air to ensure a smooth transfer from the feeder to the chain. On all three Osako models these procedures are aided by automation and setup tool-lessly. Each Feeder can be setup in **2 – 3 minutes**.

At the **Cover Feeder** of a Saddle Stitcher, an operator needs to adjust the side guide and the score pressure. On all three Osako models these procedures are a tool-less setup. Each Cover Feeder can be makereadied in **3 –** **5 minutes**.

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 At the **Stitcher** section, an operator needs to adjust the chain timing (to the new size format); stitch head positioning (to the spine); length of signature scanner; and the caliper thickness (of a “good” booklet). On all three Osako models these procedures are guided by the touch screen and aided by automation. The Stitcher section of a Micro can be adjusted in **5 – 7 minutes**, while the increased automation in the Estar and Tener platforms allows makeready to be completed in as little as **3 – 5 minutes**.

At the **Trimmer**, an operator needs to adjust the Stitcher-to-Trimmer book transfer timing; belting; the face and head/tail knives; yoke timing; and the thickness of the book. The Micro and Estar’s OT-352, OT-323, OT-2012 mechanical Trimmers can be makereadied in **less than 15 minutes**, while the Tener’s fully automated OT-2000A Trimmer – which allows size format entries to be saved and adjusted at the touch screen – can be setup in **less than 5 minutes**.

**Common Size Format Changes**

A machine’s Feeder(s) should be setup by one team member – say, a lower skillset employee who loads the machine’s signatures during production – while the machine’s lead operator simultaneously prepares the Three-Knife Trimmer and Stitcher sections.

 On a **Micro**, an 8.5” x 11” 🡪 5.5” x 8.5” changeover:

Feeder(s): 2 – 3/ea. | Cover: 3 – 5 | Stitcher: 5 – 7 | Trimmer: (OT-352) 7 – 10

 On an **Estar**, an 8.5” x 11” 🡪 5.5” x 8.5” changeover:

Feeder(s): 2 – 3/ea. | Cover: 3 – 5 | Stitcher: 3 – 5 | Trimmer: (OT-2012) 7 – 10, (OT-2000A) 3 – 5

 On a **Tener**, a 4” x 9” 🡪 12” x 18” changeover:

Feeder(s): 2 – 3/ea. | Cover: 3 – 5 | Stitcher: 3 – 5 | Trimmer: (OT-329 Duo) 10, (OT-2000A) 3 – 5

**Ancillary Equipment Setup**

Do you commonly “pass” on 2-up work because the setup time takes too long? Ask us about our convenient **4th & 5th Knife** option, which can be setup (or removed) in as **little as 20 minutes**!

Do you avoid inline mechanical punching – Calendar Punch, 3-Hole Punch – because the makeready isn’t worth the return on a short run job? Ask us about optional **Fenimore 258 Punch** equipment, which “rolls up” behind your Trimmer section, so that you never have to “pull out” legacy tooling again! Setups can be reduced from hours to a **few minutes**!

Feel like you can’t get your Stitcher to run past 7,000 per hour? Think you have too much labor allocated to Stitching production? Consider a **Rima RS-12 Stacker** to **increase machine output** and reduce the number of bodies required to collect-and-pack product in a box.

Do you use **Palamides Delta Banders** in your Folding Department? You can use them behind Stitchers to batch count-bundle finished product, increase machine speed and reduce labor. Setup is **automated and easy**!

