Key Note
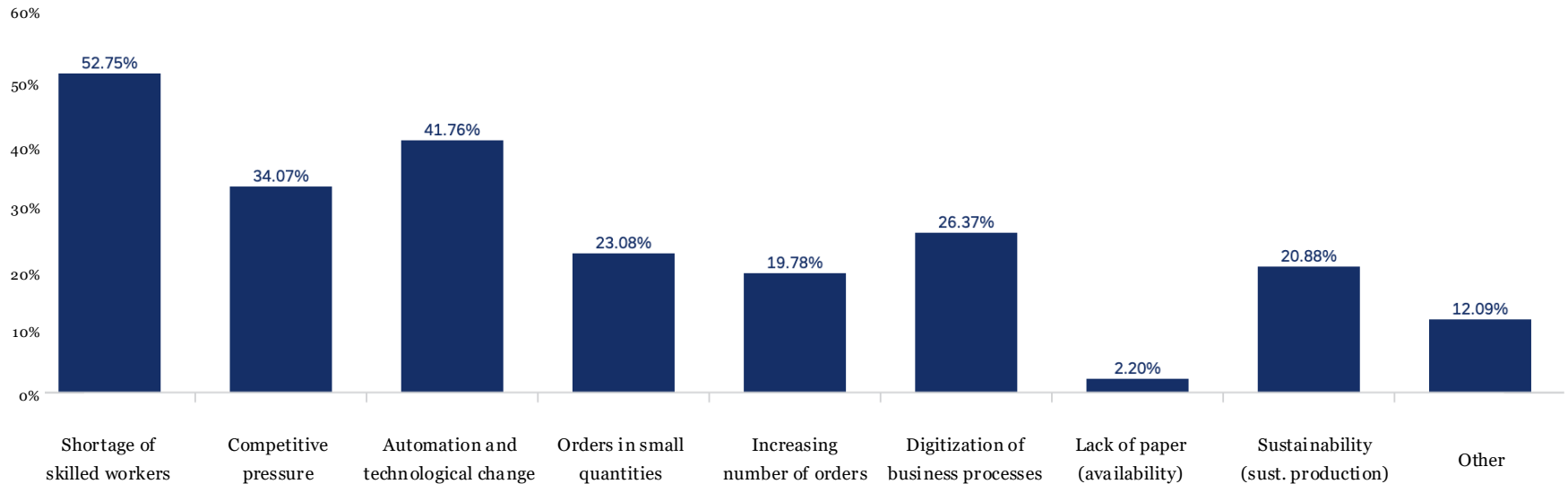# Update and Status Prinect Touch Free

Prinect User Days

Axel Zöller & Ulrike Seethaler | Home of Print Main Stage, 17th January 2025
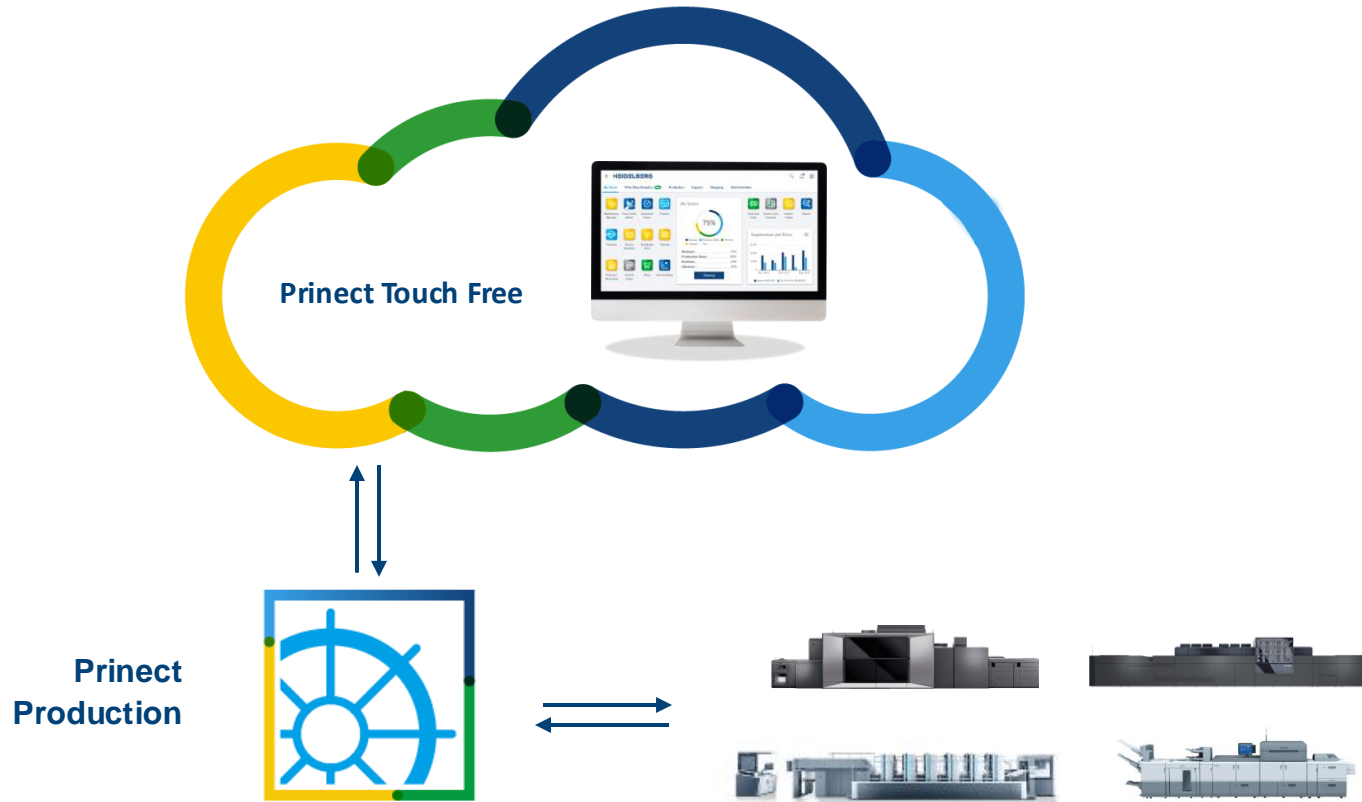
HEIDELBERG

PRINECT
USER DAYS

The biggest challenges regarding digital printing and digitalization

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- Shortage of skilled workers: 52.75%
- Competitive pressure: 34.07%
- Automation and technological change: 41.76%
- Orders in small quantities: 23.08%
- Increasing number of orders: 19.78%
- Digitization of business processes: 26.37%
- Lack of paper (availability): 2.20%
- Sustainability (sust. production): 20.88%
- Other: 12.09%
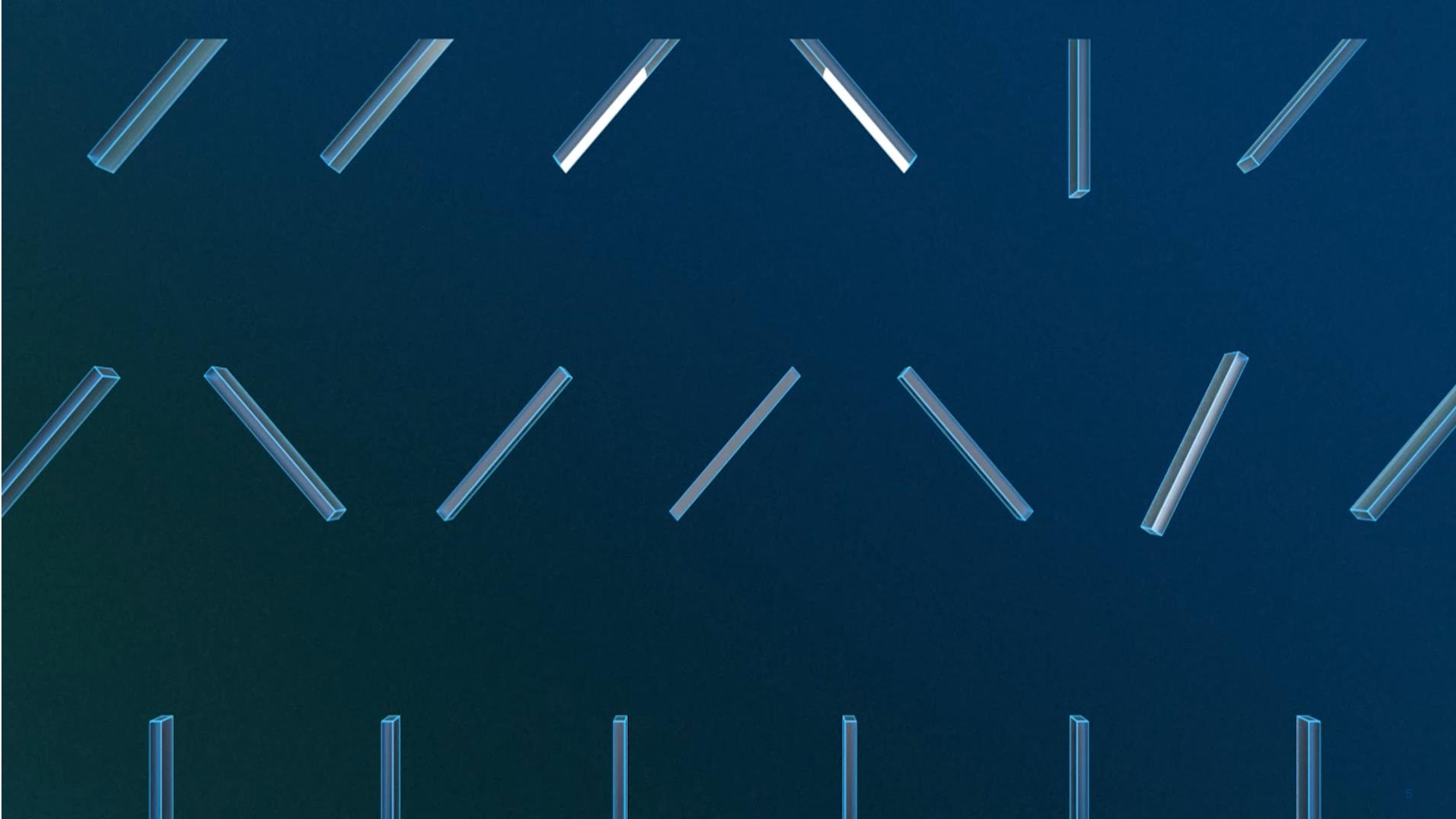
One Workflow – one system

Prinect Touch Free

Prinect Production

Autonomous Hybrid Production
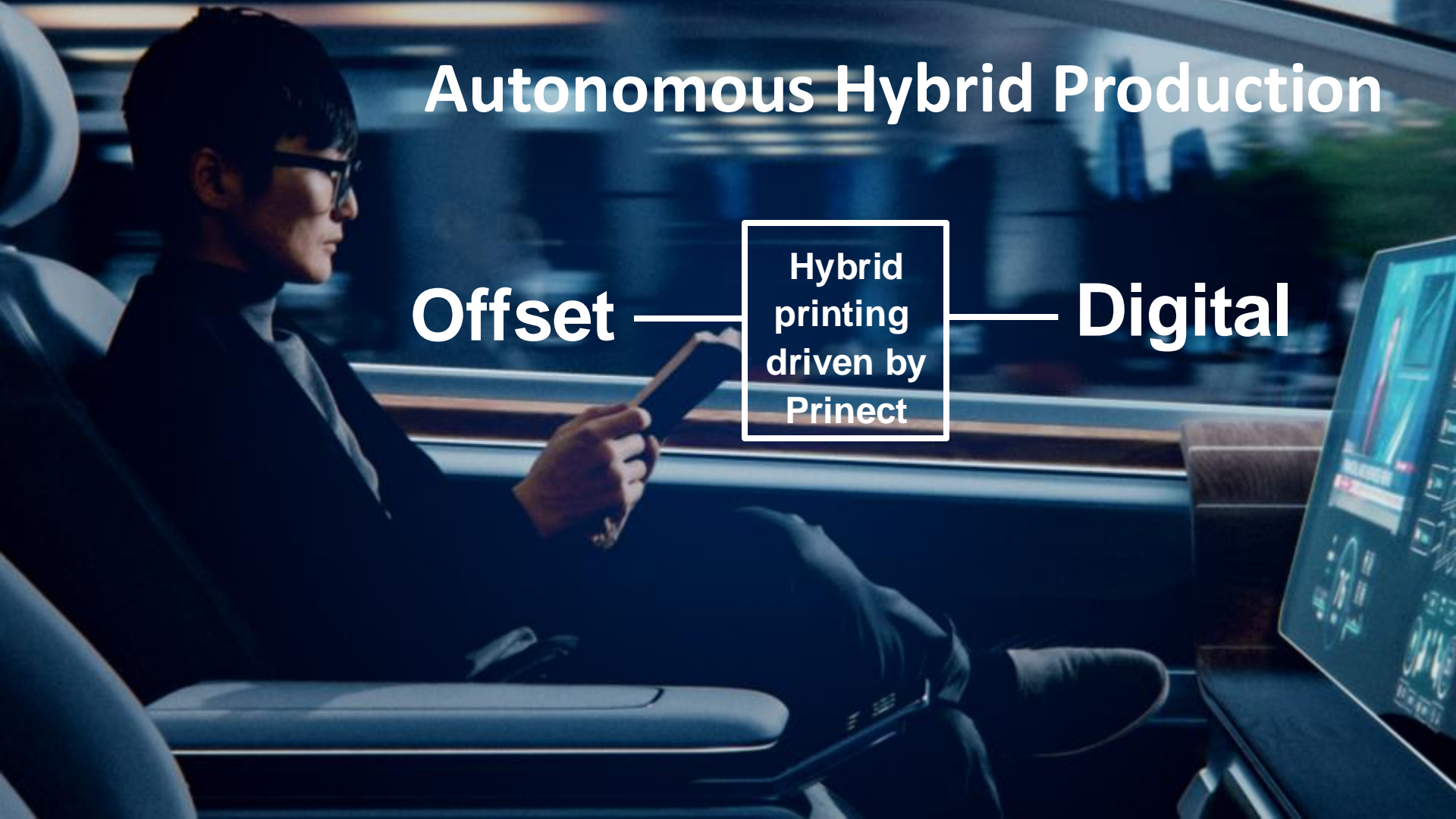
What is Prinect Touch Free?

- Fully automated workflow for digital and offset printing: hybrid-workflow

- Prinect Touch Free is a production system

- Prinect Touch Free is not an MIS
  - Works closely with the MIS

- The MIS remains the commercially leading system
  - Prinect Touch Free does not calculate quotations
  - Does not generate invoices
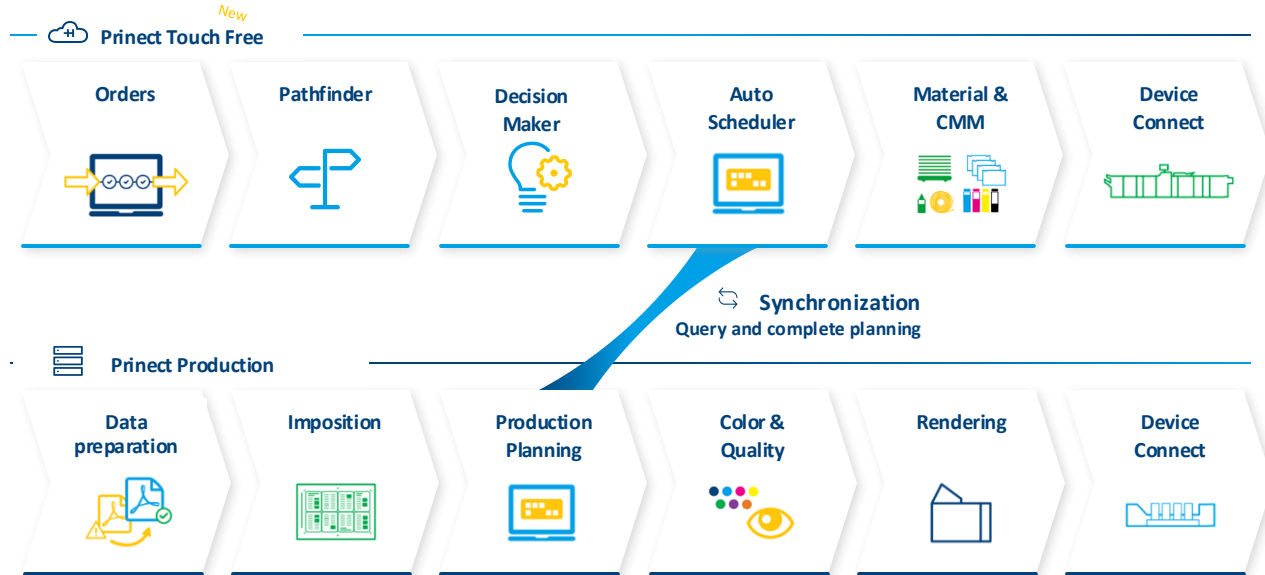 - Does not include material management

What will the Prinect workflow of the future look like?

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Order Input

- **Portal (B2B)**
- **Webshop (B2C)**
- **MIS**

ICS Portal

New

☁ **Prinect Touch Free**

Orders	Pathfinder	Decision Maker	Auto Scheduler	Material & CMM	Device Connect

⇄ **Synchronization**
Query and complete planning

Prinect Production

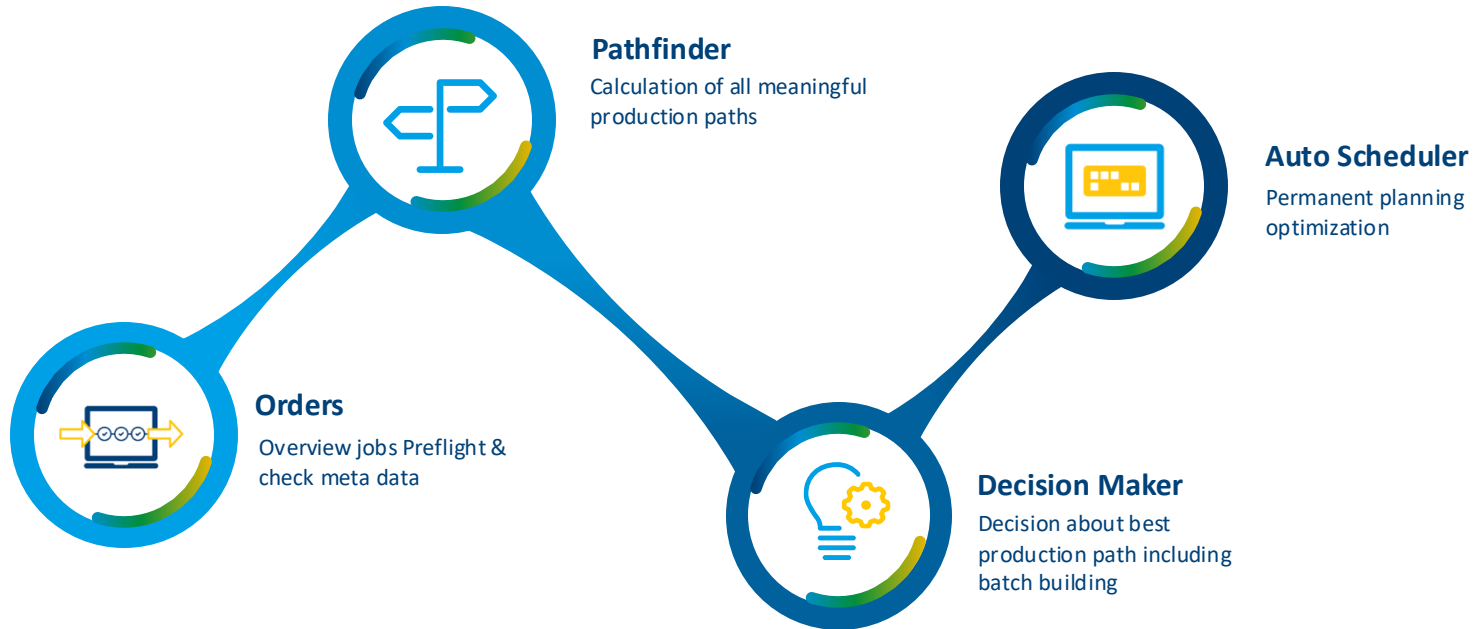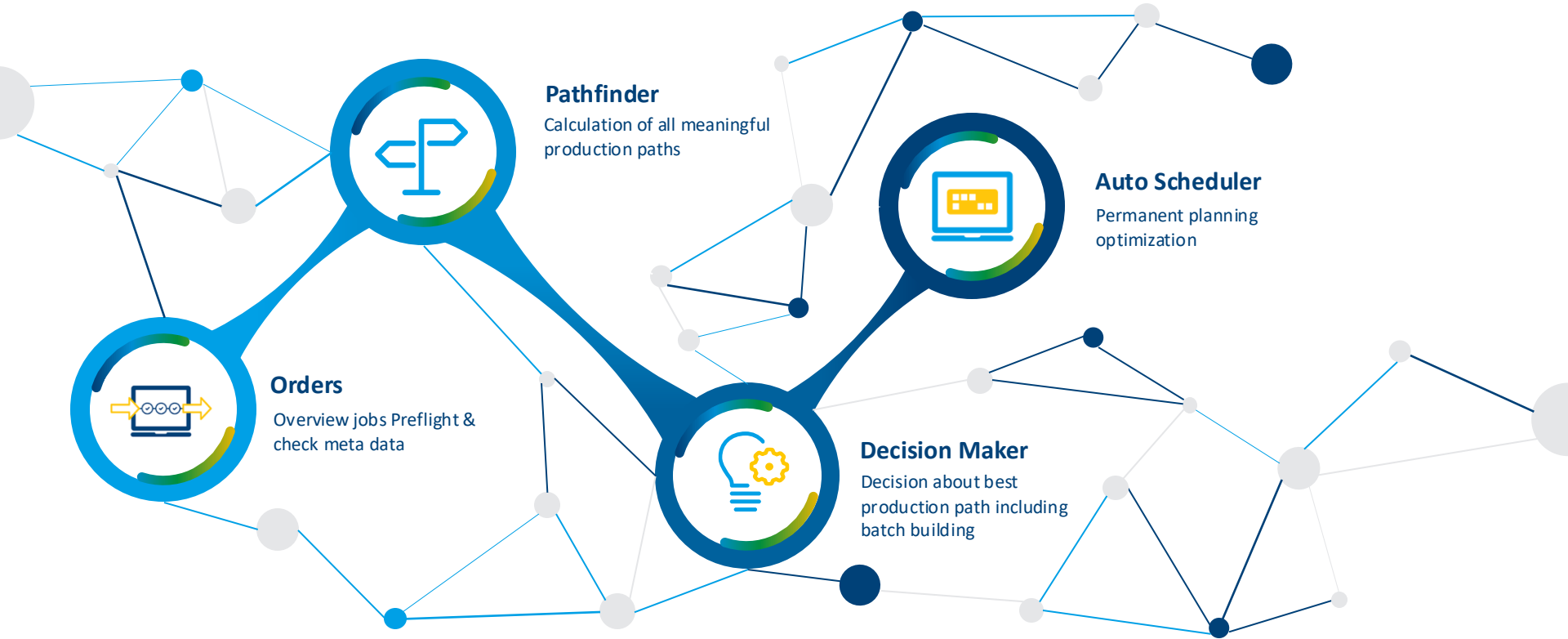| Data preparation	Imposition	Production Planning	Color & Quality	Rendering	Device Connect

Production

Versafire, Jetfire (HDM)

Digital Maschine (3rd party)

Speedmaster

CTP (general)

Postpress (general)

The core

Pathfinder
Calculation of all meaningful production paths

Auto Scheduler
Permanent planning optimization

Orders
Overview jobs Preflight & check meta data

Decision Maker
Decision about best production path including batch building

The interactive core

Pathfinder
Calculation of all meaningful production paths

Auto Scheduler
Permanent planning optimization

Orders
Overview jobs Preflight & check meta data

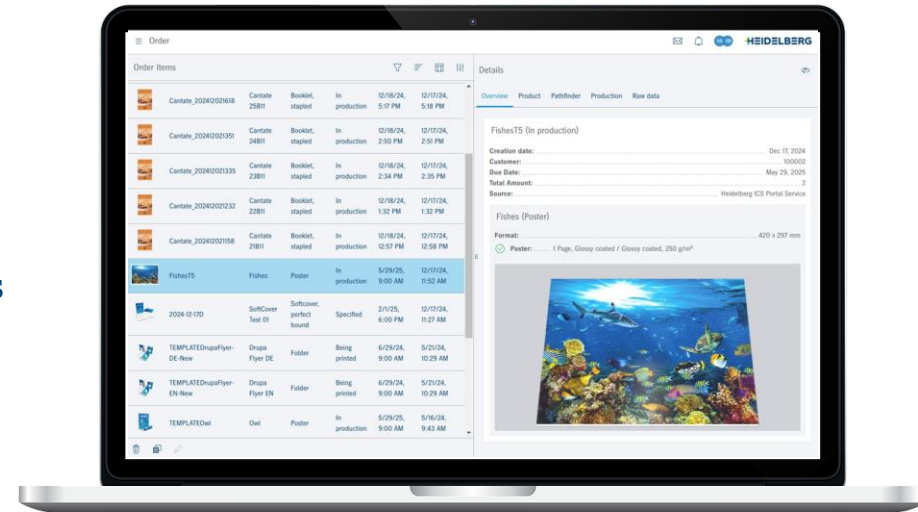**Decision Maker**
Decision about best production path including batch building

Orders App

- Central application for the production workflow with Prinect Touch Free

- User interface for the operator

- Full transparency/visualization of important job data (all jobs on prem & cloud)

- Control and verification of input/meta data and PDFs (completeness and conformity)

- PDF preflight incl. report

- Display of previews with zooming, rotating and scrolling of pages

- Display of results from Pathfinder & Decision Maker

- Display of process list and status information

Pathfinder & Decision Maker

- **Pathfinder:**
  Calculates all technically possible production methods (digital & offset including finishing) on a parameter-controlled basis
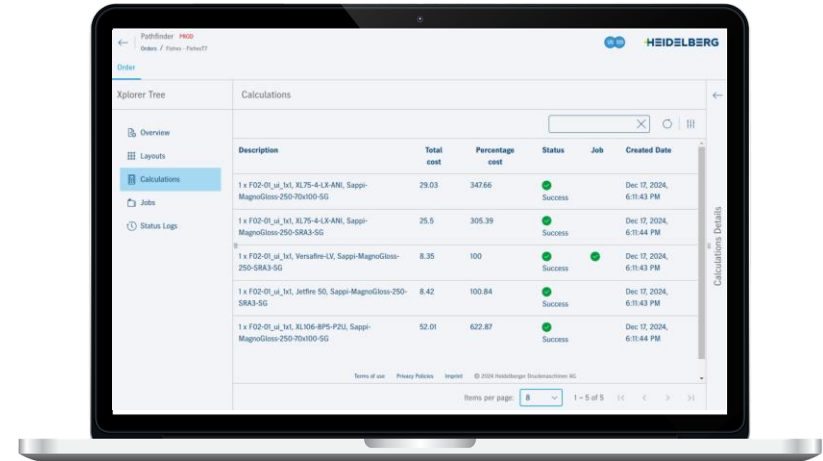
  All production methods including layouts are stored. Alternatives are therefore always available.

- **Decision Maker:**
  decides on the best production route:
  - which meets the delivery date
  - which is also the cheapest

  Batch building takes place in this work step

Prinect Touch Free: What's the point

- **Prinect Touch Free makes the production faster and easier**
  - Prinect Touch Free takes key production decisions autonomously
  - Automates production in a new and unprecedented way
  - Less know-how required for automation - out of the box for everyone

- **Prinect Touch Free reduces production costs**
  - Continuous production cost optimization on the entire order backlog
  - Cost calculations are made based on the real PDF
  - Decision on the most cost-effective production process takes ink consumption into account.

- **Relief for employees**
  - No manual creation of layout and process templates- significantly less time required
  - Operators can concentrate on complex jobs
  - Extremely simple machine configuration

- **Easy Rescheduling saves rework and time:**
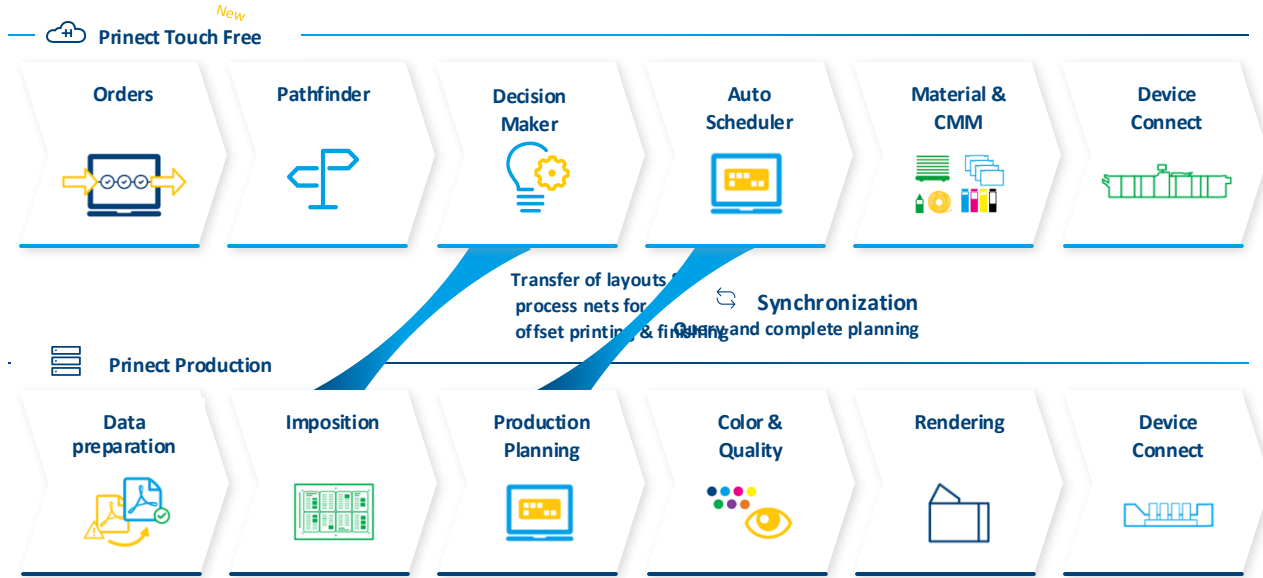 - Automatic adaptation to a new man/machine situation

Prinect Touch Free v1 - availability 12/25

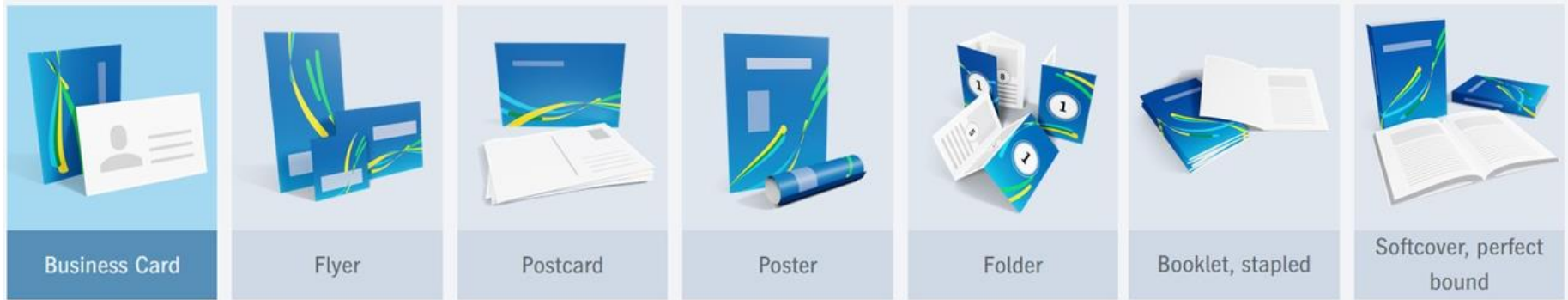**Order Input**

- Portal (B2B)
- Webshop (B2C)
- MIS

ICS Portal

New

Prinect Touch Free

| Orders | Pathfinder | Decision Maker | Auto Scheduler | Material & CMM | Device Connect |

Prinect Production

| Data preparation | Imposition | Production Planning | Color & Quality | Rendering | Device Connect |

Transfer of layouts process nets for offset printing & finishing

Synchronization
Query and complete planning

Production

Versafire, Jetfire (HDM)

Digital Maschine (3rd party)

Speedmaster

CTP (general)

Postpress (general)

Product types Prinect Touch Free v1

| Business Card | Flyer | Postcard | Poster | Folder | Booklet, stapled | Softcover, perfect bound |

Organization of paper management with Prinect Touch Free

- Sufficient quantities of the required paper types are provided in a paper store near the machine(s).

- Paper stock is managed via minimum quantities - if necessary, the warehouse near the machine is replenished.

- Paper orders, paper stock management, stock retrieval and intralogistics are carried out as before via the MIS system.

Prinect Touch Free: Easy collaboration with your MIS

MIS sends JDF Level 1 data - sufficient for optimum use of Prinect Touch Free.
job header data: e.g. job number, print run, delivery date, substrate, …

If JDF Level 2 data is supplied by the MIS, the path and the paper predefined in the MIS can be executed unchanged in the Pathfinder.
(JDF Level 2 data: Level 1 + additional process network for production)

Alternative: Prinect Touch Free can ignore the MIS process network and only take over the paper - the complete functionality is used.

Post-calculation in the MIS is ensured via the job number.

MIS: Production can work more independently
- Fewer Level 2 integration projects in the future
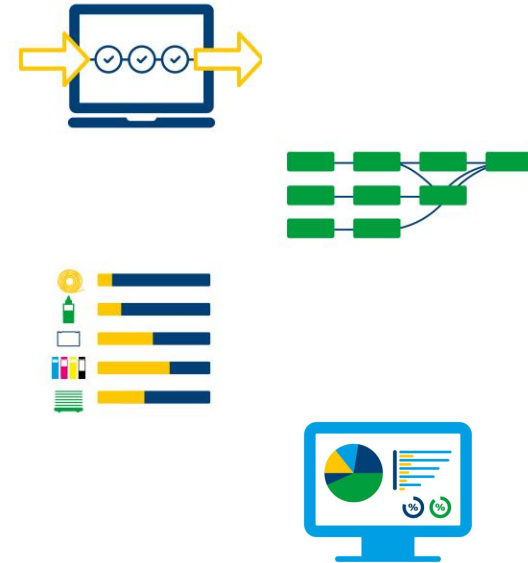
Prinect Touch Free: Auto Scheduler functionality v1

- Automatic planning of digital printing operations

- Optimized job sequence for a digital printing press
  (taking substrates/due dates into account)

- Visualization of the work steps to be processed

- Short-term overview of the processed jobs

- Display of process list and status information
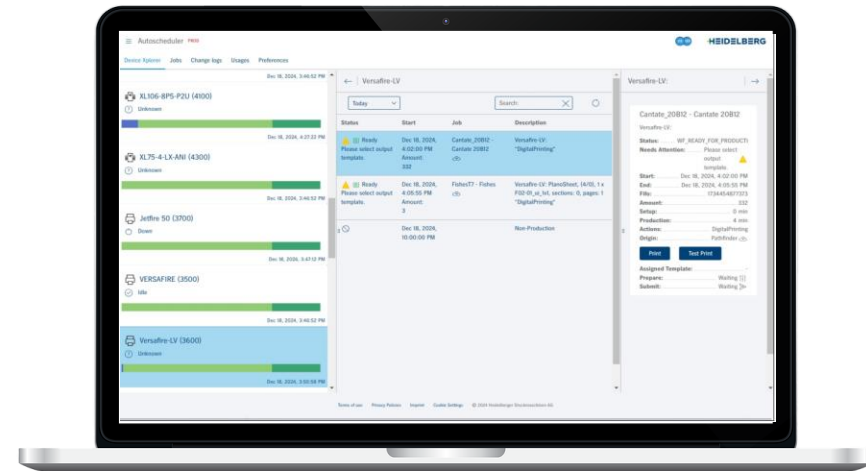
Verloop

- Verloop: Alblasserdam, Netherlands: 40 employees

- Verloop works 1 shift per day and enlarges the working hours on demand
- **Job portfolio**:
  - **40%** soft cover books, **50%** saddle stitched brochures and **10%** Printing on demand
  - Printing of magazines, master thesis, dissertations, code laws
  - **B2B portal** for customers with own web shop: Jobs for labels and stickers. Jobs for commercial printing.

- **MIS**: Multipress

- **Workflow**: Prinect Production – intensive usage of Prinect Portal Pageflex jobs via W2P Connector into Prinect, Hotfolder work. At the Versafire approx. **80 jobs/day** for one customer via Prinect Portal. Several Wordpress sites connected by API.

- **Printroom**: SM 74-4; **SX74-4-P**; 3 digital presses (**Canon IX3200**, **Kyocera TasAlfa 15000** and **Heidelberg Versafire EP**) all connected to Prinect Production.

Prinect Touch Free: Autonomous production becomes reality

- Fully automated production for hybrid offset and digital printing

- Maximum scalability and security thanks to cloud architecture

- System is ready to run without major configuration effort - 1 to 2 days max.

- Efficiency: Permanent cost and time optimization for the entire order backlog

- Automatic layout including marks for digital and offset printing

- Automatic planning including batch building for process optimization

- Maximum flexibility thanks to automatic rescheduling without additional effort

- Management of large numbers of orders up to print run 1 in printing and finishing is possible

- **Prinect Touch Free: Revolutionary approach to workflow automation**

Prinect Touch Free

**Thank you for your attention
and now have fun in the workshops!**

Prinect Touch Free: Who should use it

1. Commercial businesses with a significant/growing proportion of orders with small/medium print runs that want to automate production.

2. Commercial businesses that are looking for simple automation for standard products and want to save on complex configurations or in-house developments.

3. Commercial printers who want to relieve their production staff of repetitive standard tasks.

4. Commercial enterprises for which the optimization of production costs and production times is of central importance for business success.