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JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009 ISSUE 112 £2.50

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Published by **SignUpdate** Ltd

www.sign-update-magazine.co.uk

Allens Orchard, Chipping Warden, Banbury, Oxon, OX17 1LX.

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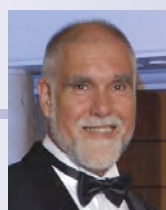
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Sign Update welcomes news and information relating to new and improved products for possible coverage within the news and review pages. Sign Update however accepts no obligation to provide coverage or return unsolicited products which are sent to it.

Sign Update is always delighted to receive correspondence hints and tips for articles which should be sent in the first instance in outline form, together with the author's name and address. Manuscripts, photographs and other materials will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped address envelope. No responsibility is accepted for any unsolicited materials. Sign Update takes every effort to ensure the accuracy of the contents of the magazine and takes all reasonable care in accepting advertisements for publication, but makes no representation as to their accuracy or quality.

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ACRYLIC

| height | 50mm | 75mm | 100mm | 125mm | 150mm | 175mm | 200mm | 225mm | 250mm | 275mm | 300mm | 375mm | 425mm | 500mm | 600mm | 1200mm |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 3mm | £0.50 | £0.65 | £0.79 | £0.98 | £1.18 | £1.50 | £1.65 | £2.25 | £2.45 | £3.30 | £3.55 | £6.40 | £7.81 | £7.90 | £10.12 | £39.28 |
| 5mm | £1.74 | £0.94 | £1.18 | £1.47 | £1.86 | £2.50 | £2.60 | £4.10 | £4.20 | £5.30 | £5.45 | £8.70 | £10.19 | £10.25 | £13.75 | £54.00 |
| 10mm | £1.49 | £1.88 | £2.36 | £2.95 | £3.74 | £5.20 | £5.25 | £8.38 | £8.45 | £11.00 | £11.75 | £17.00 | £20.10 | £20.37 | £27.20 | £107.95 |

FOAM PVC – MATT (ADD 30% FOR GLOSS FOAM PVC)

| height | 50mm | 75mm | 100mm | 125mm | 150mm | 175mm | 200mm | 225mm | 250mm | 275mm | 300mm | 375mm | 425mm | 500mm | 600mm | 1200mm |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 3mm | £0.34 | £0.45 | £0.70 | £0.84 | £0.93 | £1.20 | £1.28 | £1.90 | £1.97 | £2.35 | £2.45 | £3.65 | £4.53 | £4.60 | £6.50 | £16.50 |
| 5mm | £0.40 | £0.60 | £0.85 | £1.19 | £1.63 | £1.80 | £1.91 | £2.85 | £2.95 | £4.00 | £4.16 | £5.66 | £6.41 | £6.44 | £8.97 | £24.65 |
| 10mm | £0.68 | £1.09 | £1.38 | £2.07 | £2.85 | £3.95 | £4.02 | £5.66 | £5.90 | £7.65 | £7.57 | £10.75 | £12.46 | £13.75 | £17.48 | £47.13 |
| 19mm | £1.47 | £2.07 | £2.95 | £3.44 | £3.93 | £6.22 | £6.80 | £8.78 | £8.84 | £11.59 | £12.03 | £13.01 | £18.66 | £18.68 | £22.58 | £63.75 |

3mm ALUMINIUM COMPOSITE

| height | 50mm | 75mm | 100mm | 125mm | 150mm | 175mm | 200mm | 225mm | 250mm | 275mm | 300mm | 375mm | 425mm | 500mm | 600mm | 1200mm |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| colour | £0.95 | £1.30 | £1.75 | £2.15 | £2.55 | £3.10 | £3.20 | £5.20 | £5.35 | £6.70 | £6.85 | £8.00 | £10.53 | £10.70 | £17.70 | £47.50 |
| chrome | £1.15 | £1.50 | £1.95 | £2.52 | £3.50 | £4.20 | £4.25 | £5.89 | £6.95 | £8.65 | £8.65 | £10.50 | £13.01 | £13.25 | £19.95 | £55.75 |
| brushed | £1.15 | £1.50 | £1.95 | £2.52 | £3.50 | £4.20 | £4.25 | £5.89 | £6.95 | £8.65 | £8.65 | £10.50 | £13.01 | £13.25 | £19.95 | £55.75 |

THE ABOVE PRICES INCLUDE LOCATORS AND TEMPLATE

COMPOSITE SIGN TRAYS

A typical price for non fret cut sign trays are as follows:

All Standard Colours

A tray from full sheet (3050 x 1500mm) = £90.00 + vat

A tray from half sheet (3050 x 750mm) = £45.00 + vat

A tray from half sheet (1500 x 1500mm) = £45.00 + vat

Non standard finish trays add 30% to the above prices

Other sizes available on request

We accept eps or ai files. Please ensure all artwork is converted to curves/outlines before sending to ensure accuracy.

Standard Colours

Platinum White RAL 9016

Traffic Red RAL 3020

Traffic Yellow RAL 1023

Traffic Green RAL 6024

Jet Black RAL 9005

Ultra Marine Blue RAL 5002

Light Ivory RAL 1015

Silver RAL 9006

British Racing Green RAL 6005

Dark Blue RAL 5002

Non Standard Finishes

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Roll on summer

I am writing this on 15th December and it's very cold out. The sky has this pleasant battleship grey colour, with a mist hanging over the fields. The air is damp and it wants to rain. That's the view from the window and I'm thinking to myself about the hundreds of British falling over each other to leave this country. Why? Don't they realise, it's not always like this? We still have our summer to come. OK, so it only lasts 10 days, but 10 days are better than five. And those few days of summer gives us, the British, a chance to let the flooding recede for those poor misfortunate families that live in low lying areas. When the flooding has died down and we start to dry out, we are back in winter again. I envy the lucky ones that have left this country. A few come back when they fall ill and need the NHS. But more surprising is, as hundreds leave, thousands upon thousands come in; most through the back door that is permanently open.

This issue, we have a feature on Middlesex Sign Makers – what a poor response we received. A lot of small companies that wanted to take part contacted me but, and you can trust me on this one, readers would lose interest very quickly if we pictured some of the work I was shown.

The sign industry has always been an easy industry to get into and over the years it has become even easier. If you can understand the basics of the computer, then you are in. Unfortunately, my recent visit to Middlesex demonstrated the problem of easy entry and the low standards of skill and quality.

One example, is a piece of work that consisted of a 3mm plastic sheet with vinyl lettering applied and then screwed to the shop fascia. If we do get any summer heat this year, then that sign is going to buckle and look a right mess. The reason the sign maker wanted me to see the sign was because of the artwork he had put on each letter. As the sign sat high above the shop window, the delicate artwork was unfortunately lost to passing pedestrians unless they happened to have a ladder handy to get a close-up look.

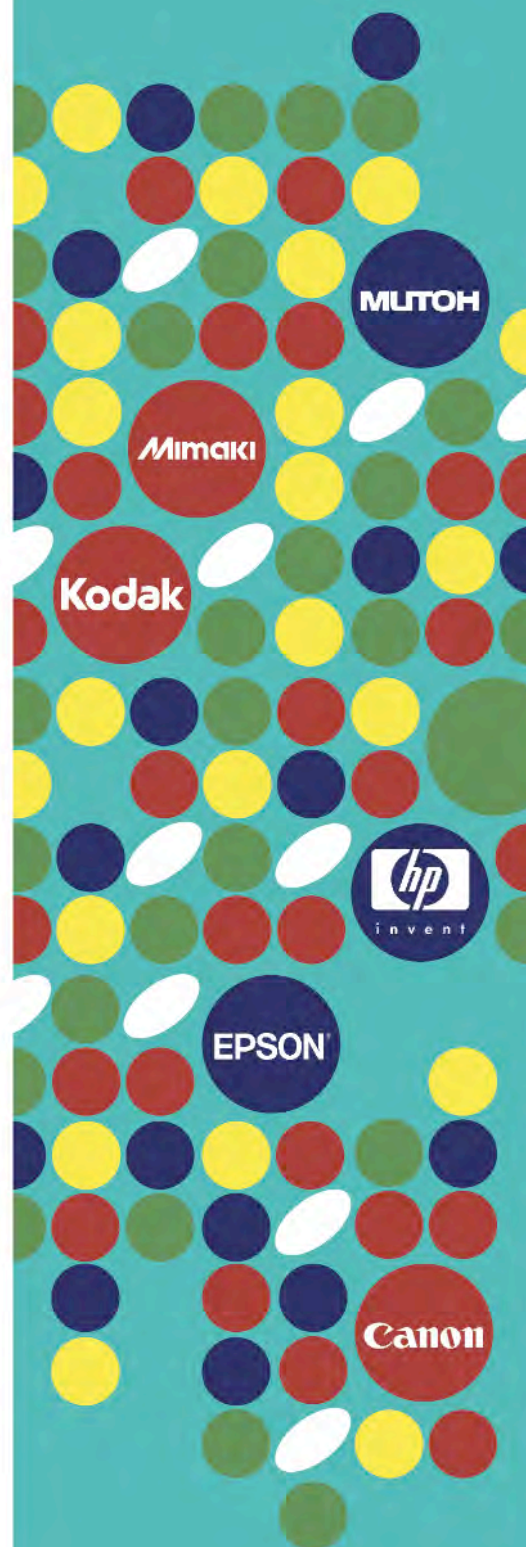
As I said earlier, the response to our feature was poor and we are extending it to our March issue, giving any late entrants a chance to get their work included. And, just maybe, I may put the above mentioned sign in the feature, before the sun gets to it. Another reason for the poor response was I had to cut short my visit to Middlesex owing to my knee replacement operation last month. It has been a very frustrating and painful five weeks since. This may be one of the reasons this welcome page is anything but welcoming; not that I'm a welcoming person anyway.

I may as well finish off by upsetting the lady readers with the following. Six weeks ago I was in the front garden just deadheading my plants, when along came a neighbour that I've not seen in ages, a very pleasant lady who has a lot in common with me. We spoke about the usual things; the weather, gardening and where we went on our holidays. As we hadn't spoken for quite a while, there was a lot to talk about. In fact so much so, that we were chatting for a full 20 minutes. Leaving me she got only as far as four doors down when she stopped again to chat to a lady neighbour. I carried on with my gardening for around an hour and a half, when I went in for lunch. I looked up the road and there they were, the two of them still talking. I suppose I was about 40 minutes having lunch before going back out. Do I need to tell you what I saw? No, but I'll say it anyway – the two ladies were still chatting after more than two hours!

Why do women need to drag out such mundane topics?



Who says they were chatting about topics as mundane as the weather and gardening? – female editor.



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Signwaves launches new display concept for poster frames

Signwaves recently announced the launch of Frameworkz, a brand new display concept which allows poster frames to be finished with any design. From corporate logos, text and symbols to textures, landscapes and art, the creative opportunities it represents for advertisers are endless.

Using specially designed and manufactured flat profile 'snapframes', printed using Signwaves tailored digital process, this exciting development Signwaves believe, is unlike anything the market has ever seen. Any printable design can be applied to the frame, to create designs that work with the surroundings and poster, dramatically enhancing their visual impact and aesthetic appeal.

Depending on the intended use, a design can be chosen that blends with its setting, such as brick work, wall paper or tiles. Alternatively, the frame could form part of the poster image, as shown by the butterfly image pictured, or serve as an advertising medium in its own right (separate from both setting and poster) by featuring a promotional message, slogan, company name or contact information.

There is also the potential to build brand presence through the use of corporate imagery or logos, and improve security by disguising the snapframe functionality whilst preventing other advertisers using the space.

Whatever the chosen design, the scope for creating impressive displays sets Frameworkz apart from anything else currently available explains Signwaves' Product Design Manager Simon Harvey, inventor of Frameworkz.

"Having long been frustrated by the lack of choice available with decorative frames, the challenge was to find a more versatile, creative solution that delivers high quality but is also cost effective to produce in small quantities. Digital print achieves this by eliminating set-up times and artwork costs. And by maintaining a minimal and constant distance between the printer head and frame surface, high definition graphics can be applied directly with unparalleled accuracy."

Simon continues: "We believe this to be a first for the industry, both in terms of the process and the opportunities it offers to advertisers. We've experimented with a range of design ideas, such as the coffee beans, animal fur and tyre tread graphics but the ability to print anything leads us to believe that we've only scratched the surface of what Frameworkz can achieve."

Frameworkz (patent pending) is manufactured and printed exclusively by Signwaves. Further information is available from Signwaves and via their newly refurbished website: www.signwavetrade.com



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PRODUCT *News*

New 'Paint replacement' car wrap from William Smith

3M™ Scotchcal™ Series 85 Car Wrap film, which has recently been added to William Smith's extensive materials portfolio, is set to revolutionise the application of vehicle wraps.

Described as the 'paint replacement' graphic film for full car wraps, Series 85 is a range of high quality coloured films, featuring a single or double layer of cast film (depending upon opacity of the colour) with an additional layer of transparent film to protect the surface against scratching.

The advantage of this transparent top layer is that it minimises the appearance of scratches, which eliminates the need for application tape.



The 3M™ Scotchcal™ Series 85 Car Wrap film is described as the 'paint replacement' film for full car wraps.

It also provides a more enduring long term appearance than can be achieved with standard coloured vinyls.

In addition, the increased thickness of the dual layer construction and its low tack adhesive makes the film easier to apply, and consequently easier to remove when a change of livery is required.

Series 85 comes in 22 standard colours, including five metallic; custom colour matching is also available. It is suitable for application on flat and simple curved surfaces, but not for recessed or corrugated areas. It is easy to clean and will withstand high pressure washing equipment; weather resistant; and has a petrol resistant adhesive. Series 85 comes with up to eight years durability and five years MCS warranty.

For further information call 01833 694707 or visit www.williamsmith.co.uk

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William Smith
established 1832

Dibond Décor and Stucco finishes – new to Robert Horne

The Robert Horne Group has just introduced two new finishes to its extensive aluminium composite Dibond range. Dibond Décor is a selection of panels with realistic wood effect finishes and Dibond Stucco is a panel with a distinctive and special embossed silver finish, combining the uneven raised texture of traditional stucco plaster, with a highly reflective surface.

Dibond Décor is ideal for designers looking for a sustainable, durable and easy-to-fabricate alternative to hardwoods.

Dibond décor is an excellent material for direct-to-substrate screen and digital printing, making it suitable for presenting images and advertising messages. It is not sensitive to dampness and temperature changes and can therefore be used in long term external and internal applications, with no need for maintenance.

Compared to real wood, three dimensional designs can be easily constructed, as the sheets can be routed and folded like other Dibond products. The material can be pre-routed, and delivered to site flat. Folding to finished shape can then be carried out by hand, with no tools, on site - in a matter of minutes. Other standard fabrication techniques including drilling, sawing and stamping, can also be employed. Dibond Décor is available in dark wood (Wenge) and light wood (Maple) finishes in a 3mm thickness and is supplied without a PE film.

Dibond Stucco is an embossed matt silver finish with an extremely tactile feel and resistant to marking, making it suitable for applications where human contact may frequently occur.

Under lighting, Dibond Stucco provides an eye-catching, shimmering effect, with points of light reflected by the uneven surface. It is extremely hard wearing and conforms to food grade material specifications and has a UV resistant polyethylene core, making the material suitable for internal and external use.



Under lighting, Dibond Stucco provides a shimmering effect.

Due to its special surface structure, Dibond Stucco is not suitable for printing, laminating or CNC milling. Fixing and bonding can be carried out using special techniques which allow for the surface texture. Other standard fabrication techniques include drilling, sawing and stamping, and folding to form three dimensional items.

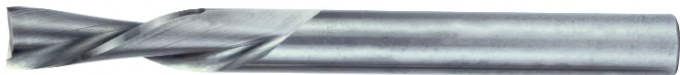
Dibond Stucco is supplied in 3mm thickness with branded PE Film on both sides. Dibond aluminium composites are ideal for use in design schemes for all kinds of commercial, retail and leisure facilities. Typical applications include bars and counters, fascias and wall finishes, furniture, exhibitions and displays.

For further information please contact Robert Horne or visit the web site www.roberthorne.co.uk

ITC moves with the 'metric' times

Further developing its range of cutting tools for the sign industry, ITC has now added metric dimensions to its 180-62 and 180-63 Series of two and three flute spiral cutters. Already available as imperial tools from 1/8 to 1/2 inch diameter, the Tamworth based manufacturer has launched the metric range to accommodate the increasingly diverse needs of the industry.

The extension of the range now sees the 180-62 and 180-63 Series available with 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 12mm diameters with respective cutting lengths of 12, 16, 18, 20, 22, 25, and 30mm. With more manufacturers working to metric dimensions, the standard imperial cutting tools often cause additional conversion work. Now, ITC can offer both imperial and metric series to suit the needs of the end user.



The new 180-62 cutting tool from ITC.

The two and three flute spiral solid carbide cutters are both single end, standard length straight shank 30 degree left hand helix tools with plunge style end cutting. The 180-62 and 180-63 Series are ideal for producing burr free high surface quality finishes when machining aluminium and additional soft materials.

The two flute 180-62 routing tool is well suited to flexible materials as the left hand helix design directs the cutting force downwards to hold the material rigid against the bottom plate or template. This eliminates burrs from the top surface of the workpiece and delivers exceptional surface finishes.

The three fluted 180-63 Series is the ideal solution for smooth chatterless operation when free hand routing as its combination of left hand spiral and three flutes promotes remarkable surface quality through its rigid design. For further details on the 180-62 and 180-63 Series of two and three flute spiral cutters please contact your local ITC representative on Tel: 01827 304500.

For further information call 01827 304500 or visit www.itc-ltd.co.uk

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| height | 3mm | 5mm | 10mm | 19mm |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 50mm | £0.39 | £0.45 | £0.79 | £1.70 |
| 75mm | £0.50 | £0.68 | £1.24 | £2.38 |
| 100mm | £0.77 | £1.02 | £1.59 | £3.40 |
| 125mm | £0.96 | £1.36 | £2.38 | £3.96 |
| 150mm | £1.07 | £1.87 | £3.28 | £4.53 |
| 175mm | £1.29 | £2.15 | £4.08 | £6.22 |
| 200mm | £1.47 | £2.49 | £4.64 | £7.93 |
| 225mm | £1.98 | £2.94 | £5.66 | £8.78 |
| 250mm | £2.26 | £3.40 | £6.79 | £10.19 |
| 275mm | £2.54 | £4.08 | £7.76 | £11.59 |
| 300mm | £2.83 | £4.81 | £8.72 | £13.87 |
| 375mm | £3.73 | £5.66 | £10.75 | £15.85 |
| 425mm | £4.53 | £6.41 | £12.46 | £18.68 |
| 500mm | £5.38 | £7.47 | £15.85 | £21.51 |
| 600mm | £7.36 | £10.30 | £20.15 | £26.04 |
| 1200mm | £16.98 | £28.09 | £53.15 | £72.12 |

no minimum order

acrylic

including gold and silver
10mm available in black, white and clear only

| height | 3mm | 5mm | 10mm |
|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 50mm | £0.56 | £0.85 | £1.71 |
| 75mm | £0.74 | £1.08 | £2.17 |
| 100mm | £0.90 | £1.36 | £2.71 |
| 125mm | £1.13 | £1.70 | £3.40 |
| 150mm | £1.36 | £2.15 | £4.30 |
| 175mm | £1.70 | £2.61 | £5.20 |
| 200mm | £2.26 | £3.29 | £6.79 |
| 225mm | £2.83 | £4.18 | £8.38 |
| 250mm | £3.06 | £5.38 | £10.76 |
| 275mm | £3.51 | £5.89 | £11.77 |
| 300mm | £4.30 | £7.36 | £14.72 |
| 375mm | £6.40 | £9.06 | £18.11 |
| 425mm | £7.81 | £10.19 | £20.37 |
| 500mm | £9.62 | £13.01 | £26.04 |
| 600mm | £11.66 | £15.85 | £31.69 |
| 1200mm | £45.28 | £62.26 | £124.51 |

no minimum order

3mm Aluminium Composite

dibond, reynobond or alupanel

| height | colours | brushed | mirror |
|--------|---------|---------|--------|
| 50mm | £1.02 | £1.24 | £1.87 |
| 75mm | £1.42 | £1.59 | £2.38 |
| 100mm | £1.86 | £2.16 | £2.71 |
| 125mm | £2.38 | £2.67 | £4.00 |
| 150mm | £2.71 | £3.63 | £5.43 |
| 175mm | £3.17 | £4.36 | £6.55 |
| 200mm | £4.53 | £5.10 | £7.64 |
| 225mm | £5.32 | £5.89 | £8.83 |
| 250mm | £6.22 | £7.02 | £10.53 |
| 275mm | £6.79 | £8.60 | £12.87 |
| 300mm | £7.69 | £9.62 | £14.48 |
| 375mm | £9.06 | £10.92 | £16.39 |
| 425mm | £10.53 | £13.01 | £19.53 |
| 500mm | £14.72 | £16.02 | £24.04 |
| 600mm | £18.11 | £20.37 | £30.51 |
| 1200mm | £54.33 | £61.12 | £91.70 |

no minimum order

exterior mdf

Meditate Exterior comes in a raw form
ready for painting/finishing

| height | 6mm | 12mm | 18mm |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 50mm | £0.34 | £0.85 | £1.47 |
| 75mm | £0.79 | £1.47 | £2.26 |
| 100mm | £1.14 | £1.81 | £2.76 |
| 125mm | £1.52 | £2.66 | £3.79 |
| 150mm | £2.26 | £3.63 | £4.69 |
| 175mm | £2.43 | £4.35 | £5.77 |
| 200mm | £2.83 | £5.10 | £7.13 |
| 225mm | £3.56 | £5.89 | £8.04 |
| 250mm | £4.08 | £7.02 | £10.19 |
| 275mm | £4.87 | £8.60 | £11.59 |
| 300mm | £6.22 | £9.62 | £13.93 |
| 375mm | £8.82 | £10.92 | £15.96 |
| 425mm | £10.19 | £13.01 | £18.68 |
| 500mm | £11.54 | £16.01 | £21.51 |
| 600mm | £13.58 | £18.11 | £26.04 |
| 1200mm | £40.75 | £54.33 | £73.58 |

no minimum order

stainless steel

| height | 1.2mm satin brushed | 1.2mm polished | 2mm satin brushed | 2mm polished |
|--------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| 50mm | £3.21 | £3.45 | £4.28 | £4.60 |
| 75mm | £3.46 | £3.71 | £4.61 | £4.94 |
| 100mm | £4.20 | £5.06 | £5.60 | £6.75 |
| 125mm | £4.82 | £5.43 | £6.42 | £7.24 |
| 150mm | £5.19 | £6.05 | £6.92 | £8.06 |
| 175mm | £7.29 | £8.27 | £9.72 | £11.03 |
| 200mm | £9.23 | £10.62 | £12.31 | £14.16 |
| 225mm | £10.86 | £11.61 | £14.48 | £15.48 |
| 250mm | £11.67 | £12.47 | £15.56 | £16.63 |
| 275mm | £12.90 | £14.81 | £17.20 | £19.75 |
| 300mm | £14.81 | £16.24 | £19.75 | £21.65 |
| 375mm | £21.11 | £22.78 | £28.15 | £30.37 |
| 425mm | £23.61 | £27.29 | £31.48 | £36.38 |
| 500mm | £29.63 | £32.22 | £39.50 | £42.96 |
| 600mm | £35.80 | £40.73 | £47.73 | £54.31 |

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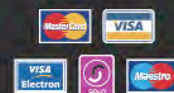
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Tekcel routers focus on cut to print

As showcased at Sign UK earlier this year, Tekcel CNC Solutions has developed its own digital camera cut to print registration system which makes a Tekcel router the ideal cutting rigid sheet partner for the increasing number of digital printers used in the sign and display industry.

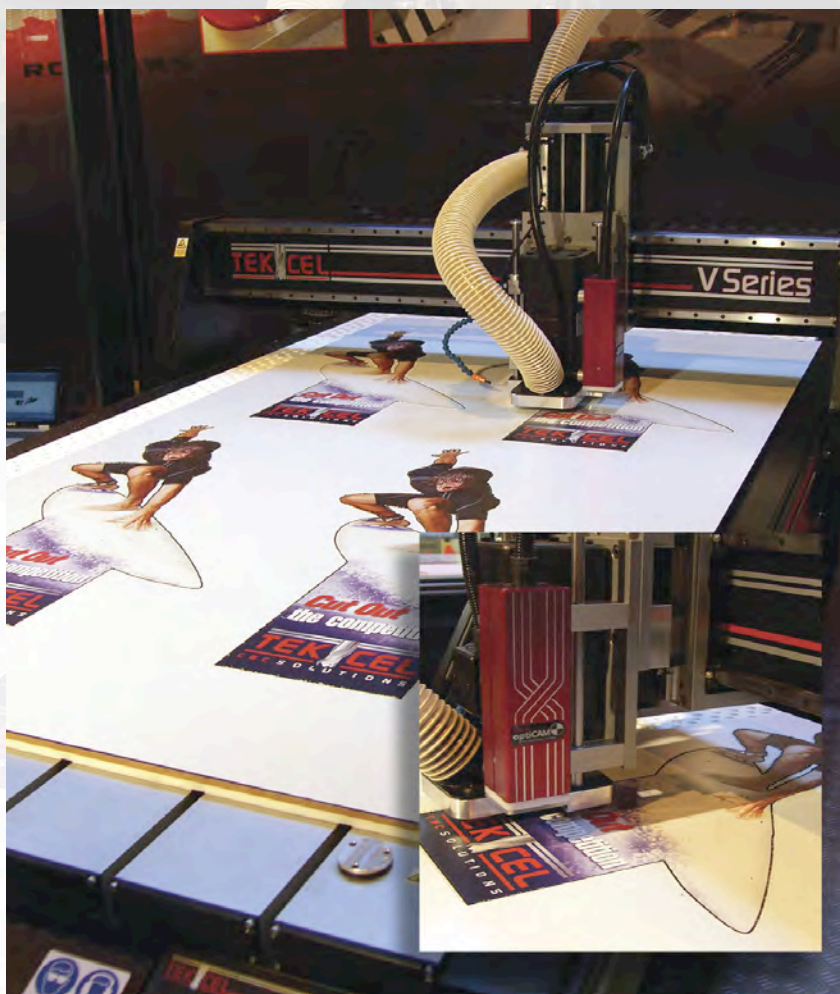
Using the new Tekcel OptiCAM system, Tekcel router operators can use the same .ai source files as a printer uses to generate accurate cut paths around the images. Unlike other systems on the market, OptiCAM only needs to register three points around a printed image or images to accurately register the cut paths required. According to Tekcel, OptiCAM also costs considerably less too.

Developed in conjunction with Cadlink, world leaders in software development for the sign and digital print industry, OptiCAM's software program automatically re-calibrates the cut path to compensate for any misalignment in loading, stretching or skewing that may have occurred during the printing or, in the case of roll-fed printers, the lamination process.

Given the growing number of companies that are now printing direct to rigid sheet materials - from foamboard and aluminium composite to more substantial substrates like acrylic and MDF, understandably, Tekcel routers fitted with the OptiCAM system are proving to be invaluable to those businesses that require a versatile and robust cut to print solution.

The Tekcel OptiCAM registration system is available as an option on all new Tekcel router models. Existing Tekcel routers owners will be pleased to hear that the OptiCAM system can be retrofitted to their machines too.

For further information, call Tekcel CNC Solutions on 01275 342 668 or visit www.tekcelcnc.com



The new Tekcel OptiCAM system generates accurate cut paths around images.

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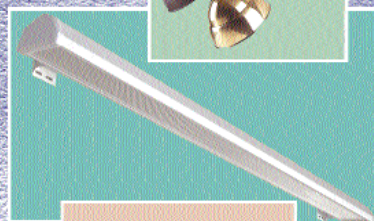


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Mutoh Europe strengthens sign cutter portfolio

Belgium-based wide-format inkjet printer and vinyl cutting plotter manufacturer Mutoh Europe nv recently announced the availability of a new sign cutting plotter, the SC-PRO 1400. The new cutter is an addition to the existing SC-PRO 1650 (1650 mm) sign cutter. Based on Mutoh's SC-series cutting plotters, SC-PRO 1400 offers a wide array of innovative features enhancing productivity and ease of use. This 63" (1600 mm) wide vinyl cutter is targeted at the sign, screen and digital print markets. Application possibilities are signage, vehicle decoration, window graphics and full colour sticker production.

The new SC-PRO 1400 friction-feed cutting plotter can handle roll and sheet media up to a width of 1600 mm (62.99"). Maximum cutting width is 1385 mm (54.50"). The machine is equipped with four repositionable pressure rollers, allowing the use of different media widths. The two middle pressure rollers have reduced pressure and can be disabled to eliminate roller marks on sensitive or pre-printed media. Off-cuts down to 200 mm (7.87") can be accommodated. Long-length tracking is guaranteed thanks to matching of grid roller sets per individual machine.

Cutting force is adjustable from 20 – 450 g to guarantee optimum cutting results on a wide range of materials. Cutting speed is adjustable up to 1000 mm/s at a maximum acceleration of 2.75 G.

Equipped with a solid drag knife cutting head enabling cutting/plotting and automatic sheet-off, the SC-PRO can cut a broad range of sign making materials ranging from self-adhesive PVC to sandblast, up to a maximum thickness of 1 mm. The automatic sheet-off feature will allow slicing of media up to a width of 1400 mm (55.10") at the end of a job. This feature is particularly useful when making multiple copies of signs. The head also integrates a laser tool for accurately measuring automatic contour cutting data.

The SC-PRO 1400 cutter is equipped with a USB and an RS-232 serial interface. Mutoh claims that it is also the world's first cutting plotter standard equipped with an Ethernet network connection. The machine has a multi-language display and the machine's keyboard is detachable for maximum user convenience.

Mutoh's SC-PRO 1400 comes as a total solution, including a robust stand with caster wheels, a roll support system, a media basket and an EasySIGN™ Power Pack Mutoh Edition cutting/contour cutting software.

For further information visit www.mutoh.eu



The SC-PRO 1400.

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A new dimension in 3D CNC routing & engraving

Specialist CNC Routing and Engraving software developer Vectric Ltd, the creators of VCarve Pro, PhotoVCarve, Cut3D & Cut2D, are very pleased to announce the launch of Aspire, a totally new CNC Software for Dimensional Sign Making, Engraving and Wood Carving.

Aspire is the easiest way to convert 2D drawings and designs into high quality 3D relief and CNC toolpaths. Aspire's new 3D component construction tools make it quick and easy to create your own 3D shapes from drawings and sketches and to work with existing 3D CAD and Clipart models.

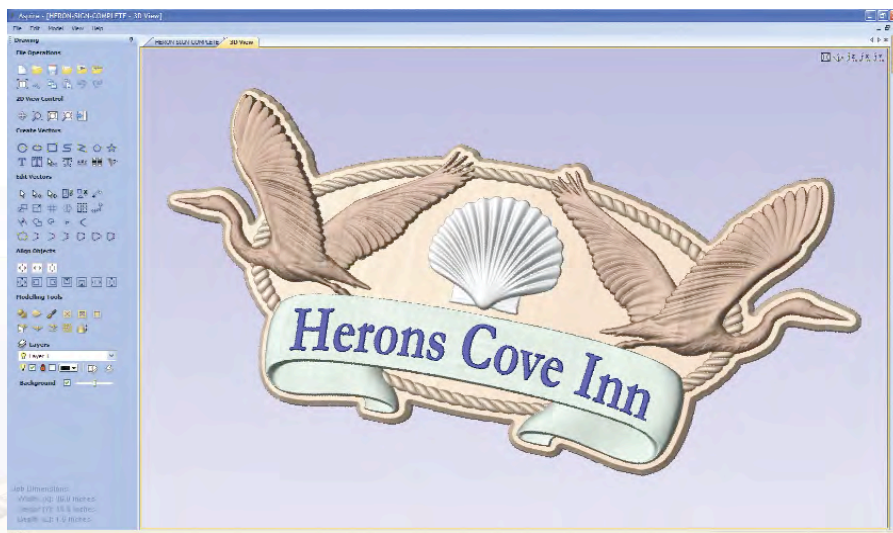
Aspire is perfect for designing and machining 3D projects such as 3D signs, bespoke company logos, carved decorative panels and doors, swept flourishes and appliques, custom millwork, architectural mouldings, jewellery pieces, custom gifts and awards. Plus many more 3D CNC machined applications.

Based on the world class VCarve Pro design and toolpath engine Aspire uses the same logical and easy-to-use interface, that makes it quick and easy to convert 2D sketches, photographs, drawings and graphic designs into high quality 3D products.

The new interactive modelling engine makes it very easy to build, resize, move and rotate 3D elements in a design at any time, plus change the material properties to create realistic 3D previews.

The powerful 3D Sculpting and Blending tools provide total flexibility when modifying designs. Models can be manipulated like a piece of virtual clay to smooth out edges and discontinuities, as well as to add extra detail, all helping to create that authentic 'hand carved' look for your models. Interactively modify 3D designs using the sculpting tools with control over brush size and strength, plus options to Smooth, Smudge Deposit, Remove, Erase with options to raise, lower or blend the changes.

Vectric understand the importance of high quality training materials and the Aspire installation DVD includes over 6 hours of real world project based video tutorials, covering all aspects of using the program.



New 3D Design and Machining functionality.

The videos are accompanied by the files used in the tutorials and PDF documents to allow users to work through the training materials at their own pace.

Aspire is supplied with 50 Free high quality professionally designed 3D clipart models from the Vector Art 3D collection, that would cost over £650 if purchased separately. Aspire also imports industry standard 3D mesh files from other CAD software such as: Rhino, SolidWorks, AutoCAD, Silo, MOI etc. STL, 3D DXF, OBJ, 3Ds, VRML and these can be combined with other shapes and models to produce high quality projects.

Aspire's fast and efficient 3D roughing toolpaths remove unwanted stock material as quickly as possible, with cutting strategy options for Z Level or 3D Raster cutting. 3D Finish cutting toolpath options in Aspire ensure each job is cut exactly to size with control over the surface quality and general cutting parameters. Detailed regions on a design can be machined selectively using smaller cutters to ensure the finest of detail on a 3D project is accurately machined.

Aspire instantly converts Image files and photographs: colour and black & white image files – BMP, JPG, TIF, GIF into stunning 3D surface textures, that can be applied to 3D models and machined.

All of the precision drawing, layout and CNC production machining tools developed for VCarve Pro is included, making it easy to design and machine complete projects in a single software package.

Visit the Vectric web site - www.vectric.com - and download the Free Trial version of Aspire and see for yourself how quickly 3D signage can be designed using the software. Aspire is being launched at the Introductory price of \$995 until the end of January 2009.

For more details about purchasing or upgrading to Aspire please contact sales@vectric.com



Dimensional Sign Routing.

Aspire

ALUMINIUM COMPOSITE

dibond/reynobond metal faced sheet in a range of finishes

| FINISH | 50mm | 75mm | 100mm | 125mm | 150mm | 175mm | 200mm | 225mm | 250mm | 275mm | 300mm | 375mm | 425mm | 500mm | 600mm | 1200mm |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Standard Colours | £0.98 | £1.37 | £1.79 | £2.30 | £2.62 | £3.05 | £4.37 | £5.13 | £6.00 | £6.55 | £7.42 | £8.73 | £10.15 | £14.19 | £17.46 | £54.64 |
| Chrome | £1.80 | £2.30 | £2.62 | £3.85 | £5.24 | £6.31 | £7.38 | £8.51 | £10.15 | £12.41 | £13.97 | £15.80 | £18.84 | £23.18 | £28.58 | £88.44 |
| Brushed | £1.20 | £1.53 | £2.08 | £2.57 | £3.49 | £4.20 | £4.91 | £5.68 | £6.77 | £8.30 | £9.28 | £10.53 | £12.55 | £15.45 | £19.65 | £58.94 |

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| HEIGHT | 50mm | 75mm | 100mm | 125mm | 150mm | 175mm | 200mm | 225mm | 250mm | 275mm | 300mm | 375mm | 425mm | 500mm | 600mm | 1200mm |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 3mm | £0.55 | £0.72 | £0.84 | £1.10 | £1.31 | £1.64 | £2.18 | £2.72 | £2.95 | £3.38 | £4.15 | £6.17 | £7.53 | £9.28 | £11.24 | £43.66 |
| 5mm | £0.82 | £1.04 | £1.31 | £1.64 | £2.07 | £2.51 | £3.27 | £4.03 | £5.18 | £5.68 | £7.09 | £8.73 | £9.83 | £12.55 | £15.28 | £60.04 |
| 10mm | £1.65 | £2.08 | £2.62 | £3.28 | £4.15 | £5.01 | £6.55 | £8.08 | £10.38 | £11.35 | £14.19 | £17.46 | £19.65 | £25.11 | £30.56 | £120.01 |

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| HEIGHT | 50mm | 75mm | 100mm | 125mm | 150mm | 175mm | 200mm | 225mm | 250mm | 275mm | 300mm | 375mm | 425mm | 500mm | 600mm | 1200mm |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 3mm | £0.38 | £0.48 | £0.77 | £0.93 | £1.03 | £1.25 | £1.41 | £1.91 | £2.18 | £2.45 | £2.73 | £3.60 | £4.37 | £5.18 | £7.09 | £16.38 |
| 5mm | £0.43 | £0.65 | £0.98 | £1.31 | £1.80 | £2.07 | £2.40 | £2.84 | £3.27 | £3.93 | £4.64 | £5.46 | £6.18 | £7.20 | £9.93 | £27.28 |
| 10mm | £0.77 | £1.20 | £1.53 | £2.30 | £3.17 | £3.93 | £4.48 | £5.46 | £6.55 | £7.49 | £8.41 | £10.36 | £12.01 | £15.28 | £19.43 | £52.39 |

Artwork is required in vector format (EPS or AI file) with all text outlined. Please note: Any work carried out on artwork files will incur an additional charge.

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Polymation - the next generation of image transfer

The digital image transfer process pioneered by TheMagicTouch has become an integral part of the sign industry worldwide, enabling users to print onto a multitude of products and substrates with one-of-a-kind results.

Polymation™ is the next generation of image transfer and stems from a significant breakthrough in polymer dry-toner technology developed and adopted by most manufacturers of toner based colour copiers and printers.

Polymation™ enables printing onto products and items that do not require any special coating or polyester content, thus making the polymer, pigment and catalyst as the all-in-one transfer solution.

TheMagicTouch transfer papers have been re-engineered to incorporate a new catalyst within the transfer paper coating providing the ultimate compatibility with all dry toners available. All laser or LED copiers and printers use CMYK process-colour dry toners instead of inks, and are compatible with the Polymation™ printing process.

TheMagicTouch offer professional solutions that are easy to incorporate into an existing business with low entry level investment. This year has seen "barriers removed" for the printing of non-white garments and textiles with the new "award winning" WoW transfer paper for application on 100% cotton, nylon, denim, leather, neoprene and polyester.

The company also recently introduced improved 6.2 and 6.4 versions of the versatile CPM transfer paper suitable for the transfer of full colour images to a wide range of non-porous, non-coated substrates including ceramics, plastic, metal, glass, acrylic, magnetic, wood and a new range of Unibind folders and binders.

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Drytac launches innovative range of over-laminating films for indoor and outdoor applications

Why stock different rolls of laminate for indoor and outdoor applications, when you can now have just one product that does it all?

Drytac Europe Ltd, one of the world's most highly regarded manufacturers of products for graphics finishing and display, has just announced the launch of Interlam Pro, a new range of over-laminating films, suitable for both internal and external applications. These innovative new films incorporate a new generation of aqueous acrylic pressure-sensitive adhesive, which unlike solvent adhesives traditionally used for outdoor graphics, contains no VOCs and is therefore less harmful to the environment, whilst also providing excellent resistance to UV and outstanding durability in all weather conditions. These new films are available in sizes up to 1400mm wide (1550mm wide for matt and lustre) and come in a range of finishes including Gloss, Lustre, Matt and Emerytex.

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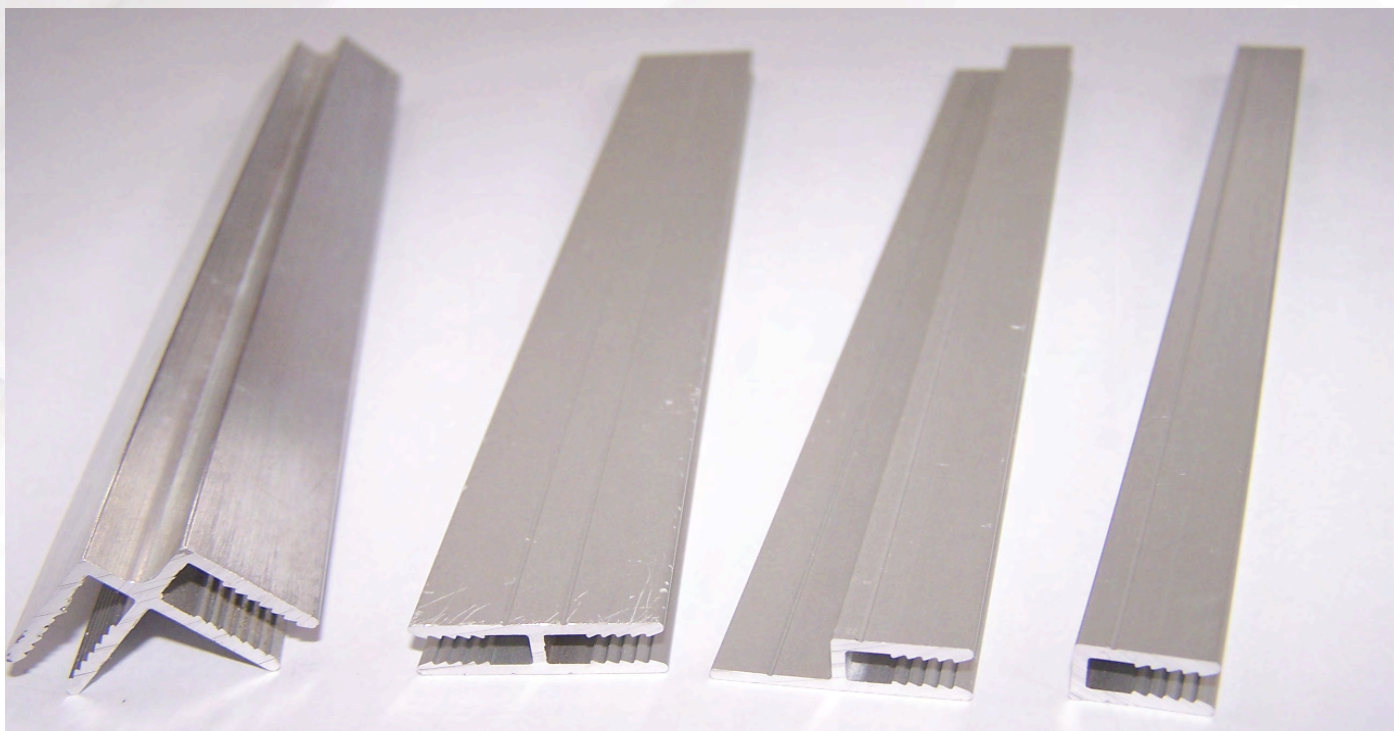
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PRODUCT *News*

New development - by popular demand



SMP's framing devices suit a variety of applications.

Some fifteen years or so ago SMP developed some simple framing devices.

Aimed at the economy end of the market, this product was designed to edge, join, shape and frame cellular foam.

A set of four extrusions, the first a simple "U" shape that fitted onto the edge of a foam panel, the Edge Protector was designed to finish and protect the edges of foam site boards.

The second shape was "h" and called the Edge Fixing. The pocket receives the foam sheet and the ascender is used as an exterior fixing point. This product is ideal for forming a sign around a curved fascia, or it can be used simply to fix a panel. To complement Edge Fixing two other products were developed, a "H" shape called the Panel Joint and as the shape would suggest, it is used to joint two panels together in a straight line.

The final product was the Corner Joint, which will join panels at a ninety degree angle.

These products have been developed again with one major difference; Edge Protector, Edge Fixing and Panel Joint are set with 3mm in the jaws therefore they are ideal for composite sheet. The design of these products was taken a stage further by tooling in a frangible point, so while designed to receive 3mm thick material, it is possible (with care) to fit 5mm. All three of the above products are available in silver anodised or white powder coated finish. Corner Joint is designed to accept 5mm panels and is available in a white powder coated finish only.

Edge Protector, Edge Fixing, Panel Joint and Corner Joint are available direct from SMP and appointed agents.

For further details visit www.signmakersproducts.com or telephone the sales team on 01508 531183.

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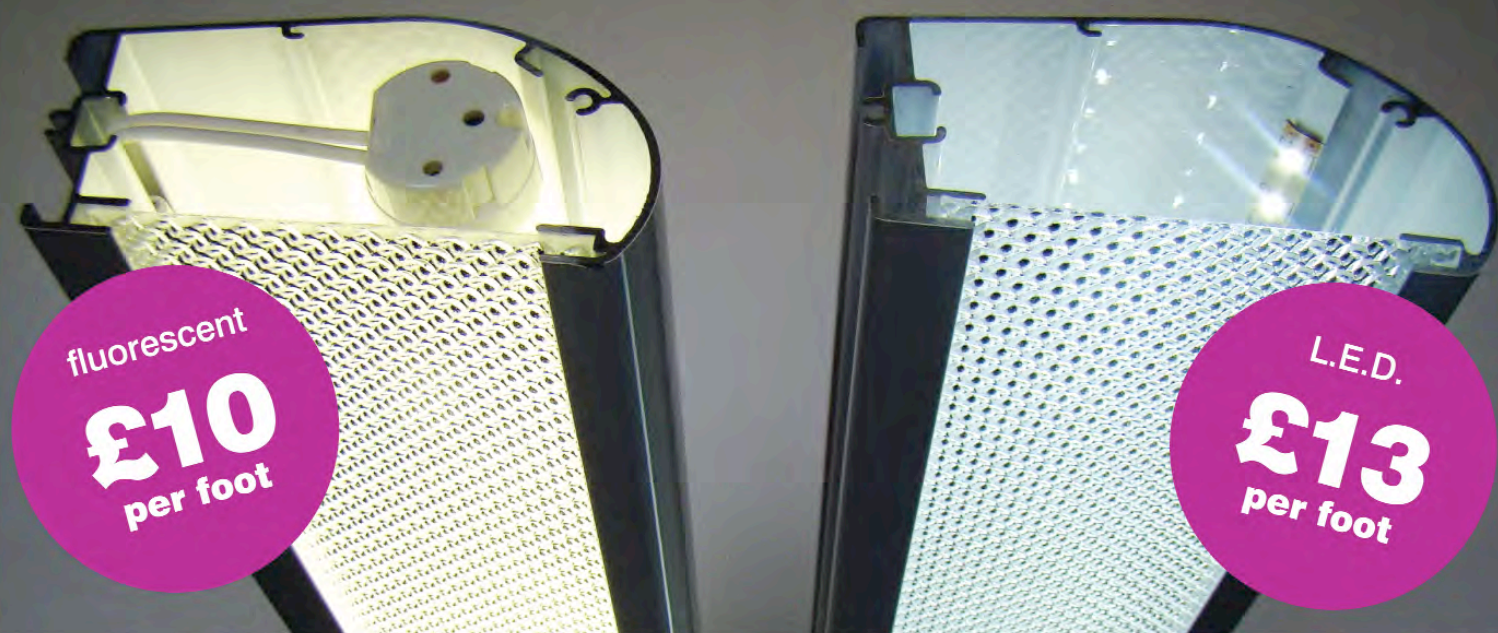
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Highlight T5 Budget Pricing

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|--------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
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| AA5/MILL FINISH | £50.00 | £9.50/foot | £60.00 | £12.35/foot |
| GLOSS WHITE FINISH | £55.00 | £10.00/foot | £65.00 | £13.00/foot |
| SATIN BLACK FINISH | £58.00 | £12.00/foot | £73.00 | £15.60/foot |

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Raster Printers presents two new tempters for the New Year

Raster Printers UK recently announced the launch of the Kongsberg XP range of digital cutting tables. Part of the successful Kongsberg I-Cut range of digital cutting solutions, the XP is available in three sizes and is aimed at corrugated packaging companies, screen and digital printers producing point of purchase, producers of folding cartons, visual packaging, free standing display units, merchandising and permanent in-store product displays that need a fast and highly reliable solution for short and medium production runs.

This series of digital flatbed cutting machines is the first to be specifically designed to operate continuously in a 24/7 production environment. The machines are specially aimed at handling the combination of corrugated board and other rigid materials used for packaging, POP products and product displays.

Mark Dempsey, Sales Director at Raster Printers states "At up to 100 linear metres cutting and creasing speed, pulling 1.5G of force it really is a hungry beast and whilst speed is not everything, the acceleration of 15 metres per second means that cutting even the most intricate of designs can prove cost effective over traditional die cutting methods."

The Kongsberg XP comes in sizes of 1680 x 3200mm, 2210 x 3200mm and 2210 x 4800mm and has full load and unload automation available as an option.

January sees the second tempter, with the official unveiling of the EFI-Rastek H700.

EFI-Rastek formerly known as Raster Printers Inc. based in California is launching the H700 as its mid range UV Flatbed.



The Kongsberg XP, part of the successful Kongsberg I-Cut range of digital cutting solutions.

Mark says: "The H700 is aimed at producers of point of purchase, exhibition stands and signmakers looking for great quality at speeds of up to 30sq.m. per hour and who do not have £100,000 to spend."

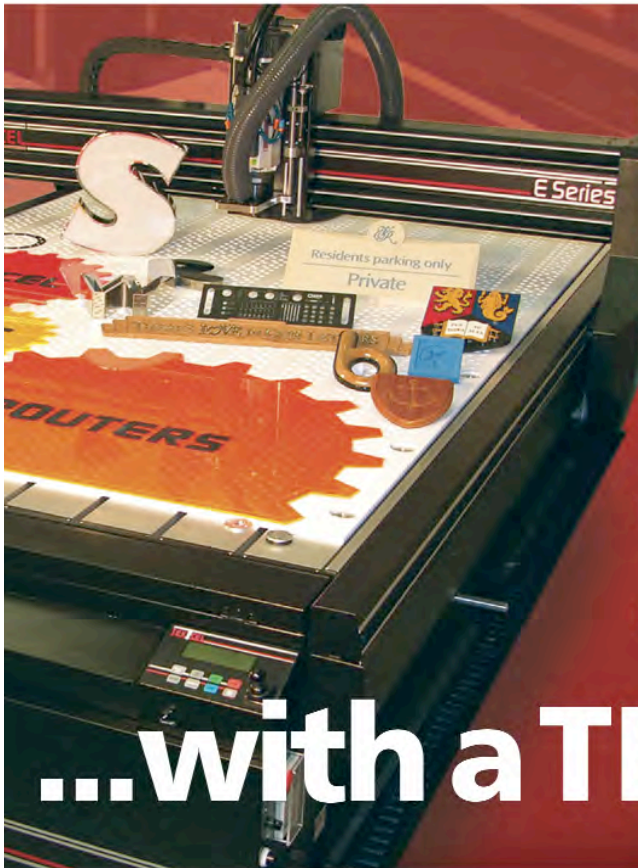
The EFI-Rastek H700 is an 1830mm wide conveyor driven UV Flatbed using greyscale variable drop print heads with a maximum resolution of 1200dpi. White ink is available as an option.

Demonstrations of Kongsberg's XP digital cutting tables and the EFI-Rastek H700 are being arranged through Raster Printers, telephone 01869 242100 or go to www.rasterprinters.co.uk to find out more.

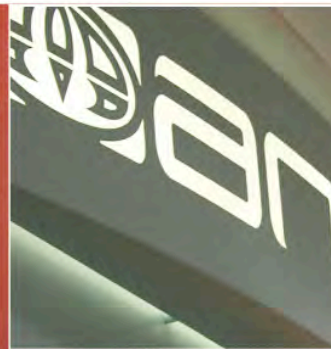


The EFI-Rastek H700 UV Flatbed.

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Summa upgrades S Class control system

Summa recently announced new advancements in its contour cutting alignment system for their wide format S Class series vinyl cutting plotters.

OPOS-CAM, using intelligent camera optics and camera control software, has been designed to meet the demanding needs of wide format graphics companies and inkjet printer manufacturers. The new camera upgrade option has been added to significantly increase speed and media options for Summa's premium line of contour cutting vinyl cutters.

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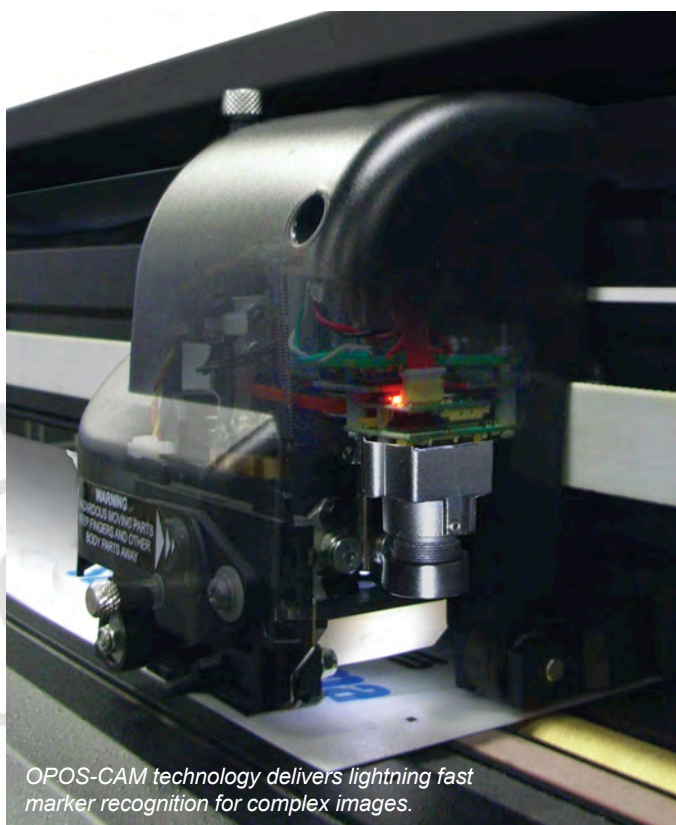
OPOS, which stands for Optical Positioning System, was originally introduced by Summa in 1995 as the optical alignment system for contour cutting devices. OPOS alignment is made possible by scanning registration marks on printed images. A sensor or camera, which is mounted on the cutter head, scans each mark. Then the cutter's own internal programming recalculates the plot data to adjust for position and rotation. Additional on-board intelligence compensates for scale variations between the printer and the cutter by dynamically rescaling the plot data to exactly match the printed image. The end result is a highly automated and accurate means of contour cutting printed vinyl graphics.

OPOS-CAM, Summa's fourth generation contour cutting device, is now greatly enhanced to increase workflow productivity when contour cutting printed graphics, signs, labels, vehicle wraps and more. OPOS-CAM technology delivers lightning fast marker recognition for complex images, and over very long contour cut job runs, by combining camera quality optics with highly intelligent recognition software called Summa Camera Control.

"Customers are now able to contour cut graphics at speeds of up to 10 times faster than our competitors," states Filip Depreeuw, R & D Manager. With OPOS-CAM, Summa claims they have delivered yet another amazing innovation with the printing industry's first camera recognition alignment solution for friction driven vinyl drum cutters. Summa customers in volume driven workflow environments will now be able to excel with super fast, precision accurate cutting of short or long run contour cutting jobs.

OPOS-CAM is a factory upgrade option now available on all new Summa S Class S140 T and S160 T vinyl cutting plotters.

For further information regarding pricing and availability contact an authorised Summa dealer or visit www.summa.be



OPOS-CAM technology delivers lightning fast marker recognition for complex images.



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COMPANY *Update*

Western Signs combines Spandex range and in-house engineering expertise

Western Sign Systems is an approved Spandex Sign System Centre and provides the full range of Spandex solutions, complemented by solid in-house engineering expertise and extensive manufacturing capabilities.

Originally signs were produced as part of an engineering company, but in 1993 husband and wife team Keith and Nora Hulin formed Western Sign Systems. The engineering background is still important in today's success and provides exceptional versatility, enabling the company to meet the different requirements of its growing number of trade customers.

Due to increase in demand for its products and services, the company expanded into an additional 10,000sq.ft. unit at its base in Westbury, Wiltshire, last year. The extra space allowed for a huge assembly area, which dramatically increased production capacity, while investment in two new Gerber Sabre CNC routers further boosted Western Sign Systems' already comprehensive manufacturing facilities. The fully kitted out sheet metal manufacturing and production area now includes a 3000M x 100 Ton CNC Press Brake, a 20 station CNC Turret Punch, and an Amada CNC Guillotine - 3000M X 6MM.

From its CNC machine shop, Western Sign Systems provides CNC turning, milling and routing services, as well as stainless steel, steel and aluminium welding for flat cut lettering, sign trays, light boxes. A powder coating facility equipped with a large oven and plenty of space for stacking and moving product trolleys in and out of the oven has capacity for handling powder coating projects large and small, in a wide range of colours.



A Monolith Curved Sign supplied by Western Sign Systems.



A simple but effective sign from Western Sign Systems.



Two languages, Braille and symbols make this sign especially useful.

Services include Braille and tactile signage to meet the DDA (Disability Discrimination Act) legislation and the application of Braille straight to Spandex Slatz and Slim Slatz systems, and many other substrates.

Martin Clifford, Operations Manager, says: "One of the biggest advantages for us and our customers is that we can do everything in house. With our own powder coating, fabrication, routers and engineering background, we don't need to subcontract out work, which gives us tight control over cost, turnaround and quality.

Western Sign Systems fabricates signs to individual customer requirements, and with in house finishing and additional space to hold large amounts of stock, the company is able to provide quick turnarounds to enable its customers to meet their customers' deadlines.

"We've got the skills and experience to take on bespoke work and extra flexibility from having access to additional machinery used on the engineering side," adds Martin.

Combined with the Spandex range, Western Sign Systems believes it has a solution for every sign application.

Martin continues: "Spandex products tend to be specified on corporate contracts we fulfil, but preferences in sign styling do change. The product that's really taken off over the last eight months or so is Spandex's Monoframe.

"We've had a big surge in enquiries about Monoframe, with most converting to orders. The Monoframe range has a slim profile with a curved fascia. They're aluminium and very durable, competitively priced, and are delivered ready to be erected, so installation is quick and easy."

Monoframe identity signs are ideal for exterior installations and help give an up-market feel to corporate offices, business facilities, science parks, and other sites.

Whether it's a Spandex Sign System or fully bespoke work, Western Sign Systems offers a vast range of sign options. To find out more, tel. 01373 858440 or go to www.westernsigns.co.uk

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COLOUR PRINTING *Update*

A sign of the times

Ben Milford, Head of Professional Marketing, Canon UK, introduces this issue's Colour Printing Update with his view on the printing industry and recent innovations.

Whilst today the vast majority of printing companies around the world still remain wedded to offset and screen printing technology, there is no doubt the digital imaging revolution is coming. Every year, advancements in technology mean that digital ink-jet printing improves, becoming faster and delivering better quality and those companies that let digital pass them by may risk losing out to competitors.

Just as the 1960s and 70s saw a large number of printing start-ups worldwide, so the same is happening at the start of the 21st century. This time, the change is driven by the introduction of digital-only print services by a new generation of entrepreneurs. Just as the internet is enabling smaller companies to take on established brands, so digital is allowing the copy shop and sign printer to take a slice of the pie from larger operators. Some are new services or spin-offs from existing businesses; some are evolved from copy, photo and sign shops.

While large and medium sized print shops consolidate or even re-trench their operations, many thousands of smaller print shops are springing up in business, which bodes well for the future of our industry.

Canon has invested heavily in this market and grown rapidly in the LFP market in the last five years, launching 11 new Canon imagePROGRAF devices alone in 2007 and resulting in an impressive 40 per cent growth in LFP sales. As a company we are committed to providing market-leading LFP technologies across a broad range of markets, offering our customers superior quality combined with reliable and cost effective technologies. The Canon imagePROGRAF range are the only large format ink-jet printers that have an "edge-to-edge" printing capability, reducing paper waste and finishing costs. The sophisticated calibration feature also enables a whole suit of printers to produce matching print quality for consistent results.

The key finding from Canon's recently commissioned Insight Report was that digital will become the dominant technology by 2020. Analogue will still have a role to play but digital technologies will continue to help printers diversify into new markets by exploiting a range of new applications, which will ultimately open up new revenue streams.



The popular Canon imagePROGRAF.

For sign printers, this means a shift away from traditional litho and screen printing towards the new breed of digital ink-jet printers.

Old techniques such as screen makers, press assistants and scanner operators are being replaced by designers, pre-flight technicians, image specialists, IT and networking specialists, digital printing technicians, database analysts and marketing experts. Selling digital also requires a whole new breed of salespeople who understand how to keep presses fed with a constant supply of short-run jobs, and managers who can factor in the costs of providing value-added services.

Training is crucial for success and we provide all the assistance printers need through Canon's Essential Business Builder Programme. What is alarming in the Insight Report findings is that three-quarters of printers believe the skill sets of potential employees are inadequate to meet their company's needs, yet only 20.8 per cent reported they will be increasing their training budgets in the near future. Training is crucial if printers are to maximise the return on investment in new digital printing technologies.

To see a full copy of the Insight Report, go to <http://tinyurl.com/canoninsightreport> and more information on Canon's range of printers is at www.canon.co.uk

HP unveils latest large-format printing solutions

HP unveiled the latest additions to its portfolio of large-format digital printing solutions at the recent SGIA event in Atlanta, USA. The move bolsters the company's efforts to target what it estimates to be a \$53 billion page-value opportunity in the global sign and display market projected for 2010.



HP's new Scitex FB950, unveiled at SGIA, is available now.

HP's unveilings included the HP Scitex FB950 Printer, now available for purchase worldwide.

The HP Scitex FB950 Printer is a robust flatbed UV printer that delivers consistently high-quality prints and high productivity on virtually any rigid or flexible media for the production of durable outdoor and indoor applications, including POP/POS signage, tradeshow graphics, interior decorations, banners and street furniture. Designed to increase productivity and profitability with efficient media loading and the ability to print multiple sheets at the same time, the HP Scitex FB950 Printer enables PSPs to accommodate a greater range of customer requests and grow their businesses.

The printer's six HP Scitex FB250 colour inks and print-heads with variable-sized drops combine to produce great image detail, up to 1200 x 600 optimised dpi, and smooth colour transitions across a wide variety of media. Advanced features, such as an onboard camera, spectrophotometer, embedded software and a solid media feed system ensure consistent results and worry-free operation.

Further information on the FB950 and more additions to the HP range is available at www.hp.com

Mimaki CJV30 Series – the ultimate integrated solvent printer/cutter

The new range of integrated solvent printer/cutters from Mimaki offers the signmaker a number of attractive options when it comes to ink types, size and price.

With unique 60cm, 100cm and 160cm models, plus the 130cm linchpin machine, the CJV30 Series marks a new departure for Mimaki with the inclusion of an integrated printer/cutter in its product range. Priced from just £8,995, yet sporting a two year warranty, big on board ink supply and powered take-up unit as standard, they deliver an unparalleled level of performance in this market sector. All sizes will take either Mimaki's eco solvent ink or low odour full solvent ink, in either 2x4 colour for maximum speed, or 6 colour plus white in the full solvent configuration, for a highly creative, hi-fi result.

Unusually, the Mimaki CJV30 Series is delivered with a huge suite of supporting software. Included is not just a fully featured PostScript RIP package, but Mimaki's impressive, Mac or PC compatible FineCut cutting plug-in for CorelDRAW! and Illustrator, and SimpleStudio design software too.

The Mimaki CJV30 Series sports high end features pioneered on machines such as the JV5 and JV33. For example, the Uninterrupted Ink Supply System (for unattended long run printing), the same super-fast print head for a top notch result and now also adds cutting capability that requires no user intervention.



The Mimaki CJV30-100 integrated solvent printer / cutter.



Even the 60cm wide, entry level Mimaki CJV30-60 is capable of printing a bright, durable white solvent ink.

Interestingly, all the solvent ink cartridges for the Mimaki CJV30 are valid for Hybrid's web-based, customer rebate linked cartridge recycling scheme. This scheme pays out ink credits for recycling used cartridges, and contributes to a massive reduction in print waste, with the potential to remove some 40 tonnes of spent cartridges from landfill this coming year alone. Mimaki owners can register for free at www.LetsDoMore.co.uk

Further details on the Mimaki CJV30 Series and other Mimaki products can be found at www.YouGetMore.co.uk

For more information, a demonstration of the CJV30 Series or for how to find an authorised reseller, telephone Mimaki's exclusive distributors, Hybrid Services Ltd, on 01270 501900 or go to www.hybridservices.co.uk

FujiFilm Sericol launches the new Acuity Advance

FUJIFILM Sericol has introduced the new Acuity Advance wide format UV inkjet printer. The Advance is the next generation of the highly successful Acuity HD2504, which was launched in April 2007 and has quickly become one of the fastest selling flatbed UV inkjet printers on the market today.

Designed to satisfy those print applications that require high resolution imaging, the Acuity Advance now features an opaque white ink option, to complement the standard four colour CMYK offering. The Acuity Advance incorporates a newly developed print-head array, increasing the productivity above that of the HD2504 whilst still maintaining a near photographic image quality thanks to its unique variable drop technology.

Typical throughput in production mode is up to 22sq.m./hr, in

high quality mode the speed is 15sq.m./hr.

Utilising FUJIFILM Sericol's latest Uvijet UV white ink, the Acuity Advance delivers unmatched flexibility, allowing users to print a very opaque white under, over or between print layers.

The FUJIFILM Acuity Advance UV inkjet printer retains the same dimensions and print area as the Acuity HD2504 of 1.25m x 2.5m, and prints onto substrates as thick as 48mm.

Additionally, an optional roll-to-roll module is ideal for printing onto all types of flexible media. The Acuity Advance was unveiled at the SGIA tradeshow and commercial shipments began commence in November.

For further information visit www.fujifilmsericol.com

COLOUR PRINTING *Update*

Wide-format printers from Roland DG designed to meet all price and production needs

In 2008, worldwide sales of Roland DG's print and cut devices passed 70,000 since the launch of the first such machine in 1995, with 5,000 units sold in the UK alone. This has cemented the company's place as a world leading supplier of print and cut equipment. Indeed, the Roland DG VersaCAMP series is the best selling printer cutter in the world, says Roland.

Since its introduction, the VersaCAMP has provided signmakers with an unmatched entry-level price point as well as versatility, reliability and ease of use. The latest model, the VP series, is available in 30" VP-300 and 54" VP-540 versions and is Roland's - and the market's - fastest entry-level printer cutter to date. The VersaCAMP VP is a four-colour CMYK machine that will perform as a stand alone cutter or print only device as well as a printer/cutter. It has an automated maintenance system for hassle-free operation and immediate printing on a range of

substrates as diverse as self adhesive vinyl, banner, paper, film and heat transfer paper. Like all Roland machines, the VersaCAMP VP series includes the latest version of Roland DG's powerful, user friendly RIP software, VersaWorks 3.0, which features the Roland Color spot colour fidelity system, Variable Data Printing and the option to run up to four machines from a single workstation.

Roland's print and cut portfolio also includes the SolJet PRO III XC-540W, the latest in its range of SolJet printers and a machine that features Roland DG's Eco-Sol Max white ink, which again opens up even more revenue generating opportunities. White ink is critical to producing high value applications, such as double sided graphics, on clear media, which was a labour intensive and inaccurate process before the introduction of white ink. Eco-Sol Max white can also be applied as an undercoat on any media prior to the application of CMYK ink to drastically increase colour opacity. Like all inks in the Eco-Sol Max range, it's safe for indoor use, scratch and UV resistant and has an exterior life of up to three years.

It's easy to get carried away by Roland's innovative print and cut technology but the company also leads the way in print only solutions. It boasts the largest portfolio of wide-format printers on the market, with products to meet every price point and production level requirement, the latest of which is the VersaArt RS-640, a 64" four-colour CMYK printer. At a price point of under £12,000, the RS-640 offers high image quality, productivity and performance beyond that of any other printer in its class.

Roland users can take peace of mind from the fact that the company has also dedicated time to developing one of the most comprehensive post sales support packages in the industry - RolandCare, a responsive, flexible and cost-effective service programme for customers with machines in the field, which is available in bronze, silver and gold packages.

More information about Roland DG's extensive range of print & cut, print only machines and RolandCare support packages can be found at www.rolanddg.co.uk



The SolJET Pro III XC-540w features Roland DG's white ink solution.

Kimoto Freejet 320 reduces need to pre-coat

Following the success of the Freejet 320 eco solvent ink configured printer, Info-Tec Distribution has launched the new Kimoto Freejet 320 direct solvent ink configured printer. The Kimoto Freejet 320 direct solvent ink was developed to enable printing on practically anything without having to pre-coat. The direct solvent components were originally changed to work mainly on different plastic substrates such as PVC, ABS and similar materials, some other substrates may still need to be pre-coated.

It is still possible to buy either an eco-solvent configuration or a direct solvent configuration printer. The direct solvent inks require no pre-coat, whereas, the less expensive eco solvent inks still require substrates to be pre-coated. The Freejet 320 does not require RIP software and is simple to use. It can print materials up to 120 mm thick with a resolution of 5760 dpi with a minimal drop size of 1.5pl.

The Freejet 320 is ideal for personalising many promotional items including golf balls, rulers, pens, badges etc. The possibilities are endless and the best part about it all is that it's not labour intensive and produces fantastic results with colourful detailed printing.

For more information about this topic, please contact Terri or Paul by calling 01202 845960 or e-mail sales@info-tec.biz



The new Kimoto Freejet 320 was developed to enable printing without pre-coating on a range of substrates.

Colourgen launches new Seiko II ColorPainter range

Colourgen has launched the new Seiko I Infotech ColorPainter range of solvent inkjet printers to the UK market. The eight-colour ColorPainter H-104S and H-74S printers offer printing speeds up to 55 sq.m./h, approximately 1.5 to 2 times faster than competing models in the same price/width class. The printers achieve this speed by utilising eight super-wide, piezo inkjet heads, while maintaining extremely high image quality and density.

The new inkjet heads offer true 720 dpi resolution and bigger droplet sizes by firing multiple drops to maximise ink density levels – even at high print speeds. The printers offer new “mild solvent” ink set that has excellent colour and adhesion. The printer comes with eight heads, which can be configured two ways: eight colours with one head per colour (Y, M, C, K, Lc, Lm, Grey and Light Grey ink colours)

for maximum image quality, or four colours with two heads per colour (Y, M, C, K ink colours), which can almost double the speed for maximum productivity.

Jeff Biggs, Managing Director of Colourgen, comments, “This new generation of solvent printers from Seiko II offers real value for customers. The printers deliver extremely high quality output at speeds that no other printer of a similar class can get anywhere near. Seiko II has also made major advances with the mild-solvent inks, ensuring the prints are much safer for the environment and opening up a greater range of applications for the ColorPainter range.”

The ColorPainter H-74S and H-104S incorporate important new features, including “Smart Pass Technology” to optimise pass-to-pass dot placement for smooth spot colours and gradients and “Automatic head height adjustment” to ensure the best image quality. In combination with these features as well as high speed and high ink density, the printers meet requirements for professional quality outdoor graphics and high volume users.

The ColorPainter H74S and H104S are available in the UK exclusively from authorised Colourgen resellers.

For your nearest reseller, please contact Colourgen on 01628 588722 or visit www.colourgen.com



The new Seiko II ColorPainter from Colourgen.

Gandininnovations showcases complete package

Gandininnovations demonstrated a new range of grand format digital printers for soft signage, outdoor and billboard applications that allow for a wide variety of commercial applications at the SGIA show in the USA.

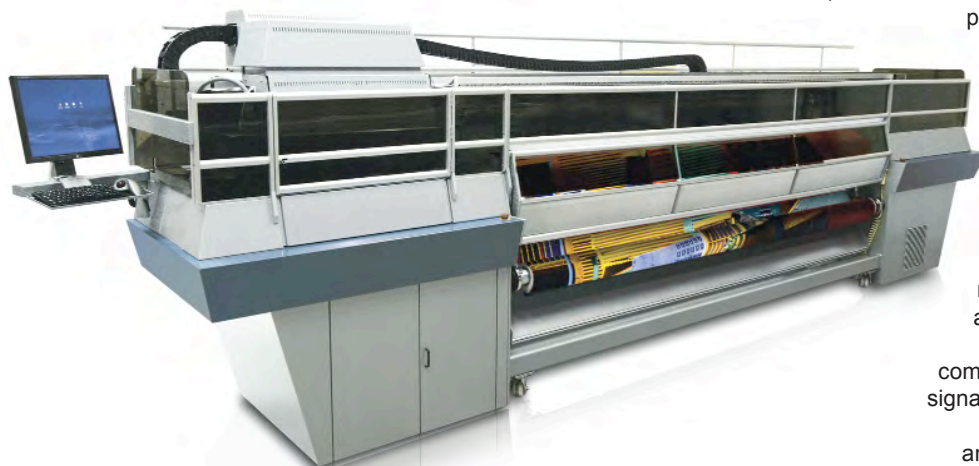
The company unveiled the NanoJet UV True Flatbed digital printer, which uses the latest in digital print technology. Specifically designed to print photorealistic quality outputs, the NanoJet uses 24 Spectra high performance print heads.

Equipped with a silicon nozzle plate, the 15 pico-litre head is specifically designed to deliver high resolution droplets. Printing at speeds of 20.4sq.m./hr in photo-realistic mode with superb results, the NanoJet prints in six colours at 800dpi, using Gandininnovations UV-curable branded inks. It is a perfect solution for any print shop needing to output high quality printing on variety of rigid and flexible substrates.

Other key highlights included the Jeti3348 Jetspeed UV RTR, with its brand new 3-metre UV RTR digital printer, which prints at lightning speeds of 230sq.m./hr in a 4-colour configuration and features 48 Spectra print heads. The new unit uses Gandininnovations' UV-curable branded inks on a variety of materials including 100 per cent PE eco-friendly polyethylene and is well suited for all types of outdoor applications. The Jeti3348 Jetspeed UV RTR will also be available with a back-lit camera option enabling reverse printing of the material and comes with perfect registration allowing brilliant backlit signage.

Gandininnovations also demonstrated its complete digital solution for screen printers and signage/display printers.

For more information about Gandininnovations and its products, visit the company's website at www.gandininnovations.com, or telephone +1 866 500 JETI (5384).



Gandininnovations showcased the new Jeti3348 at the recent SGIA event in the USA.

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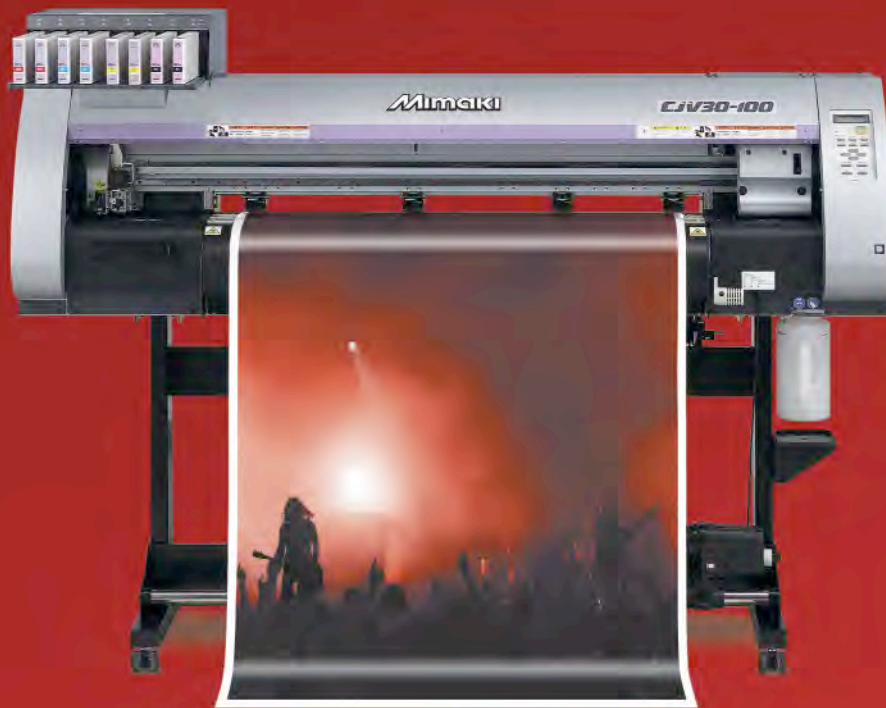
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Screenprint Productions pushes boundaries of creativity with EskoArtwork's Kongsberg i-XL44

EskoArtwork announces the installation of a Kongsberg i-XL44 cutting table at Screenprint Productions through its distributor Raster Printers. The company, based in Elland in Yorkshire, specialises in large format POS and POP material for retail outlets and supermarkets as well as sign and displays for exhibitions and events.

The company recently moved into digital production whilst maintaining screen printing, its core competency, to maximise business opportunities and manage the growing demand for short run creative work. Screenprint's dedicated 18,000 sq ft finishing factory incorporates in-house laminating, joinery and shop fitting departments.

Mark Dempsey, Sales Director at Raster Printers explains: "Screenprint Productions purchased the Kongsberg i-XL44 to maximise its finishing capabilities. The company is thrilled with the investment as it has been able to reduce overheads on outsourcing contract work. Up to now, the company used die-cutting to produce free standing displays in a variety of materials. The Kongsberg enables shorter run work to be produced more economically."

Since its installation, the Kongsberg i-XL44 has been in production on a daily basis.

Chris White, Managing Director at Screenprint Productions comments: "We have been in business for over 25 years with a long experience in screen printing. Eager to move with the times, we decided to invest in the latest digital printing technology. Digital printing has become a growing part of our business and the

EskoArtwork Kongsberg table with its market leadership tag fits our company's needs perfectly. The cutting table is proving to be a real asset. We are using the 3 x 2 metre capacity for straightforward POS and POP as well as for more elaborate stands and exhibition displays. The many tool functions of the Kongsberg MultiCUT offer numerous milling and creasing possibilities on a diversity of substrates such as corrugated board, plastics, acrylics and wood."

Screenprint's design studio is the hub of the business. The company recently recruited extra staff for its design team to manage the growing amount of work. Chris White has seen a marked improvement in turnaround times since bringing all the processes in-house.

"EskoArtwork's ArtiosCAD software has enabled existing staff and new staff to quickly overlap and work together to create the files. This investment has also given me the opportunity to become further involved in the creative prototypes," says White. "In the past, we worked with two or three contractors when using acrylics or wood for example. With the EskoArtwork cutting table, everything is now under our control and we work at our pace without being dependent on others. We can turn prototypes around much faster than before."

The company plans to expand and intends to move into a purpose built 50,000 sq ft factory at the end of 2009. The new factory will house the whole company, which is currently split over three sites.

White further comments:

"We are operating in a highly competitive industry sector but I believe there are still a lot of business opportunities that we can explore. We need to use our core skills and expand our services to our existing customers as well as opening new avenues of enquiry. There is so much scope to enlarge our offerings and offer creative possibilities."

Screenprint Productions has always based its work ethic on personal service and the company makes it a priority to work very closely with its customers to ensure full understanding of their requirements.

White concludes: "EskoArtwork's equipment has exceeded all of our expectations and has turned out to be a key investment for us. Versatility is one of our key strengths and the versatility of the Kongsberg table with MultiCUT is a perfect fit for our company and our customers' future."

For further information visit www.esko.com



The Kongsberg i-XL44 cutting table at Screenprint Productions.

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PRODUCT *Choice*

Digital traffic sign printer means faster delivery for William Smith customers



The Durst Rho 161 TS traffic sign printer.

The installation of a Durst Rho 161 TS printer has revolutionised the way that William Smith produces traffic signs.

"This machine represents a significant investment of some £250,000, but it means that we can produce sign faces digitally for the first time," says William Smith's Marketing Manager, Chris Bradley.

"With this printer we are able to ensure consistent quality, consistent colour and high gloss levels for all sign faces. Individual sign faces and large production runs can be processed faster, so that we can work to much shorter lead times. This means we can respond even faster to customer requirements.

"An added bonus is that we have less wastage, which is a significant benefit both economically and environmentally."

The Durst Rho 161 TS traffic sign printer is a large format 62" roll-to-roll UV-curable inkjet printer, designed to print long lasting traffic signs. It was specifically developed for printing directly onto 3M HIP, DG³ and Engineer Grade traffic sign materials, with a durability of up to 12 years MCS warranty.

For further information contact Wm Smith on 01833 694707 or visit www.williamsmith.co.uk

University of Sheffield purchases GBC laminator at DCP Go-Wide tour

DCP Systems recently confirmed the purchase of a GBC 3064 laminator by the University of Sheffield's Print Service.

The deal was done at the recent DCP Go-Wide tour with Jonathan Collett of GBC and Darren Walker, MD of DCP Systems Ltd. The GBC 3064 will be in good company, joining their already incumbent fleet of HP Designjets, Onyx RIP and a GBC Falcon F60 laminator.

Sheryl Mather who runs the Graphic Design Section within the University Print Service at the University of Sheffield explains the reason for the new addition. "We offer a complete print service for University staff and students but also for personal and corporate clients. Over the past 12 months the demand for different kinds of laminated products has increased and the second machine will give us more versatility. The new acquisition of the GBC 3064 will predominantly produce pop-ups and roll-up exhibition stands using Opal Jet media. The other laminator will be used for encapsulating indoor and outdoor posters and banners. DCP Systems have supplied most of our large format equipment to date, giving us great advice and an excellent after sales support service."

The University Print Service offers a range of services from the creation of artwork through to the production of books, leaflets, reports, stationery, posters and exhibitions stands.

For further information contact DCP Systems on 0114 257 3640 or visit www.dcp-systems.co.uk



Darren Walker (DCP Systems), Sheryl Mather and Paul Mather of the University Print Service and Jonathan Collett of GBC.

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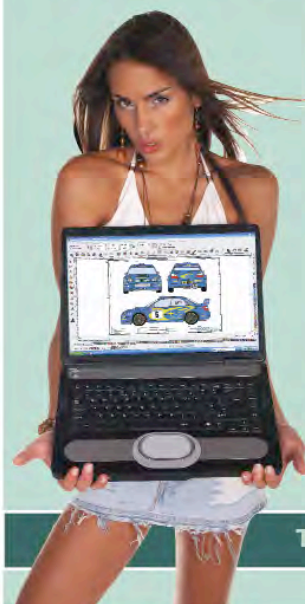
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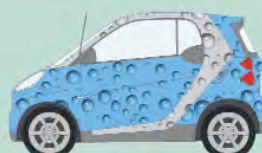
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Koolkut vertical panel saw passes screen test

With more rigorous of manual handling regulation enforcement on the horizon, Manchester-based 3sixtymedia needed a better, safer way of cutting sheet materials. Sagetech's Koolkut vertical panel saw range provided the ideal combination of compact operating footprint and ease of installation and use, at an eye-catching price.

The company had been using dimension and cross-cut saws since its launch. But as time went by, it became apparent that the manual handling issues related to the machines' use were likely to become increasingly significant, so Tony Mills, Operations Supervisor in 3sixtymedia's Scenic Services department, looked into the alternatives.

As a joint venture between ITV and the BBC, the company provides scenery and other resources for television production companies. Over the years Tony and his team have worked on shows including Coronation Street, Jeremy Kyle, A Question of Sport, Cold Blood and Mastermind.

The work involves cutting large quantities of MDF, plywood, blockboard, perspex and acrylic.

The company typically gets through several tonnes of sheet materials each week, and during busy times, cutting throughput can reach 40 sheets per day.

Tony knew that the right tool for the job would be a vertical panel saw.

"Manhandling a large sheet of 30mm MDF onto a table, cross-cut or dimension saw is awkward and potentially dangerous," he observed. "A decent vertical panel saw would make the task much easier, as well as improving general safety and making accurate repeat cuts a far simpler exercise."

The principal problem came in the form of vertical panel saw prices. As Tony noted, "The big name saws are exceedingly expensive. Their prices went well beyond my budget, taking me into capital expenditure, which would have lengthened the purchasing process."

Researching the market led Tony to UK manufacturer Sagetech Industry's Koolkut vertical panel saw range. "Here was a range of saws that competed on specification with the 'big boys' but were priced much more competitively," he said. "Also, as a result of the machines' innovative design, the operating footprint is really very compact indeed. That was important for us as we had a specific space that the new saw had to fit into if we were to avoid major upheaval."

3sixtymedia took delivery of its Sagetech Koolkut KK16 last year. "The installation engineer was great," recalled Tony. "He was in and out very quickly, and set the machine up beautifully square, exactly where we wanted it." Tony had similar praise for other staff at Sagetech, citing their enthusiasm, flexibility and generally helpful attitude.

The Koolkut has put 3sixtymedia in a much stronger position. Fast, accurate cutting of the wide variety of sheet materials used by the company is now significantly easier and safer. Loading even the largest, heaviest sheets onto the machine is a far easier task than is the case with any table saw. Once the sheet is in place, it need not move again until cutting is complete - the Koolkut can cut vertically, horizontally and diagonally, to the full length and breadth of the board.

"The Koolkut's cutting capabilities and vertical operation make meeting health and safety requirements significantly easier," Tony commented. "It's extremely well priced for the quality and capability of the machine, and Sagetech are really good to deal with. I'd recommend it. In fact, I've done so already."

For more details on 3sixtymedia, visit www.the-manchester-studios.tv For more information on Sagetech's range of economically priced, space saving Koolkut vertical panel saws, visit www.sagetech.co.uk or telephone 0118 970 1950.



After researching the market, 3sixtymedia opted for the Sagetech KoolKut KK16.

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PRODUCT *Choice*

Ace Signs Group invests in new Tekcel router



Ace Signs premises in Basildon, Essex.

Ace Signs Group (ASG), one of the UK's leading sign and display companies, has expanded its production capacity even further with the addition of a new Tekcel 3m x 2m router to the CNC routing department at its Head Quarters in Basildon, Essex.

Managing major sign projects for national and international brands from the automotive, corporate, financial, leisure and retail sectors, ASG has a proven track record of delivering innovative signing solutions on time within budget. Key to this success has been ASG's ability to identify the production technologies that build quality in and take cost out of the manufacturing process.

According to Mick Baker, ASG's Technology Manager, the recent installation of a Tekcel 3m x 2m router, complete with 18 capacity Auto Tool Change (ATC), Auto Tool Length Sensing (ATLS) and Auto Material Registration (AMR) is definitely living up to its reputation as a heavy duty, high production system.

"Our operators love the new router, in fact, its speed, accuracy and quality of cut has impressed everyone here at ASG. Replacing our old router with the Tekcel ATC system has slashed machining times by as much as 50%, particularly on jobs involving clean outs and inlays. The router power we now have on tap lets us cut in far fewer passes on thicker materials and that's saving us even more time."



Operators at Ace Signs are impressed with the new Tekcel router.



Ace Signs new Tekcel 3m x 2m router.

To create space for the installation of the new Tekcel router, Tekcel engineers were asked to dismantle one of ASG's old Gerber routers and re-commission it at ASG's second manufacturing site in Warwickshire. The installation of the Tekcel router and relocation of the old router was completed in just two days. All part of the service as Tekcel's Julian Sage explained.

"We work hard to provide a comprehensive CNC router solution for our customers, whatever their individual system requirements may be. In this case, it was no problem for Tekcel to deal with the relocation and reinstatement of ASG's old Gerber router. Our engineers can call upon a very broad range of skills and cnc router experience."

To minimise any disruption to production at ASG, full software, hardware and general maintenance training was completed onsite, a service that Tekcel provides at no additional cost.

Mick Baker concludes: "Thanks to the quality of the training and the user friendly nature of the new Tekcel router itself, our operators were contributing to the general throughput of sign work in the business from day one."

The new Tekcel router is now very much at the heart of CNC production at ASG, producing everything from lettering and fascias in acrylic and stainless steel to folded sign trays in aluminium and ACM.

For further information contact Tekcel CNC Solutions on 01275 342 668 or Ace Signs Group on 01268 706 800.

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LIGHTING & LED *Focus*

Designing a sign – remember to think about the effect illumination can have

Janice Fairfield of Fairfield Displays & Lighting Ltd gives some pointers on what to think about when considering lighting.

It may sound obvious but the whole purpose of a sign is to be easily seen. How many times have you gone into a building and got lost due to poor signage? It's not only the position and style of the sign that you need to consider, but also how the sign will be illuminated.

So what do you need to consider when selecting a light source for your sign? The objective of illumination is to highlight a sign against the general background clutter, encouraging the eye to focus naturally to the signage. Before starting to design the sign you need to decide how you are going to get electrical power to the area and what restrictions there may be. You may discuss with your customer general aesthetics, brightness levels and what staff are available to maintain the sign. You will then be able to supply a quotation that gives them information on running costs and longevity of the light.

Lighting is normally measured in lux (a unit of measurement) and refers to the brightness to a set area in relation to the beam spread. For example, if the spread of 2000 lux illuminates a square metre set at two metres from the source then the measured lux level could be 1000 lux, if you take the same measurement over four metres it is likely to be 250 lux.

The choice of light sources seems endless, including fluorescent tubes, Dichroic lamps, LED strips and individual extra bright LEDs, as well as new light sources continually coming on to the market. In this article I consider illumination in the context of a sign rather than a light box.

For years fluorescent tubes have been used as an economical way of illuminating signs from above. The tubes are normally positioned just above the sign and give out a stark light that appears lifeless and may have a yellow tinge. Fluorescent tubes give a whitewash effect that is functional but not eye catching or attractive.

A more natural white light can be achieved by using SAD (seasonal affective disorder) lighting, which gives a very white light. Remember, when specifying a specialist tube your customer must be able to get hold of replacements easily.

LED strips or individual extra bright LEDs are the current hot topic to use for lighting but be careful, you must really think about what you want to achieve with this type of lighting. It has an attractive visual appeal and does have a great strength of light but it does not transfer the light to the surrounding area. LEDs are excellent for short range lighting e.g. panel edging or for creating special effects and creating a shine.

The subtlety of lighting signs is a careful balance of illuminating signage but without spilling light into unwanted areas

Dichroic are directional and you have much more control of light and are excellent for illuminating all types of signs. They enable you to create feature lighting using standard white lamps or transform the appearance of a sign by using a mixture of colour lamps. For brightness and economy dichroics are still excellent value especially when you use lamps that can have up to 10,000hrs of lamp life.



Lighting positioned in the correct place gives the best results.

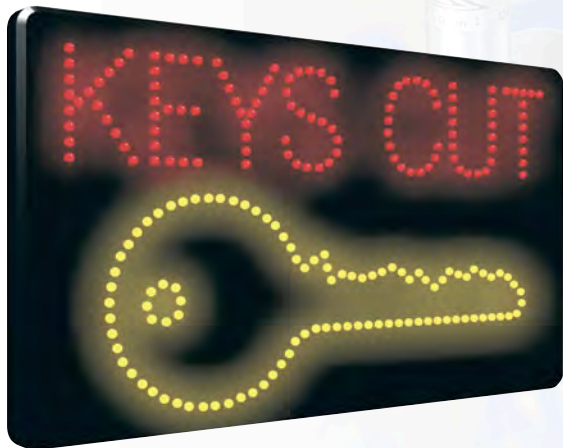
A sign suspended in the window with dichroic lamps positioned above suspended cables allows the lighting to be positioned in the correct place to give the best possible results. Consider what type of light spread do you want to achieve? Is the light to just illuminate 500mm high x 600 mm wide panel or does it need to illuminate a sign that is 2000 mm in height?

The above is an extract. To find out more, book a place on one of Fairfield Displays & Lightings' free seminars to help signmakers and large format graphics companies use lighting with confidence. The next seminars are on 21 January in Fleet, Hampshire and 28 January 2009 in Shrewsbury, Shropshire. Full details can be found at www.fairfielddisplays.co.uk or telephone 08451 665201.

Large stock of animated LED signs at BHMA

BHMA Limited based in Witchford, Cambridgeshire, has been a marketing based company for 17 years.

Patrick Huggins, Director, has trained literally thousands of licensed trade managers in the subject, enabling them to market their businesses professionally.



Just one of many stock signs from BHMA Ltd.

In the last five years he has focused BHMA on products rather than training, allowing BHMA customers to get their businesses noticed and improve their profit.

Signs that are illuminated, move, are at eye level, are an instant way to get noticed and LED signs fit this criteria perfectly.

A key advantage of LED-based lighting is its high efficiency, as measured by its light output per unit power input. White LEDs have quickly matched and overtaken the efficiency of standard incandescent lighting systems, costing much less to operate.

The BHMA range of super bright LED shop signs incorporates the latest developments in LED technology. All signs use 8mm, wide angled, filtered, high colour contrast, anti-glare LEDs for excellent day and night time visibility and offer a lifespan of up to 11 years' permanent use.

The range is extremely durable, energy efficient (8-18 watts), precision engineered and the slimmest available is an amazing 17mm – less than the diameter of a 1p coin – with superb built in micro-chip controlled, power management systems.

BHMA offers discount to trade customers and has a growing range of animated LED business signs for indoor use currently available from stock.

Telephone 01353 665141 or go to www.bhma.co.uk to view the BHMA range.

Abacus LED makes it simple with chain LED

Abacus LED has gained extensive experience as part of the sign industry for more than 30 years, so understands the many frustrations that come with the job and is able to simplify a customer's LED lighting needs.

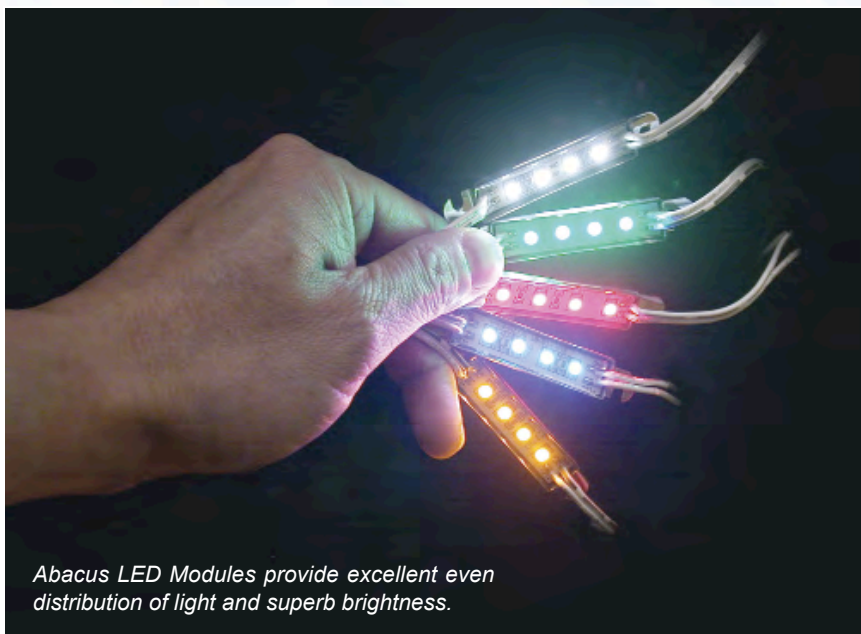
The company has just added to its range with new Chain-LED, designed for sign makers to create LED characters or graphics with ease.

Each Chain-LED consists of 15 LEDs encased in a transparent rubber like PVC material, enabling them to fit snugly into panels up to 6mm thick with 9mm holes. The rubber material creates a water tight seal making them suitable for both external and internal use. Chain-LED is waterproof to IP55 and available in six brilliant colours: red, orange, amber, green, blue and white.

The company's new Supabrite high power LED modules, says Abacus, are the brightest LED in their class.

Providing brilliant white without the coolness, they offer excellent and even distribution of light with no hot spots. Supabrite modules are built to high quality standard, IP68 rated and suitable for many applications internally or externally without additional protection.

An important advantage of Abacus LED modules are their special thermal management technology



Abacus LED Modules provide excellent even distribution of light and superb brightness.



within the metal case, so heat is dissipated away from the LED. Overheating, which severely shortens the life of an LED, is therefore avoided.

These modules provide super high luminance and are completely waterproofed to IP68. Significantly, they can be fixed directly onto the back of flat cut letters and other surfaces internally or externally and have a profile of just 4mm.

Abacus also supplies a range of LED controllers from 12V-48V; dim controllers for single colour and brightness changes; high-performance RGB controllers with advanced PWM control technology to control entire RGB colour changes of LED lights with 4 wires; 48V animators in RGB, 2, 3, 6, and 10 channels; various power supplies for indoor and outdoor use, and more.

For full details of the Abacus LED range, visit the website www.ledsignsandlighting.co.uk or tel. 0161 236 8828.

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LED Solutions announces latest Agilight range

LED Solutions has announced the latest range of LEDs that are capable of illuminating a variety of different applications. LED Solutions is currently the UK supplier of American company Agilight's LED modules. Agilight's newest Rayz collection includes a Weatherproof LED, High Output White and miniature LED module that can fit into lettering with stroke widths of 25mm.

The Weatherproof LED called Tuffrayz is designed to withstand the most severe weather conditions due to its potted circuitry and fully protective moulded body. The Tuffrayz module also has a streamlined pod-like design, which allows for smooth and easy installation into any signage or lettering. Energy efficiency is also a major addition to the Tuffrayz module as over 100 modules can be powered from just one 60-watt power supply.



Tuffrayz – designed to withstand severe weather conditions.



Agilight's Thin Rayz LEDs are available from LED Solutions.

The flagship product of the Rayz collection has to be the High Output Thin Rayz Xtra LED, which creates a very high intensity white illumination. This LED module contains four TOPS LED on each module and can produce a light output of 459 Lumens per metre, perfect for creating a bright and clean white illumination that many other LEDs struggle to achieve.

The last, but not least model, within this new range of LED products are called Thin Rayz. These LED modules have proven to be a great asset to LED Solutions because they can fit into the most awkward of lettering with stroke widths of just 25mm. The LED modules also use TOP LEDs and can produce an ultra bright illumination effect whilst generating a minimal amount of heat.

LED Solutions, already pleased with the current influx of new products, is looking forward to expanding its product range in the near future.

For more information visit the website www.ledsolutions.co.uk

Applelec solves a tricky problem

Applelec Sign Components Ltd is a supplier of signage, lighting, and display components to industry. Established in 1998, the company is a trade only supplier.

A recent project for a fireplace showroom was potentially a lighting headache. An efficient, safe solution with a feeling of real warmth was required.

Applelec Sign Components' solution was to tailor design and manufacture a LED lighting package with the result pictured above.

The company specialises in the production of metal and acrylic letters, logos and plaques, fabricated to customers' needs in a variety of different materials, finishes, fixings and illuminates.

More details on Applelec Sign Components and its range can be found at www.applelecsign.co.uk



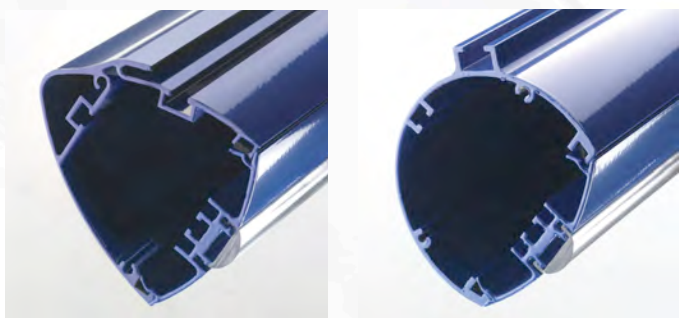
Affordable LED trough lighting from Portland

Portland Lighting, a leading manufacturer and supplier of innovative products, successfully launched LEDlux, the first LED trough lighting system for the UK sign industry in spring.

Previously, the difficulty in achieving sufficient light spread evenly over an entire surface without the spotting normally associated with LEDs, had prevented development of successful LED trough lighting at a financially viable cost.

Portland drew on its extensive research and development expertise to overcome these problems and create the exciting and stylish LEDlux at a price affordable to the sign trade.

Ledlux uses high power 3.6 watt LED modules in 'chip on board' technology combined with broad 140 degree light distribution and a specialist magnifying extruded lens to achieve bright,



Ledlux trough lighting, designed to be maintenance free.



Portland Lighting has supplied lighting for many prestigious projects.

uniform lighting. Illumination is comparable to conventional fluorescent trough lighting but operating costs are reduced by more than 50 per cent.

Sealed to IP64, together with IP67 power converters and protective coated LEDs, which have an integrated current source to stabilise luminous flux and outstanding lamp life, Ledlux offers enviable reliability of service and maintenance-free costs. A projected LED life of more than 50,000 hours could mean that fascia signs only half illuminated because fluorescents have not been replaced are a thing of the past. In addition, Ledlux has clear added value in the protection of valuable natural resources.

Portland designed the attractive casing to also house fluorescent lamps. The unique clip-in cover enables easy retro fitting into the signlux system, giving flexibility and the option of utilising a traditional light source or the new LED technology in relighting programmes.

Ledlux joins the Portland family of Microlux, Adlux, the original and ever-popular signlux, and the Bullet spotlight, to provide an unequalled range and choice within the sign industry.

For more information, go to www.portlandlighting.co.uk or telephone 01922 721133.

From marine light fittings to global market

Sondia Lighting was established in 1965 as a Division of the Humber Electrical Engineering Company Ltd, a company then largely associated with the shipbuilding industry.

Sondia Lighting began by manufacturing marine light fittings for shipyards and marine electrical engineers based in the UK with the occasional export contract to supply complete ships lighting packages.

In the mid '80s Sondia Lighting used its experience in the marine market to develop a weatherproof sign illuminating fitting, in response to the needs of a local sign manufacturer for a contract supplying signage to MFI. MFI liked the product and specified Sondia's fitting for use on all its stores, providing exposure throughout the country that later led to the fitting being selected for commercial and industrial premises of other major companies across the UK.

In the late '80s with the marine market in decline and shipyards around the country closing, Sondia Lighting diversified, firstly undertaking general sub-contract sheet metalwork and secondly the design, manufacture of standard and bespoke light fittings to other established lighting companies. The diversification proved successful and in the early '90s the company invested heavily in market leading CAD/CAM system and CNC machinery.

The experience gained in designing robust, well engineered light fittings for the marine and sign industries and responding to changing markets has served the business well. Today Sondia employs more than 20 staff and manufactures fittings for a variety of applications. As a sub-contractor has developed its own comprehensive range of catalogued products and is currently working on the next generation, which includes a colour change LED trough light.



Lighting from Sondia.

Customers include UK and foreign based companies and a recent project involved producing stainless steel LED floodlights on extended arms to illuminate the name boards on a luxury super-yacht.

One of Sondia's best selling lines at the moment is Recessed Modular Fittings. The standard range of 600 x 600 and 1200 x 600 fittings are available in three and four lamp versions incorporating switch start, H.F. and H.F. dimmable control gear.

Sondia recognises the new challenges presented by the global market and remains determined to take the business forward by increasing its customer base and moving into new markets.

Go to www.sondialighting.co.uk to view the full range and find out more.

.....continued on page 50

LIGHTING & LED *Focus*

Misleading LED prices can cause confusion



OMC's Flexistrip now has more than twice its original brightness at approximately half the original cost.

With increasing numbers of end users requesting LED illumination in their signs, and ever more signage component suppliers adding LED lighting to their range, it has become increasingly important for signmakers to understand how to compare what is being offered. In a recent market study, LED lighting manufacturers OMC (UK) Ltd concluded that many signmakers may not be getting their money's worth. Here's why.

LEDs for signage are often sold on a "price per metre" basis. OMC found that a large number of users therefore compare LED products metre for metre, on the assumption that a metre of one product is roughly the same as a metre of another, and will illuminate one metre of letter edge. But many LEDs are sold in module form,

consisting of blocks of LEDs joined up into strings separated by wire – so with prices being compared on a "per metre" basis, it is very tempting for manufacturers to put bigger gaps between LEDs in order to reduce the apparent unit cost by reducing the number of LEDs in one metre of product.

The problem is that in order to achieve a bright, even beam, products with large spacings must often be fitted much closer together inside a letter, bunching up the wire to reduce the gaps between the LEDs. This means that a metre of product "as sold" does not give a metre of illumination around the letter, as this illustration shows.

In the example pictured below, the letter has a perimeter of about four metres and needs to evenly illuminate around the edge with a halo effect. If the modules are spaced out as sold (left hand figure), the illumination will suffer from bright and dark patches, as well as a low overall brightness. To achieve a satisfactory effect, the LEDs need to be bunched much closer together (centre figure), which in this example results in about 2.5x the LED meterage being required, as well as a considerable increase in labour cost.

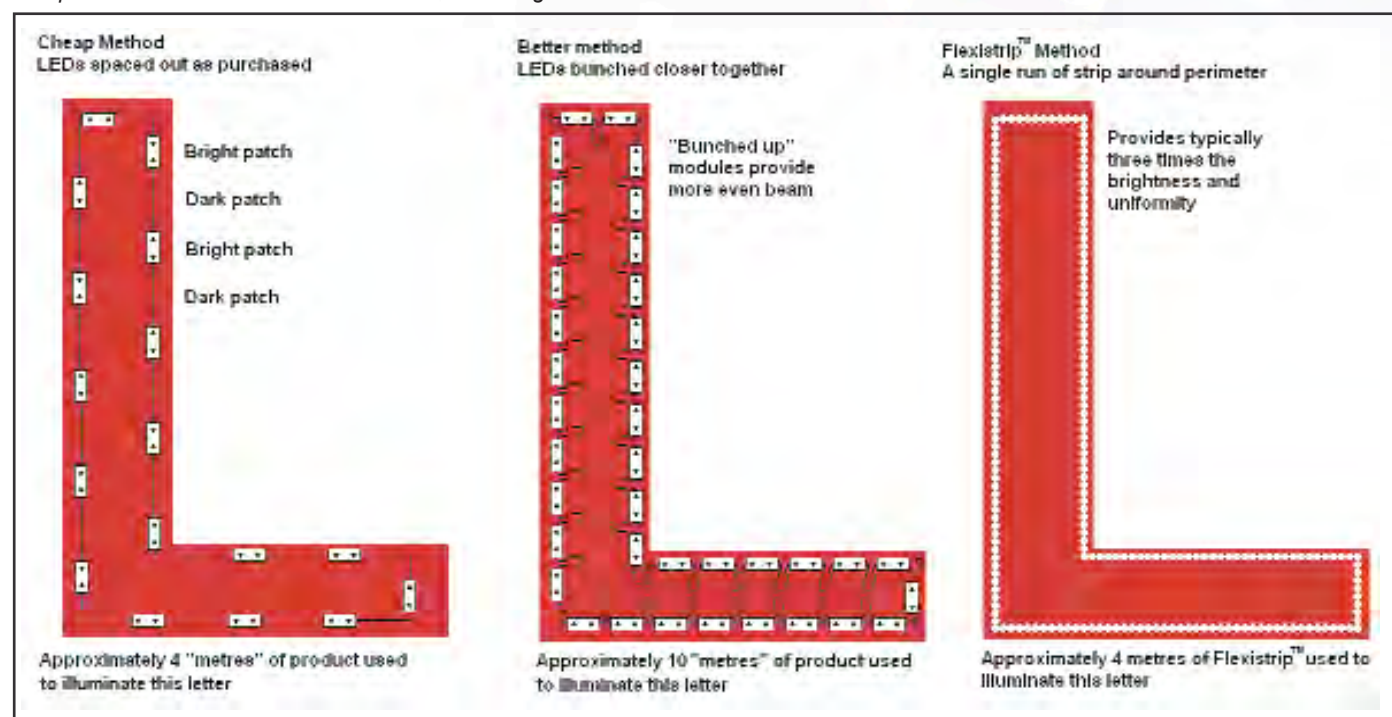
OMC says it has solved this problem with the Flexistrip™ range of LED signage illumination components. Originally introduced to the sign market by OMC in 2004, Flexistrip now has more than twice its original brightness at approximately half the original cost.

The core OMC Flexistrip range consists of flexible strips of ultrabright LEDs which can simply be fitted in a single run to the inside letter return. With up to 90 LEDs per metre, this product achieves a brightness and beam uniformity that is very difficult to match when using modules. Simplicity of pricing as a key benefit, as one metre of Flexistrip equals one metre of illumination around the letter (see right hand figure).

As a result of its study, OMC has two important pieces of advice to give to signmakers when obtaining quotes on LEDs. The first is to ask for the number of LEDs per metre and to work out the price per LED. The second is to ask for the light output in lumens per metre, this will tell how bright the product is, to be sure that the LEDs are of a good brightness grade. As an example, OMC's front-firing Flexistrip in white offers about 300 lm/m.

View the OMC range at www.omc-uk.com or telephone 01209 215424 for more information.

Comparison of different methods of illumination using LEDs



New Year brings more from Robert Horne

Early in 2009 Robert Horne Group will be extending its LED Solutions range of products.

With the success of the Enlite and Enlite Grid there is now a growing acceptance of the huge benefits of LED technology to lower energy bills and reduce maintenance costs. The sign and display industry now understands that the initial higher costs of LED based lighting can be far outweighed by payback times of as little as 12 to 18 months. So for that reason new products will be added to the Robert Horne Portfolio to replace old technologies like fluorescent tubes for back illumination of signage and displays.

The first new product will be a direct fluorescent tube LED replacement called Green Tube. The new LED Green Tube will come in the same sizes as standard fluorescent tubes but offers all the benefits of LED technology.

The second new LED product will be Bright Green Matrix and Bright Green Edge from Bright Green Technology Ltd. An innovative LED solution which is extremely easy to install, it lasts upwards of five maintenance-free years, before requiring simple and safe LED replacement. Better still, when the system eventually reaches the end of its natural life, it is 98 per cent recyclable.

These new product additions will widen the already impressive LED solutions, which include Philips LED range, the Robert Horne Group offers to the sign and display marketplace.

For further information, go to www.roberthorne.co.uk



Robert Horne is adding to its range of LED Solutions.

New Lights Alive displays from Walls + Forms

Walls + Forms now has a new range of cost effective, versatile Lights Alive backlit floor stand displays that are available in illuminated or non-lit styles. They are a definitive highlight for retail, banking, tradeshow, P.O.P. display, showroom, advertising, shopping mall, and additional applications as vast as one's imagination.

Lights Alive features an exclusive low profile aluminium framing system that enables the production of virtually any size high quality lighted display. The simplicity of design allows for matching to any store décor or corporate colour scheme including marble, wood grain, and more.

The Lights Alive backlit floor stand displays are available in two, three and four sided formats at a budget price. They feature slatwall panels that can be used for merchandising product or for literature holders, and offer easy changing of advertising images. Black is the standard colour, with alternatives also available.

Lights Alive floor stands offer a variety of options by tier. They can feature a permanent tier logo or product section at the top "tier" or alternatively in the middle or on the bottom. This is ideal when the floor stand is used as a standalone POP display or as an attention grabber alongside a kiosk or store entry. Any of these tiers (or panel sections) can be built with a permanent insert. This insert can be a silk screened or print graphic containing the customer's logo, company name, or product name.

The permanency of the panel is important to many product sellers who want the display to be used exclusively for their brand or product and don't want to worry about a dealer or retail store converting the display for other purposes. A changeable graphic tier is the same as the permanent tier description, while allowing any or all the tiers to be made to receive graphics from the side or top of the frame. A merchandising tier allows you to insert pegboard, slot, panel, or slatwall into the frame.

Lights Alive offers a multitude of options at the point of sale, also featuring standard sizes of single and double-sided light boxes with free standing and hanging options and a ceiling mounted model that steals existing light from the fixture.

For further information, go to the website www.wallsforms.com or telephone +1 972 745 0800.



The new versatile Lights Alive floor stand display from Walls + Forms.

William Smith reflects best value and clear message for TT2

William Smith has recently supplied information signs for a major development project in the North-East for TT2 Limited.

The New Tyne Crossing is the project to construct a second vehicle tunnel under the River Tyne and to refurbish the existing vehicle tunnel, which was opened in 1967. It is a Private Public Partnership initiative and TT2 Limited, which was appointed in November 2007 as concessionaire to deliver the New Tyne Crossing, is responsible for part-financing, design and construction of the new tunnel and for the operation and maintenance of all the tunnels under the river, including the Grade II listed pedestrian and cycle tunnels.

"The New Tyne Crossing project involves construction of a 1.5km road tunnel under the River Tyne between East Howdon and Jarrow, the development of a major new road junction on the south approach to the tunnel, the introduction of new toll plazas on the north approach to the tunnel, and the full refurbishment of the existing vehicle tunnel," explains Trevor Jackson, Managing Director for TT2.

The four large signs supplied by William Smith are located at A19 Southbound and Northbound approaches to the Tyne Tunnel and on the North and South roundabouts.

"The signs are intended to provide the public with reference information about the project and have been installed in strategic positions close to the construction corridor, for maximum visibility to passers-by," says Mr. Jackson.

"William Smith was chosen to deliver this contract as they are a local company, employing local people, which meant that we were able to reduce the carbon footprint of the delivery distance. Furthermore, they have a good reputation and were able to demonstrate best value," says Senior Tunnels Controller, Paul Myers. "3M™ HIP reflective material was chosen for the sign faces for compliance with Highways Agency regulations."



The signage located at strategic positions, gives motorists up to date information about the project

"Using local suppliers is very important to TT" and also to the objectives of the New Tyne Crossing project. We want to maximise the benefits of the scheme to local people, and one of the ways we hope to achieve this is by using local suppliers wherever possible. However, we nonetheless require high standards of work and products, and would be looking for good quality service and best value from our suppliers, regardless of where they are located," adds Trevor Jackson. "We felt that William Smith was able to meet all of these expectations, with the added benefit of being locally based."

"William Smith was given a very short lead time, but we were kept informed at all times on the progress of the order and the goods were produced and delivered before deadline," concludes Paul Myers.

For further information call Wm Smith on 01833 694707 or visit www.williamsmith.co.uk

SignTrade wins golden opportunity to provide a sign of the times for Absolute Radio

SignTrade Letters Ltd has provided the signage for Absolute Radio, the newly rebranded radio station that was formerly Virgin Radio. The company made two signs, one external and one internal - a two metre-long sign which adorns the glamorous reception of the radio station's headquarters, in London's Golden Square. Both were produced with only a three-day turnaround and the signs feature in the television commercials for the new station.

SignTrade Letters is a family firm based in north London. It fabricates signs as well as producing moulded and flat-cut lettering.

Operations Manager Daniel

Oliver said: "We are thrilled to have been involved in the re-branding exercise for Absolute. SignTrade Letters is known for its ability to deliver high quality signage on time and to budget. For a prestigious operation such as Absolute, image is all-important and we are proud to have contributed in a small way to making the image sparkle."

SignTrade, a BSGA member, also produces moulded and flat-cut letters and can produce illuminated signs. All products are manufactured at its London factory.

For further information about all SignTrade Letters' products and prices, visit the website www.signtrade.co.uk or call 0500 456700.



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New flags for the Natural History Museum

A family run firm was selected by a world-renowned visitor attraction and centre of research to manufacture flags for use on its landmark buildings.

The Natural History Museum in London called upon the expertise of the team at Hampshire Flag Company to replace its old worn flags with two new Union flags and two bespoke flags featuring the Natural History Museum logo.

The three-yard flags will be flown continually from the top of the main building and from the earth galleries building, with the exception of the Union flag which complies with the schedule of hoisting flags from Government buildings.

Robert Carney, the Security Manager for the Museum said, "The Natural History Museum is one of the capital's most visited attractions and is an extremely iconic building. Flags have always been flown from its towers and it's wonderful to see new additions in place.

"Hampshire Flag was recommended to us and we are delighted with the quality and finishing of the flags, and the customer service we received, and we will certainly call upon its services in the future," said Robert.

The museum, which opened in the 1880s, is home to over 70 million specimens, from meteorites to dinosaur bones.

Graham Wilkinson, Managing Director of the multi award-winning company based in Waterlooville, Hampshire said, "It's great to be selected to supply flags for such an important and internationally-respected institution.

"Our client base is always varied, interesting and prestigious and working for the Natural History Museum has been a real privilege," added Graham.

Hampshire Flag's team of 18 supplies flags, PVC banners, event display systems and flagpoles to individuals, businesses and events locally, nationally and globally.

The company also provides on-going backing for various charity challenges and expeditions including environmentalist and swimmer Lewis Pugh,



the Homeless World Cup, Portsmouth Festivities and Keith White's expedition to sail solo across the Atlantic with only one hand.

High-profile clients include Portsmouth Football Club, BBC, Channel 4, IBM and British Airways and it also has a sales office in Dundee, Scotland.

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PROJECT *News*



View of the Westfield Shopping Centre.

Stocksigns delivers for stylish shopping experience and new tube station

Leading signage manufacturer Stocksigns has recently completed more prestigious projects in the capital.

Most recently is a signage package for the brand new Westfield shopping centre. Situated in the heart of West London, the new centre is the latest flagship shopping centre by the development giant, The Westfield Group.

The high profile opening launch included a speech from London Mayor Boris Johnson and appearances by several famous people from the entertainment world. Extremely tight deadlines were crucial to completing the project on schedule and Stocksigns firmly believes it is one of just a few companies with the manufacturing capabilities to produce the high volume of signs required in such short lead times.

"Stocksigns' fast turnaround ensured there was no delay in the opening of the centre, which had already attracted a huge amount of media attention," said Katie Chipperfield, Stocksigns' Co-ordinator for the project.

Stocksigns provided more than 4000 Health and Safety signs as well as general signage for the vast complex, which boasts 280 shops plus 47 restaurants and bars over 1.6 million square feet (150, 000sq.m.).

Westfield London is located approximately three miles from Marble Arch and serves an extensive trade area including high-income suburbs such as Kensington, Holland Park and Notting Hill.

As part of the Westfield development, £170 million was invested in public transport improvements and as a London Underground (LU) approved long-standing manufacturer of vitreous enamel signs for Underground stations, Stocksigns was also involved with these improvements.

The company undertook sign projects for Underground stations serving the shopping centre including the refurbished Shepherd's Bush Station and the brand new Wood Lane Station.

Stocksigns, incorporating Burnham Signs, completed work for the new Wood Lane station on the Hammersmith & City Line, which has now opened. Stocksigns was contracted by Costain plc to deliver the signage package at the station, opposite BBC Television Centre, in Shepherd's Bush. The project was completed on schedule in October and is part essential work to provide for London's growing transport needs now, and in the future.

The signage package included vitreous enamel primary, supplementary and door signs including the iconic roundel signs pictured.

"Being involved with Costain, the main contractors, and Ian Ritchie, the architect, right from the beginning of the project allowed Stocksigns to plan the manufacture of the signs and manage the complicated installation with accuracy allowing for demand changes as the project developed," said Roger Eke, Stocksigns Project Manager.

Wood Lane is the first new station to be built on an existing line (not on a new line or extension) for more than 70 years and brings the number of stations on the Hammersmith & City line to 29. A tube station previously occupying the site was known as Uxbridge Road station closed in October 1940. These days, nearly 46 million people travel each year on the Hammersmith & City line with 149,405 travelling on weekdays. It has been predicted that as many as 6,665 people will use the new Wood Lane station between noon and 3pm on Saturdays now the nearby Westfield London shopping centre has opened.

For further information about Westfield London shopping centre, go to www.westfield.com/london Details regarding TfL and the new Wood Lane Station is available at www.tfl.gov.uk/corporate/media/newscentre/10069.aspx

To find out more about Stocksigns full range of products and services, visit www.stocksigns.co.uk



Stocksigns undertook sign projects for various Underground stations including the brand new Wood Lane Station.



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EPS uses HP technology to print giant replica of York Minister window

HP have announced that Sign and Display printer Electronic Print Services (EPS) has produced a life-sized banner of The Great East Window at York Minster on its HP Designjet 10000 Printer.

The Great East Window is among the world's largest medieval windows and is being removed from York Minster for conservation work, which may last for up to 15 years.

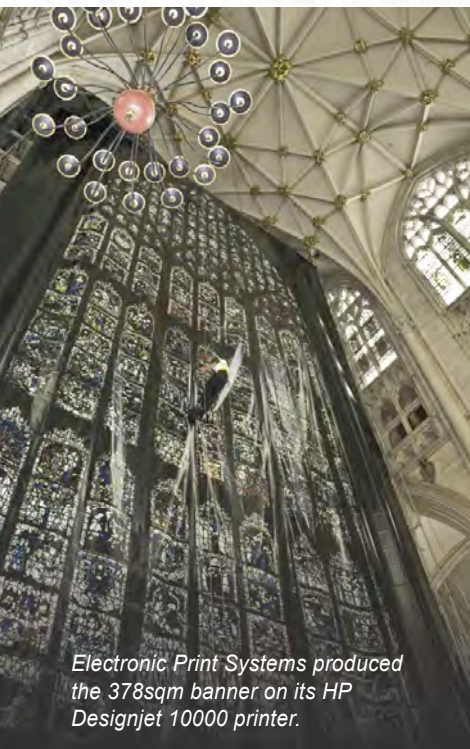
The 378sqm banner was printed using the HP Designjet 10000 printer, a versatile device that can print on a wide range of media including paper, self-adhesive vinyl, banner scrim, films and fabrics. The Great East Window was printed on epiflex, a non-mesh substrate.

"Producing a high-quality banner of the Great East Window was a challenge that we believe could only have been completed using HP's digital printing technology," said Steve Farley, managing director, Electronic Print Services. "Due to the size of the project, the optimum quality of print needed to accurately reproduce the window and the difficulty of getting the ink to adhere to the substrate, we were told that it couldn't be done. However, our HP Designjet 10000 coped brilliantly and the final product far exceeded our customer's expectations."

The HP Designjet 10000 printer can print up to 264.2cm wide



The Great East Window is removed for conservation work and replaced by a life-sized banner.



Electronic Print Systems produced the 378sqm banner on its HP Designjet 10000 printer.

format graphics. In order to produce a banner that exactly matched the size of the window, which was printed at a high resolution, EPS split the artwork into 18 files for production. Each of the 18 images were then fabric moulded together to produce a single high-quality replica of the window.

The banner was produced using HP low-solvent pigmented inks, combining the quality and productivity benefits of solvent printing and high durability, with a more environmentally-responsible printing process.

"The Great East Window is an instantly recognisable feature of the Minster and attracts a lot of visitors, therefore accurate colour reproduction was a crucial part of the project," said Farley. "Using HP's low-solvent inks allowed us to successfully replicate the wide range of colours on the window, which has received a large amount of positive feedback."

EPS has been an HP customer for six years and operates its HP Designjet 10000 Printer alongside two HP Designjet 5500 Printers to produce a range of signage, posters, banners, backdrops, curtains and point of sale (POS) collateral for its customers and has been using its HP Designjet technology to move into the fine art market.

For further information visit www.hp.com



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Pyramid Visuals put to the test again by The Gadget Show

Pyramid Visuals, an innovative digital printing firm, was approached by Channel Five's 'The Gadget Show' four years ago to undertake an experiment of vast proportions. Together, Pyramid and The Gadget Show compared the difference in picture quality of the traditional professional quality film camera and the up-to-the-minute digital cameras, which were taking the market by storm. Now, four years on, digital camera technology was again put to the test with Pyramid Visuals' state of the art super wide digital printers and expert team.

Pyramid, well known for exceptional quality building wraps, exhibition stands, direct to media and large format digital printing, moved into the digital print market five years ago and is growing year on year - this year moving forward into the short run, point of sale market. As a result of this reputation, The Gadget Show trusted the Pyramid team to produce super scaled photo image prints of 17 metres high x 10 metres wide.

The Gadget Show presenters, Suzi and Jon, were photographed in a studio using both cameras. The film negatives and memory chip were then handed to Pyramid Visuals to produce the super scaled banner poster prints. The Pyramid graphics team transformed the film image into an electronic format using a drum scanner, to demonstrate the full capability of the traditional camera and get the best printing results possible.

The images from the two cameras were sent from the Apple Mac to the Rip Station where they were then scaled to their final 17 metre x 10 metre size and split into four separate files for each of the four colour processes: Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Black (CMYK).

Once ripped the images were ready to print on the massive HP Scitex XL 5 metre super-wide digital print machine, built on the accomplishments of the market leading Scitex XL Jet, which has become synonymous with quality and productivity.



This digital printer delivers an impressive output of 85 square metres of digital print per hour, which ensures its position as a leading super-wide format printer.

Pyramid selected fire retardant mesh material for this project, which is specially designed for large scale banners, building wraps and scaffolding covers. This type of printing has an 18 month warranty to resist against colour fading as a result of UV exposure, cracking, shrinking and tearing under normal conditions.

Using the market leading printers, it took just five hours to print the 340 square metre mesh posters. The rolls of print were then handed to the Pyramid Visuals specialist finishing team to weld the two parts of the posters together and re-enforce the edges with special webbing so that the large eyelets would carry the weight of 62kg super-size banner posters. The finishing was done on a 14 metre hot air Millerweld Master, one of the country's largest and fastest PVC welders.

Pyramid Visuals offer the complete package from conceptual design, printing, producing and finishing to the final installation of the product. Once completed the qualified installation rigging team took the banners to Millennium Point in Birmingham where they installed the large poster prints using a cherry picker.

Which camera proved its worth? In May 2004 the traditional film camera produced a much higher quality print definition than the digital camera which pixilated in such a large format. In 2008 with the development of digital camera technology and a huge increase in megapixels, the digital camera produced a superior print with softer skin tones and deeper blacks.

Due to the TV exposure Pyramid Visuals has picked up two new printing contracts. As a result we are now recruiting for a number of full time production positions. Please e-mail CV's to scott@pyramiddigital.co.uk

If you would like to know more about Pyramid Visuals and the products and services they offer visit the website www.pyramidvisuals.co.uk or email info@pyramidvisuals.co.uk to find out how they can help you.



The images were printed on the massive HP Scitex XL 5 metre super-wide digital print machine.

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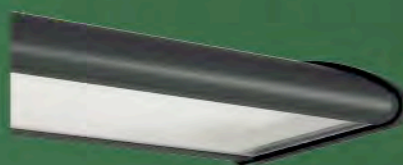
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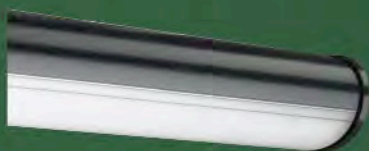
Does it include 90% efficient mirror anodised reflectors?

Has it got 4 way adjustable quick fit brackets with no need to remove end caps?

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- They do not flicker or buzz, they contain no harmful mercury so therefore do not incur any WEE charges.
- They consume just 3w per linear foot (305 mm) with a lifespan of up to 50,000 hours, complete with 3 years warranty.

The value of an ABC audit for Sign & Digital UK

Sign & Digital UK is the leading trade show for the UK visual communications industry. Sign & Digital UK maintains its commitment to an ABC audited status as it moves into 2009 – a status that has been maintained for many years now.

"An excellent relationship between an organiser and their exhibitors is perhaps the most fundamental part of putting on a successful trade show", comments Alan Caddick, marketing manager at Sign & Digital UK. "And as we all know, key to a fruitful relationship is trust.

Exhibitors trust us to be able to deliver the quantity and quality of visitors to the show, and over the last 21 years Sign & Digital UK has consistently delivered on this trust."

As an ABC audited event, Sign & Digital UK offers exhibitors unrivalled confidence in its ability to attract visitors, as the confirmed 2008 visitor figures of 9,048* clearly demonstrate.

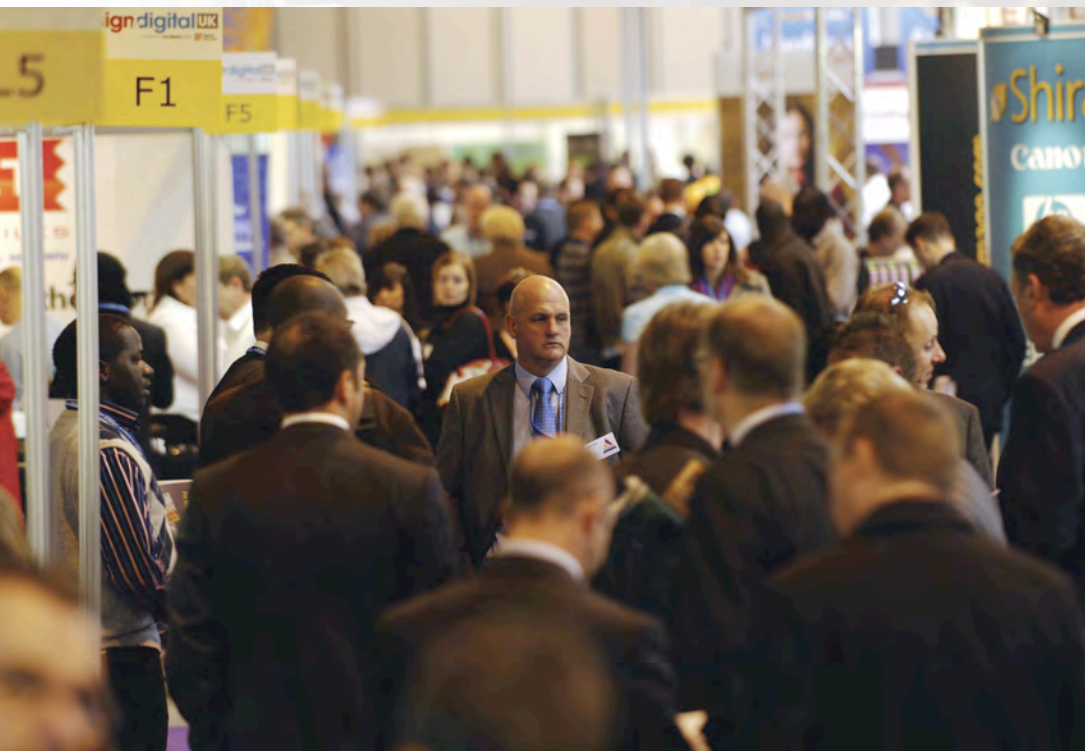
Jan Pitt, director of exhibitions, ABC, comments: "We are delighted that Sign and Digital UK is committed to independent audits of their events from ABC. In doing so they are providing independent, transparent and trusted figures. In today's current market conditions, it is absolutely vital that organisers can provide succinct visitor data to exhibitors."

As the economic climate continues to put pressure on businesses across all industries, it becomes even more important that you make the very most of every expenditure, and that includes trade shows.

With six months to go until the show, demand for space is at record levels, with over 80% of stand space already booked. Contact the Sign & Digital UK team now to discuss your business' requirements.

*ABC audited visitor figures comprise 7,645 registered visitors, and 1,403 others made up of exhibitors, VIP's, press and others.

For further information on exhibiting visit the website www.signanddigitaluk.com or email signanddigitaluk@fav-house.com



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| 3mm | 0.62 | 0.80 | 0.92 | 1.18 | 1.40 | 1.80 | 2.30 | 3.15 | 4.30 | 6.40 | 8.25 | 9.50 | 11.50 | 35.50 | 44.50 | | |
| 5mm | 0.85 | 0.96 | 1.21 | 1.45 | 1.91 | 2.29 | 2.98 | 4.35 | 6.08 | 8.81 | 11.18 | 13.88 | 17.04 | 34.73 | 61.37 | | |
| 10mm | 1.67 | 1.90 | 2.47 | 3.05 | 4.09 | 4.97 | 6.51 | 9.60 | 13.61 | 16.17 | 18.59 | 26.24 | 31.24 | 63.76 | 120.30 | | |

| Foam PVC (10mm & 19mm in white only) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | NO MINIMUM ORDER FEE | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------------|-------|--|--|
| C/HEIGHT mm | 50 | 75 | 100 | 125 | 150 | 175 | 200 | 250 | 300 | 375 | 450 | 500 | 600 | 900 | 1200 | | |
| 3mm | 0.45 | 0.52 | 0.84 | 1.03 | 1.10 | 1.25 | 1.55 | 1.97 | 2.90 | 3.55 | 4.32 | 5.40 | 6.65 | 12.83 | 18.37 | | |
| 5mm | 0.70 | 0.83 | 1.00 | 1.19 | 1.49 | 1.71 | 2.27 | 3.31 | 4.51 | 6.70 | 8.75 | 10.49 | 13.15 | 25.13 | 38.20 | | |
| 10mm | 1.33 | 1.49 | 1.73 | 1.94 | 2.42 | 2.76 | 3.51 | 5.03 | 6.94 | 10.24 | 12.27 | 14.55 | 17.06 | 29.06 | 41.78 | | |
| 19mm | 1.49 | 1.73 | 2.14 | 2.56 | 3.25 | 3.92 | 5.06 | 7.45 | 10.36 | 13.79 | 18.04 | 22.71 | 28.31 | 50.00 | 80.00 | | |

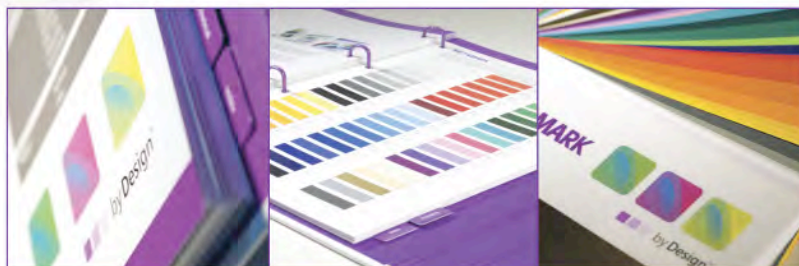
| Aluminium Composite Dibond/Alupanel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | NO MINIMUM ORDER FEE | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------------|-------|--|--|
| C/HEIGHT mm | 50 | 75 | 100 | 125 | 150 | 175 | 200 | 250 | 300 | 375 | 450 | 500 | 600 | 900 | 1200 | | |
| 3mm | 1.08 | 1.24 | 1.49 | 1.73 | 2.25 | 2.61 | 3.34 | 4.87 | 6.76 | 10.12 | 12.80 | 15.70 | 18.95 | 32.69 | 58.96 | | |
| 4mm Mirror | 2.04 | 2.36 | 2.70 | 3.19 | 4.12 | 4.84 | 6.19 | 9.00 | 12.30 | 16.33 | 20.74 | 24.20 | 31.37 | 45.51 | 88.91 | | |
| 3mm Brushed | 1.42 | 1.63 | 1.89 | 2.18 | 2.78 | 3.24 | 4.12 | 5.96 | 8.31 | 11.72 | 13.04 | 15.10 | 19.45 | 34.79 | 58.52 | | |

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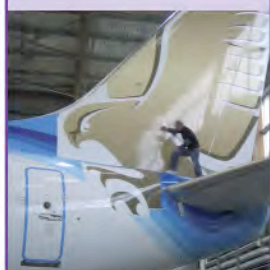
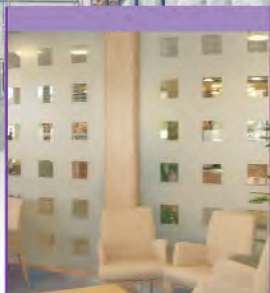
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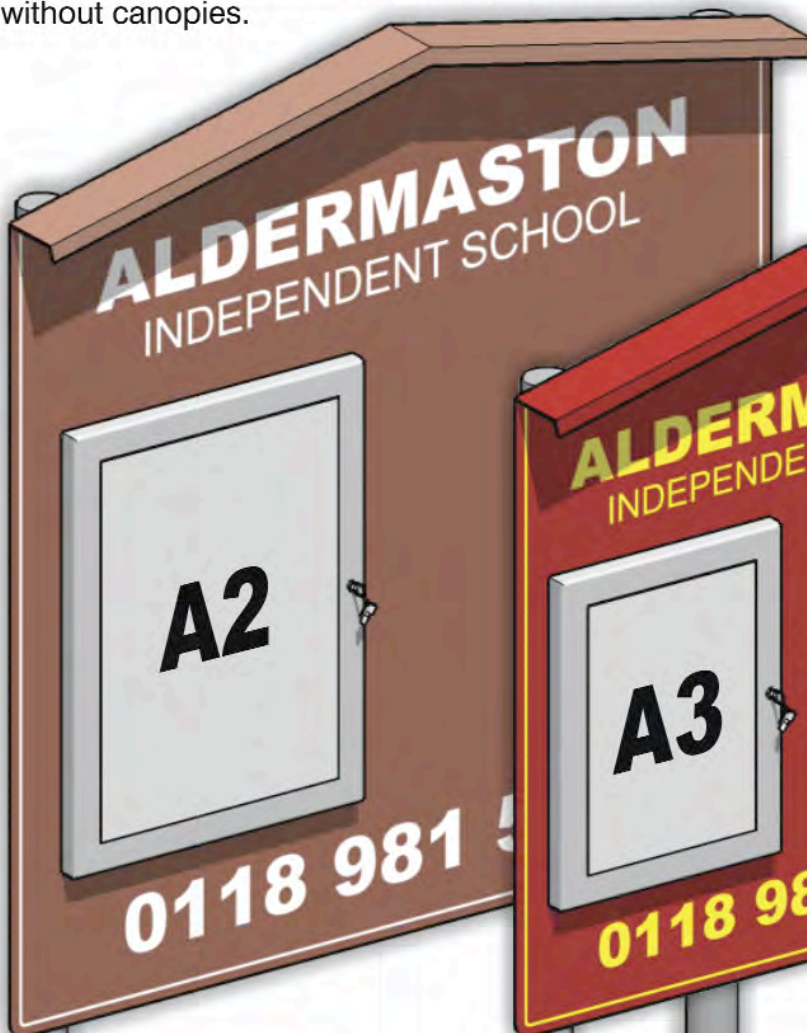
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Have a look now and watch out for further interactive developments to help you advance your business.

Huge recycling savings for Allsignsgroup

If environmental concerns alone aren't inspiration enough to recycle, it might be worth considering the financial benefits. The Allsignsgroup of London has recently implemented the R3 Recycling System from the Robert Horne Group with great success.

All Signs Group has provided signage and graphic solutions since 1962. Today the company has grown into one of London's most technologically advanced graphics and event suppliers, employing more than 100 staff from its base in South West London, and supplying to a European wide client base.

All Signs' portfolio of work includes hoardings, display graphics, installations, illuminations, exhibitions to building wraps. The company has established an enviable list of blue chip clients including Taylor Wimpey, Barratt Homes, Berkeley Homes, Crest Nicholson and Nokia.

The R3 Recycling Scheme (recover, recycle and reuse) was launched by the Robert Horne Group at Sign UK in April last year to alleviate the problem of waste disposal for signmakers and is unique in the sign industry, being the very first corporate solution to the problem of recycling rigid substrates. The new service is based on the simple principle of the company delivering new, more environmentally friendly sign and display products and taking away a customer's waste sign and display products for recycling.

Prior to the introduction of the R3 scheme by All Signs Group, waste was collected in 250kg 'Wheelie Bins' and it is estimated that 12 bins were going to landfill every week at a cost of £150 per tonne, resulting in an overall zero per cent recycling rate. With an annual waste bill in excess of £30,000 there were sound financial reasons along with environmental concerns to justify joining the R3 scheme. Prior to introducing the R3 recycling initiative very little of the company's 220 tonnes of commercial waste produced each year was recycled.

Metal cages are used to capture five main waste streams – Dibond, Acrylics, Foamex, General Packaging and Aluminium; each having their own clearly marked waste cage. The metal cages were coloured coded by All Signs Group to promote the importance of segregation at source and to make it easy for staff to separate their waste as required.

The first three waste streams, Dibond, Acrylic and Foamex are collected in the R3 Recycling Scheme, the general packaging waste is dealt with by the Council, and the larger aluminium waste goes to specialist metal recyclers.

Since the launch of the R3 Recycling Scheme at the end of June 2008 All Signs Group has achieved significant success collecting more than 12 tonnes of Dibond, nearly four tonnes of Foamex and significant amounts of acrylic, packaging materials and aluminium.

The R3 Recycling Scheme is resulting in major benefits both financially and environmentally for the All Signs Group. Landfill costs have been reduced from £2,500 a month to less than £1000 and the group is also now earning money from its waste products.



The All Signs Group now recycles more than 60 percent of its waste - and earns money for it.

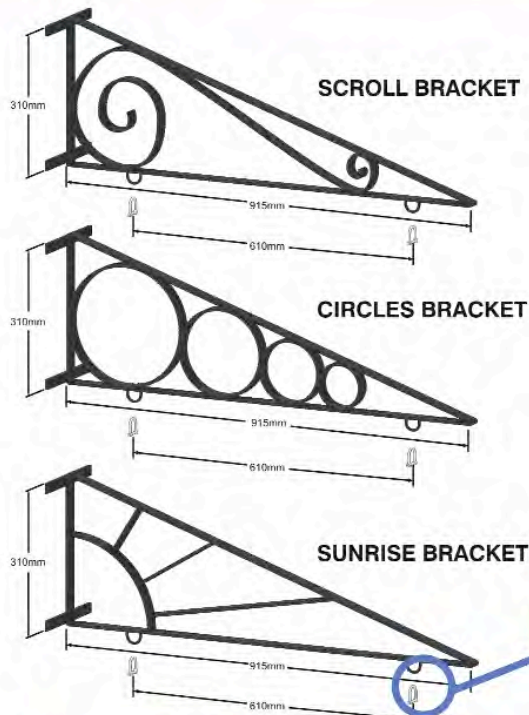
Clear, colour-coded signage helps make it easy to separate different waste types.

In addition, each year an estimated 130 tonnes of commercial waste will be diverted away from landfill and the recycling rate has risen from 0 per cent to more than 60 per cent.

Mike Freely, Managing Director for All Signs Group enthused: "I am very impressed with the R3 Recycling Scheme; we are making significant savings as a company when you look for example at the potential saving of £18k per annum we could make just by reducing our landfill costs alone plus of course we are reducing the impact we are making as a company on the environment. Over the short space of time since implementation R3 has provided an impetus for a change in culture at All Signs Group that we are now aligning through our overall CSR strategy."

Go to www.allsignsgroup.com for details of the All Signs range of products and services.

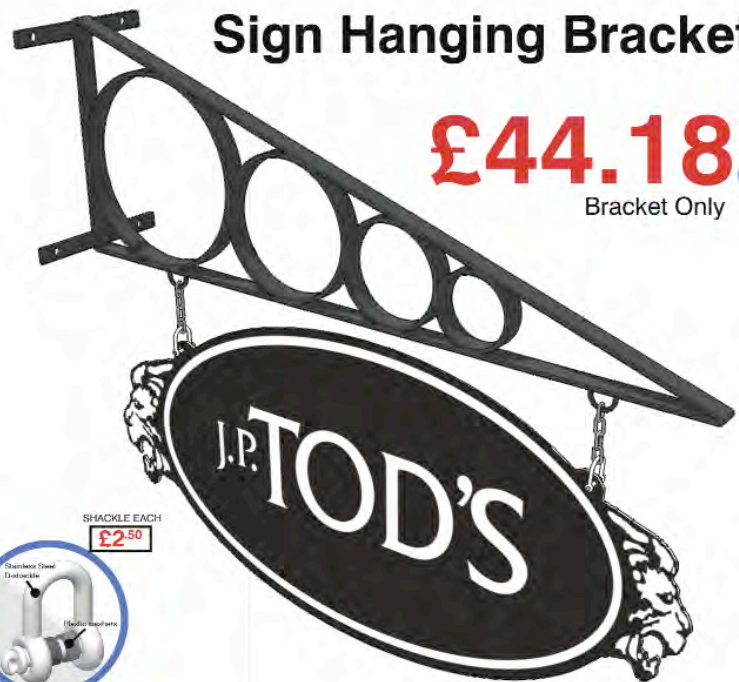




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VINYL *Logistics*

Intercoat's 9600 calendared vinyl steals the show at Vinyl Logistics open day

Vinyl Logistics held an open day at its premises in Newark, Nottinghamshire, and Martin Hinchliffe went along to report for Sign Update.

The main focus of the day was a demonstration of vehicle wrapping using not cast vinyl, but Intercoat's new, extra-soft 60µm, 5-7 year, polymeric calendared vinyl – the 9600 Vehicle Wrap series.

The expected comments about polymeric calendared vinyl, such as "it won't stay in the recesses" were made. In reply, Steve Stachini, Proprietor from Signtraining.com used the 9600 to wrap the inside of a steeply concave bowl, which he then passed around. The result was impressive with no signs of stress in the vinyl apparent to the naked eye.

To demonstrate just how easy Intercoat's 9600 Series is to use on a larger scale, Steve began wrapping a car on his own, with no assistance. While doing so, he said how he almost never uses a heat gun, except for major stressed areas and for finishing.



Simon Stanley from LSU, demonstrating the Roland Versacam VP300.



Demonstration of the extreme recesses that the Intercoat 9600 vinyl can be used in.



Wrapping round contours is no problem with the 9600 Vehicle Wrap.

He explained that the incorrect use of a heat gun is a common mistake; initially the heat works, but within 24 hours the vinyl can pop out of the recesses. Steve said he applies everything dry and uses heat from a hair dryer only when needed.

Despite it not being a cast vinyl, Steve showed how he was able to scrunch up the 9600 Vehicle Wrap, which when heated returned to its normal shape and he continued wrapping with it. Intercoat says this is possible because the 9600 has a particularly flexible composition that does not show any memory effect.

Unusually, Steve prefers to use his naked hands rather than gloves when wrapping and allows his hands to touch the back of the vinyl, but pointed out that he knows people who cannot vehicle-wrap this way because of naturally oily or sweaty hands.

Another advantage in using Intercoat's 9600 Series is that it doesn't bubble. The mosaic structured channelling system in its adhesive means air disperses easily, enabling a hand to be used for large areas and there's less need for a squeegee.

Another highlight at Vinyl Logistics' open day was Simon Stanley, Managing Director from LSU and Rob Golemiowski, Sales Manager at Roland, who had set up a Roland VersaCAMM VP-300 for demonstration.

LSU is a distributor of an array of signage equipment and sign making supplies and when asked why they had chosen the VP-300, Simon replied: "This is one of the most versatile print and cut systems on the market, and a great entry level machine". He explained how Roland offers great support, adding: "The overall cost of ownership really is astoundingly low".

Bright Plate Ltd used materials from Vinyl Logistics to create a Bright Plate registration plate, tastefully lit up with white LEDs. John Openshaw, Director at Bright Plate, explained that in a huge market where people can spend a fortune on a registration number, the LEDs help Bright Plates stand out from the crowd.

To read Steve's review of Intercoat's 9600 Vehicle Wrap series, go to www.signtraining.com and click on the bar bottom left of page. Visit www.vinyllogistics.co.uk or telephone 01636 613222 for more information on Vinyl Logistics and the range of Intercoat products.



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Machinery for perfect production in plastics

AF Acryl has launched an updated model of its popular Diamond Edge Polisher.

The new model, AF 110-45, is both more economical, saving some 1.7kW/hr, and quieter in operation than its predecessor. A smart new design also makes it visually attractive.

AF Acryl's Diamond Edge Polisher is supplied as an inclusive package comprising machine, extraction unit and two high gloss cutters, with free UK delivery, installation, technical instruction and 12 month guarantee.

Ian Broxton, UK and Ireland Agent for AF Acryl, says: "This inclusive package means you don't get the machine and then find you have to buy extras, everything you need is there. Another big advantage is that the cutter heads belong to you and only you. They are uniquely marked, so when they go off to be sharpened, you get back your own cutter heads and not anyone else's."

AF Acryl has manufactured specialised machinery for the plastics industry from its headquarters in northern Germany for more than 20 years. Design and development of its machinery is based on a sound knowledge of machine building gained from many years' experience specific to production in the plastics industry. The company is particularly well established within the European Community but also sells worldwide.

In addition to the new Diamond Edge Polisher, AF Acryl has recently launched two new flame polishers, one for a single user and one for dual operation. The company also supplies heat benders/filament heaters (water and non-water cooled) in various sizes, router bits, PCD and carbide tools.

Ian became the UK and Ireland Agent for AF Acryl in the late 1990s, simply because he was so impressed by the build quality and attention to detail exemplified throughout the company's range.

Prior to that, Ian had run a business involved with large advertising contracts and often worked closely with the sign industry. He chose to retire early but soon after, put his experience to good use and thoroughly researched edge polishers and the market. While he was evaluating all the different equipment available, he came across AF Acryl.

Ian explains: "I was truly impressed by their machines. I only became Agent for AF Acryl because I really believe in them. I've retired once and am delighted to represent this company."



"One crucial factor is that all AF Acryl's machines are designed and built from experience in the plastics industry, for working with plastics. Sometimes you see woodwork machines being used in plastic fabrication; this doesn't give the best results or do the machine much good either. All AF Acryl equipment gives consistently excellent results and is very reliable; their machines very rarely even need to be serviced if looked after properly."

"Personal service is another priority. Ralph Siegmann, Director of AF Acryl, has massive knowledge and experience, and nothing leaves the factory without being personally checked and given the ok by him."

"We can joke about Teutonic efficiency but at AF Acryl it produces outstanding and robust machinery at very competitive prices," adds Ian.

To find out more, telephone 01727 841196 / 07836 768999, email ian@afacryl.de or go to www.afacryl.de/uk/index

Signbase celebrates 10 years of service with a 10% price reduction

With 2009 upon us Signbase UK Ltd can celebrate 10 years serving the trade. As John Valentine states, 'With such a milestone anniversary it seemed a good time to remind the trade about where our expertise lies.' Signbase have continued to focus on three main areas of manufacturing, "It's simple really, we excel in flexface box manufacture, digital printing and dual case boxes, and of course we offer a nationwide installation service."

By focusing on these areas, Signbase offer the trade one company to approach when dealing with either one off requirements or nationwide roll outs for major retail customers. "We have a complimentary product offering, if you need a flexface box we print the skin as well, if you require additional digitally printing i.e. banners or panels, we can print this either on our flat bed or roll fed machines, and of course to complete the service we will install."

To celebrate the anniversary, Signbase will be discounting 10% from its standard price list on quotations issued in January and February. Now is the perfect time for the trade to (re)discover Signbase on 01773 535 356 or sales@signbaseuk.com



Illuminated Flexface signage.

Survival of the fittest

Stuart Bickley, Managing Director of Kestrel Signs Midlands Ltd, gave us his thoughts about recession in Soapbox, Issue 106 (page 90); now the bite is really on, he updates us.

Here at Kestrel, now operating under our new branding of KSUK, we have made considerable changes in order to position ourselves ready for the growing impact of recession, although the squeeze has been on for some time.

The credit crunch was the final hammer blow to a set of circumstances already out of control with material prices, fuel and every other cost rising out of all reality.

Any business that operates on very lean profits will not survive. Where you buy, what you purchase, getting best value on top quality products with best turnaround will remain to be what your customers are looking for – and that's always been our focus at KSUK. There's still plenty of business in the UK and we plan to survive the recession by being a leaner, faster, and even more competitive trade supplier.

The benefits of buying from UK companies cannot be ignored; prices are lower, quality is maintained, and you get a quicker response. We include the latest improvements on our products and services to ensure our customers get real value for money.

Money management is the name of the game, not just the amount of business that you do. Signmakers need to tighten credit with end users and get paid on completion where possible. Do not be afraid to ask, you are not a bank and money lending is their job not yours. Paying suppliers quickly can raise your bottom line and improve their service to you as well as attracting even better prices at the point of purchase. Use your skills and your customers will not push you to fall back on price, a good supplier will assist you in these situations.

KSUK is already showing improving figures set against the reduction in UK business and also has a rise in orders from Ireland Russia, Poland, UAE, and South Africa. The reduction in the value of the pound is raising export sales and interest abroad in UK products assists all home businesses and benefits the sign making industry.

Details of the KSUK range is available at the website www.kestrelsigns.com or by telephoning 0121 783 0779.



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MIDDLESEX *Signmakers*

Signs and displays for any occasion from Signs Express (Twickenham)

Signs Express (Twickenham) opened its doors for business in Summer 2003. The company operates from specially fitted 2400 sq.ft. premises near Twickenham Green in a small industrial estate with plenty of customer parking.

The company provides expert advice and professional signage services to numerous clients, ranging from small shops to large multi-national companies, works with local authorities and associated companies, and is on their list of approved suppliers. Signs Express' showroom and production facility in Twickenham are open to the general public and visits by customers are welcome. Most visitors are pleasantly surprised by the clean, well laid out facilities, frequently commenting "not quite the typical sign company interior".

As part of a franchise business with more than 80 centres nationwide, Signs Express (Twickenham) is able to provide services across the UK. The business model means that a lot of time is not spent travelling to different sites, the work is outsourced to the nearest centre. This reduces the lead time for projects and also makes the business more cost effective, which in turn benefits customers.

All production staff are multi-skilled. They are all able to use the design software, production machinery including the digital printers, prepare and fit vinyl graphics to a variety of substrates and carry out installation work. For larger projects the company has a team of specialist installers who are qualified and experienced in working at height with larger signs. Training staff in all aspects of signmaking gives Signs Express (Twickenham) flexibility in production and ensures that work progresses through it more smoothly. All staff take pride in meeting customer deadlines, are customer facing and able to offer helpful advice and updates throughout a project, both at a customer's site and in production.



As well as focussing on employing the right staff, Signs Express (Twickenham) is particularly selective about which suppliers are used. The cheapest is not always the best and its suppliers are vetted by Signs Express Head Office to ensure that they are reliable and providing good quality materials at reasonable prices. These benefits can then be passed on to customers.

Many of Signs Express (Twickenham)'s customers come via referrals, although specific markets are targeted via carefully planned marketing campaigns. Staff maintain regular contact with its customer base via telephone and e-shot technology developed by Head Office and this contributes to a high rate of customer retention. Its website is also a very important marketing tool and increasingly brings in new leads. Signs Express (Twickenham) personnel do their utmost to ensure they provide an excellent service to all clients, regardless of the project size. They also work with many design and marketing agencies to deliver high quality, professional signage solutions to their clients.

Signs Express (Twickenham) specialises in large format digital prints, vehicle graphics, interior and exterior signage, window graphics, exhibition and display graphics, labels and stickers and also DDA compliant Health and Safety signage. The business has invested in the latest digital printing technology and currently have two wide-format Mimaki JV3 printers, a wide-format heated laminator and a Mimaki laser-guided plotter-cutter, as well as a Gerber FastTrack 1300 plotter-cutter. Designs are generally produced using Adobe Illustrator or Omega Composer, but CorelDraw files are also supported. All correspondence and artwork files are stored centrally so they can be accessed easily whenever a new query or repeat order arises.

The company works closely with the local community and is a member of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce. For the past three years it has proudly sponsored the Celebration of Achievement Awards organised by the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. These reward children at local schools who have made outstanding achievements against all odds and this year's awards ceremony was attended by more than 250 people including the local Mayor and Councillors.

Clients of Signs Express (Twickenham) include Twickenham Rugby Stadium, Carillion, Digital TV Group, Post Office, The Childcare Corporation, McDonalds, Mears Group, London Borough of Richmond, Elmbridge Borough Council, My Home Systems, Mercedes-Benz, Audi, Volkswagen, Hyundai, Suzuki, Marvin Architectural, Corporation of London, Shooting Star Children's Hospice, Post Office, Your Move, Bairstow Eves, Richmond Youth Partnership, Hillsong Church, Masterlease UK.



Recently the business worked with Elmbridge Borough Council to design a new corporate look for its vehicle livery and these graphics are now being fitted as the fleet of vehicles is changed. The graphics were designed to fit across a broad range of different vehicles, from small/medium size vans to community transport vehicles and flat-bed lorries.



Signs Express (Twickenham) was involved with the national re-branding of Mouchel Parkman offices, which had to be done within guidelines set by the client. All the work was co-ordinated by Signs Express Head Office in Norwich and the project was completed successfully within timescales and budget specified.

The Twickenham branch of Signs Express also completed various signage at a new dental practice, Millharbour Dentistry in London Docklands, which involved digitally printed window graphics across the large glass panels overlooking the waterfront, reception sign and door signs with changeable inserts.



Find out more by telephoning 020 8893 3221 or go to www.signsexpress.co.uk and click on Centre Finder.



Three generations in the trade at Fabricut

With three generations of Newmans working at About Signs, it's very much a family business, and after nearly 20 years in the industry, and forming Fabricut, the trade wing three years ago, the company is far from provincial; supplying the trade all over the UK and into Europe.

After moving to a smart 6,000 sq.ft. purpose-designed premises in Feltham in 2006, Fabricut was able to forge ahead, investing in the latest machinery and equipment, enabling it to offer the sign trade with an unrivalled service.

Paul told Sign Update "One of the most important things when servicing the trade is a quick turnaround; 24 to 48 hours is standard in this industry, so good staff with versatile skills and the flexibility to do overtime is of key importance."

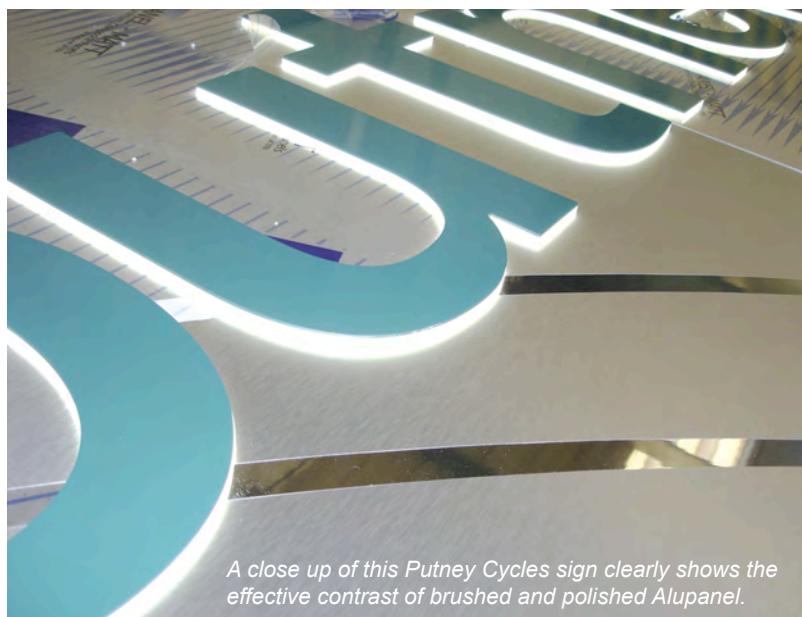
The right equipment is just as important and Fabricut's include the latest CNC routers, flame and diamond polishers, as well as the usual printers, plotters and laminating machinery needed for day to day sign production. In addition, Fabricut is proud to be one of the few trade suppliers that offer an in house built-up letter service using the talents of a master craftsman with 30 years experience, and who produces work that is second to none.

Fabricut is also proud of the range of products and quality service it can offer, and has received many testimonials that back up the company's claims of being a leading supplier to the sign trade.

"We are constantly designing and testing new ways with materials so that we can offer as many alternatives as possible to our clients. We send regular newsletters and offers to keep everyone up to speed with the latest developments," says Paul.

Fabricut and About Signs can boast many high profile pieces of work. The latest is a plaque for the RSA Academy in Tipton, West Midlands, which was unveiled by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh in November 2008. The etched and filled brass plaque is inset flush in a larger panel of aluminium, so it appears all as one piece on the wall. The main panel was constructed from a 6mm aluminium base sheet with a 3mm aluminium sheet bonded on top of this. The 3mm sheet has a hole cut into it so that the brass plaque fits flush into it.

.....continued on page 78



A close up of this Putney Cycles sign clearly shows the effective contrast of brushed and polished Alupanel.

MIDDLESEX *Signmakers*

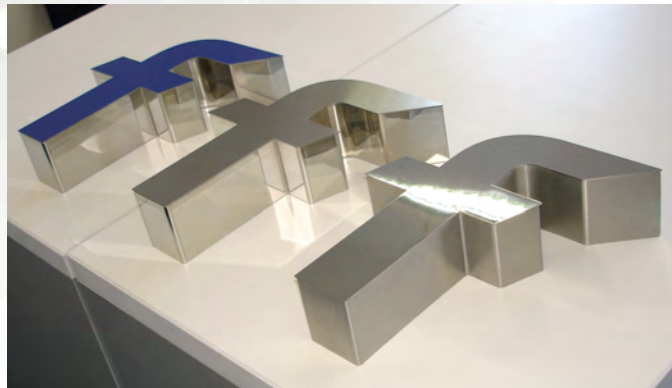
Three generations in the trade at Fabricut

.....continued from page 77

Paul explained that water jet cutting rather than CNC was used to cut the hole, in order to achieve perfectly square corners in preference to rounded ones. The 3mm panel was spray painted and stove enamelled (cured) in a low temperature oven. The panel was stepped off the wall with another gold coloured tray and spacers, bolted into the wall.

Paul continues: "They didn't want to clean the brass plaque on the panel because you get a chalky effect from the brass cleaner, which leaves a white green mark after a while. It's designed so that the school caretaker can easily unscrew the four brass caps by hand because they have a machined threaded back. The brass plaque can then be taken off, cleaned and put it back in, and the surrounding aluminium panel stays nice and clean.

"It took seven days to design, come up with a simple and effective way of fixing, and then make the plaque. We also had two installations to do – a temporary one at 6:30 in the morning ready for the press and the later official unveiling by the Duke of Edinburgh, then another the next day to relocate the plaque to its permanent position."



Just some examples of stainless steel built-up letters available from Fabricut. Left: vinyl faced top with polished sides, centre: brushed finish top with polished sides, right: polished top and brushed finish sides.

Two more prestigious pieces of the group's work can be seen at Stanford Bridge, Chelsea FC's ground; the lead for these was given via Interiors of Richmond. The company has also completed projects throughout Europe including an exhibition in Venice, Italy, and work for Gazprom International in Paris.

When Sign Update visited, one project the team was working on was for Putney Cycles. This sign has a Dibond back tray housing several T8 fluorescent tubes and gear trays. The front is a brushed Alupanel fret cut tray, with several curved lines running through it. These lines have been fret cut and replaced with polished Alupanel, inlaid flush with the rest of the panel, to create a stylish and eye-catching background. The letters are made from 10mm clear acrylic, faced with 3mm stove enamelled aluminium, and pushed through the fret cut tray. The clear acrylic lets light through to reflect off the aluminium and creates a halo effect.

In recognition of the importance of protecting the environment, the Group is considering ways to reduce its carbon footprint, such as recycling more of their materials and improving energy usage.

For further information on Fabricut's trade service go to www.fabricut.co.uk or telephone 0208 751 7250.



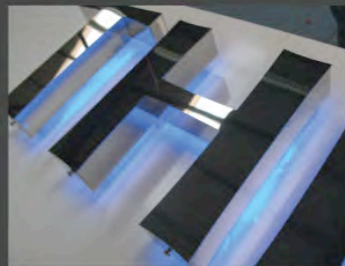
HRH The Duke of Edinburgh at the RSA Academy, unveiling a plaque made by Fabricut.



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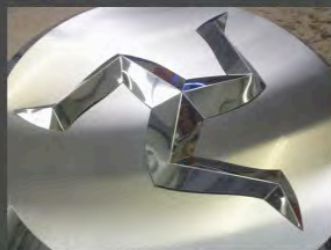
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Sign & Digital UK confirms 2009 free Adobe adventure

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Returning to Sign & Digital UK 2009 after yet another packed out show in 2008 is the Adobe Theatre.

The Adobe Theatre is a series of exclusive workshops that have been created to offer Sign & Digital UK visitors a very special and rare opportunity to see an Adobe expert present the full capabilities and features of Adobe's new Creative Suite 4.

Sign & Digital UK's Adobe Theatre will include in depth sessions that focus individually on different aspects and features within the Adobe Creative Suite 4 package. The popularity of these seminars can be left in little doubt following 'standing room only' sessions throughout the 2008 show.

The Adobe Theatre is repeated on each day of the show between the 28th and 30th of April, in a bid to open the workshops up to the maximum number of visitors possible.

Terry Steeley of Iridius will be hosting workshops on the various Adobe CS4 packages available, these include Adobe Bridge, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Indesign, Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Acrobat 9.0.

On display is Adobe Illustrator, the industry's favourite vector tool that comes with the latest and most powerful creative tools. Multiple artboards, Live Trace, Blob Brush, Share my Screen, live gradient transparency and the integration of Kuler are some of the features making this the best and most efficient Illustrator to date.

Also on show is the newest incarnation of Adobe's ever-popular Photoshop application.



This session will cover a variety of topics that will inspire designers, printers and photographers. Named 'The good, the bad and the ugly,' it certainly promises to showcase some of the best digital-imaging techniques and offer a fantastic Q&A opportunity.

Adobe Colour Management covers key issues such as choice of colour space, profiling of input and output devices and more much. This workshop is considered essential for photographers, designers, artworkers and production staff who rely on colour management on a day to basis.

Terry will also be giving a presentation on Adobe Acrobat 9.0. Boasting native Flash support, enhanced PDF pre-flighting, new PDFx standards, collaborative workflows and PDF portfolios. Acrobat 9.0 Professional is the most complete PDF solution ever for creative professionals designing for web and print.

An "Ask the Expert" feature concludes each day of presentations where attendees can gain invaluable information and insight about the packages by quite literally, asking the experts.

Terry comments, "This is a fantastic opportunity for designers and sign makers to use these workshops to gain real insight into the new software packages. With Apple Leopard being introduced last year, we have now had time to make the packages work seamlessly together, enhancing the experience of the user. Adobe CS4 is using the latest technology to help push the creative boundaries further than ever before."

Richard West, from Apple, will be running parallel seminars looking at the benefits and features of running Leopard, the operating system from Apple that offers features such as Time Machine, Mail, Spaces, Dashboard and MobileMe. Richard will also be presenting on Aperture 2.0, which delivers over 100 new features, including advanced image-processing, a streamlined interface, faster performance, and unprecedented Mac integration.

Alan Caddick, marketing manager for Sign & Digital UK comments, "The Adobe Theatre is a big attraction that allows visitors to the show unparalleled access to the newest version of the industry's leading software packages. The Adobe Theatre is packed out at every session, and the launch of Creative Suite 4 means that there is no better place than Sign & Digital UK for those looking to make the most of these new software applications."

For further information on visiting and exhibiting go to www.signanddigitaluk.com or email signanddigitaluk@fav-house.com.



2008 Adobe Workshop.

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28 - 30 April 2009, Halls 6-8, NEC Birmingham

sign&digital UK

screenprint The digital signage showcase

With preparations for next year's show well underway and the exhibitors below already signed up, Sign & Digital UK 2009 promises to be a big hit.

"The best show yet! A remarkable number of visitors to our stand so much so that we have sent an urgent message to the office for extra product guides. I didn't hesitate when asked to sign up for Sign & Digital UK 2009."

John Clements, Sales and Marketing Director, Boldscan Banners



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Roland DG (UK) increases commitment to industry training as Prism's corporate knowledge partner

Building on its commitment to support education in the graphic arts and sign making sectors, Roland DG, a leading provider of wide-format inkjet printers and printer/cutters, has joined the specialist imaging association, prism, as its corporate knowledge partner. Roland DG will work with prism, formerly called the Digital and Screen Printing Association (DSPA), to develop learning initiatives for association member companies and promote the digital and large format industry to new markets.

Roland DG Managing Director, Jerry Davies, says: "Training is essential if a company is going to get the most from its digital print equipment and should be regarded as an investment rather than a cost. Roland DG is

committed to developing industry skills, most clearly illustrated by the Roland Academy, which is Europe's largest dedicated training facility for the digital sign making sector. We look forward to sharing our experience in developing courses with prism. This partnership with prism is strategically important as it's a unique, specialist forum for debate and will allow Roland DG to share information and garner market intelligence from the association's 1,250 members and prospects."



Roland DG Managing Director
Jerry Davies.

Prism Business Manager, John Keith, says: "One of prism's principal aims is to promote the up-skilling of the industry. It's universally accepted that there will be challenging times ahead, so it's absolutely essential that companies develop their people to remain competitive and profitable. Roland DG is renowned for bringing leading wide format technologies to market. It has a pedigree in delivering relevant training to end users and promoting best practice through the Roland Academy, so will be a key knowledge resource for prism."



Prism Business Manager John Keith.

Prism President, Peter Kiddell is currently developing an e-learning digital printing course and will look for input from Roland DG during the coming months before its launch in the New Year. The course, which will be available to prism members, will include modules on the history of digital printing, machine types, print heads, inks, health and safety, the environment, colour, workflow and RIPs, maintaining quality and applications.

Roland DG will provide content to the learning section of prism's website, which will link directly to the Roland Academy's site. Under the partnership, the two organisations will also hold roundtables, seminars and conferences, offer technical advice and conduct market research.

Prism, whose heritage dates back to 1934 when it was formed as the Display Producers and Screen Printers Association, is a member of FESPA Digital Printing Europe and therefore has access to a global community of associations, printers and suppliers, to help better inform and support its UK community. FESPA member organisations include 28 separate European national associations, and six associates in Australia, China, Thailand, Japan and Korea.

For further information visit www.rolanddg.com



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From Ford to Fastsigns for Simon

Simon Rees is putting his extensive experience of car manufacturing to good use with the launch of his new business, Fastsigns. The new Centre is located in Minster Court, Valley Way, Swansea, and Simon already has work lined up, creating design graphics for three camper vans ready for a tour of exhibitions across the UK.

Fastsigns specialises in sign and graphics products including exhibition displays and corporate and retail signage. Simon researched the many options for owning a business and franchising seemed like a winning solution for a first time business owner. Thanks to its proven business concept, Fastsigns was the franchise of choice as it provides extensive training and a strong global support network.

Simon and his dynamic duo - Michael Davies, Graphic Designer and Claire D'Auria, Customer Services Representative are excited to show off the Centre.

Simon explains: "Once customers walk into Fastsigns they will understand what sets us apart. Our sales area showcases all the latest products and media on offer and our state of the art

design studio means our customers can sit down with our designer in comfort and discuss their needs."

The centre also features an indoor vehicle bay where graphics can be applied in a dry temperature controlled environment, so no need to cancel work due to rain!

Simon, Michael and Claire completed two weeks training at the Fastsigns International Headquarters in Dallas. Simon says of the experience: "The training facilities available to us as a Fastsigns franchisee are second to none. We were in awe of the set-up. The opportunity to get hands on experience with the latest industry technology was an incredible experience, it is a key element of what puts Fastsigns ahead of the competition."

Garth Allison, managing director of Fastsigns UK said: "Simon is full of enthusiasm and I'm confident that with his business experience, he will make his business a real success."

Simon and the team can be contacted on 01792 785070 or swansea@fastsigns.com.

More information is available at www.fastsigns.com/885



Fastsigns Swansea team.

Promota launches new show website

Promota, the trade association for the promotional merchandise industry, has launched a newly-designed show website ahead of the International Promota Show 2009, which provides essential information for exhibitors and visitors.

The new show website is now live and looks better than ever before, featuring regularly updated information, news and booking details.

The International Promota Show 2009 will run on 17 – 18 February 2009 in Hall 11 at Birmingham's NEC.

Members can log on to the new website to find out the latest information on what is in store for the two-day exhibition.

Rod Duncan, chairman of Promota, said: "The association was keen to develop the show website for 2009 to make it a more accessible tool for our members. There will be all the essential information including the show guide and venue details.

"A new latest news section is included on the website, so members are invited to send through their latest press stories to be uploaded. This is a great tool for both members and the press, as it is a way of letting others know about what a business is doing in the run-up to the show and what products are being showcased."

The International Promota Show 2009 will be the association's 20th and is already promising to be THE event in the trade calendar. Bookings are already up by 20 per cent on the same time last year with members from across the globe exhibiting the very latest products. Visitors are encouraged to come and see what is on offer and network with like-minded peers.

For more information on how you can exhibit or visit the show log on to the new International Promota Show 2009 website at www.show.promota.co.uk or call on 0845 371 4335.



Size:
750 x 500mm*
(*Image area)

Folding Swing Sign

This folding swing sign is easy to transport and store. Folds flat for easy storage. Manufactured from 25mm square tubing with 1.2mm zinc coated steel panel.

Available in 3 heights
1 metre high • 1.5 metre high
2 metre high



Bus Stop Sign

A useful sign for marking meeting points or giving direction. Suitable for indoor and outdoor use. Available with lightweight or located base (as shown).

Available in 2 sizes in any combination
635 x 457mm (A2)*
530 x 450mm*
(*Image area)

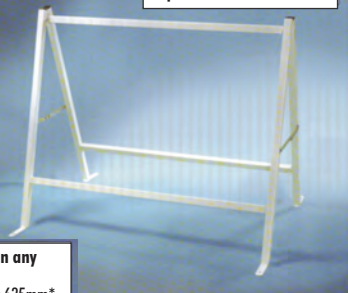


Handysign

This lightweight and easy to move 'A' board is manufactured in 1.2mm zinc coated steel.

- Powder coated in white as standard
- Integral carry handle

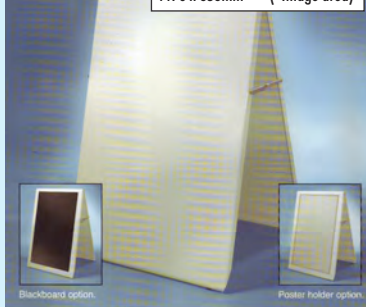
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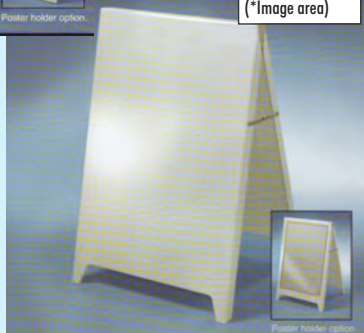
Available in 3 sizes in any combination
864 x 533mm* • 876 x 635mm*
1170 x 838mm* • (*Image area)



Pavement Sign

1.2mm zinc coated steel. White powder coated. Available in 3 sizes and 4 styles. i.e. Standard, poster, blackboard and poster blackboard.

Size:
915 x 610mm*
(*Image area)



Legged Pavement Sign

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British Sign and Graphics Association appoints SignElite

Earlier this month the British Sign and Graphics Association appointed SignElite as the associations' insurance broker. SignElite is a product designed especially for the sign and graphics industry and is created around the specific needs of individual businesses.

Albert Baxter, Director of the BSGA commented, "Given the commitment and support offered, to our members and the wider sign industry the BSGA felt it was appropriate to appoint SignElite as the association's broker, we have been impressed by the service and products provided by SignElite."

Steve Taylor, MD of Real Insurance Group and creator of the SignElite brand said, "Being appointed as the BSGA's broker proves that the brand is now viewed by the industry as a market leader. The product continues to grow with new features and benefits making it more flexible but specific to the needs of the sign industry."

SignElite

The product has grown rapidly since its launch, although originally intended for manufacturers and erectors the product has grown to include suppliers to the sector. The extended covers under the standard combined policy have proved to be of great benefit to suppliers and distributors and exceed many competing policies.

SignElite, unwritten by Norwich Union and other major UK insurers is a major brand of Real Insurance Brokers.

For further information contact Steve Taylor on 0845 241 8550 or visit www.signelite.co.uk

Icon's senior management successfully completes MBO of the company

Icon Display's senior management team has successfully completed the Management Buy-Out of the company from its parent organisation, CSS Stellar PLC. The MBO investor team is led by John Francis and Keith Goodwin, two of Icon's directors, and they are confident that this new ownership will allow the company to enhance its range of products and services for customers both in the UK and overseas.

John Francis, managing director of Icon, said; "This is an opportunity for Icon to take charge of its own destiny. We have a dedicated and professional team who have extensive knowledge and experience, and I believe that between us we can make a real difference to the projects we work on in the future."

The new management team will have far greater flexibility for investment and will be looking for new opportunities in both products

and services that will strengthen the company's offerings to both existing and prospective clients.

Originally founded in 1947 Icon has over 50 years of experience in signage and branding. From its headquarters in the south east of England it employs nearly 70 full time staff, and offers a full range of services including creative design, digital and screen printing and full advice and project management services across the company's range of signage solutions. This includes both permanent and temporary solutions at many major sporting events and venues, commercial property signage and exhibition, retail and broadcast applications.

Recently the company's work on international projects, has led to the establishment of offices in Berlin, Doha, Johannesburg, Shanghai and Toronto and plans are in place for additional new ventures further a field.

For further information call +44 (2) 08 269 6213

New signs blog is launched to inform and inspire

Signscape Systems has launched a blog on its website www.signscape.co.uk to share ideas, skills and information with signmakers and specifiers.

"Our blog is all about the exchange of views and ideas to inspire and be inspired," said Signscape's managing director Hamish Paterson. "It allows us to provide customers with a continuous feed of up-to-date, relevant information that will be helpful to them in their business" he adds.

The Signscape blog is completely interactive with the ability to post comments, questions and suggestions. Continually evolving, it will provide training/ information on a variety of topics in the form of step-by-step practical video guides for viewing or download, as well as items of general interest. It also contains all the latest company news and product developments, like the recently launched EcoVision solar powered noticeboard, and will become a showcase for customer work too.

In a more informal sense it shows the approachable nature of the company with the biographies and personal interests of the team contributing to the lively nature of the site.

The blog is updated regularly and has an RSS feature for those who wish to be alerted to new updates as soon as they happen.

The Signscape blog is located in the 'News and Blog' section of the company website at www.signscape.co.uk



Signscape Systems has just launched a blog on its website www.signscape.co.uk to share ideas, skills and information with signmakers and specifiers.



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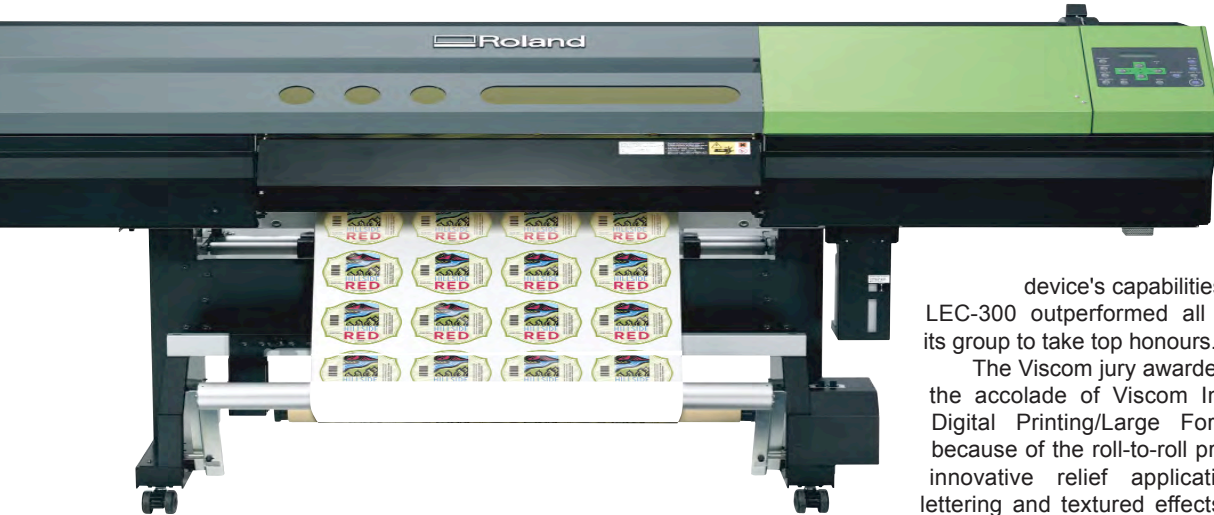
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AWARDS

Roland DG's VersaUV LEC-300 printer/cutter is a winner - twice over



Roland DG's new VersaUV LEC-300 inkjet printer/cutter wins two prestigious awards.

Roland DG's new VersaUV LEC-300 UV inkjet printer/cutter has won two recent industry awards. The 30" machine was named 2008 DPI Product of the Year in the Output Device Poster Category at the Speciality Graphic Imaging Association (SGIA) Expo in Atlanta, Georgia, USA; and just a week later was announced as the winner of the Viscom Innovation Award in the Digital Printing/Large Format Printing category at Viscom 2008, Frankfurt, Germany. The company's VersaWorks 3.0 RIP software also earned a DPI Partner Award in the Output Device Poster Category at SGIA for its role in producing the winning print.

Entries for the DPI Product of the Year competition were judged on the Expo show floor by a team of digital imaging professionals.

In the Output Device category, entrants were required to submit a test print produced from the nominated device with an image designed by SGIA to challenge the output

device's capabilities. Roland DG's VersaUV LEC-300 outperformed all competing products in its group to take top honours.

The Viscom jury awarded the VersaUV LEC-300 the accolade of Viscom Innovation Award in the Digital Printing/Large Format Printing category because of the roll-to-roll printer's ability to produce innovative relief applications such as Braille lettering and textured effects, by building up layers of clear gloss. The revolutionary new VersaUV LEC-300 is the industry's first wide-format UV inkjet printer/cutter and uses safe, low-heat LED lamps. The LEC-300 prints CMYK + white + clear gloss on a wide range of substrates including foils, metallic and synthetic papers, BOPP, PE, and PET film for unmatched colour, texture and dimension in its class.

At 30" wide, the LEC-300 is a highly versatile production tool that can be used for both short production runs and pre-press applications such as label proofs, packaging comps and prototypes. Clear coat adds remarkably rich special effects ranging from high-gloss finishes for area highlights to custom-textured effects such as faux leather and crocodile skin.

New Roland ECO-UV inks produce graphics that are easy to handle and can be stretched across both curved surfaces and sharp edges without cracking. The VersaUV comes with powerful and easy-to-use Roland VersaWorks 3.0 RIP software.

For further information visit www.rolanddg.com

James Gandy wins coveted 2008 innovator award

Another company that came out on top at the SGIA Expo in Atlanta was Gandinnovations™, manufacturer of grand-format UV flatbeds, UV roll-to-roll printers, solvent roll-to-roll printers and dye sublimation digital printers.

Industry expert James Gandy, President of Gandinnovations, was honoured for his contributions to the advancements in grand-format digital imaging as recipient of the coveted 2008 Innovator Award. The DPI Innovator Award recognises the creativity and ingenuity of specialty imagers who have advanced the digital imaging industry and community through innovation.

Veterans of the Grand Format printing industry, James and his brother Hary Gandy, Vice President of Worldwide Sales at Gandinnovations, remain "independent" entrepreneurs and operate one of the last privately-owned manufacturing companies in the business. The Gandy Brothers invest profits back into research and development.

Gandinnovations also received honours in the Output Device category; in the Grand Format (Solvent Ink) class with its 3324 Solvent Roll-to-Roll; and in the Textile class for its Jeti Aquajet.

For further information visit www.gandinnovations.com

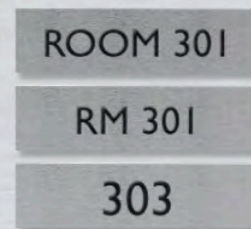
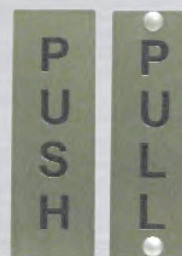


James Gandy, President of Gandinnovations (left) receiving the DPI Innovator Award.

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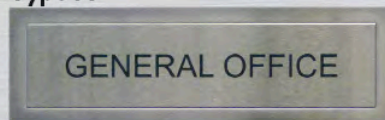


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Brushed Stainless

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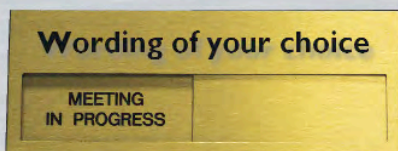
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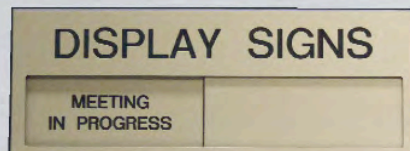


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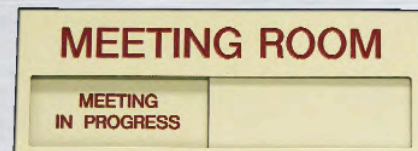
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Gold Laminate



ANY SIZE

Silver Laminate



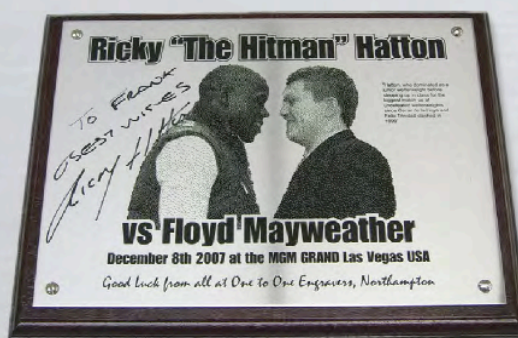
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White/Red Laminate

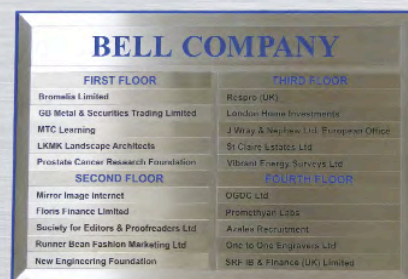
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In addition to various enhancements which bring out a high quality print of 1,440 dpi, the new JV33 series has increased print speed over the JV3. With its compact design and affordable price, the JV33 series is an attractive option for any shop. Mimaki's flagship product has established high standards which set it apart from the competition.

Awarded best 1.6m printer 2008 by European Digital Press

- **NEW** high speed print head.
- **1300mm & 1600mm** print widths
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- **Includes media take-up**
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FESPA Digital 2009 bookings already match total for 2008 event

With more than seven months to go until FESPA Digital Printing Europe 2009 (12th – 14th May, Amsterdam RAI), exhibitor bookings for FESPA's third European Digital event already match the total for the 2008 Digital event in Geneva, with many exhibitors significantly increasing their stand space.

The challenging economic climate is not reflected in exhibitor demand, which has far exceeded expectations, with over 12,200m² space already booked at the RAI. Enquiry levels are buoyant and FESPA is looking to further increase the exhibition space to accommodate strong demand.

Managing Director for FESPA Events, Frazer Chesterman comments: "We are thrilled with the response that we've had from exhibitors so far. Following the 2008 event, many expressed their satisfaction with the international spectrum of visitors, particularly from France, Italy, Iberia and German-speaking regions, as well as the decision-making authority of most visitors. We consistently strive to attract internationally diverse exhibitors and visitors, providing unparalleled networking and business opportunities. Both the inaugural event in 2006 and the 2008 event attracted around 13,000 visitors and we aim to draw similar numbers at next year's event."

Known for the value-adding features which make FESPA exhibitions such international events, FESPA is busily planning an exciting and comprehensive programme of knowledge-sharing activities and show highlights. The show will include a first-rate conference and Showcase Theatre programme, designed to inspire visitors and provide them with valuable business advice, helping them stay ahead of the competition. FESPA will also run its second Digital Textile Conference, following the resounding success of the 2008 Digital Textile Conference in Geneva. The FESPA Digital Print Awards will also be running for the third year in a row, recognising outstanding examples of innovation in digital wide-format printing across a broad spectrum of real-life applications. Entries can be submitted online via the dedicated FESPA Digital Print Awards web site www.fespadpa.com, or through the link on the FESPA web site at www.fespa.com.



Frazer Chesterman concludes: "Commercial wide format printers really cannot afford to miss our digital shows if they want to grow their businesses and stay ahead of the competition. In recent research undertaken by FESPA, 87% of respondents cited FESPA Digital Printing Europe 2009 as the one show they would attend in 2009. This is solid proof that FESPA has established a strong reputation for consistently providing exhibitors and visitors with real value and that, in tough economic times, attending the market-leading shows makes good business sense."

ISA Sign Expo 2009 emphasises role as premier show for sign industry supply chain

Registration is now open for the International Sign Association's premier event, the International Sign Expo, returning in 2009 to Las Vegas, Nevada, April 15-18. Each year, the International Sign Association's show brings together sign suppliers and distributors to exhibit sign industry products, services and technologies to a vast audience of sign manufacturers.

The enormous popularity of the ISA International Sign Expo mirrors the growth the sign industry itself has experienced over the last 60 years. The advent of digital print imaging has largely contributed to this expansion of the sign industry, which continues to grow through advancements and innovations in digital technology.

In addition, ISA's Sign Expo is the place to get up to speed on important industry issues and trends. Learning opportunities abound

at the show, with educational programmes focusing on topics such as graphic design, sign code legislation, business management, sales and marketing, technology and more.

The ISA Discovery Seminar Series features interactive forums, hands-on workshops and seminars and Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available.

Online attendance registration is now open. Rates for admission to the exhibit hall are \$15 for ISA members and \$30 for nonmembers, prior to April 2, and \$25 for members and \$40 for nonmembers after April 3 and on-site during the event. Additional fees apply for seminars and keynote speaker presentations.

For a complete list of exhibitors and events, or to register, call (703) 836-4012 or visit www.signexpo.org

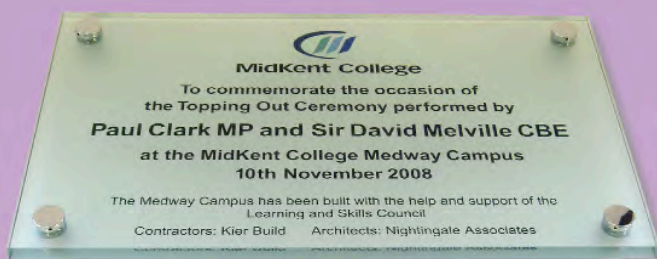


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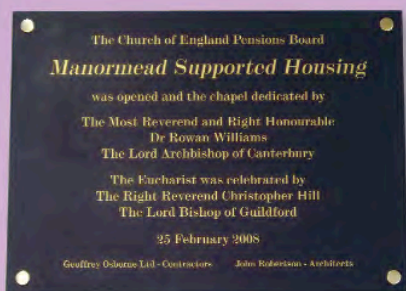
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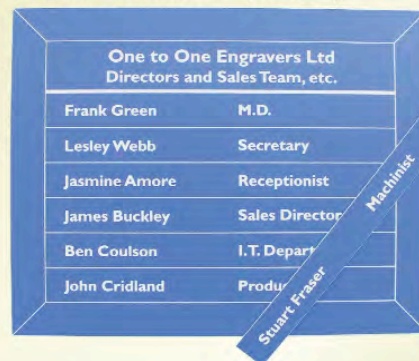
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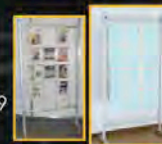
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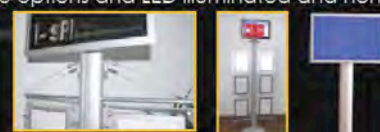
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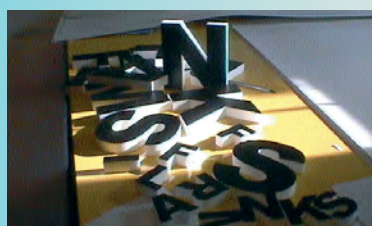
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| 5mm | £0.48 | £0.72 | £1.09 | £1.46 | £2.00 | £2.30 | £2.67 | £3.15 | £3.64 | £4.37 | £5.15 | £6.07 | £6.87 | £8.00 | £11.03 | £30.32 |
| 10mm | £0.85 | £1.33 | £1.70 | £2.55 | £3.52 | £4.37 | £4.98 | £6.07 | £7.28 | £8.32 | £9.34 | £11.52 | £13.34 | £16.98 | £21.59 | £58.21 |
| 19mm | £1.82 | £2.55 | £3.64 | £4.24 | £4.85 | £6.67 | £8.49 | £9.41 | £10.92 | £12.42 | £14.86 | £16.98 | £20.01 | £23.05 | £27.90 | £78.83 |

| EXTERIOR MDF (MEDITE comes in its raw form for painting) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | NO MINIMUM ORDER | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------------|--------|--------|
| height | 50mm | 75mm | 100mm | 125mm | 150mm | 175mm | 200mm | 225mm | 250mm | 275mm | 300mm | 375mm | 425mm | 500mm | 600mm | 1200mm |
| 6mm | £0.37 | £0.85 | £1.22 | £1.63 | £2.42 | £2.60 | £3.03 | £3.81 | £4.37 | £5.22 | £6.67 | £9.46 | £10.92 | £12.37 | £14.55 | £43.66 |
| 12mm | £0.91 | £1.57 | £1.94 | £2.84 | £3.88 | £4.66 | £5.46 | £6.31 | £7.52 | £9.22 | £10.31 | £11.70 | £13.94 | £17.16 | £19.40 | £58.21 |
| 18mm | £1.57 | £2.42 | £2.96 | £4.06 | £5.03 | £6.18 | £7.64 | £8.61 | £10.92 | £12.42 | £14.92 | £17.10 | £20.84 | £21.83 | £29.11 | £87.32 |

| 3mm ALUMINIUM COMPOSITE (Dibond, Alupanel) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | NO MINIMUM ORDER | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------------|--------|--------|
| height | 50mm | 75mm | 100mm | 125mm | 150mm | 175mm | 200mm | 225mm | 250mm | 275mm | 300mm | 375mm | 425mm | 500mm | 600mm | 1200mm |
| standard colours | £1.09 | £1.52 | £1.99 | £2.55 | £2.91 | £3.39 | £4.85 | £5.70 | £6.67 | £7.28 | £8.24 | £9.70 | £11.28 | £15.77 | £19.40 | £60.71 |
| Chrome | £2.00 | £2.55 | £2.91 | £4.28 | £5.82 | £7.01 | £8.19 | £9.46 | £11.28 | £13.79 | £15.52 | £17.56 | £20.93 | £25.76 | £31.75 | £98.25 |
| Brushed finish | £1.33 | £1.70 | £2.31 | £2.86 | £3.88 | £4.67 | £5.46 | £6.31 | £7.52 | £9.22 | £10.31 | £11.70 | £13.94 | £17.17 | £21.83 | £65.49 |

| MILL FINISH ALUMINIUM (Comes in its raw form ready for coating) - Other thicknesses available on request | | | | | | | | | | | | | | MINIMUM ORDER £95 | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|--------|--|
| height | 50mm | 75mm | 100mm | 125mm | 150mm | 175mm | 200mm | 225mm | 250mm | 275mm | 300mm | 375mm | 425mm | 500mm | 600mm | |
| 3mm | £2.94 | £3.67 | £4.54 | £5.63 | £6.26 | £7.18 | £8.10 | £9.38 | £10.59 | £12.08 | £13.67 | £17.88 | £21.41 | £27.22 | £36.14 | |
| 5mm | £3.46 | £4.33 | £5.36 | £6.64 | £7.39 | £8.47 | £9.55 | £11.07 | £12.49 | £14.25 | £16.13 | £21.10 | £25.26 | £32.12 | £42.64 | |

| 2mm 316 MARINE GRADE STAINLESS STEEL - Other thicknesses available on request | | | | | | | | | | | | | | MINIMUM ORDER £95 | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|--------|--|
| height | 50mm | 75mm | 100mm | 125mm | 150mm | 175mm | 200mm | 225mm | 250mm | 275mm | 300mm | 375mm | 425mm | 500mm | 600mm | |
| Satin Brush | £4.72 | £5.09 | £6.18 | £7.10 | £7.64 | £10.74 | £13.61 | £16.01 | £17.20 | £19.01 | £21.83 | £31.11 | £34.80 | £43.65 | £52.75 | |
| Polished | £5.09 | £5.49 | £7.46 | £8.00 | £8.91 | £12.19 | £15.64 | £17.10 | £18.37 | £21.83 | £23.93 | £33.59 | £40.20 | £47.48 | £60.03 | |

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