

# Expanding Converter Capabilities with International Laminators

*By Manufacturers Supplies Company*

More Than Cutting, Controlling the Foundation of the Product  
Most converting equipment shapes the final part. A laminator defines the structure of the material before it ever reaches the cutting table.

For gasket fabricators, lamination is not simply an added process, it is the stage where material performance is created. Bond strength, layer alignment, adhesive consistency, and dimensional stability are all established before cutting begins. Unlike downstream equipment that processes finished material, a laminator directly influences how that material will perform in the field.

International Laminators from Manufacturers Supplies Company (MSC), shown in Figure 1, are engineered to give fabricators greater control over this foundational stage of production.

Engineered for Structural Performance, Not Just Throughput  
International Laminators are modular industrial systems designed to process foams, rubber, pressure-sensitive adhesives, films, and multi-layer composites. With working widths ranging from 1300 mm to 2300 mm—and now up to 3000 mm—and the capability to laminate materials up to 100 mm thick, these systems are engineered for demanding production environments.

What distinguishes these systems is their ability to combine lamination, rewinding, and cutting within a single configurable platform. Integrated longitudinal and transverse cutting units reduce secondary handling, while precise tension control ensures uniform adhesive application and repeatable bond integrity.

This level of control directly impacts material stability, flatness, and overall assembly performance, particularly in multi-layer

gasket constructions where tolerance stack-up can affect final part quality.

## Strategic Value for Ownership and Operations

For ownership and operations leaders, the laminator plays a different role than cutting or slitting equipment. It is not simply increasing speed, it is increasing control.

Key operational advantages include:

- Control over adhesive bonding and multi-layer construction quality
- Reduced dependence on pre-laminated materials
- Improved yield and lower material waste
- Greater flexibility in responding to specification-driven applications
- Stronger margin protection through value-added, in-house processing

While cutting systems define geometry, the laminator defines performance. Together they create a complete converting capability, but it is the laminator that enables fabricators to engineer the material itself.

By integrating International Laminators into their production strategy, converters can strengthen operational control, expand technical capability, and position their organizations for long-term growth.

MSC partners with fabricators from consultation through installation and ongoing support, delivering lamination and cutting solutions designed to improve efficiency and material control.

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