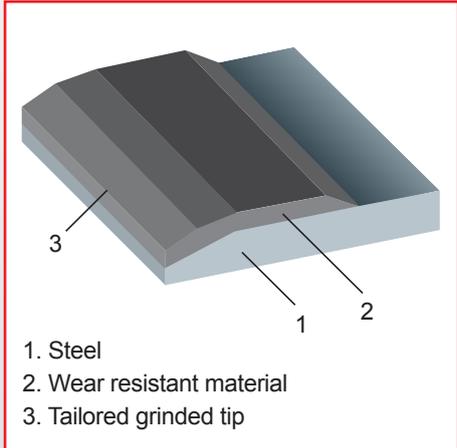


Almost 40 years ago, BTG invented a revolutionary technology for the coated board and paper industry. DUROBLADE®, an important innovation impacting customer quality and operational performance.

Over the course of the years, the abrasiveness of the board and paper, as well as the machine speeds, had increased such that steel blade lifetime had decreased accordingly. BTG was the first to understand the potential of the high performance blade for such coating applications.



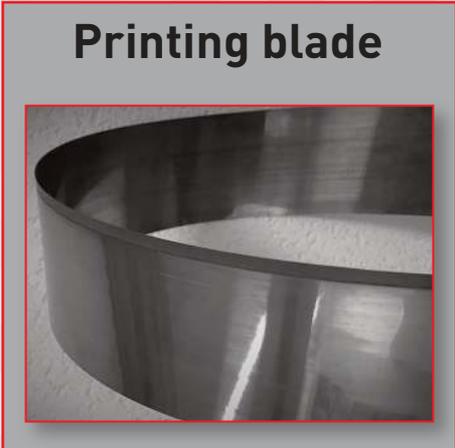
BTG created a blade with an outstanding lifetime compared to traditional steel blades, which increased machine efficiency tremendously. The high-performance blade also improved surface properties that allowed for further cost reduction. This successful coating high-performance blade was registered under DUROBLADE® in 1983.



The ceramic coating blade success story was only the beginning, with the concept being transferred to other applications. In 1992, the DUROBLADE® concept was extended to ceramic creping blades. Tissue producers would also improve their profitability thanks to fewer blade changes, improved softness and bulk stability. In 1999, the DUROBLADE® concept adapted to the ceramic printing blades, once again to improve profitability thanks to fewer blade changes.



DUROBLADE® is a game changer for papermakers looking for coating solutions and improvements. The wide selection of tip materials, as well as the grinding know-how developed over the years, bring to the client higher profitability through less blade changes, improved and more stable board/paper surface quality (PPS, gloss...) together with flatter cross direction profiles, strong resistance to the edge leakage.



The high-performance blade principle is to spray a high wear resistance material on the blade tip of a steel substrate and to grind the tip to a tailored design to reach the desired geometries. The steel substrate maintains the spring properties required for the blade application. The material is selected according to the balance between lifetime and board or paper surface properties. Material tip is selected from a wide range of ceramic and carbide or a mix – to achieve the best possible performance.