

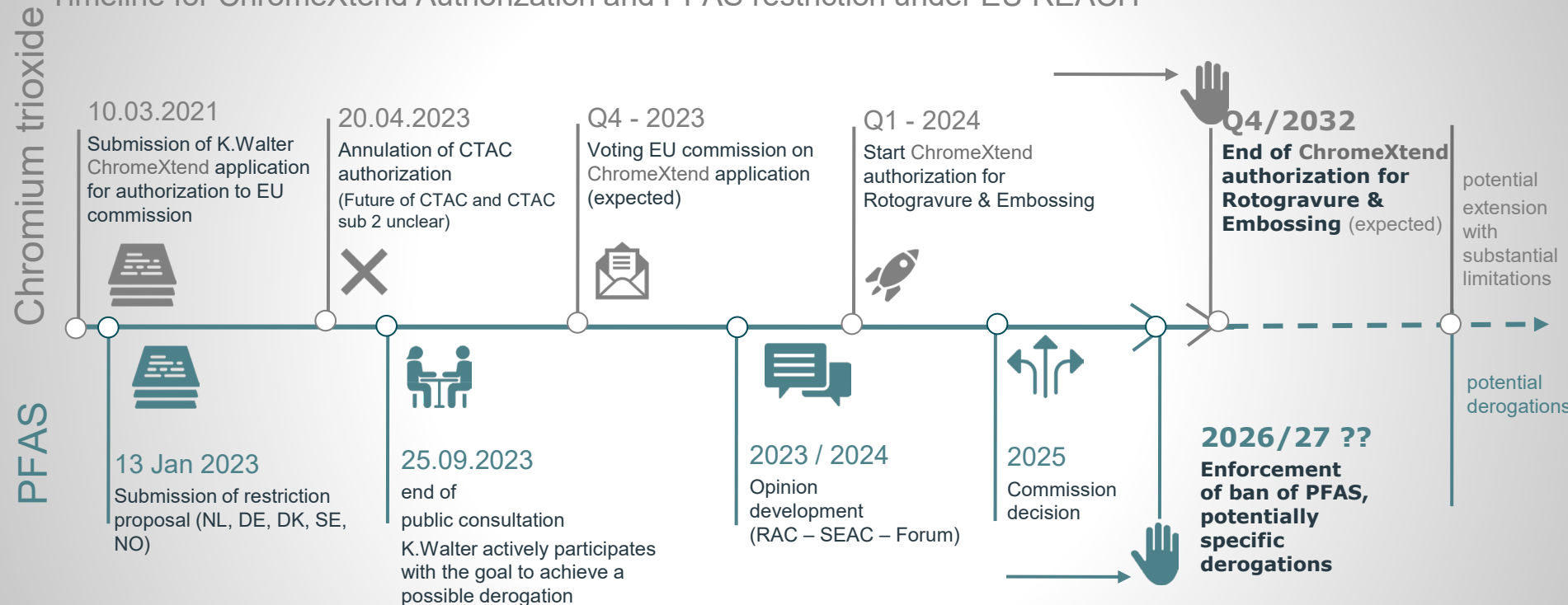


# CURRENT SITUATION & SOLUTIONS FOR FUTURE CHROME PLATING IN EUROPE



# Chromium trioxide & PFAS risk assessment of possible bans within the EU – for the gravure and embossing industry (17.07.2023)

Timeline for ChromeXtend Authorization and PFAS restriction under EU REACH



Note: PFAS is used as wetting agent for chromium trioxide electrolytes. Compliance with ChromeXtend authorization standards may not be possible without PFAS.



# ChromeXtend



CTAC authorization annulled 04/2023

ChromeXtend - K.Walter authorization  
valid until Dec. 2032  
EU authorization imminent (expected Q4?)

PFAS (used as a wetting agent in Cr plating)  
may be banned in 2027 with a potential  
derogation

2024 to Dec. 2032 period for substitution  
of chromium trioxide based  
technologies by other chromium  
trioxide & PFAS free Cr plating  
technology:  
HelioChrome® NEO



# HelioChrome® NEO

THE FUTURE AND SUSTAINABLE CHROME PLATING PROCESS FOR  
ROTOGRAVURE

**Now ready & available!**

(for packaging-size cylinders)



# HelioChrome® NEO

- ChromeVI - free
- PFAS - free
- Very low risk for workers & environment
- 30% less energy consumption
- 50% less water consumption
- No regulatory costs (ECHA/workers monitoring)
- Fully digital process supervision
- Easy integration into existing process

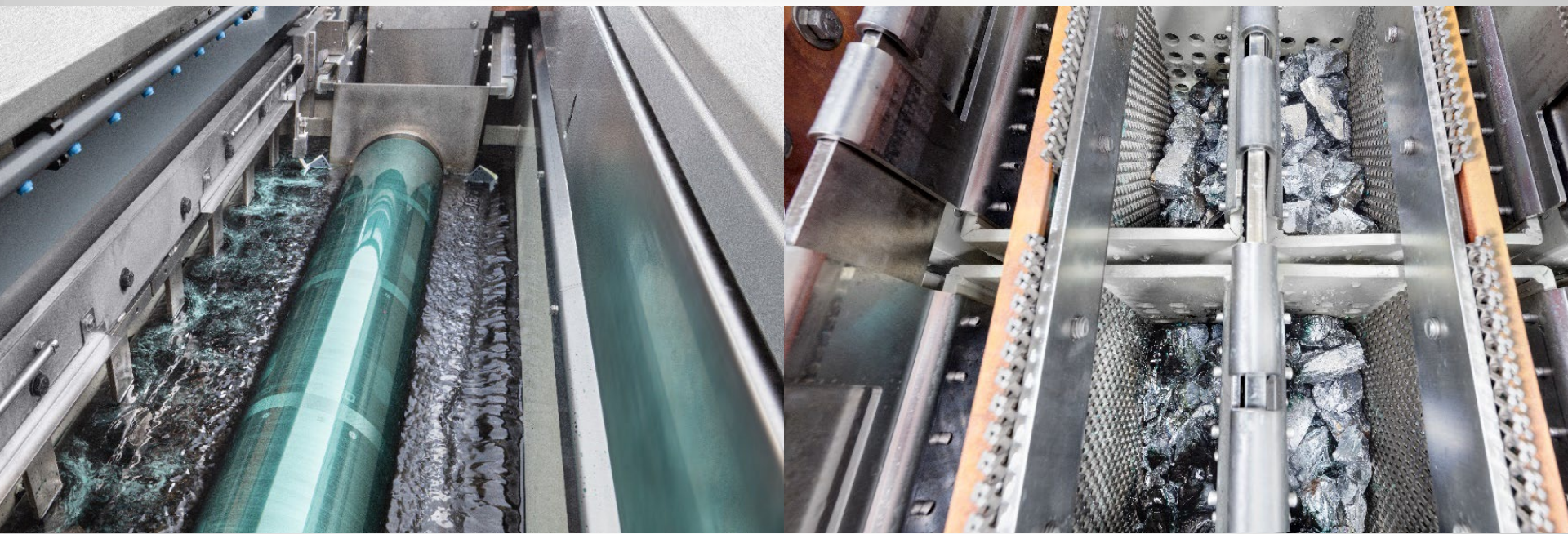




# HelioChrome® NEO

HelioChrome® NEO machine / Chrome nugget dissolution cell

**Greener and better technology**





# Our solutions!



## ChromeXtend

Use of Chromium trioxide until Dec 2032

**EU authorization imminent**  
(expected Q4 2023)



## HelioChrome® NEO

The Future of hard chrome plating

**Now available in Europe**  
(for packaging-size cylinders)



The new polymer based gravure printing form for short runs  
(under development)



Newest information / please contact us!

chrome@kwalter.de

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/k-walter-plating-and-processes/>

Participate in ERA digital and live events



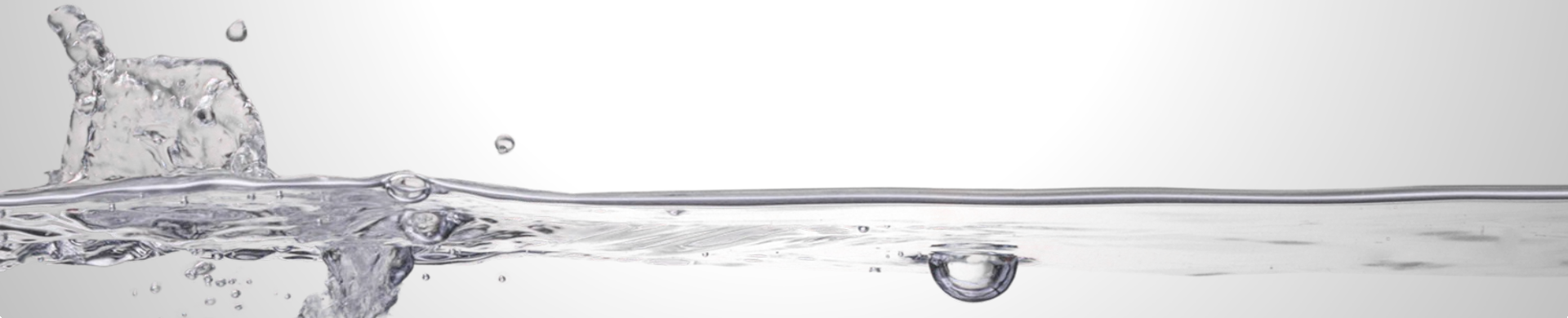
also to find on LinkedIn

PRO  
**GRAVURE**  
MEETING





**What is your Chrome strategy?**



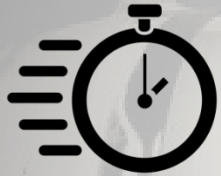


A large industrial gravure printing machine is shown in operation. A large roll of paper is being processed, with printed content visible on the surface. The machine features various rollers, guides, and mechanical components. A bright light source is visible at the bottom, creating a strong glare. The overall scene is industrial and focused on the printing process.

*The new gravure printing-form*



# POLYMERIC - LASER ENGRAVE ABLE - MONOLAYER



**FASTER**



**CHEAPER**



**BETTER QUALITY**



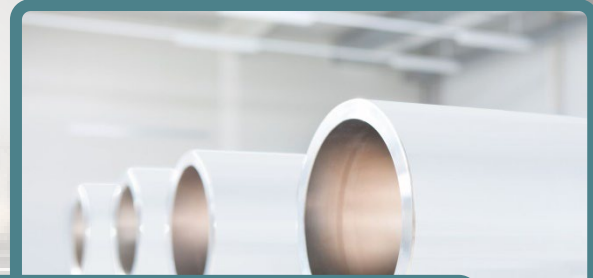
## THE CHARACTERISTICS

### COMPATIBLE WITH ALL EXISTING CYLINDERS AND ROTOGRAVURE PRESSES

- ▶ All existing steel, aluminum and copper cylinders can still be used
- ▶ No modifications to printing presses needed
- ▶ Open technology for alternative base cylinder structures

### PROCESS FACTS

- ▶ No license for plating required
- ▶ No hazardous exhaust / no chemically polluted waste-water
- ▶ Approx. 80% reduction of energy cost
- ▶ Tremendous reduction of CO2 footprint

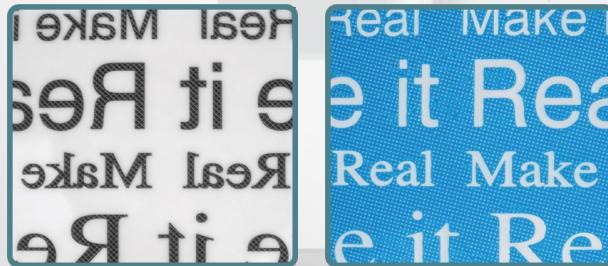
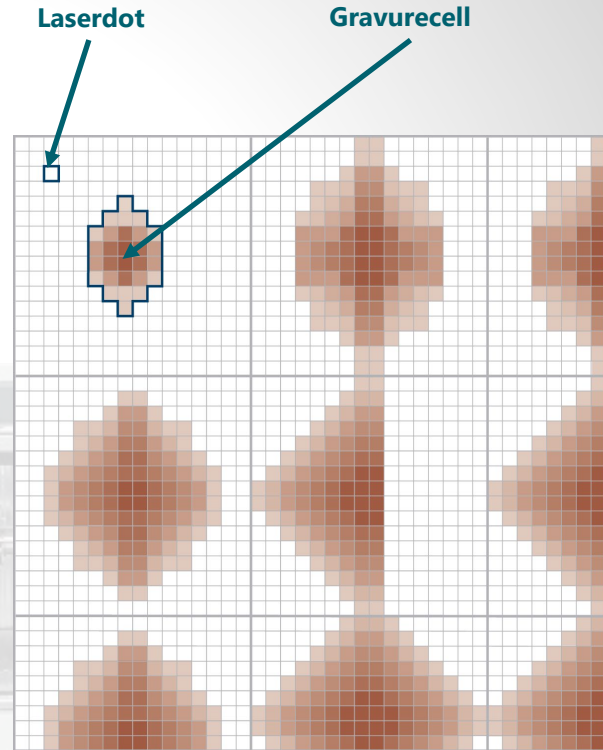




## THE ADVANTAGES OF DIRECT LASER IMAGING

### ONLY DIRECT LASER OFFERS

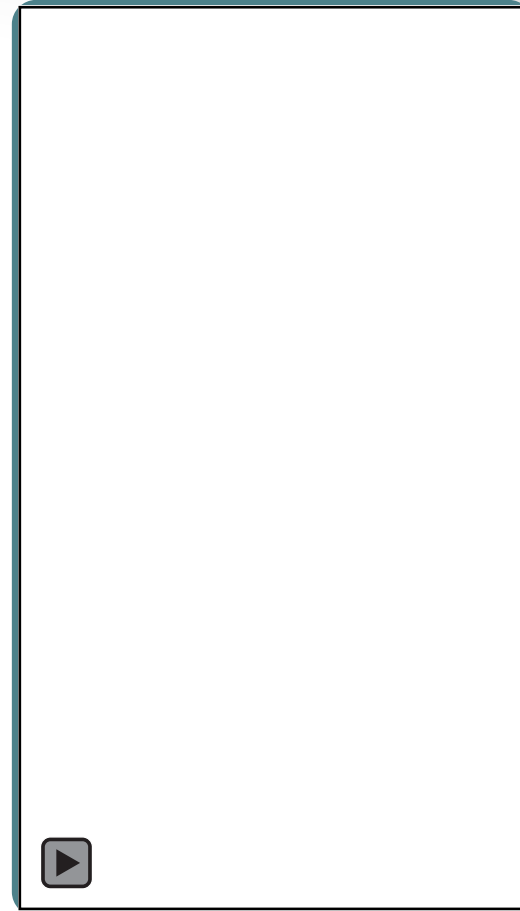
- ▶ Unlimited variety of cell shapes / specific cell shape for a specific color/ink
- ▶ Best possible adaptation characteristics for 7c extended color gamut
- ▶ No saw-tooth effect / perfect line work
- ▶ 3D image setter with basically zero limitations
- ▶ HD Imaging Quality





## THE STATUS OF THE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

- ▶ Test installation @ K. Walter
- ▶ Several successful print runs at WuH and HDM
- ▶ Run stability of 100,000 meters
- ▶ Industrialization of the complete process
- ▶ Frequent print runs at HDM Stuttgart with different inks & substrates
- ▶ Continuous production of test cylinders







THANK YOU!