

# Wrapmation... a new era in Roll Tracking Systems

The Egyptians were known for their use of papyrus rolls on which possessions, inventories, historical figures, deities and events were recorded by scribes and artists (lower right panel). As the Egyptians used papyrus to tell a story, we are using this calendar to tell our story of papermaking.

Today paper is made and shipped throughout the world. All four cardinal points are represented here through the use of Egyptian symbols. In the center panel the winged solar disk represents the course of the sun from East to West (top of center panel); these wings were often shaped to represent the sky hieroglyph (see hieroglyphs section). The falcon and the vulture (top center panel), as well as the papyrus (left lower panel) and the lilies (lower right panel) hieroglyphs, represent north and south as the symbols for Lower (northern) Egypt and Upper (southern). Sometimes a frame composed of the sky hieroglyph, a pair of “was” scepters and the earth hieroglyph was used to place the composition in a cosmic setting.

The whole process of papermaking started for the Egyptians with the gathering of the papyrus plants (upper left panel). Today, trees are a major source of fibers for the pulp and paper industry (lower center panel). Water was as important to the Egyptians as it is to modern day papermakers. It sustained the life of the papyrus and other vegetation along the Nile (bottom center panel) and it is still used extensively in papermaking.

Papermaking is as much an art as it is a science. Even with today’s computerized quality systems, testing the quality of paper rolls is still done by hand: the tapping of the rolls while listening to the sound vibrations tells the papermakers something about the quality of the roll that computerized gauges cannot. (see lower left panel).

Quality paper rolls are carefully handled and wrapped for storage and shipping (center panel). Manpower was used to move large rolls of paper (lower right panel) before the vacuum clamp trucks of nowadays. Where scribes and checkers were used to record items going in and out of inventory, their ownership and all sales transactions, today computerized Roll Tracking Systems have taken over and follow the rolls from order entry through production, inventory tracking, wrapping, labeling and shipping.

Swift delivery of paper (top right panel), whether sheets or rolls, remains essential to ensure total customer satisfaction.

## Hieroglyphs

The Egyptians used hieroglyphs both as symbols and as a written language to communicate.

In order to decipher the hieroglyphic messages within this illustration:

- First, *determine in which direction to read each message* whether from the right or from the left. To do so, look at the direction in which the animals' heads are pointing: if they are pointing to the left, start from the left – if they are pointing to the right, read from the right.
- Then, starting from the proper direction, *read from the top down*. Vertical lines are used to separate columns of text and messages.
- Refer to the following chart to discover the messages that has been written in hieroglyphs.

 a	 j	 q	 cosmos
 a	 l	 x	 “was” scepter
 b	 m	 sky	 earth
 c (hard), k	 n	 one (units)	 scribe
 c (hard), k	 o	 ten	 papyrus
 c (soft), s	 moon, boat	 hundred	 lilies
 d	 p	 ten thousand	 Wrapmation
 ee, ea, y	 r	 hundred thousand	 W
 e	 sh	 million	
 f, v	 t		
 g	 th		
 h	 u, w		
 i	 z, please		
	 s (plural)		