

The N2 Company

IRVING, TX

The N2 Company prints 800 hyperlocal monthly magazines across four national brands. The company's state-of-the-art facility in Irving, TX, runs at lively pace to print 20 million pages per month of two-sided, tabloid-sized color. Yet, three-day weekends are routine for the small crew who run print production at The N2 Company. First shift works Tuesday through Friday, and second shift works Monday through Thursday. This clockwork-like efficiency at a large scale is driven by the speed and precision of the operation.

Plant layout supports publishing speed and scale

The 30,000-square-foot publishing plant is laid out like a city. Each press is a district, with spacious streets for forklift traffic forming city blocks.

In the body pages neighborhood, the human eye sees 400-foot-per minute streaks of color on white roll paper exiting the print heads of two HP PageWide A2200 Inkjet web presses. By the time the paper slows enough to be recognized as magazine pages, it has been printed on both sides, cut, collated and loaded onto a pallet strategically placed along a forklift route.

Next block over is the cover pages neighborhood, where archive-quality covers are rendered on HP's gold standard in digital press technology—an Indigo 7K press. Covers are printed on pre-cut 12 x 18 cover stock in a process that employs electrically charged plates and liquid ElectroInk to produce stunning clarity and color depth.

Relative humidity is critical to the paper path

Facility Engineer Daniel Jaime is responsible for the flow of print production. Hidden among his visible responsibilities like presses and lighting, Daniel is constantly aware of the relative humidity (RH) in the air. If RH in the plant drops below 49 percent, cut pages curl up from the stack, which jams the paper path. If the paper stops, the press shuts down.

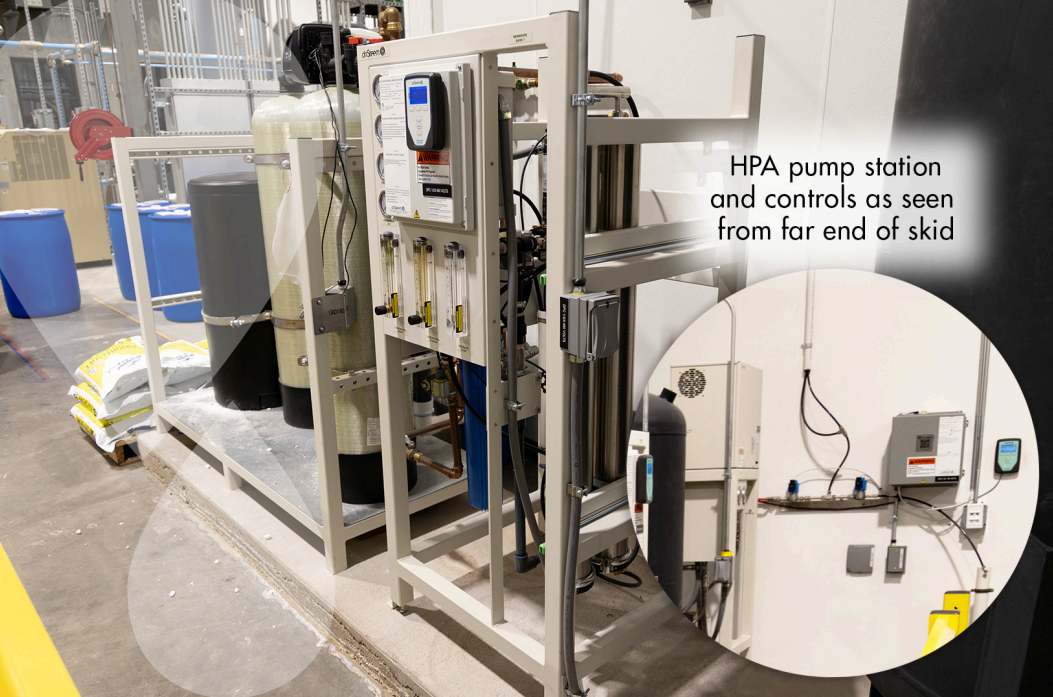
"Stopping and restarting a press can take over an hour," explains Daniel, "so I schedule maintenance intervals to keep the water treatment and HPA systems running smoothly."



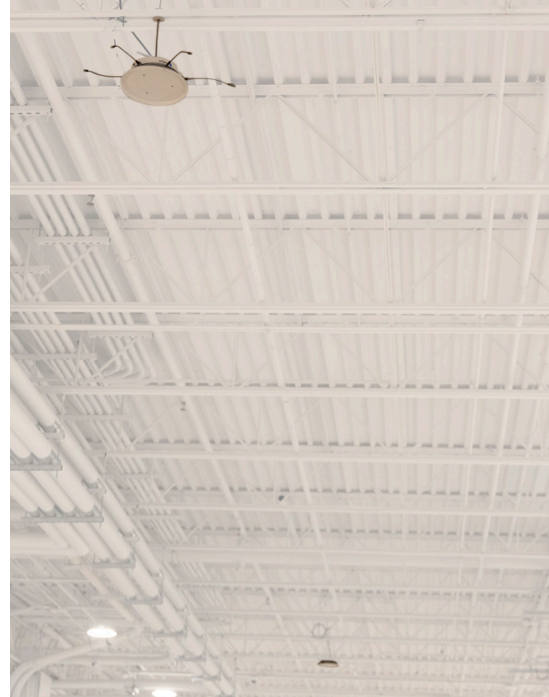
Miles of copy fly out of the digital presses, and forklifts move tons of roll paper and pallets of printed issues ready for distribution.



All's quiet on the weekend. Not a walk-up business, the only signage is the building's address number, 9151.



HPA pump station and controls as seen from far end of skid



DriSteem equipment in the mechanical room, where tap water is treated with a dechlorinator, softener, and reverse osmosis (RO) water treatment system. Process water is stored in a holding tank for distribution by the Adiatec® high-pressure atomizing (HPA) system.

Nine Adiatec FA-3 fan-assist units above the plant floor disperse atomized water for humidification and evaporative cooling.

RESOURCES

Find your local DriSteem representative:
<https://www.dristeem.com/find-a-rep>

Water treatment:
<https://www.dristeem.com/products/all-products/water-treatment-systems/>

Adiatec HPA system:
<https://www.dristeem.com/products/all-products/evaporative-cooling-humidification/>

DriCalc®, free sizing and selection software:
<http://www.dristeem.com/register-for-dricalc>

Outdoor enclosures and weather covers:
<https://www.dristeem.com/products/all-products/other-products-accessories/outdoor-enclosures-and-weather-covers/>

The N2 Company:
<https://n2co.com/>

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Shown above are the mechanical room adjacent to the publishing plant and two of the dispersion units near the plant ceiling.

When to choose an Adiatec high-pressure atomizing system

Engineers who specify DriSteem's Adiatec high-pressure system typically do so for applications requiring at least two of the following:

1. Large humidification load
2. Simultaneous humidification and cooling
3. Multiple zones

For The N2 Company, it was items 1 and 2. In fact, cooling while humidifying is often a seasonal—and even year-round—need in parallels outside of the tropics. This is significant in terms of energy savings because every 12 pounds of water evaporated into the air provides about a ton of cooling. Maximum humidification load at The N2 Company is almost 500 pounds per hour, which means more than 40 tons of free cooling per hour.



Already out of room? Outdoor enclosures can solve that problem.