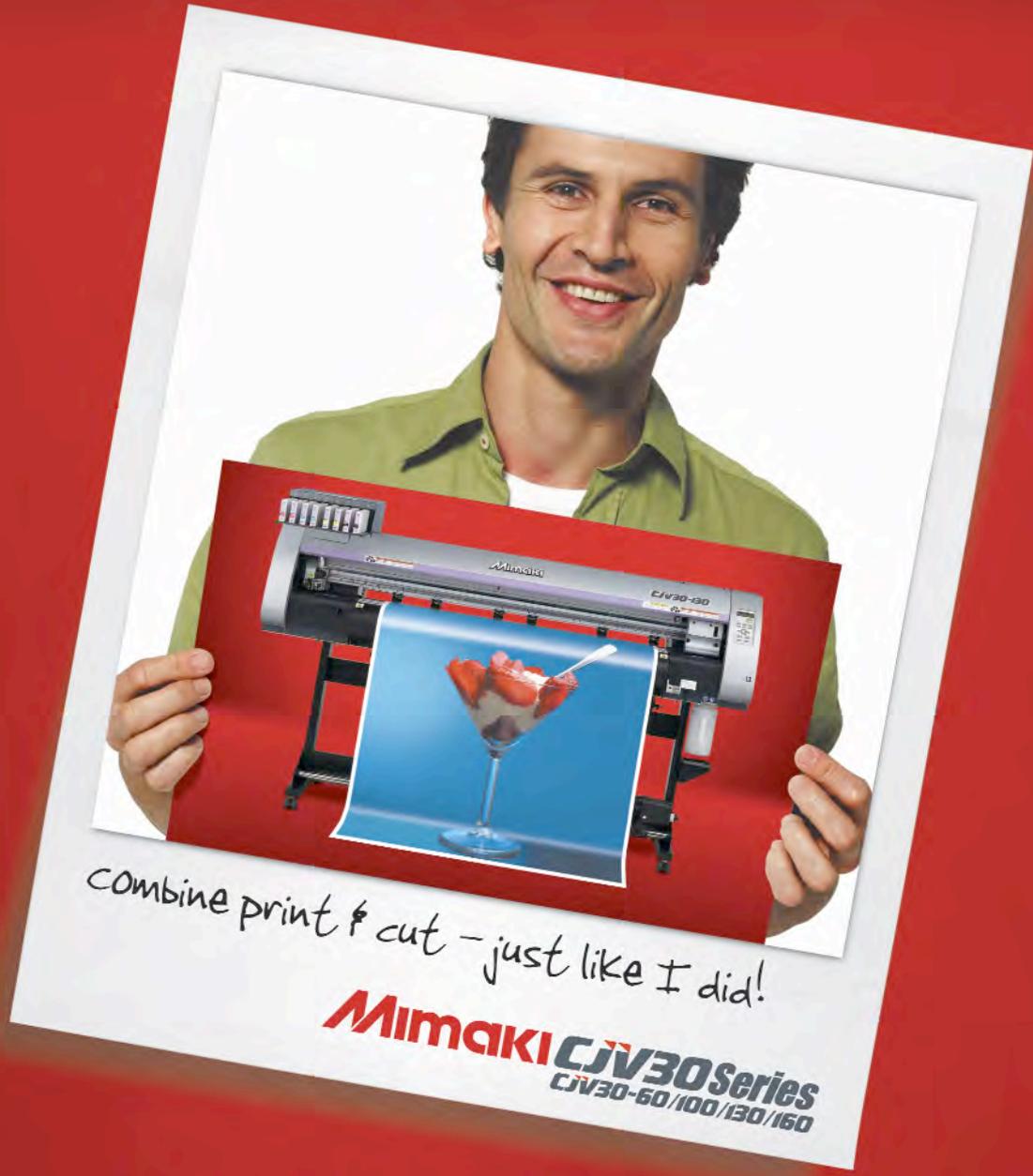


Sign Update

MAY/JUNE 2009 ISSUE 115 £2.50



combine print & cut - just like I did!

Mimaki CJV30 Series
CJV30-60/100/130/160

There's a Mimaki made for you!

hybrid

Mimaki Exclusive Distributors

Did you know we also make signtrays?

Trade Prices 2009
Flat-Cut & Moulded Letter
Price Calculator

Price Buster
If it's cheaper, we'll
try and beat it by
10%

FLAT CUT ACRYLIC

ACRYLIC Perspex, Madrepera, Plexiglas - Gold, silver and colours are all EXTERIOR grade acrylics ONLY

HEIGHT	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	400mm	425mm	450mm	500mm	535mm	600mm	762mm	838mm	914mm	1200mm
3mm	£0.85	£1.01	£1.22	£1.45	£1.80	£2.20	£2.80	£3.10	£3.50	£4.20	£6.20	£7.40	£7.70	£8.20	£9.50	£10.00	£11.60	£18.00	£27.00	£35.50	£45.50
5mm	£1.03	£1.46	£1.82	£2.29	£2.60	£3.40	£4.30	£5.20	£6.00	£7.30	£8.20	£9.00	£9.40	£10.60	£13.20	£14.50	£15.50	£25.50	£32.50	£42.75	£63.00
10mm	£2.10	£2.90	£3.65	£4.60	£5.50	£7.00	£8.50	£11.00	£12.00	£15.00	£18.00	£19.50	£20.50	£24.50	£26.00	£29.00	£35.00	£50.00	£66.00	£88.00	£125.00

FLAT CUT FOAM PVC

FOAM PVC Class 1 fire retardant material suitable for exhibitions

Height	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	400mm	425mm	450mm	500mm	535mm	600mm	762mm	838mm	914mm	1200mm
3mm	£0.50	£0.95	£1.00	£1.05	£1.25	£1.50	£1.90	£2.20	£2.45	£2.75	£3.60	£4.00	£4.50	£4.75	£5.25	£5.75	£7.25	£11.75	£16.50	£18.00	£22.00
5mm	£0.73	£1.10	£1.55	£1.80	£2.00	£2.50	£3.00	£3.30	£4.00	£4.50	£5.50	£6.00	£6.50	£7.25	£7.50	£9.00	£10.00	£16.00	£22.00	£24.00	£28.50
10mm	£1.30	£1.70	£2.00	£3.00	£3.90	£4.50	£5.50	£6.50	£7.50	£8.25	£10.50	£11.50	£12.50	£13.50	£16.00	£16.50	£19.50	£27.00	£32.00	£36.00	£53.00
19mm	£1.81	£3.25	£3.75	£4.50	£6.00	£8.00	£8.75	£10.00	£11.50	£14.00	£16.00	£17.50	£19.00	£20.50	£21.50	£22.00	£25.00	£32.00	£36.00	£43.50	£73.00

FLAT CUT COMPOSITE

REYNOBOND / DIBOND ALUMINIUM COMPOSITE SHEET Metal faced sheet in a variety of colours and finishes - Ask us about the NEW finishes available

Height	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	400mm	425mm	450mm	500mm	535mm	600mm	762mm	838mm	914mm	1200mm
Coloured 3mm	£1.50	£1.99	£2.40	£3.00	£3.25	£4.50	£5.50	£6.30	£7.00	£8.00	£9.50	£10.50	£11.00	£13.00	£15.00	£18.00	£23.00	£31.00	£39.00	£55.00	
Mirror 4mm	£1.75	£2.75	£4.00	£5.50	£6.50	£7.50	£9.00	£10.50	£13.00	£14.50	£16.50	£18.00	£19.50	£22.50	£24.00	£24.50	£27.00	£32.75	£39.00	£43.50	£90.00
Brushed 3mm	£1.50	£2.00	£2.50	£3.50	£4.25	£5.00	£6.00	£7.00	£8.50	£9.50	£11.00	£12.00	£13.00	£14.50	£16.00	£18.00	£20.00	£27.50	£35.50	£44.00	£62.00

MOULDED ACRYLIC

ACRYLIC MOULDED LETTERS - Exterior grade Gold, Silver and coloured acrylic. See our website for available fonts **NEW REDUCED PRICE**

Height	100mm	153mm	229mm	254mm	305mm	381mm	457mm	533mm
Acrylic	£5.00	£6.00	£9.00	£10.00	£12.00	£15.00	£18.00	£21.00
Foam PVC	£4.50	£5.50	£8.50	£9.00	£11.00	£14.00	£17.00	£20.00

MOULDED CHROMASIGN

ChomaSign® Moulded Letters Real chrome plated moulded letters **NEW REDUCED PRICE**

Height	100mm	153mm	203mm	229mm	254mm	305mm	381mm
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- Note: Moulded letters prices are inclusive of templates and locators
- Halo illuminated LEDs can be fitted to your letters. Ask us for more details
- Add 10% to prices if plastic locators and paper templates are required for flat cuts
- Add 25% to prices if a cladding template is required (spacing will be required)
- Add 25% to prices if gloss finish Foam PVC is required
- Extra locators Bag of locators 250(M+F) Large £45 Medium £35 Small £30
- We accept all ai. eps files for PC format only. Please ask if in doubt
- We can convert your jpg and pdf files to vector format for an extra charge
- Priority Service available on request



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Editor - Heather Rutter

Tel: 01525 377073

email: heather.rutter1@btinternet.com



Advertising Manager - Martin Hinchliffe

Tel: (inc. Advertising enquiries) 01784 463904

email: martin@sign-update-magazine.co.uk



Features Editor - Janet Brennan

Tel: 01582 584414

email: janet@sign-update-magazine.co.uk



Accounts - Tracey Ward

Tel: 01295 660666

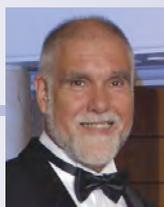
email: tracey@sign-update-magazine.co.uk



Publisher - Roger Hinchliffe

Tel: (inc. Advertising enquiries) 01295 660666

email: roger@sign-update-magazine.co.uk



Graphic Design - Tony Hinchliffe

Tel: 01295 660666/690862

email: tony@sign-update-magazine.co.uk

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Cheating MPs will soon be yesterday's news

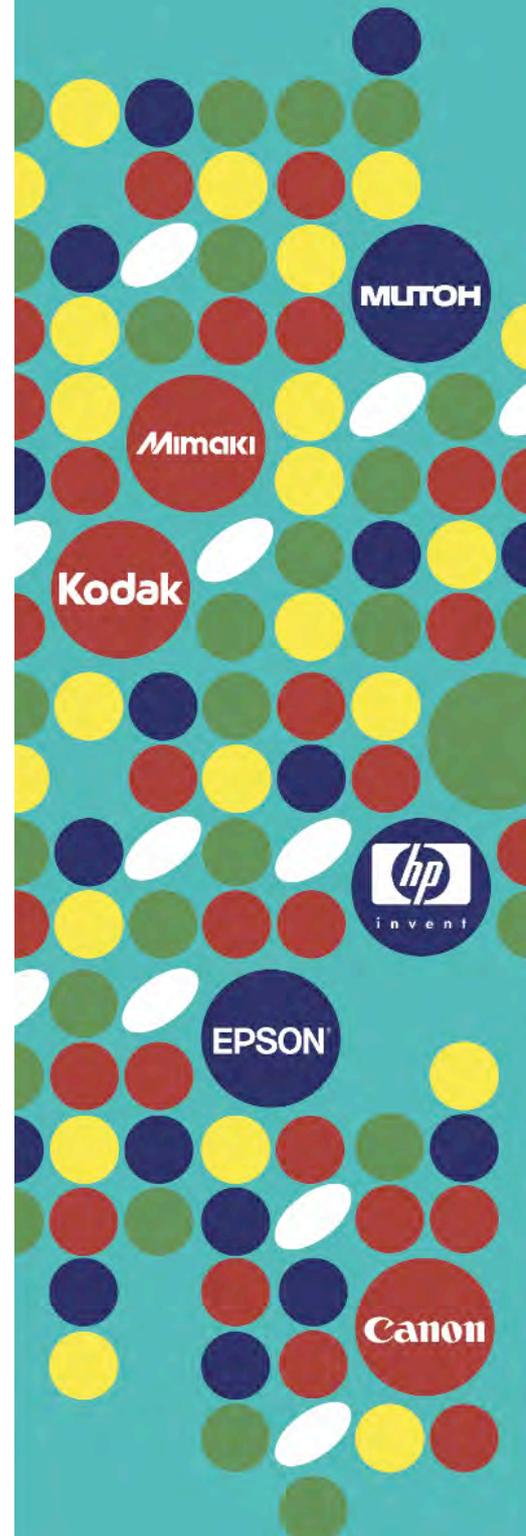
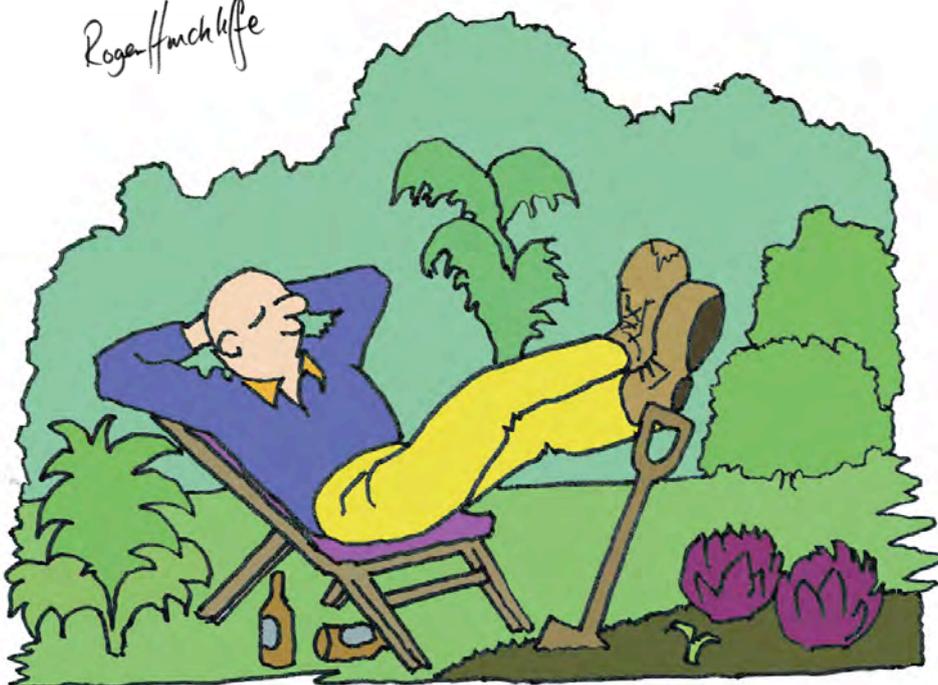
I'm writing this on the 18th May, at the height of the MP scandal. I won't bore you with my thoughts on it, but they have done what most people would do - exploit the system, but they haven't done anything wrong as they have made the rules! and by the time Sign Update reaches its readers something else will be making the headlines. They come and go so quickly of late.

The moment I finish this page it's going to typesetting and then on to the printers. They take five working days to print, that's if we get it to them on the allotted date, and then finally to the Royal Mail, it's in the lap of the gods then! What I'm saying is, what ever I write about, it's going to be out of date by the time you get to read it. I wanted to give my views on the swine flu but that came and went, and then before we know it along came the dirty washing on our MPs. The next big one will be the European elections, it will be interesting to see how many people take the trouble to vote, is there anyone worth voting for? They promise this and that but it's soon forgotten. They wouldn't be able to keep to the promises made anyway, owing to the debt we are in.

Reflecting on to this year's Sign & Digital UK exhibition at the NEC in Birmingham; one of the big gripes exhibitors have is the 'do's and don'ts' on build-up day. "Don't park here", "You can't park there", "Get the right papers before you start to unload". I thought they couldn't get any worse with the do's and don'ts, but this year we were given a paper explaining how to drive on the complex. Did you know you have to give way as you approach a roundabout? Well, after reading that, I thought, this would make a great article. I put it away safely, but now I can't find it. Has anyone got a copy?

And so on to a bit of good news; the sign industry had an excellent exhibition this year at the NEC, which took everyone by surprise. A lot of orders were taken, cheering up many suppliers in the industry. If we want to keep on this upward trend, please don't read the papers, watch TV or listen to the radio news and we'll all be fine. I know this is sticking your head in the sand, but sometimes it can be a relief to go into your own little world. My little world is my garden and the open country surrounding it. But even this isn't safe any more; someone wants to build a new home on it! And why is this? Because there's just too many people living in this country, and more coming all the time, legally and illegally, which the government just doesn't seem to be able to stop, but I do know when to stop, I will shut up!

Roger Huchliffe



T+44(0)870 811 2370
F+44(0)870 811 2375
E shiraz@applied-image.com

PRODUCT *News*

Mimaki launches competitively priced cutting plotters

With a reputation (and matching product range) for excelling at manufacturing cutting plotters, Mimaki has added a new line to their portfolio in the form of two competitively priced, wide format models. Mimaki; a pioneer in cutting plotters designed for sign making and graphic professionals, has always come up with new solutions to meet the various needs in the market and with today's economic pressures, cost savings to remain competitive come to the fore.

Both Mimaki's 1,070mm CG-100SR11 and 1,370mm CG-130SR11 cutters feature new functionalities for high cutting quality that should satisfy even the most demanding of professional users at an affordable price. Benefiting from Hybrid's two year, on site warranty, they make for a very attractive entry into wide format cutting.

Nowadays, cutting plotters are used in a broader range of industries than simply sign making. Cutting pre-printed transfer media for heat transfer of fashion designs to apparel, and cutting decals and stickers in combination with inkjet printers are two such popular new markets. The Mimaki CG-SR11 Series flies through these processes with its high-speed continuous registration mark detection function for precise contour cutting of nested images.

Alongside this, Mimaki's unique half-cut function cuts right through the backing sheet, leaving only a few connecting points, which hold the image in place. When finished, the waste material can be easily detached, delivering either vinyl decals on a contour cut backing sheet, or in the case of transfer printing, a shaped image or logo that is very easy to position on the garment under the heat press.



Unique die cut feature of Mimaki cutting plotters.

Even at an affordable price, the CG-SR11 series does not compromise on cutting quality. The machine is equipped with Mimaki's new RSC (Real time Stroke Control) function and Over-Cut feature. The RSC function detects cutting strokes during cutting and adjusts the strength of the strokes, thus maintaining constant cutting pressure and the Over-Cut function overlaps start and end point thus eliminating uncut portions of the media.

Mimaki include their FineCut 7 plug-in cutting software for CorelDRAW and Adobe Illustrator as well as SimpleCut; an easy-to-use, standalone cutting package that enables customers to be up and running with their new cutter almost immediately.

Distributed exclusively in the UK & Ireland by Hybrid Services Ltd, their National Sales Manager, John de la Roche introduces the new range; "Together with our award-winning and highly acclaimed Mimaki JV33 printer, the new CG-SR11 series offers an affordable print & cut solution for short run on-demand production of fashionable design in apparel and stickers. We continue to offer heavily subsidised print and cut packages to allow our customers to take full advantage of the new technology, but of course the cutters are available on their own, should you already have a printer or simply want to cut coloured vinyl."

Available now for delivery through Hybrid's authorised reseller network, the Mimaki CG-SR11 Series of cutting plotters can also be found on their website at www.hybridservices.co.uk



New Mimaki CG-130SR11 launched by Hybrid.

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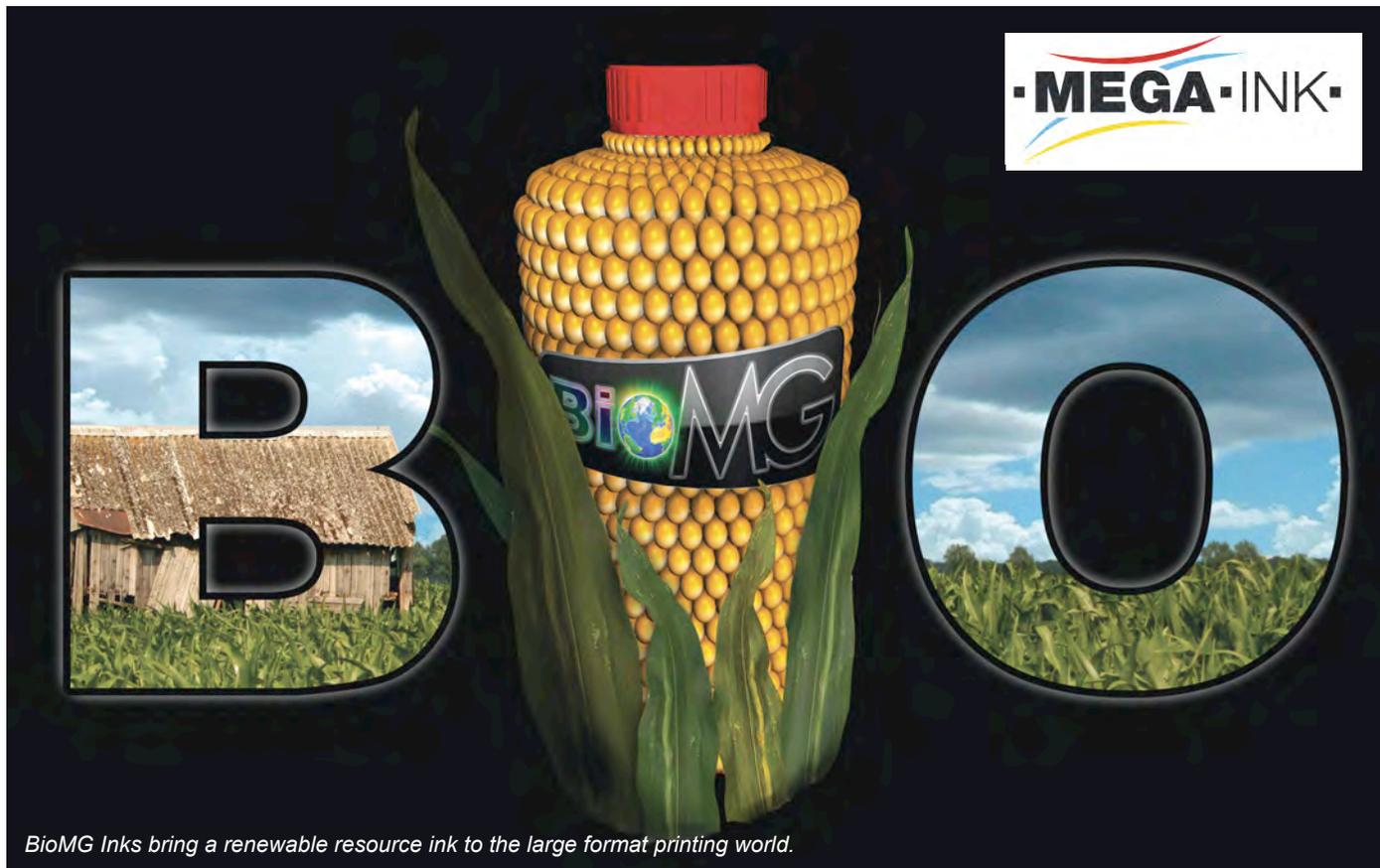
imagination at work

*Compared to Tetra® Mini.

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PRODUCT *News*

Now is the time to change to green inks



GrafiTyp UK Ltd introduces the revolutionary BioMG ink from Megalnk®.

Based in the Czech Republic, Megalnk is a world leader in the development and manufacture of BioMG inks for the wide and super-wide outdoor digital printing industry.

Being based inside the EU means that all Megalnk's products

are manufactured to the highest standards in full accordance with the latest European REACH regulations and to ISO 9001 standards as well as Megalnk's own high standards for colour and quality print performance. As part of the Sakata and INX group of companies, Megalnk has secured a strong presence in Europe, North and South America, Africa and the Middle East.

The line of solvent-based inks and BioINK sports substantial competitive advantages including enhanced colour gamut, competitive pricing, stronger media adhesion, higher pigment density, longer shelf life and increased outdoor longevity.

Megalnk employs top-of-the-line professional staff and uses cutting edge materials, manufacturing tools and methods to ensure all its products meet strict criteria.

Megalnk is distributed worldwide solely via a comprehensive network of master distributors, with GrafiTyp UK Ltd as the distributor for the UK and Ireland.

These inks are said to be revolutionary and bring a truly unique and renewable resource ink to the world of large format printing. But BioMG inks are much more than just environmentally friendly; they are also exceptionally UV-resistant and made from renewable resources, emit less harsh odour than traditional solvent inks. In addition, they are scratch and alcohol resistant and can be changed "on the fly" while the printer is still running.

Making the switch to BioMG inks is easy and painless and they are available for many of the world's leading and most popular solvent printers. Mix and match with OEM inks with no flushing or re-profiling using plug and print 440ml cartridges.

To find out more, contact GrafiTyp UK Ltd at www.grafityp.co.uk or telephone 01827 300500.



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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

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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

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height	colours	brushed	mirror
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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

Meditite 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
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- add 20% - for standard extended typefaces
- add 25% - for laser cut acrylic (polished edges on clear & colours)
- add 25% - gloss finished foam p.v.c.
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Applelec announces new ranges

Applelec Sign Components (UK) Ltd has launched a new lighting and manufacturing process, a new range of LED Edge Lit profiles, and has been appointed as the UK and Irish distributor for Domino LEDs of France.

The new lighting and manufacturing process is known as LED Letter Module. Exclusively manufactured by Applelec Sign Components, it comprises an actual LED circuit board manufactured in the shape of the desired letter. Complete with LEDs carefully positioned, one simply fixes the LED letter module within the letter.

The module is fully sealed for outdoor use, making it ideal for all manner of illuminated projects. It is especially suited to letters with a narrow stroke width where an unhindered halo light is required, and for face illuminated projects with a shallow return depth.

Soled is the new range of LED Edge Lit profiles, part of the numerous sign systems that Applelec distributes on behalf of Co Sign of Belgium.

An aluminium centrepiece with varying screw fixing slots enables side pieces to be adjusted to fit either a 5mm or 10mm thick acrylic panel. The profiles can be interchanged to overcome a fixing constraint.



For example, a wall mounted hanging sign requiring a rounded top finish, can be supplied with a square back for ease of fitting to the wall.

Soled, exclusively distributed and manufactured by Applelec, is expected to be in demand for many different applications including the lighting of decorative acrylic panels, hanging signs, wall mounted signs, and projecting signs.

Domino LEDs of France has utilised state of the art lighting technology and purposely designed the product to show off the aesthetics of the modules themselves, as opposed to mounting them within a letter where they can't be seen.

This concept of an LED module in full view allows for a variety of different face and side illuminated letter styles to be created. Supplied either in kit form, or mounted within a letter ready for use, these outdoor rated LEDs are said to be already creating waves with designers.

LED Letter Modules, Soled Edge Lit kits and Domino LEDs are available now for immediate sampling and production orders.

Contact Applelec Sign Components (UK) Ltd on 01274 774477 (Northern Office), 01442 500050 (Southern Office), or visit www.applelecsign.co.uk



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Integrated print & cut for dye sublimation breakthrough from Mimaki with new TPC-1000

Last year, Mimaki introduced its CJV30 printer / cutter line-up running either full or eco-solvent inks. These machines, available in a choice of four different widths, can use either solvent ink to print to a host of different substrates, including garment marking materials that enable the production of printed numbers, team names as well as branding and promotional elements. For those wanting to use a true sublimation solution, the launch of the new Mimaki TPC-1000 combines the integrated print & cut technology of the CJV30 Series with an aqueous ink.

Dye sublimation printing with high density dye sublimation inks exhibits a wider colour gamut, and facilitates printing on heat transfer paper for applying to polyester sportswear, workwear and swim-suits. The print and cut solution allows for fast and accurate order processing of variable data and short run jobs.

The dye sublimation process is actually quite simple – the transfer paper is printed upon, then the fabric and transfer paper are placed in a heat press. Under the influence of heat, the ink transferred to the paper is dyed to polyester materials whereby the water-content of the ink vaporises instantly. This results in vivid dye coloured images being produced directly on the fabric with no appreciable change in the handle of the garment. Due to the fabrics retaining their washability, this technology is particularly suitable for sportswear.

The Mimaki TPC-1000 shares the core features of the award winning CJV30 Series including the very neat 'Auto Media Clamp function' for continuous printing and cutting with barely any user intervention required. The clamps (that move the media through the printer) are set from the RasterLink Pro 4TA RIP software (that incidentally is bundled free

with the machine) whereby four different levels of clamp pressure can be selected according to the type of substrate. The clamp pressure is automatically changed between the printing and cutting, ensuring the correct tension for each, distinctly different, process is correct.

Like the vast majority of Mimaki's current line-up of inkjet printers, the TPC-1000 features their UISS (Uninterrupted Ink Supply System) that automatically switches ink supply when a cartridge runs out. For the printing company working to tight deadlines, this means that printing late into the night can be done without the fear of ink running out and without the need to stay and watch over the printer! In a normal working day, it also means that spent ink cartridges can be replaced 'on the fly' without having to pause the printer or interrupt the job.

Borrowing a well liked and powerful feature from Mimaki's range of stand alone cutting plotters, the TPC-1000 also features their Half Cut function for producing die cut images that are held into the transfer paper with tiny tabs. This reduces wasted paper, and makes for a neater transfer and easier placement of the print on to the garment or product.

As already mentioned, the TPC-1000 features as standard, not only Mimaki's high end Postscript 3 RIP, but also the Simple Studio TA software for basic design creation, and the powerful FineCut 7 plugin for CorelDRAW or Adobe Illustrator (on Mac or PC).

Significantly, taking advantage of either the Mimaki Sb51 sublimation inkset or the new Sb52 set that features particularly intense colours and a very dense black (the sort of result normally required on sportswear and promotional products) entitles the owner of the machine to Hybrid's fully comprehensive warranty, affording peace of mind and investment protection for the first two years of the machine's life.



Mimaki TPC-1000 print and cut dye sublimation printer offers only integrated solution for garment marking and decoration.

Duncan Jefferies, Marketing Manager at Hybrid (Mimaki's exclusive UK & Ireland distributors), was particularly interested in seeing the launch of the TPC-1000 and felt it added considerable weight to their claim that they very much lead the way in inkjet textile printing.

"Mimaki really has, since the dawn of wide format textile inkjet printing, firmly held the baton for customers who have wanted a genuine, well thought out and productive solution. The Mimaki TPC-1000 features many of the traits of some of Mimaki's most expensive printers, yet in conjunction with a heat press delivers a solution in a compact footprint to customers wanting to up their game when it comes to dye sub printing."

He continues: "Whilst dye sublimation is perfect for garment decoration and sportswear production, its breadth of application doesn't have to stop there. We have many customers producing stunning prints onto fabric bags, polyester coated rigid materials (mugs, plates and promotional items) and at the other end of the scale; flags and in-store displays. The TPC-1000 will do all of this and more!"

Available through Hybrid's network of specialist authorised resellers, further information can be found by visiting the website www.hybridservices.co.uk or by calling them on 01270 501900.



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PRODUCT *News*

The textile revolution moves on with Texflex easy change system from KSUK



Changing graphics is quick and easy on the new Texflex display system. Simply pull the white tab and swap graphics directly from the front.

KSUK has just launched Texflex as the most versatile and comprehensive internal display system ever seen. Lightweight with no trims, screws, clamps, hammers or other tools required – there's nothing to cause even a broken fingernail. Texflex is being described as a super product, perfect for clients who want to change the display graphics themselves.

Texflex offers the option of LED, T5, T8, or no lighting in a super lightweight 17mm deep non illuminated frame, designed specifically to receive a textile print. Texflex is ideal both as a double-sided hanging-type display and as a slim, wall mounted product.

The range comprises an indoor illuminated or non-illuminated set of versatile products using back-illuminated images created by sublimation printing directly on to textile.

This process is seen by many as the way forward in lowering product costs and improving visual display to customers while reducing environmental impact. As progressive companies try to cut their use of PVC and acrylics and reduce harmful printing methods, a further benefit of Texflex is its recycling option, because the base material is textile.

Stuart Bickley, Managing Director of KSUK says: "We're seeing a huge response to this relatively new medium that's enabling designers and specifiers to move into new territory. Until now a major problem for a designer's imagination has been the space needed around the edge of a frame for access to change the graphics. Now, for the first time, a print can be inserted directly from the front of the frame, meaning no space is required at the sides and illumination can be directly to the edge of the frame. Imagine, Texflex panels fitted flush along a wall would appear as a completely smooth wall with illuminated graphics as part of the wall – how good would that look?"

Stuart continues: "This is my third recession since I've been in business and we've come through previous recessions by having the right products to survive in a radically changing market. We have dug deep to provide another innovative product that fills the price gap between the expensive, point of sale, large back-illuminated products requiring Duratrans type acrylic panels and the expensive flex-faced type installations that are cumbersome and require contractors to install and remove prints."

Find out more at www.ksuk.co.uk or telephone 0121 783 0779.




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Upgrade to Graphtec's latest cutters and get cash back on your old machinery

Graphtec (GB) Ltd has launched a scrappage scheme to help signmakers and graphics professionals upgrade their cutters.

The new initiative means customers trading in their old CE or FC cutters for the latest model can receive up to £1000 cash back. The offer applies to the CE-60 and -120, the FC-75, -130 and -160 machines, with cash back amounts of £250, £600, £400, £750 and £1000 respectively.

Graphtec is guaranteeing these figures, regardless of the age or condition of the old machine, as long as it was manufactured by Graphtec and is in working order. The company is also offering cash back on selected cutters from other manufacturers, the amount being dependent on model and condition.

"This new scheme means more customers will be able to upgrade their equipment to keep ahead of the competition, which in the current economic climate could be the difference between a business succeeding and failing. We launched the cash back offer at Sign UK and it immediately generated a great deal of interest," says Phil Kneale, Sales and Marketing Director for Graphtec (GB).

Customers taking advantage of this offer could get their hands on one of Graphtec's latest FC8000 Series. These have a fantastic all-in-one cutter head that simplifies contour cutting of printed data, and supports additional applications to give higher productivity and reliability. They also feature Graphtec's proprietary ARMS (Advanced Registration Mark Sensing System) with its four axis alignment that automatically compensates for more distortions than ever before.

Those opting for a CE cutter benefit from several features proven on the company's top end machines.

Stunning performance, Smart Feed auto material pre-feed function, and very competitive pricing, are among the qualities that make the CEs irresistible, especially as entry-level machines.

To find out how to trade in your old machine, contact Graphtec (GB) or your local Graphtec dealer, telephone 01978 666700 or go to www.graphtecgb.com



Customers taking advantage of the scrappage scheme could upgrade to one of the latest Graphtec FC8000 models.

Colourgen launches new Elite Essentials range of wide format inkjet paper

Colourgen has launched its own range of wide format inkjet media. The Elite Essentials range provides excellent quality at very competitive prices and is ideal for companies looking for a reliable brand name and great value.

The initial launch sees a 190gsm photo satin paper and 340gsm universal matt artist canvas, available in 25m and 50m rolls from 17" up to 60" widths. These media are fully compatible with Epson, Canon and HP aqueous printers, are very competitively priced and are available for guaranteed next day delivery in the UK.

Peter Davidson, General Manager of Colourgen's Print Division, comments, "For many of our customers, the balance between cost and quality is paramount.

"By putting the Colourgen name to the Elite Essentials brand, we are allowing customers to select products based on what is important to them, with the confidence that this is a brand they can trust. We also have well-established operations and logistics capabilities to ensure comprehensive and reliable supply to support customers effectively whatever their requirements."

More products will be introduced over the coming months.

Prices for the Elite Essentials range start at just £21.76 for 17" x 25m rolls. They are available from authorised Colourgen resellers and more information on the complete range can be found at www.colourgen.com

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Trade In	Allowance
600mm	£250
750mm	£400
1200mm	£600
1300mm	£750
1600mm	£1000

All trade in allowances are guaranteed provided your old plotter is manufactured by Graphtec and still in working order. For all other models trade in allowance may vary.



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PRODUCT *News*

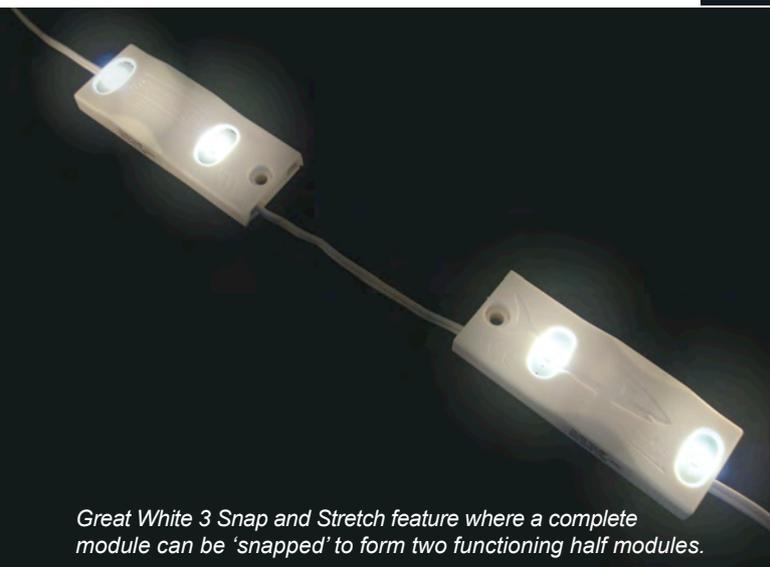
ThyssenKrupp Materials (UK) launches SloanLED's Great White 3 lighting system

ThyssenKrupp Materials (UK) is excited to introduce SloanLED's Great White 3 lighting system, an advanced high output white LED system. ThyssenKrupp claim this new lighting system delivers the brightest white LED system in the sign industry. Great White 3 is easy-to-use and provides an even, bright white illumination for wide, deep and tall lettersets and sign cabinets, while using fewer modules. It is also a perfect solution for illuminating vinyl applications. Great White 3 lighting system is designed with a proprietary Snap and Stretch module feature, which allows you to create two functional modules for maximum flexibility.

Engineered into all of SloanLED's ChannelLED products is the proven Constant Current Technology (CCT), protecting the LEDs from harmful overdriving and providing for even, consistent light output from the first module to the last.



Great White 3 complete module.



Great White 3 Snap and Stretch feature where a complete module can be 'snapped' to form two functioning half modules.

The robust module design and a proprietary weatherproof coating protect the LEDs in harsh weather conditions, allowing the product to operate in temperatures ranging from -40°C to +70°C. Great White 3 is powered by SloanLED's universal modular 12 Volt DC power supply, allowing for effortless mix-n-match capabilities between colours and SloanLED's other product lines.

Founded in 1957, SloanLED celebrates over 50 years of lighting excellence. An early pioneer of LED-based signage illumination and architectural lighting products, SloanLED offers an assortment of LED lighting products for all signage applications including channel letters, reverse channel letters, perimeter and accent lighting.

For more information about the Great White 3 lighting system and the other SloanLED products available from ThyssenKrupp Materials (UK) visit the website www.thyssenkruppmaterials.co.uk

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PFS storm into the market with new laminator range

Specialist suppliers of large format lamination products, PFS (Print Finishing Solutions) have launched a new range of wide format, hot and cold laminators for the signage and graphics markets.

Exclusively offered by PFS (Print Finishing Solutions) in the UK in response to the demands of today's market, the range includes the improved Typhoon 1400 Plus.

This pressure sensitive laminator gives complete flexibility to mount and laminate with quality results, and features include new automatic feed and take up for your prints. It offers a maximum width of 1380mm and thickness of up to 23mm, infrared hot roller system, speeds of up to 5m per minute and backed by the PFS 12 month warranty.

PFS believes that by widening their range to fill this gap, it offers customers more choice and by having a greater choice they are able to gain greater ROI thus helping them grow their business.

The Typhoon 1400 Plus, the new Mistral from Kala and other new products were showcased at Sign & Digital UK.

For more information on any of the products and services available from PFS (Print Finishing Solutions) visit the new website www.pfsltd.net or call 01942 322953.



The Typhoon 1400 Plus.

Speedier production from new DTG model

Nottinghamshire based Your Embroidery Services Ltd (YES) have recently launched another new model from the DTG range of direct to product ink jet printers that will offer the industry even more flexibility. The Viper is the result of extensive research and development work carried out by both companies.

The Viper marks a big step forward in the flexibility and production capacity of what is still a table top machine. It has a massive print area of A3+ so full front prints are now easily achievable and by

utilising a new conveyor system it can also carry a number of t-shirts (or whatever other garment you may be printing) at once.

This aids the method of loading and unloading the machine improving speed and efficiency and therefore productivity.

Along with the increased capacity of the machine there is also a brand new ink system. What DTG and YES Ltd. have done is to devise a pressurised CMYK system that ensures a constant and smooth delivery of ink resulting in consistently good prints. In other

words an ink delivery system designed especially for this type of ink. For the white ink The Viper comes fully equipped with the new WIMS (White Ink Management System) which not only gives consistent coverage of white, so important to the end quality of the print, but also reduces the overall amount of white ink used, additionally offering a valuable saving. Where the table top style of machine is concerned The Viper has stretched the possibilities and those looking for a route into this style of printing will do well to check it out.

Although the Viper has only just hit the market DTG and Your Embroidery Services Ltd are already working on the next developments which, we are told, will include a new style of conveyor system print machine and a new way of applying the pre-treat.

For further information contact Your Embroidery Services Ltd on 01623 863343 or visit www.yesltd.co.uk



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5 mm	£1.30	£1.70	£1.70	£2.20	£2.60	£2.97	£3.90	£5.00	£5.60	£6.70	£8.50	£11.50	£15.20	£28.00	£62.00

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3 mm	£0.65	£0.90	£0.90	£1.05	£1.24	£1.43	£1.99	£2.20	£2.50	£2.70	£3.60	£5.00	£7.13	£12.00	£15.00
5 mm	£1.22	£1.27	£1.27	£1.80	£2.02	£2.25	£2.75	£3.20	£3.50	£4.20	£5.33	£6.76	£10.75	£16.50	£25.00
10 mm	£1.50	£1.70	£1.70	£3.50	£4.00	£4.56	£5.47	£6.61	£7.50	£8.40	£10.80	£14.50	£19.00	£27.00	£48.00
19 mm	£3.00	£3.50	£4.00	£4.50	£5.80	£7.56	£8.24	£9.89	£11.94	£13.50	£15.00	£20.09	£28.00	£40.00	£80.00

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PRODUCT *News*

Spandex extends sign systems and display portfolio

Spandex, the pioneering one-stop supplier of complete and innovative solutions to the digital printing and sign making industries worldwide, has extended its comprehensive sign systems and display offering to include the high-quality fixings, fastenings and display products from Italian manufacturer Kunstdünger.

Spandex is set to offer six of Kunstdünger's smart, Italian-designed product ranges, which include wall and ceiling fittings, as well as stylish suspended cable systems. Along with a high-quality creative design, each product range delivers versatile functionality, which together combine to provide an exceptionally individual look to finished signs and displays.



Fly Suspended Cable System.

Spandex's new Kunstdünger ranges comprise: Fisso wall mounted fixings and stand offs; Fisso ceiling and panel fixings; two Fly suspended cable systems; the Monsterframe banner tensioning system; the Presto rigid panel display system; and the Bannerblock suspended banner display system.

"The Kunstdünger brand stands for good quality and individual Italian-design, key attributes that set them apart from the rest of the market", says Lesley Coleborn, European Product Manager - Sign Systems & Displays, Spandex. "The proven high quality and workmanship of the products offers customers important peace of mind against failure or inferior performance in a variety of applications where lower grade products would be less dependable," she adds.

For further information visit www.spandex.com



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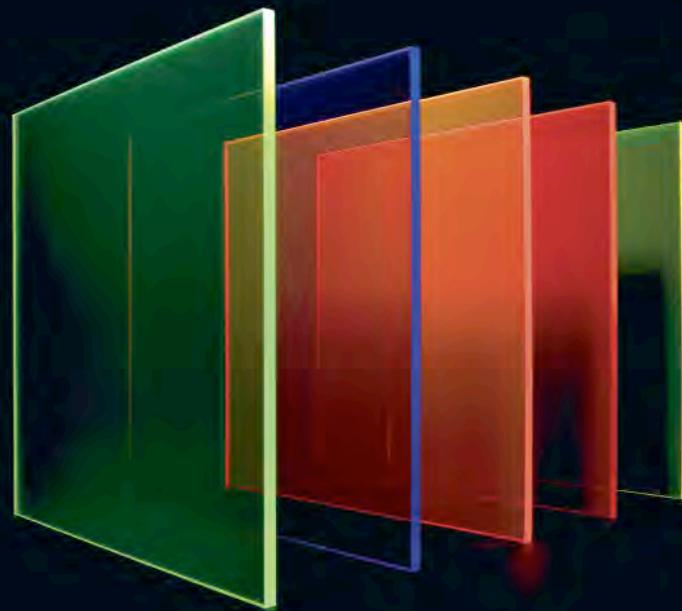
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For a copy of our product guide showcasing the complete range of thermoplastic sheet, rod and tube, please contact your local branch.



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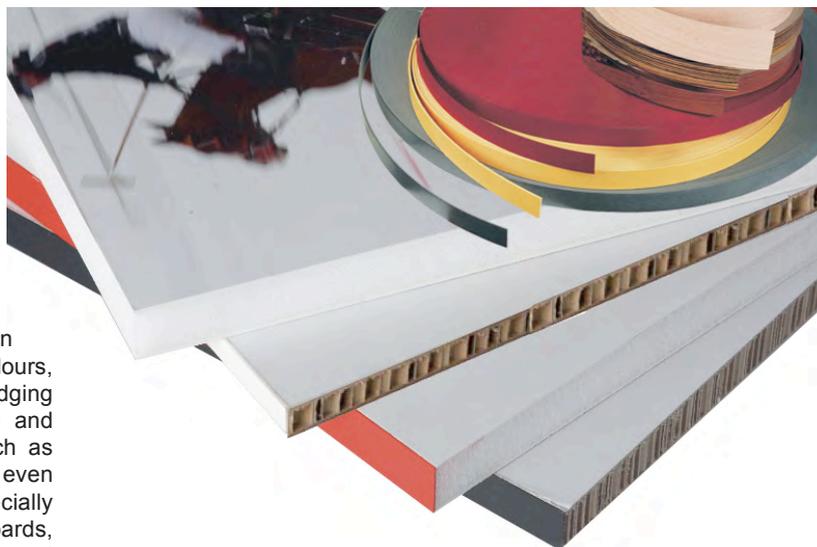
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Drytac launches new foam board edge finishing system

Drytac Europe Ltd, one of the world's most highly regarded manufacturers of products for graphics finishing and display, is launching another new product for 2009, namely the DES-4 Foam Edge Finishing System. Not only can this new product deliver quality edging and corner protection, but can help companies reduce large stock and material costs, and remain environmentally friendly.

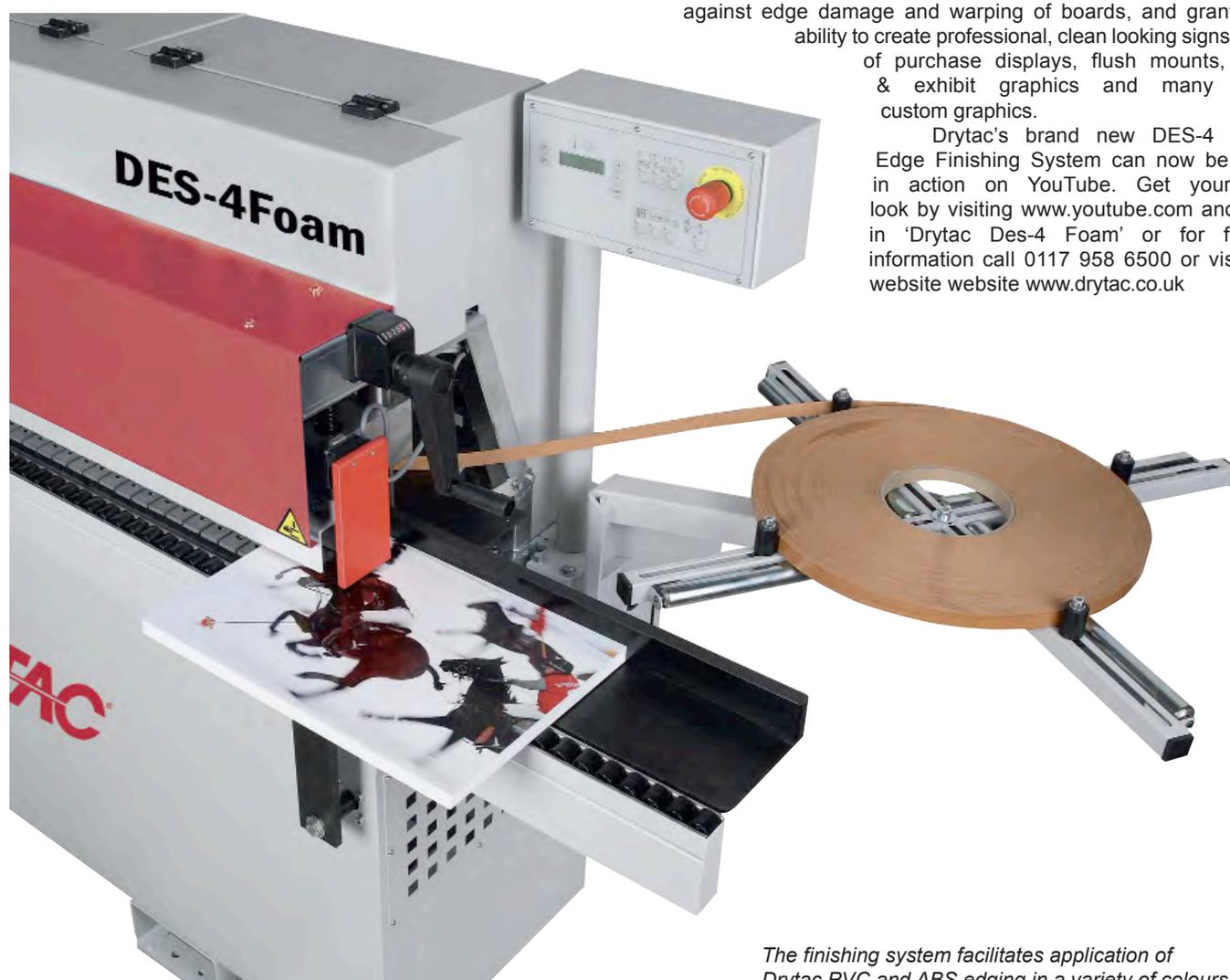
This innovative machine eliminates the need to keep large stock of different colour boards, as it facilitates application of Drytac PVC and ABS edging on boards in a variety of colours, including red, blue, black and chrome. It also permits edging on boards of a thickness ranging from 5mm to 45mm and those of both a foam and solid core-centred display, such as Gatorfoam®, Forex, MDF, Foamex & Chipboard and even 10mm foamcoare. The versatile DES-4 Foam is specially designed to work with heat sensitive foam display boards, blank boards, boards directly printed on flatbed printers, and even those with images already mounted and laminated. This flexible machine therefore also allows for the use of recycled/recyclable boards.



The DES-4 foam edge finishing system delivers quality edging and corner protection.

The inexpensive yet durable decorative edging adds protection against edge damage and warping of boards, and grants the ability to create professional, clean looking signs, point of purchase displays, flush mounts, retail & exhibit graphics and many more custom graphics.

Drytac's brand new DES-4 Foam Edge Finishing System can now be seen in action on YouTube. Get your first look by visiting www.youtube.com and type in 'Drytac Des-4 Foam' or for further information call 0117 958 6500 or visit the website www.drytac.co.uk



The finishing system facilitates application of Drytac PVC and ABS edging in a variety of colours.

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PRODUCT *News*



Poppit, the display fastener for quick and effective sign and display mounting

Poppit was designed by bigHead to solve a particular problem; How to fix a sign or display using a discrete fastener that guarantees perfect alignment and allows the display to be easily demounted without damage. The system should be quick and simple to use.

Plastic fasteners available on the market can often break when panels are demounted. They typically need to be drilled into position which is time consuming and requires skill. Conversely, hook-and-loop fasteners are easy to use but do not guarantee perfect alignment.

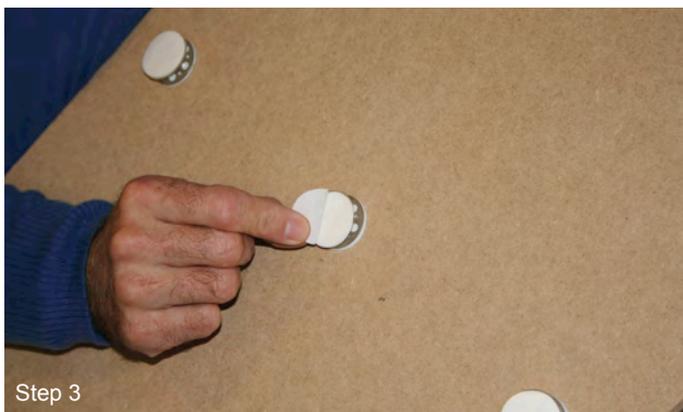
Poppit solves the problem simply. It is made of two pieces, steel and plastic which precisely “pop” together with a central ball and socket. Installation is simple in four easy steps. The product comes in large and small sizes, with either a flat steel plate for sticking or a screw fixing.

Poppit is easy to use with Poppit self-adhesive pads, as demonstrated below.

For more information please visit www.bighead.co.uk or call bigHead on 01202 574 601.



Stick the Poppits to the panel. You can stick either the male (steel) or female (plastic) side to your panel. The pads should bond the Poppits instantly.



Stick the pad onto the Poppit.



Press the panel to the wall with even pressure. 70% of the full sticking power is reached after one hour and full strength after 24 hrs.

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Prices above are based on standard gloss white finish, unit length five foot or over, complete with electrics, fixing bracket etc (no hidden extras). See below for costs for other available finishes, and set prices for units up to 4' long. Please note that delivery is free on orders over £100. For orders under this amount, a delivery charge of £15 is applicable. Please enquire for other terms and conditions.

Highlight T5 Budget Pricing

	Fluorescent		L.E.D.	
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SATIN BLACK FINISH	£58.00	£12.00/foot	£80.50	£17.00/foot

Mutoh upgrades SC-PRO series cutting plotters

Wide-format inkjet printer and vinyl cutting plotter manufacturer Mutoh Europe nv recently announced that it has integrated two new features into its SC-PRO series of professional sign cutting plotters.



SC-Pro.

Apart from regular kiss-cutting of lettering jobs and automated contour cutting of pre-printed stickers, Mutoh SC-PRO cutters now also incorporate a cut through function and a poster trim feature.

The new cut through function allows cutting through both the self-adhesive vinyl and the vinyl's protective backing paper. This will enable users to "finish" individual contour-cut sticker designs.

The new poster trim feature will enable trimming of poster designs, eliminating the hassle of having to do this manually. The two new features are now standard integrated into Mutoh SC-PRO series cutters. Installed-base SC-PRO users will be able to have access to these features via a regular firmware upgrade.

All that is required to perform semi-automatic poster trimming on an SC-PRO cutter is that the printed poster comes with a registration mark printed in each corner. After loading the poster into the cutting plotter, the operator can have the cutter memorize the four registration marks using the SC-PRO's integrated laser beam. Once this is done, the poster will be automatically trimmed via activation of the cut through function on the cutter's control panel.

The cut through functionality enables cutting through both the self-adhesive vinyl and the vinyl's protective backing paper to individually finish sticker designs which may have been contour-cut previously with the SC-PRO cutter. Stickers that have been cut through can afterwards be easily removed from the vinyl.



Cut through sample.



Trimmed poster.

Cut through can be performed in two different ways. A first method consists in adapting the cutting force of one single knife holder, which performs both contour cutting of pre-printed stickers and cut through of each individual sticker. A second method is to use two separate knife holders, the first one for contour cutting and the second knife holder for cut through. A test pattern integrated in the SC-PRO firmware will enable testing of cut through parameters per type of material that is used and to freeze optimum cut through pre-sets in the application software driving the SC-PRO.

The new cut through functionality for Mutoh's SC-PRO cutters is now already supported via Mutoh Edition software versions of EasySign®, SAi® and Caldera® RIP software, as well as the original versions of these RIPs.

For further information visit the website www.mutoh.eu

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New Neschen coating process offers enhanced ink application

A new type of coating process, developed by Neschen, now provides much better colour properties on digital printed media. As a result, a lot less ink is applied by inkjet printers to produce the same colour density. Alternatively, when using the same amount of ink as before, the colours will look even more brilliant and appear to have more depth and intensity therefore covering a much greater colour space.

"The greater colour space saves users up to 20 per cent in ink," remarked Dirk Peereboom, Senior Product Manager, Inkjet Europe at Neschen, when explaining the savings achieved and the increase in quality obtainable due to the new inkjet coating. "Another advantage is that, because less ink is applied, it dries much more quickly," he said.

The Neschen Easy Panels, which are ideal for a variety of display systems, are the first digital media to have the new coating. Other product groups are to be included in the near future.

Worldwide, Neschen supplies printable, coated and enhanced sheet media, such as plastic and paper foils, but also textiles for printing service providers. Photographers, interior designers, advertising agencies, architects and others can all draw on a vast product portfolio for any application. The German coating specialist is particularly well known for its jumbo-size media for large format printing.

For further information call Neschen UK on 07896 121977 or visit www.neschen.com

The Neschen coating process produces a brilliant colour finish on digital media.



Lumex launches QuantumBrite high-intensity LED backlight technologies



The QuantumBrite LED backlight is ideal for sign applications.

Lumex recently announced the launch of the QuantumBrite™ line of LED backlight technologies. Available in edge lit and chips on board formats in both white and vivid colour options, the QuantumBrite line of backlight products is said to provide more than twice the intensity of traditional backlights. In particular, the white QuatumBrite LEDs provide high-intensity brightness of up to 10,000 nits allowing for full daylight visibility. The QuantumBrite family is available worldwide in off-the-shelf sizes, and a team of experts is available to create semi and custom solutions for high or low volume specialty applications.

The QuantumBrite family represents a new generation of backlight technologies, ideal for sign applications such as interior lights, billboards and architectural design.

"Whereas many LED backlight providers often require a 50,000 or 100,000 piece minimum order for customised LED backlight solutions, customised QuantumBrite backlight solutions can be completed for orders as small as 5,000 pieces, making this an ideal product and service for high-value, small volume applications such as signs," says Yasoo Ahmed, Manager of Display Technology at Lumex.

The QuantumBrite edge lit LED backlights are available in both with and without-reflector formats. The reflector format captures more light than the without-reflector format, and can enhance light output up to 20%.

For further information visit www.lumex.com

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Stud Base Dia 11mm (11mm)		Overall Standoff 16mm	

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Sockets only <i>Black or white</i>	£23	£36	£62
Studs only	£24	£39	£64
Measurements		Socket Length 23mm	
Socket Width 20mm		Stud Ball Dia 11mm	
Stud Base Dia 20mm		Overall Standoff 25mm	

Screw	250	500	1,000
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William Smith expands its range of hardware solutions

Following the huge success experienced with the RollsRoller Flatbed Applicator and Mutoh printers, leading supplier of integrated sign and graphics solutions William Smith has now made further additions to its expanding range of hardware solutions. The company is now a primary reseller of the full range of HP printers as well as Summa and Graphtec cutters and laminators from Seal and Xativa. The HP offering, in particular, greatly strengthens William Smith's position in the digital printing sector, while the addition of Summa and Graphtec cutters and laminators from Seal and Xativa means that the company can now truly claim to offer a total hardware solutions package to complement its status as the UK's largest stockist of computer-cut and digital printing media.

The HP solutions cover solvent inkjet, UV and the new Latex printing system that is supported by a new and more environmentally friendly ink technology to further advance customers' 'green' credentials.

The three HP solvent inkjet printers comprise the 64-inch Designjet 8000 and Designjet 9000 platforms and the larger 104-inch Designjet 10000. All offer six-colour printing at speeds of between four and 30 square metres/hour.

The five UV printers from HP include a true flatbed model (the six-colour 98.4-inch Scitex FB950) and four hybrid platforms that offer the choice of either flatbed or roll-to-roll 54-inch printing. The Designjet H35100 and H35500 printers offer single-head four- and six-colour printing, contingent upon which machine is required, while the H45100 and H45500 offer comparable technology but at twice the speed of the H35000 printer.

The super wide-format 104-inch L65500 Latex printer is supported by the latest and more environmentally aware ink technology that is exclusive to HP printers. It is non-hazardous, has only minimal VOC content (no fume extraction facility is therefore required) but still provides the same three- to five-year outdoor performance as full solvent inks without any compromise on quality. The ink is odourless and instantly curable to further contribute to faster turnaround on printed output. Production speeds of up to 80 square metres/hour can be achieved with this printer.



Graphtec's FC8000 top of the range cutters offer the highest cutting force available in its class.

There are eight models in the R and S series of cutters from Summa that offer the choice of drag and tangential cutting. All of the cutters feature the advanced OPOS X Contour Cutting System that guarantees unprecedented levels of accuracy. These are supplemented with the CE5000 and FC8000 cutters from Graphtec that also offer the choice of either drag or tangential cutting. The entry-level CE5000 provides vinyl cutting at a truly affordable price and is available in a choice of three models (the CE 5000-40, 60 and 120). Offering the highest cutting force available in its class at 600gf, the FC8000 series is available in a choice of five models (the FC8000-60, 75, 100, 130 and 160) and comes with a two-year warranty. Both ranges of cutter include supporting software and basic training.

The laminators from Seal and Xativa are precision-engineered lamination solutions that incorporate cutting-edge functionality. They are supported by the most powerful warranties currently available.

For further information on these latest hardware solutions from William Smith, contact Jonathan Harle on e-mail jharle@williamsmith.co.uk or telephone 01833 694707.



HP's Latex printer is supported by the new environmentally friendly ink technology.

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SIGN UK & DIGITAL *Review*

Sign & Digital UK A phenomenal success

The halls were bustling once again as Sign & Digital UK returned to Birmingham's NEC on the 28 – 30 April 2009.

Any and all fears of what effect the economic climate might have had on the exhibition were emphatically brushed aside, as the show continued its proud tradition of bringing large numbers of the highest quality visitors to the stands of those exhibiting.

Rudi Blackett, event director comments: "This year we were extremely impressed with both the quality and quantity of the visitors that attended the show. We were always confident that such a comprehensive exhibitor list and wide range of products would draw the crowds, even more so when you combine that with variety of topics covered within the different seminar theatres at the show."

"That said, the economic climate presented us with an entirely new type of challenge, and we're delighted to report that the show has once again been a resounding success. Exhibitors have reported a higher quality of visitors than ever before, as well as a higher level of on-stand commerce than many had thought possible. I would like to give a big thank you to all of our exhibitors and visitors alike, who contributed to the success of Sign & Digital UK 2009."

A huge number of big-name visitors were once again in attendance at the show. Representatives from Delta Display, Signs Express, Sign-A-Rama, FastSigns, Linney Group, Hawes Signs, Augustus Martin, C3 Imaging, Service Graphics, Gardners, Harrison's Signs, St Ives Group, Bezier, JC Decaux, Monster Digital, McLaren Racing, British Airways, Cadbury, Legoland, Harrods, Ikea,

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



Co-operative Group, Waitrose, Ministry of Defence, Motorola, Hampshire County Council, Somerset County Council, Wolverhampton Council, Basingstoke Council, University of Sheffield, University of Leeds, South Yorkshire Police and Cheshire Police and many more visited the show over the three days.

Roger Mashedor, chairman / manager at Alpha Engraving, having just purchased a printer from Graphic Printing Technologies, commented: "The show today has been very good. It's been twenty years since we were last here, and while some things are the same, there's a lot that has changed."

In addition, exhibitors once again reported significantly better than expected levels of trading with the show.

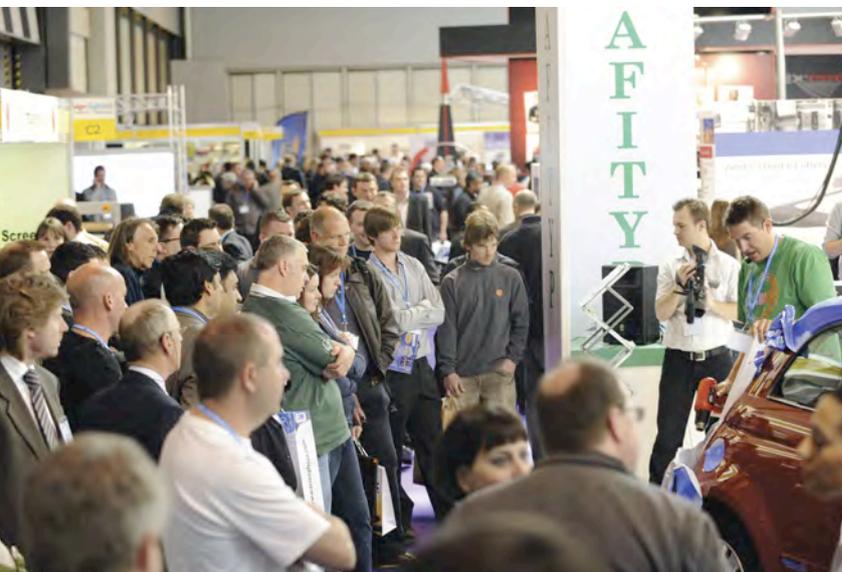
Many features were continued from the show last year – the Sign Makers Bar, and the Massage Zone once again served to rehydrate, refresh and revitalise both visitors and exhibitors, while each of the seminar theatres, including a significantly expanded Adobe Theatre were well attended throughout the show.

Brian Carter of B Scene comments on the theatres, "I visited several workshop and seminars during my visit to this years show. Adobe and Corel Draw were the ones that stuck in my mind, they were interesting and gave insight into how they can be utilized to great potential."

Doug of Peach Design reiterates the quality of the Adobe workshop. "Terry (Steeley) and Richard (West) are great speakers, they make everything easy to understand, and the demonstrations on Leopard and CS4 were extremely helpful."

Alan Caddick, marketing manager for the show adds, "There were numerous features that received great feedback from visitors, such as the F1 competition, where Nigel Franklin, Darren Worthington and Janet Smith were the three winners, as well as the massage zone – these will definitely be featured again next year along with a wealth of other fantastic features."

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



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PRODUCT *Choice*

GPT announces major success with new Mimaki UJV-160 UV-curable printer

Graphic Printing Technologies Limited (GPT) announces the first UK sale of the new Mimaki UJV-160 UV-Curable roll & flat sheet printer. Not only the first, but the first five! Pure Leisure Marketing was the first of five companies to have purchased the new printer (and optional CF-1218TD/RC flatbed cutter) from GPT this year.

Stuart Cole, Managing Director of GPT Ltd, says, "This product has really struck a chord with our customers. We are offering the printer together with the Mimaki flat bed cutting table at a price that companies can see real value in. We have targeted the printer and cutter bundle to companies that we know will really benefit from the speed, quality, reliability and flexibility that the UJV160 offers."

Gary Ackers at Pure Leisure comments, "We are absolutely delighted with the UJV. It is a very reliable printer that has coped with everything we have thrown at it. It allows us to enhance our offering to customers and makes us a more complete and responsive supplier. We have also been delighted with our relationship with GPT. They have given us nothing but excellent advice and guidance and their support through installation and our early operation has been of a very high standard."

Peter Mitchell at Mimaki UK Distributor Hybrid comments "We have been really impressed with how GPT has taken on this product and identified a very real need in the marketplace. They have had some really good early success with this project and we put this down to the commitment, knowledge and understanding of their customers' needs and requirements."

The UJV-160 uses Mimaki's new flexible UV LED curable ink set, which employs a formula to enable stretching by up to 200%. This results in no cracking during the printing process, even when the surface is bent or curved. The technology makes the UJV-160 ideal for printing onto a diverse range of both rigid and flexible substrates, typically Foamex, Foam core, Corex, DieBond, cardboard, flexible PVC substrates even to the rigours used for vehicle wrapping, shutters, banners and other similar applications.

The Mimaki UJV is available immediately from GPT and has a price of £39,995. The optional CF-1218TD/RC flatbed cutter is available at a discounted bundle price of sub £20,000.

For further information contact GPT on tel: 01753 727128 or visit www.g-p-t.co.uk



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PRODUCT *Choice*

Fantasy Prints produce fantasy signs with Enlite mini LEDs

Northumberland-based Fantasy Prints is passionate about innovation and is constantly seeking new and creative ways to produce signage. When the local Baguette Bar & Café store recently commissioned them to undertake a complete shop refit they turned to Enlite™ LED mini-systems from Robert Horne for a more flexible and workable solution to their creative needs.

The shop refit included both internal and external projects making Enlite™ LED mini, which can be used whenever a small and waterproof light source is required, the ideal choice.

The project was designed and manufactured from start to finish by Fantasy Prints who produced inside a bespoke counter for the shop which incorporated white and blue Enlite lighting radiating light down onto the aluminium effect surface and surrounding flooring. Over the counter lighting projected further blue lighting onto the ceiling. The outdoor signage was flat cut out of Foamalux PVC and was rear routed to make channels to accommodate the further Enlite white and blue lighting providing a light which shone back towards the shop fascia.

David Shepherd, Sign Maker for Fantasy Prints explains why he chose Enlite mini LEDs for this project; "We've worked with several different types of LEDs for many years but more recently we are increasingly turning to Enlite mini-system LEDs as they are just more flexible. Because of their small size in terms of both



length and depth they fit well into design elements that require a little more precision and provide us with much more choice for designing LED systems for our customers."

The Enlite range is suitable for use in a wide variety of applications, including channel letter illumination, back light, indoor lighting, building façade lighting, neon replacement and advertisement signage. It is also very flexible, as power supplies can be routed over 10 metres away from the sign, without any visible voltage drop. Providing a bright and consistent light source, Enlite is also beguilingly quick and easy to use. The modules can be simply stuck into channel letters without any need for glass bending or heat sinking and can even be retrofitted into existing channel letters if required. But perhaps one of the most important benefits is that Enlite has the potential to last for up to 10 years of useful life, thus reducing maintenance costs to the barest minimum.

Robert Horne offers a comprehensive LED portfolio which includes Enlite, Philips and Bright Green products plus support and advice to their customers on this important topic.

For further information about Fantasy Prints contact 01289 303242 or visit www.fantasyprints.co.uk





Corniche represents a refreshing new choice in the budget sign market.

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5mm	0.46	0.68	1.00	1.36	1.85	2.10	2.45	2.92	3.38	4.00	4.78	5.62	6.38	7.45	10.30	28.06
10mm	0.76	1.20	1.49	2.30	3.15	3.98	4.45	5.59	6.60	7.72	8.38	10.67	12.37	15.30	18.22	52.12
19mm	1.69	2.22	3.10	3.60	4.10	6.20	7.00	8.73	10.00	11.52	13.44	14.78	18.56	21.34	26.00	75.24

Acrylic standard colours - 10mm black, white & clear NO MINIMUM ORDER FEE

C/HEIGHT mm	50	75	100	125	150	175	200	225	250	275	300	375	425	500	600	1200
3mm	0.55	0.74	0.88	1.12	1.34	1.67	2.23	2.80	2.98	3.46	4.21	6.34	7.67	9.47	11.54	42.97
5mm	0.84	1.05	1.34	1.67	2.20	2.56	3.26	4.13	5.30	5.72	7.30	8.97	10.02	12.89	15.67	62.10
10mm Black White & Clear	1.66	2.15	2.55	3.30	4.10	5.06	6.30	8.26	9.99	11.56	14.10	17.05	19.67	25.01	31.04	124.03

Acrylic Gold & Silver NO MINIMUM ORDER FEE

C/HEIGHT mm	50	75	100	125	150	175	200	225	250	275	300	375	425	500	600	1200
3mm Gold & Silver	0.58	0.84	1.25	1.85	2.42	2.76	3.18	3.90	4.41	5.64	6.61	8.73	10.38	13.23	19.04	64.93
5mm Gold & Silver	0.59	0.99	1.51	2.26	3.01	3.56	4.24	5.23	6.05	7.63	8.98	12.43	15.14	19.81	28.52	102.84

Aluminium Composite NO MINIMUM ORDER FEE

C/HEIGHT mm	50	75	100	125	150	175	200	225	250	275	300	375	425	500	600	1200
3mm	1.00	1.36	1.78	2.28	2.64	3.12	4.40	5.08	5.97	6.84	7.38	8.88	10.43	14.08	17.69	54.20
Brushed	1.18	1.50	2.08	2.54	3.43	4.26	4.98	5.72	6.89	8.52	9.18	10.42	12.45	15.50	19.80	60.87
Mirror Exterior	1.80	2.28	2.68	3.84	5.28	6.22	7.45	8.40	9.98	12.20	13.88	15.76	18.65	23.67	28.18	90.00

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Hexis appointed official graphics supplier to this year's FIA GT championships

Hexis S.A., the manufacturer of self-adhesive vinyl with headquarters in France, has been named official graphics supplier for the FIA GT Championship, the FIA GT3 European Championship and the GT4 European Cup during 2009.

Thus Hexis supplies all the display materials used at these events including pit panels, car stickers and many other items. This represents over 4000m² of plastic sheeting per year. This strengthens the relationship between the companies, Hexis Racing being a leading competitor in the FIA GT3 European Championship, their drivers having finished second in the Championship last year.

Hexis specialises in pressure-sensitive adhesive vinyl films and pioneered their own process to produce high performance cast vinyl films for car wraps.

Hexis manufactures a full line of graphic vinyl and digital printing media used for sign making and vehicle markings. The company is based in Frontignan, near Montpellier, France with subsidiaries in Germany, Italy and the United States and with affiliate Hexis companies in the Netherlands, Switzerland and the UK. The group exports 40% of its turnover to some 40 countries worldwide, while enjoying sales of EUR 40 million in 2008.

For further information visit www.hexisgroup.com



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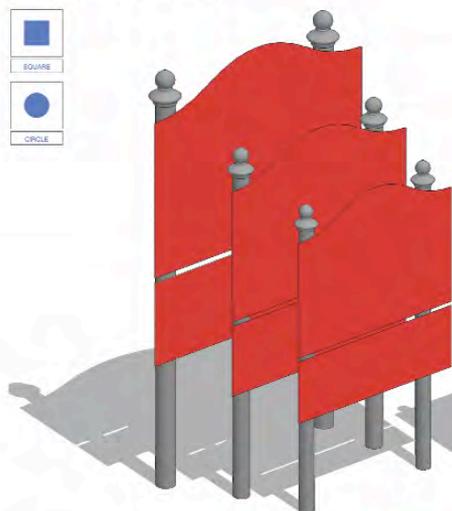
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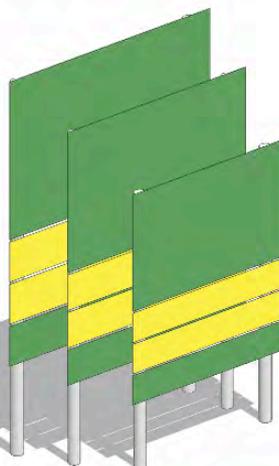
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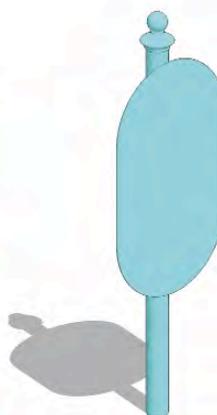
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GZ0601 GZ0602 GZ0603



GZ1006 GZ1007 GZ1008

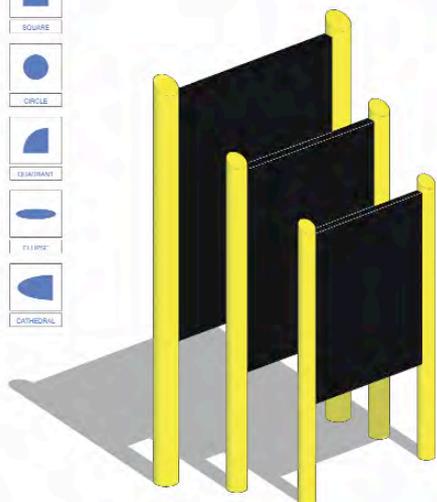


GZ0817

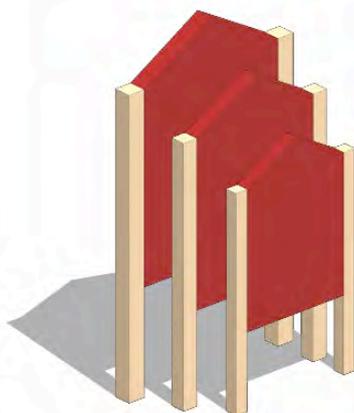


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PLAZA

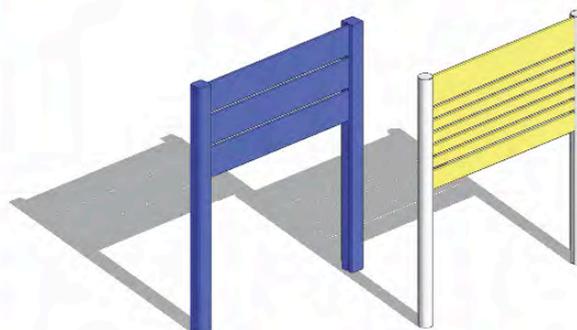


GZ3001 GZ3002 GZ3003



GZ2601 GZ2602 GZ2603

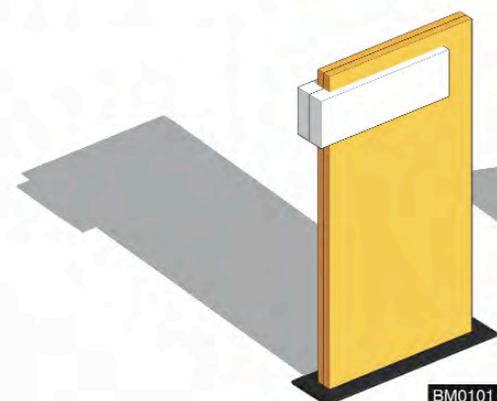
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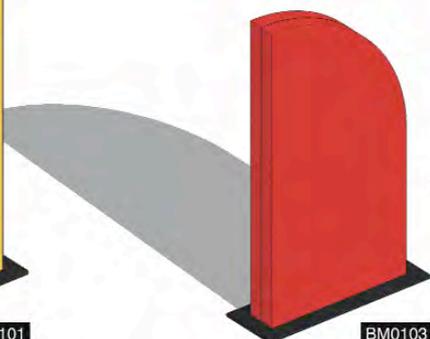
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Mz2803

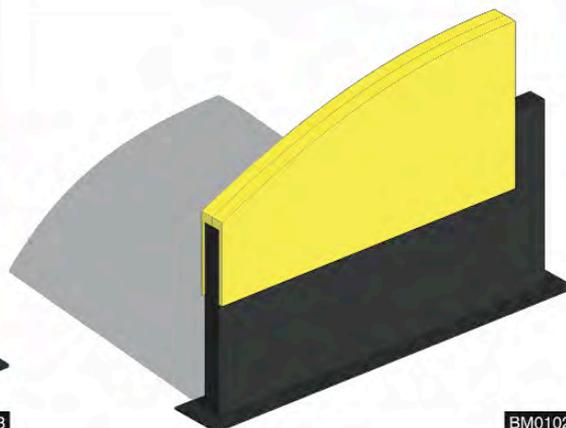
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BM0101



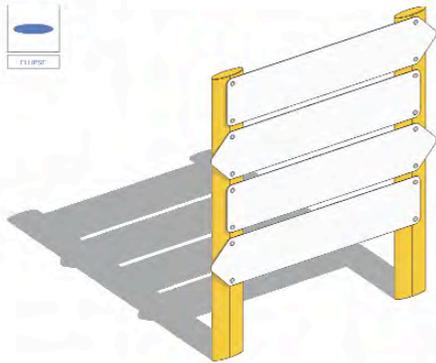
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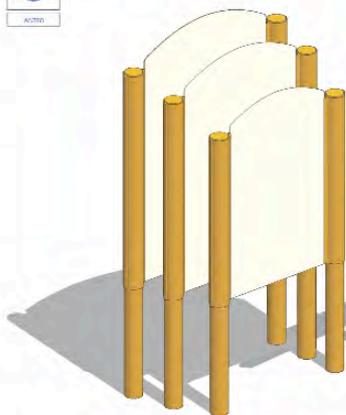


GZ4207 GZ4210 GZ4211

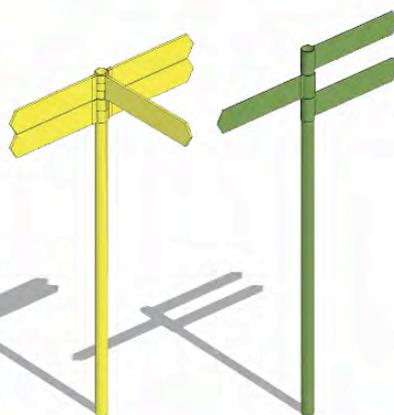


GZ4209

AS760, AS500 & AS980



GZ1801 GZ1802 GZ1803

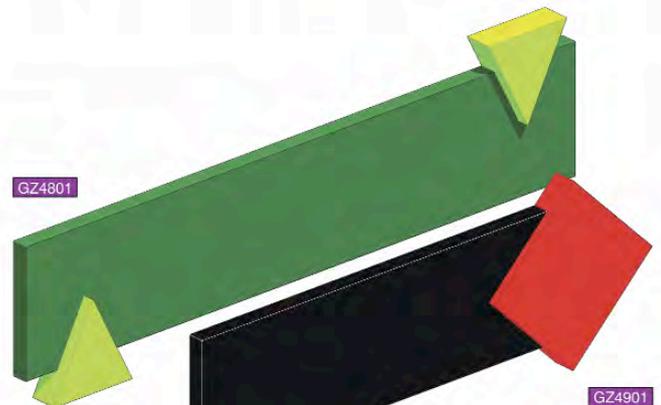


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PROJECT *News*

Having a change of Heart?

Sign Language, the specialist vehicle graphics company based in Witney, have just completed 14 vehicle wraps for Heart FM. The rebrand took place as Global Radio took over G-Cap Media and rebranded the stations to Heart FM.

Sign Language previously wrapped the fleet of 53 Ford Galaxy's and Mitsubishi Grandis 18 months ago in the "Thunder" design for G Cap media. When Global needed the Heart rebrand they knew exactly where to come to wrap a batch of the vehicles.

Among the vehicles came a Fiat 500, which was also to be wrapped in the Heart wrap.

The vehicles were stripped back to the original black paintwork and the new red vinyl encased the whole vehicle before the individual frequencies were applied.

Originally selected for the project due to their experience, reputation for quality and their huge, secure undercover vehicle bays, Sign Language knows how to achieve the best results with vehicle graphics.

Emily Jenkins of Sign Language explains: "As always it is a pleasure to work with the team at Global. It is unbelievable



The old thunder, Fiat 500.

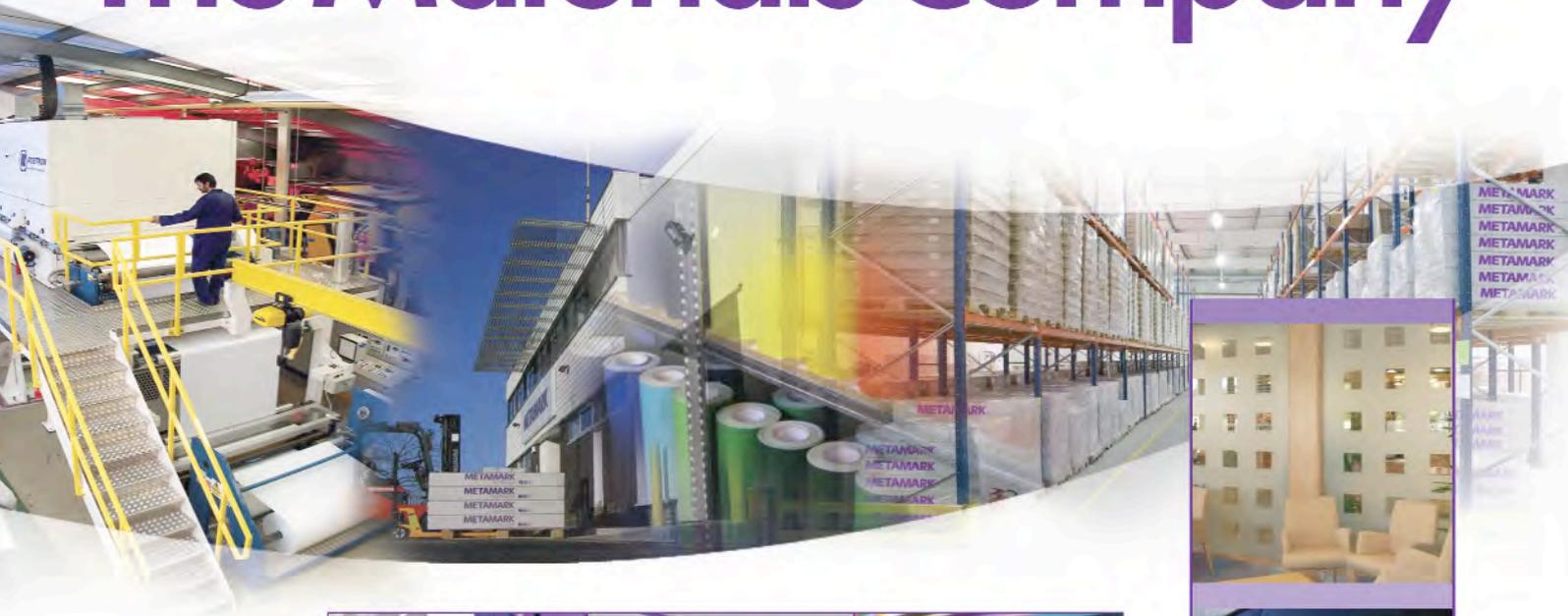
how the same vehicles look completely different - it's amazing what a difference changing vinyl can create to get a message across."

For further information telephone Emily Jenkins at Sign Language on 01993 773200.



A change of Heart.

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PROJECT *News*

Mida Sign Services denies it employs aliens!

Strange sightings of aliens were reported recently at the IMAX cinema at the National Photographic Museum in Bradford.

But there was no cause for alarm; the aliens were experienced sign installation engineers from Mida Sign Services UK Ltd who were erecting a 132 sq.m. promotional banner for the new 3D film *Monsters Vs Aliens*.

Mike Smith Managing Director of Mida Sign Services explains: "When our client, Extreme Display Ltd, asked whether we could supply a couple of aliens to do this install, we originally thought it was a joke. However, we soon rose to the challenge and got into the spirit of it."

The 13m x 10m UPVC banner is installed into an aluminium tensioning system that enables easy change of the graphics on a regular basis as different films come to the venue.

Chris Jenkins, Managing Director of Extreme Display Ltd in Keighley, West Yorkshire, says: "The client asked if the engineers would wear costumes for the installation and take part in a photo shoot. The museum is situated on a busy road leading into Bradford and they wanted to catch the attention of passing motorists to help promote the film."

Chris continues: "Much of our work is specialised and bespoke, often for museums, visitor and heritage centres. We use Mida Sign Services because they always give 100 per cent attention to detail and are a reputable company we can rely on. We have worked with Mida Sign Services for many years and find them to be very professional and experienced. Mida Sign Services completely managed this contract throughout, including hiring access machinery, organising parking permits, etc, and they completed everything on time and to the client's satisfaction."

Some might say that the results were out of this world.

Mida Sign Services UK has been trading for more than 25 years and has a wealth of experience in the installation and maintenance of all types of signage and graphic products.



Installation engineers from Mida Sign Services get into the spirit of *Monsters Vs Aliens*.

They told us to dress like this, and now some people say they prefer it!

More information about Mida Sign Services is available at www.midasignservices.co.uk or by telephoning 0161 8300 600. Extreme Display Ltd can be contacted via www.extremedd.co.uk or telephone 01536 611316.

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Choosing the right freestanding sign for your customer - with a little help

Free standing signs come in all shapes and sizes, and are used in a myriad of applications. The range of styles and shape available is almost as wide as the different locations they're found in.

Danny Schneider, Director of Business Development for Vista System International, looks at several factors that may assist in the evaluation process of choosing the sign that's right for your customer.



Smart and modern design makes these freestanding signs from Vista International effective and stylish.

Whichever solution you choose, make sure the return on investment is positive. Danny advises to try and forecast the following: how long will your customer be using the sign for, how many times will your customer want to replace the contents of the sign, and how will your sign hold up when taking into account the expected traffic volume in your customer's establishment.

Vista International provides ideas, samples, tips, tools and 'how to' videos on its website to help sign professionals select the correct solutions.

Durability

Is the customer looking for a temporary freestanding banner display just for a few days prior to an event? Is he looking for a changeable sign to display updated promotions daily? Is he directing visitors through a lobby and to a convention centre? A freestanding sign must be designed to withstand the expected traffic volume, taking into account issues such as accidental bumps with shopping trolleys and the wandering hands of children, compelled to touch.

Portability

The key behind freestanding signs is the ability to transport them swiftly and with minimum effort. However, this advantage also has a downside, seeing as how by bolting down the sign you gain durability but portability decreases or even becomes non-existent. If you expect to have to move the sign often and therefore can't bolt it down, simply look for a solution that is freestanding and sturdy (a wide base is always a good point to start with); if you have a location where you expect to have to move the sign every once in a while consider attachable/detachable solutions offered by different sign frame manufacturers; If you don't need to move it and are concerned about durability, bolt it down.

Purpose

What will the sign be used for? Is it a sign for displaying regularly updated information or a one intended to serve its purpose "as is"?

Appearance

A sign can fulfil its purpose, be durable and portable and still look unappealing. Help your customers communicate their message by choosing the correct text, fonts, graphics, pictures and special effects. Also the correct size, as too many people underestimate the size needed for their sign, and the right colours to make their message stand out and match the surroundings.

Quality

This is a combination of one's budget and the above factors (durability, portability, purpose and appearance). Part of a sign professional's job is to offer alternative sign solutions to match a customer's requirements.

Find a system you like

Information collected based on the factors above will help locate a solution provider that will give your customers with a memorable, high quality sign that conveys their sales message, identify their business, or direct traffic to and throughout a location.

It's wise to invest time and research in shopping around when choosing a system, as switching systems too often can waste time and money spent on training, planning, and correction of errors.

Other factors that can help choose the system include free or discounted samples, design, quality of materials, simplicity, wide range of sizes, Braille/ADA compatibility, service and support, price. Last but not least, choose a system that you like and believe in, as this will show when you're selling it to your customers.



Wide variety of A boards and pavement signs provides a solution to suit all needs

One of the most popular of all free-standing signs is the good old A Board. Despite some local authorities restricting their use in some areas and various groups campaigning for their removal, A Boards remain popular and can be seen on pavements and outside retail outlets across the country.

The popularity of the A Board is largely due to its combination of factors essential for any successful sign – it's effective, simple and affordable. The basic style of hasn't changed but new materials and variations in design keep this perennial favourite looking up to date.

Pavement and forecourt signs have increased in popularity over recent years and many sign companies have developed individual styling for their ranges.

Contact details for the companies featured can be found on page 55.

Jansen Display estimates that its standard Outdoor version with 32mm snap frame, metal back wall, hinges and stays represents more than 80 per cent of the A Board sales in the UK today. For inside and covered applications where a lighter A Board can be used, the company offers a budget Indoor version.

Traditional styling with a modern makeover



Assigns designed this A Board specifically for one of its clients.

Assigns recently developed a new A Board to fulfil the requirements of one of its largest national clients.

A traditional wooden A-Board in appearance and construction with a solid wood frame, this unit has the added benefit of using galvanised steel back panels and the magnetically closing fixed APET lenses of a Stormforce PRO to secure an A1 poster, making it the best of both worlds.

Exclusive to Jansen Display Ltd of St Neots, Cambridgeshire, is a range of designer A Boards called Compasso.

This patented design offers aesthetics, logo panels, waterproof pockets and bi-colour branding options. The radius top profile also removes the possibility of trapping fingers when folding away. With the options of bi-colour branding and top or bottom logo panels, the Compasso range provides exclusive advertising opportunities.



The Compasso range is available only from Jansen Display.

Rotosigns manufactures all its signs on site in Coseley, West Midlands, meaning the company is able to offer variations to meet specific customer needs.

Rotosigns developed the A Board to include a curved header ideal for application of company logo. Powder coated for maximum protection against corrosion, this Board has a perfect surface for application of graphics and provides a simple, yet effective method of pavement or foyer advertising.

Different models in the Rotosigns range all have a high degree of quality construction and give versatility of size and shape.

Popular with sign companies are the steel AS1 and AS2 A Frames with glossy white powder coat from PHP, a small and innovative company based in the historic racecourse town of Towcester, Northamptonshire.



The D Board from Rotosigns.

FREESTANDING SIGNS *Feature*

Traditional styling with a modern makeover

Usually supplied blank for sign makers to apply their own vinyl graphics, both the AS1 and AS2 benefit from robust construction with quality butt-hinges and folding side-stay.

The AS1 has a more angular appearance and the advantage of a security loop welded at base of one leg before powder coating; the AS2 has a heavier frame with rounded corners and zintec panel powder coated separately then riveted to frame afterwards, meaning two quality variations on the same theme. The AS1 also comes in a larger A1 size.

Perfect for pubs, clubs and restaurants is PHP's AB1 A Frame chalkboard, which has a traditional arched top and is available with a British racing green or jet black frame.

More popular with shops, hairdressers and the like is the ASF, which has a lighter steel frame and Foamex type panels, and the quality WAB/2 with a rustic American Redwood framed chalkboard A Frame. Similar in design to the AB1, these have sliding and reversible bow-top panels, quality brass effect hinges and folding side-stay.



Customers like the traditional A board from PHP.



Style and colour variations are kept in stock at PromotaSigns.

A wide range of both pavement and wall signs in nine stock colours, generally available for next day delivery, are available from PromotaSigns Ltd.

More efficient manufacturing means cost savings and PromotaSigns has spent time developing and refining its manufacturing process, streamlining it to reduce costs without compromising on quality. A family run business, PromotaSigns has chosen its range encompasses the needs of sign suppliers, from simple budget boards through versatile poster holders to wall signs.

In contrast to the traditional appearance of most A-Boards is the LCD Display Digi-A-Board that 3G Metal Fabrications manufactures at its Leicester base.



This A Board catches the attention with moving images and music.

Consisting of two 32" or 20" LCD displays running on 24V battery, this A Board produces pictures, films and music, running either independently or together. Its individual design also allows remote control features and accessible download qualities. The units can also be networked together.

Walls + Forms Inc offers its patented EuroSign EuroStand and GraphicStand at the component level and alternatively in prefab format. Components include extrusions that enable customisation and building in any size and in any quantity.

The EuroSign EuroStand with T-Base configuration is ideally suited for applications including full-colour lifestyle posters, promotional ads, and any other visual merchandising application.

The EuroSign GraphicStand with A Stand configuration is designed for a variety of commercial uses such as retail stores, restaurants, lobbies, hospitals, trade show exhibits and more.

Both models are acomodate graphics upto 24" x 36" and are available in a variety of standard colours with custom colours and sizes also available.

Tough enough to survive strong winds all year round

Just launched is a brand new A1 Pavement Sign from UK POS, especially designed to endure the all too frequent windy and rainy days we experience in this country. Its tough exterior incorporates steel springs to prevent the sign from falling over or moving in strong winds. That, coupled with a modern design and the popular freestanding water filled base, makes it perfect for outdoor POS displays.

Double-sided to maximum advertising exposure, the snap shut opening mechanism allows users to change displays on a regular basis, with the reassurance that any POS print will stay looking fresh inside the weather resistant poster holder.

The brand new A1 Pavement Sign joins the existing UK POS range of street signs and A boards, designed to suit all budgets. Other new signs to the range include the credit crunching Pavement Flex, which comes flat packed and is easy to assemble, the Pavement Swinger with a poster sleeve for interchangeable POS print and the Forecourt Sign.

Also designed to withstand severe wind and weather conditions are Jansen Displays' heavy duty pavement signs with water filled bases.

The company's latest design, Windtalker Excel, has a rounded top and bottom profile with injection moulded end caps and snap profiles to the vertical sides. This removes sharp corners which can pose a health and safety risk and also lessens the potential of the poster being blown out in strong winds.

Unlike many imported pavement signs which use poor quality springs and can be found leaning to one side after only a short time outdoors, all Jensen Displays' units have quality reinforced springs giving extended product life.

Another robust new product is the Stormforce Pro from Assigns, a leading designer, manufacturer and supplier of quality graphic display and POS/POP equipment.



Jansen Displays' Windtalker Excel has reinforced springs for stability.



UK POS' new pavement sign is designed to cope with strong winds and rain.



New from Assigns is the Stormforce Pro Forecourt Sign, manufactured from fully recyclable materials.

Tough enough to survive strong winds all year round

The Stormforce Pro (pictured on previous page) is a Forecourt Sign manufactured from fully recyclable materials, with polyethylene frame and base mouldings, a galvanised steel back panel and APET lenses. Designed to accept A1 size posters and with its clever magnetic poster change system, replacing graphics is made easy.

Assigns' market leading Stormforce II Forecourt Sign is available from A1 all the way up to 60" x 40" poster size. Its 44mm aluminium snap frame along with a 2.5mm ABS back panel and APET front sheets ensure that this product will give years of service.

A much more robust unit than many similar imported products, the Stormforce II can also be customised in size, colour and specification to suit the client's individual requirements.

Extensive warehousing enables Assigns to keep stock of 90 per cent of its product range ready for immediate delivery.

The Magic Wand from 3G Metal Fabrications is an A Frame that bends with the wind; the stronger the wind, simply adjust the wing span.

Designed for all kinds of events, the Magic Wand is manufactured in mild steel and available in A1 and A2 sizes. Lightweight and easy to handle, these can be used as a temporary barrier and come with extra clear acrylic sheet, double sided, and magnetic securing strip. The Magic Wand A Frame can also be ordered without the acrylic sheet, ready for vinyl application or screen printing them.

In addition, the Magic Wand has a locking feature for extra security, which snaps shut flat with a magnetic catch and can be specially coated for use as a chalk board.



The Magic Wand from 3G Metal Fabrications is designed to bend with the wind.

Fastsigns banner helps Spinal Injuries Association

Fastsigns Milton Keynes came to the rescue recently when the Spinal Injuries Association needed something to raise its profile at events and fundraisers. Alan Grimes and his

team donated a pull-up banner in time for the charity to take it to this year's London Marathon and a dinner celebrating its 35th anniversary.

Fastsigns offers a full range of custom sign and graphic products, including an array of free standing options. The company's first UK franchise was launched in 1994, and there are now 23 Fastsigns centres throughout the UK and more than 500 centres worldwide.



Fastsigns SIA pull up banner – The Fastsigns Milton Keynes team donated this banner to help the Spinal Injuries Association.

Hand painting keeps it special at Signs of the Times

Signs of the Times has considerable expertise in producing one-off village, town and city boundary signs.

The company's signs are in demand from villages and smaller towns wanting a unique welcoming sign depicting a local feature such as an ancient church, spectacular Roman bridge or similar. Some signs include a colourful coat of arms while others make much of the floral awards won for Best Kept Village or Town.

The signs are cast in solid, rigid polyurethane with letters, borders and motifs cast in relief.



Boundary signs often feature items of local interest, such as an ancient church.

Signs of the Times has more than 30 years experience of casting in this very robust material and its artists and pattern makers interpret customer requirements to specific instructions.

The pattern for the sign is built up using mainly wood, mdf and modelling clays then placed into a sand casting box and a sand mould produced. Polyurethane is poured into the mould and left to cure. After sandblasting and fettling in the workshop to clean up the surface, the sign is spray painted with a quality automotive paint. Artists hand-paint all the detail on the letters and the motif, a particularly skilled part of the operation that Signs of the Times is very proud of.



An artist hand-painting fine details at Signs of the Times.

Options galore from backlit floor stand displays



The patented EuroSign EuroStand and GraphicStand from Walls + Forms Inc.

Versatile Lights Alive backlit floor stand displays are available in illuminated or non-lit styles from Walls + Forms Inc.

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



Old favourites re-launched by customer demand

As the name Rotosigns suggests, the company's signature sign is the rotating sign, which is available in three sizes.

This year Rotosigns re-launched the wall mounted version and by popular customer demand has also bought back quite a few of its old favourites. Along with current offers these are included on the company's website.

Contact details for companies featured

3G Metal Fabrications Ltd - www.3gmf.co.uk or tel. 01162 510352.

Assigns Ltd - www.assigns.co.uk or tel. 01462 672000.

Fastsigns - www.fastsigns.co.uk or tel. 08001 680145.

Fastsigns Milton Keynes - tel. 01908 273540.

Jansen Display Ltd - www.jansen-display.co.uk or tel. 01480 479231.

PHP Products - www.phproducts.co.uk or tel. 01327 350751.

Rotosigns - www.rotosigns.com or tel. 01902 404008.

Sign of the Times - www.sott.co.uk or tel. 01525 874185.

UK POS - www.ukpos.com or tel. 0161 431 4400.

Vista System International - www.vistasystem.com or 08004 049151.

Walls + Forms Inc. - www.wallsforms.com or tel. +1 972 745 0800.

Sign Update helps Bartuf Graphics find the right man for a challenging project

This striking logo, spanning almost two metres, needed an innovative approach to achieve the halo illumination required by the client – and Bartuf Graphics found the right man for the job thanks to *Sign Update*.

Bartuf Graphics won the order to produce the sign for Jackson's Bakery head office in Hull. Some 300 people are employed on the site and more than a million loaves of bread are baked there a week.

Terry Horscroft of Bartuf Graphics explains: "At Bartuf Graphics we're digital print specialists. We have crews fitting signs across UK and have completed prestigious contracts for some of the country's biggest household names; for this project we decided to buy in the built up logo and lighting."

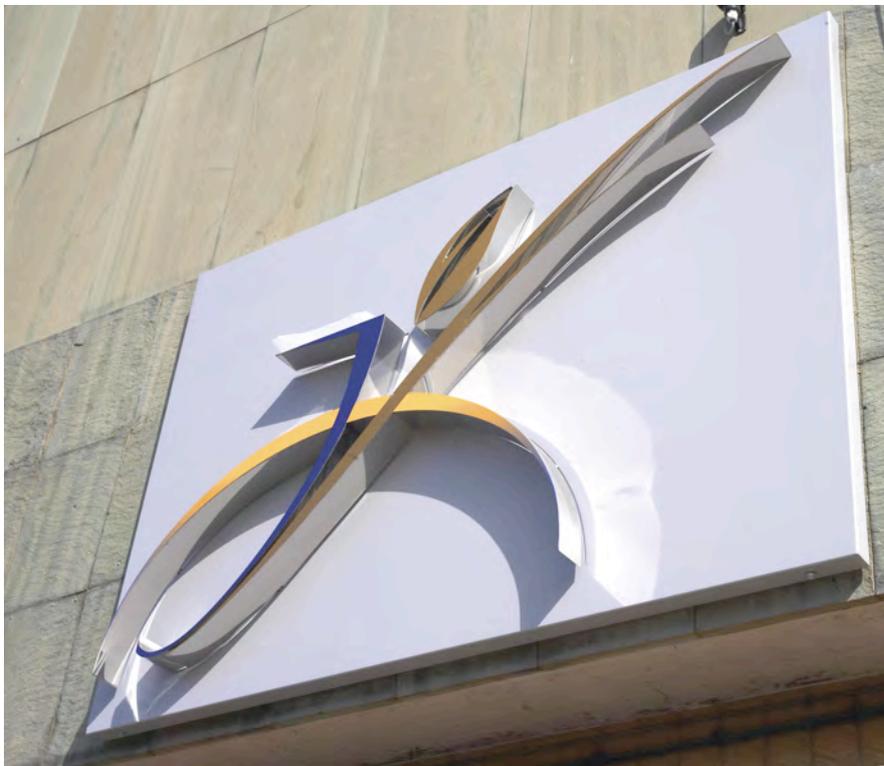
"We contacted several signmaking suppliers and most of them more or less just gave us a price and couldn't wait to get off the phone. They didn't want to discuss the individual project and they didn't bring up how the entire logo, including the areas that taper to a fine point, would be sufficiently illuminated. I didn't feel that it would be a good working relationship or we could be fully confident in the finished commission."

Then, while reading the March issue of *Sign Update*, Terry came across an article about Jason Edwards, Proprietor of 5StarSigns, and his specialist skills in hand built letters and tricky jobs. Terry contacted Jason and knew he'd found the right man for the job.

"Jason was willing to talk through the project and was confident he would come up with a solution to lighting the logo's tapering ends. In addition, he was flexible on lead times and willing to do what was necessary to meet deadlines," says Terry.

Jason takes up the story: "Usually LEDs are put inside a letter or logo to create the halo effect. But LEDs wouldn't have fitted inside where the logo narrows off to fine points, meaning that around 30 per cent of it would be unlit."

Using his considerable experience Jason worked out an effective solution. He designed a back box with a water-jet cut out of the logo in an aluminium front panel backed up with Opal

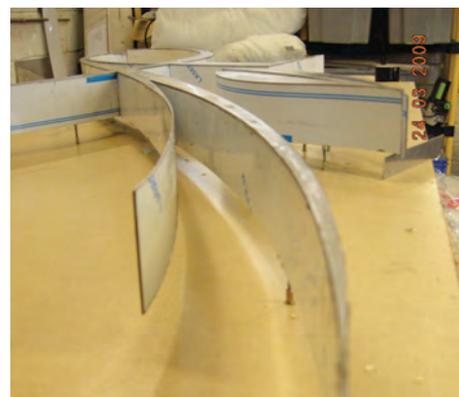
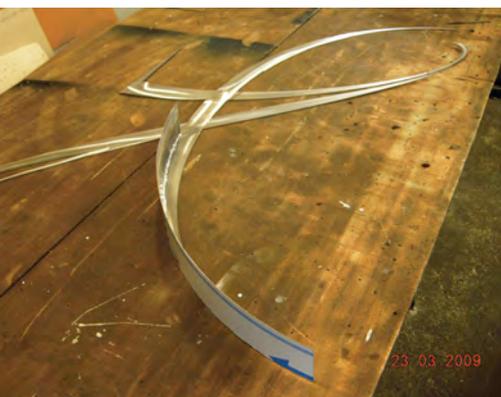


050, and inserted LEDs in the cut out. Bartuf Graphics sprayed the panel and Jason hand built the logo using de-scaled and mirror polished stainless steel.

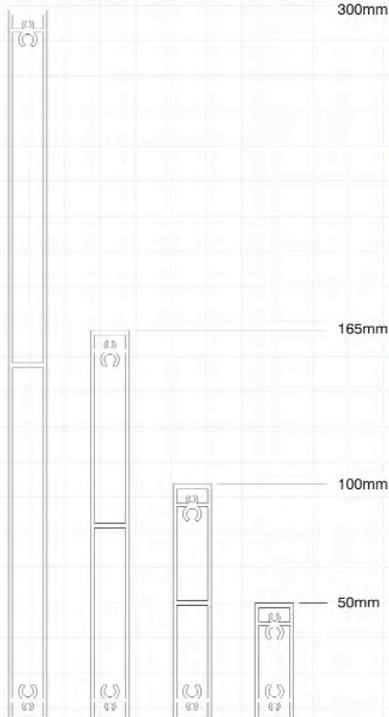
He then fixed the logo 10mm or so off the front panel, knowing this would result in the LEDs creating the required halo effect around the entire logo, including the tapering ends. Finally, blue vinyl was applied to the face of the finished sign as per client instructions.

Terry continues: "We were well impressed when we lit up the sign for the first time in our workshop. And even more important, our client is very happy with the completed work."

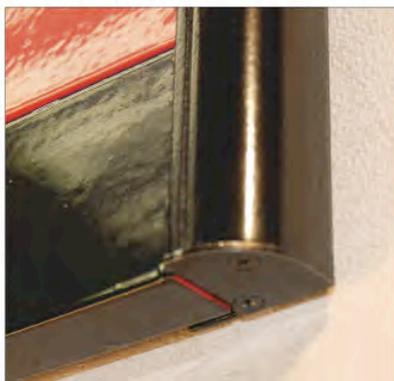
View more of Jason's work at www.5starsigns.co.uk or telephone 01803 296836. Contact Bartuf Graphics at www.bartuf.co.uk or telephone 01482 216040.



Returns were folded and welded by hand, building up to the finished logo. The tapered ends presented a challenge to create effective halo lighting.



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Centre Signs – building a reputation on built up letters

Since its inception in 1986 Centre Signs Ltd has worked to make its name synonymous with built up stainless steel letters of the highest quality.

This reputation has not been easily won but has been earned by hard work and diligence, says Managing Director Trevor Cockbill.

"Listening to customers and taking their comments on board is a sound foundation for any company. At Centre Signs we consider ourselves driven by customers rather than by technology. Quality is never an issue because we don't send out substandard goods that a customer rejects, that's a sure fire way to lose customers," says Trevor.

Ensuring nothing less than perfect is sent to any customer is the inspection / despatch department, which is staffed by three long-serving members of personnel who have a total of 45 years experience in the company's different manufacturing sections.

"Having the best personnel at Centre Signs is critical to our success. Some people say letter makers are a breed unto themselves but their skills are not to be under-estimated. We have six dedicated letter makers, all highly qualified and extremely skilled.



Acrylic built-up letters are always popular with Centre Signs' customers.



Trade customers include sign makers providing international concerns with corporate branding.

Whether it's polished, brushed, gold titanium, stainless steel, de-scaled stainless steel with a stove enamelled finish, or acrylic letters to be illuminated by LED or neon, the quality is second to none. It is due to their skill that we at Centre Signs have made our reputation and become the envy of other trade suppliers," says Trevor.

In 2006 Centre Signs made a significant investment with the purchase of a Tekcel CNC router. Powerful routing heads, digitally-controlled, servo motors and ball lead-screw drive systems on every axis mean Tekcel routers make light work of the heaviest production schedules. Centre Signs chose an E Series with a bed size of 3100 x 2070mm and automatic tool change facilities to cut plastics, composites, metals and wood more quickly and more precisely than previously. A nesting option in the software enables lead times to be reduced whilst containing manufacturing costs, which is reflected in the competitive prices Centre Signs offers.

The Tekcel router combines well with other facilities at the company's Leicester site, including 3000mm and 2500mm guillotines, a 3000mm hydraulic folder, and MIG and TIG welding facilities for all types and sizes of tray and panels. Centre Signs also provides a powder coating option for aluminium trays.

Supplying sign makers is not an easy task as ever shorter turnarounds are demanded, says Trevor. In response, Centre Signs continuously updates its quoting and job card software. Written in-house to the company's own specifications, this makes predicting lead times and delivery dates easier and more accurate than ever before.

The latest recruit to Centre Signs is Scott Hammond who joined the busy sales and estimating office at the beginning of this year. Scott's previous experience in graphics and point of sale has quickly made him a valuable and versatile member of the internal sales team.

Trevor is confident that Centre Signs will be supplying the sign trade with letters of the highest quality looks for another 20+ years.

"Recession or not, quality at a good price is always needed," he says.

Find out more and view examples of Centre Signs' work at www.centresigns.co.uk or telephone 0116 271 4247.

Finally, Trevor adds this: "I'd like to thank Roger Hinchliffe for all the help he's given me over a number of years in promoting Centre Signs to sign makers across the country through Sign Update. Enjoy your retirement Roger – let the others take the strain!"

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...and much more

Please see our extensive web site for information on these and other products and services in our range.

COMPANY *Profile*

The future looks bright for Links Signs and Graphics

Shaun Bennett has never been a man to turn down a challenge and as a new start up, he and partner Phil Kingdom, together as Links Signs and Graphics (LSG), have enjoyed a record turnover in 2008 despite the current economic gloom.

Established 12 months ago after spotting a gap in the North West market, LSG has seen the business grow and far exceed the financial projections during the first year of trading.

With an enviable client list built through client recommendation and word of mouth, Links, Signs & Graphics, produce full-colour graphics in small, large and super-wide formats for use indoors or



Moulded letters internally illuminated with red lights.



External metal signage for Blackpool Pleasure Beach.

outdoors for partners including Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Councils, MOD, Britain's Got Talent and Crimestoppers, to name just a few. As well as working closely with corporate clients they have also built up a very strong reputation as a trusted trade supplier. Great quality and superior service levels supported with good prices are all key points for the trade customers, giving them the confidence to work with Links.

As well as solvent prints for vinyls and banners they have just purchased the very first Mimaki UV direct flatbed printer through Granthams of Preston – the first of it's kind in the North of England. This adds another exciting step in the Links growth both for their existing clients and any future clients wishing to be supplied with this type of work.



Internal hang down banners for the Showzam Festival, Blackpool.

Providing more than just signage solutions, LSG uses an artistic team to develop ideas in response to the client brief. From the first site visit to the final installation there is always one point of contact to ensure that the finished project is of the highest standard and most importantly gets the client noticed by its target market. In addition, they have drawn on Shaun's 30 years of experience in the graphics industry and his natural ability to build long term relationships with his clients. The success of LSG has been achieved without any advertising or marketing but through organic growth generated by client satisfaction and recommendation generated through the pair's commitment to excellence.

Shaun comments: "We live in our client's worlds, striving to understand clearly their needs. Our clients are our most important asset - they decide our future and our overriding objective is to become a valued resource to our clients rather than someone who simply sells to them.

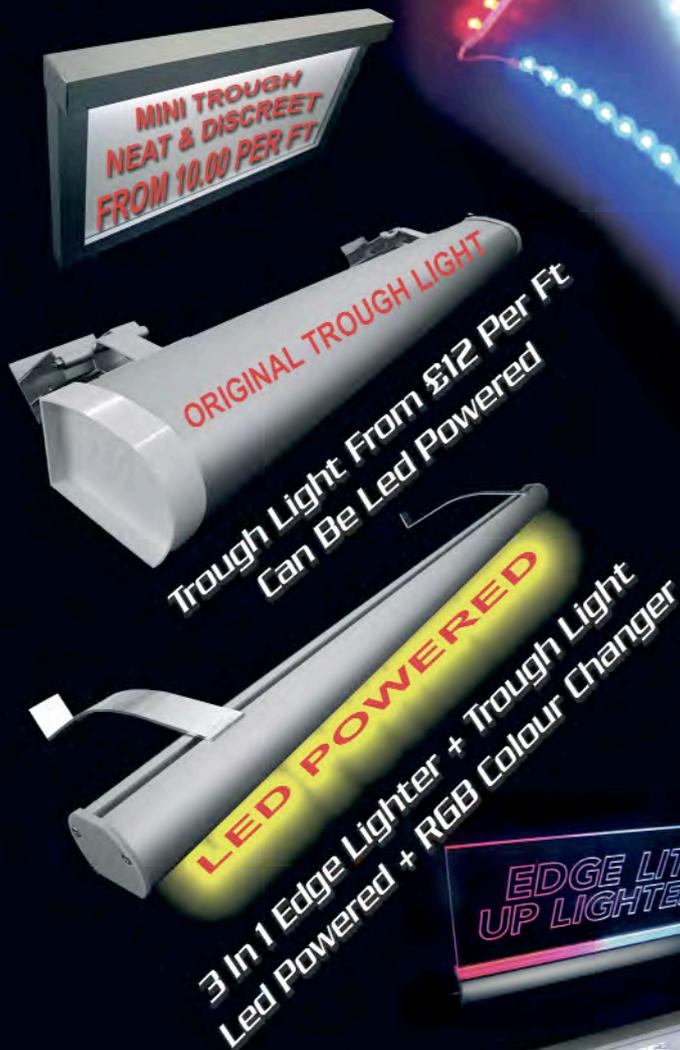
.....continued on page 62



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illuminated
poster displays



Bow Fronted
Menu Boxes



100mm Deep
Slimbo Light Boxes
Built To Order

COMPANY Profile

The future looks bright for Links Signs and Graphics

.....continued from page 60

"We solve problems by listening to our customers needs and we build partnerships and alliances. We also hand pick the suppliers we work with to ensure they have similar beliefs and objectives and by doing so it ensures that we can deliver when we say we will."

Looking forward to another successful year Shaun is hoping that they will be able to grow the business by another 20% this year and all the early signs are promising. With the latest recruit to the team being Shaun's son Carl who has almost four years business experience both in the Banking industry and Lancashire County Council before joining the company. Other family members are also part of the team taking the numbers from two to five key members in just over recent months.

With a new website in development and some changes planned to enhance LSG's own corporate image over the next few months, there is a new look on its way. Shaun hopes this will reflect the business aspirations of the new team and strengthen how they communicate with current and of course, potential customers.

Links are very proud to have got to the final of the BIBAs – Be Inspired Business Awards, in the Best New Business category run by the North West Chamber of Commerce. From hundreds of applicants Links reached the final five in their category just narrowly missing out on the first prize – all in all another milestone and terrific achievement within the first 12 months.

Over the next three years there will be further developments and investment in premises together with investment in the latest production techniques and the recruitment of two, or more, new team members to help LSG continue to deliver the high standards achieved and cope with the projected increase in business.

All the signs are excellent...

For further information please contact Shaun on 01253 291 516 or visit www.linkssignsandgraphics.co.uk



Marquee branding for the International Volleyball.



Innovative outdoor media for Blackpool Zoo.



Outdoor media in Blackpool.

FASTSIGNS illuminate Sheffield Academy

FASTSIGNS® Birmingham is helping the new Sheffield Community Academy make an excellent first impression, by installing attractive illuminated signs in both the student and visitor reception areas.

Claire Pritchard, the Academy's Business and Finance Director said: "We are proud of our new identity and we want to convey that to people who visit us and to our students. The signage really brightens up the reception areas and makes a big impact when people come in."

The signs display the Academy's new emblem in brushed steel raised lettering, backlit with blue LED lighting. FASTSIGNS, a specialist in signage and graphics, including vehicle signage, exhibitions and banners, has also provided some directional signs to the school.

Martin Drury, who owns FASTSIGNS Birmingham with his wife Janie said: "We're very proud to have been chosen to provide this work for the Academy, and to be associated with such a successful school."

Sheffield Community Academy, previously Sheffield Sports and Community College, changed its name in January 2009. The school serves 1500 students including 300 sixth formers and is renowned for significantly improving its exam results within the last five years.

For further information about the products and services available from FASTSIGNS Birmingham contact Martin or Janie Drury on 0121 236 2123 or email martin.drury@fastsigns.com



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COMPANY *Profile*

An illuminating experience from Kings Plastics, the SignBuild Centre

The future is bright and LEDs are leading the way. Kings Plastics, based in the SignBuild Centre in Bristol, believes it is out in front with IPLED and its range of illuminated signs and sign systems.

The company offers from stock the IPLED range of LEDs including the IP68 rated modules, available in two sizes and in a full range of colours as well as RGB. Kings also supplies self-adhesive ribbon LEDs in 5m lengths, again available in many colours including RGB. Within the range is a large selection of power supplies from 15 to 150watt, all IP 67 rated, and a six watt model for internal use only. Also ready for despatch are LED tubes in four sizes - 600mm, 900mm, 1200mm and 1500mm - as an alternative to T8 fluorescent lamps.



These require no drivers and can even be retro fitted into existing applications to reduce running costs and carbon footprint.

Kings provides the sign trade with a range of edge lighting sign systems. Miniflex is ideal for edge lighting 8mm clear acrylic panels using LEDs and can be manufactured as either a single light track or a frame. Reflex uses T8 lamps and integral ballast unit to illuminate

an 8mm clear acrylic panel as a single light track. Lightframe was developed primarily to provide a backlit effect for inkjet prints or Duratrans. With a frame section only 35mm deep that can house either LEDs or fluorescent lamps, both with integral ballast or drivers, Kings believes this system represents the ultimate in modern lighting display technology.

All these systems can be adapted to suit various specific applications and past projects demonstrate that with a bit of imagination truly wonderful effects can be produced. Kings supplies both completely finished signs and lighting units only for a customer to fit their own graphic panels.

LEDs lend themselves to illuminating lettering and logos and everyone at Kings prides themselves on the quality of their stainless steel and acrylic built up lettering, which is supplied to the trade with or without illumination.

.....Continued on page 66





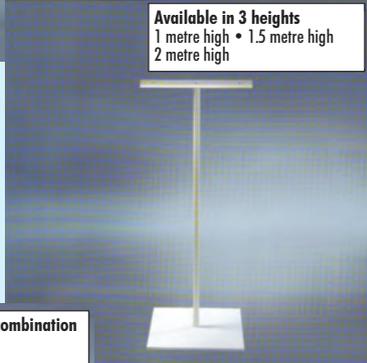
Size:
750 x 500mm*
(*Image area)

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.

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



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



Easy to assemble.
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Banner Frame

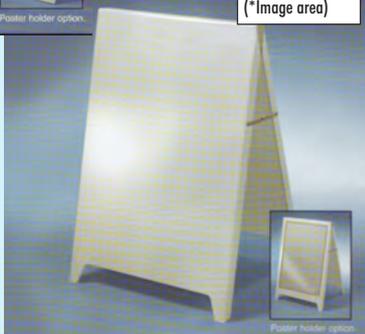
The easy way to display your banners. Fabricated from 25mm square section steel tubing, this double or single sided frame comes in a modular easy to assemble system.



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

Manufactured from 1.2mm zinc coated steel.
• Powder coated in white as standard
• Two heavy duty metal side stays and legged feet
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COMPANY *Profile*

An illuminating experience from Kings Plastics, the SignBuild Centre

.....Continued from page 64

"At Kings, we are constantly looking to the future and will continue to develop and increase our range of existing systems and services in order to offer the trade as full a range of products as possible," says Mark Underhill, Managing Director at Kings Plastics.

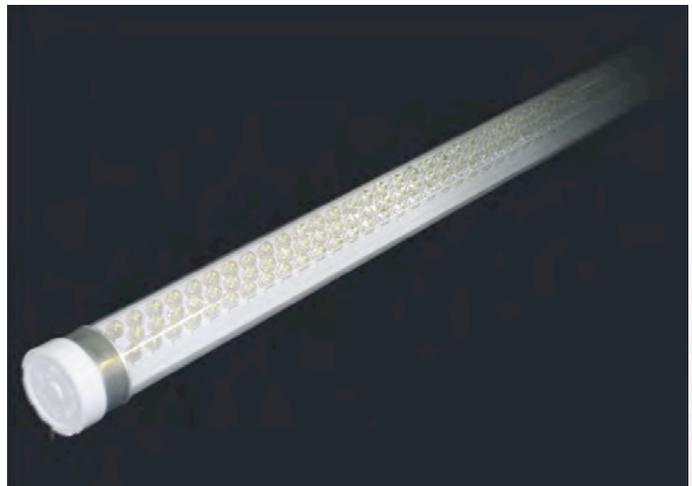
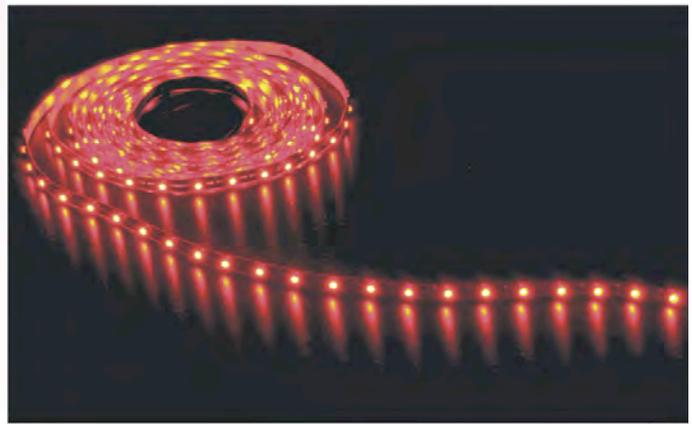
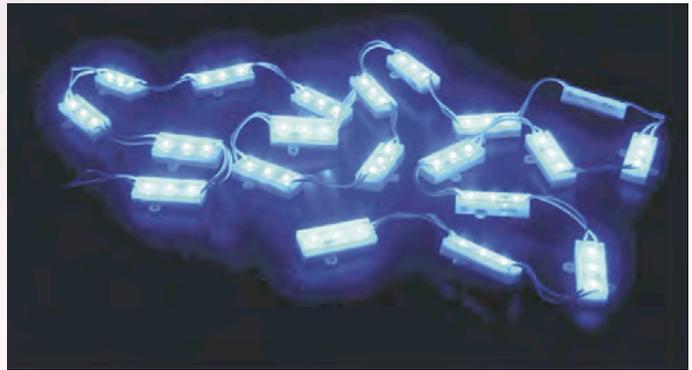
"Having said that, we continue to be competitive with our traditional range of Kingcase light boxes, namely The Junior at 117mm deep and The Major at 175mm deep. Both of these are available as wall mounted or projecting signs."

As with all its products, Kings will supply these as boxes only or with panels included, and graphics supplied to order.

The company's traditional range is complemented by its Marquis non-illuminated projecting signs, for which two sizes of black wrought iron brackets are stocked. The Marquis has been very successful over the years, so much so that Kings recently increased the range with the Mini Marquis, which uses the same aesthetically pleasing extrusion shape as the Marquis but on a smaller scale. This is stocked in several popular sizes, 500 x 300mm, 500 x 400mm and 500 x 500mm, together with a standard wrought iron bracket that ensures a fast and economical service.

Kings Plastics has in recent years developed the skills and facilities to produce tray signs using the popular composite materials. These self coloured trays are economically priced and can also be supplied in whatever specification is required, either plain for companies to apply their own graphics or with illuminated or non illuminated text and logos. With the advent of the LED, the illumination of these trays enters a new dimension, especially with the colour changing facility offered by RGB.

The SignBuild Centre is exactly what it says – a centre offering a complete range of signs and associated products and systems direct to the trade. In-house manufacturing covers the complete range, from vinyl to acrylic and stainless steel lettering and logos, LEDs, light-boxes, frames and panels, edge-lighting, engraving, and more.



Kings Plastics was however established as a plastics fabrication company and this tradition remains today with skilled staff continuing to produce bespoke items such as model covers, point of sale dispensers and displays, along with more industrial products like machine guards.

Kings also provides a cut to size service on any of its sheet products, including acrylic, foam, PVC, composite sheet, aluminium, and others.

"In short if you need signs – you need Kings Plastics," says Mark. "We have been in business for over 60 years and our accumulated knowledge is second to none, so please call our sales team and they will endeavour to help and advise you in order to provide you with what you want, when you want it."

For more information visit the website www.kingsplastics.co.uk or by telephoning 0117 922 6382.



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New XYZ routing support facility now fully operational

The CNC Routershop consumables and after-sales support division of leading global manufacturer XYZ International is now fully operational. Whilst the facility is currently providing full after-sales support (including routing tools and accessories, training, service and upgrades) to the XYZ, Pacer and CAMTECH ranges of CNC routers, it is intended ultimately to extend this to other machine brands.

Heading this new division is XYZ' Managing Director Mark Sweeney who has 25 years of experience in the CNC routing technology sector. He commented: "It is my intention to build on the already successful CNC Routershop brand and deliver a better choice of options at truly affordable prices. We have built a



cncroutershop.com

team of highly skilled and factory-trained specialist engineers who are fully conversant with all aspects of routing technology and who will enable the division to deliver a first class service and market-leading solutions at very competitive prices."

The stock of CNC routing tools and accessories currently held by this new division is one of the largest and most competitively priced available. It can be accessed either via the CNC Routershop catalogue or online. For companies where the volume and nature of the work undertaken may now require higher productivity, improved quality or more flexible programming which cannot effectively be met by the routing technology currently installed, the new facility will provide a range of new upgrade options that will prevent the need for heavy capital investment in new machinery during the current economic downturn.

Further support for users of CNC routers is provided by the team of fully trained XYZ engineers who are experts in all aspects of machine maintenance and installation and who will respond immediately to meet any requirement. This may be just simple routine maintenance, moving machinery to new or rearranged premises, arranging upgrades or dealing with unlikely breakdowns that must be carried out with minimum disruption to the production cycle and at the cheapest price possible, regardless of whether or not a maintenance contract is in place.

The servicing and preventative maintenance available can now be supported with tailored solutions to keep machines running continuously and to avoid potentially damaging and costly breakdowns. This is further supported with a range of either standard or customised product training courses. These cover not only machine operation but also programming, CAD and application-specific issues and can take place either in-factory or at the XYZ training centres in Nottingham and Wolverhampton.

For further information, visit the website www.cncroutershop.com or telephone 0115 988 7770.



Product training courses can be held either at the client's factory or at one of the XYZ training centres.

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*1000	£80.00	£0.08

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Hexis announces release of DVD featuring the latest vehicle wrapping techniques

The Hexis car wrap DVD features the newest techniques and demonstrations from an industry leader and shows a full vehicle wrap with all steps from preparing the tools to the finishing touch of the completed wrap. In just over 30 minutes, installers or those interested in getting into the vehicle wrapping business, learn which points need particular care. The most difficult areas are given special attention with valuable advice on the latest technological advances and tips and tricks to achieve high-quality wrap projects, so even experienced wrappers can benefit from fresh ideas.

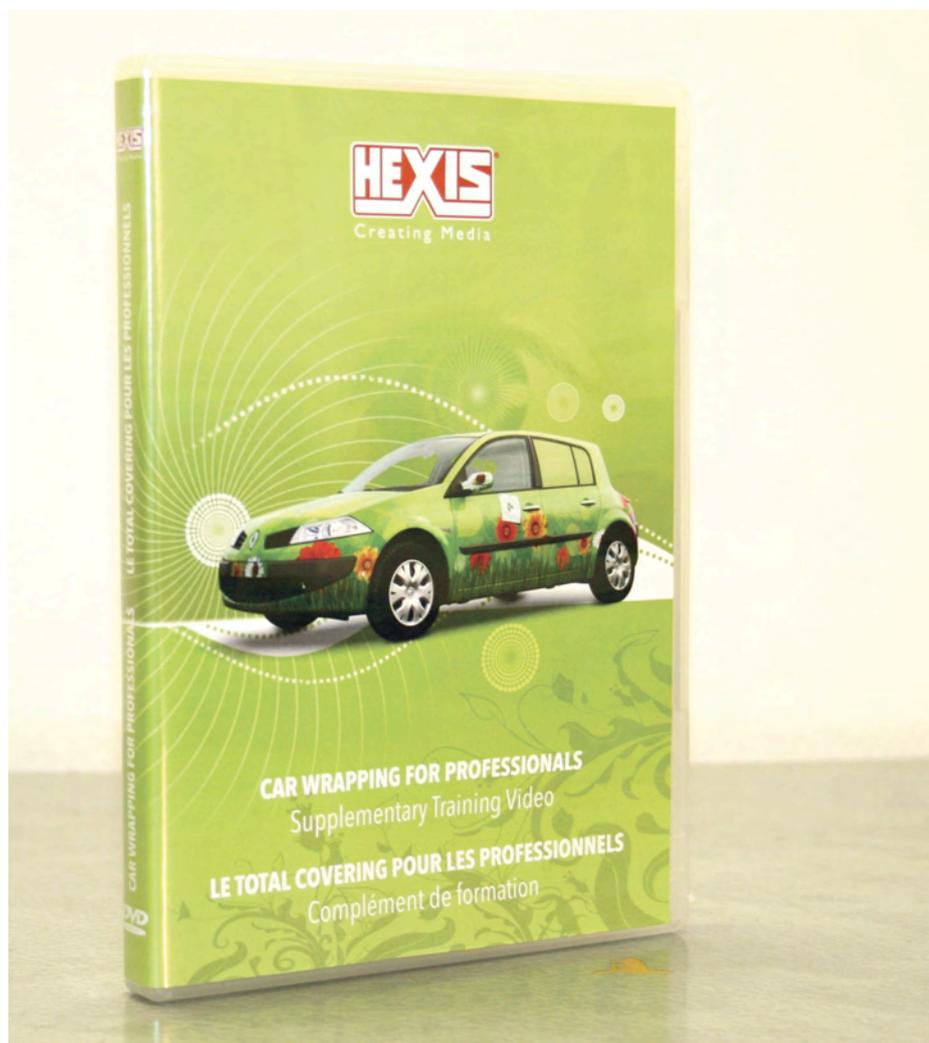
The film features sound tracks in the following languages: English, French, German, Italian and Spanish.

As the film is an integral part of the Hexis training sessions, each participant of a wrapping seminar gets a complementary copy of the DVD.

Hexis regularly holds training courses for professional wrappers. The sessions last one or two days and include everything from the selection of tools and preliminary surface preparation to the final thermal treatment of the wrapping vinyl. For the participants, each training session is a hands-on experience with lots of practical advice on how to be more efficient and produce consistent quality. For dates contact your local Hexis distributor.

Hexis manufactures a full line of graphic vinyl and digital printing media used for sign making and vehicle markings. The company is based in Frontignan, near Montpellier in France with subsidiaries in Germany, Italy and the United States and with affiliate Hexis companies in the Netherlands and the UK. The group exports 40% of its turnover to over 40 countries worldwide, while enjoying sales of EUR 40 million in 2008. The Hexis Catalogue is available on request from local Hexis distributors.

For further information visit www.hexisgroup.com



Fresh new approach for Lightbrigade Graphics ensures continuity of service

A recent statement issued by Total Print Limited confirmed the outright purchase of the print trade side of former B&P Lightbrigade, together forming a new company, Lightbrigade Graphics Limited. The swift purchase has ensured a continuity of trade print and services to existing Lightbrigade customers and an expansion of new print capabilities to existing Total Print customers from their 7,500 sqm Chertsey premises in Surrey.

Managing Director, Andy Edwards explains the new structure; "Total Print has been providing exceptional print services since 1994. We have an existing installed print plant, which includes three Heidelberg presses and two Xerox Digital presses and a number of wide format aqueous printers. The opportunity to purchase the trade print side of B&P Lightbrigade and merge the two companies was too good to miss and so we have formed the new company under the umbrella of Lightbrigade Graphics Ltd

to now offer all our customers a complete and comprehensive print service, which can deliver every print imaginable from business cards to massive building wraps and textile graphics."

The new company is backed by successful business guru and entrepreneur Paul Solaris and his vision and dynamism is evident on a whistle-stop tour of the print plant. "Lightbrigade is a really interesting business with a loyal customer base and a real passion for delivering the highest quality print to those customers. With Andy at the helm, Lightbrigade Graphics Ltd combines many years of traditional and digital print expertise with a real passion for colour and delivering quality printed matter. It's really exciting to be part of this new venture and being able to offer a complete holistic service to our customers is our number one priority," says Paul.

For further information call tel: 01932 570 734.

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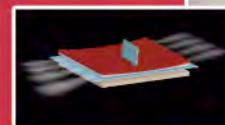
The vinyl film is a multilayered cast 80µm PVC. Due to its extreme flexibility and high conformability, fast and risk free transfers are practically guaranteed. It is particularly recommended for complex compound curved surfaces on any vehicle.

The special PE-coated liner with **HEX'Press™** adhesive facilitates the escape of trapped air, thus avoiding any air bubbles and creases during application.

The **HX20000** features an outdoor durability of up to 10 years and is thus the ideal high end solution for vehicle markings and other substrates with long life cycles.

Vehicles wrapped in **HX20000** are also protected from minor scratches, stone chips and scuffs. Hexis® CARProtect film can be used in combination with HX20000 for improved vehicle paintwork protection.

The **HX20000** series is available in 33 colours.



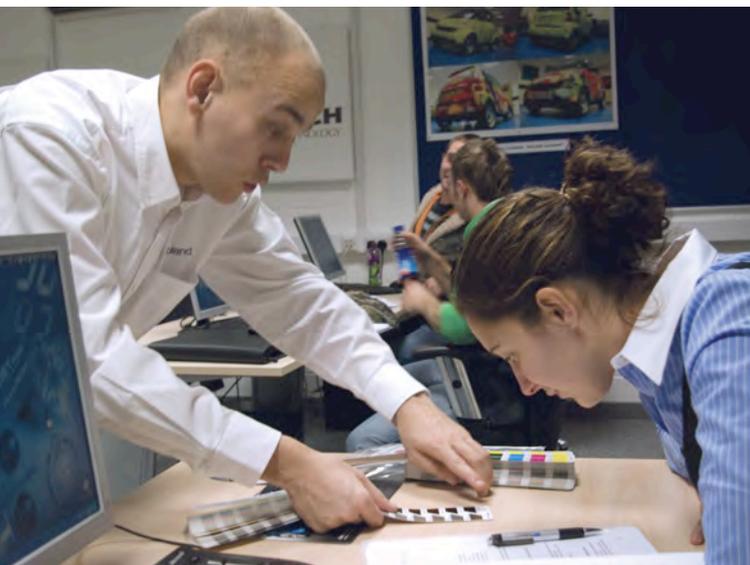
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Roland DG Academy launches 'basic application finishing' course

The Roland DG Academy recently announced it is adding a new one day finishing course to its growing portfolio of digital print courses. The new module, titled 'Basic Application Finishing' will be taught at the bespoke Roland DG Academy training facility based at Walsall College and is designed to provide signmakers and printers with skills in the basic preparation, application and finishing of a range of vinyl, digital and lamination media.

Says Sam Soialo, Head of Operations, Roland DG (UK): "Our new Basic Application Finishing course, which went live in May 2009, is the latest step in Roland DG's drive to help our customers add value to the services they provide and generate new revenue streams. The introduction of the finishing course to our ever-expanding training portfolio is also a reflection of the changing landscape in wide format printing. It's a great addition to the Roland DG Academy and offers a good range of ideas and skills needed to enhance any print product portfolio."



"Increasingly, sign makers and printers are looking to bring more specialist skills in-house as the technology, price and footprint of new finishing machines means they are now ideally suited for printers who wish to offer their customers an in-house digital print one-stop-shop. Taking finishing in-house also enables the printer or sign maker to maintain greater control over both the quality of the finished product and the timeframe it can be produced in. In such an on-demand print world, it is important the printer can maintain control over as many parts of the production process as possible."

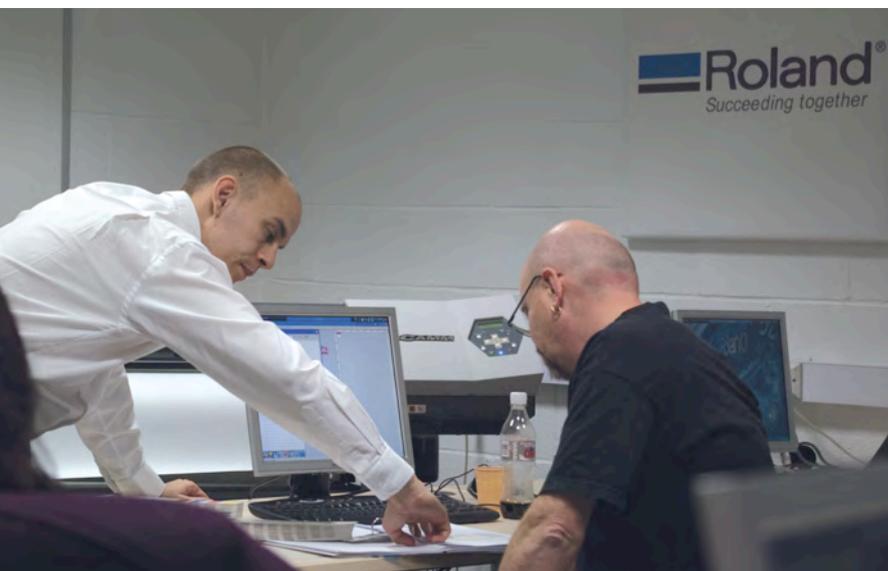
The course consists of theory and practical sessions with question and answer opportunities throughout the day. Attendees will learn finishing techniques including preparation, weed face and dry application of cut vinyl; application of flood coating to board; wet and dry digital print to board; etch films to glass; and wet and dry digital print to glass, as well as basic lamination and mounting techniques, including application to contours and curves.

As the course is set at the introductory level, it is suitable for those who are still considering setting up a finishing department as well as printers who are currently finishing in-house but feel they may need to brush up on their skills or enhance specific techniques.

"A basic general knowledge of digital print production is obviously preferable in order to get the most out of the course," continues Mr Soialo. "Those who have already attended the Introduction to Digital Print or Intermediate Digital Print courses at the Roland DG Academy will also benefit, as both courses will have already touched on the finishing process."

"The skills gained on this course will help printers and sign makers to expand their print product portfolio and target new opportunities by adding finishing techniques to applications. When done properly, finishing is a great, cost-effective way to add profit to a print business's bottom line," concludes Soialo.

Sign makers and printers interested in attending the Basic Application Finishing course or any of the other courses available can call the Roland DG Academy direct on 0845 230 90 60 or further information can be found on the website www.rolanddg.com



The new Basic Application Finishing course will be taught at the Roland DG Academy training facility based at Walsall College.



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Sign & Digital Ireland and Print Ireland

Sign & Digital Ireland and Print Ireland (incorporating Repro Ireland) 2009 is really taking shape. The events team are gearing up for the best show yet, which takes place 23-24th September 2009.

With floor space selling out fast, the event already has a prestigious list of exhibitors that includes; Applelec Sign Components, XYZ Automation, Bowe Systec Ireland, Clinical Print Finishers UK, Consort Printing Machinery, DBC Group, Dennis D Evans, Delcam, Diatec/Hewlett-Packard, DWS Supplies, Ferag/WRH Marketing, Flag Makers, Friedheim International, G.E.S.S., IBS Konica Minolta, I.T.C Ltd, Litho Supplies, Magco, Miller Group, Nova Chrome, Photocast Products, Precision Image, Printing & Graphic Equipment, Renz, Robert Horne, Roland DG Ireland,

Serigraf, Tekcel CNC Solutions, Tharstern, The Danwood Group, Total Imaging Solutions, Trimwel, Walter Nash and William Smith.

Those who have exhibited in previous years have found the show hugely beneficial, and visitors have also cited the show as the best way to network, find new products and keep their fingers on the pulse of this vibrant industry.

The new websites www.print-ireland.com and www.signanddigitalireland.com are now live. The sites have been updated, improved and designed to make your life easier. The site is constantly being updated, so please take a look to see the latest show news and information.

To book your stand, please contact: Alex Dann, 0044 208 651 7091, alex.dann@fav-house.com

Perfect Colours launches new online shop

Recently launched was POnline24.com – a brand-new online shop for large and wide format printers and plotters, inks and medias from HP authorised partner Perfect Colours Ltd.

Based in central London but with a UK-wide spread for next day deliveries, POnline24.com launches with knockdown prices and special offers that aren't just for a limited period. POnline24.com is an online shop with a difference, offering the best prices possible for on line purchases for all entry level HP Designjets, inks and medias every day of the year.

Managing director, Jason Burroughs explains, "Ideal for Graphics and Point of Sale markets, the HP Designjet range of printers are so well established today that we've found our customers

are comfortable enough to install some models themselves and so to purchase the entry level machines on line now, means we can offer a next-day service through the POnline24.com website at the best price possible. However, if a customer decides they need the extra help with installation and service etc, then we can support that through our Perfect Colours crew of technical sales staff and engineers at a price that suits their pocket."

Perfect Colours Ltd were recently awarded Designjet Reseller of the Year by HP, beating over 20 other HP Gold Partners to the coveted accolade.

For more information on Perfect Colours or POnline24.com log onto www.pconline24.com or call 0207 820 0333.

European award success for North-West company

An award winning Manchester-based company has achieved another accolade to add to its collection after being recognised in a Europe-wide competition for its vehicle livery work.

With bases in Trafford Park, Carlisle and Penrith, AstSigns has already established itself as a UK leading specialist in vehicle wrapping and vehicle graphics but is now building an international reputation after taking a prestigious FESPA Digital Print Award for its work providing new truck liveries for a UK-wide fleet.

FESPA, which promotes screen printing and digital imaging throughout Europe, covers 28 countries and in last year's awards no British firms were singled out by the judges making AstSigns' achievement this year even more significant.

The award represents a huge milestone for the company, who already hold the title of 2008 Sign Business of the Year in the UK, with the FESPA jury recognising the company's interesting and innovative application of digital printing in awarding AstSigns the runner-up spot in the vehicle category for its work in completing new liveries on over 1800 lorry cabs for its client.

Along with its vehicle graphics work AstSigns also specialises in all areas of sign making and graphics. With an ever-growing portfolio of local and national clients the company continues to expand and has opened new sites in Carlisle and most recently in Trafford Park, Manchester.

For further information on AstSigns call 01768 892292 or visit www.astsigns.com

Andesign first to access fund and make Pledge

Sutton Coldfield-based Andesign has become the first company to sign up and take advantage of the Train to Gain fund to support its plans for boosting management skills, meeting national standards and taking on apprentices.

The company is also committed to long term skills investment and has become the first nationally to sign the Cogent Sector Skills Pledge.

Fifteen-strong Andesign provides vehicle livery and wraps, design, digital printing, large format printing and a complete graphics service. It has a wide-range of high-profile customers seeking to visually communicate their ideas and image.

An initial meeting with Cogent Skills Director Bill Erskine identified the key skills needs the company wanted to address; priorities include health and safety, technical and management skills.

Bill followed up by making contact with specialist training provider, Walsall College, which is able to deliver the training requested and also register Andesign on to Train to Gain to attract funding support.

Added Bill: "We've also introduced Andesign to a skills broker who completed a training needs analysis and helped the company identify a suitable management training provider, as well as completing an application for funding to support management training."

As well as addressing the needs of its adult workforce, the company has introduced a signmaking apprenticeship, reflecting its desire to grow young talent. Walsall College is again supporting the programme and accessing funding to help with the costs.

For further information visit www.andesignuk.co.uk

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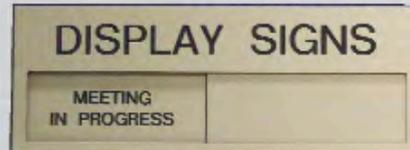
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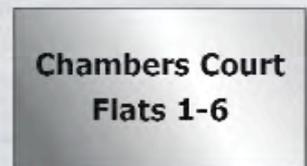
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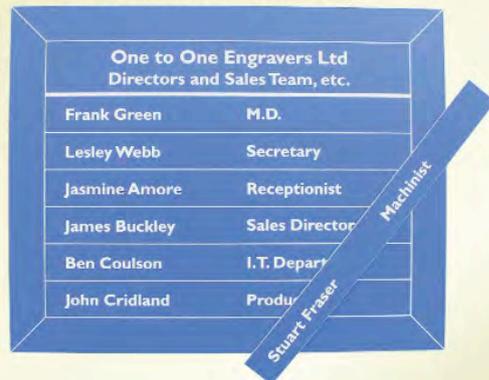
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Fax: 0191 491 0246

sales@saltwellsigns.co.uk

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Tel: 01241 828 694

Fax: 01241 828 331

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www.signindustries.com

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2. Bespoke interior and exterior modular, directory, wayfinding, and post and panel signs.
3. Menu cases, foyer boards, welcome boards and illuminated menu boxes designed specifically for hotels, restaurants and other prestigious venues.

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Tel: 01934 852888
Fax: 01934 852816
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Trade supplier of modular sign systems including Post & Panel, Infocurve, Infocurve Lite, Papyrus, Finger Posts, Bannerfix, Tam Torques, Column Plates, Posterloc, Clip frames, Infotex and Mini-slats. Other products include Lynester security notice boards, including solar powered option (EcoVision). From our special fabrication department, we produce bespoke signage to your specification.

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Fax: 01737 763763
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www.stocksigns.co.uk
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Fax: 01527 880 691
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www.tis2000.ltd.uk
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Fax: +44 (0)1274 774478
sales@applelecsign.co.uk
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Signconex are a UK manufacturer of Changeable Displays in 3 main product areas:

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Colourgen is the UK's leading specialist distributor of large format digital colour printing solutions, consumables, bespoke software, engineering and support services. Colourgen is the exclusive UK distributor for the Seiko II H104/74S solvent printers, OKI C9650XF proofing solution and the Epson GS6000. We also distribute EPSON's large format printers and consumables, Seal's range of laminators and finishing products and the Hewlett Packard Designjet range of UV flatbed printers plus a host of consumables products.

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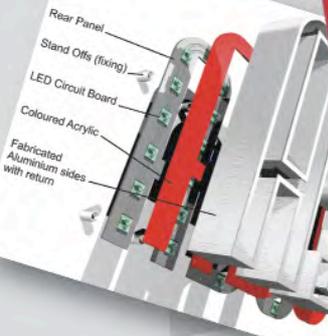
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ACRYLIC (Perspex or Repsol - including gold and silver) (10mm: white black and clear)														NO MINIMUM ORDER		
height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	1200mm
3mm	£0.61	£0.80	£0.93	£1.22	£1.46	£1.82	£2.42	£3.03	£3.28	£3.76	£4.61	£6.86	£8.37	£10.31	£12.49	£48.51
5mm	£0.91	£1.15	£1.46	£1.82	£2.30	£2.79	£3.63	£4.48	£5.76	£6.31	£7.88	£9.70	£10.92	£13.94	£16.98	£66.71
10mm	£1.83	£2.32	£2.91	£3.64	£4.61	£5.57	£7.28	£8.98	£11.53	£12.61	£15.77	£19.40	£21.83	£27.90	£33.96	£133.40

FOAM PVC (all available colours - 10mm & 19mm available in white only)														NO MINIMUM ORDER		
height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	1200mm
3mm	£0.42	£0.53	£0.85	£1.03	£1.14	£1.39	£1.57	£2.12	£2.42	£2.72	£3.03	£4.00	£4.85	£5.76	£7.88	£18.20
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

ADDITIONAL OPTIONS

- Add 10% to above prices if plastic locators and paper template are required
- Add 10% for VHB tape to rear
- Add 25% to price if soldered brass locators or M4 studs (30mm/50mm) and paper template are required. (Aluminium or Stainless steel only)
- Add 20% to price list if the typeface is extended
- Add 25% to price list if a template is required for cladding (cladding gaps will be required)
- Add 25% to price list for Flame Polished Edges (clear acrylic only)
- Add 25% to price list for Gloss Finish Foam PVC
- Add 25% to price list for a rounded or 45° edge to letter
- Additional locators Bag of 250(M) 250(F) locators large: £34 small: £23 (100% uv stabilised)*
- Additional Glue 500ml of Adhesive £23*

*no discount available

PLEASE NOTE: All the above prices are subject to VAT at the prevailing rate. Prices are based on the capital letter height, even on lower case orders. All work carries a 2 YEAR WORKMANSHIP GUARANTEE. All materials carry the manufacturers warranty. All our letters are manufactured from exterior quality materials.

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