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FLAT CUT ACRYLIC

ACRYLIC Perspex, Madrepier, 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	£11.80	£18.00	£27.00	£35.50	£45.50
6mm	£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	£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
15mm	£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	£15.50	£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	633mm
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Foam PVC	£4.50	£5.50	£8.50	£9.00	£11.00	£14.00	£17.00	£20.00

MOULDED CHROMASIGN

ChromaSign® Moulded Letters Outdoor grade chrome letters **NEW REDUCED PRICE**

Height	100mm	153mm	203mm	229mm	254mm	305mm	381mm
Bright Chrome	£11.00	£12.00	£16.00	£18.00	£20.00	£24.00	£30.00



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Published by **SignUpdate** Ltd

www.sign-update-magazine.co.uk

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

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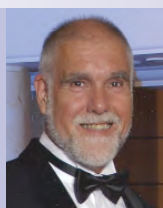
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Subscriptions - Annual subscriptions are £14.00 including postage and packing • Europe €28 • Rest of world £28

Send Cheques and postal orders made payable to Sign Update Ltd to:

Subscriptions Department, Sign Update Ltd., Allens Orchard, Chipping Warden, Banbury, Oxon OX17 1LX

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WELCOME *Page*

Life goes on...and on

It seemed only a few months ago that we were told the world was coming to an end as we approached the year 2000. The world managed to get over that hurdle ok, and to squeeze in 10 more years, to bring us safely to the year 2010. If we all keep our heads down and carry on with the recycling, we can probably squeeze in another 10 years.

My recycling paper bin is full to overflowing already with calendars of the wrong size. They're either too big with only a very small section for the dates, or just too small all over. This means I have to get out of my chair to see the dates. Last year only one company sent me the perfect calendar, and that was Headley Brothers. It had big printed dates that could be read from a distance and enough room to write reminders for the likes of me who has the most appalling memory. This year, who never sent me a calendar? Headley Brothers!

The next to go are the complimentary diaries. Rather than throw them in the recycling, I do try and find someone that needs a diary, but they are busy trying to

pass their unwanted diaries on to me. There is such a lot of money that goes into the desk diary, with its real plastic look and like-leather casing. There's no room on my desk to put a diary. With all the paper and rubbish I have on my desk I have trouble finding the phone, never mind a diary. It's a small one I want, one that can go in my pocket or the car. And I could do without the London underground map or the world atlas; both are too small to read anyway. It's really hard trying to please everyone, I know, but please try and make the effort.

Anyone who's read this far down may be thinking that I'm a miserable old man. Well you got it in one. And I will only get worse as we come to the end of January and crawl into February; two of the worse months of the year as far as I'm concerned. March doesn't get any better. Then all that rain for April. But I always try and look on the bright side, the nights are getting shorter and the rain gets warmer.

Roger Hinchliffe



I hope you all had a good Christmas break - don't have nightmares.

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PRODUCT *News*

Free upgrade to latest Mimaki RIP software now available

For several years now, Mimaki customers have benefited from a top level postscript RIP bundled with their printer purchase and the latest version of the RasterLink Pro package is now available. Customers using version 4 of the RIP can upgrade to version 5 via a web link, providing a host of new features and productivity gains - for free.



Mimaki's printers come bundled with the RasterLink Pro RIP software.

RasterLink Pro 5 Series

RasterLink Pro 5 SG

RasterLink Pro 5 IP

RasterLink Pro 5 TA

John de la Roche; National Sales Manager for Mimaki's exclusive UK & Ireland distributor; Hybrid Services Ltd, said; "Adding productivity gains to the software is as important as our continued drive to develop the hardware side of the business, and to allow a large portion of our customer base to benefit from this for free is great news."

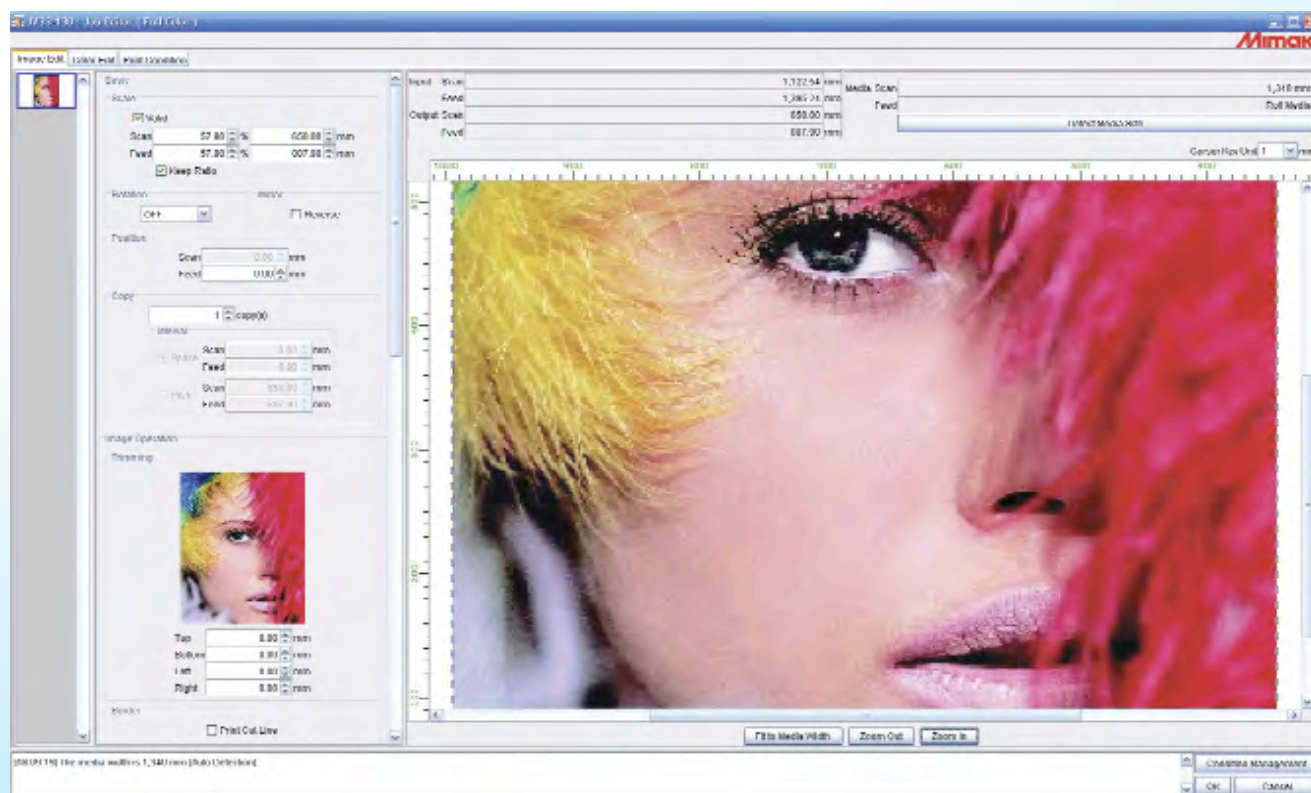
With full support for the latest Windows 7 operating system, Mimaki RasterLink Pro 5 also delivers new features such as improved postscript handling, file and RIP detail annotation on printed images, greater productivity with improved hot folder functions and a new web update feature for simpler future product updating and profile downloading. Users upgrading from older versions benefit from the new application's 16 bit rendering – providing seamless vignettes and smooth tonal transitions to blends and gradations.

Version 5 of the software is provided free of charge with all new Mimaki printers – with specific "Sign & Graphics", "Textile & Apparel" and "Industrial Product" versions supplied, dependent upon the printer model. All versions support powerful white ink printing functions and achieve an exceptional quality of output.

To upgrade, simply visit Hybrid's website and click through the link to carry the whole upgrade out online.

Customers wishing to receive a CD and hard copy manuals can purchase a boxed version of the upgrade for just £350 and full details of upgrades from earlier versions can be gained by contacting Hybrid on 01270 501900 or visiting their website at www.hybridservices.co.uk

Mimaki RasterLink Pro 5 – easy to navigate user interface.



HEX'PRESS

Cast HX30000 Series

Conformable cast film suitable for vehicle decoration
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Multilayered cast vinyl

For complex compound curved surfaces

HEX'Press liner with structured adhesive

Fast application without bubbles and creases

Repositionable during application

fast removal at end of campaign

Unique HEX'Press™ Innovative Adhesive Technology

The **HX30000** is a premium speciality cast vinyl series specially designed for solid colour full vehicle wraps.

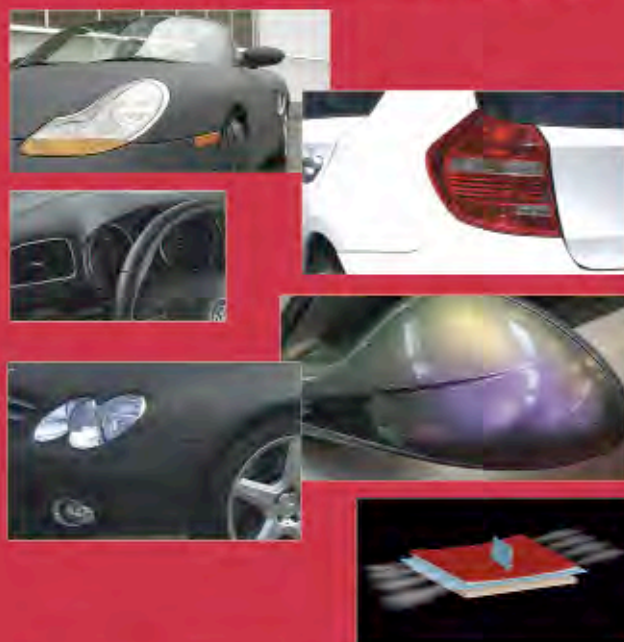
The vinyl film is a multilayered cast PVC. Due to its extreme flexibility and high conformability, fast and risk free transfers are practically guaranteed. It is particularly recommended for complex compound curved surfaces on any vehicle.

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

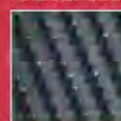
The **HX30000** features an outdoor durability of up to 4 years and is thus the ideal high end solution for vehicle markings and other substrates with long life cycles.

Vehicles wrapped in **HX30000** are also protected from minor scratches, stone chips and scuffs. Hexis® CARProtect film can be used in combination with HX30000 for improved vehicle paintwork protection.

The **HX30000** series is available at 1370mm wide x 30m.



Carbon
Black Carbon
HX30CA890B



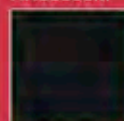
Variochrome
Beetle
HX30VVS



Variochrome
Pearl
HX30BP

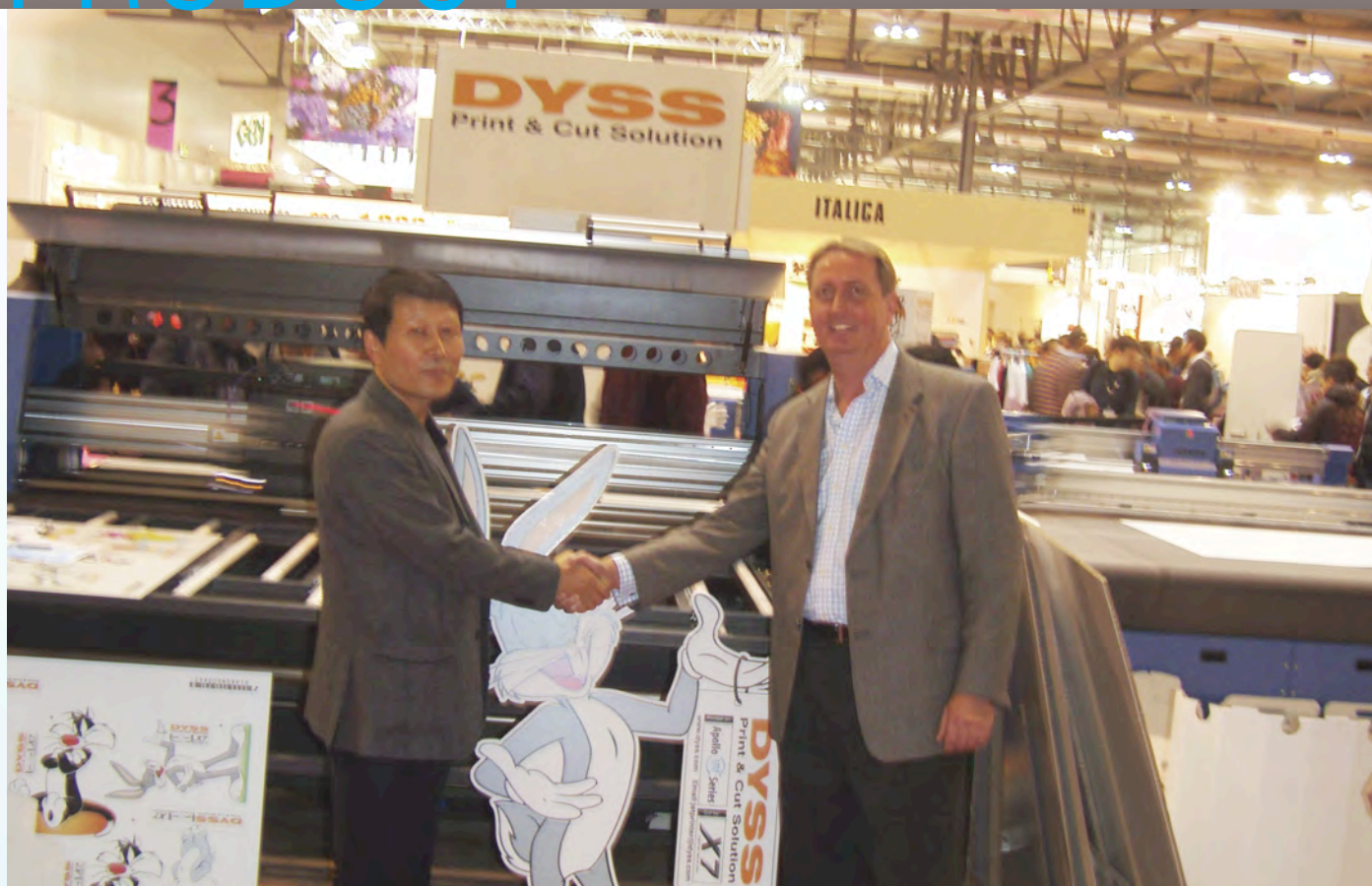


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Hank Park, president, DYSS and Andrew Wilson, managing director, B&P Graphic Supplies Ltd at Viscom Milan.

B&P Graphics appointed as exclusive distributor for the DYSS range

DYSS (Dae Young Systems), a leading Korean supplier of UV direct to media printers and cutter/router tables has appointed B&P Graphic Supplies Ltd as its distributor for UK and Ireland. B&P, in association with Sun Chemical, whom B&P has appointed as a sub-distributor, will distribute the Apollo range of UV combination and flatbed printers and the X7 range of cutter/routers.

"We chose B&P Graphics as our distributor in the UK because of their focus on customer education, commitment to providing superior product support, and proven demand-creation capabilities" says Hank Park, president, DYSS.

Based in Incheon (Seoul) Korea, DYSS has more than 20 years of engineering experience in producing bespoke solutions for the manufacture of specialist screen print equipment for printing on bottles, containers, glass and even LCD TV screen panels. Such engineering expertise means that DYSS is ideally placed to produce similar bespoke solutions within the digital print world, an area where the company has researched and developed over the last two years.

DYSS claim to be the only manufacturer now offering a full print-and-cut solution in the 1600mm to 3200mm sector. The new Apollo Series industrial UV direct-to-substrate printer is a multifunctional, fast and affordable range of digital printers comprising a choice of five models with printing widths of 1.6 metres up to a huge 3200mm. These UV printers produce ultra-high quality images directly onto a wide variety of inexpensive, uncoated materials,

from rigid display boards to roll-fed media. Customers can specify an optional four or six colour format, plus white or varnish.

Viscom Milan in Italy saw the launch of a further innovative feature – a full production line with a 24-head flatbed printer, able to punch registration holes in rigid board, a sheet feeder with the ability to 'flip' the board, and feed directly to the cutter, which then takes its registration positions from the back of the board to provide creasing and V-cut to the back side of the board. This is an ideal solution for packaging and is said to be unique to DYSS.

With more than 3,000 systems installed since its formation in 1982, B&P Graphic Supplies has a considerable customer base to support with the introduction of innovative print-and-cut solutions, high quality media, inks and toners.

Andrew Wilson, managing director, B&P Graphic Supplies Ltd, says "We have been in the UV printer market since its inception and have always been a little disappointed by a lack of labour-saving, or ease-of-use features in the machines available on the market, the DYSS Apollo is the first printer that 'ticks all the boxes' for us.

"Some of the innovations we see on this machine are features that we have been crying out for over the past few years and, whilst they may seem insignificant in isolation, these features can add up to a big reduction in spoilage, and time taken per job, in a busy production environment."

For further information visit www.bpgraphics.co.uk or tel. 01256 859900; www.sunchemical.com or tel. 01761 414471; www.dyss.com or tel. 07962 156868.

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PRODUCT *News*

New entry level cutter comes with top end technical support

There's a new entry level cutter on the market – and it's got a seriously tempting price tag that includes 12 months warranty from a British company with a good reputation for technical support.

Graphtec (GB) Ltd spent some time sourcing the Expert 24, which provides optimum cutting speed, superior quality and solid reliability at a price significantly below that of similar equipment.

The Expert 24 has a maximum cutting width of 600mm (23.6 inches) and is perfect for working with vinyls, flock, and flex media. Its easy operation makes production of public signs, office name tags, school signs, store signs, advertisement and adhesive stickers all quick and simple.

Phil Kneale, Sales and Marketing Director for Graphtec (GB) explains: "We searched long and hard for a good low cost cutter to



The Expert 24 Cutter.

offer the UK market and found it in the Expert 24. Built by GCC, the Expert 24 holds its own with machines costing virtually double. That's a lot of money to save, especially when you're starting off in business."

Graphtec (GB) is offering the Expert 24 at less than £600 plus VAT, which includes a free stand for a limited time. The Expert 24 comes complete with Windows driver so it's ready to run from programs such as CorelDraw, SignLab and FlexiSign. But purchasers can also take advantage of a heavily discounted software bundle that includes the popular GraphCut software written by CADlink, for a total of only £695 plus VAT.

"We've all heard of someone who bought a £200 machine off e-bay or wherever, thought they'd got a real bargain but never managed to get it working. Instead it turns into a nightmare; they're out of pocket and still don't have a machine to earn income from," says Phil.

"But with the Expert 24 you can have complete confidence in the machine's cutting ability and its reliability; and the confidence of knowing that if there is a problem, you've got help on hand in the form of 12 months warranty including full technical support from Graphtec (GB)."

Contact Graphtec (GB) to find out more or to arrange a demonstration, tel. 01978 666700 or go to www.graphtecgb.com



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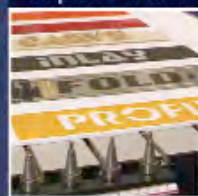
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PRODUCT *News*

Roland shimmers with metallic inkjet capability

Opening up a wealth of opportunities for display producers, label and packaging specialists and sign-makers, Roland DG (UK) Ltd has launched its innovative SOLJET PRO III XC-540MT wide-format inkjet printer which features, for the first time, a metallic ink capability. Printable either as a special colour or in combination with process options, the company's exciting development provides users with the opportunity to create a range of metallic hues, including gold, silver, bronze and pearlescent effects.

The 1.37 m (54 inch) machine, which incorporates the company's ECO-SOL MAX ink (ESL3-MT), has been engineered especially for a range of high-value applications, such as vehicle wraps, labels, decals, T-shirt transfers, banners, and a range of point-of-sale and sign applications. Offering vibrancy and richness previously unavailable to the wide-format inkjet market, the SOLJET PRO III XC-540MT features CMYK plus metallic silver and white (CMYK+MT+W) and is compatible with a broad range of media, including vinyl, PET film, canvas, paper, transparent film and banner substrates. A double-white (CMYK+WW) model without the metallic option is also available for users who want to create high-opacity white text, graphics and other elements.

Key to this technology is the gamut of dense, vivid metallic colours in a modestly-priced wide-format inkjet print-and-cut machine, which includes all the hallmarks of Roland's precision engineering. The ECO-SOL MAX inks, which won the DPI's Product of the Year 2009, incorporate superior resistance to scratching or vandalism as well as fast drying time and uncoated media support. Outdoor durability has a maximum of three years for CMYK and the metallic ink, with one year for the white option; this can be extended with over-lamination. The company's Advanced Ink Circulation System prevents the pigment in the additional inks from settling, avoiding clogging and reducing ink consumption by up to 84 percent compared with previous models.



The SOLJET PRO III XC-540MT wide-format inkjet printer featuring for the first time, a metallic ink capability.



"In the past, gold and silver effects could only be produced using more complex printing systems such as offset and flexo presses, screen printing equipment or by foil stamping," says Brett Newman, Roland DG (UK)'s head of product management. "Each of these technologies requires plate processing, making it difficult and costly to produce metallic graphics in small quantities. The new XC-540MT has transformed this process. For the first time, users can take full advantage of Roland's advanced inkjet technology to produce brilliant metallic graphics on demand – easily, profitably, and in any quantity."

With a 41 square m/hour maximum throughput speed, the SOLJET PRO III XC-540MT features Roland's renowned automatic contour-cutting capabilities, representing a removal of steps in the workflow and resulting in cost and time-reducing benefits. The print-and-cut unit is engineered for unattended operation, a crucial asset to print and display producers with tight turn-around times and reduced budgets. Optimum resolution is 1440 x 1440 dpi, making the machine particularly well-suited for the production of high-quality, short-run labels and decals as well as for several display applications.

Heavy-duty media handling, automated maintenance and Roland's proprietary Intelligent Pass Control inkjet technology are all features of the SOLJET PRO III XC-540MT, complemented by the DU-540 dryer/blower unit to ensure that output can be handled immediately after printing. The machine is supplied with the company's VersaWorks 3.3, the latest version of its versatile RIP software. This also includes full metallic ink and white workflow options and Roland's Metallic Colour Library from which users can produce a multitude of their own shades.

The Roland SOLJET PRO III XC-540MT is priced at £25,999 and limited units are available now. For more information please call Johanna Probert on tel: 01273 335554 or visit www.rolanddg.co.uk

flat cut letters



foam pvc
10mm available in black & white only.
19mm available in white only

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

no minimum order

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

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

no minimum order

3mm Aluminium Composite aluminium, reinforced or signboard

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

no minimum order

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

£85 minimum order



lettering options

- add 10% - plastic locators and paper template
- add 10% - for v.h.b. tape to rear
- add 25% - for brass locators and template (stainless steel letters)
- add 20% - cladding template (cladding details will be required)
- 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.
- add 25% - 45° bevelled edges to m.d.f. letters

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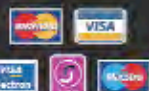
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PRODUCT *News*

Be among the first to see the new affordable Latex inkjet printers

William Smith is offering graphics and signmakers the opportunity to get ahead of the game by being one of the first to see the latest HP Latex inkjet printers, the 60" model of the Designjet L25500. A series of demonstration days in Nottingham and Bracknell, as well as at William Smith's Barnard Castle site, will provide first hand experience of this exciting new technology.

The Designjet L25500 makes HP's new environmentally friendly latex inkjet technology an affordable printing option for both indoor and outdoor applications, putting greener manufacturing options within the reach of a wider range of sign companies and giving them a competitive edge.

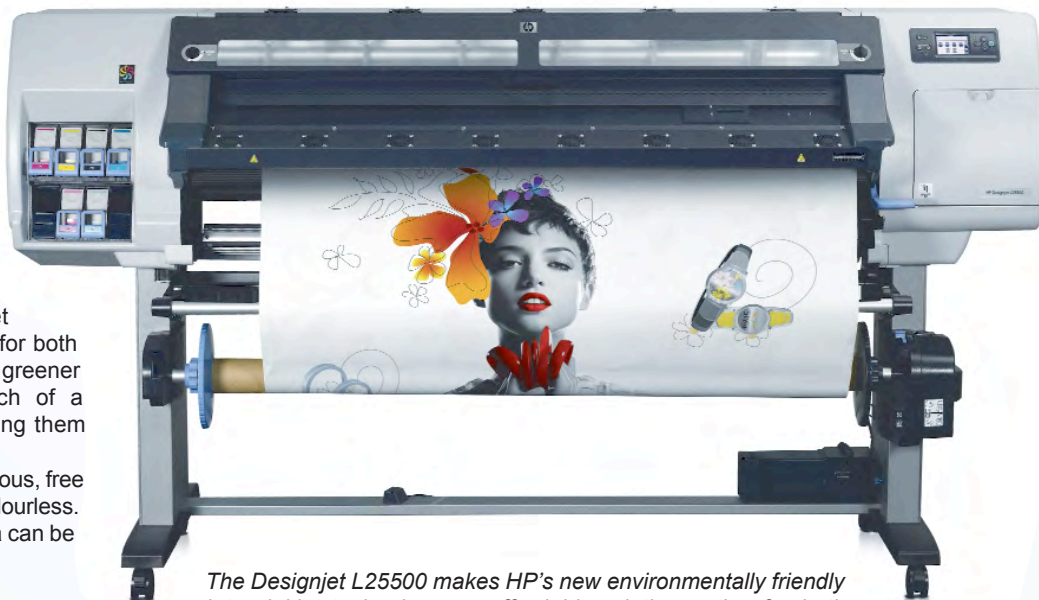
Latex water-based ink is non-hazardous, free of VOCs, cures instantly and is virtually odourless. Furthermore, a wider range of print media can be used, including wallpaper.

The Designjet L25500 offers significant production advantages:

- No daily maintenance is required
- Increased productivity – e.g. from print to vehicle wrap in 30 minutes
- Simple user replaceable printheads
- Constant 1200dpx x 1200dpi printing creates eye-catching durable graphics
- Outdoor durability up to 5 years laminated, 3 years non-laminated

Environmental benefits include:

- Improved working environment for operators
- Reduced energy costs as no special ventilation equipment or external dryers are required
- Ink cartridges can be recycled



The Designjet L25500 makes HP's new environmentally friendly latex inkjet technology an affordable printing option for both indoor and outdoor applications.

"Not only do we supply the L25500 printers, inks and materials, we also use one on our own shop floor, which means that we can offer the benefit of our own knowledge and expertise, from first hand experience," says William Smith's Marketing Manager, Chris Bradley.

To book your place at a demonstration or for more information contact Chris Bradley or Jonathan Harle on 01833 694707. Further information can also be obtained by visiting the website www.williamsmith.co.uk

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Devcon Metal Welder saves signmakers time

There is an increase in the number of signs being produced using structural adhesives and there are three chief reasons for this. By replacing welding and mechanical fastenings, the aesthetic appearance of the display area of the sign is improved, galvanic corrosion is eliminated and the signmaker can complete the job faster; and time, as they say, is money.

ITW Devcon has a solution for signmakers. One of its fast acting high strength adhesives, Devcon Metal Welder, is a high performance two-part structural methacrylate adhesive, which has been specially developed to bond ferrous and non-ferrous metals, plastics and other difficult substrates without priming. It offers significant reductions in set up and preparation time, which has led to many customers reducing assembly time by as much as 50%.

That's not all, Metal Welder offers high tensile and shear strengths. It offers excellent cohesive strength of 17 MPa and a tensile elongation of 30 to 60%.

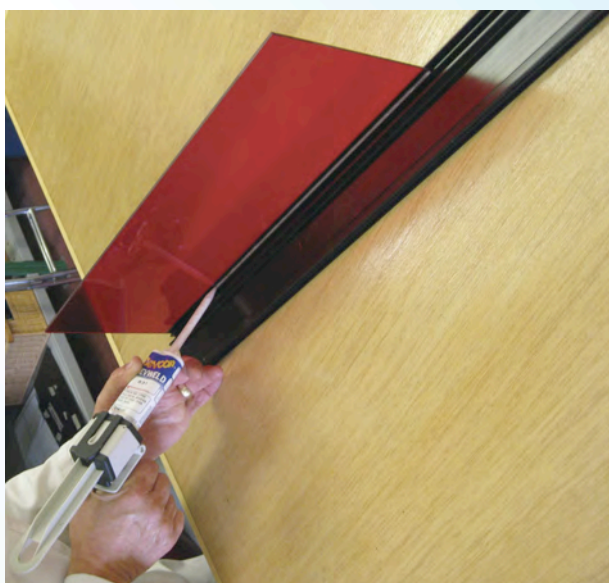
Devcon states that the adhesive also presents benefits over silicone and double-sided tape as assembly time is faster and labour costs are reduced with a working time of four to six minutes and fixture time as low as 15 to 25 minutes. The adhesive has faster room temperature curing and excellent long term durability.

Metal Welder will fill gaps up to 12 mm wide and gives a water-tight bond, which accommodates high levels of wind flexing, and displays excellent cold and hot temperature resistance in the service range minus 55 to plus 120 deg C.

Devcon Metal Welder is available in pre-measured 250 ml self-mixing cartridges, 20 litre and 200 litre packs.

Devcon's specialist technical team are available to offer free telephone advice and to visit site to provide specialist solutions to signmakers' production issues.

For more information contact ITW Devcon on 0870 458 7388 or visit the company's new website at www.devconeurope.com



Devcon Metal Welder will fill gaps up to 12 mm wide.

Enhance energy and carbon saving using Bright Green's LED backlighting system

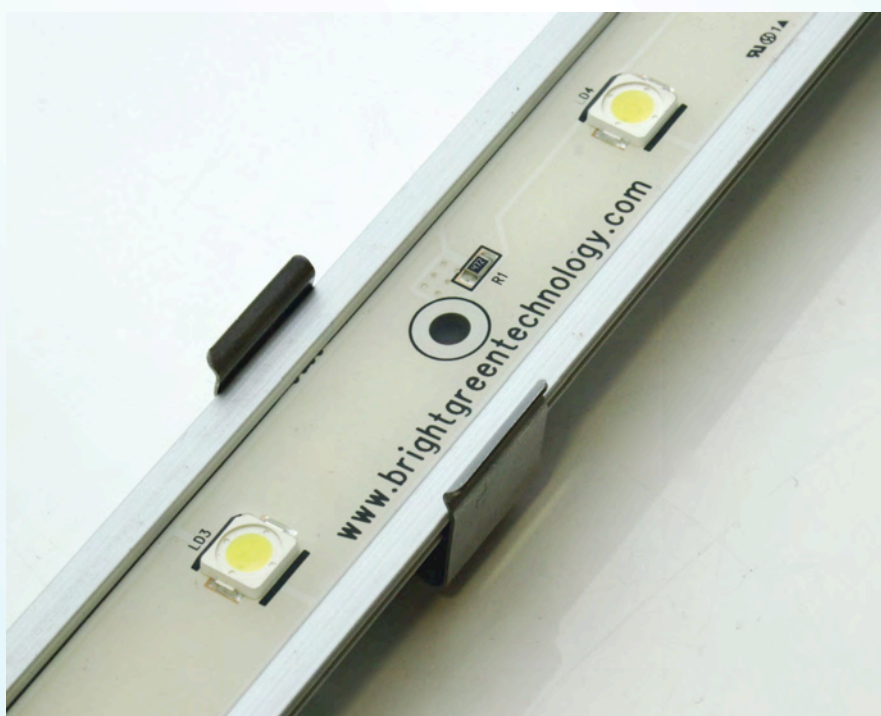
Upgrading existing or new illuminated sign boxes using LED lighting technology is now even more compelling with Bright Green Technology's latest version of its Bright Green Matrix.

Designed to offer a quick return on investment (12 months in some cases) Bright Green Matrix Standard is quick and easy to install in new build or retrofit projects. Manufactured to comply with IP76 weather proofing requirements - this modular LED backlighting system offers a virtually maintenance free alternative to traditional fluorescent tubes and total peace of mind.

A range of modular lengths from 310mm up to 1810mm gives maximum flexibility to illuminating a wide range light boxes including large format flex face boxes.

To aid customers promote the benefits of LED backlighting, Bright Green Technology will provide a comprehensive economic support document clearly illustrating energy and carbon savings (usually 80%) together with projected pay back data. In addition, Bright Green Technology, can support clients with applications for interest free loans available from the Carbon Trust.

Contact Bright Green Technology at info@brightgreentechnology.com for more information or visit www.brightgreentechnology.com



The Bright Green Matrix LED backlighting system, available in lengths from 310mm to 1810mm.

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PRODUCT *News*

Hexis launches carbon cast film



The recently launched 'Carbon Cast' multi-layered cast vinyl film is ideal for vehicle wraps and long term outdoor applications.

Hexis has launched a new cast vinyl with a carbon fibre look destined for wrapping applications. The company is promoting the new line with a dedicated mini-site: www.ilovehx.com

Part of the HX30000 Series, the Carbon Cast is a multi-layered 135µm cast vinyl film with a carbon fibre embossed pattern. It carries the proven solvent-based adhesive and a structured PE liner with Hex'Press technology that allows convenient air egress during application. With its flexibility and high conformability fast and risk free it is principally destined for vehicle full wraps and other long-term outdoor applications. It is the ideal high-tech solution for heavily curved surfaces such as full vehicle wraps, furniture, laptops, cell phones and many more.

The new HX30000 Series also includes 2 Variochrome shade shift colours, a pearl white and an iridescent purple, and a super

black matt. They are also multi-layered cast vinyl films carrying the same solvent-based adhesive and structured PE liner with Hex'Press technology that make the film repositionable during application. Because of its high flexibility and extreme conformability, fast and risk free transfers are practically guaranteed. It is particularly suitable for vehicle full wraps and for all long-term applications on complex and compound curved surfaces. With the shade shift feature highly effective colour effects can be achieved.

The standard rolls are 1370mm (54in) wide. 63-inch (1600-mm) rolls will be available later.

Samples and catalogues are available directly from local Hexis distributors.

Further information can be obtained by visiting the website www.hexisgroup.com and www.ilovehx.com

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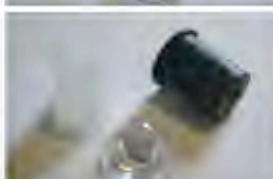
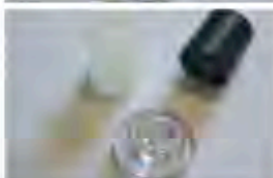
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Measurements	Socket Length	10mm
Socket Width	11mm	11mm
Stud Base Dia	8mm	Overall Thread

Medium	250	500	1,000
Complete Fixing	£23	£38	£68
Sockets only Black or white	£16	£23	£39
Studs only	£17	£27	£40

Measurements	Socket Length	13mm
Socket Width	13mm	13mm
Stud Base Dia	10mm	Overall Thread

Large	250	500	1,000
Complete Fixing	£34	£60	£100
Sockets only Black or white	£23	£36	£62
Studs only	£24	£39	£64

Measurements	Socket Length	17mm
Socket Width	17mm	17mm
Stud Base Dia	13mm	Overall Thread

Screw	250	500	1,000
Complete Fixing	£34	£62	£118
Nuts only	£23	£40	£78

Measurements	Socket Length	19mm
Socket Width	19mm	19mm
Stud Base Dia	15mm	Overall Thread

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2010

Acrylic (Perspex - including gold & silver) (10mm: white, black & clear) no minimum order

Height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	750mm	1200mm
3mm	0.58	0.72	0.84	1.16	1.28	2.00	2.80	3.00	4.26	6.15	7.00	8.25	9.25	10.50	17.00	38.00
5mm	0.85	1.05	1.35	1.55	2.09	3.14	3.90	4.74	5.34	8.28	9.25	12.82	14.00	15.50	25.88	53.00
10mm	1.70	2.10	2.75	3.10	3.30	6.10	8.50	10.00	12.50	17.00	19.50	25.00	28.50	32.00	48.00	113.00

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	0.39	0.48	0.80	0.94	1.05	1.25	1.40	1.90	2.25	2.54	2.80	3.60	4.10	5.40	7.40	15.00
5mm	0.45	0.65	0.98	1.30	1.80	2.00	2.40	2.90	3.30	4.00	4.90	5.50	6.20	7.20	10.20	27.50
10mm	0.76	1.15	1.50	2.30	3.20	4.00	4.55	5.60	6.70	7.70	8.60	10.50	12.20	15.70	20.00	55.00
19mm	1.70	2.40	3.48	4.00	4.60	6.40	8.20	9.00	10.50	11.80	13.90	16.00	18.80	21.50	26.00	75.00

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	0.35	0.80	1.10	1.50	2.25	2.40	2.80	3.57	4.11	4.92	6.25	8.90	10.32	11.70	13.80	42.00
12mm	0.85	1.50	1.85	2.70	3.70	4.35	5.10	5.90	7.00	8.60	9.50	10.80	12.90	16.00	18.00	57.00
18mm	1.45	2.30	2.80	3.80	4.80	5.90	7.30	8.20	10.40	11.80	14.20	16.30	19.00	21.00	28.00	84.00

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	0.95	1.35	1.80	2.35	2.70	3.10	4.50	5.30	6.20	6.80	7.70	9.10	10.60	15.00	18.50	56.00
Chrome	1.90	2.35	2.70	4.00	5.50	6.65	7.80	9.00	10.70	13.10	14.80	16.50	19.80	24.50	30.00	95.00
Brushed finish	1.20	1.50	2.00	2.50	3.50	4.20	4.95	5.80	7.00	8.50	9.50	10.80	12.90	16.00	21.50	62.00

Mill Finish Aluminium (Comes in its raw form ready for coating) Other thicknesses available on request

Height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	1200mm
2mm	2.68	3.34	4.13	5.13	5.70	6.54	7.38	8.54	9.64	10.69	11.00	14.56	17.44	22.19	29.11	
3mm	2.80	3.50	4.30	5.30	5.80	6.70	7.60	8.80	9.80	11.20	12.50	16.60	20.00	25.70	34.00	
5mm	3.30	4.10	5.10	6.30	7.00	8.00	9.00	10.50	11.00	12.60	14.50	19.40	23.50	30.20	40.50	

Options Add 10% for locators and layout Add 25% cladded facia layout **Quotes on request for extended typestyle, logos, flame polishing and spraying**

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Height	152mm	203mm	254mm	305mm	380mm	457mm	610mm
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*including gold and silver

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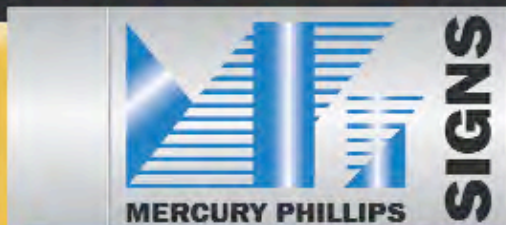
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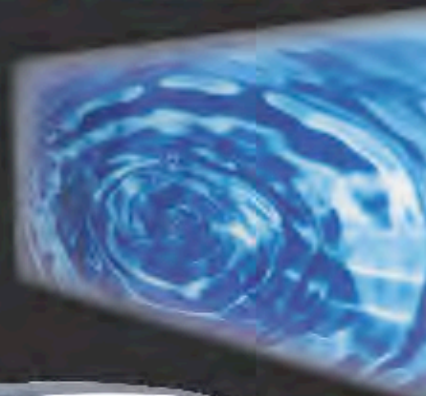
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PRODUCT *News*

Architech - a brand new curved insert sign system encompassing all Ashby's high standards

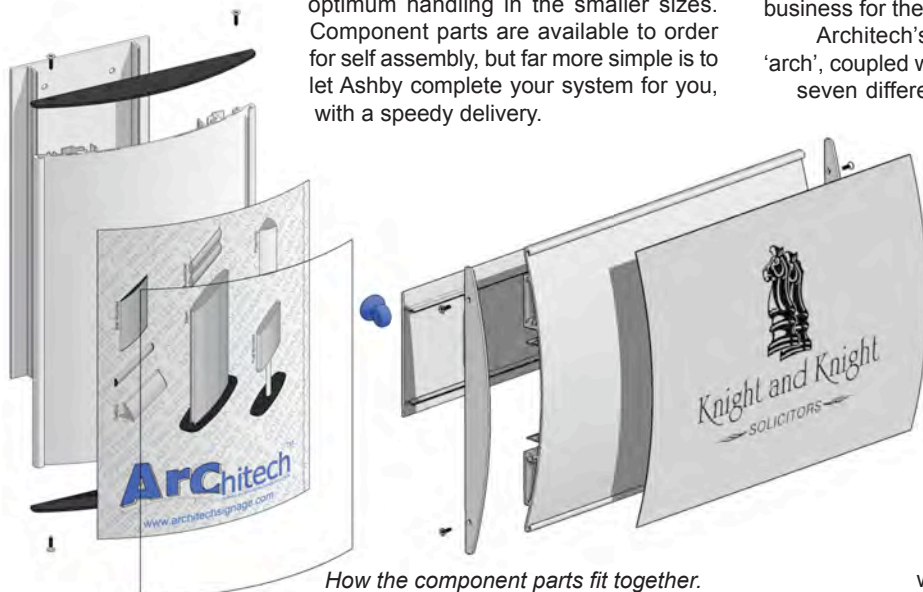


Ashby's brand new Altendof sliding table saw, reflecting the huge investment committed to the Architech product range.

Cost effective, plentiful supply, fast turnaround - with all those old niggly issues improved. Architech is the enhanced curved insert sign system the market has long awaited.

Having served the UK marketplace for over seven years with a curved insert sign system, Ashby feel they are perfectly placed to boast they know what the market likes, dislikes and would seek to improve from such a system. Ashby is proud to launch Architech, the company's own stylish, lightweight, curved system, designed to fulfil all the signmaker's requirements. What is more, for those with a "Back Britain" mentality, it is all manufactured and assembled in-house, in Ashby's 24,000 sq.ft. Berkshire factory.

Architech is available in seven extruded sections: 50mm, 100mm, 150mm (A5), 215mm (A5/A4), 300mm (A4/A3), 420mm (A3/A2) and 600mm (A2/A1). Length is selected to suit the customer, rather than dictated at pre-set sizes. The five smaller sections have black plastic end caps available as an alternative to standard silver anodised, which can be powder coated if required. The acrylic anti-glare face cover comes in two thicknesses, for optimum handling in the smaller sizes. Component parts are available to order for self assembly, but far more simple is to let Ashby complete your system for you, with a speedy delivery.



How the component parts fit together.



Totem monolith sign incorporating part directory, with vinyl graphics for exterior use.

For simplicity, extrusion sizes suit standard A5, A4, A3 & A2 paper sizes, since the most common insert an end user will be using is paper. However, other media fit in just as well, such as digital prints, HIPS, or even a Braille plaque, sustaining the essential return business for the signmaker.

Architech's name was chosen to depict the curve with the 'arch', coupled with the 'tech' for a technical system. It is available in seven different types, offering two diverse curves - one on the horizontal curving top to bottom, the other on the vertical curving left to right. The styles include wall mounting, suspending, projecting in slim or wide format, totem in slim and wide format, post mounted, desk top and bespoke projects are available in any of the styles. In addition, directory signs can be made up in any of the formats, with either a vertical or horizontal split.

As always, Ashby has not compromised price for quality. This superb, enhanced system is actually priced at approximately 40 per cent less than the previous product. That makes it a significantly better profit opportunity for the signmaker, while offering many improved features. Moreover, the products are so similar visually that it's hardly noticeable when adding to existing projects.

A distinct advantage to the wall-mounted system is in the innovative Clicloc installation method. To avoid unsightly screw holes being visible on the back section, Ashby developed a back mounting plate which is fixed up first of all. Then the front cover is snapped into place on top of this, creating a smooth visible backboard area. What is more the smaller sections - 50mm, 100mm, 150mm, 215mm and 300mm - all come in one complete section, with either the vertical or horizontal curve.



Wall mounted system, using HIPs media insert for exterior use.

This allows a vinyl print to be applied directly to the back section, without the dividing line encountered in the two-section 420mm and 600mm extrusions. Three fixing kits for the wall mounted system are offered, to either screw to a wall (with or without drill bit) through the pre-drilled back plate, or an adhesive pad kit to attach to a smooth surface such as glass.

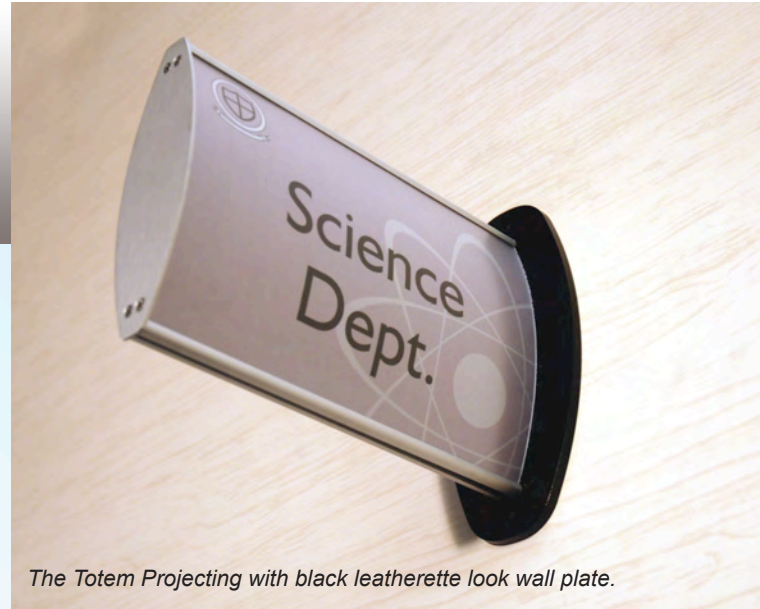
The Suspended system has been adapted to allow easy fixing of the different levels, with a hook and eye clip which comes in four heights (25, 50, 150 and 400mm). Always following a horizontal curve, the extrusion is available in widths of 50mm, 100mm and 150mm. However, if particularly required, a 215mm and 300mm extrusion can be used in a bespoke system.

The Projecting system was designed to give wider viewing angles than previously offered, and represents more of a triangular shape. It can be manufactured in four extrusion widths up to A3 size (100, 150, 215 and 300mm) and has a simple keyhole fixing method which is completely hidden when erected. Available in a horizontal curve direction, it is ideally suited for corridor signs, marking door entrances.

The Totem Projecting sign system is a much slimmer, oval shaped projection, fixed to a laser cut stainless steel wall plate. This is powder coated to a stylish black leatherette finish. The extra backing plate allows for a much wider projection (dependant on extrusion size) and can be taken in the 100mm, 150mm, 215mm and 300mm extrusions, with a horizontal curve. If required a single sided version can be manufactured, although the usual format is with a double sided outlook.



The Suspended system, with hook and eye clip for easy fixing of the different levels.



The Totem Projecting with black leatherette look wall plate.

The Totem sign can come in a slim or wide format, with a single or double sided outlook. Available up to a maximum 2500mm tall, it comes in the wider extrusion widths of 300mm, 420mm and 600mm, with a vertical curve. The totem sign lends itself perfectly to a part or full directory format and would make a stylish entrance foyer or display area sign.

The Post Mounted signs are suitable for ground or surface mounting on the 60mm silver anodised post and primarily come double sided, naturally with a vertical curve. Generally available in the larger extrusions of 300mm, 420mm and 600, Ashby will manufacture bespoke signs in the 215mm extrusion if required.

Desktop signs are not just to be thought of as a reception desk item. With a vertical curve, the extrusion comes in 50mm, 100mm, 150mm and 215mm widths. However, the 300mm section can also be used in bespoke systems, which lends itself perfectly to menus, price lists or instruction notices, and can even come double sided. The innovative end cap can be raised from high to low level, offering even more versatility.

Subject to the media used, all these signs are perfectly suited to indoor or outdoor usage. The hard wearing aluminium extrusion and acrylic anti glare cover are all weather proof and if vinyl, digital print or hips are displaying the message, there is no reason not to secure the sign in the exterior. In fact, the acrylic cover could be discarded altogether if necessary, with the media attached directly to the backing plate. The sleek design and versatile styles offered lend themselves to almost any application.

Ashby has invested a great deal of time in ensuring the requests and criticisms of signmakers over the years have been taken into account in the design of Architech. It is a practical product, ready for hands-on use. The company has invested in specialist machinery to ensure speed of manufacture is maintained at a premium level, and has a warehouse brimming with stock ready to fulfil even the largest orders. The Ashby Sales Team is well informed and able to provide prompt quotations so that the majority of orders can be fulfilled on a same day basis.

Ashby is circulating a comprehensive brochure to the industry, which depicts each aspect of Architech, to ensure the signmaker has a full and detailed knowledge of how he can achieve his signage project. There's even an itemised sample kit, to allow signmakers the opportunity to select precisely which items they are interested in, all at heavily discounted prices.

To receive literature or for a free wall mounted sample, telephone Ashby's sales team on 0118 981 5343, or go to www.ashbytrade.co.uk and take advantage of Architech. This isn't a product to be missed, or one to slip into the market quietly, says Ashby; but a brand new, ultra modern, up to the minute curved insert system that the sign market can't afford to ignore.

Delcam releases new ArtCAM 2010 software to CNC machine your signs

In February this year, leading CAD/CAM (Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing) developer Delcam Plc, is due to release its latest software range, ArtCAM 2010, to the signage industry. The range comprises the entry-level, ArtCAM Express for users new to CNC machining, ArtCAM Insignia for production machining and ArtCAM Pro for more complex design and manufacturing.

Each one of these products has been designed by Delcam to give a smooth transition from design to the finished article regardless of the type of signage required (E.G. modular, custom-made, bulk or traditional signage).

Sign-makers can begin their flat or three dimensional designs directly in ArtCAM or if they choose, they can first sketch their ideas on paper or design the piece in a familiar CAD package, which can then be scanned or imported directly into the software.

To help them in this design process, the sign-maker can customise ArtCAM 2010's interface so they have quicker access to the commands they use most frequently as well as hiding any commands that are rarely used. This releases more screen space, useful when working with large detailed designs.

With improved sculpting tools, the user can then add intricacies to their design. These highly valued tools allow the user to not only smudge and smooth the relief for example, but also add or remove material using tools of varying thickness and strength from any area that they wish to shape.

Once satisfied with the design, the sign-maker can then select the tools he/she plans to use for machining from ArtCAM's extensive tool database. Working with these tool selections, ArtCAM's range of advanced machining strategies allows the sign-maker to then calculate the fastest and most efficient machining method possible.



Images courtesy of ArtCAM customer, the Grain.



In ArtCAM 2010, Delcam has significantly enhanced this underlying machining technology by incorporating some of the machining strategies from Delcam's industry-leading CAM system, PowerMILL.

This has enabled even faster toolpath calculation thanks to the latest multi-threading technology and given users the ability to edit toolpaths to prevent costly tool breakages.

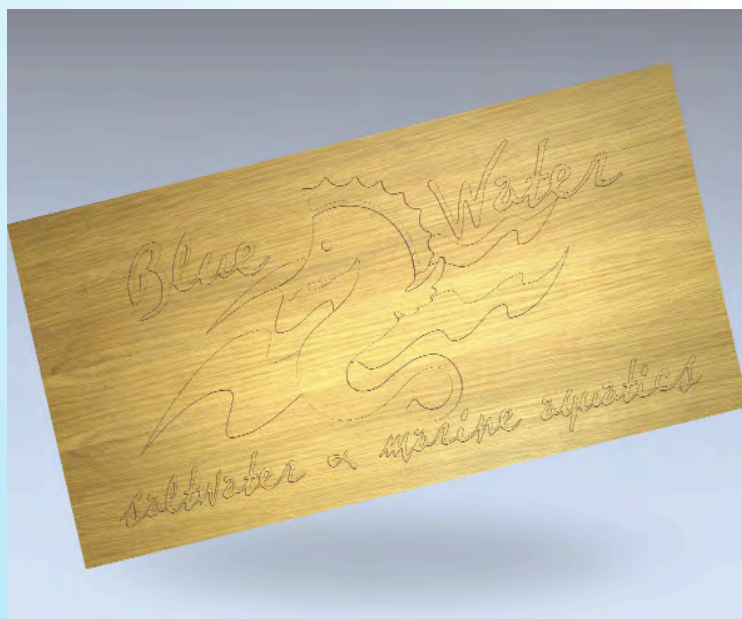
In addition, there is now even greater automation in ArtCAM Insignia and Pro 2010 for machining designs imported as layered DXF or PDF files from other CAD systems. Using ArtCAM's new 'Toolpath Templates', previously defined machining strategies, cutting tools and machining parameters can be applied to named layers within the imported file, with just a single click.

The layer structure is also preserved when a design is copied or even after it has been automatically nested to minimise material wastage. This means that the same 'Toolpath Template' can be applied to all the copies simultaneously, dramatically reducing the time required to machine complex layouts with multiple, optimised, toolpath strategies.

Also of particular value to sign-makers is ArtCAM 2010's new dual strategy which combines roughing with an end-mill to remove large areas of material quickly and V-bit carving to give a crisp accurate finish.

To check the quality and the accuracy of the toolpaths, ArtCAM can simulate how the piece will look in a number of views before the data is sent to the CNC machine; saving both time and money.

If you would like to know more about ArtCAM 2010 why not attend one of Delcam's free online demonstrations? For more information go to: www.artcam.com.



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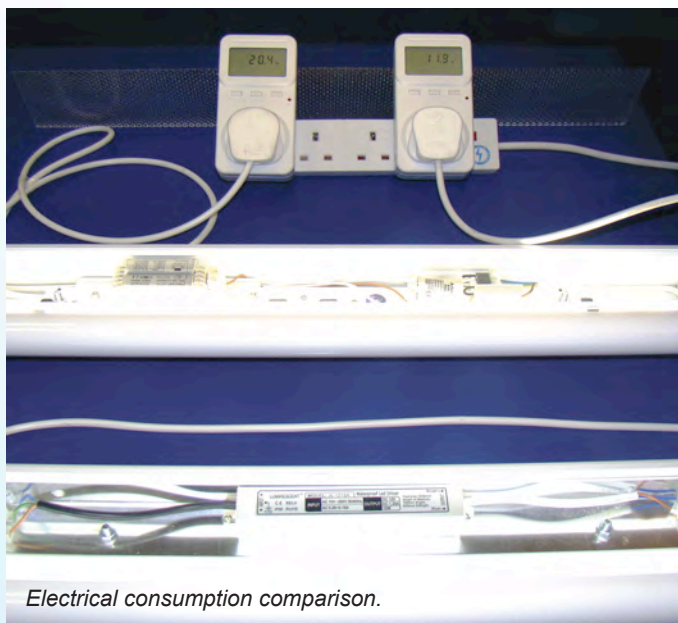
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Brighter, at almost half the cost?

Highlight Mk.4 is a new extruded aluminium trough lighting profile from Insight, replacing its current T8 and T5 profiles, catering for both fluorescent and LED light sources, with three options for brightness on the latter.

Highlight Mk.4 LED Superbright version offers better performance than fluorescent, says Insight, yet consumes just over half the electricity (11.9 W compared to 20 W for a 600mm long unit), so now you can have the ultimate in brightness while helping the environment. You also benefit in that virtually no maintenance apart from cleaning is necessary, coupled with around five times the useful life of standard fluorescent (based on 12 hours a day, 365 days per year).



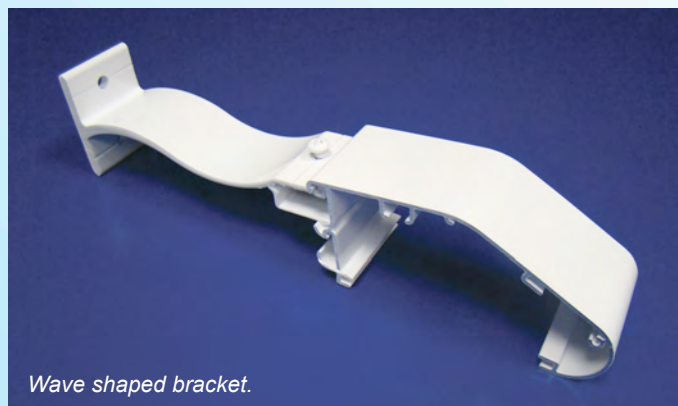
Electrical consumption comparison.

Insight says it has no doubt that its Highlight Mk.4 LED Bright version will soon replace fluorescent, being almost as bright but consuming just 8.4 W for the same length as above.

The only benefit fluorescent can offer is cost. Highlight Mk.4 Fluorescent starts at just £10.00 per foot, compared to LED Bright at £15.00. However, if you are not driven by initial cost, the saving in energy, maintenance and long life will soon repay the difference.

The most economical version is Highlight Mk.4 LED Green, consuming just 3.8W for the same length as above from which you still obtain reasonable illumination for smaller fascia signs.

So go on help the planet and after a few years see a good cash saving.

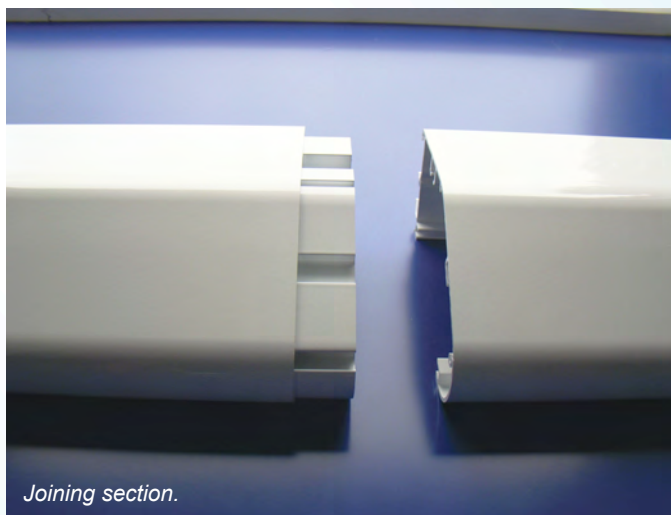


Wave shaped bracket.



Highlight Mk.4 profile.

This very attractive profile shape is also functional in that it diffuses light on to the sign face, rather than direct it, which could cause glare or hot spots, sometimes making text illegible. The slanting bullnose front shape shields light spillage and prevents light dazzling passing motorists.



Joining section.

Another very important part of any lighting system is the joints. Insight has spent the money and provides another separate extrusion following the inside shape of the profile, this provides support at joints and prevents both light spillage and water ingress. Don't purchase any trough light with out one, says Insight.

Highlight Mk.4 offers a wide range of clip-on fit fixing brackets, and now also a wave shape version which adds style but more importantly is ideal for signs where you have very little spare space, hence reducing the size of the fixing plate to the smallest possible while still allowing top and bottom fixings. Insight never recommends brackets with horizontal fixings as the wind causes all lights to move up and down, causing horizontal fixings to become slack.

For further information, visit Insight Sign Systems' web site at www.insightsignsystems.com

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PRODUCT *News*

New 3M decorative window film available from William Smith

William Smiths has added 3M's Scotchcal™ 5525SE Series to its Material Distribution portfolio. It is an intermediate polymeric calendered translucent film specifically designed for etched glass and sandblast effects.

This versatile film can be used to create stylish and distinctive designs on glass, acrylic or polycarbonate and offers an affordable alternative to costly etching or sandblasting on glass. Its low gloss surface eliminates glare making it suitable for privacy/obscurity as well as decorative and visual awareness applications.

Scotchcal 5525SE is ideal for medium term window graphics and illuminated displays on flat clear surfaces and is suitable for both interior and exterior applications. It comes with 3 years exterior durability and up to 5 years interior durability, dependent upon application.

As with all stock ranges from William Smith's Materials Distribution Division, same day despatch is offered on orders for 5525SE received up to 5.30pm.

For further information call William Smith on tel: 01833 694707 or visit www.williamsmith.co.uk



Enlightened solutions from Universal

In addition to supplying the sign trade with a range of illuminated sign systems, Universal Aluminium Systems supplies two quality trough light solutions to provide task lighting to signs and to enhance their visual impact.



The advanced 60mm-deep Slimlight trough light solution can now be supplied with LED modules as an alternative to the standard T5 fluorescent tubes. It can also claim a saving in energy consumption of 30 per cent due to the presence of electronic ballasts. The system is ideal for the top illumination of signs, posters and displays and can be used in lengths of up to 30 metres.

Sleek and compact in appearance, the Slimlight system features a high-frequency gear tray to create instant light and to thus provide outstanding and evenly distributed luminance as well as polished mirror-finish reflectors to enhance this facility. The system is available from stock in any powder-coated RAL colour and supplied with multi-positional fixing

brackets to enable it to be wall-mounted. It can also be used with Universal's pictorial bracket for double-sided signs.

Complementing the Slimlight solution is Unilight. This system can be used for both the top illumination of signs and displays and to provide illumination in an upward direction for interior sign and display applications such as exhibitions. Available in a range of five different customised gear trays and in any RAL colour, Unilight is very easy to fabricate and install using adjustable fixing brackets, either as a wall- or ceiling-mounted feature. To provide enhanced illumination for signs and displays, the system also incorporates polished mirror-finish reflectors.

For further information, visit the website www.universal-systems.co.uk or telephone 0117 955 9091.



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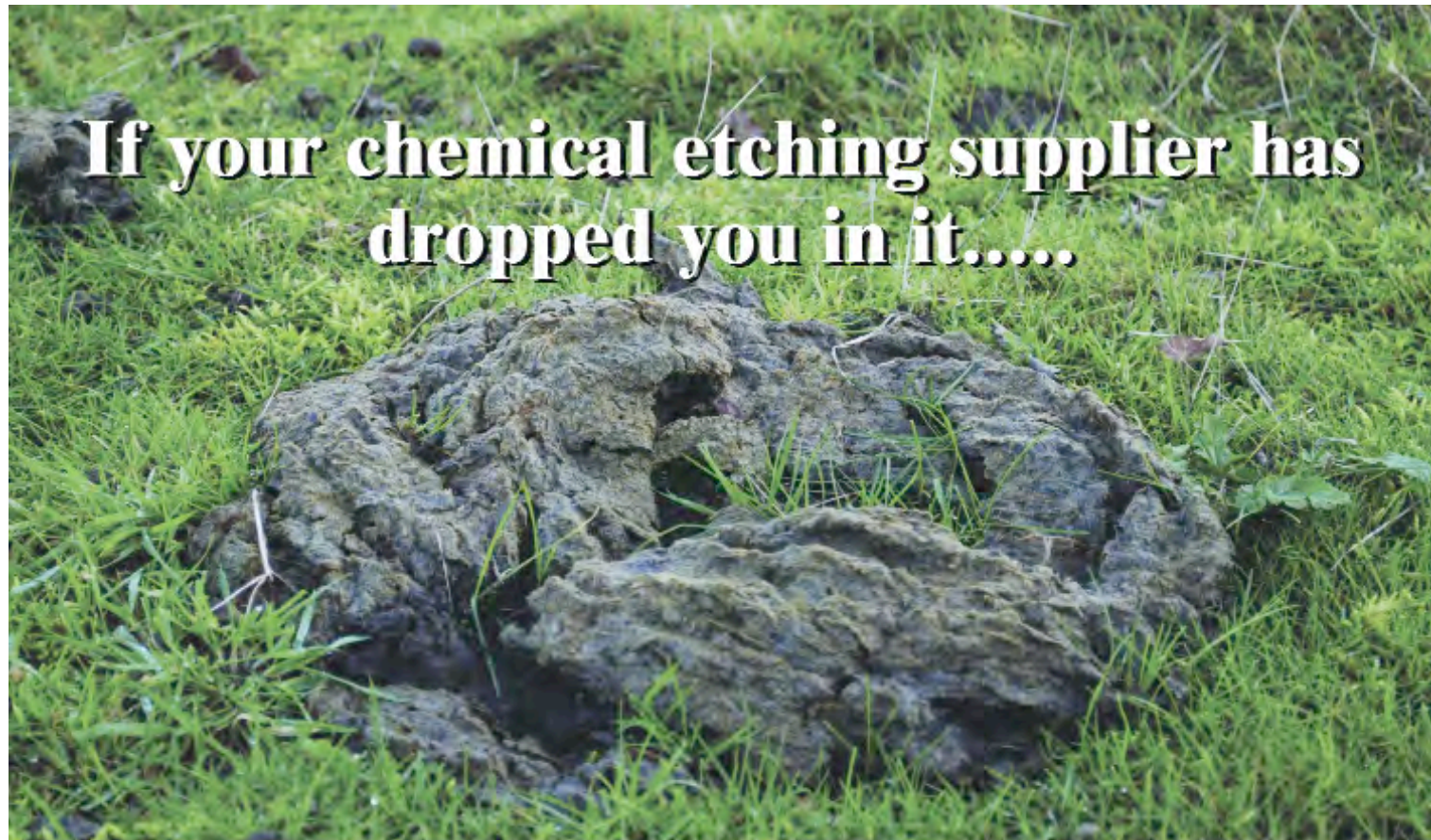
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PRODUCT *News*

Indasol responds to customers' requirements

Indasol has spent a long time listening to what its signmaking and POS customers want and understand how speed is becoming even more important in this competitive market.

The company has therefore developed a Hand Tearable Banner Hemming and Point of Sale tape - the Indasol 26863, which is a clear polyester tape with an acrylic adhesive, making it suitable for interior and exterior bonding.

26863 offers high initial tack with excellent long term bond strength and superb weathering properties. Making the product hand tearable means that the sign maker can now apply tape and tear off as required without the need for



Banner Hemming tapes.

a knife or scalpel. The benefit here is clearly speed and reducing the risk of having a sharp item close to the finished product.

26863 is not just limited to Banner Hemming but can be used for laminating, nameplate bonding, foam-ex mounting and many more sign and Point of Sale related bonding applications.

Indasol provides free of charge samples and advice on all Sign Fixing and Point of Sale applications so why not contact them for your free sample.

For further information contact Martin Sadler on Tel: 02476 540909, Email: martin@indasol.co.uk or visit the website www.indasol.co.uk

Roller banner stand material that lays flat

Are you looking for a roll up banner material? The stuff you print onto for those roll up and pop up exhibition stands? Look no further! Victory Design has launched a new roll up banner material called Soflat, manufactured by Soyang.

SoFlat media is a smooth, 440 gsm scrimless banner material made up of a polyester/PVC combination giving it stable stay-flat properties. This material has a super smooth surface and an anti curl

appearance at the edge, which gives the material a lay flat professional look. Soflat has excellent printing characteristics, which produces excellent results and is compatible with UV, solvent and screen printing. This material does not require over laminating like some similar materials.

This competitively priced product is available to order now from Victory Design either by telephoning 01246 570570 or online at www.victorydesign.co.uk



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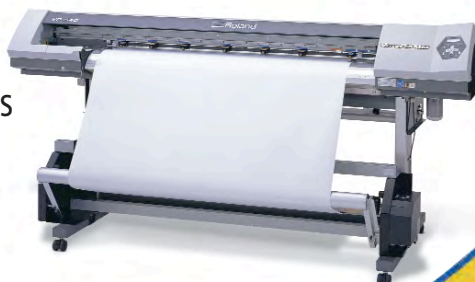
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3mm	0.40	0.52	0.84	1.04	1.10	1.32	1.45	1.99	2.25	2.50	2.80	3.70	4.50	5.35	7.35	17.00
5mm	0.46	0.68	1.00	1.36	1.85	2.10	2.45	2.92	3.38	4.00	4.78	5.62	6.38	7.45	10.30	28.06
10mm	0.76	1.20	1.49	2.30	3.15	3.98	4.45	5.59	6.60	7.72	8.38	10.67	12.37	15.30	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	0.85	1.05	1.34	1.67	2.20	2.58	3.28	4.13	5.30	5.72	7.30	8.97	10.02	12.89	15.67	62.10
10mm	1.69	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	0.98	0.94	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	0.99	0.99	1.51	2.25	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

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	6.64	7.38	8.68	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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Romac Display Solutions launches new range

Romac Display Solutions, Part of Romac Stainless Ltd, has launched its new range of display products.

Romac Stainless Ltd was established to meet a growing demand for superior quality stainless steel products at extremely competitive prices.

Aimed mainly at the transport industry and government departments, Romac found early success with its products, ranging from poster cases to bus shelters, barrier posts to traffic signs.

Building on their success, and with over 20 years experience in the signs and graphics industry, the Directors are now looking to apply their standards of quality and keen pricing to other products more applicable to the sign trade.

Included is a new range of poster frames, display cases and menu cases, manufactured in various materials including polymer, mild steel, aluminium, stainless steel and brass. Available for internal and external use, ranging from a simple internal poster holder to the more robust external vandal and weather resistant key lock models, there is something to suit all applications and budgets without compromising on quality. All finishes are available, including powder coating to RAL colours, brushed stainless steel and bright polished stainless steel and brass. Romac believes it offers the best range in the UK in terms of appearance, quality and price and will always work closely with customers to achieve their objective.

Another exciting development is the option of LED illumination across the full range of cases, for internal and external use, comprising a full light sheet with LED illumination. This slimline panel gives a bright and even spread of light, long life, low power consumption and safe to use low voltage (12V). Environmentally friendly, with no harmful mercury or other heavy metals involved, it has all the green credentials, yet is available at extremely competitive pricing. LED panels can also be supplied separately.

The range of external poster cases can be either wall mounted or, if preferred, supplied on stainless steel poles for concreting into the ground and are built to withstand the toughest conditions.



Brass menu case.

The range also includes snap frames, freestanding point of sale stands and brochure holders, roller banner stands, A-Boards, forecourt signs and other pavement signs.

In addition, Romac can also supply the full range of screenprinting, digital printing and vinyl graphics and if required, a Nationwide Installation Service for all its products.

Romac Display Solutions' new brochure is inserted in this issue of *SignUpdate* together with a price list. Further detailed information is available from the sales team.

For internal sales, technical and production matters contact Robert Rausse. For external sales contact Allan McEvoy, tel: 01484 841362 and 01484 847753 fax: 01484 846085, email sales@romacstainless.co.uk or visit the website at www.romacstainless.co.uk



ss postercase.



Titan cases.

GPT adds Zünd cutters to its increasing range of solutions

Graphic Printing Technologies Limited (GPT) has added the Zünd G3 range of digital flatbed cutters to its broadening portfolio of market-leading printing solutions. Developed specifically for 24/7 operation, the Zünd G3 boasts solid and heavy-duty construction, yet is visually striking. As well as delivering maximum productivity, the Zünd G3 excels in user-friendly operation, ergonomics, and reduced energy consumption.

The Zünd G3 is available to suit a broad range of requirements because of its modular construction. All nine G3 models can accommodate all available Zünd tools and material-handling features. This allows customers to meet their specific existing needs and also to upgrade at any time in order to adapt to changes in production requirements.

The primary focus in developing the G3 was system productivity and this means more than just speed. GPT claim that the G3 offers customers the most productive and the only fully multifunctional machine on the market. No matter whether the requirements involve simple trimming, kiss-cutting to a liner, routing, creasing, or complex contour-cutting, the new G3 cutter is always up to the task and guarantees optimal productivity.

The new Zünd G3 is easily accessible from all four sides. The sleek, integrated workstation also provides secure storage space for cutting modules and tools. With the new V-Cut tool, rigid stock up to 16mm thick can be made foldable with angle-cuts from 15° to 45°. The high-resolution Zünd ICC camera attaches directly to the carriage system and works interchangeably with all cutting/routing modules



Shaun Thompson, Sales Director for GPT and Peter Giddins, Sales Director for Zünd Plotting Systems UK.

and tools. As further evidence of its confidence and quality standards, Zünd offers an unprecedented 2-year warranty on the G3 base machine.

Shaun Thompson, sales director for GPT concludes, "Zünd customers enjoy exceptionally high cost-efficiency and secure ROI, short and long term. Backed up by the expert consultancy and support that GPT offers, we know that customers will be hugely impressed by the solutions we can offer with the Zünd G3 flatbed cutter range."

For further information visit www.g-p-t.co.uk

Sihl launches new 'eco-friendlier' poster papers

Sihl is launching three new 'eco-friendlier' multi-purpose poster papers into the large format market. The 'wet-strength' Post-2-Cure Papers have been specially developed by Sihl for use with latest generation latex inks from HP and are suited for both indoor and outdoor use.

Sam Iliaifar, Sihl Group UK area sales manager, said "Latex inks are based on an infra-red hardening technique and require their own range of media. Sihl has responded to this need with the launch of Post-2-Cure Paper 125, Post-2-Cure Paper 180 and Post-2-Cure Paper blueback 125 – all high quality wet-strength papers enabling weather and water resistant prints both with the new latex and with UV-hardening inks, whilst remaining compatible with real solvent inks."



He added: "This is the eco-friendlier option. These bright white poster papers enable digital services providers to produce prints with a high productivity which are significantly less harmful to the environment and our health than solvent inks. The Post-2-Cure alternatives are in addition to the six solvent-based printing media from the speciality sector which we have already introduced for the HP DesignJet L65500 (the first printer to use the new water-based HP latex ink) and the brand new HP DesignJet 25500."

According to Sihl, the poster papers offer impressive colour reproduction and correspond to offset-printed posters in terms of surface feel and appearance.

Said Sam: "The heat that has an effect on the paper during processing causes only minimum paper shrinkage and with these properties the new media promises high-quality, superior poster application."

For further information visit www.sihl.com or call 07894 825 594.



Improved award-winning product design raises the industry standard



LED display lighting specialists MegaLED Ltd, is raising the industry edge-lighting standard with their new and improved edge-lit sign product 'A-Blade'. At just 12mm thick, the award winning A-Blade design offers the perfect combination of striking industrial design, low running costs and flexibility. In development since 2003, the product's innovative design affords literally endless design configurations and represents the culmination of over 10 years' experience in sign-lighting design and innovation.

Steve Kane, A-Blade product manager says: "We're proud of our design and 100% reliability track record. A-Blade represents the perfect balance of innovation coupled with economy and reliability. We offer sign makers a premium, affordable service to purchase one-off custom illuminated signs, delivered ready to install within 2-3 weeks. Through our own state of the art manufacturing facility we can also cater to large volume orders."

Each sign is sold ready to install, using the latest CNC 3D carving and creative masking techniques. MegaLED also offer a full lighting design consultancy service where required, providing both businesses and sign manufacturers with an unparalleled service, from concept design right through to manufacture and delivery.

To find out how A-Blade signs can raise the profile of your business, please contact Steve Kane on +44(0)207 617731 or email info@megaled.co.uk.

Durable Signs add to its vandal resistant sign and display product range

Durable Signs of Bridlington, East Yorkshire, recognised as providing sign companies with a comprehensive solution to vandal attack, weathering and UV fade of colours to signs with its own unique and proven DurableOne system, is delighted to announce the launch of a range of pre packed cleaning and restoration materials to enhance its already impressive signs.

Now available, these can be purchased either separately or in mixed packs that include a scourer and microfiber cloth for extra value. Materials are biodegradable, low odour, quick, easy and safe to use making them ideal for sign companies to use themselves or sell on to their customers. The four products are Dura Repair – scratch remover and repair, Dura Clean – graffiti remover for paint, marker pen, oil, grease, poster glue, crayon and bubble gum, burn marks, Dura Clear – dirt removal & surface revival removes mold, moss, traffic grime and returns weather affected signs to original condition and Dura Shine – express wet wax polish and protection is

compatible with the DurableOne coating that gives signs extra protection, improves appearance and repels dirt and grime



Andrew Frost, Managing Director for Durable Signs states: "DurableOne is the most comprehensive protection for signs against vandal attack, weathering and UV fade in the UK today and this development confirms our on-going commitment to keep investing in practical and relevant products to the benefit of our customers. It is common sense to use the correct protection, restoration and repair materials for the most cost effective and time saving solution. Sign companies can continue to promote DurableOne finished signs to their customers with absolute confidence that they are offering the best proven and value solution in the market, backed by a 10 year Warranty and now with cleaning strategies and equipment that are easy to use, non toxic and environmentally friendly."

For further information, contact Durable Signs on telephone: 0871 230 1322 (local rates apply on landlines) or visit the website www.durablesigns.com

The best just got better

The Swinger pavement sign, is about to undergo a subtle but significant transformation to become even more user friendly.

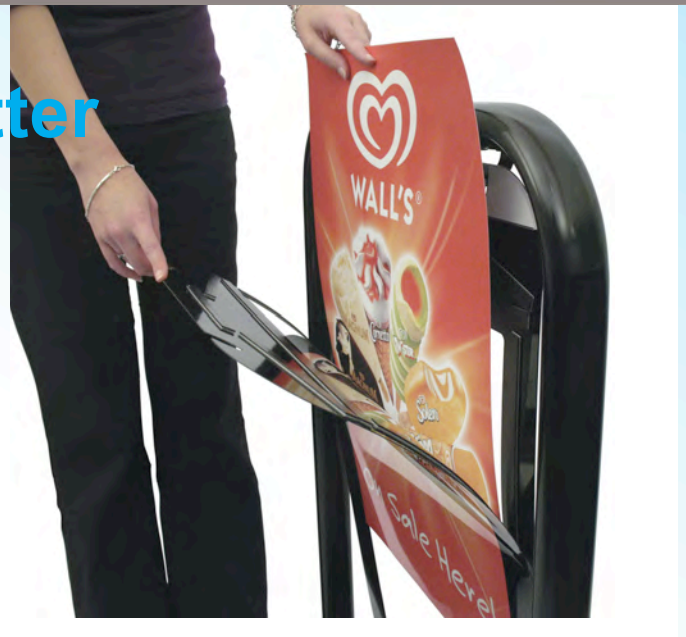
All poster versions of the sign will now be fitted with Signwaves' top-opening poster pockets (patent pending), which replace the existing 'bottom-opening' units and bring significant benefits to advertisers including:

Much easier access to posters – allowing the user to stand up rather than bending down;

Greatly reduced risk of poster loss – convenient self-closing design with permanently fixed bottom edge and high strength magnetic seals;

More hygienic - handling area is now much higher off the ground and so further distanced from dirt and litter.

Simon Harvey, Product Design Manager at Signwaves, commented: "In response to customer feedback, we began exploring ways to make the Swinger easier to use and give greater poster security. An extensive period of development and testing followed, the result being a pavement sign that we believe to be better in every way, offering practical, tangible benefits that are unique to the Swinger. And our customers agree - during trials, customers have unanimously voted in favour of the top-opening poster pocket versus the previous (and competitors') 'bottom-opening' designs."



Swinger pavement signs are available in a range of sizes and colours, for posters or printed panels. All models feature Signwaves' patented D-flex panel hangers, soft round corners and solid recycled PVC or water-fillable bases, for optimum safety and stability.

For further information, visit www.signwavesgroup.com Just click on 'Pavement Signs & A-Boards' and then 'Swingers'.



Swinger pavement signs with new top-opening poster pockets.

PRODUCT *News*

Spandex open house events pull in the crowds

There was plenty to attract visitors to Spandex's Open House events in Bristol at the end of November.

The main highlights included Mutoh's new, versatile and cost-effective Kona series of high-performance multi-purpose vinyl cutting plotters; Spandex's just released range of textile marking materials; and the Epson Stylus Pro GS6000 inkjet printer.

Other enticements included demonstrations of Gerber's Solara Ion z flatbed wide format inkjet printer, free seminars and workshops, and the chance to win prizes such as design software, marketing consultations, training, software upgrades and discounts.

The Mutoh Kona series offers sign cutting and lettering, contour cutting and cut through on media widths up to 1890mm. Designed to meet the specific requirements of home, office or professional sign cutting applications, Mutoh's Kona Series of drag-knife cutting plotters provides users with what is described as a plethora of advantages, including superior cutting quality and excellent tracking.

Spandex is supplying the three models in the new Mutoh Kona range, all of which deliver advanced precision and performance for media up to 1mm in thickness. The Kona Series comprises the Kona SCL-760, offering a maximum sheet/roll media width of 1000 mm; the Kona SCL-1400 with maximum sheet/roll media width of 1640 mm; and the Kona SCL-1650, with a maximum sheet/roll media width of 1890mm.

All three Mutoh Kona variants feature Mutoh's integrated EPOS® (electronic positioning) feature as standard. As well as traditional vinyl cutting, this laser-based optical sensor technology allows users to benefit from automatic contour cutting of pre-printed signs and stickers. In addition, EPOS incorporates a cut through feature, giving the capability to create convenient individual stickers for promotional, instructive or informative purposes. For optimum user comfort, the Kona also includes a special print and cut workflow that is expected to practically reduce operator errors to zero.



Spandex is offering all three models in Mutoh's Kona range of cutting plotters.



Getting hands on practical experience with 3M Scotchcal IJ8624 vinyl.

Furthermore, Mutoh's new Kona cutting plotters are equipped with several features that afford increased functionality and ensure an efficient workflow; including an intuitive and user-friendly, full-colour, multi-language LCD touch screen.

The Spandex-supplied Kona includes a two-year spare parts warranty, as well as various optional extras to enhance productivity.

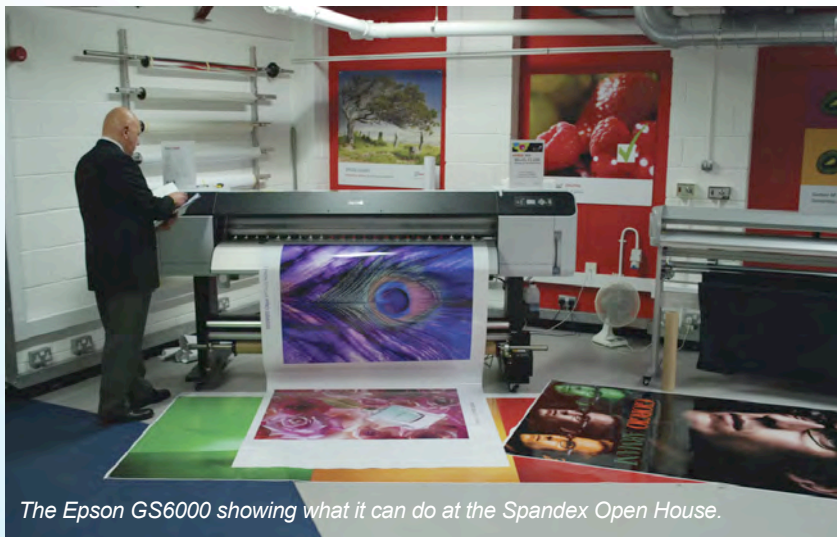
Creating customised textiles can be a potentially lucrative market for sign makers, and it doesn't require much financial investment for a business that already has a printer and a cutter. Add a heat press and Spandex's textile marking films, and you're just about ready to go.

Spandex's new textile marking films, including Flex and Flock options, are an excellent cost-effective and time-saving alternative to traditional application methods such as screen printing and embroidery.

A wide range of coloured and special-effect products with different surface finishes for application to a wide variety of substrates, including cotton, polyester and nylon, are now available from Spandex.

Congratulations to the companies that won Omega 3.0 software at Spandex - BMA Varisity, Oxford; DG Signs, Ipswich; Flagship, Pontypridd; and Griffiths Signs, Newport.

To reserve a place on Spandex's next Open House or for more information, visit the website www.spandex.com or tel. 0800 772633.



The Epson GS6000 showing what it can do at the Spandex Open House.

WAYFINDING *Feature*

Finding your way through wayfinding

These days the term wayfinding has become a common phrase in the sign industry, and many architects and clients seem to understand what it means, but it wasn't always so.

Things were very different says Nicholas Hawksworth when he set up Wayfinding Consultants Ltd in 1999, which works with sign companies, planners and architects to research, develop and design, project manage and install wayfinding schemes.

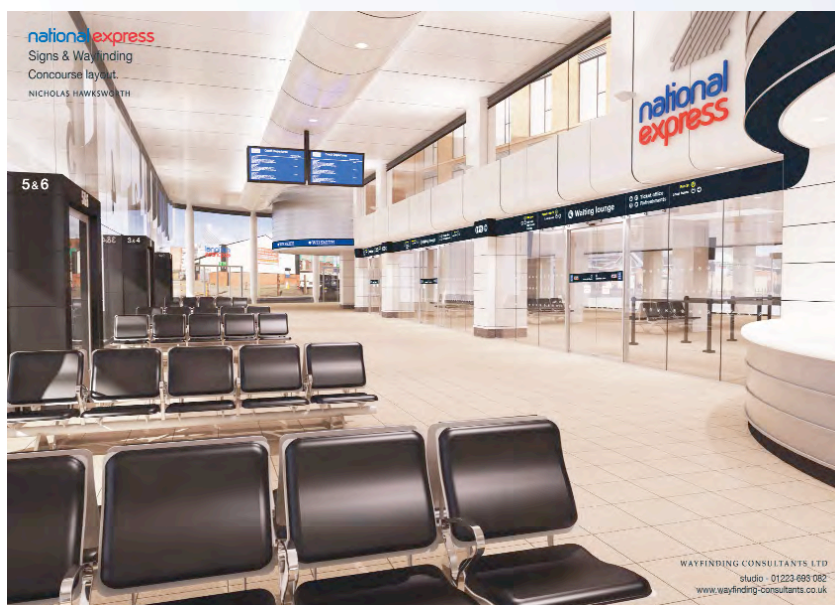
"At the beginning we often had to explain to architects and potential clients what wayfinding meant. But there was an explosion in wayfinding and accessibility signage around 2002-3, and we now find that many of our clients understand what wayfinding is, and how good wayfinding and good, well thought through sign schemes greatly improve their profile."

"It's brilliant that the market has expanded but even though awareness of wayfinding is good, we still find that the budget on a project is often very small or just added at end. Signs are in the last fix but they're often the first thing people look for and interact with. Sign companies and sign / wayfinding consultants need to be involved earlier," he explains.

Nicholas says many customers these days now look at the wider picture and accept the need for expertise to produce solutions, of which in terms of a journey, sign are a significant part. One trend he highlights is the move away from standard off-the-shelf systems to bespoke signage.

"We promote bespoke to our clients rather than off-the-shelf systems so we can control typographic layout and effectively integrate the design to the architecture and landscape."

Trevor French is Sales & Estimating at Simplex, a trade only supply company where wayfinding systems make up a significant proportion of the business.



Wayfinding solutions from Wayfinding Consultants Ltd.

He says: "Each customer wants their own individual identity and people are moving away from flat standard signs to more modern styles with greater variations. 'Flavour of the moment' is curved wayfinding signage."

"Popularity of bespoke wayfinding signage is definitely on the rise but the market for standardised products is far from dead. We supply for lots of contracts, especially around colleges and universities where they go for traditional fingerposts, pole and plank and directory types."

"Things can change quickly and we often have to advise clients to allow scope for extra names to be added or things to change," puts in Trevor.

Digital printing revolutionised the sign industry, and wayfinding is no different. Digital printing has enabled wraparound text, pantone colour matching, and given greater design freedom; and its affordability has led to the advent of disposable and adaptable wayfinding signage and more short term displays.

Lesley Coleborn, European Product Manager – Sign Systems & Displays at Spandex, says "The need to update the message regularly is what determines the type of wayfinding solutions that customers choose."

"The communication world is moving at a rapid pace and the demand for more information is being driven along with that. These days you walk into a reception or exhibition hall and you expect to have lots of information readily available. Now more things such as electronic displays, tracker screens, and LEDs can be put in wayfinding displays and they can be updated regularly, even hourly. It's very exciting, almost scary, but in a good way."

Nicholas agrees, saying "Customers expect more and are being delivered more. This is the Information age; we're all more switched on and used to reading and understanding maps and following different types of signs and wayfinding devices"

"A catchphrase at the moment, and not just in the sign industry is 'Convergence Technology', which is where a device does many different things, such as the multiple applications on an i-pod or a monolith type sign that gives information not just on where you are going, but also other local attractions, and an opportunity to interpret local history, all in many different graphic, visual and digital ways."

But how much information is the right amount to include?



Curved Wayfinding signage, 'Flavour of the moment', from Simplex.

WAYFINDING *Feature*

Finding your way through wayfinding

Robert Shelley of Shelley Signs, a company specialising in the design and production of outdoor information panels for parks, nature reserves and visitor attractions, says: "Wayfinding differs from other areas sign trade in the need to convey quite a lot of information in a clear way so graphic design is hugely important."

"A common error is trying to squeeze too much information on a sign, but less is more on a good quality interpretive sign. Some customers think they have to tell people everything and find it hard to know what to leave out. Keep in mind, a sign often needs to work for many different people, maybe a whole family, and they may look at it for 30-60 seconds only. A useful tip is to imagine you have just one minute to tell someone what's the most important points."

"In an ideal world a panel sign would be A1, have 150-200 words and small illustration with caption, that's enough. If people need more detail, that's what leaflets and websites are for."

"Following good sign design guidelines is what's important. They should be specified in a project, but whether or not they are, good design should be adhered to anyway," says Robert.

Avoiding shiny surfaces that produce glare and using high contrast colours, clear typefaces and lettering spaced correctly, are some basics towards effective signage for everyone. Location is also important, what's the use of a sign under lights that attracts so many insects it quickly gets covered in debris?

One useful tool aimed at anyone involved in planning access within and around buildings is The Sign Design Guide, jointly produced by JMU Access Partnership (now part of RNIB Access Consultancy Services) and the Sign Design Society.



Spandex's Presto system.

The A4 publication of more than 90 pages covers planning, designing, specifying and installing signs, as well as the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and has in-depth guidance on accessible signage. It gives information on creating effective and consistent signs, promoting one sign for all to meet everyone's signage needs. The Sign Design Guide is available at £20 + VAT from JMU's website.

As more information needs to be accessible to more people and legislation such as the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 is introduced, tactile and Braille signage is now specified more often. However, it's more than just a case of using raised letters or translating words into Braille.

RNIB Access Consultancy has considerable experience of accessible environments and offers sign assessments, advice, proofreading, translation services, and sign design training.

Sharon Almond is Principle Access Consultant at the RNIB Access Consultancy, and says: "Sometimes people are nervous to contact us because they think that to make a sign work for blind and partially sighted people it needs to be black and yellow, but this is far from the truth. Signage can look great and be accessible to a wide range of people. We're working to same goal, i.e. understanding the people you're designing for and planning more inclusive schemes."

"Often people ask us why a sign needs to be designed to meet the needs of blind and partially sighted people - surely if they can't see they can't find or use the sign? We explain that the majority of blind and partially sighted people can see and through logical placing and good design a sign can be used by a wider range of people. Good visual contrast can aid someone when locating the sign and then raised text and Braille can be felt with the fingers by people who can locate the sign, but not read the information visually," says Sharon. "It's also important to remember that many of the aspects of good design covered in the Sign Design Guide will make signage easier for everyone to use. Creating an accessible signage scheme doesn't have to add much to the overall cost but it makes such a big difference to the people trying to use it."

"Clear, well-planned wayfinding signage makes sense not only for customers and for sign makers' reputations, but for everyone," says Sharon.



Shelly Signs is a specialist in information panels for parks, nature reserves and visitor attractions.

Spandex wayfinding systems designed by Kunstödünger

Spandex is offering a portfolio of products from Italian-based manufacturer Kunstödünger that provides stylish, proven and tested standard solutions for point of sale, showroom and office use.

This line of innovative sign systems enables communication, presentation or sales tools to be given a creative and contemporary look and is widely used by professionals such as designers, artists or sign makers.

Fisso Wall-Mounted Stand Off fasteners provide everything needed to mount panels to walls in a variety of finishes and sizes. The range is perfectly suited for applications that include panel mounted, directional and information signage; door signs; name plates; and multi-layer signs.

Fisso Ceiling and Panel Fixings is a system that offers superior design and functionality to information and directional signage; rigid panel graphic displays;



Spandex Cable System from Kunstödünger.

retail advertising; and frame mounting.

Each Fisso range ensures that large projects with a number of size/finish requirements can achieve a unified look throughout the whole project.

An easy way to quickly turn your printed panel into a signpost, an advertising display, a partition wall or a decorative element to any interior area is Pressto. Constructed to give maximum flexibility while safely securing rigid materials in a number of different applications, this is a highly versatile display tool.

Pressto is constructed from two highly designed silver anodised aluminium profiles; one forms the supporting legs while the other is an integral part of the securing mechanism for the display. Panels from 1mm up to 30mm thick can be accommodated easily and securely within the system.

Shelley Signs - experts in more than just wood

Shelley Signs specialises in the design and manufacture of wayfinding signs, interpretive panels and park signs. The company offer a diverse production base including wide format printing, glass reinforced plastic encapsulation finishing and tactile timber signs.



Shelley Signs works in a variety of materials in addition to wood.

The team at Shelley Signs are experts working in timber with products ranging from standard lectern frames, bespoke framing structures to sandblasted and routed graphics. For clients wishing to meet DDA requirements Shelley Signs' tactile sandblasted timber signs offer a fantastic solution and can also be integrated with printed signs, Braille plaques or supplied as stand-alone timber units.

The company's usual policy is to paint the text and map details but leave all illustrations as silhouettes – this allows the natural grain of the timber to be enhanced while making the highlighted areas very visible even to people who are colour blind.

Shelley Signs sources timber from a wide variety of sawmills. Of interest currently is a Cedar butt, air-dried for seven years from a storm felled tree in Marbury Country Park, Cheshire. The company also has access to substantial off-cuts from oak supplied in the rebuilding of Windsor Castle.

Shelley Signs is also a leading supplier of wide format full colour graphics encapsulated into glass reinforced plastic (GRP). All printing is undertaken in-house and the GRP finishing process offers exceptional durability. All GRP printed signs have a 10 year warranty against fading.

Posts, lectern frames and wall mounted structures are all manufactured in-house at Shelley Signs. The company works in a variety of materials including oak, softwood, galvanised and sprayed mild steel and stainless steel.

APCO aims to satisfy all needs

APCO UK has a complete selection of signage that it believes satisfies all wayfinding needs both internally and externally, from directional signs, room identification, to main entrance post mounted, ceiling suspended to convex monolith and lockable poster cabinets.

The APCO range has uniformity throughout so corporate, stylish and elegant wayfinding solutions can be created. All the systems within the range are versatile so they can cover almost any signage need.

APCO signage systems are ideal for schools, colleges, universities and hospitals and all other environments which require signage to be adaptable and flexible.



APCO provides effective wayfinding solutions.

WAYFINDING *Feature*

Trade supplier Simplex offers customers more versatility

For more than 20 years Simplex has been one of the leading suppliers of wayfinding signage direct to the trade.

For internal signs the System 4 range offers a gently curved product that can be made as a wall mounted directory, a suspended sign or as an internal monolith.

Capable of holding individual bands, a large panel, a paper insert or a combination of any of these, its unique patented Gatorband™ technology means it is the only curved system on the market to hold all of these configurations together and in line creating a finished sign that's very pleasing on the eye. Available in a range of widths, they can be painted to any colour, including Pantones, and will readily accommodate Braille and tactile panels. A one size matching projector completes the System 4 family.



Simplex's popular Pole & Plank Fingerpost.



Curved, wall mounted sign by Simplex.

Simplex is also an approved supplier of the stylish Apco Accord slat type sign system and a recognised supplier of MSS signs.

For external signs the company reckons its Pole & Plank range is hard to beat. Being offered is a walltrack, round, square, D and quad slot post options and a 100mm, 150mm and 200mm planks with fabricated panels for other sizes incorporating a more sturdy 2mm aluminium or ACM face. For budget signs Simplex offers its composite holder for carrying 3mm ACM panels or any other substrate.

A Pole & Plank Signbox 78 between a couple of D posts makes a solid and imposing impression for any customer and Pole & Plank is also available as a finger post.

Dozens of modular sign options from Universal

Two distinctive way-finding signage solutions are available exclusively to the sign trade from Bristol-based Universal Aluminium Systems. They are the Locate post and panel and the Direx reversible directional and information systems. Both are available off-the-shelf on short lead times ready for customisation using screen - or digitally-printed or vinyl-applied graphics.

More than 50 different modular sign configurations are possible using the Locate post and panel system. There is also a choice of seven panel widths from 50 to 254mm, with the further option of bespoke fabricated aluminium panels. An all metal construction, the system comprises a variety of post profiles (including round, square and D-section) and seven standard and any number of cut-to-size panel profiles that can be supplied in a mill or powder-coated finish to any RAL/BS specification.



Locate post and panel system from Universal Aluminium Systems.

Two-way post profiles for 'V'-shaped constructions are also available together with decorative finials and crossbars.

Direx is a reversible information and directional signage system that will accommodate the most complex way-finding directory requirement. The reversible aluminium face panels are available in a range of six widths from 25.4 to 152.4mm. One side of the face panel offers a smooth face that can be engraved, screen- or digitally-printed or decorated using vinyl-applied lettering and graphics, while channels in the reverse of the panel will accept inserts in virtually any sheet material (including Universal's Direx panels) in a thickness of 1.5 or three millimetres.

Contact details

APCO UK – www.apcosigns.co.uk or t. 01302 311121

RNIB Access Consultancy / JMU Access Partnership – www.rnib.org.uk / www.jmuaccess.org.uk or t. 0207 391 2002.

Shelley Signs – www.shelleysigns.co.uk or t. 01952 541483.

Simplex Ltd – www.simplex ltd.com or t. 01903 750333.

Spandex – www.spandex.com/uk or t. 01454 200625.

The Sign Design Society – www.signdesignsociety.co.uk or t. 020 8776 8866.

Universal Aluminium Systems – www.universal-aluminium.co.uk or t. 0117 955 9091.

Wayfinding Consultants Ltd – www.wayfinding-consultants.co.uk or t. 01223 693082.

HEX'PRESS

Cast HX100WG2

High performance printable cast for vehicle wraps



Printable cast vinyl

For complex compound curved surfaces

HEX'Press liner with structured adhesive

Fast application without bubbles and creases

Repositionable during application

Fast removal at end of campaign

Unique HEX'Press™ Innovative Adhesive Technology

HX100WG2 is a premium 50µm printable cast vinyl specially designed for full colour vehicle wraps.

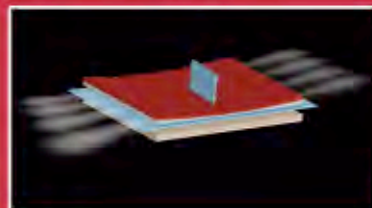
The vinyl film is a cast PVC. Due to its extreme flexibility and high conformability, fast and risk free transfers are practically guaranteed. It is particularly recommended for complex compound curved surfaces on any vehicle.

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 **HX100WG2** 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 **HX100WG2** are also protected from minor scratches, stone chips and scuffs. Hexis® CARProtect film can be used in combination with HX100WG2 for improved vehicle paintwork protection.

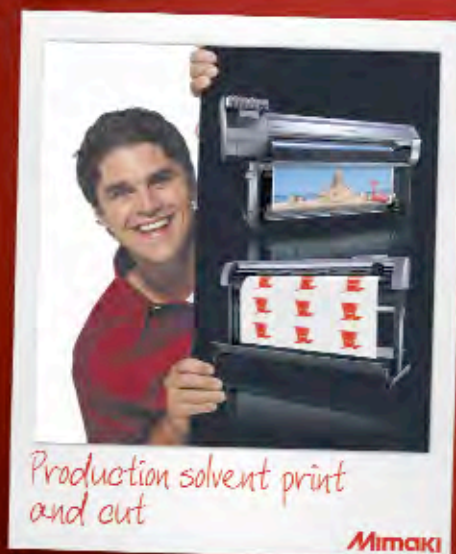
The **HX100WG2** is available at 1370mm wide x 10m & 45m rolls.



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made for you...



Flatbed UV curing



Desktop cutting



Full or eco solvent



Grand format hard
or eco solvent



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PRODUCT *Choice*

Banner Box increases print capacity with further investment in Mimaki

Derbyshire based event branding solutions company, Banner Box, identified the importance of investing in the latest technology years ago, and recently continued the trend when they took advantage of Mimaki's upgrade promotion featuring the newly launched baby-grand solvent printer - the JV33-260S.

Banner Box has been digitally printing banners, flags and outdoor branded products since 2001 when they invested in an early mild solvent printer from Granthams Graphic Technology. Their relationship with Granthams strengthened over the years, with further wide format printers replacing the originals, including their first venture into wider machines with a pair of Mimaki JV3-250SP printers, capable of outputting 2.5m wide (or deep) print onto outdoor banners.

The launch of the new baby grand Mimaki - the 2.6m wide JV33-260S - fitted in well with Banner Box's investment plans, and coupled to a recommendation from a new member of staff who'd worked with one of the regular sized JV33s at another company, the investment was a fairly easy one for General Manager, Charles Coldwell to sanction.

With a product portfolio that covers the complete gamut of outdoor branded products, and a full service model that allows them to print, manufacture and fit any product, anywhere in the UK, they benefit from economies of scale in offering competitive pricing to their customers. The keen pricing doesn't come at the cost of quality though as that is something the company sets out its stall by.

"We keep our customers through our commitment to quality," says Coldwell, "and that's reflected not only in the work that we produce, but the way we produce it." Favouring running the machines a touch below their maximum speed, he's confident that the improvement in print quality and colour density is worth it. Some of their blue chip clients have very exacting standards for display graphics work, and jobs such as the 2m x 600mm side stands that they're often called on to produce (in 700 unit runs, no less) for a major German car brand's national dealer network, test Banner Box's resolve and capacity to the limit.

Nonetheless, it's very unusual these days for the company to need to sub contract work out and a lot of this is down to the increase in speed that they've seen from the new Mimaki.



Charles Coldwell claims the JV33 is the easiest grand format printer he's ever used.

Not only is it capable of running faster than any other machine in their substantial suite of print hardware, but features such as the UISS big ink system mean running fast and overnight is now fully feasible as well.

"The UISS is a fantastic development," Coldwell says, "and it has added another dimension to our ability to turn work around faster."

The JV33-260S mirrors Mimaki's other production solvent printers with the inclusion of their Uninterrupted Ink Supply System technology where multiple cartridges of each colour are loaded and the printer switches seamlessly between them as they are consumed, without the need to pause printing.

Banner Box appreciates the excellent keying of Mimaki's SS21 full solvent ink to the Dicksons banner material as well. Horror stories of output from other machines running lower keying inks causing their sewing staff to be covered in rubbed off ink are now a thing of the past as the Mimaki's print stays glued to the PVC during makeup and welding.



The skill sets within Banner Box means they're not just involved in the printing side - their 'full service' model covers every element of banner and flag making from the design, through print, sewing and finishing, to the groundwork that is required for flag pole installations - even the erection of gazebos and marquees. Their vast premises on the outskirts of Staveley afford them the space to house their suite of around 10 wide format printers, plus the extra areas required for fabricating the printed output. It's a long way from the tiny high street shop that the then tarpaulin manufacturers started out in, in 1991.

Working with Granthams since their first investment in 2001, Coldwell places importance on the quality of support and technical know-how they get from the team at the authorised Mimaki reseller.

"Whilst the JV33-260 is the easiest grand format printer I've ever used, we do very much value the input that Granthams have in getting the best out of the machine - and they're quick to provide help whenever they're called upon."

Now able to take on more work from companies unable to offer the same complete service, it's the aforementioned commitment to quality and innovation that's seen Banner Box grow to such a standing in the market. When top west end hotels come knocking and you find your company in great demand from the big blue chip brands for repeat business, you know you're doing something right, and Coldwell is happy to confirm that investing in the appropriate technology plays a part in that.

"The colour matching from Mimaki's RasterLink Pro RIP software has had a big impact on the quality of our output - and perhaps most importantly, the ease with which we achieve it. Where previously we would have to change a lot of colours in clients' artwork to colours we knew we could match, we're able to take practically anything in now and be very confident of the quality that we'll get at the other end."

This claim goes beyond the marketing departments of the big brands though - one regular client is a local school, whose banners are often designed by the pupils themselves. A colourful kaleidoscope of solid colour blocks, random vignettes and photos, these proved a real challenge to output prior to the investment of the JV33-260. Now though, with the printer's new Mimaki RIP package, Coldwell has complete confidence in what his team will print, and even finds himself caught out by the speed that it takes.

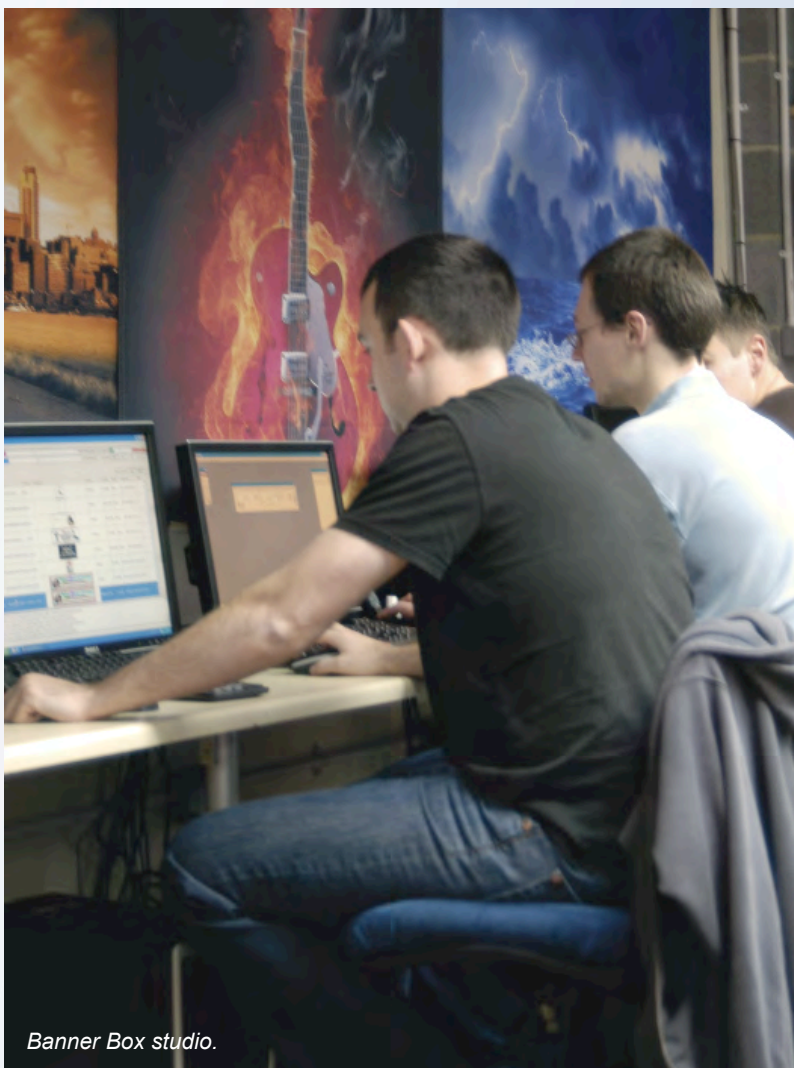
"I've got much more time now," he says. "We're often still surprised at the rate we get through work from start to finish - but that's no bad thing!"

The speed of the new workflow wasn't the only thing to startle the team at Banner Box;

"I noticed that our production department was ordering more media than normal and at first I thought something wasn't quite right," jokes Coldwell. "But when we sat down and did the sums; it's printing so much faster, and outputting so much more material, it's no wonder we're in that position!"

This volume of work is a satisfying vindication for a company that's riding out the recession with the introduction of pioneering products, without cutting corners. Remembering the importance of their commitment to quality, Coldwell concludes; "The print off the JV33 is the best I've seen." Praise indeed from a company that's printed an incredible volume of stunning work over the years, for some very exacting clients.

More information on Banner Box's vast range of products can be found on their website at www.bannerbox.co.uk and for information on the complete range of Mimaki printer and cutter hardware, their authorised reseller; Grantham's can be reached via their comprehensive website at www.graphicdiscount.co.uk. Mimaki's exclusive UK & Ireland distributor is Hybrid Services Ltd and their website, detailing Mimaki's full product and software line-up is www.hybridservices.co.uk



Banner Box studio.

PRODUCT *Choice*

Cut-to-print print problems solved with AXYZ CNC solution

Bradford-based Whiteghyll Visual Fabrications is a leading supplier of bespoke retail display and visual merchandising products, the quality of which is reflected in the company's impressive customer base that includes major high street retailers like Morrisons, BHS, Ann Summers, Argos and Habitat. To help boost productivity and reduce costs, the company recently installed an AXYZ cut-to-print CNC solution at its graphics department.

Having begun the move from traditional screen-printing to digital printing over a year ago with the purchase of a large-format VUTEk UV printer, Whiteghyll was confronted with the same issues about finishing as other owners of these versatile printers. The main problem was how to accurately cut out prints that had been created using rigid materials like foamed board, acrylic and medium-density fibreboard (MDF).

At first, this was not perceived as too much of a problem since the company already owned two CNC routers from AXYZ International. A Pacer 3020HDS installed in 2004 and an AXYZ 4008 purchased in 2006 were already proving their worth in the plastics fabrication and woodworking departments. Foamed board like

Foamex and acrylic panels printed on the VUTEk were easily cut on the Pacer machine that can machine acrylic up to 15mm thick in a single pass with an outstanding quality of edge finish. The remaining problems, however, concerned registration (namely, how to position the printed sheet in order to cut out in exactly the right place on the router), with a further complication arising as a result of non-linear distortion (stretching) of the material. This was caused not necessarily by the printer but more likely by changes in the material due to temperature and humidity variations.

These problems contributed to significant material wastage caused by misaligned cutting and were exacerbated by product damage and increased labour costs incurred by moving materials between production departments. Furthermore, in spite of running three 24/7 shifts there were problems over capacity due to the increased workload and to the absence of a knife-cutting facility on either of the routers. This meant certain jobs involving, for example, foamed board had to still be outsourced.

Senior Project Manager at Whiteghyll, Richard Egan commented: 'The time came for us to look at purchasing an additional machine and one that would need to be capable of both routing and knife cutting as well as providing a registration system for accurate cut-to-print alignment. We looked at some of the conventional knife-cutting machines used within the graphics industry and found that although these provided a fast knife-cutting capability and camera registration they were also expensive, relatively lightweight and struggled with our primary requirement to cut solid rigid substrates. Having been very pleased with the performance of our existing routers from AXYZ International, we decided to evaluate the company's latest machine that provided integrated heavy-duty routing, an oscillating knife-cutting capability and camera registration in one very economical package.'

The AXYZ machine can be fitted with a choice of routing spindle (three, five or 10hp), enabling it to cope easily with the toughest materials. The tangential oscillating knife unit cuts lighter materials like cardboard, foamed board and rubber, while the camera registration system that works with both the router and the knife is based on the industry-leading I-Cut software and is the only system that can compensate for both linear and non-linear distortions of printed sheets. Richard Egan added: 'We were confident about the performance of the AXYZ products installed and the service and support provided by AXYZ International over the years at such a competitive price and felt we could not fail with this latest solution.'

Since installation, the new machine frequently runs continuously throughout the three shifts. With an effective processing area of 2,440 x 1,524mm, it handles everything that the VUTEk platform can print. Significantly, it has also solved all of the previous cut-to-print problems by virtually eliminating waste caused by misaligned cutting and by reducing labour costs incurred as a result sub-contractual outsourcing. There is also less damage to materials due to a reduced materials handling requirement.

For further information on AXYZ cut-to-print solutions, visit the website www.axyz.co.uk or telephone 01902 375 600.



The Intelligent Cutting System (ICS) can now be attached to any standard AXYZ International router to cut digitally-printable media.

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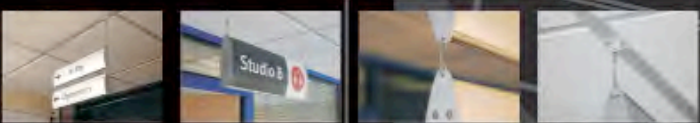


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PRODUCT *Choice*

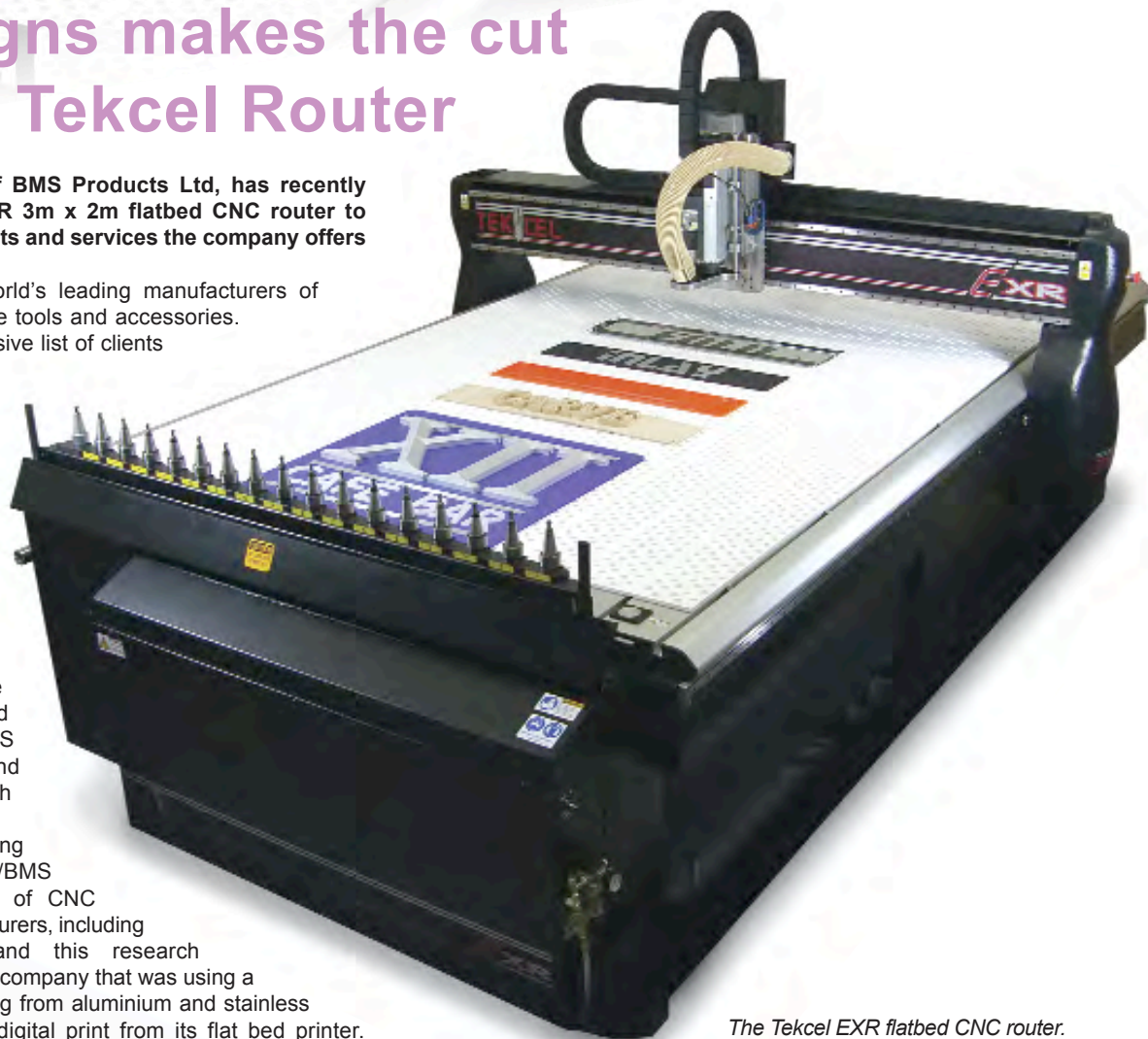
Luton Signs makes the cut with new Tekcel Router

Luton Signs, a division of BMS Products Ltd, has recently installed a new Tekcel EXR 3m x 2m flatbed CNC router to expand the range of products and services the company offers its customers worldwide.

BMS is one of the world's leading manufacturers of golf course signage, turf care tools and accessories. The company has an impressive list of clients including many top golf courses and sporting venues throughout Europe, USA, Canada, the Middle East and Asia. Beyond the world of Golf, BMS supplies football clubs, cricket grounds and similar sporting venues, as well as local authorities, schools, universities, parks and recreation, landscapers, gardeners and turf care professionals. Although its Head Office is based in Luton, BMS also has manufacturing and distribution facilities in North America and the Far East.

The decision making process for Luton Signs/BMS began with demonstrations of CNC routers from various manufacturers, including Tekcel CNC Solutions, and this research culminated in a visit to a sign company that was using a Tekcel router to cut everything from aluminium and stainless steel to acrylics, ACM and digital print from its flat bed printer. Managing Director, James Buckholt, has a strong engineering background and he applied his expertise in this field when he evaluated the various cnc routers on the market. His research over two years led him to the conclusion that Tekcel CNC routers offered the best technology to deliver the high levels of accuracy and productivity that his business would demand from a cnc router.

According to Tekcel CNC Solutions, the 3m x 2m EXR router supplied to Luton Signs/BMS features the class leading ballscrew servo drive system that's unique to Tekcel routers and provides the pinpoint motion control that's synonymous with the Tekcel brand. The EXR router also features an innovative automatic tool changing system with a powerful 11hp spindle motor and an impressive 17 tool capacity. Luton Signs/BMS was looking to complement its existing wide format digital printing facilities with the new router so opted for a 3m x 2m cutting bed, complete with the vice-like hold down provided by its powerful vacuum system and integrated manifold valve controls. The Tekcel router also featured a pneumatic pin registration system that can prove to be invaluable when cutting wide format digital print on a router.



The Tekcel EXR flatbed CNC router.

The delivery, installation and full commissioning of the Tekcel EXR router at Luton Signs/BMS was completed in just one day, thanks in part to the excellent preparation of essential services such as power and air provided by the in-house engineering team at BMS.

"With their router up and running so quickly, the Luton Signs production team were able to use the subsequent two days of onsite training we provided to maximum effect," said Tekcel's Huw Davies.

Luton Signs/BMS is already offering a comprehensive range of routed and engraved products to customers, both local and global, thanks to its new Tekcel router.

"And that's just the start of things to come ..." says MD, James Buckholt, "... we have several new products in the pipeline, including an exciting new concept in outdoor furniture, there appears to be no limit to the applications we're finding for our new Tekcel router!"

For further information contact Luton Signs/BMS Europe on Tel: 01582 758 444 www.lutonsigns.com or Tekcel CNC Solutions on Tel: 01275 342 668 www.tekcelcnc.com

ANDesign UK Installs Seiko II ColorPainter V-64S

Colourgen has announced that ANDesign UK has recently purchased a Seiko II ColorPainter V-64S from reseller partner, Andersons. The new printer replaces ANDesign's ColorPainter 64S, which it had been running for over five years.

Andy Williams, Director of ANDesign UK, comments, "We selected the ColorPainter V-64S because it provided a more environmentally friendly printing solution, as well as being a faster and technologically more advanced machine. We have always been really happy with our previous ColorPainter and selecting this machine was an easy choice for us. Since installing the V-64S it has delivered everything we expected and are confident we made an excellent decision."

The Seiko ColorPainter V-64s produces 720 x 720 dpi printing resolution with CMYK and LcLm colours. The newly developed print head allows the printer to achieve print speeds of 16sqm/h in quality mode, the fastest speed in its class. The new EG-Outdoor EX mild solvent ink set has very low-odour, which offers a better working and display environment while providing extensive media versatility, exceptional colour, dry times, glossiness and overall outdoor lightfastness.

In its first few weeks, the new V-64S has already produced some high quality output for ANDesign's customers. "We have provided some really impressive fine art prints onto Perspex for Aston Villa FC and also some interior manifestations for the College of Food. The printer is very easy to use, reliable, fast and produces truly stunning displays. It's a great printer and we are looking forward to getting the most out of it over the coming months," adds Andy Williams.



Rick Kweicen, Pre-sales Support Manager for Colourgen and Andy Williams, Director of ANDesign UK.

Jeff Biggs, Managing Director of Colourgen, concludes, "We are pleased that ANDesign selected the new ColorPainter V-64S on the basis of their experience with the previous model – it speaks volumes for Seiko's excellent reputation in this market. We would encourage all users with an old ColorPainter 64S to take a look at the new product which maintains Seiko's position as a manufacturer of high quality. Reliable, high performance solvent printers"

For further information call Melanie Enser at Colourgen on 01628 588700.

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PRODUCT *Choice*



Mutoh flying high in Kirriemuir

Hi-Fli, an off-shoot of the Wilkie Group, has taken delivery of an additional, new, Mutoh Viper Direct-to-Textile printing system supplied by DCP Systems of Sheffield.

David Scrymgeour Managing Director explains, "We had dealt with DCP Systems in the past and so they were a natural starting point. We had such a good rapport with their sales and technical staff and they were able to discuss with confidence our immediate requirements and future needs that we looked to them to source our next textile printer. They recommended the Mutoh Viper, a direct to textile printing system that would meet our immediate customer orders for banners and flags, but also be flexible and adaptable enough to enable us to go out and look for new clients with differing needs. The Mutoh Viper has the potential to introduce us to different substrates for printing, hence opening up new sales opportunities."

The Mutoh Viper is specifically suited to printing on transfer paper or direct to textiles using sublimation ink. Via the unique heavy-duty motorised unwinding / winding system for rolls up to 100 kg and an extra tensioning tool, the printed media is optimally prepared for post-treatment on a sublimation unit. It is possible to print onto many kinds of non-stretch materials for the manufacture of flags, sports goods, mouse mats, curtains, tile murals, exhibition stand decoration and many more applications.

The majority of work going through Hi-Fli's plant in Kirriemuir is banners and flags, but Hi-Fli also designs and delivers a huge range of textile display products including exhibition stands, stage branding, building wraps and display textiles for sporting events and ceremonies. The Mutoh Viper will predominantly be used for producing short run, quick response jobs and is seen as a perfect fit.

David continues: "The installation of this new Mutoh Viper direct to textile printer will enable us to offer a much wider portfolio of products to our clients and may open up new markets to us. Applications such as sample swatches for fashion and soft furnishings for example are now possible – bespoke fabrics for weddings, restaurants, one off events or interior design – all of these applications are possible using this new printer."

Hi-Fli purchased the Viper with a bulk ink system attached, to enable far greater flexibility and confidence to take on last minute, quick response jobs – effectively, doubling the company's capacity over night. Hi-Fli has the full range of in-house finishing equipment including industrial sewing machines and eyelet machines so that they can maintain complete control over the quality of the finished product and also ensure a quick turnaround of jobs.

All the company's fabrics are sourced through ethical companies and are 100 per cent recyclable. A recycling service for customers to return their graphics when they are done is also provided.

Hi-Fli has also recently appointed a new sales manager for the UK in Gary Thorpe who has been involved in the textile and digital print industry for many years. Gary is responsible for helping to open new markets for Hi-Fli and securing business for the textile printers.

David concludes: "Service engineers based in the UK that have a passion for getting the job done efficiently and without fuss was a key factor in choosing DCP Systems as the solution partner for us - as indeed was the level of specialism in the digital textile market and we are now confident that when we come out of this current recession, we will be sitting poised with the right people and the right machinery to move forward dealing with the continual changes in demand and our team are ready to face whatever challenges they encounter."

For more information and examples of Hi-Fli's work, visit www.hi-fli.com



David Scrymgeour, MD of Hi-Fli and Pauline Wood, Digital Print Technician with the new Mutoh Viper Textile Printer.

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PRODUCT *Choice*

Madico's Lumisty View Control Film used for global product launch at Selfridges



Iconic French brand, Lacoste, has selected Madico's unique Lumisty view control film for a global product launch at London's Selfridges store.

In order to inject maximum visual creativity to a global product launch at London's Selfridges store, high-end fashion company, Lacoste, has commissioned graphics using unique Lumisty view control film from UK-based, Madico Graphic Films Ltd. The iconic French brand selected the versatile glazing enhancement film for its eye-catching capability of changing from translucent to transparent depending on the viewing angle. This enabled Lacoste to captivate passing pedestrians and channel their gaze towards exclusive window displays featuring the company's latest Holiday Collector's Series.

Lacoste's promotional campaign at Selfridges forms part of the store's Autumn/Winter 09 theme of Evolution and since their installation at the end of October, the Lumisty window graphics have, according to Lacoste, met their expectations in successfully capturing the attention of the public.

"By acting as a window screen, Lumisty effectively conceals our polo shirt display until passers-by are directly in front of them, at which point the film becomes transparent and instantly draws their

gaze towards the products," explains Lacoste's representative. "This changing visual effect worked incredibly well and has certainly achieved our aim of turning heads."

"The success of this particular project underscores the creative possibilities of Lumisty in promotional retail and product display applications," says Andy Voss, Managing Director of Madico Graphic Films Ltd. "Thanks to its unique attribute of controlling what can and cannot be seen, Lumisty offers a multitude of distinctive and practical uses and continues to make the product a huge hit among interior designers, marketers, architects and retail branding specialists."

Lumisty forms part of Madico's portfolio of UV and eco-solvent inkjet, and thermal transfer printable window films. The range is 100% non-PVC and as with all of Madico's ink-jet printable films, Lumisty is coated with defect-free, clean-room coated adhesives for superior optical performance and can be cut to shape using standard digital cutting technology.

For more information, visit Madico's dedicated window films website at www.glazingenhancement.com

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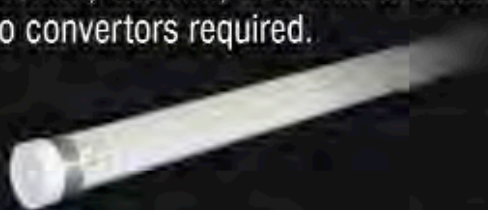
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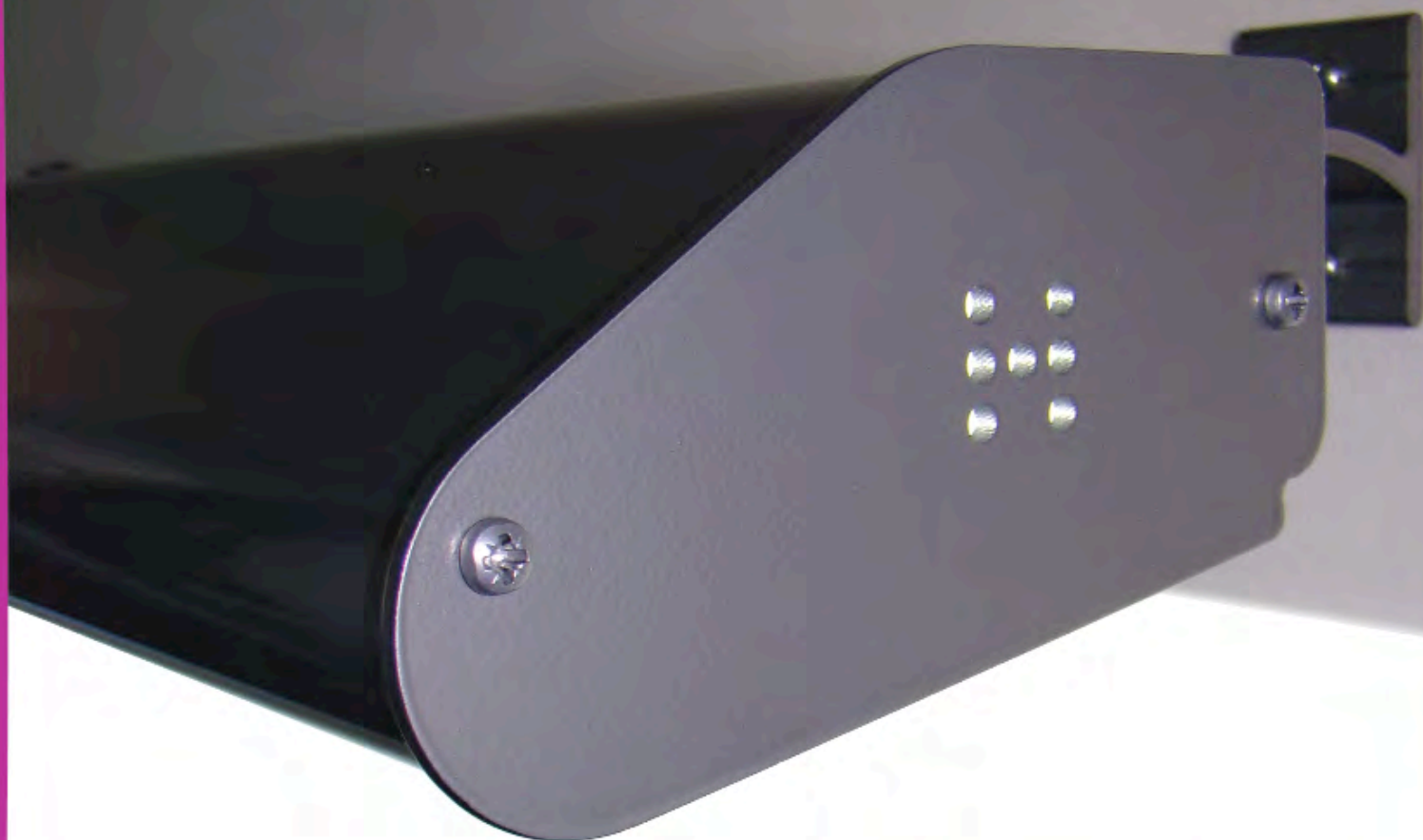


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SIGN & DIGITAL *News*

Sign & Digital UK 2010 - something for everyone

Sign & Digital UK will be held at Birmingham's NEC on the 13th, 14th and 15th April 2010. This unrivalled opportunity is a 'must attend' event for anyone who is already in, or wants to be in, the sign & digital industry.

Following the success of the 2009 show, exhibitors and visitors are already looking to 2010 show. Coming at the start of the show season, Sign & Digital UK 2010 offers the unique opportunity to get ahead of the game by seeing the latest products, services, innovations and launches in the market, not to mention benefiting from the wealth of other show features onsite.

With high demand for floor space, exhibitors are being encouraged to book their stand now to ensure that they don't miss out on the best stand positions.

Exhibitors already booked include: Alcan Composites, Axyz Automation, Doro Tape, Expand International, Fujifilm Sericol, Graphtec, Harman Technology, Hexis UK, Hybrid Services / Mimaki, InkTec Europe, Plex Display, Robert Horne Group, Signwaves, Touch Systems, Triangle Wide Format Inks, Ultima Displays, William Smith, Xpres to name a few.

With over 70 exhibitors already booked, Sign & Digital UK 2010 is set to be a big hit.

The show is already attracting a high number of NEW exhibitors such as; AgripaFlex, Elements Trade, Eurobond Adhesives, Isik Plastik, Keramikos, Print United, The Allsigns Group, Trade Sign Supplies and Vistech Technical Services.

Also exhibitors that are looking to build on their success at the 2009 show by taking bigger stands than previously include; Crown Norge AS, Harman Technology, Innova Solutions, Fujifilm Sericol, Laserite, Lion Picture Framing Supplies, Print One, Rose Plastics UK, Sign Up Systems, Signmaster Systems, Signwaves Trade, Silver Screen UK, Triangle Wide Format Inks UK and William Smith.

Sign & Digital UK are delighted to announce the launch of the new show website.

With the re-structure of the website, this new and improved service is geared towards bringing the introductions of new show features, such as the new demo / software theatre to your attention. The site will continue to bring the latest exhibitor news / launches, and information on the free seminar programme - including the return of the popular adobe and Corel sessions along with other important show information at your fingertips.

Adobe will again be loaded with new innovations for print design and publishing, web authoring and mobile delivery - the Adobe workshops promise to save you money, simplify tired workflow's, improve efficiency, deliver high-end results and prevent costly and unnecessary production errors. The question is... are you ready to take advantage of its true potential? Make sure you're there early to get a seat.

Terry Steeley from Iridius comments "Adobe CS4 allows designers to explore new creative disciplines with ease, saving money and more importantly saving time."

13-15 April 2010, Halls 6-8, NEC Birmingham



In addition the new website features that have been added will help you make the most of your visit to the show - see the new 'Special Offers' page, where visitors can come to the show to get the best deals, a link so you can follow us on the social networking site Twitter and an improved 'plan your day' section that offers the visitor more in depth search criteria to allow them to personalize and plan their visit.

Alan Caddick, Marketing Manager, Sign & Digital UK comments on the need to pre-register now: "Sign & Digital UK 2010 is the only place in the UK where you will see a wide-reaching range of products on display for the sign and digital industry. Visitor Pre-Registration for free entry to the show has just gone live on our website and already we have seen some high level visitors registered from: Waitrose, Ikea, Derbyshire County Council, Signs Express, Hampshire County Council, Crown Paints, NHS Trust, Hawes Signs, Halbro Sportswear, McCann Erickson, Victoria and Albert Museum, C3 imaging, Fast Signs, Alphagraphics, Apollo Screenprint with many more signing up each day."

Registration is free and only takes a minute to complete at www.signanddigitaluk.com. All pre-registered visitors will benefit from regular updates on show news and features, special offers, exhibitor launches and promotions.



The launch of the new show website enables visitors to catch up on all the latest news.

WALES *Signmakers*

Signwise stays busy despite tough economic times

Stephen Cleaves' infatuation with signs began at the age of 10 when he saw a photograph of London's Piccadilly Circus in his grandmother's newspaper.

After several years spent working in the drawing office of a large national sign manufacturer, Stephen established Signwise in March 1984. Initially operating from a room above a shop in the city centre, the business quickly moved to its current location, a 1000 sq.ft. industrial unit on a Newport industrial park.

Trade grew rapidly, then in January 1989 a fire started by local children resulted in the loss of everything and the company virtually had to start again from scratch.

Apart from an advertisement in Yellow Pages, most of Signwise's work is generated by recommendations and returning customers, some who have remained loyal since day one. These include many small businesses, a nationwide retailer, councils, construction companies, the principality's army reserve forces and cadets association, various medical centres and a national commercial property management company.



Above and below: signage by Signwise.



Signwise customers include local businesses and national concerns.

At present, cut out and built up satin or polished stainless steel lettering are the best sellers for Signwise, although vehicle magnetics and panels in sheet aluminium and aluminium composite also remain popular.

Signwise has recently completed work on a large doctors surgery on which numerous free standing modular signs and engraved aluminium nameplates were specified by the architect.

The company's most recent acquisition, all be it two years ago now, is a Keencut Excalibur cutter which is used to great effect and complements a wall mounted panel saw and traditional circular saw.

In addition to manufacturing, site surveys, erection and maintenance of signs for "out of town" companies are also undertaken.

Signwise considers itself fortunate to have remained busy during the current recession, in spite of having to turn away work that required unrealistic delivery dates.

Staff at Signwise pride themselves on the care and the attention to detail paid to even the smallest of jobs and are grateful for the dedicated support they receive from their suppliers and various sub contractors.

Although there are no plans to expand, Signwise's aspires to continue providing well designed, well made signs at competitive prices to all its customers.

WALES Signmakers

Aalco - delivering customer service and investing in capability

Aalco, established in 1964, is probably the UK's largest independent multi-metals stockholder and has two centres in Wales – in Chepstow, Gwent, and Ammanford, Carmarthenshire.

Customers come from every sector of UK manufacturing and engineering industry, from small local businesses to large multinational corporations. All benefit from an extensive inventory that includes aluminium, stainless steel, copper, brass, bronze and nickel alloys in all semi-finished forms.

The Aalco 'multi-metal' standard stock range includes more than 10,000 items, providing customers with a cost-effective single source for all their metals requirements. Comprehensive processing services provide items cut and/or finished to customer requirements and more than 50 per cent of sales are made up of non-standard or customer special products.

Aalco takes great care when selecting manufacturing sources for its products and every mill the company uses is measured against a series of predetermined quality control requirements. All products supplied conform to the relevant BS or international standard with certificates of conformity or analysis supplied on request.

Processed material can save customers both time and money. Understanding this, Aalco has made a major investment in a wide range of modern processing equipment at its centres nationwide. Most service centres have on-site bar sawing, protective PVC coating of sheet and a guillotine. Central facilities include plate sawing, polishing of sheet and coil and plasma profiling, as well as coil processing.

The company's ongoing investment in technology and logistics contribute to efficient processing as well as ensuring on-time delivery from the company's 18 centres, meaning every corner of the UK has a local service.



Left: just some of the 10,000 stock items at Aalco.



Aalco believes that it has the most comprehensive stock range; the highest investment in processing equipment; local service centres nationwide; helpful, friendly, knowledgeable staff and the industry's biggest fleet of delivery vehicles – which all adds up to unbeatable service.

The company says it has maintained market leadership over many years through an absolute dedication to customer service - a service level that is continuously monitored and improved through key performance indicators.

Recognising that exceptional customer service starts with people, Aalco develops and retains high quality staff using a variety of in house courses covering both skills training and product knowledge in order that customers receive quick and informed responses to any enquiry.

Semaphore Display looks forward to 25 year celebrations



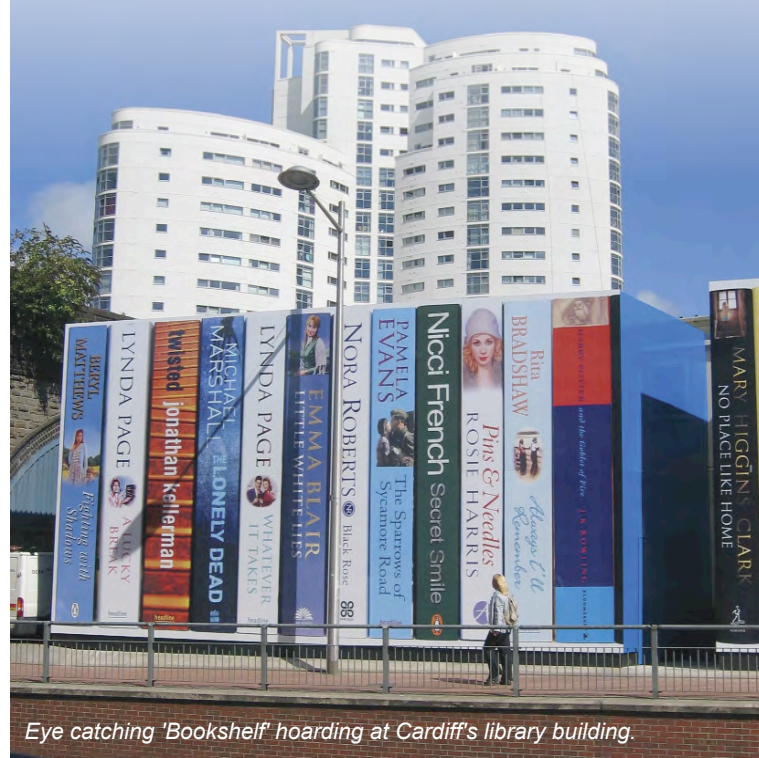
One of a series of liveries for Brains Brewery. Designed by Celf Creative.

The two current Directors, Phil Simmons and John Marshall founded Semaphore Display in 1985. The business started in a small 1500 sq.ft. unit with just three staff. By 1988 it had outgrown those premises and moved to its present 5,000 sq.ft. factory in Cardiff.

Now approaching its 25th anniversary, Semaphore Display has a team of 18 providing a complete service, from design, through in-house production to on-site installation and project management.

Where Semaphore Display has earned its reputation is by concentrating on quality and dependable delivery. Like many sign companies it is very versatile and offers a wide range of services. However, the company is a specialist in the printing and application of large format graphics for signs and exhibitions. Specialist areas of business include vehicle wraps for cars, vans, buses and trailers; PVC banners for building wraps and lamp post banners; aluminium sign products for business and retail; construction hoarding; portable display systems and modular exhibition stands.

With more than two decades of supplying the public sector, clients include museums, educational institutions, local authorities and the Welsh Assembly Government. Semaphore also caters for national retailers, manufacturers, and design agencies. Although most clients are based in Wales many are located across the UK.



Eye catching 'Bookshelf' hoarding at Cardiff's library building.

Semaphore has been chosen as the official sign and exhibition equipment supplier to the Wales Millennium Centre. The management there chose Semaphore because of its range of services, versatility and track record. Semaphore handles all the sign and exhibition requirements for this large theatre complex.

John Marshall, Contract Manager and Director, says: "We are always pleased to help and advise customers, whether it's on a single PVC banner, a vehicle graphic, or a complex project worth tens of thousands of pounds.

"Our commitment to getting the job done on time when deadlines are tight, and maintaining quality and value with customers' ever tightening budgets is the same, whatever the size of the job. We're large enough to undertake major contracts, yet small enough to be very adaptable to customers' requests and requirements."

During the past 12 months the company's aim has been to push its quality control and quality of service to new heights. A main investment for Semaphore has been staff training. The installation team have all completed the latest Health & Safety courses and have up to date CSCS cards, enabling them to erect signs on construction sites and in public areas. Project management, (along with risk assessments and method statements), ensures effective and safe installation. Within the sales and administration departments, four personnel have just completed NVQ courses successfully. The aim for 2010 is to achieve an ISO accreditation.

"Customers choose Semaphore because of our quality in goods and service. We pride ourselves on delivering a service, not just a product. Providing value for money, not compromising on quality and wherever possible offering something different," says John.

"In addition to staff trained to the highest possible standard, our future aims include increased quality of service, to be as environmentally friendly as possible in all our work, and to continue investing in new technology at the right time."



Wayfinding monolith at Cardiff Castle. The concrete base avoided the need for digging into 'listed' ground.

WALES Signmakers

Keiron's lifelong passion makes Oner Signs a model of success

Keiron Jones' enthusiasm for his work began long before 1987, but that was when as a 15 year old graffiti artist he went into the Banaman Signs shop in Cardiff to have one of his designs printed on to a t-shirt.

"I was very interested in the method used to print the t-shirt, the owner let me watch the process, and I was hooked," says Keiron.



Left and above: signage from Oner Signs.

A year later after finishing school he got a job there, initially learning to cut vinyl by hand, then went on to manage the shop while honing his skills. Eight years later, in the summer of 1996, and with only £4 to his name, Keiron decided to set up on his own and started working out of his mum's garage.

Business picked up and soon outgrew the garage, so Keiron moved Oner Signs & Leisure into its current premises, a city centre shop in Cardiff.

"It's a great location, in the capital city, very close to a lot of our customers. Also, it lets us make our mark with our own graphic style and show off our design and layout skills," says Keiron.

Keiron ran Oner Signs & Leisure with just part-time help until 1998 when good friend Dave Jones (no relation) who had extensive knowledge in plastics, vinyls and sign systems, joined the fold.

Today, they supply mainly end users, from individuals to blue chip companies, all involved in a varied range of activities. Most customers are local but recent projects include a high volume of external signage for pubs and bars including corporate branding work and supplying 20 Marks & Spencer stores across the country.

"The great thing about this game is that we are producing different types of work on a daily basis, so we are always kept fresh and focussed. We love our work and believe it shows in the finished products we supply," enthuses Keiron.

Although in essence a sign shop, printing posters, banners, fascia signs and vehicle graphics, printed tee-shirts, hoodies, mugs, caps, and similar, there is another side to Oner Signs & Leisure's business.

Keiron explains: "We sell a lot of graffiti and art materials and run Graffiti Workshops where we introduce people of all ages to professional graffiti skills. We believe that our Sign Studio and Graffiti shop is unique."

Keiron is "very confident for 2010" and planning to open more shops based on the successful model of Oner Signs & Leisure in Cardiff.



Dave Jones in the Oner Signs & Leisure shop, Cardiff.

Long established Trevor Lewis Signs continues to enjoy new challenges

Swansea-based Trevor Lewis Signs started back in 1932, by Trevor with just a pot of paint, a few brushes, a bicycle and a ladder.

Current director Mike Grant says: "I still have mental images of Trevor carrying that ladder on a bike! I reckon we're the longest established sign company in South Wales, possibly in the whole of Wales."

Mike joined Trevor Lewis Signs in 1973 at the tender age of 16. He cut his teeth in the screen printing department and learnt all he

could about the sign industry over the next eight years before a touch of wanderlust led him to South Africa. There he stayed for 12 years, making more signs, before returning to the UK in 1993.

Soon after, while visiting Trevor Lewis Signs, he was offered a job and three years later when the Director retired, Mike took over the business.

"The company was stuck in a bit of time warp with the only bit of 'modern' equipment being a Gerber 4b vinyl plotter. We still have that plotter, which has since been verified to be the oldest working plotter in the country (thank you Mr Charlie Dobson)," says Mike.



Trevor Lewis Signs manufactures most of its products in-house.

Significant investment in subsequent years means Trevor Lewis Signs is now up to date on the technology front and manufactures a majority of products in-house. These encompass digital printing and engraving, illuminated and non illuminated fascias, cut out letters, LEDs, window and vehicle graphics, and the company also provides installation services. Customers comprise end users and the trade, and are largely, but not exclusively, based mainly between Pembroke in the west, the Severn Bridge in the east and in north and mid Wales.

Mike explains what wins and keeps people coming back to Trevor Lewis Signs.

"Most customers buy purely on price and usually can't visualise the finished product, so we use our portfolio to show what we can do and persuade them that the lowest tender is not always the best value for money. Good background knowledge of materials, their uses and more importantly, their limitations is critical. Far too many start-up companies have 'all the gear and no idea'. (I just love that statement; check out some of the sign forums for confirmation)."

"We prefer that personal touch with clients and put quality above quantity. It's strange that the most important part of any business i.e. their signage, is the part that customers often want to spend the least amount of money on," says Mike.

Having clocked up 36 years in the business Mike says his passion for making signs is undiminished.

"I find every day a new challenge, and the word 'can't' is not on my books but 'how can I?' is. That's why I'm making my own CNC machine instead of shelling out a king's ransom."

On a sad note, founder of the company, Trevor Lewis passed away on 13 September 2009, aged 93. R.I.P. Trevor.



WALES Signmakers

Continual quest to offer customers more at Harris Signs

Anthony (Tony) Harris set up as A. T. Harris Signs in July 1969 and in 2002 it became a limited company and changed its name to Harris Signs and Graphics Ltd.

When the business first started pre-computers Tony worked from home, being a traditional sign writer he only needed paints and brushes. As technology and computers took over and digital printers and cutters came into use, bigger premises were needed and in 2006 the company moved to a purpose built unit at Osprey Business Park, Landore, Swansea.

Today, Harris Signs and Graphics comprise a team of five. In addition to Tony there is Robert Harris (Tony's son) and Christian Pike who are Directors; Rosemary Prosser who runs the office and Sue Harris (Tony's wife), the Company Secretary.

"One of our big strengths is design and application of graphics for commercial vehicles. But whatever the job, the customer is most important, whether a small one man / woman business or a large corporate company. We listen, share ideas, always keep communicating with the client and transfer their ideas into reality. When the customer is pleased, we are pleased," says Tony.

As well as graphics for commercial vehicles, the company



also designs and produces site boards for construction companies; shop and office fronts and window graphics, and traditionally sign writes vintage show work and gold-leaf gilding of honours boards for schools and clubs.

Customers of Harris Signs and Graphics are mostly end users from within a 40 mile radius, but the company also serves sign firms from around the country requesting the company to do work for them in the area and designers acting for their clients.

A recent investment at Harris Signs and Graphics is a Roland Versa Camm digital printer, giving the company extra scope in printing large format full colour work.

Tony says: "We are always searching for new ideas, materials and equipment to give our customers the best possible benefits both with quality and cost. We continually look for new ways to improve and offer customers more and keep us one step ahead of the competition. For example, we've recently started digitally printing on art canvas, meaning clients can have their digital photos, or ones they choose from our range, transferred to canvas ready to hang on their walls, which is becoming very popular.

"The most challenging aspect of our business is keeping pricing realistic. There are many firms who will do a cheap quick job, but we pride ourselves on producing excellent work, from in-house design, manufacturing to installation – and being there for the customer after the work is finished."



One stop shopping from Griffiths Signs

South Wales based Griffiths Signs and Equipment Co was founded in 1990 as a family business and soon became industrial sign specialists, providing quality safety and traffic signs to local authorities, construction and manufacturing industries.

Over the years Griffiths Signs and Equipment has grown its business and in 2002 the company moved its operation to the larger Rogerstone Factory, Newport, just off Junction 27 of the M4.

With larger premises and improved facilities Griffiths Signs was able to offer liveries for vehicle from cars to large articulated lorries. High visibility vehicle markings are proving popular with highway maintenance vehicles due to changes made by the Department of Transport regarding vehicles being made more conspicuous.

In 2007 Griffiths Signs upgraded its sign manufacturing equipment with the installation of a large format digital print facility. This enabled printing direct on to rigid plastic, aluminium, vinyl, Dibond, Corex and banners, and gave customers a faster turnaround.



Large format printing on a range of substrates is available from Griffiths Signs.

Although Griffiths Signs' core business is health and safety, temporary and permanent traffic signs, the business is now a one stop sign shop offering full colour print, corporate and custom made signage as well as directory systems and PVC banners and hoardings, supplying both end users and merchant customers.

In addition to signs the company is also a stockist of personal protective equipment and traffic management products including road cones from 450mm–1.0m, motorway cones, sign posts and fixings, barrier systems, speed ramps, trench covers, verge posts, safety helmets, eye protection, high visibility clothing to name just a few.

Deliveries are made with Griffiths Signs' own transport and overnight carriers that cover the whole of the UK.

Contact details

Aalco (Chepstow): www.aalco.co.uk or tel. 01291 638683.

Aalco (Dyfed): www.aalco.co.uk or tel. 01269 842044.

Griffiths Signs & Equipment Co: www.griffiths-signs.co.uk or tel. 01633 895566.

Harris Signs and Graphics: email. info@harrissigns.co.uk or tel. 01792 473915.

Signwise: www.signwise.net tel. or 01633 841766.

Semaphore Display: www.semaphoredisplay.co.uk or tel. 02920 224111.

Trevor Lewis Signs: www.trevorlewissigns.co.uk or tel. 01792 701779.

Oner Signs & Leisure: www.onersigns.co.uk or tel. 02920 396989.

SCOTLAND *Signmakers*

Transforming ideas into reality at Ballie Signs

Baillie Signs, established in 1988, is a family run sign manufacturing, installation and maintenance company that supplies all types of signs throughout Scotland and the UK.

A specialist in bespoke creations, Baillie Signs will attempt to turn any designer's weird and wonderful ideas in to reality. For example the company produced a five metre high kilted man for Inn Bru, which was the centre piece for a Guinness world record for having the most people dancing the can-can.



Weird and wonderful ideas become reality, with the help of Baillie Signs.



Baillie Signs customers come from the local area and throughout the UK.

From small name plates to nationwide contracts, Baillie Signs can meet the customer's demands on service, quality and price. Highlighting the diversity of its personnel, the team at Baillie transformed the shop front of a nightclub in Kirkcaldy from rough looking aluminium to gloss black by using aluminium composite panels and a router, much to the customer's delight.

Baillie Signs' service covers the whole process from choosing which sign is best for a particular project, through design, manufacture and installation. The company believes its product range is second to none and encompasses every possibility available for modern signage needs. Baillie Signs will install for the customer, or simply supply the signs for the customer to install. For the trade it also provides an installation only service at competitive rates with staff fully health and safety trained and certified.



Baillie Signs gave this nightclub a whole new look.

Every customer is king at Apex Signs

Ken Fairbairn began trading as Apex Signs in 1984, working in a small workshop and using a spare bedroom at home for extra workspace. As the business developed, Ken moved to a larger workshop and in 1988 he made the decision to relocate again, this time into a small industrial unit three miles from Edinburgh city centre.



Apex Signs has a good reputation for its vehicle livery.



Apparently, the children love the fox on this sign.

That move worked out well as the business continued to grow steadily and more personnel joined the company. John Wyse, who had worked with Ken in another sign company where Ken was Manager, started helping out weekends at Apex before joining full time in 1987. Ken's daughter Sharon also joined the business following graduation in 1992, after working there during holidays whilst studying at Art College.

Ken passed away in March 2003 following a long battle with cancer, during which time he worked throughout. It was Ken's wish for Sharon and John to keep the business running and they became business partners along with Ken's wife Jean in October 2004. Sharon and John have overseen a steady and successful growth of Apex and in October 2007 the business moved to its current and more spacious premises, still just a few miles from Edinburgh city centre.

Now trading as Apex Signs Scotland Limited the company employs six full time staff who are friendly, flexible and long term. Apex manufactures and installs all types of signage for schools, house builders and many other industries and is well known for its vehicle livery.

The company states that every individual customer is important. All staff pride themselves in taking care of every one, whether it is a sole trader just getting their first vehicle livery job or a large house builder requiring extensive site signage. The result is a very loyal customer base that has grown over the years.

Apex has recently upgraded its computers and software, enabling the design process to be speeded up and are plans are afoot to install a CNC router in the near future.

Contact details

Apex Signs: www.apex-signs.co.uk
or tel. 0131 657 3530.

Ballie Signs: www.bailliesigns.co.uk
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PROJECT *News*

Hot pink Ferrari promotes hot new hairdressing and beauty salon

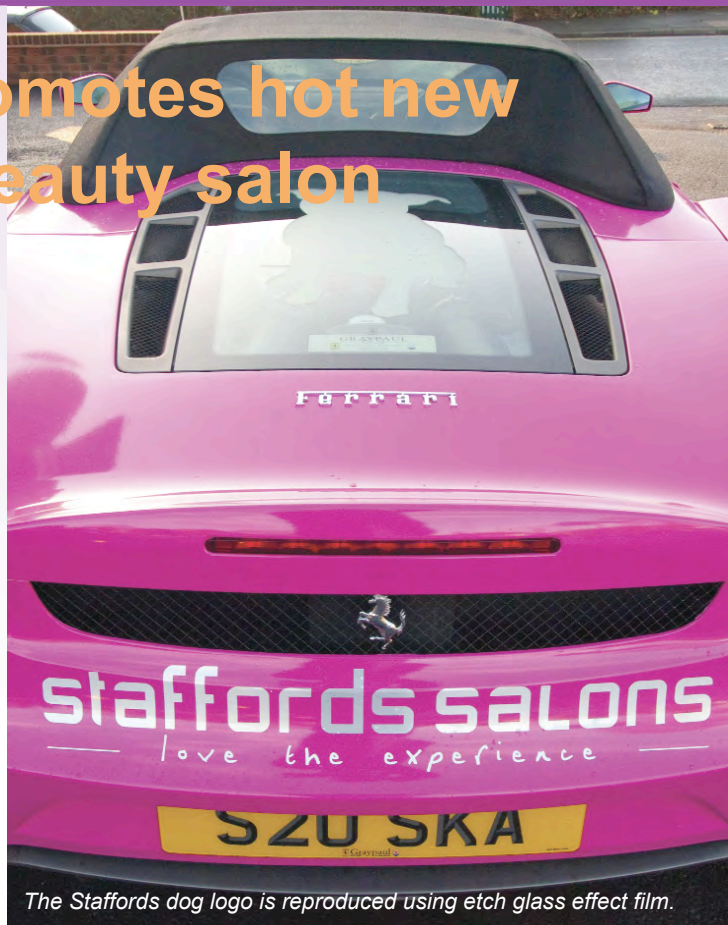
This Ferrari F430 was wrapped in hot pink for a one-off promotional photo shoot - but the owner liked it so much, he decided to keep the wrap and use it for more marketing events.

Ian Hobbs of Ian Hobbs Signage Consultancy wrapped the Ferrari for Steve Atkins, the licensee at a new Staffords Salon opened in Derby during November. Staffords Salons are celebrity hairdresser Lee Stafford's exclusive hairdressing and beauty licences.

Ian, who provides consultancy and sub-contracting services to sign companies on projects across the UK and abroad, explains why he chose Metamark's M7 Series high performance calendared sign vinyl for this project.

"Most people would probably have gone for a specific vehicle wrapping film, but that would have doubled the materials cost, which wasn't necessary," he says. "I've used Metamark M7 Series for similar work many times and achieved first-rate results. With my experience I knew I could ensure the finish on the Ferrari would be just as excellent."

In addition to significant cost savings from using the Metamark M7 Series, Ian says another advantage of choosing this particular vinyl is that it's easily removable, essential when wrapping a valuable car for short-term promotions.



The Staffords dog logo is reproduced using etch glass effect film.



The new Staffords Salon, an upmarket hairdressing and beauty outlet in Derby.

The striking hot pink colour is complemented by silver, brushed aluminium effect lettering and an etch glass effect film used to reproduce the Staffords dog logo on the Ferrari's rear window, without detracting from the overall impact.

"The trickiest bit in this job was the many contours where the roof folds down, but it wasn't too difficult. The only slight difficulty was that the unit we were working in was a bit colder than I'd like at the start of the day. I applied heat to get the vinyl temperature to around 23 degrees, which is when it becomes more flexible and easiest to apply, and we still got the wrap done in one day," Ian says.

Ian also provided all external signs for the Staffords Salon in Derby, the second Staffords Salon that he has completed signage for in the last six months. With the company aiming to have more than a dozen new licenses opening in the UK over the next two years plus more in select locations abroad, Ian will certainly be in the pink.

"Thanks are also due to Harry Shead at Aitch Design for his contribution to this project," puts Ian.

Further information about Ian Hobbs Signage Consultancy is available at www.ihsc.uk.com or by telephoning 0845 4751015.

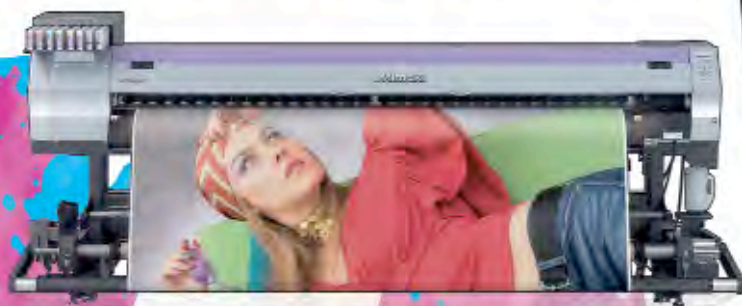
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GTMS gives world's largest rugby festival a kick start



Spectators at the Bournemouth Sevens International Rugby, Netball and Music Festival.

One of the UK's leading event production companies helped brand the largest sports and music festival in the country thanks to its event branding expertise.

GTMS was brought on board for the Bournemouth Sevens International Rugby, Netball and Music Festival and with minimum turnaround time created an array of branding and signage material.

The annual event took place on 65 acres of picturesque Dorset countryside, which was transformed to provide the ultimate sporting arena for some 20,000 people who came to watch 132 teams comprised of professional, semi-professional and community players who took part in the nine rugby competitions.

GTMS provided 150sqm of strip branding used around the entire pitch to promote the event and sponsors, all the directional signage around the site for the rugby and netball tournaments in addition to full branding of the Wii Fit marquee which measured 12.5x15m.

Roger Woodall, Director, at Diamond Sports Event, the event management company which promotes and runs the Bournemouth Sevens event said "This is the second Bournemouth Sevens Festival so expectations were high and deadlines were tight. The standard of service and

quality of branding provided by GTMS was second-to-none and the last minute additions and changes didn't faze the team at all."

The branding of the main stage, including the speaker scrims measuring 12.5x6m was also supplied in addition to a giant competition winner's cheque and a photo surround.

Dominik Short, Director at GTMS said, "Every event presents its own challenges but despite last minute additions and changes due to additional sponsors, we delivered on time and as per the brief. We were extremely pleased with the outcome, as was the client, and it was a fantastic project to be part of."

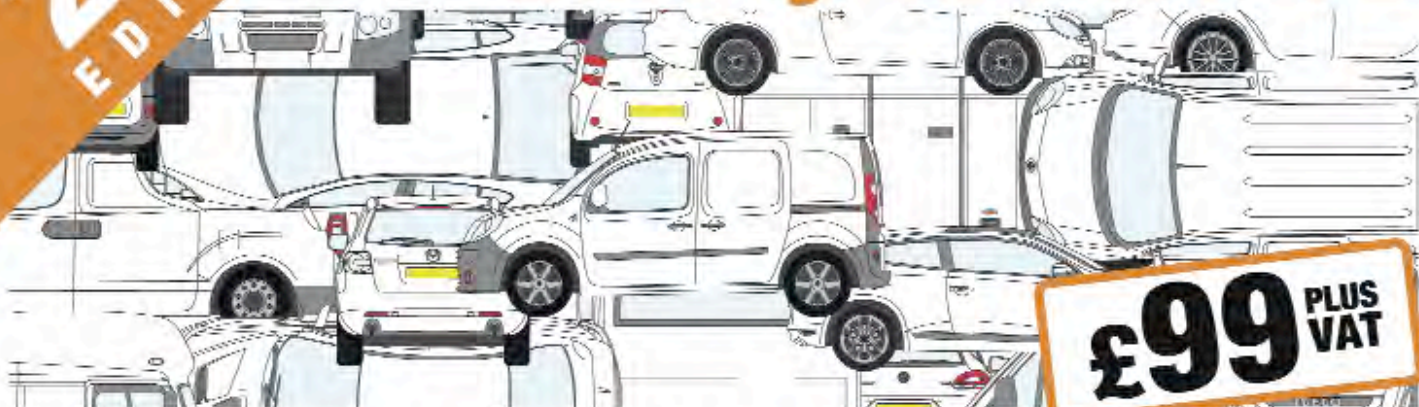
In addition to offering indoor and outdoor event branding services, GTMS provides event production and design and build expertise for large-scale and complex projects. With 25 years' experience under its belt and a wealth of prestigious clients including the BBC, Bacardi, Gatorade and Fat Face, GTMS takes care of every aspect from the initial design through to the production and installation by its expert team.

The forward-thinking team of 22 employees operates from under one roof - a 38,000 sq. ft purpose-built site complete with offices, workshops and warehouse.

For further information contact GTMS on 08453 10 11 12 or visit the website www.gtms.co.uk

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Stock Displays' new light boxes at the Royal Albert Hall

Doncaster based company, Stock Displays, recently completed a contract to upgrade 32 40"x 60" light boxes for the world famous Royal Albert Hall in London. The upgraded light boxes replaced the old illuminated poster boards at the iconic building.

The new frames, which were made to order at Stock Displays' manufacturing facility in South Yorkshire, had to be built to an exact specification so that they could be attached to the existing posts which circle the north entrance to the Hall.

The Royal Albert Hall contacted Stock Displays after they decided to upgrade the old poster boards that had been in place for over twenty years. Due to the old boards having their posters pasted onto them they were open to the elements and to vandalism, so the posters would quickly look worn and tatty. When seeking a solution, the Royal Albert Hall's marketing team turned to their supplier Stock Displays.

Stock Displays' Managing Director Damian Edwards said of the

new installation: "We have been supplying various display products to the Hall for some time now, so when I heard about their plans I suggested that we could manufacture some waterproof, vandal resistant lockable light boxes which could replace their old illuminated poster boards.

"Not only did this provide the perfect solution to their problem, but it was also a more logical alternative to pulling up all of the old posts and replacing them with a completely new system."

Stock Displays, who also manufacture a range of other displays solutions including LED light boxes and pavement signs, were able to complete the contract in less than two weeks from start to finish as the complete manufacture and production of the specially designed light boxes took place in-house at their UK facility.

For more information on Stock Displays, or to see their full range of products, visit their website at www.stockdisplays.co.uk or call them on 01302 802266.



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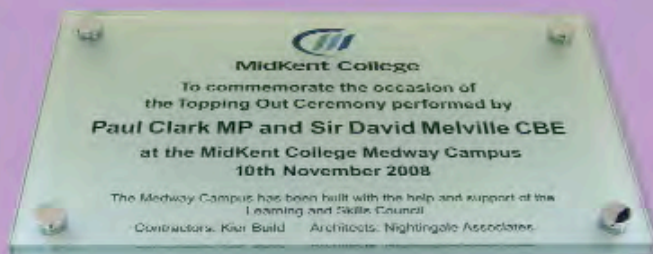


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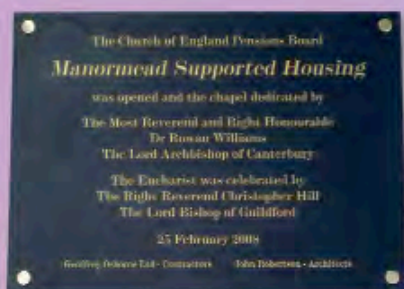


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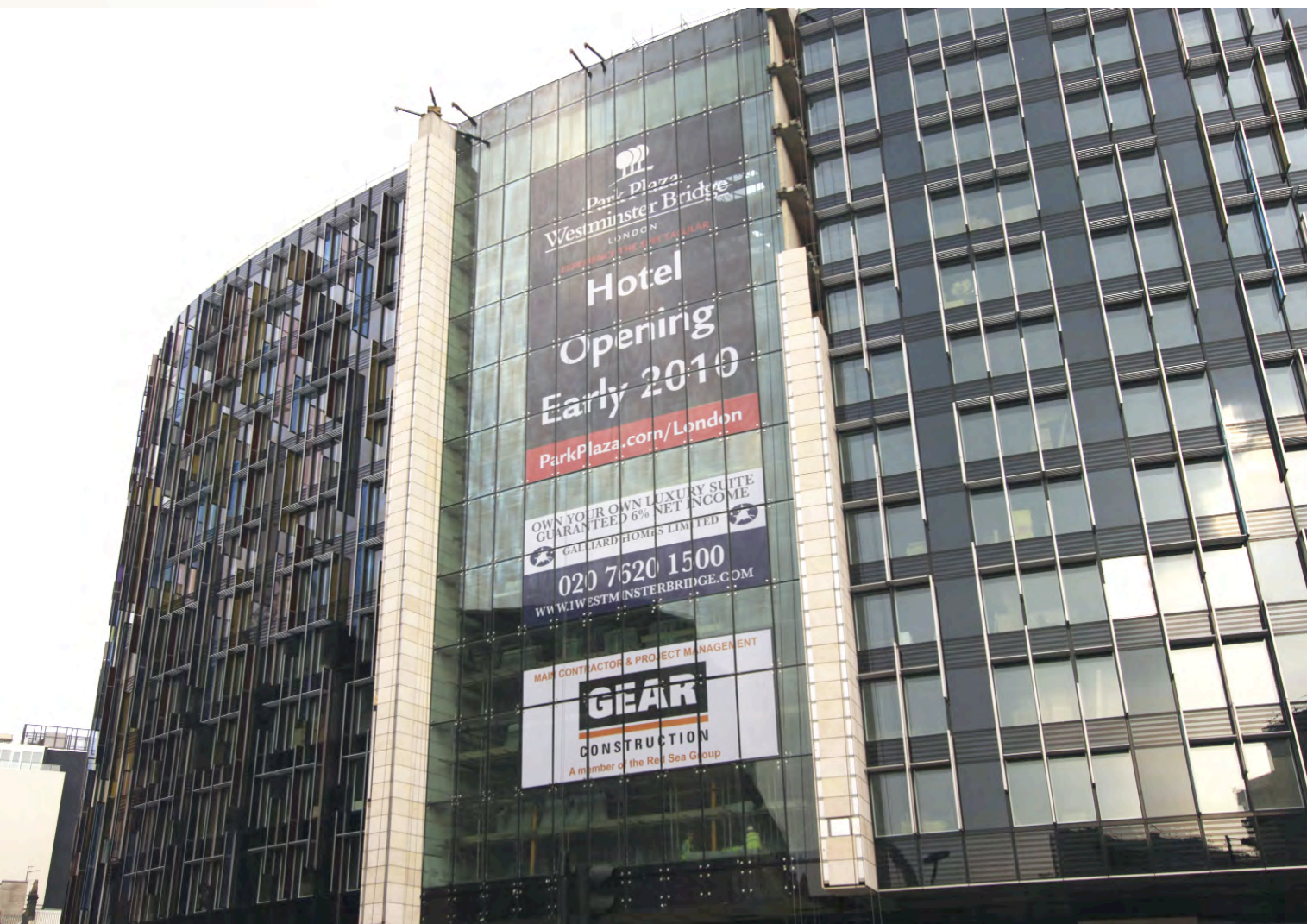
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Unit 5, Crusader Industrial Estate, 167 Hermitage Road LONDON N4 1LZ

PROJECT *News*

Hollywood Monster installs giant new banner on London's largest purpose-built hotel development



Contravision is a special film designed to enable banners to be placed on the front of glass fronted buildings without causing any visual block to people looking out of the windows.

Leading Midlands Signage and Graphics Company Hollywood Monster has just completed the installation of a giant 22 x 9 metre Contravision graphic banner onto the Park Plaza Westminster Bridge London hotel development located on the vibrant South Bank, directly opposite the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben.

The banner which can be clearly seen from all approaches took two days to install by an abseiling team and is made up of 44 3 x 1.5 metre one way vision film panels directly applied to the hotel's glass window atrium frontage. The banner has been specially manufactured and installed to allow light into the building and a view through the atrium for those viewing the inside of the building, despite the presence of the film panelling.

The new development is set to open in early 2010 and will be London's largest new-build hotel opening in generations, offering 1,021 guest rooms, 2,700 sq m of meeting space, a signature restaurant and a luxury spa.

Commenting on the banner, Simon McKenzie, Hollywood Monster's Commercial Director for London and the South East, said: "We are delighted to have been chosen by Park Plaza Hotels to install this giant new banner. This is evidence again of the company's ability to tackle large format, complicated installations on some of the UK's most prominent buildings."

Laurence Markham, Marketing Director for Park Plaza Westminster Bridge also commented: "The impact that the banner has produced has been significant and surpassed our initial expectations. It's vital for a hotel development of this scale that we and our partners GC Project Management and Galliard Homes can communicate when it will be opening and the Hollywood Monster banner achieves that perfectly."

More information about Hollywood Monster can be found by visiting the new company website: www.hollywoodmonster.co.uk



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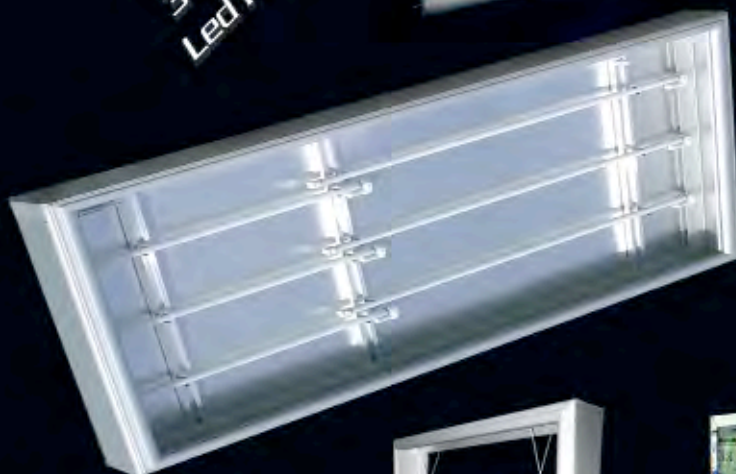
Plug together RGB's



*Trough Light From £12 per Ft
Can Be Led Powered*



*3 in 1 Edge Lighter + Trough Light
Led powered + RGB Colour Changer*



*Rollerbead Single &
Double Sided Boxes
Built To Order*



*33mm slim
snap shut
illuminated
poster displays*



*100mm Deep
Slimbo Light Boxes
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Chrome Beading Menu Boxes

www.sign-makers-products.co.uk

WALL MOUNTED

- 7 widths available
- Vertical or horizontal mounting
- Unique CLICLOC mounting system
- Injection moulded plastic caps



PROJECTING

- 3 styles utilizing the 7 widths available
- Vertical or horizontal mounting
- All with interchangeable media
- Internal and external applications



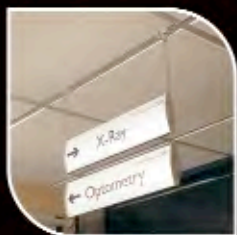
TOTEM

- Single or double sided
- Can be used with divider strips to form a directory
- Internal and external applications
- Laser cut caps and baseplates



SUSPENDED

- 3 standard heights (others available)
- All with interchangeable media
- Multi-level signage
- Stainless steel hanging rods



POST MOUNTED

- Internal and external applications
- Leatherette effect baseplates
- Static or free-standing
- Vertical mounting as standard, Horizontal mounting available as bespoke



DESKTOP

- AA25 silver Anodised
- All with interchangeable media
- Laser cut caps and baseplates
- Innovative end cap which allows high and low level viewing angles



Manufacturing in the UK - is the future bright?

Ross Ball, Director of Horizon Signs, the Yorkshire based sign manufacturing specialist, ponders the question: "What does the future hold for sign manufacturing in the UK?"

In light of the recession, this is a very important question; we need to know the answers to assess the extent to which the industry has contracted and what can be done to secure its future.

The Guardian newspaper reported this month (November) that in September, the UK's manufacturing industry grew at its fastest rate in seven years and that a surge in new orders had fuelled hopes that the sector was finally emerging from the challenging economic conditions the country has faced over the last year or so.

David Noble, CEO of the Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply (CIPS), said: "It appears that the manufacturing sector has turned a corner and is starting to pull itself out of recession."

However, he also acknowledged that the industry has been hit hard; it is still fragile and somewhat vulnerable so it will be a long time before it returns to its previous level.

In light of this, the Government must now make a commitment to support manufacturing in this country and help to secure its future. It must encourage manufacturers to buy their materials from within the UK wherever possible instead of outsourcing work to other countries. Although there is some evidence of companies 'on shoring' back to the UK to minimise risk, many are still relocating operations abroad.

There is a wide perception in the industry that emerging markets can offer UK manufacturers opportunities for cheaper labour and materials. This makes it increasingly difficult for sign manufacturers in developed economies to be profitable if they do not or cannot add value in the manufacturing process.

This is where UK sign manufacturers must become more innovative, we must do the hard work to ensure that our industry

"... the Government must now make a commitment to support manufacturing in this country."



The Directors of Horizon Signs (left to right) - George Foster, Keith Ball, Ross Ball.



Companies need to add value in manufacturing, wherever possible.

continues to grow and thrive, this involves understanding our customers, offering innovative solutions, creating a skilled workforce and continuously thinking up new and pioneering ideas.

It is up to us as companies involved in the sign industry to work hard on changing the face of this industry.

At Horizon Signs we make all our signs with our skilled workforce at our

base in Huddersfield. This is very important, because not only are we contributing to the British economy but we are also ensuring a quality product, made to the highest standards.

As a UK based company, I feel that it is our duty to play our part in identifying ways in which we can achieve an effective and efficient return for both the manufacturing sector, the sign industry in particular, and the British economy.

We are hopefully setting an example by continuing to expand, constantly striving to satisfy demand and meet the individual requirements of our customers in all aspects – whether it's sign making, powder coating or fabrication. It's important to offer a personalised service to add value to our products in the eyes of customers.

As Business Minister, Pat McFadden, said: "Britain has a great manufacturing future, not just a great manufacturing past, but the face of the industry is changing and we need to embrace and support the numerous opportunities created as a result."

Let's hope he keeps his word and that the UK's manufacturing sector and especially the sign industry will continue to experience periods of growth in the months to come.

Further information on Horizon Signs is available at www.horizon-signs.co.uk or telephone 01484 460909.



Ross Ball, Director of Horizon Signs.

New software releases for 3D CNC Sign Making

Specialist CNC software developer Vectric Ltd is very pleased to announce new releases of Aspire and VCarve Pro for CNC Sign Making, Routing, Engraving and Dimensional Wood Carving.

The new versions of Aspire 2.5 and VCarve Pro 5.5 are more powerful, flexible and easier to use for designing and CNC machining signage and carved projects. All Aspire customers receive version 2.5 as a free upgrade and VCarve Pro 5.5 is also a free upgrade for version 5.0 customers.

A new interactive Scissor Trimming tool for quick, easy and precise vector editing has been added to Aspire 2.5 and VCarve Pro 5.5. Simply click to trim vectors at intersection points, and where appropriate shapes are automatically rejoined to create closed vector boundaries.

CNC machines fitted with rotary 4 axis and indexer attachments will now benefit from the new Wrapped Rotary Axis Toolpath functionality in Aspire and VCarve Pro, which is perfect for designing and cutting spindles, fluted columns and barley twists. Unique 'Gadgets' for designing single and multiple twist rotary projects have been developed for laying out rotary axis projects. Toolpaths can be wrapped and viewed in the 3D window to show how the information will run on the CNC machine.

Additional enhancements include, Rapid Plunge Gap that reduces toolpath machining times, new T-Bone Filleting tool for cutting flat sheet / flat pack projects, improved DXF import and export filters for better integration with other drawing and designs software, automatic 3D machining boundary calculation for simplifying 3D model machining.



New 3D Sign Design and CNC Machining.

High quality project based training videos and materials that allow users to learn at their own pace are supplied for the software.

Visit the Vectric web site – www.vectric.com - for more information and to download the Free Trial versions of Aspire and VCarve Pro or call tel: 44 (0)1527 460 459.

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VectorArt 3D

Colourgen announces solid financial result despite recession

Colourgen has announced its financial results for the fiscal year ending June 2009. The company's revenue was down 8% to £11million, with an operating profit of £240,000.

Jeff Biggs, Managing Director of Colourgen, says "In a year which has seen the overall large format print market shrink by more than 20%, our 8% revenue drop represents a significant achievement. We have retained profitability despite the global recession and the weak pound, while maintaining a healthy balance sheet and strong lines of credit. We also took full ownership of our AmBer Centre premises in Maidenhead, which puts us on an excellent financial footing for the future."

During the year, Colourgen launched a number of new products to the UK market, including high-performance H & V series solvent printers from Seiko II and a range of new laminators from Kala. The company also launched its own range of Elite Essentials inkjet media, which offers high quality, value solutions to many of the most popular printing applications.



Jeff Biggs, Managing Director, Colourgen.

"To remain profitable, we have brought overheads in line with the business opportunities, without compromising customer service levels. We continue to respond to customer demand by developing our product portfolio to include the best new printers, laminators, consumables and software, as well as our own value media brand, which has proven to be a real success. We also continue to put our support, maintenance and engineering capabilities at the forefront of the business, ensuring customers get the best possible return from their investment," adds Biggs.

He concludes, "Our solid performance through this difficult time, together with some exciting developments in terms of strategic direction and new market sectors, means we are in an excellent position to take full advantage of the upturn in the economy. Performance so far this year is positive and we look to return to year-on-year growth as quickly as possible."

For further information call tel: 01628 588700.

Stock Displays continue to soar

Doncaster based company Stock Displays have proven that it's not all doom and gloom in the business world by recently moving into a brand new 25,000sq ft warehouse and office complex at Sky Business Park, next to Robin Hood International Airport.

Stock Displays, who manufacture and supply a wide range of display and exhibition solutions, were established in 2002 by brothers Damian and James Edwards. The continued growth of the company saw them move to the new purpose-built premises in September last year.

Managing Director Damian Edwards said of the move "We are delighted with the way the company has continually grown over the last few years despite the recent economic downturn, and to be honest the move to this new site was essential in order to sustain that growth. I am also very happy to say that over that same period we have had the need to steadily increase our workforce, both here in the UK and at our manufacturing facility in the far east."

Stock Displays' clients include signs companies, exhibition contractors, high street retailers and local authorities. Some of their highest profile customers include Marks & Spencer, Morrisons and the Royal Albert Hall.

As well as the companies offices, showroom and manufacturing lines, the new building includes a 15,000sq ft warehouse stocking products including poster frames, pavement signs, light boxes, banner stands and notice boards. This huge stock means that next day delivery is possible on most of their products.

Because Stock Displays manufacture all of their products in-house at both their Doncaster and Chinese facilities, they are also able to offer a bespoke specials service to suit any budget whether it is a single snap frame, or 200 light boxes. They also have a dedicated design and print department, meaning full colour printed posters and banners can be supplied together with the display products.

For more information on Stock Displays visit their website at www.stockdisplays.co.uk alternatively you can telephone them on 01302 802266, or send an e-mail to sales@stockdisplays.co.uk



Stock Displays new premises



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

Folding Swing Sign

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

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

Bus Stop Sign

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

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



Handysign

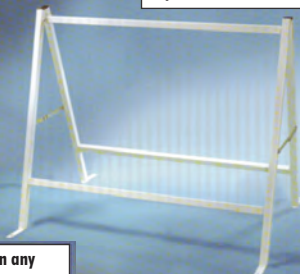
This lightweight and easy to move 'A' board is manufactured in 1.2mm zinc coated steel.

- Powder coated in white as standard
- Integral carry handle

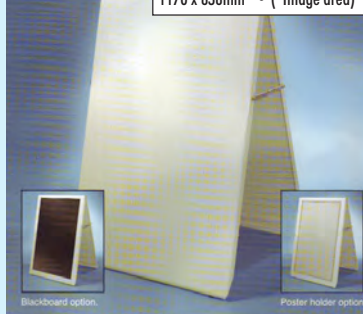
Easy to assemble.
Custom made to your own requirements and sizes.

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.



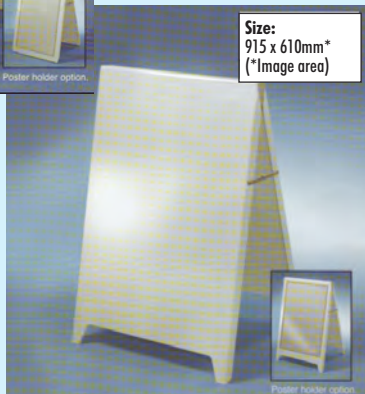
Available in 3 sizes in any combination
864 x 533mm* • 876 x 635mm*
1170 x 838mm* • (*Image area)



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
- Double folded sides give extra strength

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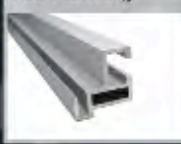
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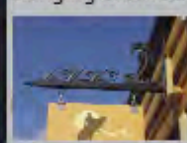
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Roland and its customers show what they can do at SGIA Expo

Roland and its customers were recognised with several of the industry's most prestigious international awards at the recent SGIA Expo in New Orleans, USA, in October. Roland earned three DPI Product of the Year Awards while Roland customers won two André Schellenberg awards.

Roland SGIA award winners include:

2009 DPI Product of the Year Awards

- Metallic Silver ECO-SOL MAX Ink, Digital Ink category;
- VersaCamm VP-i wide-format inkjet printer/cutters, Output: Poster Size category;
- AdvancedJet AJ-i grand-format inkjet printers, Output: Grand-Format Roll to Roll Solvent & Latex category;

2009 Andre Schellenberg Awards

- Gina Alexander Handbags, Textile category Other. These fabric handbags featured custom graphics produced on Roland Hi-Fi Express FP-740 74" sublimation printers;
- Luma Brite Mad Wrapper Lighted Vehicle Wrap, Unique Applications category Digital Entry. Graphics for this illuminated vehicle wrap were produced on a Roland SolJet Pro III XC-540 54" inkjet printer/cutter.

Entries for the DPI Product of the Year competition were judged on the Expo show floor by a team of digital imaging professionals. In the Output categories, entrants were required to submit a test print designed by SGIA intended to challenge the output device's capabilities.

"The quality of work this year was exceptional. Judges in virtually every category told me the entries were so good that choosing winners was a real challenge," said Johnny Shell, SGIA's Vice President of Technical Services.



"These industry competitions recognise the best of what the digital imaging industry has to offer and we are very proud to receive so many honours this year," said Rick Scrimger, Vice President and General Manager for Roland DGA Corp. "We congratulate our André Schellenberg winners whose imagination and creativity demonstrate the power of Roland technology when placed in the hands of world-class professionals."

Visit www.rolanddg.co.uk or telephone 08452 309060 for more information on Roland products.

Icon expands range with new acquisition

In a move designed to strengthen its event and brand services portfolio Icon have announced that it has acquired leading event production company, MEI.

Both companies have well established reputations in their respective fields – Icon in branding and signage and MEI in event production – and this new development will give clients access to some of the best creative and technological expertise available in these highly competitive markets.

Commenting on the acquisition, John Francis, managing director of Icon, said; "We are delighted to welcome the MEI team to Icon. There is an obvious synergy between our two businesses and there is no doubt that this new arrangement will bring real benefit to both existing and new customers in terms of the depth of experience and breadth of knowledge we are now able to offer."

"Becoming part of Icon's international organisation is an exciting move for all of us at MEI. With both companies already involved in a number of high profile sports and launch events in the coming year and with extensive international opportunities in the pipeline I believe that this is an opportunity for event production to reach new levels," commented Richard Dale, head of MEI.

The acquisition comes exactly a year after Icon's MBO and sees the company fulfilling its promise to look for new opportunities in products and services that will strengthen its offerings to both existing and prospective clients. MEI has already moved its operations and all staff to Icon's headquarters in Sidcup, Kent, and work is already underway on the redevelopment of a building on this site. This will provide additional design and production facilities to complement those already utilised by Icon for the signage side of its business.

Between them the two companies have worked for some of the biggest brands in the global market place, including Adidas, Chelsea Football Club, Coca Cola, Samsung, Sony and UEFA. Both companies will be looking at ways of strengthening these relationships and utilising their joint skills to produce events and venues that have real 'wow' factor and produce results that not only meet but exceed their clients' expectations. More information about both the companies can be found by visiting the websites www.icondisplay.co.uk and www.iconmei.com.

Winners of the Atech Handi Laminator competition announced

Congratulations to all the lucky winners of our *Sign Update* and Atech Handi Laminator reader competition. The two winning companies of a full set of Handi Laminators are:

1. Pukka Signs - WestCliff On Sea, Essex
2. Just In Graphics - Bromley, Kent.

And our eight runner up prizes of an Atech Handi Laminator each for their signmaking shops are:

1. Lion Logos - Kent
2. Graphics to Go - Leicester
3. Kingdon Signs - Oxon
4. HN Graphic Signs - Leicester
5. Exantia - Barking Essex
6. Bel Signs Crawley Ltd - West Sussex
7. MinuteMan Press - Stockport
8. Call Print 7 - Middlesex

The Atech Handi Laminator line of tools is a great addition to any sign or print shop, even with a powered laminator. They are not intended to replace powered laminators but they do make it

easier to laminate small graphics and can reduce waste by not having to change the roll in the power laminator just to do an odd job.

All of the tools will laminate and mount pressure sensitive vinyl. The different sizes and types of tools make it possible to choose the right tool for the job. Each shop will benefit by having a variety of tools to work with.

The fabric on all of the tools are easy to replace when they get soiled, cut or worn out. There are five styles and many sizes to fit the needs of most sign shops.

Allan Ashman, managing director of Atech comments, "we're delighted at Atech at the huge response we've had to this promotion – not only have we had a great response to the competition itself but signmakers have just been ringing up and buying them like they're going out of fashion! And when we do a demonstration of one of the Handi Laminators, the response is always, "that's handy!" every single time - that's why we believe every signmaker should have one in their workshop. I am delighted that the readers of *Sign Update* magazine were equally impressed and offer our congratulations to all the winners."

For further information contact Atech by calling Tel: 01707 373738 or visit www.atech.co.uk

Fujifilm increases wide-format portfolio with EskoArtwork finishing tables

Fujifilm Graphic Systems recently announced the installation of an EskoArtwork Kongsberg i-XL24 finishing table in its state-of-the-art showroom in Bedford. This complements Fujifilm's existing wide-format offering, allowing the company to demonstrate a complete wide-format solution from file delivery and media selection to the finished print.

Mark Stephenson, sales manager – digital solutions, Fujifilm Graphic Systems UK, comments: "We've got a successful history of helping printers introduce wide-format inkjet technologies into their businesses. By adding EskoArtwork finishing tables to our showroom, we are able to offer a complete wide-format solution."

Paul Bates, regional business manager, UK & Eire, EskoArtwork, adds: "Fujifilm's experience and heritage in the wide-format market perfectly complements our range of wide-format finishing solutions and it's great that we have the opportunity to showcase our market-leading Kongsberg XL finishing table at Fujifilm."

Fujifilm is able to offer one of the widest portfolios of production devices on the market, including the Inca Onset and Spyder platforms, and the Fujifilm Acuity Advance range. With over 200 European installations of flatbed production presses and a track record of benchmark inkjet head and ink development, the company brings many years experience of introducing wide-format devices to printers looking to adopt new digital solutions.

Based on the Kongsberg XL-Series of short-run production tables, EskoArtwork's i-XL series utilises the industry standard for vision control, the i-cut® system. The Kongsberg i-XL complements digital printing of sign and displays with a unique finishing solution



for the widest range of materials, providing automation, high productivity and outstanding precision. Thanks to its rock-solid construction with very strong vacuum grip, the Kongsberg i-XL flatbed plotting cutter is the ideal platform for handling the most demanding materials, delivering record-breaking productivity and versatility.

For further information visit www.fujifilmholdings.com

Spandex start-to-finish solutions via download

Spandex has announced the availability of a new downloadable brochure which incorporates the company's extensive range of innovative start-to-finish solutions for signmakers and digital printers into one convenient PDF.

The vibrant, easy-to-read product guide covers the company's portfolio and offers a one-stop shop for software, printers, laminators, and cutters & routers.

Downloadable from Spandex's homepage (www.spandex.com), the new brochure is currently available in nine languages: English, German, Dutch, French, Italian, Spanish, Swedish, Slovak and Czech.



PaperlinX UK creates new Sign & Display Division

PaperlinX UK has announced the merger of two of its UK businesses, Europoint and Robert Horne Sign & Display to create one business unit to service the UK Sign & Display market. The business will operate under the Robert Horne Group banner.

Paul French, Robert Horne's Managing Director, explains the decision, "One trading division for Sign & Display would allow us to provide a better level of service and product choice for our customers, whilst improving our efficiency and operating capabilities."

"The merging of the two businesses gives customers of both companies access to a larger range of sign and display products including leading brands Avery, Orafol, Lexan, Dibond and Mimaki.

"The Robert Horne Group will now be able to offer the Sign & Display industry unrivalled levels of product choice, stock, conversion services, industry expertise and delivery service."

For further information visit www.paperlinx.com

Velmex opens new showroom to demonstrate Canon's full range of LFPs



Canon UK a world leader in imaging solutions, has announced that Velmex Distribution, Europe's largest distributor of Canon Large Format Printers (LFPs), has opened a new centrepiece showroom to house almost the full range of Canon's LFP range.

Established in 1992, Velmex's new premises in Mitcham, Surrey, will now house a showroom area of 700 sq ft, dedicated to the Canon family of printers including the imagePROGRAF range of LFPs, Canon's Colortrac scanner range and Canon's imagePRESS C1+ printer, a light production unit equipped with clear toner units for gloss, matt and metallic finishing effects.

Highly trained Velmex personnel will be able to demonstrate the hardware, software and consumables capabilities of all equipment, including a Fogra-certified technician who is one of the first in the UK

to be fully qualified on the new ISO 12647-7 digital validation proofing standards.

Matthew Searle, Channel Director, Canon UK said, "Our partnership with Velmex over the last eight years has been a model of how a vendor and distributor partnership should work. Canon first started working with Velmex in 1994, when it was based in Morden, and it has been a pleasure to watch Velmex's continuing success.

"Velmex has helped support Canon's growth in the Large Format industry and has been a key element in that growth. It is committed to providing the highest level of service to its resellers and end user customers and I look forward to continuing to work closely with Velmex and wish them all the best for their time in the new premises and an exciting next chapter in its history."

For further information visit the website www.canon.co.uk

Drytac launches new website with online store and educational videos

Drytac Europe Ltd, manufacturer and distributor of products for the graphics display industry, is pleased to announce the launch of its brand new website.

With its fresh and modern look and extensive range of features including an online store, educational videos on a range of Drytac equipment (including the VersaCoater™ XL UV coater, DES-4 Foam Edger and

JetMounter™ roller laminators), as well as access to all the latest product news, events and downloadable information, Drytac are confident that the website will become an invaluable resource for graphic display professionals across the globe.

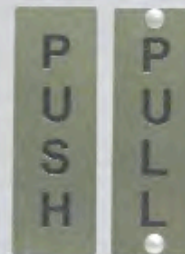
For more information about Drytac products and to take a look at their new website visit www.drytac.com



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style and wording of your choice



76mm dia.



with or without holes



Brushed Stainless - with or without holes
actual size 125 x 80mm

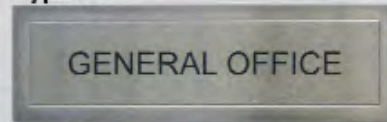


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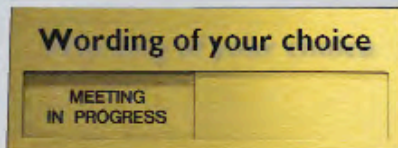
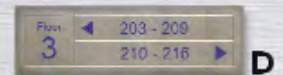


Brushed Stainless

Type A

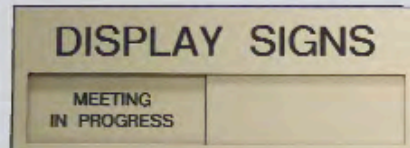


Magnetic Interchangeable Nameplates 254 x 80mm



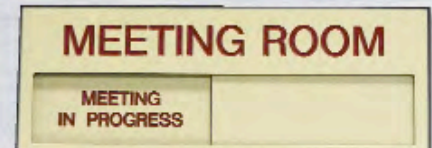
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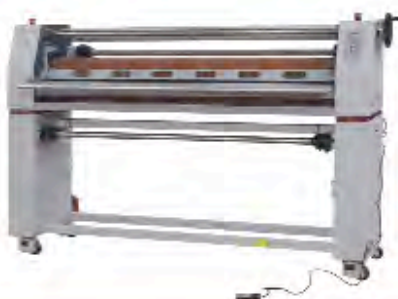
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The all NEW FC8000 series High-Performance cutting plotter is an industry leader for sign makers, graphic artists, auto-attenuation professionals, countertop installers and other related users.

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Roland SP300

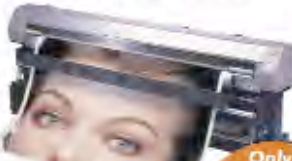


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In addition to various enhancements which bring out a high quality print of 1,440 dpi, the new JV33 series has increased print speed over the JV3. With its compact design and affordable price, the JV33 series is an attractive option for any shop. Mimaki's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

Awarded best 1.6m printer 2008 by European Digital Press

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- Includes media take-up
- Contour cut and die cut
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The Mimaki CJV30 is available in four sizes to provide a solution from the smallest to largest of setups.

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Roland VersaCamm SPi series Print & Cut



NEW

Uses Roland Intelligent Pass Control technology to produce smooth prints at high speed. Incorporates 2 x 2 channel heads from the Roland Pro series printers for reliable printing with a high consumable life. Built on the VP series chassis with its compact design, ease of use and front loading media capability. Uses Roland's award winning EcoSol MAX ink in 220 or 440cc in the clean hands cartridge system.

NEW MODEL
1.5x faster than previous SP

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- Versaworks RIP Software
- 1440 dpi photo quality
- Print and cut in one unit
- Instantly drying printing
- Eco-Sol Max Ink

Roland VersaCamm VPi series Print & Cut



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- 760 or 1370mm cut width
- Versaworks RIP Software
- 1440 dpi photo quality
- Print and cut in one unit
- Instantly drying printing
- Very low running costs
- Eco-Sol Max Ink

Roland VersaART RS640 series printer



FROM
£9995

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- 1625mm print width
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- 1440 dpi photo quality
- Instantly drying printing
- Very low running costs

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New Durst Rho 500R UV inkjet printer wins DPIA's Product of the Year

For the second year running, a production roll to roll Durst Rho UV inkjet printer has received one of the most coveted awards that the imaging industry has to offer. The Rho 500R superwide UV inkjet printer, which made its North American debut at the SGIA trade show in New Orleans, was chosen as the Digital Printing & Imaging Association's "Product of the Year" in the grand-format roll to roll UV inkjet printer category.

Last year the DPIA's "Product of the Year" award was presented to Durst for its Rho 320R UV inkjet roll to roll printer during the SGIA trade show in Atlanta. On both occasions Christopher Howard, Senior Vice President of Sales & Marketing for Durst U.S., was on hand to receive the awards during brief ceremonies at SGIA.

Based on a rigorous evaluation process of printer output overseen by a respected independent quality testing organisation, and judged on the SGIA show floor by a team of digital imaging experts commissioned by DPIA, the Rho 500R was judged best in the grand-format UV curable class against all of its major competitors. Entrants were required to submit a test print produced on the nominated printer. The image, designed by SGIA, was created specifically to challenge the capabilities of the output device, according to SGIA.



The Rho 500R superwide UV inkjet printer.

"The Product of the Year award winners highlight the best technologies, consumables and software from the digital imaging community," said Jeff Burton, SGIA's Digital Printing Analyst.

For further information visit www.durst-online.com

Comco Plastics is new Northern Ireland distributor of Penloc structural sign-making adhesives

Eurobond Adhesives Ltd is delighted to announce that Comco Plastics in Belfast are now the new Northern Ireland distributors of its range of Penloc structural sign-making adhesives.

Comco Plastics was founded in Belfast in 1985 supplying local industry with a broad range of leading brand products from global manufacturing organisations. They have long been regarded as one of Ireland's market leaders in the distribution of semi-finished plastics and stock a wide range of substrates both plastic and aluminium, lighting and ancillary products for the sign maker.

The addition of Penloc structural adhesives to their range gives the sign maker a dedicated 'one stop shop' for all their requirements.

Eurobond Adhesives Ltd's Managing Director, Simon Dearing said: "I am delighted to appoint Comco Plastics as our dedicated distributor. We are confident that they will deliver a first class service and will be a great benefit to Northern Ireland's sign-making industry."

For further information Comco Plastics are located on the Musgrave Park Industrial Estate in Belfast and can be contacted on 028 9066 8358

Robert Horne Group appoints new Managing Director

Paul French has been appointed as the new Managing Director of Robert Horne Group. Paul has been in the visual communication market for over 15 years having started his career at Xerox.

In addition to his specialist knowledge, he has gained extensive general management experience in a variety of Senior Management roles. In 2001 Paul became Managing Director of Spandex UK, a Sign and Digital specialist Company, part of the International Gerber Technologies. For the last three years he has been Divisional Director of Robert Horne's Sign & Display division.

Paul comments "This is a really exciting opportunity and I am looking forward to leading this business as we navigate our way through the current trading conditions into what I believe is a period of growth and stability for this business. We have the potential to further enhance our products and services by fully developing the width and depth of our service to customers. Robert Horne is in a unique position in terms of our offer to market from paper, board, plastics, press room consumables and packaging through to wide format machinery, environmental consultancy and waste management."

For further information visit www.roberthorne.co.uk

Difficult times? Then check out the market at Trophex 2010

17th and 18th January 2010 – a date for your diary as this is when the 2010 Trophex Show will take place at the NEC Pavilion in Birmingham. The show is free to attend and there's free parking for all. You can even avoid the queues by pre-registering today on-line at: www.trophex.com.

Visiting the show is a must if you work in the trophy, awards, engraving and personalisation industry. The industry is so vast and Trophex represents every aspect of it including trophies, engraving - machines and materials, glass and crystal, sublimation, photo imaging, badges, pins, giftware, signage, lasers, decals, embroidery, gifts, promotional merchandise and many more profit making lines.

Trophex 2010 has some great show exclusives:

- The Charles Birch Group will be giving 10% off any order placed at the show, plus discounted prices on display packs.
- Metaza.com will be offering an impressive 20% off the MPX-80 which has a RRP of £2,495. The show offer of £1995 is only available while their limited stocks last.
- Golden Finishes are offering all visitors £10 off their next order. All you need to do is visit their stand at the show and they'll issue you with a £10 voucher; this will be valid for 2 weeks after Trophex.
- New members save 25% on the cost of membership to the MSA - the MultiService Association.
- TheMagicTouch is offering 10% off all orders for printers and heat presses taken at the show.
- Present the Trophex ticket to a Gravograph representative on stand 20 for your chance to win a bottle of Champagne!



TheMagicTouch – exhibitor at Trophex last year.

Or why not think about exhibiting at the show? Trophex is attended by people from throughout the industry and is a great place for your company to launch new products, show new catalogues, meet with customers both old and new and give live demonstrations.

So don't miss out on this great opportunity - register and book your space today! Pre-register online at: www.trophex.com

easyFairs Retail is launched

easyFairs, a leading exhibition organiser, recently unveiled plans for easyFairs® Retail 2010, a brand new show focused specifically on shopfittings, display systems, technology and visual merchandising.

easyFairs Retail which takes place on 5 & 6 May 2010 at London's ExCeL is designed to appeal to and attract leading retailers, shopfitting controllers, visual merchandisers and designers seeking innovative solutions.

The show is co-located with easyFairs Interior Fit-Out 2010 – the UK event dedicated to commercial interior refurbishment, which recorded an 18 per cent jump in visitor numbers this year. Both events will run alongside the hugely popular Grand Designs Live.

Managing Director of easyFairs UK, Matt Benyon comments: "We all know there is going to be an upturn, indeed some can already feel the beginnings of it. When it comes, retailers will be looking to revamp and refresh their stores. Our show is a low-cost, no-risk way for all those involved in shopfitting and display to grasp that sales opportunity."

The easyFairs show model is a fixed 'all in' budget with no hidden expenses or last minute surprises. Training is part of the

exhibiting package and companies signing up early can maximise their investment, accessing complimentary show services including PR and

personalised telephone campaigns inviting their prospects to their stand at the show. As such it is perfect for companies who are looking to build sales but still need to keep their costs in check.

Lawrence Cutler, director of the Shop & Display Equipment Association (sdea), which is supporting easyFairs Retail 2010 is impressed by the show concept: "We've looked at several shows and this one is perfect for our members. It will reach exactly the right people, it won't cost a fortune to exhibit and it is being run by a team of professionals who have illustrated their absolute determination to succeed. In these constrained times the easyFairs model of straightforward, cost-effective exhibiting, where everyone operates on a level playing field is absolutely perfect. It offers our members a low cost way to reach hundreds of new customers."

In addition to showcasing an array of exhibitors, easyFairs Retail 2010 will also feature learnShop seminars and "Lions Lair" – a Dragons' Den style contest where exhibitors can put their news retail innovations to a panel of judges.

Companies interested in exhibiting should contact Leyla Mulvihill, easyFairs Retail event manager on 020 8622 4456 or email leyla.mulvihill@easyfairs.com

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1. Enter text to search for in the top right of the website. In this example 'latex ink'.



The screenshot shows the SignUpdate website with a search bar in the top right containing the text 'latex ink'. Below the search bar are tabs for 'Magazine', 'Buyers Guide', and 'Forum'. The main content area displays a list of search results, including articles about HP DesignJet L25500, Delatree's environmental policy, 3M ControlLab Non-UV Graphic Film, and MacTrac IMAGIN iT 5000.

2. Old issues can be downloaded from:
www.sign-update-magazine.co.uk/archives



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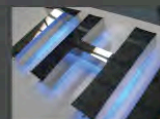
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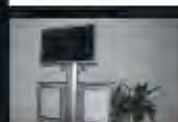
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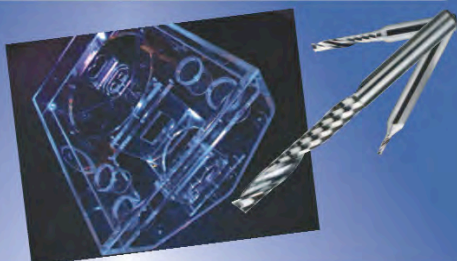
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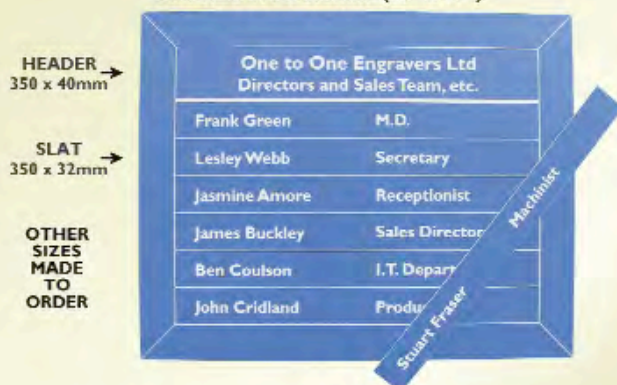
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info@w-co.co.uk

www.w-co.co.uk

LED lighting solutions for indoor or outdoor signs and displays including: LED illuminated signs, LED light boxes, LED light panels, LED light walls, LED lit built up letters, and completely bespoke LED signs and displays created to your specifications.

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www.insightsignsystems.com

Insight is a trade only manufacturer, offering a made to measure service, with in-house powder coating. A range of boxes is available to cover applications including back-lit acrylic, aluminium, flex, posters and transparencies.

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Insight is a trade only manufacturer, offering a made to measure service, with in-house powder coating. A range of external directional signs is available, ready to accept lettering. CAD drawings are provided with each quote, showing specifications.

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Signconex are a UK manufacturer of Changeable Displays in 3 main product areas:

1. Interior and exterior, Lockable and Open notice boards and whiteboards.
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www.projectplastics.co.uk

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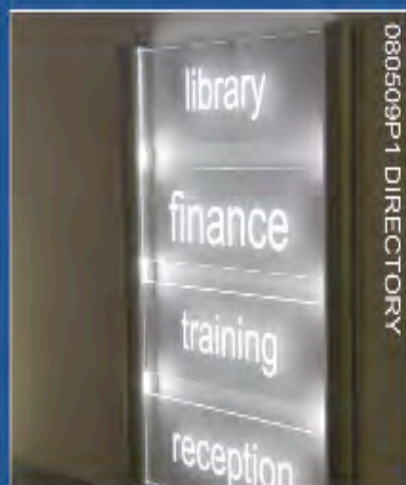
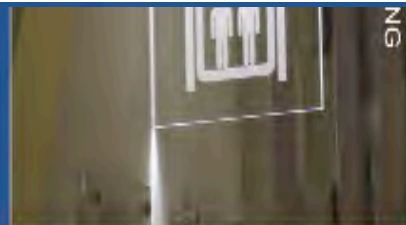
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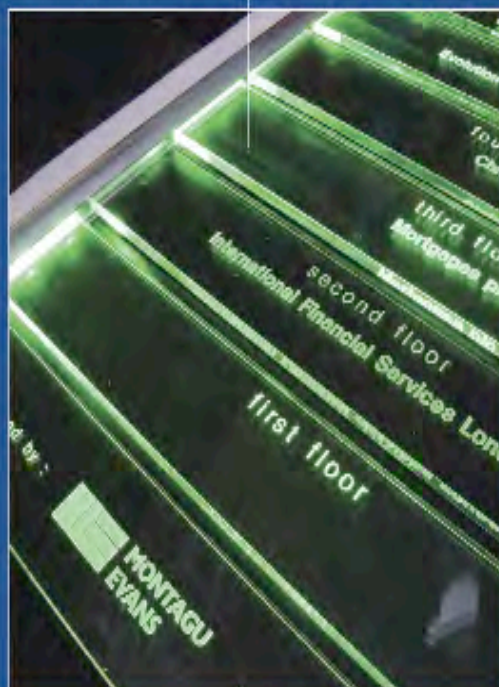
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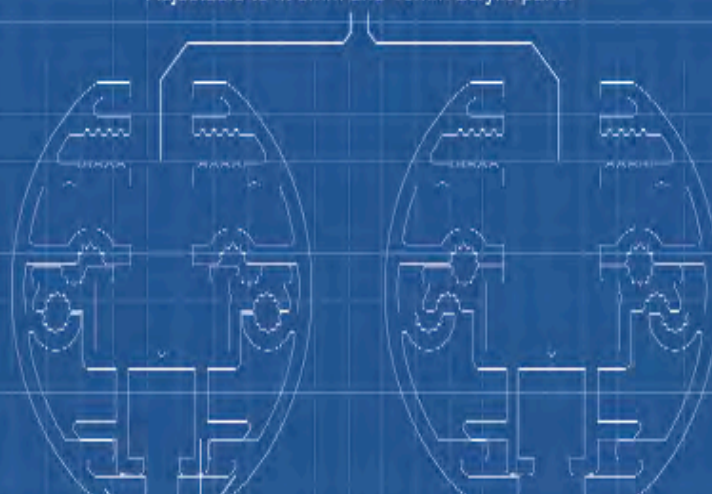
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height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	1200mm
3mm	£0.42	£0.53	£0.85	£1.03	£1.14	£1.39	£1.57	£2.12	£2.42	£2.72	£3.03	£4.00	£4.85	£5.76	£7.88	£18.20
5mm	£0.48	£0.72	£1.09	£1.46	£1.60	£2.30	£2.67	£3.75	£3.64	£4.37	£5.75	£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	£8.40	£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

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