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**Successful Open House at** Akebono in Niigata (Japan)

**Over 30 visitors took advantage of the opportunity to learn at first-hand about the numerous advantages of the Alegro MC perfect binder during the open house event at Japanese Muller Martini customer** Akebono, which is based in Niigata and belongs to the major Dai-ichi Printing Group.

During a live production run, Hiroyuki Gemma, President of Akebono, referred to the numerous benefits of the Alegro MC, which, like the three Muller Martini saddle stitchers – Primera, Prima Amrys and Bravo-T – is connected with the company’s proprietary MIS system called AIS (Akebono Information System) via the Connex.Info 4.0 workflow system. Connex.Info 4.0 provides the bookbindery with valuable data about real-time production and overall equipment effectiveness (OEE). The AIS is also connected to the MIS of Dai-ichi Printing, enabling the parent company and therefore the printing plant to also view the Connex.Info data.

*The Alegro MC demo met with great interest among the visitors to the open house event at Akebono.*

Make-ready times have been shortened ten-fold at best compared to use of the earlier perfect binder model, and productivity has risen by a factor of 4. “What’s more, thanks to easier operation using the Book Data Center and Line Control, we need 20 percent less staff,” noted Hiroyuki Gemma. The rate of production waste has fallen to 0.8 percent, while the quality of the end products bound using PUR has risen. “And thanks to MMRemote, we have fast support from Muller Martini,” says Hiroyuki Gemma.

In addition to the machine demo, the visitors to the open house also benefited from an interesting talk by Volker Leonhardt, Global Sales and Marketing.

Member of Muller Martini Corporate Management He spoke about the challenges and facets of the global book market and presented the wide-ranging (Finishing 4.0) solutions that Muller Martini offers for the production of books.