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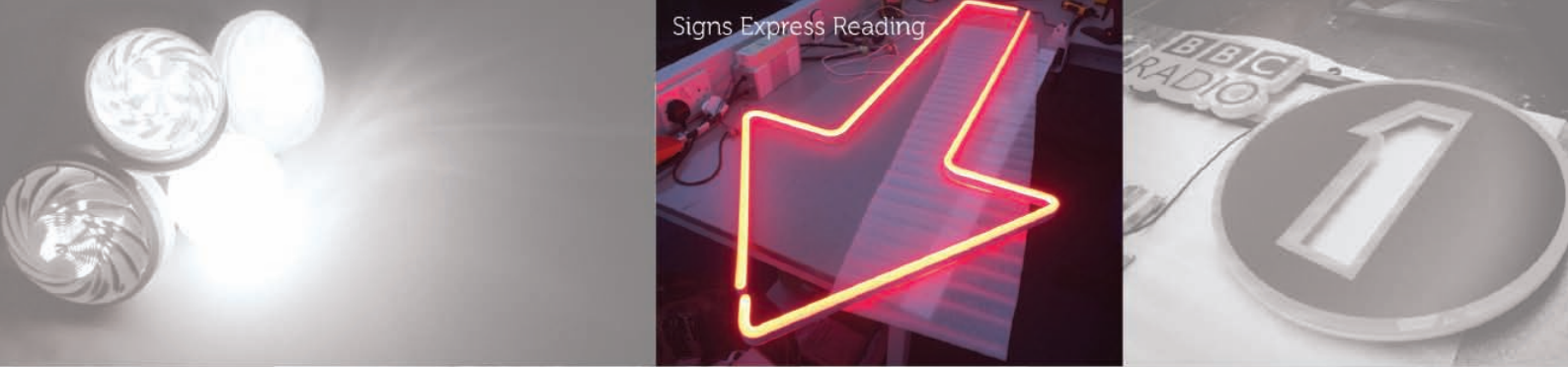


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Sign Update is always delighted to receive correspondence hints and tips for articles which should be sent in the first instance in outline form, together with the author's name and address. Manuscripts, photographs and other materials will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped address envelope. No responsibility is accepted for any unsolicited materials.

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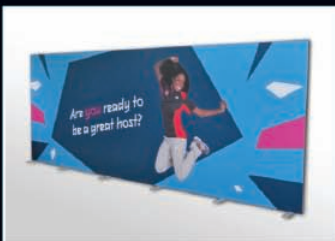


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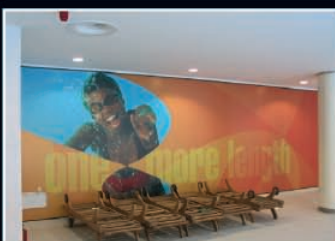


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WELCOME Page

Autumn feast!

Escape the cold outside with this issue, packed full of features, new products and inspiring projects.

Whether you love new products and advancements in technology, or you revere the quality and beauty of hand painted signs, there is something for you. And in this industry it's clear that whatever your preference, or even if you prefer to mix it up, there is a huge range of styles, materials, tools and techniques to help you meet the brief. Those making traditional signs still use the same tried and tested brushes and paints that have always been used. And judging by the number of lovely old signs still visible decades later, there is no need to change. But with newer techniques, change and innovation mean signmaking can be more efficient, cost effective, better for environment and meet the diverse needs of businesses. Just look at Lemon Signs using foam to make built up letters; or digital print media that can be used for floor graphics, and even coffins!

Prepare to be wowed with the projects we have in this issue, such as Signs Express (Glasgow) refurbishing their city's science centre. See how far car wrapping has come with Ritrama who've worked with Fiat to makeover their iconic 500 model. And Octink tell us how they are helping London's Air Ambulance with a campaign to get funds for a new helicopter, with the help of eye catching window graphics.

If you're looking to invest in some new machinery, read what other businesses have to say about their choices, in Product Choice. Or note the many open days taking place in the next month, a great opportunity to see machines in action and do the necessary research. Of course there are also the big sign shows on the horizon, such as FESPA in March and Sign & Digital in April. We hope to see you there!

Till the next time...

Kathryn



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New Gold Chrome from APA



APA continues on its path of innovation with the development of the Gold variant to the Chrome series. It's a high quality, vinyl cast film, already available in the dual glossy and matt variations; It's designed to decorate surfaces that are flat, corrugated and shaped; and for graphic details that require a gold chrome finish.

Thanks to its exclusive OLCBS (Over-Lam Chrome-Surface) protection, the chrome surface's resistance to abrasion is enhanced, says APA.

The Chrome series is easy to apply due to its 'Air Free FTX System' technology; the channeled adhesive featuring microchannels for air ejection, which makes the



end result 'perfect'. The application is unblemished and quicker compared to the traditional painting.

The Gold series, just like all Chrome versions, is brightly printable with Solvent-Ecosolvent and UV inks, for a 'personalised and quality decoration'.

"The new Gold Chrome will certainly catch the attention of all car fans: a precious effect, unique and elegant, to make your car truly like no other," says a spokesperson.

www.apaspa.com

ASLAN metal effect films



Aslan's range of metal effect films can be used effectively on glass.

With nearly 30 different self-adhesive metal effect films, ASLAN offers users a product range that provides the 'perfect solution for almost any project'.

The range includes high-quality and scratch-resistant films in a large number of colours and effects. Several glossy and brushed surfaces in different metallic shades are complemented by coloured metal finishes.

For projects that require a time-saving application, metal effect films are available that are equipped with the ASLAN dryapply technology. Finest air release channels allow a bubble-free and quick dry application. So even designs on large surfaces can easily be applied, says the company.

A special top-coating makes the self-adhesive films suitable for digital printing. Creating an opulent, golden wall with a baroque all-over print becomes as easy as printing a large-sized logo onto a surface that looks like it is made out of stainless steel.

ASLAN also provides the 'optimal' solution for designs onto transparent surfaces, such as glass or mirrors. The metal effect is identical from both sides of the film.

www.ASLAN-Schwarz.com.

NEW

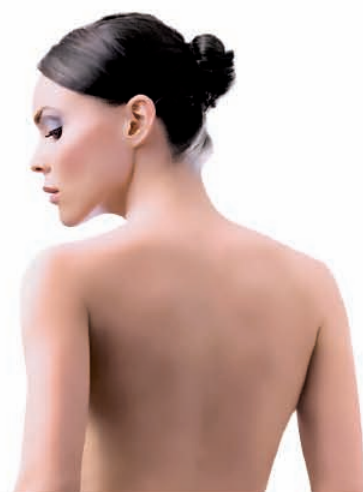


GOLD CHROME



The new very high quality vinyl Cast Film, available in gloss and matt variations. Specifically designed for the decoration of surfaces that are flat, corrugated, shaped, and also for graphic details requiring a chrome finish.

- Easy to apply due to the "Air Free System" technology
- OLCHS Over-Lam-Chrome-Surface protection
- Printable with Solvent, Eco-solvent, UV and Latex inks



New generation digital cast films

Avery Dennison is adding to its Digital Cast Films range with a new MPI™ 1104 Cast Films Series. These high performance materials are designed to meet growing demand for quick-change graphics and messaging for vehicle and architectural solutions.

According to Renae Kulis, global senior director Graphics of Avery Dennison Materials Europe: "Avery Dennison MPI 1104 Cast Films opens up vibrant and creative possibilities; with outstanding print performance; fast application speeds; and the premium end results that come with Easy Apply™ adhesive technology."

Daniel Martinez van der Lem, an applicator from Stick it, in the Netherlands, said: "This material printed superbly; the colours were bolder, deeper and better! Lower initial tack was a big bonus, because we were able to go back and lift the vinyl, then re-apply it easily. It saved a lot of time, and there is no doubt that wrap speed and ease of application are better with MPI 1104."

'Outstanding printability', with consistently high image 'pop', is seen across all print platforms; UV, solvent, eco-solvent and latex inks. The films give more vibrant colours and an outstanding gloss level, helped by a grey adhesive for optimal opacity, says the company.



Easy Apply™ technology means a faster application time.

Application times for the MPI 1104 are typically up to 10 per cent shorter than similar competitor products and up to 15 per cent shorter with MPI 1104 Easy Apply. The special Easy Apply™ technology allows incision-free and primer-free application on deep corrugations.

3D conformability allows applicators to cover many different 3D shapes and curves across demanding fleet graphics, customised private vehicles and architectural solutions.

graphics.averydennison.eu.

High performance cast films from Avery Dennison.



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G-Display from Genee World

Genee World, who make interactive displays and devices, has announced the launch of the G-Display range of digital signage displays. G-Displays include a video wall, a freestanding digital poster and professional screens.

G-Display Video Walls are comprised of 46" screens, which enable users to achieve a seamless video wall however big the project may be.

Digital signage screens come in a variety of sizes from 19"- 65" screens. These include a range of slimline display screens with built-in HD media players. No need for additional hardware says the company; plug in a USB stick loaded with content, and play.

The range also includes a non-interactive outdoor freestanding digital poster with its own built-in Android media player.



G-Display products from Genee World.

www.geneeworld.com

Halligan Raby carves out a new niche with help from CMYUK

Halligan Raby, who specialise in personalised products, has worked with CMYUK to develop a new range of customised wall art using UTACK media.

The company has been printing and producing personalised items for around 35 years, including licensed ranges with characters such as Thomas & Friends, Paddington Bear and Beatrix Potter.

They also supply a number of personalised ranges to football clubs both in the UK and Europe. Digital Print Manager, Jamie Mallin says: "The drive to innovate for this market in particular inspired the new wall art products.

"The football clubs we work with are always looking for new and innovative merchandising ideas, so this year we decided to develop a wall decal based on football crests for fans to stick on their walls.

"We'd been looking at the idea of wall graphics for a couple of years, but when we tried to source material that would apply easily but not do any damage, it didn't exist at a cost effective price.

"Then in January this year I contacted CMYUK after reading about their new UTACK media. I decided to try it out for myself, creating a wall mural for my son's bedroom. I linked with Aaron Clarke in the consumables team to work through some tests on our Roland Soljet Pro 3 wide format. "We also developed a customised 'graffiti' name wall decal as well as the football crest decals. The key issue is that, while as a printer I can confidently apply vinyls myself, it's not easy for people at home with no experience, so we needed another solution."



The wall mural that Jamie created using UTACK media from CMYUK.

"The UTACK media sticks like it should but is removable for repositioning if needed and won't damage the surface of a wall."

Aaron Clarke from CMYUK said: "The UTACK media is perfect for the wall graphics that Halligan Raby produce, as the ability to reposition the graphic without compromising the adhesive makes it incredibly user friendly for customers at home.

"UTACK can also be used for window displays, exhibition graphics and POS. It's a versatile product that offers a quick and easy solution to temporary or repositionable graphics."

www.cmyuk.com

www.halliganraby.co.uk

UTACK is a thin, woven self adhesive polyester fabric on a backing paper. Its water resistant matte surface produces 'exceptional' printed resolution and high definition. It is widely compatible with any branded solvent, water based and latex ink large format printers. There's no edge-curl when the product is under tension and the durable, universal coating eliminates cracking of the ink layer due to stretching.

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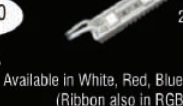
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New range of digitally printable textiles from ADS

A new range of digitally printable textiles is available from Amari Digital Supplies (ADS).

They are made in Germany by JM Technical Textiles and carry the Mediatex trademark brand.

All of the textiles are PVC-free and have individual as well as common design characteristics to enhance their performance capabilities; as well as broaden the range of signage and graphics applications that can be accommodated.

Key attributes of the products include: certified flame resistance; low ink consumption for enhanced cost efficiency; water, stain and tear resistance; and no creasing or curling in use. The textiles can also be processed using all of the main ink technologies (solvent, eco-solvent, UV-curable and Latex) and most of the popular printers, such as Roland, Mimaki, AGFA, Mutoh,

VUTEk, Durst and Seiko. Selected products also incorporate a multi-layer polymer coating that gives a high degree of whiteness to ensure 'optimum print quality'.

Key products in the range include the 200gsm Presto FR for backdrops, trade show graphics and tensioning and framing systems. The 180gsm Light Fabric FR for light banners and trade show graphics. And the 140gsm Illuminance FR that incorporates a special micro-porous polymer coating and can be used for indoor backlit displays, light boxes and tensioning and framing systems.

Completing the Mediatex range are the 290gsm Grey Back Textile and the 370gsm Botticelli Textile that has been developed primarily for canvas prints, but can also be used in tensioning and framing systems.

Phone 0115 982 9770



The new printable textiles on show at FESPA this year.

New Flexi 12 software available from Graphtec GB

The upgraded Flexi 12 software program from SA International is available in the UK from Graphtec GB. It will add new design and production capabilities to existing Flexi offerings; and has been introduced to coincide with the recent release of Microsoft Windows 10. It is still fully compatible with Microsoft Windows 7 and 8. Flexi 12 is available free to all existing Flexi subscribers, which provides access to the 'most comprehensive and versatile' software program for sign makers, wide-format digital print businesses and CNC machining operatives without the need for new investment.

The 'most comprehensive and versatile' software program

As with all earlier Flexi packages, the new flagship Flexi 12 offering will support a large number of the most popular printers and cutters. This is through additional design and production tools that will accommodate every manufacturing requirement in these sectors. The new tools will 'greatly enhance and streamline' workflow capabilities on key issues such as artwork management and approval; printing and cutting accuracy; colour management; and end-product finishing.

Among the many significant upgrade features of Flexi 12, is the Contour Cut True Nesting Tool. They claim it can save up to 50 per cent in media wastage on print and cut work. The improved Colour Management Tool enables 'easier and more efficient' printing with metallic and white inks. These advanced features are supplemented with the new Artwork Approval Tool that assists and simplifies artwork changes.

Other production tool improvements include Banner and Canvas Finishing; an Auto

Serialisation facility that will save production time whilst ensuring greater accuracy; and QR and Data Matrix Code Generation that will make it faster and easier to add interactive elements to signage.

For existing Flexi subscription-based customers, the entire family of Flexi packages (FlexiSIGN, FlexiPRINT, FlexiSIGN & Print and FlexiDESIGNER) will automatically be upgraded to Flexi 12.

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Spandex introduces new diamond films

Spandex has introduced Avery Dennison's diamond films to its range of Supreme Wrapping Films (SWF). The new diamond collection offers an 'ultra-metallic' finish in five colours: white, red, blue and amber plus one limited edition - purple. The new films are available by the metre for next day delivery from Spandex.

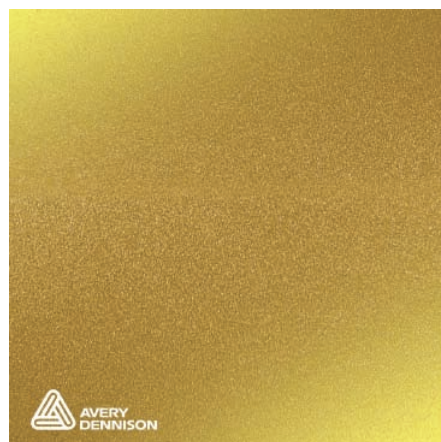
The full Avery Dennison Supreme Wrapping Film range, which has been designed for high quality vehicle wrapping and personalisation, offers a total of 90 films. These include pearlescent, metallics, satin, gloss, chrome and textured finishes in a choice of colours. The new films offer 'outstanding durability and conformability, as well as faster installation' thanks to Avery Dennison® Easy Apply™ RS adhesive technology.

"These new exciting colours give our customers even more choice when it comes to high-quality vehicle wrapping and paint protection films, whether for personalisation or fleet branding. These new products are



The limited edition purple diamond film.

already in stock and we look forward to seeing how our customers utilise them as both accent colours and full wraps," says Leon Watson, General Manager Spandex UK.



The metallic effect amber colour diamond film from Avery Dennison.

Spandex also offers a colour matching service for larger projects on the SWF range.

www.spandex.com

Vivid to debut new products

Vivid Laminating will debut three new technologies at a UK show in October.

Matrix Laminators: Single-sided Laminator

Vivid's best-selling Matrix OPP Film Laminating System can add specialist finishing effects to print, such as foiling, spot UV-style effects and holographic finishes.

Sales Director Richard Marlow said: "The Matrix doesn't require special dies to create these new effects. It's achievable due to the extra pressure from the pneumatic rollers. The process to create such effects on-demand still works by using heat transfer technology, but at a fraction of the cost of producing individual dies for each job. For those with a Pneumatic Matrix already in-

house, being able to offer these stunning effects to customers offers huge cost savings and even a new source of revenue".

The Leicestershire-based firm will also demonstrate their new Feeder for the Matrix 530 Systems. "The all-new Feeder uses patented underfed technology for prints, speeding up production and finishing times" says Richard. "It's a completely modular system and can retrofit to the existing Matrix".



Gold foil.

Easymount Air

Along with new Matrix features, Vivid will also showcase the new Easymount Air to the UK print industry.

Vivid's Technical Manager Gavin Ward said: "The Easymount Air is a revolutionary product in the wide format lamination and mounting market. The patented technology uses one of the most advanced concepts ever seen in a wide format laminator. Pneumatic air pressure controls the laminating rollers, allowing you to mount and laminate with incredible accuracy and speed."

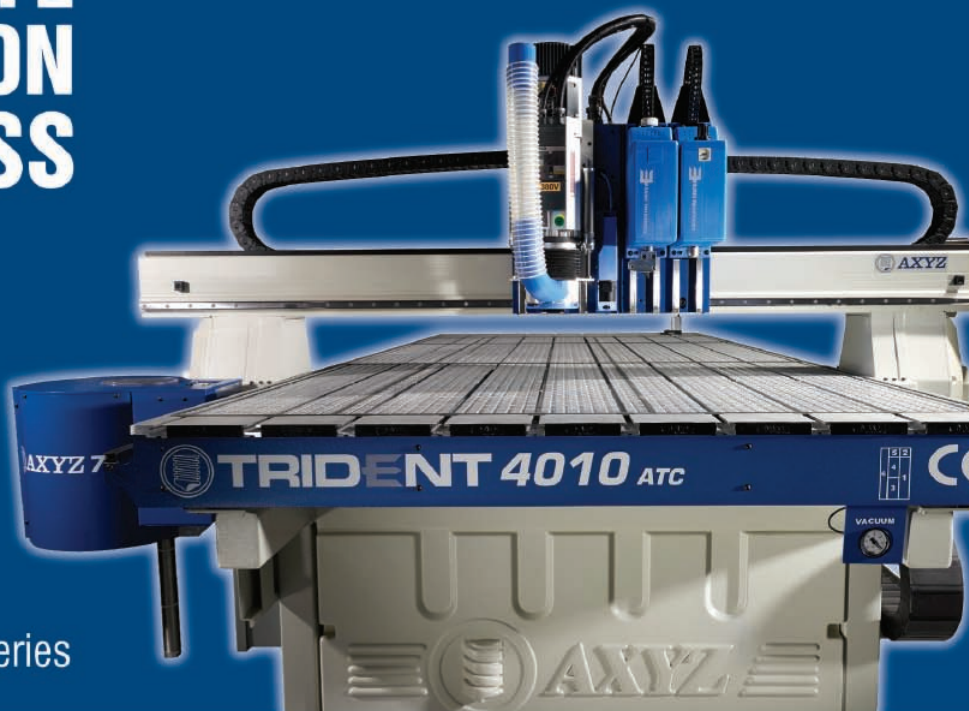
The pneumatic air allows the roller to adjust to the exact thickness and pressure required, giving faster production times. The new technology also allows the roller to float down, to make sure Foamex and Correx boards aren't crushed. When the rollers achieve the correct board thickness, they can be locked in place to keep the required gap, making board feeding more accurate.

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The New Summa F Series F2630

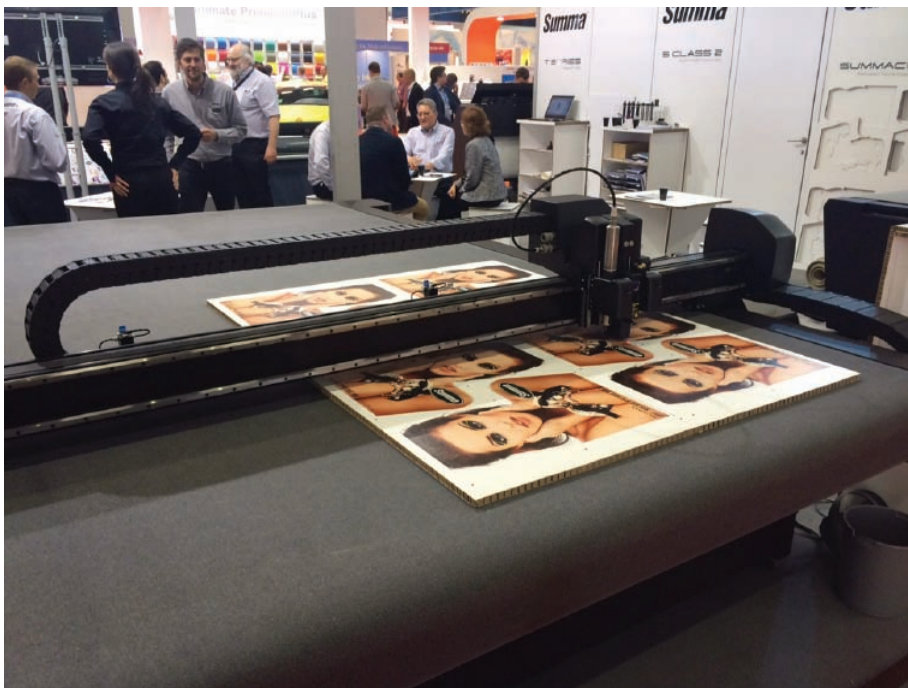
ArtSystems has introduced the heavy-weight Summa F-Series F2630 flatbed cutter to the UK, following its global launch at FESPA this year.

'Big brother' to the renowned F1612 cutter, the F2630 enables sign-makers and print providers to process even larger media. It also creates the possibility to process two media rolls at once on the roll support system.

With a working area of 2650mm x

3050mm it also has a wide set of tools and modules, plus those already featured on the F1612. This means high details in thin films can be cut with the kiss cutting tools. Cut-out tools are suitable for all kinds of plastics and thin cardboards. Oscillating tools (together with creasing wheels and v-cut knives) will handle cardboard and foamboards. On top of that a 1kW router is available for hard board material up to 25mm thickness, such as PVC, acrylic, wood or aluminium boards.

The F2630 has been developed in response to market demands for a larger version of the popular F1612 cutter, whilst keeping the flexibility and diversity of the unit.



The Summa F-Series F2630 flatbed cutter was launched at FESPA this year.

The working surface of more than eight square meters is split up into 12 vacuum zones, each of which can be automatically switched on or off individually. This way small as well as big boards, sheets or rolls can be processed. By using the front and rear zones alternating, tandem mode leads to significant increases in productivity. With the tandem mode the active working area on the flatbed can be divided into front and back processing areas. This enables the user to load and unload material on one end of the table whilst cutting material on the other end of the table. This will avoid idle periods during the processing of material, adding significant value to the overall workflow, says the company.

Andrew Edwards, Sign and Display Divisional Manager, said: "The original F1612 has been successful in moving many traditional sign makers into new markets and helping to boost their print finishing workflow enabling them to grow this side of their business. We're confident that the new F2630 will do the same but also give us the opportunity to move into the packaging, textile and leather markets in a more direct way. We're very confident that it will make a big impact in these markets."

ASLAN premium colour films

ASLAN made modifications to its opaque, polymeric colour film range PremiumColour ASLAN C 118 Soft, which makes the whole range compliant with REACH. The existent glossy colours are complemented by two new finishes; modern matte black and white, which can also be used for long-term applications.

The self-adhesive films of the range are characterised by an 'excellent' opacity. Plotted letterings and graphics can be

weeded 'quickly and easily'. Due to their high flexibility and good adaptation to contours, the films are suited for applications onto smooth as well as curved surfaces.

The high-quality colour films provide an optimal solution for the long-term design of vehicles, signs and glass surfaces with plotted elements, says the company

www.ASLAN-Schwarz.com



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The **Summa F Series** is a completely new cutting product line based on 25 years of expertise building the worlds very best cutting plotters.

These advanced engineered flatbed cutting tables are capable of cutting sheet and rigid materials as well as roll stock. Up to three tools can be inserted at one time on the multi-module tool holder. Changing tools is quick and easy. Automatic tool recognition, combined with digital and mechanical depth and / or pressure control, ensures precision cutting on a wide variety of materials.

Multi-function Head

The multi-function head holds up to three modules at one time. The central unit houses a LED pointer and an integrated camera system for fast and accurate contour cutting mark recognition.

Tangential Module

The powerful tangential module offers a vertical force of 12kg and corresponds to a wide range of matching tools. Each of the many and varied tools have a barcode ID that ensures automatic recognition and parameter settings.

Routing Module

The router module is capable of milling most widely used solid boards in the graphic and sign industry, such as hard foam PVC, acrylic and aluminum covered boards. The router also includes a vacuum cleaning kit to take away the chips and dust (vacuum cleaner is an optional accessory).

Drag Module

The drag module is a superfast module for making notations with pens or kiss cutting a wide range of materials with a pressure of 600 grams of down force using a drag knife.

Vacuum Pump and Selector

The vacuum pump with sound absorber holds the material in place during the job while the selector adjusts the vacuum automatically to match the working area.

Conveyor System

This optional conveyor system and media support rollers allow the cutting / creasing / annotating of large lengths of flexible material to large production runs.

Pneumatic Pack

Optional pneumatically-driven media advance clamps hold the material down while pulling it forward in order to work continuously in panels or multiple jobs.



Spandex UK adds ORAFOL 'Chameleon' car wrap film to its portfolio

Spandex has added the new ORACAL® 970 Premium Shift Effect Cast film to its product portfolio. This car wrapping film has a unique shade shifting effect where the colour changes depending on the viewing angle.

"We are always delighted to be offering new and innovative products to our customers," says Leon Watson, General Manager, Spandex UK. "Following the addition of ORAFOL as a new brand within our portfolio, users of this new and exciting product will find that they can simply dovetail this offering into their existing customers and continue to expand their 'wrap' offer in what is still a fast growing and lucrative market."

The ORACAL® 970 Premium Shift Effect cast is a multi-layered, 'high performance' cast PVC film, which Top of Form has been specially developed for complete car wrapping. Also suitable for use on uneven and slightly curved surfaces, it is available in both glossy and matt finishes. It offers dimensional stability and high durability making it an ideal choice in the vehicle wrapping market, says the company. Available in 25m and 50m roll lengths, it is both repositionable and permanent.

www.spandex.co.uk



Spandex supplies the new 'shade shifting' effect cast film from ORAFOL.

Roland DG announces new generation ECO-SOL MAX 3 for the EU region

Roland DG has launched ECO-SOL MAX 3, a new generation ink for use with its range of eco-solvent printers and printer/cutters. Available in both 220cc and 500cc cartridges, the new ink delivers 'faster drying times; larger capacity cartridges; a lower price per cc of ink; and an overall performance upgrade'.

ECO-SOL MAX 3 has also received GREENGUARD Gold Certification, which includes safety factors that makes sure a product is acceptable for use in environments such as schools and hospitals.

From 28 September with the purchase of every new eco-solvent Roland DG printer, customers in England, Scotland and Wales can order ECO-SOL MAX 3; with further roll

out to the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland from January 2016.

ECO-SOL MAX 3 will also be made available to existing customers as a performance upgrade, which will take place in a staged roll-out, starting with the VersaSTUDIO BN-20 and VersaCAMM VS-i. Soon to be followed by the VersaCAMM SP-i series, SOLJET PRO4 series (XR-640 & XF-640) and the VersaEXPRESS RF-640. Roland DG will guarantee support for ECO-SOL MAX 3 on all current models of eco-solvent printers and printer/cutters, and on most legacy devices. This fits to Roland DG's vision to support the ongoing loyalty of customers, enabling them to benefit from the latest technology developments.

As well as the new benefits of the ink, ECO-SOL MAX 3 continues to offer the reliability, quality, consistency and durability that customers over many years have always relied upon.

The process of converting an existing printer to ECO-SOL MAX 3 is so 'quick and easy' that, with the online guidance provided, many customer will be able manage the process themselves.

Jerry Davies, President, Roland DG, EMEA said: "We are delighted to be able to provide access to the latest ink technology to both new and existing customers, and are proud that once again, we continue to provide yet another compelling reason to remain loyal to ECO-SOL MAX inks. As well as the new benefits of the ink, ECO-SOL MAX 3 continues to offer the reliability, quality, consistency and durability that customers over many years have always relied upon."

www.rolanddg.co.uk





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Spandex adds HP Latex 300 Series to its equipment portfolio

Spandex has added the HP Latex 300 Series of printers to its product portfolio, 'closing the circle' on a full range of ink options available to its customers.

"The addition of the latex series will help our customers to be even more responsive to their customers' demands and time frames," says Leon Watson, Spandex UK General Manager. "The latex technology combined with our ability to deliver materials next day from leading brands such as 3M, Arlon, Avery Dennison, ImagePerfect and Orafol, empowers our customers to create top quality jobs very quickly, which is essential in this competitive market."

The HP Latex 300 Series has been designed for same day delivery of high quality graphics for both indoor and outdoor appli-

cations, making it 'ideal' for vehicle wrapping and retail applications. As the prints come out completely dry, sign makers can achieve faster turnaround which increases job throughput by as much as 50 per cent.

Leon said: "Due to the fast changing nature of in store promotion and how quickly brands want to reflect new offers, the HP Latex 300 Series is an ideal solution for printers working in this space, and perfectly complements our existing product range."

Jane Rixon, Business Manager, HP Large Format Production Products, said: "We are delighted to be working with Spandex as a Business Partner for our Latex 300 Series. Spandex offers such an extensive range of



The HP Latex 370 printer, one of the new printers available from Spandex.

materials that are compatible with the 300 series, and we are confident that with their experience, sign makers and printers will reap the rewards."

www.spandex.com

New inks from Nazdar

Nazdar Ink Technologies, who make UV, water-based and solvent-based wide-format digital inkjet, screen-printing and flexographic inks, says that its 153 Series Digital Inkjet inks are available.

Nazdar 153 series inks are the latest addition to the market leading "Plug and Play" solvent cartridge solution range. Designed for use in Mimaki JV3, JV33 and JV5 printer using ES3 inks, the 153 Series offers

'exceptional compatibility, quality and cost effectiveness, combined with a seamless conversion process'. Colour matched and chemically compatible with Mimaki ES3 inks, users can save both time and money by switching one cartridge at a time.

Re-profiling is not necessary when transitioning to Nazdar 153 series, due to the 'accurate colour reproduction capabilities' of the ink set.

Nazdar users continue to 'benefit greatly' from their Plug and Play cartridge ranges for Mimaki and Roland printers. Fully compatible, colour matched alternatives from Nazdar are available to replace Mimaki ES3, SS2, SS21 and HS inks. Roland users can also take advantage of these benefits with alternatives to Eco Max, Eco Max 2, Ai1 and Ai3 ink cartridges.

www.nazdar.com



Nazdar 153 Series inks for inkjet printers.

New Kitting functionality from Shuttleworth MIS

Shuttleworth MIS has revealed its new, exciting software functionality called 'kitting'. Kitting enables users to easily create estimates and quote for several items on an order. It's a 'perfect fit' for anyone wanting to manage one job that involves multiple items such as some types of POS, packaging, labelling or display work says the company.

Kitting means users can add separate items and quantities to a single enquiry. The Shuttleworth MIS then calculates a price for the entire 'kit' and helps to manage the en-

quiry through production.

It is ideal for producing 'vehicle livery kit', or complex multipart jobs as the user can add the items and quantities required for the whole or parts of a job onto one enquiry. The Shuttleworth MIS can then calculate and quote a price. When a job is raised the user can choose to create single job or multiple jobs to manage and process the order. The 'kit' can then be managed throughout the order and production process right through to delivery and invoicing.

Dawn Safford, Marketing Executive at Shuttleworth said: "Managing multiple items for one quote can be a costly process; but the new 'Kitting' functionality means that users benefit through easy traceability, reduced administration and cost, and ultimately increased profit. It is just another example of how Shuttleworth is leading the MIS market by delivering powerful technical solutions to very specific customer needs."

www.shuttleworth-uk.co.uk

Drytac Europe launches WipeOut™ film

Drytac Europe has a new clear gloss polyester film for personalised dry erase graphics applications, which they've branded WipeOut™.

WipeOut is a 3 mil (75µ), premium clear PET overlaminate with a dry erase hard coat. It is ideal for use in children's bedrooms, school classrooms, offices, hospitals, grocery stores and kitchens.

WipeOut can also be combined with Drytac's ReTac 150 print media, compatible with solvent, UV and latex printer, to create custom-printed, removable, high quality, dry erase graphics that can stick to and be removed from virtually any smooth surface.

Thanks to its chemical and scratch-resistant clear gloss surface, graphics that are laminated with WipeOut can be written on without ghosting or staining from ink.

Steve Broad, Sales Director for Drytac Europe, said: "Drytac's new WipeOut film is an excellent addition to our customisable range of fully-matched component solutions.

'By combining WipeOut film with our ReTac permanently peelable and repositionable media, customers are able to create bespoke whiteboard-style graphics that can be moved time and time again leaving no residue.

"WipeOut is also remarkably easy to erase. Its anti-graffiti properties allow for easy removal of ink with standard whiteboard dry erasers. Even permanent marker pen can be removed with the use of rubbing alcohol."

Product availability

Drytac WipeOut™ is available in a number of widths up to 61" (1549mm).

Drytac's entire range of films and adhesives is exclusively distributed throughout the UK and Ireland by Antalis.



WipeOut™ film for dry erase graphics can be used in many different environments.

www.antalis.co.uk
www.drytac.co.uk

Mobile Messaging

Mobile variable message signs are a 'versatile and flexible' way to communicate messages, alerts and warnings to drivers. Messagemaker has recently added a new Compact Trailer VMS to its range of traffic signs. Half the size of a standard trailer sign, it is designed for urban use and can be deployed as needed.

With its small footprint and easy transportability, the new Compact Trailer Mounted VMS is specifically designed for urban and city locations, where there is a need to communicate without causing a visual obstruction.

Previous VMS signs were limited to single colour, fixed height text messages. Unique to Messagemaker their latest full colour matrix, mobile VMS provides total flexibility to display text messages, symbols and graphics to deliver driver and traffic information with high visibility. They are used for applications from temporary speed limits and diversions during roadworks, to notification of events and hazardous weather conditions.

Available in different pixel resolutions for high impact text and graphics, their new full mobile VMS offers a versatile and portable solution.

Accessible via 3G and supplied with integrated security systems, the new unit allows for solar or 230V mains power options for maximum flexibility in use. The Messagemaker Mobile Trailer VMS is EN12966 certificated.

Messagemaker's range of displays also includes speed signs, speed limit signs, speed camera signs, road warning and traffic hazard signs, plus site and school safety displays.

www.messagemaker.co.uk

DEP add Indigo and Eco-solvent coatings for polypropylene printing

DEP Ltd, the specialist print coatings company, is increasing the selection of polypropylene print media in their range of Synplas synthetic paper. By adding thicker grades of sheeted material in the most popular formats, they will offer a wider choice of this durable and versatile printing material to customers producing Point-of-Sale and signage.

Synplas Ultra:

Three new products available

For banners, pop-ups and signage the zero light transmission, Super Opaque White is available in 300 and 440 micron thickness.

For the stationery, folder, packaging, tag, and label markets, classic White Matt/Matt and Natural Frosty Clear are available in 500, 800, and 1200 micron thickness.

These three products give excellent ink adhesion as well as high impact resistance and are 100 per cent recyclable.

All Synplas products are suitable for printing with Offset Litho, UV Litho, UV Digital, and Screen Printing. The Synplas range includes products ranging in thickness from 80 microns to 1200 microns.

Coated versions for Eco-Solvent and Indigo printing

As an added benefit for their customers DEP offers special versions of Synplas suitable for Eco-Solvent and Indigo printing.

With over half a century's experience in the field of printable surfaces, DEP are able to 'draw on their unique knowledge and ability' in the application of specialist print coatings for polypropylene and polyester substrates. Inkjet, Eco-Solvent, and Indigo printable surfaces can be applied to the Synplas range including to the thicker Synplas Ultra products.

www.depltd.co.uk



New wide format RIP software

Wide format distributor ArtSystems recently launched the new ONYX 12 RIP Software.

ONYX 12 is built on the proven platform of ONYX 11 RIP software and ONYX Thrive workflow software. According to the company it delivers faster RIP performance; a simplified user interface; and advanced finishing tools to do more in less time.

It 'delivers better utilisation of memory and hardware' when running the latest Windows OS to maximise the system investment with a modern, proven platform. ONYX 12 uses the complete 64-bit platform throughout, in the RIP as well as modules, to harness full processing capabilities. It can 'reduce print times from almost a minute to seconds'.

The redesigned user interface displays a visual, interactive job list to easily find jobs, view printer information, and quickly make edits. Complete job information, including thumbnails, is displayed and can be customised to suit each operation's needs.

Live, colour-managed previews display job edits as they happen: an intuitive feature that saves time and reduces waste by eliminating guesswork and proof reprints. Quick Sets – production templates that streamline routine tasks – have been redesigned so they're easier to build, navigate and save. Consistency can be achieved by sharing Quick Sets or easily changing between printers without the need to re-open files.

A new Bleed function allows users to add borders for wrapped canvas prints; pole pocket trim for banners; or top/bottom extensions for pop-up stands without having to redesign the original artwork. Users can combine the Bleed function with Automatic Cut Path Generation to eliminate white space in print-and-cut jobs for finished pieces without artwork adjustments.

ONYX 12 is available across the full ONYX software product line including ONYX Thrive workflow software, ONYX ProductionHouse, ONYX PosterShop and ONYX RIPCenter RIP software.



The new ONYX 12 RIP software has many new features.

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PRODUCT News

INDASOL goes 'green'

With ever changing legislation, health and safety and best practices, INDASOL aim to 'keep up with it all'. Their latest additions to the INDASOL range are non-toxic versions of the well-known Tensol 12 and Tensol 70.

INDASOL 3600 (Tensol 12 alternative) and INDASOL 2100 (Tensol 70 alternative) offer the same levels of performance when bonding/fusing plastics together, but with the added benefit of no odour, non-toxic and fast curing.

"When we look at areas of improvement to existing products, it is important not to sacrifice performance or increase costs.

And with these two products we are pleased to confirm that they perform as well, and are even slightly better priced," says Paul Robinson, Director.

The INDASOL range of sign fixing products offers the sign maker a 'one stop supplier' for UHB structural tapes, double sided tapes and foams, plastic welding adhesives and the 'revolutionary' SIGN BLOCK. Located in the West Midlands, INDASOL service the whole of the UK offering free of charge on site technical support and next day delivery.

www.indasol.co.uk



Simple fix with 910LX.

INDASOL Simple Fix Locators

INDASOL have added Simple Fix Locators to their bonding and fixing range, to 'continue to be innovative and forward thinking' in the sign industry. Simple Fix Locators are different to the Snap Fix Locators they have supplied for many years. The Simple Fix Locator offers a slightly higher stand off position, and a tighter final fitting.

Their INDASOL 910-LX has been developed to work with these locators when bonding to any surface including ACM, as 910-LX does not create any heat or read through when curing. Simple Fix locators are available in three sizes and are on a next working day delivery from stock.

Roland DG introduces EUV4 Ink for VersaUV Printers

Roland DG has released EUV4 ECO-UV ink developed specifically for use with its VersaUV UV-LED inkjet printers.

Available from the end of October, ECO-UV ink is cured by exposure to UV light enabling Roland DG VersaUV users to print 'brilliant colour' on a wide variety of materials. Such as paper, film, leather, and rigid materials such as polyester, ABS, and acrylic. The addition of clear ink produces unique textures and simulated embossing effects.

The new EUV4 ink features a change in chemistry that reduces odour and the shrinking of thin film materials like BOPP, PE and PET when curing. In addition to a 220ml cartridge, a new, larger 500ml cartridge has been introduced in response to user requests (white ink is only available in 220ml cartridges).



EUV4 Ink specifications

- Ideal for extended production runs, EUV4 ink is available in high-volume 500 ml cartridges of CMYK and Gloss for the LEJ-640 flatbed and LEC-540/330/300A/300 printer/cutters.
- EUV4 is also available in 220ml cartridges

of CMYK, White and Gloss for the LEJ-640 flatbed, LEC-540/330/300A/300 printer/cutters, and LEF-20/12 benchtop flatbed printers.

www.rolanddg.co.uk

CADlink's RIP software 'optimises' UV digital printing workflow

CADlink Technology's UV printing version of Digital Factory RIP software is available. The UV Edition includes a specific feature set that addresses the unique print production workflow requirements, introduced by the advancement of UV digital print technology.

Digital Factory UV Edition includes the following key features:

- Automated underbase features including support for .pdf and .eps workflows.
- Advanced color management including handling of white ink as well as clear coat ink application.
- Specialised production plug-ins directly within the RIP.

- Automated black background "knock-out" feature that literally blends black artwork components into black substrates, increasing print quality while reducing white ink consumption.

- Supports both bitmap as well as vector files.

- Print directly from any design application, or drag and drop files to Digital Factory queues without having to prepare underbase layers.

- Currently supports Mutoh, Mimaki and Roland printers as well a selection of third-party custom solution provider printers.

"UV digital printing has introduced new complexities to job preparation and production", says David Evans, CADlink Director of Research and Development. "The common use of white as well as clear inks within day to day production workflows requires that print files are prepared in such a manner that correctly and efficiently address how, when and where white or clear inks are applied to a particular job. Digital Factory UV Edition addresses these issues and simplifies the UV print production workflow."

www.cadlink.com



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TRADITIONAL SIGN WRITING

The art of traditional signwriting

Technological advances have altered the signwriting industry in recent years – so how do practitioners of this traditional art adapt to survive?

Jemima Codrington spoke to signwriters across the country to learn more.

Traditionally a trained coach painter, Martyn Vimart founded Vimart Signwriting in 1978 to cope with the workload and provide clients with the original vehicle livery.

His offerings extended into canal boats and eventually general signage, which he still offers today. “Personally, still I’m very busy,” he says. “I’ve been working in the industry for over 40 years, and I still receive a number of requests for heritage vehicles, pin striping on motorbikes and similar jobs.”

“It’s no longer really recognized by the government as a trade, which is a real shame.”

Martyn’s techniques include traditional gold leaf work (“very popular with high-end establishments in London”), lettering, heraldry, and scumbling. The latter he carries out alongside partner Sally, who paints narrow boats. With this technique, paint is applied over existing paint, enabling the layer below to show through what is almost a speckled effect. Signwriting on narrow boats is one of the key areas in which Martyn finds business, along with restaurants and large retailers such as J Crew.

Martyn is among many signwriters who are of the belief that the eradication of lead in the paints makes the hand-painted art better for the environment than digital signage, for



Gold leaf signage created by Vimart Signs.

example. “I believe that traditional signwriting itself is a lot greener, as when digital material is used, it cannot be recycled. Even if you do a small sign, let’s say on a door for example, you use materials that will ultimately end up in landfill. We only use a very small amount of paint, and it tends to have to be an oil-based paint as it lasts longer. With paint, you’re not replacing signage on a regular basis, which reduces wastage.”

Picking up the right paint

Martyn’s paint of choice is 1Shot, an American product. There are primarily two types of signwriting enamels available today, gloss and matt. “Lead used to provide good flow coverage and good density to the paint, which of course you don’t get now. But because you’re using enamel, you don’t need to put a lacquer over the top, which saves time,” says Martyn. In terms of styles or emerging “trends” in the sector, he has noticed that there’s been an uptick in end-users asking for satin finishes. “This seems to be a modern trend, and we’ve done a number of signs like this recently, and have another one to do in Marble Arch shortly.”

In addition to carrying out a wide variety of work, which includes everything from the odd village sign to completing the Emma Bridgewater factory signs, Martyn also teaches courses as well. He also has an apprentice, but mourns the lack of similar apprenticeships elsewhere in the industry.

“There’s just not much out there for traditional signwriting at the moment. For now I just have my own apprentice who has just finished Art College. It’s no longer really recognized by the government as a trade, which is a real shame.”

Martyn plans to put his own apprenticeship scheme in place in the near future in a bid to combat waning support and opportunities, and keep the traditional signwriting sector alive.



Many retailers still request traditional handwritten signs.

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TRADITIONAL SIGN WRITING

The art of traditional signwriting

Following a seven year apprenticeship, Gerald Whittaker worked at Lintott Signs Guildford until 1983, after which he launched Whittaker Signs in Hollycombe, Hampshire.

Gerald specialised in coach painting, traditional signage and vehicle restoration, and although he offers modern services like digital vinyl, he still provides traditional sign writing to clients today.



Gerald sees high demand from the vehicle restoration sector.

Gerald has worked on high-profile jobs, such as the London bus commemorating the 100th anniversary of World War I, and Winston Churchill's funeral train. However, while there is a demand for classic hand painted signs, he has noticed a decline in the number of people who can genuinely call themselves a traditional signwriter. "The younger generation now probably doesn't really understand what a signwriter is," he says. "It used to be that a signmaker was a man who could show with his box and his paints, discuss the job with the customer, and get on and do it. I think it's something of a lost art because now with everyone using a computer, they want to see artwork and approve things first, so we're finding we have to do a lot more artwork and send sketches back and forwards with respect to colours and ideas before we can win the job."

Today, Gerald finds a lot of work from the preservation market, with demand for painting on vintage vehicles, traction engines and railway engines. "Pubs and golf courses are still demanding gold leaf," he adds. Gerald also uses 1Shot, but while the paints may have changed, he notes that most of the other products such as brushes have stayed the same. What has changed, however, are the substrates. As signwriting materials have "completely changed" over the past ten years, Gerald has noticed different trends emerging with regards to application. "We're seeing a lot more flat colour or eggshell painting. It covers easier and produces a good effect, we recently did a restaurant in Gifford with it."



Gerald Whittaker at work on a handwritten sign.

Facing the future

While Gerald still offers and sees demand for traditional signwriting, he does lament the future of the art.

"When you actually look at it, it isn't really viable to be a full-time traditional signwriter," he says. "The computer's a fantastic thing, but I do think it's killed the workshop side of things, and it's meant we're having less youngsters come through to learn what was an extremely good trade." Gerald's training involved a seven-year apprenticeship, far longer than the preparation available today. He also notes that the decline in the amount of work has contributed to less people moving into the sector. "We are seeing more week-long courses and things to spark up interest, but you need to have a fair volume of work to put an apprentice into a workshop."

www.geraldwhittakersigns.co.uk



From coaches to buses, a number of vintage vehicles are suited to traditional techniques (pictured).

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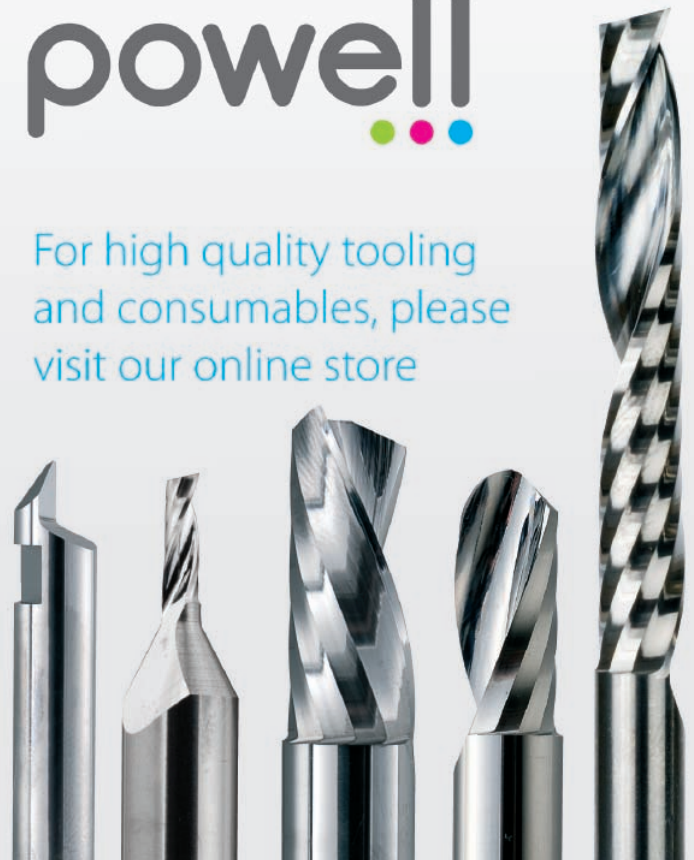


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TRADITIONAL SIGN WRITING

The art of traditional signwriting

For Michelle Healy and the team at HNS Signs, keeping the interest in traditional signwriting alive comes down to adapting the way it's marketed.

"Other signwriters may not be looking at what it's called today; people don't phone and ask for a traditional sign, they ask for wall art, which is what we call it," she explains. "We are inundated with requests, and use this contemporary twist on what it's called as a USP to help us get sales."

Another way sign writers can increase the demand for traditional signwriting is to offer it alongside other products, and put them together as a package. "The chances of people wanting just that on it's own is quite low, but it seems it's becoming more fashionable to mix the two."

Michelle notes they are seeing a great deal of demand from bars and restaurants, and that there's a keen interest from clients watching the team in action as they do the hand-painted traditional sign writing. A recent job includes a sign for a French restaurant in



Paint is much more hardwearing compared to things you could put up like a wallpaper or vinyl decal. You still see signwriting on the sides of buildings dating back to 1800s, the paint just lasts and lasts"

London, and the brief specified they wanted a hand painted sign. For clients, there are many benefits to choosing this traditional method – for example, it's ideal for busy environments as it is heavy duty, and perfect for permanent signage as it's long lasting and eye catching. Paint is much more hardwearing compared to things you could put up like a wallpaper or vinyl decal. You still see signwriting on the sides of buildings dating back to 1800s, the paint just lasts and lasts," says Michelle, adding that substrates will normally give before the paint.



Part of prolonging the shelf life of well-finished traditional signage lies with correct preparation and finishing. HNS Signs recently did a job for a restaurant in London, where they applied paint onto Marine Plywood, sealed all edges, and went over the design with Ronseal wood protect. "We'd expect that to last about ten years," she says.

www.hnssigns.co.uk

John Coats has worked as a traditional signwriter for decades, and although technically retired, he still works on the occasional sign.

"I always joke that I'm an international signwriter – my Gold Leaf is English, my brushes are Russian, and my paint is American," he says. John has been buying books of Gold Leaf from the same supplier since 1959, and in addition to being a loyal customer himself, he has a number of them too. "A lot of my work comes from the restoration market, with people wanting to recreate looks from the 1960s and 1970s. I was working in that time and remember the originals, so it's easy for me to help them achieve that look."

John notes that despite the rise in popularity of decals and graphics, there are certain jobs for which only traditional hand painted signs will do. For example, small villages with independent shops tend to require only hand painted signs, as do older buildings onto which a graphic application would not hold. John found this to be the case when he worked on the interior of Burns Cottage, childhood home of Robert Burns, in Ayrshire. "I lettered old Burns sayings on the inside of it on the walls, which were clay; under no circumstance could you possibly stick a graphic to it, so it had to be hand let-

tered." Although John does a great deal with old buildings and jobs, more recent projects include working on American-style restaurants and movie themed signs.

The signwriter's "pencils"

John has been using the same brushes, or pencils as they were traditionally called, for many years.

These pencils can help signmakers achieve things that simply aren't possible with a machine. "If you put a letter 'e' through the computer, it'll be exactly the same size as the rest of the copy every time," says John. "But you might not need the same size – if I've got to go around a light switch or vent or an obstruction for example, I can condense that letter to make it fit without anyone actually noticing it. Of course you can measure it up close and see it's not the same, but you've got the option to condense it by hand."

For John, the brushes are integral to getting the right finish. He chooses extra length, as when the hair is slightly longer, it gives sign writers a better sweep for letters like O, S or Q. John can tell from the touch if the brushes will get the job done – or if there's something wrong. "There was one set of brushes I got from my supplier in London, and I noticed straight away there was


something wrong with them," he says. "I couldn't do letters like an O and they were stringing out. Now my brushes are pure sable hair, and the sable comes from Russia. The hair is usually soft and springy which allows you to do circular shapes. It turns out that particular year, there was an exceptionally cold winter in Russia, so the Sable toughened up and grew an extra layer for it's coat which made the hair coarser!"

Looking forward, John still sees the value in being able to offer traditional signwriting. "I'm not saying there's a resurgence, but there's certainly not the fall-off you'd expect because of modern trends," he says. Although digital advances and improvements to software and technology have rendered some forms of it almost obsolete (the rise in vehicle livery has all but replaced painted vans, for example), others will always stay alive and well. "We live in an era of instant gratification, everybody wants something yesterday. Things might seem like the easier or cheaper option, like gold vinyl for example, but you can't always see it from certain angles or in certain lighting. I use 23 ½ carat gold leaf so you can always see it. You've got to pay for the quality, and people still are prepared to do that."


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PRODUCT Choice

'Rocking' JETRIX sales by Perfect Colours

Perfect Colours reported a busy summer as they have installed a number of JETRIX printers in July, August and September.

Riverside Signs in West Yorkshire are already enjoying the benefits of the JETRIX 2513 in printing all aspects of sign work and vehicle livery including vehicle wraps. Thames Graphics in High Wycombe are taking on a KX7 to deliver their print services from document printing through to posters, outdoor graphics and exhibition stands. With the third, a JETRIX KX7-D being installed at Stand Innovations, international exhibition contractors based in Leicestershire.

Jon Telling, Sales Director at Perfect Colours said: "These JETRIX installations reflect just how much is going on at the moment right across our product portfolio. It's a great time to be involved in large format printing."

Ben Woodruff, UK Sales Manager of JETRIX said: "From our perspective this summer is proved to be really busy and it is great to be working in partnership with Perfect Colours on these installations. It is a fantastic opportunity and we are really enjoying building on our on-going JETRIX relationship with them."

JETRIX

www.inktec-europe.com
www.perfectcolours.com

Hollywood Monster plans to go 'flat-out' with new VUTEk H2000 Pro from CMYUK!

Hollywood Monster has increased its capability to print high quality, durable and colour-matched graphics and displays by buying a 2m VUTEk H2000 Pro. This is the third EFI platform in which the company has invested in as many years, and enables it to 'up' its daily production onto a broad selection of rigid and roll-fed materials. It was supplied

and installed by Shrewsbury-based specialist CMYUK.

More demand for jobs printed direct to rigid materials led Hollywood Monster to make this investment. Following the win of a major contract with a leading high street retailers, the company needed to increase its output capabilities onto a variety of sheet-fed

substrates. The 2m wide H2000 Pro is the ideal size for ongoing and future application requirements, says the company.

Hollywood Monster's Managing Director, Simon McKenzie, said: "Our company produces a vast range of jobs up to 5m in width using a broad selection of roll-fed, rigid and textile materials. Although we make full use of our VUTEk GS3250 3.2m combination flat-fed and roll-fed printer, we made the decision to invest in a 2m wide machine primarily to handle board production in this burgeoning display segment."

Key to the addition of their new machine, is its ability for its workflow to 'dove-tail' in with applications being produced on Hollywood Monster's existing wide-format machines from EFI.

Robin East, Director of CMYUK, said. "Supplying the right machine is only part of our service offering. Making sure that reliability and the best end-to-end workflow are integrated into an investment is essential for companies needing to meet customer criteria which, increasingly, means brand loyal solid colours as well as the finest gradients."

The details

The EFI VUTEk H2000 Pro is a modular six-colour 2m wide UV-curable wide-format printer that incorporates seven picolitre UltraDrop technology for precision control. This printer is available with a choice of EFI's Fiery proServer or Fiery XF DFE (digital front-end), both of which integrate with the company's web-to-print and MIS/ERP programs. Its flat-bed capabilities are boosted with an option for roll-to-roll production. And white ink and clear varnish are available in both single or dual channel configurations.

www.cmyuk.com



Simon McKenzie (left) of Hollywood Monster with CMYUK's Robin East.

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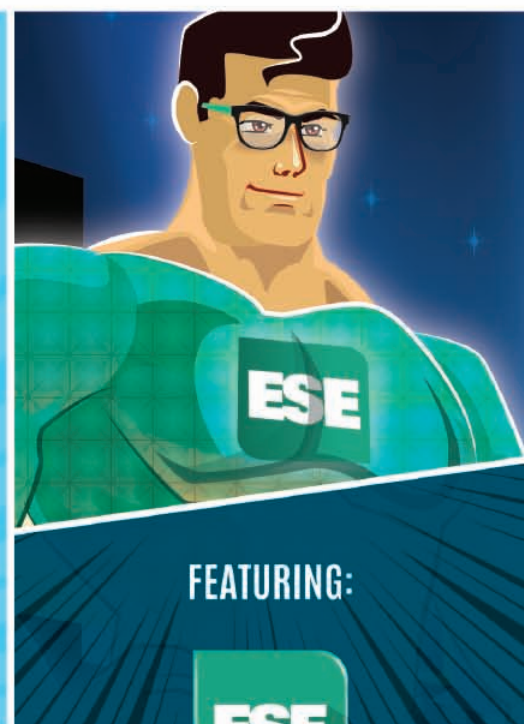
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PRODUCT Choice

AG/CAD helps company grow by 20 per cent

Starting a print business can be a daunting prospect, but for Glenn Wrigley wanting to move from city life to the Cornish coast was all the incentive that was needed. Seven years after re-locating to start Print-2-Media, Glen is 'reaping the rewards' of his decision with the help of a DYSS X7-1624C digital cutting machine from AG/CAD.

He started his business with a single Roland XC540 printer and just one customer. With much experience and a contact list from previous employment, he started by producing outdoor signage for agricultural events in the South West. This soon increased from signage for organisers of 'events in fields' to the show exhibitors. The rapidly expanding company has since acquired a series of Fuji, Roland and HP large format printers with a maximum print capacity of 1.5 by 3m.

Glen said: "The business grew organically, but our location was somewhat restrictive to our growth ambitions. We employed a web designer and now over 60 per cent of our business is conducted on-line via our website. This has transformed our business and only 20 per cent of our work is for the local market with 80 per cent of our work being distributed nationally to trade customers and re-sellers. The diversity of our printers enables us to print on all types of media, producing everything from stickers and posters through to PoS and shop signage."

The growth and increasing diversity of work at four employee Print-2-Media resulted in a surge in production of foamex, Di-bond and acrylic signage, which the company had difficulty cutting by hand. Whilst its vinyl cutting machine was suitable for posters and stickers, the company needed a more robust solution.



Glenn Wrigley with New DYSS X7 Cutting Table.

So they reviewed the CNC cutting table market. A full review of the various vendors resulted in the purchase of a DYSS X7-1642C with K-Cut vision system and KASEMAKE software from AG/CAD in February 2015. The results have been 'astounding'.

With online business and the increasing diversity, Print-2-Media was either subcontracting the cutting work out to another company with a router, or they were turning work away. The investment in the DYSS X7 has immediately eliminated the subcontracting costs, shortened lead-times and improved product quality.

Glen said: "We wanted to move into selling PoS products on-line and we couldn't cut precision shapes or forms into our substrates. And we couldn't cut Di-bond and acrylic at all, so we knew we were limited by our cutting capability. The DYSS has immediately brought 20 per cent growth to our business as we no longer turn work away.

For example, we are currently producing mobile Di-bond photo booths for weddings for a customer in London, which would have previously been impossible. We are also cutting batches of 50 to 300 A4 foamex signs frequently; manual cutting would have been too time consuming."

Whilst the benefits and impact of the DYSS are obvious, there were aspects of the machine that made Print-2-Media choose the AG/CAD-supplied machine over its competitors. Glen said: "AG/CAD were very receptive to our needs and instantly appeared knowledgeable and helpful. The features of the machine make it the best offering on the market when combined with the exceptional service and support we have

received. Now, we wouldn't look anywhere else if we needed another machine in the future.

"We informed AG/CAD that we wanted to cut everything from Di-bond and acrylic through to the production of our own corrugated card boxes to distribute our products. AG/CAD suggested the three tool station 'Super Head' with the capacity to accommodate routing, knife, creasing and kiss cut tools that would automatically be selected without manually changing over the tools. This enables us to use the router to create 'location holes' for the K-Cut Vision system if required. We can also use the knife and creasing tools for producing our corrugated boxes. The K-Cut registration system is outstanding and will pick up any pre-defined point and orientate the job according to the datum points, which we now print on all our jobs. This ensures every job is 100 per cent accurate and free from operator error."

Glen said: "We looked at other machines and the build quality and rigidity of the DYSS really stood out for us. We instantly identified it as a high-quality machine. But the KASEMAKE software was the defining selling point for us. This software is developed in-house by AG/CAD so they can fine tune it to our exact needs and keep us updated and fully supported."

To produce signage for agricultural events, Print-2-Media has been making 'excellent' use of the in3D environment modelling software feature within KASEMAKE. What this has given Print-2-Media is the ability to mock-up exhibition stands for customers. By generating a full, live 3D model of a stand concept using this powerful software, the customer can be sent previews of their proposed design as photo-realistic images or even a walk-through video, all prior to ordering the actual project.



Multi Tool head on DYSS Locating Cutting Tool Position.

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PRODUCT Choice

Access360 supports demand for bespoke interiors with a new HP Latex 370

Access360, an exhibition, experiential marketing and interiors company, has replaced its old solvent printer with a new HP Latex 370 from City and West End Solutions.

The company says that the HP gives them triple the production capacity of the old machine. And thanks to the 'booming' demand for bespoke wallpapers and other interiors solutions, the business is already there to fill that capacity.

Access360's main focus is on interior decoration for large corporates, supplying individual companies and chains across the UK and Europe.

"Our work includes window manifestations and digital wallpapers, and when our work volume in those areas started increasing week on week, we needed to invest in a new fast and reliable printer to meet that growing demand," says Director Dave Pimlott.

"I spoke to Graham De Kock at CWE Solutions because I've known him for many years and knew that I could talk to him in technical language about the print solution we were looking for; the way we wanted to print, the speed, size of output and so on.

"He asked if we had considered latex, and it was clear that the HP Latex 370 ticked all the boxes for us as regards speed and reliability. It's unusual to find something that really does everything that you want it to.

"Latex printing is a plus for environmental reasons for both us and our clients, and a lot of the old issues of material compatibilities for latex seemed to have been ironed out.

"The excellent price of the machine also allowed us to invest in a specialist Onyx Thrive RIP, giving us more control over the image output and colour. With its versatility, power and the ability to control all of its functions this RIP does everything you could conceivably want it to. But the greatest advantage for the work we do is its speed.

"The smooth and speedy process of dealing with CWE from initial conversation and purchase to installation and training was excellent, as we could hit the ground running with no down time."

"With our old RIP a typical bespoke wallpaper would probably take around 20 minutes to process; with the Onyx it only takes a couple of minutes."



Access360 Director Dave Pimlott says that the HP Latex 370 gives the company triple the production capacity of their old machine.

The speed of Onyx RIP is backed up by the print speed and reliability of the HP Latex 370 itself. And Dave says that since the printer was installed in July, they've seen 100 per cent reliability with no colour issues or spoilage.

He said: "In the past we would have issues on a daily basis such as colour inconsistencies between panels, but we've had no such problems with the new HP. You don't realise how much time you're losing even if it's just one panel here and there, and how much that affects your bottom line, but with its improved speed and reliability the HP has triple the production capacity of our old solvent printer.

"The quality of the print is also as impressive as the speed of output. The HP Latex 370 is perfect as it produces a top quality, robust output and is great at matching colours with incredible accuracy on pantones.

"The smooth and speedy process of

dealing with CWE from initial conversation and purchase to installation and training was excellent, as we could hit the ground running with no down time."

Commercial Director at CWE Solutions, Graham De Kock said: "The 64 inch, six colour HP Latex 370 keeps running costs low, and allows for both unattended printing and the ability to change cartridges while printing.

"At up to 1200 dpi it uses water-based inks to produce sharp, consistent, repeatable image quality with high-efficiency curing; and can print onto traditional signage substrates like vinyl and banners to temporary textiles, canvas and wallpapers. The quality is maintained at high speed, and output is instantly dry, with the scratch resistance benefits of the third generation of latex inks."

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PRODUCT Choice

APN Display buys new VUTEk to boost productivity and quality of UV print

APN Display has upgraded its UV print technology by buying a VUTEK H2000 LED UV hybrid printer from CMYUK. They hope this will 'open the door to new markets as well as add to their production capacity'.

APN Display, which has agency and trade customers both regionally and across the UK, specialises in 2D and 3D POS displays. The H2000 installed in July, is already 'blurring the lines' between what was previously printed digitally or pressed on a screen or litho.

"The H2000 is the next generation on from our previous UV machines - an Inca Eagle and Spyder V," says Director, Paul Nicholls. "It's much faster with a higher quality print, and the new technology has reduced the need for separate printing processes and reduced the minimum numbers for cost effective print runs.

"Firstly, with the new VUTEk we can now print onto clear material using white ink at the same time rather than printing on a digital machine then adding the white via a screen press.

"This means shorter runs for applications such as window graphics become more economical, even just one or two units, as set up and origination costs are lower. And there's less risk of spoilage, with the two print processes needed now reduced to one."

The company is also using the H2000 to produce the 3D corrugated POS display units that it designs and manufactures. The higher resolution and flatbed facility means it can digitally print jobs that would previously have been litho printed then laminated onto



APN Display Directors Paul Nicholls (left) and Richard Thomas with the EFI VUTEk H2000 LED UV hybrid printer from CMYUK.

boards. Again, the ability to print onto a wider range of substrates such as boards removes a process from the workflow.

CMYUK director Robin East said: "The EFI VUTEk H2000 Pro is a great printer for a company like APN Display that's looking to both improve and diversify its output.

"It has a number of available production and imaging options that allow print houses to configure a system that matches their needs today, or when new opportunities arise. The H2000 also offers EFI's UltraDrop Technology in six colours for more precise control and high definition quality. And handles rigid and sheeted media up to 80in wide

and up to 2in. thick with optional roll-to-roll production."

The time from installation of the printer to full production was just two weeks, and the APN Display team is looking forward to working closely with CMYUK in the future.

"We have our own in-house design facility and we'll be looking at new ways to make the most of the capabilities of this new machine, sharing our expertise and offering cutting edge solutions to our customers," says Paul.

www.cmyuk.com
www.apndisplay.co.uk

Mimaki dye-sublimation investment creates new business for Harberson Ltd



Harberson's Print Manager, Karl Richardson with the Mimaki TS34.

Printed table cloth specialists, Harberson Ltd has transformed itself from supplier to offer bespoke dye-sublimation printing of tablecloths and linen for the exhibition industry, thanks to its investment in a Mimaki TS34-1800A.

Harberson Ltd began 20 years ago when Eric Hargreaves set up Chemi-Clean, a company dedicated to supplying bed linen to the health and care sector, along with a laundering service. Since then, the company has responded to customer demand for branded linens and moved into providing a 'dynamic and creative' printing service, whilst retaining its original passion for linens.

Harberson Ltd made the investment in a Mimaki TS34-1800A wide format dye-sublimation printer after seeing the product at Sign & Digital UK. A spokesperson said: "The 1.8m width of the Mimaki TS34 was

pivotal in our decision to purchase as we wanted to develop our table cloth printing side of the business. We were given great advice from specialist reseller RA Smart, who supplied us with the TS34 and a Transmatic heat press. We have had great results from both, both in terms of the print quality and end result, but with productivity too."

RA Smart Managing Director, Magnus Mighall said: "Mimaki's TS34-1800A has continuously delivered a competitively priced solution at a popular width and with powerful production capabilities. Using aqueous ink to print to polyester ensures the Mimaki printing solution has excellent green credentials."

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PRODUCT Choice

Summa loving!

Since its launch in January 2012 James Gibbins' company, exhibitionstands.co.uk, which trades as Stand4, has been steadily growing.

The company provides a wide range of exhibition stands and display solutions. James said: "What we aim to do every time is put ourselves in our customers' shoes. What kind of service would we expect if it was us making the purchase? Then we simplify the ordering and purchasing process."

He said: "An exhibition stand is important. It has to represent our customers in the public eye and that's quite a responsibility for the stand manufacturer. We listen and advise if necessary, and our portfolio includes options ranging from pop-ups and roll-ups to portable displays, pop-up shops and sales booths. We also make full, bespoke exhibition units on a hire or sale basis. We have units for indoor, outdoor and forecourt."

Exhibitionstands.co.uk was originally built by sub-contracting work out to select graphics providers around the region, but as demand grew that was no longer a viable option.

James said: "We had previously used the skills of sub-contract business partners, but that manufacturing model could only work within certain parameters. As demand has grown we have increased our in-house

facilities to help us speed delivery; and ensure the finished product always meets our strict quality standards."

In August 2015 the workshops got a delivery of a Summa F1612 Pro flatbed cutter from CWE Solutions Ltd, a reseller for Summa's UK distributor, ArtSystems. James said: "We needed high quality cutting and creasing across a broad portfolio of materials, and the only way to meet that need was to bring the facility in-house in an affordable way."

"We had seen the Summa in action and we knew it provided really great specifications for the money. It has already proven its worth, especially with regards to the increasing number of bespoke projects we are handling."

Exhibitionstands.co.uk often has to demonstrate real flexibility with its customers, largely because it doesn't deal with any specific industry sector. James said: "One day we might be working with Bulmers Cider and the next with blu, the e-cigarette manufacturer. It is this kind of variety that is driving the increase in bespoke stand and pop-up shop manufacture, and is one of the reasons we needed the Summa F1612. As a result of our investment we have tightened turnaround times and quality control."



A Bulmers exhibition stand.

The company also has the facility to be a graphic and print provider, including large format printing, laminating and finishing, graphic design and print-ready artwork. It is also involved with 3D design and animation.

He said: "The Summa is our latest acquisition and thanks to it we will continue to grow our customer base and range of exhibition stand solutions. It will be interesting to see where we shall be in a year's time."

www.exhibitionstands.co.uk
www.cwesolutions.co.uk

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Expansion has seen organic growth and investment in equipment such as a Summa F1612.

DGS Supplies boosts productivity with Mimaki investment

As a family run business set up 20 years ago by Franc and Diane Moscato, customer satisfaction is at the heart of Dudley-based DGS Supplies. When it came to investing in some new hardware to 'step up' to meet customer demands and streamline processes, the Mimaki JFX200-2513 LED UV flatbed printer was the perfect match for the company's requirements, according to the business.

"We're specialists in construction, PPE, signage and promotional goods and printing," says managing director, Franc Moscato. "We provide a large amount of safety signage to the construction industry, which is traditionally mounted onto rigid board. And we made the investment in the Mimaki JFX200 flatbed to print direct-to-board and reduce time consuming finishing techniques. Not only has the JFX200 allowed us to cut out processes, but its fast



Matt getting their new Mimaki JFX200-2513 LED UV flatbed printer ready for a job.



DGS Supplies print manager, Matt Shaw.

print speeds and capacity to print multiple items on one print run have meant we've seen a huge increase in our productivity without having to take on extra staff."

The printing arm of DGS Supplies is headed up by print manager Matt Shaw, who has only positive feedback to give about the new flatbed that was supplied and installed by specialist Mimaki reseller, printMAX. He said: "After 10 years in the printing industry, the JFX200 is by far the best printer I've worked with. It's simple to use and great quality and we received excellent training from printMAX. The whole process from when we ordered the JFX200, through to the four day installation and following support has been faultless."

PrintMAX's managing director, Michael Bolton emphasises the capacity that the

Mimaki JFX200 offers to companies like DGS Supplies: "The Mimaki JFX200 delivers superfast speeds and stunning print quality direct to rigid objects. Its 8'x4' bed size not only provides a seamless platform for conventional board printing; the JFX200 offers so much more by way of potential applications for companies looking for new revenue streams and a more creative string to their portfolio bow. DGS Supplies is now able to offer fantastic quality and fast turnaround for its existing client base, as well as having secured its place as suppliers to the bespoke interior décor and personalisation markets. The future looks good for DGS."

www.dgssupplies.co.uk

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ACRYLIC (perspex - including gold & silver) (10mm: white black & clear)

no minimum order

Height	100mm	150mm	200mm	250mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	700mm	750mm	800mm	900mm	1200mm
3mm	0.70	1.10	2.03	2.74	4.00	5.50	6.31	7.25	8.02	9.19	10.66	14.76	21.63	30.34	38.32	42.28
5mm	1.19	1.80	3.00	4.77	6.79	7.88	9.13	11.02	12.40	13.65	15.03	20.95	25.24	33.32	45.85	58.43
10mm	2.34	2.92	5.84	9.30	11.69	14.95	17.55	20.87	23.45	25.73	29.28	40.50	49.44	54.56	84.98	107.82

FOAM PVC (all available colours - 10mm & 19mm available in white only)

no minimum order

Height	100mm	150mm	200mm	250mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	700mm	750mm	800mm	900mm	1200mm
3mm	0.72	1.00	1.39	2.13	2.70	3.48	3.83	4.81	5.09	6.14	7.06	9.02	12.88	15.45	17.51	19.00
5mm	1.06	1.74	2.34	3.14	4.52	5.12	5.75	6.53	7.10	8.62	9.38	12.68	17.00	21.12	25.24	26.50
10mm	1.47	3.07	4.38	6.40	8.10	9.11	10.79	12.90	14.84	17.20	19.62	25.69	35.02	41.42	47.38	49.95
19mm	3.20	4.22	7.45	9.70	13.65	14.26	16.68	18.42	20.71	22.94	24.98	30.20	47.38	55.11	61.80	67.90

3mm ALUMINIUM COMPOSITE (Dibond, Alupanel)

no minimum order

Height	100mm	150mm	200mm	250mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	700mm	750mm	800mm	900mm	1200mm
Colours	1.69	2.34	4.02	5.57	7.00	7.83	9.25	11.26	13.80	15.47	17.00	20.98	24.10	28.10	36.00	50.59
Mirror	2.38	4.86	6.79	9.32	13.77	14.83	17.31	19.70	23.13	25.00	28.12	34.94	36.10	41.50	51.00	82.21
Brushed	1.96	3.28	4.39	6.12	8.83	9.85	11.15	13.16	15.28	16.77	19.08	23.61	26.10	31.50	39.00	56.92

MILL FINISH ALUMINIUM (Comes in its raw form ready for coating) no minimum order

Height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	700mm
2mm	2.88	3.68	4.38	5.56	6.18	6.95	7.73	9.01	10.04	11.07	12.10	15.19	18.28	23.43	30.64	41.97
3mm	2.85	3.56	4.40	5.46	6.07	6.96	7.86	9.10	10.27	11.72	13.26	17.34	20.77	26.40	35.06	56.65
5mm	3.36	4.20	5.20	6.44	7.17	8.22	9.26	10.74	12.40	14.25	16.00	21.00	24.64	31.23	41.36	63.86

EXTERIOR MDF

Height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	1200mm
6mm	0.36	0.82	1.18	1.60	2.40	2.55	2.95	3.70	4.27	5.09	6.60	9.30	10.70	12.10	14.20	43.16
12mm	0.88	1.52	1.88	2.76	3.85	4.52	5.30	6.12	7.29	9.12	10.00	11.60	13.70	16.80	18.82	57.23
18mm	1.55	2.40	2.91	4.00	4.95	6.05	7.50	8.40	10.60	12.10	14.50	16.60	20.21	21.80	28.50	85.36

Options Add 15% for locators and layout Add 30% for Cladded fascia drawing

MOULDED ACRYLIC LETTERING (Including locators and paper template) * including gold and silver

Height	152mm	203mm	254mm	305mm	380mm	457mm	610mm
Colours*	4.45	6.98	10.92	12.40	16.40	20.80	34.90

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BUILT UP LETTERING

New trends in built-up lettering

With effects like LED proving to be more popular than ever, sign makers are examining new technologies and techniques to create built-up lettering with a unique finish.

Jemima Codrington spoke with three leading providers to learn more.

SignFab (UK) Ltd has the largest letter-making department in the UK. They employ the most number of skilled letter-makers, and as a result, work shift patterns to cover the demand from clients.

"Built up letters have never been so popular, and we are able to turn orders round faster and with a higher quality rate than ever before," says Simon Berry, Marketing and Business Development, SignFab (UK) Ltd. "From an end user's perspective, built up lettering offers an opportunity for a business to appear more prestigious and gives them a choice of materials and illumination. From a manufacturer's point of view, built up letters are still a skilled craftsman trade and is one of the few surviving old school techniques."

Simon reveals that the team still favour gas-fired iron heaters for soldering, and have two AXYZ CNC routers with 4m length beds that are continually running from 7am until 5pm each day of the week. When it comes to precision cutting for the letters, the process is meticulous. "We receive artwork from our sign company clients and ensure that stroke widths are suitable for required levels of illumination, and then we maximise the layouts for the faces to minimise waste material," he



Gas-fired heaters are used for soldering.

explains. "The letter faces are then cut on either our 4 kilowatt Amada laser machine which offers fast, precise cutting and gives sharp points on fonts where needed (and is very effective at small text height), or through one of the CNC routers. The letters are then built up and finished to a very high standard before being either painted or polished and then inspected before they are delivered."

According to Simon, the most popular material is descaled stainless steel, which is then powder coated to a RAL paint reference colour. However, he notes that the team is seeing a marked increase in brushed and polished stainless steel options, which offer



A letter begins to take shape.

a more premium look. The overwhelming majority of the letters made by SignFab (UK) Ltd end up outdoors in external installations.

Some end up as standalone letters that fix to a wall, some attached to a fascia sign, while others are illuminated with their own reliable LUMAIRE brand of LEDs. Built up lettering and LEDs share what Simon calls a "very special relationship," in that the depth will dictate the amount of LED modules required to achieve the desired amount of illumination whilst avoiding spotting. There are numerous things to consider when working with LEDs, such as the modules themselves, power output, lenses, whether the back tray is painted (and if so, what colour), the depth of return, thickness of acrylic face, translucent vinyl, digital print overlay, distance from fascia sign/wall, paint finish of reflected surface, and the level of diffusion required.

But although letters are primarily used outdoors, some can be installed in interior signage as well. "The size of most of the letters dictates that they are designed to be read from a reasonable distance away, but having said that, smaller sized letters with a shallow return can look very effective on an interior reception wall," says Simon. "Even thick white foam letters on a white wall offering just the oblique shadow effect is also a great way of displaying built ups."

www.signfab.co.uk

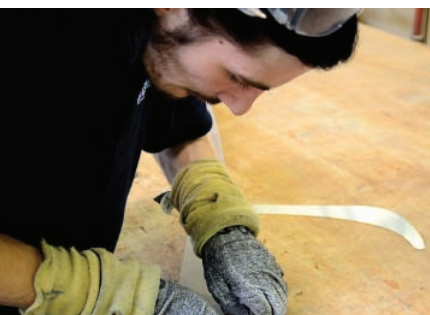
Simon's tips for upselling built-up lettering to end-users:

- Obtain a sample letter or two, because until a potential customer gets to see and feel a quality built-up letter up close and personal, it will always be a difficult sell. Alternatively you can show them a next-door competitor, which might help with creating envy!

- Small differences in heights and depths of return in built-up letters have huge cost implications, and this is amplified if you add LED modules. The thinner the letter, the more modules you need to avoid spotting so the cost ramps up. This is hard for an end-

user to grasp. If you can increase the depth by 20-50mm then you will see a huge difference in price. Make the customer decide if style or cost is the overriding factor. Letter heights can easily be reduced to save money - use kerning to increase wording span, but only so it's unnoticeable.

- Ask us! We have a huge amount of knowledge and know all of the options available to you without ruining the overall effect. If you are struggling to close a deal then speak to us, we can help.



SignFab (UK) Ltd have a number of letter-makers creating shapes for indoor and outdoor use (seen here).



Martin Lemiesz, Managing Director at Lemon Signs Ltd, has been pioneering a new way of building 3D letters.

The process starts with the insertion of a sheet of plastic extruded film, then the design file is sent through, and the printed layers are cut and glued together to build the letters. The materials are cut using a hot wire cutter as opposed to a CNC machine, and they are then filled using a special type of foam. "The foam used inside is similar to the foam used to insulate buildings, really light and really strong," says Martin. "We then paint it either for external or internal use, and glue all parts of the sign together. We are still testing various glues to see which has the best results. We have a couple of test letters outside in the elements now to compare and see which works best."

Letters are finished using an epoxy resin or durable outdoor lacquer to prolong the lifespan, which is on average about seven years, at which point the letter's exterior should be recoated. "In terms of the internal foam, that should last virtually forever," says Martin, adding that they are still playing around with ideas for halo illumination and other types of lighting.



"A foam built-up sign for Chelsea Football Club".

The foam letters can cost up to 50% less than these traditional methods, and the turnaround time is much quicker than producing something in steel for example. In fact, Lemon Signs completed one project within five days of the initial idea

being discussed. In addition to the lower cost, there is also the lower weight of the letters as an added benefit. "In terms of health and safety, I imagine the weight is about one tenth of a traditional built-up letter," he says.

A new era for built-up lettering

This method is popular in United States as well as Poland, the latter being the origin of the machine used to create the letters. "The climate there is much harsher than that of Britain, but they use that method because it's cost-effective. The fact that letters have been tried and tested in harsh winters and hot summers proves that they can withstand the elements, so all we need to do now is convince people here that it's a very good alternative to the traditional methods."



The Wilkinsons built-up letters are on display in Head Office.



The foam-filled letters cut with hot wire as opposed to CNC are new to the market.

Lemon Signs have completed a number of high-profile projects using this new method, including signage for the high street brand Wilkinsons. This project involved supplying numerous 3D logos for their exhibitions and conferences, with one now on display in their headquarters.

While the team continues to hone the new technique, they are convinced that it boasts numerous advantages and options for the future. But first, clients need to be won over. "People can be hesitant about the method as they've never seen it before," says Martin, "so it takes a bit of effort to drop some samples off and explain the process. However, once people see it's a really lightweight product, lighter than say a traditional stainless steel or extruded plastic letter and yet still the same quality, they're convinced."

www.lemonsigs.com

BUILT UP LETTERING

New trends in built-up lettering

According to Matt Driver, Director of Trade Signs, the art to perfecting built-up letters lies with finding the right combination of skill and technology.

"Technology has moved on dramatically, but is only just starting to appear in the UK over the past year or so," he says. "However, automation isn't a replacement. For us, we use a combination of laser technology, letter bending technology, experience and skill."

There are a number of letter bending machines coming across the channel from Europe, but according to Matt, the machines are not a total substitution for hand-craftsmanship. Trade Signs have two laser blades, one being a 2 ½ Kilowatt, and the other being a 1 ½ Kilowatt. With these, the team can cut thick material required for built up lettering, such as 5mm thick stainless steel. "We can cut just about any material with the right acrylic head and right filtration system," he adds.

Trade Signs stock and produce signage with one such material, LPFLEX. A material chiefly used for outdoor installations, it can be halo-lit or front-lit, and is available in a number of effects to provide complete versatility when dealing with numerous customer requests.

GE and Trade Signs announce new partnership

Matt notes that as the built-up lettering market has been in transition for over the past three to four years, with fairground-inspired lit signs (pictured) emerging as a recent trend.

LED built-up lettering is becoming increasingly popular, but when end-users compromise on price and end up with lower-end lighting, it can be detrimental to the signage. For example, the shelf-life of the bulbs is often less, meaning more call-outs and money spent on repairs, and the lights can lose their colour and degrade into an almost



LED built-up letters from Trade Signs.

bluish hue. Trade Signs deal with lit signage on a daily basis, spending over £10,000 a month on LEDs alone. Recently, Trade Signs have agreed a partnership with GE through which they will now only offer exclusively GE LED lighting for all signage. "We're incredibly happy about this new partnership," says Matt. "We know that we're dealing with the highest quality bulbs, all of which are supported with a five-year on-site parts warranty. The expected limit of degradation is somewhere between 25-30% maximum, so the signs retain their luminescence."

When it comes to selecting the lights for signage then, GE will be the exclusive choice going forward. When it comes to recommending materials for built-up letters

however, Matt and the team are always quick to advise clients about the right quality substrate for the installation at hand. "For example, if we receive a request for 5 metre high stainless steel letters, we know they're going to be too heavy and collapse under their own weight," he says. "Once a sign goes to a certain size it has to be aluminium."

Trade Signs are no stranger to large signs, having recently completed a large 3D arrow in Exchange Quay in Manchester. The sign, the biggest they have ever made, weighs around 15 tonnes, measures 9m x 9m, and has resulted in the team being shortlisted for four British Sign Awards.

www.tradesignsuk.com



Fairground-inspired LED built-up letters have emerged as a new trend.



An 'Out of this World' experience

Visitors to the city's Science Centre are able to explore the entire cosmos from the comfort of its newly refurbished Planetarium, thanks to the work and ingenuity of Signs Express (Glasgow).

The Planetarium has been totally transformed to a state-of-the-art full-dome digital planetarium as part of an ongoing series of improvements to the Science Centre. As part of this project, Signs Express (Glasgow) has had the challenging task of organising and installing the department's expansive array of new displays and signage.

The installation of the new digital system here at Glasgow Science Centre will help us to ignite curiosity and exceed the expectations of modern learners with inspirational, real-time content and state-of-the-art technology.



A state of the art digital exhibition.

There were numerous elements to the work carried out by Signs Express (Glasgow). This included five floor-to-ceiling banners each measuring 4.7m x 2m; printed wall graphics; hoardings; and a double-sided suspended lightbox. The largest part of the project was the creation of a 28 metre long, three metre high illuminated installation formed from two lightboxes measuring 12m x 3m and 16m x 3m respectively.

The project took many months of planning and execution. The team at Signs Express (Glasgow) has worked tirelessly since June 2015 to design and create a functional solution to the Science Centre's needs. Their efforts have been rewarded with a 'stunning exhibition that will benefit everyone that walks through the doors'.

Michael Kane, Signs Express (Glasgow's) Project Manager, said: "We really enjoy working with the Science Centre because they push us by providing original and innovative designs. We always go the extra mile to make sure that we meet, if not exceed their expectations. I am extremely proud of myself and all of my colleagues who have been involved in this project because we have utilised all of our extensive skills to complete it to the highest standard."

Signs Express (Glasgow) was the favoured signage company for this project because of their previous work at the Glasgow Tower, also owned by the Glasgow Science Centre, which was opened last year. It is the tallest free-standing building in Scotland and the tallest fully rotating free-standing building in the world.

John Brown, Astronomer Royal for Scotland, said: "The installation of the new digital system here at Glasgow Science Centre will help us to ignite curiosity and exceed the expectations of modern learners with inspirational, real-time content and state-of-the-art technology. It will be a fantastic resource for the people of Glasgow and beyond."

www.signsexpress.co.uk/glasgow



Signs Express (Glasgow) have worked for many months to achieve the stunning work that has transformed the planetarium.

PROJECT News

Eye-catching Graphics from Signs Express (Sheffield)

Wall graphics from Signs Express (Sheffield) have transformed the atmosphere of the Eye Department at Sheffield Children's Hospital.

Signs Express (Sheffield) has a long-running relationship with The Children's Hospital Charity and have become the 'go-to-guys' for any signage projects the hospital. The latest project that the centre was involved with was in collaboration with Artfelt, The Children's Hospital Charity's art programme. This focuses on making sure that the spaces and walls at the children's hospital feature artwork that will engage and distract the young patients.

Artfelt works closely with local artists, and for this project they commissioned Illustrator and Graphic Designer, Nick Deakin, to liven up the space. Using bold colours and simplistic shapes, Nick has created an entire world of characters that run through the en-

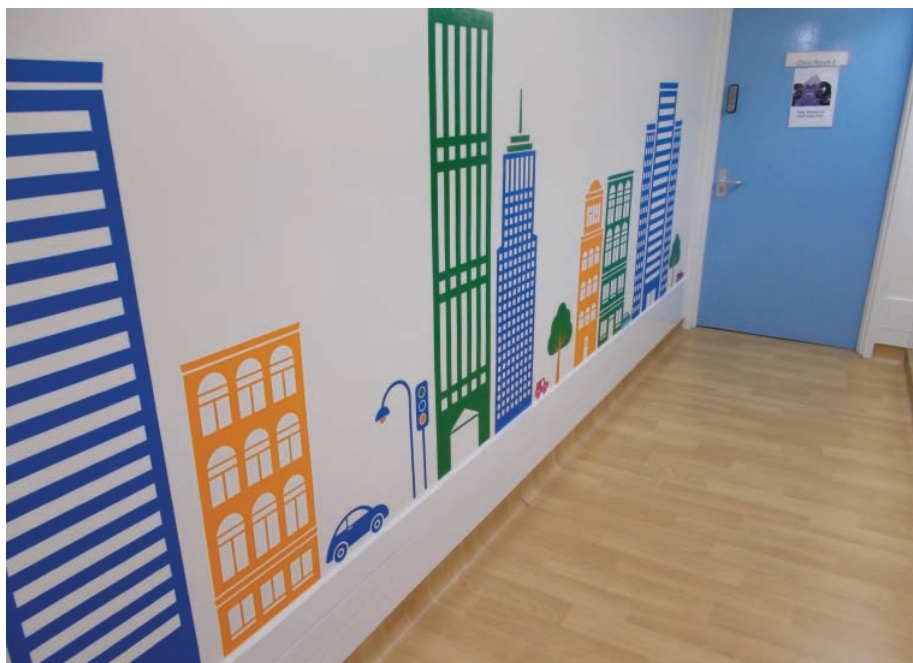
tire department. Nick wanted to generate a friendly environment for the families that have to visit the wing. "Artfelt and myself decided very quickly that we wanted a group of friends as our characters and we carried that theme throughout the department.

"When designing something like this, you have to put yourself in the mind of a child going into, what is potentially, a scary situation. I knew that I needed to create something that would make the whole experience much nicer for them. Now, they can see the characters in the waiting room, and then they can follow them through their journey around the department," says Nick.

The team at Signs Express (Sheffield) worked with Nick's designs and spent many hours vectorising these in order to cut the intricate designs out of self-adhesive vinyl using a plotter. The team's work is featured

across the large waiting room, six orthoptics rooms, four consulting rooms, a treatment room, a quiet room and a visual fields room.

In the orthoptic rooms the illustrations serve a specific clinical purpose of giving the young patients something to focus on during eye examinations. Signs Express (Sheffield) also specially turned some of the designs into window graphics as well as ceiling graphics, to give the children something to focus on.



The creative projects that we have been doing at the hospital are all purposed to make the place seem less like a hospital, so less frightening for the children who have to go there

Steve Morris, owner of Signs Express (Sheffield) said: "The creative projects that we have been doing at the hospital are all purposed to make the place seem less like a hospital, so less frightening for the children who have to go there. We used a lot of prime colours and a special half-tone effect on the vinyl, which is created by using lots of small dots of colour. This means that the wall colour shows through and makes the design much more interesting."

The centre is 'very pleased' with the outcome of their hard work and the special designs created by Nick have worked fabulously in the environment. With excellent reports already coming in from parents and children alike, the project can be considered a success.

www.signsexpress.co.uk/sheffield

Games is 'jobs winner' for Lancashire firm

A specialist sign firm is 'racing ahead' thanks to winning the Sainsbury's 2015 School Games contract.

HD Signs has doubled in size after getting a major contract to supply all the signs and banners for the games, which were held in Manchester in September. The contract has enabled the firm to take on five new members of staff.

The company, which also did work for the London 2012 Olympics and the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, produced three and a half miles of mesh and PVC banners for the games.

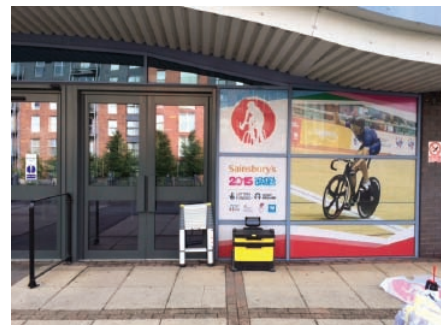
They also produced 2150 signs and banners for the event, which were put in place across all the venues for the games in Manchester such as: The National Cycling Centre; Bolton Arena; Manchester Aquatics

Centre; Regional Athletics Centre; the Phones 4 U Arena; The Armitage; the Indoor Tennis Centre; The Sugden Centre and the Regional Squash Centre.

Jan Korab, HD Signs & Display managing director said: "Winning the highly competitive tender for this year's Sainsbury's 2015 School Games was testament to our approach for this project and shows how far we have come as a company.

"The contract, along with others that we have secured in recent months, has allowed us to double our workforce.

"As part of this hugely prestigious contract we became part of an event management team, where we have been involved in months of planning, preparation, production and installation.



Winning the Sainsbury's contract meant HD Signs doubled in size.

"For this project we were given the responsibility for not only the creation of all artwork, but the large scale production of the banners and all signage.

"In addition we installed all our own work and were tasked with the de-rigging of all venues at the conclusion of the games."

HD Signs' specialised five-metre printer worked non-stop to print a total of 10 tonnes of banners and signs. The firm then spent weeks installing the signs and banners across the nine sites.

The Sainsbury's 2015 School Games, supported by National Lottery funding from Sport England and delivered by the Youth Sport Trust, are a major multi-sport event for some of the most talented young athletes across the UK.

From 3-6 September, 1600 athletes competed in 12 sports in venues across Manchester and experienced a 'spectacular' opening and closing ceremony, Athletes' Village, and a targeted education programme which included anti-doping advice and guidance.

www.2015schoolgames.com



HD Signs printed 10 tonnes of banners and signs.

CDS rock!

Crystal Display Solutions (CDS) have installed one of their transparent displays at a Hard Rock Café in Orlando. They chose the screens for their popular restaurant in Florida to showcase classic music memorabilia from The Beatles.

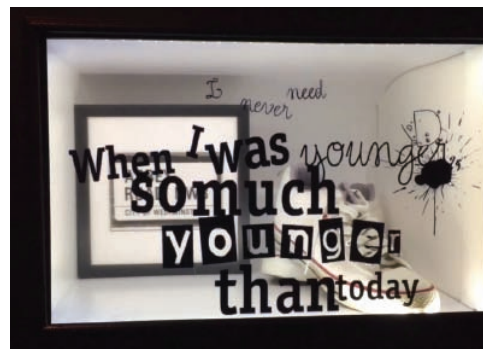
A 21.5" transparent case shows a pair of sneakers and an Abbey Road sign.

Many of CDS' customers have found these high-impact transparent displays are unmatched when it comes to making a powerful impression of a message on passers-by, says CDS.

CDS Managing Director, Chris Bartram said: "We are always grateful when our

customers share the end result with us. Transparent technology is constantly growing and becoming increasingly popular. Over the years we have noticed the increase, from being key suppliers in the market from the start. We are always keen to assist and give advice to these companies with their ideas and designs for their projects. And we feel we can offer the best of both worlds that customers will see when they receive excellent products and unbeatable service from here in the UK."

crystal-display.com



PROJECT News

Stylos finger posts enhance pedestrian experience in Rotherham

When Rotherham MBC decided to update, expand and co-ordinate Town Centre pedestrian wayfinding signage, they chose the Stylos finger post system made by William Smith.

"Having worked with William Smith and used the Stylos system in the past, it was the logical choice to continue the partnership," says Rotherham MBC's Richard Pardy.



Over the years a number of changes had taken place in the town centre, including the relocation of the council services and the library to a single dedicated building. So they reviewed existing pedestrian finger post signs, with a view to improve and update the town centre finger post signing strategy.

They decided to replace them because of the changes required to update information, and the effects of wear and tear and vandalism over the years.

Around 45 new Stylos finger post units have been installed with new arm and cap designs, with bolder text in white on a black background. A protective overlamine film was added to enable the removal of graffiti without damage to the sign face. Base collars were also added to complement the style of lighting columns and bollards used in the town centre.

"The new design provides a clean and consistent look to the wayfinding scheme in Rotherham, yet it's in keeping with the style of the town centre," says Richard. "The increase in the number of signs aims at closing gaps found in the old route system. And also directs pedestrians to destinations further afield that were previously either not signed or didn't exist when the original pedestrian wayfinding scheme was implemented."

The Stylos finger posts have also been adapted to accommodate 3-D printed touch points which contain QR codes and have NFC chips embedded within them, enabling visitors to access 'Hello City and Shop Local' information.



Stylos is a flexible yet robust and vandal resistant system that is easy to install. It can be designed to fit in with any environment, whether rural, urban, historic or modern.

Stylos fingerpost and display panel signs can be supplied as complete units or in component form, ready to assemble.

www.stylossignsystem.co.uk
www.williamsmith.co.uk

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Ritrama customise new Fiat 500

Ritrama's "Second Skin" collection was used to customise the exterior of the new Fiat 500. Five graphics were designed to 'dress in line with elegance, fantasy, joy and humour' says the company. Ritrama Spa, as a partner, is the company that supplies films and application technology.

"We are very satisfied; after the presentation in one single day we sold 1,500 cars. An unmistakable sign that customers like the cars customisation! In particular, they appreciated the external restyling changes, the new dashboard and the new customisations with Second Skin."

"None has ever been trendier than this lady!" is the slogan on Fiat's website. At the beginning of July they presented the new 500 to the national and international press during an event involving over 350 journalists. Nothing was left to chance, they said, as they restyle affected both the interiors and the exteriors of the Fiat icon.

Over the last two years research and development at Ritrama worked with the marketing department; the design centre; and the engineering and production departments of Fiat to refine the customisation. It all began in 2014 when Fiat contacted Ritrama asking for a presentation on the car wrapping technique to better understand the market and its potential. The meeting aroused a great interest in the company of Turin, who decided to go ahead with this programme.

Together with Fiat Style Centre, Ritrama assessed the feasibility of various creative renderings and chose those to be put into production. After an internal screening, some graphics were selected to decorate five Fiat 500, which were presented at the last Paris Motor Show, to test the popularity among visitors. "The results were be-

yond any expectation, a sign that the market was ready to welcome this new business opportunity. Thanks to the car wrapping consumers can express their personality by choosing a car they identify with," says a spokesperson.

The first months of 2015 was a period of intense activity and collaboration for both companies, to further refine the process. Five graphics were selected for the new Fiat 500. The Ritrama car wrapping films were certified according to the Fiat specifications.

The partnership with Fiat went further. Ritrama developed a five-weeks training on the application processes for the Fiat staff involved in the project.

The Fiat management feedback was positive: "We are very satisfied; after the presentation in one single day we sold 1,500 cars. An unmistakable sign that customers like the cars customisation! In particular, they appreciated the external restyling changes, the new dashboard and the new customisations with Second Skin."

Customers can make even further customisations such as two tone, or choosing small or medium.



NAVY



ETHNIC



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COMICS



Octink helps London's Air Ambulance with new fundraising campaign

Octink recently worked with London's Air Ambulance near Bank, as it campaigns for Londoners to donate towards a second emergency medical helicopter for the city.

Designed by Octink's in-house creative team, the eye-catching graphics adorn the shop front style windows. They feature a call to action specifically arranged to attract the attention of the numerous passers-by, and create as much impact as possible. The graphics are printed on Contra Vision® see through material, which creates a vibrant advertisement from the outside but enables the people inside the office to see out and maintain privacy.



The eye catching graphics were designed to attract attention to this good cause.

We were delighted to be able to help London's Air Ambulance with their life-saving efforts and hope that the stand-out graphics encourage people to use their mobile devices to donate.

"We have an incredible footfall of people walking past our office daily; people heading to work, shoppers and visitors to the Sky Garden. We felt that by using our window space more effectively it would help to raise awareness of our charity; the life-saving work we carry out and how people can support us," says Charlotte Smith, Development Marketing Manager.

She said: "It's been great working with Octink on the project, their advice and experience of creating impactful visuals on innovative materials has enabled us to produce something with a real wow-factor. And we really appreciate their support by providing the work at a much reduced rate to help us with the campaign."

Mike Freely, Managing Director at Octink, said: "We were delighted to be able to help London's Air Ambulance with their life-saving efforts and hope that the stand-out graphics encourage people to use their mobile devices to donate."

In its largest ever fundraising drive, London's Air Ambulance is hoping to raise £6 million, of which £2 million is still needed, to acquire and sustain a second helicopter and extend its daylight flying hours for five years. The charity is urging the 10 million people who live, work and holiday in the capital to donate at yourhelicopter.london or text HELICOPTER to 70800 to donate £5.

The window graphics will be updated by Octink as the campaign progresses, which you can also follow at #YourHelicopter.

www.octink.com



The art work was printed onto see through material, so people working inside could see out without losing privacy.



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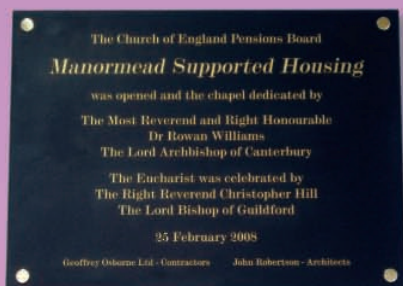


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British Council entrance gets makeover

W&Co was awarded the task to brighten up British Council's entrance way to their main offices in SW London, working in close co-ordination with Artillery Architects.

The entrance to their building is located on the back wall of a fairly deep and dark undercroft, which results in visitors not being able to easily find the entrance.

So to increase their visibility, W&Co were asked to design, manufacture and install some large built-up and flat cut stainless steel logos fixed at high level next to the entrance doors. Accompanied by a series of bespoke external LED illuminated poster cases and fret cut illuminated signage wrapping around several of the undercroft's concrete columns.

The large bespoke poster display cases were laid back to back complete with concealed LED accent lighting to the rear edges to give a floating effect. The poster cases have been built with longevity in mind, with toughened glass front panels and hinged doors and a hidden locking mechanism.

The British Council have the flexibility to change the posters themselves for upcoming events and marketing throughout the year and have been 'extremely pleased' with the final result.

The British Council is an organisation specialising in international educational and cultural opportunities. It is registered as a charity both in England and Wales and Scotland.



Custom illuminated Poster Case.



The British Council's custom sign light box.



The cases were designed to be easily changed.

Absen 'flying high' with digital airport signage

Absen LED panels are to be found in an ever increasing number of locations, thanks to the opening of a European base in 2013. The latest venue to benefit from Absen's technology are three major Norwegian airports.

Described by Absen European Managing Director, Ruben Rengel, as "one of the most accomplished digital signage solutions in a European Airport to date," the three large-scale Airport screens in Stavanger, Bergen and Trondheim 'cement the relationship' between Absen and Clear Channel Norway (CCN). CCN are the leading Scandinavian out-of-home advertising company, who have already chosen Absen solutions for several installations in Norway.

Using Absen's AI03 3.9mm pixel pitch panels, a 57 square metre screen was recently installed in the luggage arrival hall in Stavanger airport (Sola) on the west coast. Another 20 square metre screen was deployed in Bergen (Flesland) in the departure lounge. While a seven square metre screen was fitted in the luggage arrival zone in Trondheim airport, Værnes. Content on each screen is run by a computer and a special graphic card with four DVI outputs.

"The Stavanger installation was a wish from CCN to install a high resolution, high impact screen for the end user, in an attempt to satisfy and attract high profile advertisers," says Ruben. "The 57 square metre screen not only gives a great opportunity for advertisers to get their message across; it serves as a fantastic reference for CCN expertise in providing state of the art digital signage solutions."

Although CCN has contracts with seven airports in Norway for digital signage



Attracting attention in Vaernes.

solutions, LCD has traditionally been the panel of choice for the installers. Until CCN discovered the potential of Absen's LED panels. "Image quality on the screen is undoubtedly one of the best we've seen in the world," says Jonas Michael, Head of Digital Development and Operations at Clear Channel Norway.

"We have tested a lot of brands and we realised that Absen had one of the best quality LED panels on the market at a price that is competitive. So the decision to deploy LED screens of various sizes for these airport projects was a no brainer."

As several car manufacturers and oil industry companies had already lined up to advertise on the large 57sqm screen in Stavanger Airport, the pressure was on CCN to find a panel of the highest quality within its budget constraints.

Just as important for CCN, was reliability. One of the methods with which Absen has enabled CCN to enjoy such peace of mind is by developing a SNMP (single network management protocol) monitoring solution. The monitoring protocol, which counts 3,500 digital assets in Norway (switches routers, internet connectors, panels, screens), gives information about LED panel failure, heat emission, and other statistics that are then sent to the CCN remote monitoring server.

"The Absen LED panels are not just well performing, they offer reliability as standard; and we can prove it with Absen's SNMP system," says Michael. "Because we can see that the failure rate of the LED panels are extremely low, it makes CCN even more confident in investing in the Absen brand. The SNMP is a great example of Absen's capacity to listen to feedback and come back with even better solutions. To be able to count on such a level of performance and reliability gives us peace of mind."

Michael said: "Our customers are delighted to have the opportunity to advertise on such high quality screens. And from our perspective, we've got full confidence in Absen for presales and after installation support. This really is a fruitful partnership and, we're very pleased to have such a good supplier."



The digital screen in Flesland.

3M transforms spaces at Garth Hill College

3M, together with graphic design specialist Surface View, has transformed spaces at Garth Hill College in Bracknell into 'inspirational and thought-provoking' areas for both staff and students. Colourful and intricate artwork was designed; printed on to hard-wearing 3M Scotchcal Graphic Film and installed throughout a large covered space between the main buildings of the college.

3M Scotchcal Graphic Film was the 'ideal' choice for the floor graphics, due to its hard-wearing properties and an ability to be applied directly to brick surfaces

The inner link at the college comprised a large area that provided an opportunity to create a more inspiring environment. One of their innovative design features, was a life-sized model of Doctor Who's Tardis where pupils can enter and record feedback on teaching and learning in a video diary. Working together as a team, 3M Commercial Graphics, Garth Hill College and Surface View developed design concepts for pillar wraps, floor graphics and textured surfaces. As well as graphics for smaller pillars to create designs that work



to present aspirational messages, which express the college's values and the experiences of the students.

When they selected suitable materials for each design element, vinyl was considered to be the ideal choice for a number of reasons. The pillar wraps that depicted themes such as meadow flowers and geometrical shapes containing intricate images were suited to and configured for

printed vinyl applications. 3M Scotchcal Graphic Film was the 'ideal' choice for the floor graphics, due to its hard-wearing properties and an ability to be applied directly to brick surfaces. For enhanced safety, the 3M film incorporated a non-slip laminated surface.

www.3m.co.uk/graphicsolutions

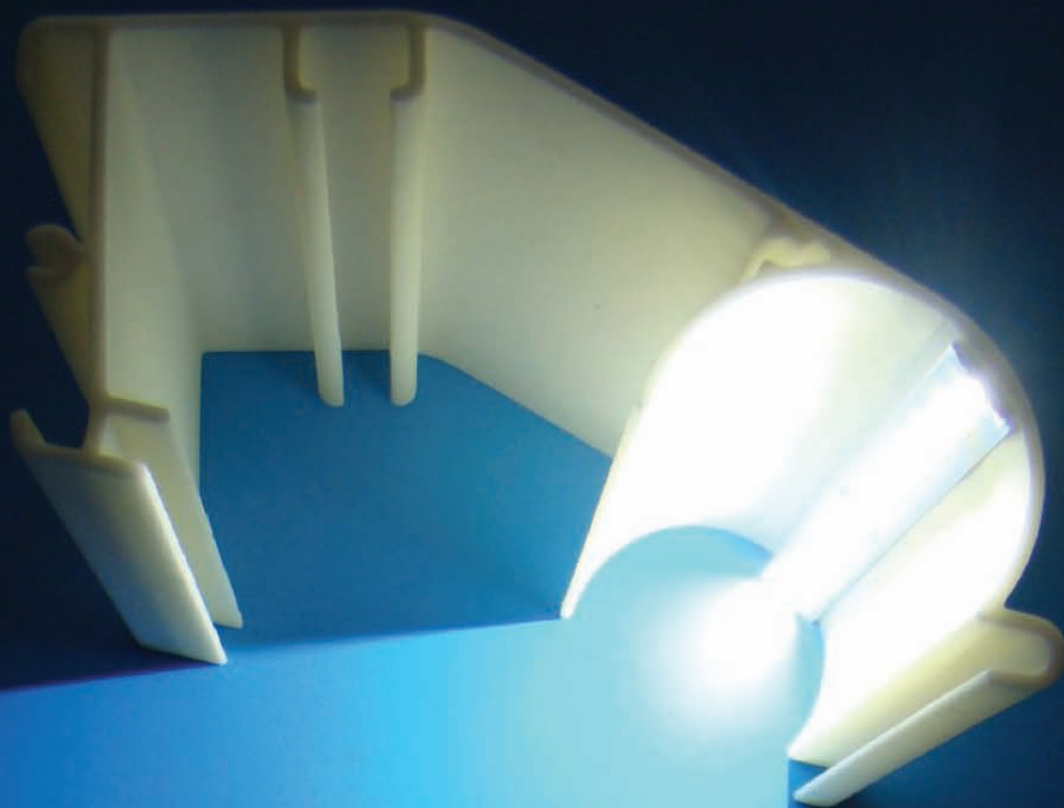


A life-sized model of Dr Who's Tardis.



One of the pillars wrapped in colourful geometric film.

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	BRIGHTNESS	EFFICACY	CONSUMPTION
Hyperbright	2,024 lm/m	120 lm/W	16.8 W/m
Superbright	1,410 lm/m	127 lm/W	11 W/m
Ecobright	1,040 lm/m	127 lm/W	8.2 W/m

Insight were the innovators of extruded aluminium trough lighting over 30 years ago, so you can feel secure, combined with a five year warranty on LEDs. Costs start at just £16 per foot.

New kid on the block making big impact on the trough light market!

For too long the trough light market has been dominated by a small number of suppliers, says Spectron LED. This they say limits the choice available to customers in terms of advanced technology and price competition.

Spectron LED are a specialist LED company selling goods predominantly to signmakers nationwide and internationally. They have over 30 years' experience working within the sign industry, and it is their knowledge and experience in signmaking and lighting that has enabled them to design the 'perfect' LED trough light. Not only is it tailored to meet all sign-fixing requirements, but it also incorporates super bright LED illumination. As well as meeting all function requirements, Spectron LED's Lumenlinear-X trough light looks attractive. It stands out from all others on the market with its sleek, compact elliptical design, and ultra-light-weight body.

Spectron LED have been supplying the LUMENLINEAR range of LED trough light to large and small signage firms for a number of years. They recently supplied Queensgate Shopping Centre in Peterborough with almost 100 metres, incorporating DALI interface drivers to work alongside the centre's existing lighting control system. Spectron also supply Blackpool Council and their annual 'Illuminations'.

The cost of the Lumenlinear-X LED trough light is considerably lower than simi-



Almost 100 metres of trough lights were installed at the Queensgate Shopping Centre.

lar products on the market; though when you see the product it is clear that quality has not been compromised, says the company. "We achieve this by using a remote power supply unit which enables us to use the slimmest profile body around. Less weight also allows

the brackets to be slimmer and more aesthetically pleasing. By using less parts, simplifying the manufacturing process and implementing our purpose built LED modules we are able to offer our customers excellent value for money," says Managing Director Ivan Lew.

It is clear to see that Spectron LED are proud of what they have achieved in the Lumenlinear-X. A lot of hard work and dedication has gone into the design and manufacture of the trough light - years of continuous improvement and regularly implementing the latest and most efficient LED modules; optimising design; and increasing optional bracket designs. Future plans include the development of a fully integrated SOLAR POWER system called the SPECTRON SOLAR. It is expected to be fully integrated before the end of the year, with design work already complete and on-going testing currently underway. They say the cost will be considerably lower than any other solar powered system on the market, so will be affordable.

All in all Spectron LED seem to be making a big impact on the trough light market and with a trough light as good as theirs, it's not hard to understand why. They have the passion, experience and dedication to be able to deliver products that both look great and function exactly as you want them to.



Westgate Arcade, Queensgate Peterborough

lumenlinear-X

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DIGITAL PRINT MEDIA

Digital print media feature

New and exciting substrates are enabling signmakers to create anything from wall coverings to floor decals to...coffins? Jemima Codrington spoke with industry leaders to find out more about the endless possibilities digital print media provides.

Michael Ingram, Sales Director, dorotape (UK), reveals that the digital print media sector has evolved significantly in recent years, particularly where vinyl is concerned.

"Looking at digital vinyl specifically, things have changed very much in recent years, and I'd say particularly the level of price has been the primary thing," he says. "The technology has changed in the industry, which when combined with the reducing cost of some of the commodity products like the monomeric self-adhesive vinyls, has had a knock-on effect that's ultimately resulted in cheaper prices for the end-user."

dorotape stock a number of products to satiate increasing demand in a changing market, such as a number of bespoke window and glass digital print vinyls. These include a range of glass etch effect vinyls in both wet and dry apply. "We have a fantastically optically clear polyester film with a solvent-based adhesive, which are commonly used for high-end corporate identity and branding jobs, as well as to create high-impact retail graphics," adds Michael. For signmakers with the capacity to print in white ink, there is the opportunity to print an image with a white background to make it really stand out. The product, called Perfectly Clear, is therefore ideal for such high-impact window graphics, and is applied with a solvent-based adhesive. "It's so clear, you cannot tell it's there - it looks like the glass itself is printed."

Also available is a film called Micro Tac, which is a dry-apply glueless film that doesn't rely on cling or adhesive at all. Instead, it has more of a nano-structure on the reverse side of the film that grips to the window. "Some people refer to it as a gecko film, because the technology is the same as the foot of a gecko that allows them to cling to smooth surfaces even on the vertical," adds Michael.

Easy-change graphics are all the rage

With clients in retail and hospitality sectors particularly looking to use window and wall graphics for promotional purposes, there's a keener interest than ever in products that can be easily installed and just as easily removed.

"With anything applied to glass, if it's got a regular adhesive on it can potentially be a problem to take off," says Michael. To combat this, dorotape stock a number of niche speciality products that can reduce this problem. The graphics have no problems sticking, but can easily be removed to allow for quick changeovers. "With a quick wipe down of the glass, the new graphics can go on."

For signmakers, vinyls need to look good, be practical for application, and straightforward for removal.



The ASLAN DFP 46 digital printing film is used for outdoor floor graphics



Floor graphics created with the versatile ASLAN DFP 46.



Aslan DFP 47 is used to create indoor floor graphics.

These are not just where window displays are concerned, but also for another increasingly popular application – flooring. dorotape stocks Aslan floor graphic vinyls that can be used indoors, outdoors, and even on wet floor areas such as leisure centres.

Reflecting on the current state of digital print media, Michael not only discusses the quality of the products available, but also the variety. "It never ceases to amaze me at how hard it must have been in years gone by to create something quickly and cost-effectively compared with how easy it is today - things have just advanced so much," he says. "There is even a market now for digitally printed coffins. Digital print media from the moment we're born is impacting every part of our lives – and now deaths!"

www.dorotape.co.uk

"Digital print media offers a world of full colour signage and advertising possibilities to sign makers," says Debbie Astle, Marketing Manager, GrafiTyp UK Ltd.

"It allows for the use of photographs or other outstanding artwork to be incorporated into signs, vehicle graphics and wraps, banners, floor graphics, pavement signage, exhibition graphics – in fact any signage and can be produced quickly on a variety of substrates with various finishes and lifespans."

GrafiTyp offers a range of digital print media in the GrafiPrint and GrafiWrap ranges to cater for every application type, and this media is manufactured by their parent company in Belgium to the strictest regulations, which conform to REACH standards. GrafiTyp have been manufacturing print media for almost 20 years, and their offerings include premium printable monomeric, polymeric, special formula cast and PVC-Free self-adhesives. Various features of the printable vinyls include grey or extra grey adhesive, which prevents show-through, and air escape adhesive, which aids in application and bubble prevention. "There is a range of corresponding laminates available too, which protect and enhance prints to keep them looking pristine, protect from UV rays and increase the lifespan," says Debbie.

The ever-increasing array of products on offer aims to cater to the ever-rising inter-

est in using digital media and substrates to create signage. "The interest in digitally printed media continues - as they say, a picture paints a thousand words! Some of the smallest sign making businesses have invested in a digital printer to offer this service alongside existing cut vinyl signage," says Debbie. "Being able to offer this service and

provide outstanding colour prints, light box graphics, signs and garment transfers means they will soon recover the outlay cost of a printer."

GrafiTyp stock a wide range of garment films for digital printing produced by Siser in Italy, and these are an alternative to the wide range of CAD cut materials on offer. After printing, the design can be heat transferred onto garments and other textiles in the normal way. GrafiTyp also supply Roland DG machines, with print and cut machines such as those in the popular Roland VersaCAMM ranges being an excellent investment for sign makers interested in digital print media. "The VSi range allows for the contour cutting of prints, labels, decals as well as garment films, and is available in various ink configurations, too."

The variety and flexibility of digital print media

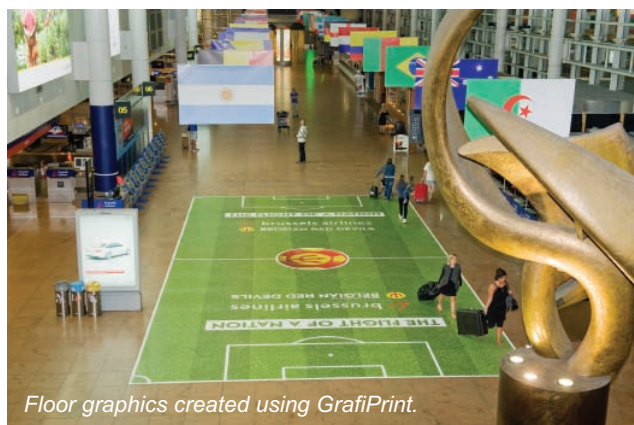
According to Debbie, digitally printed signage has become increasingly popular in the retail trade.

"What better way to show off your products than on full colour window graphics, vehicle wraps on delivery vehicles, taxis, buses and trains, floor graphics or posters?" she says. "The list of options is endless." GrafiTyp digital print products have been used in a number of interesting ways, such as on the tail of aircraft, racecars, boats, on the floor of an airport, and even on external applications on buildings. GrafiTyp take pride in taking on board customer feedback, which in turn shapes the production of all digital printing and vinyl products. For example, in response to an increasing focus on sustainability from sign makers and end users alike, one of their most recent additions is Colibri GEF environmentally-friendly printable films and laminates (as well as a cut vinyl range). "These films are a perfect alternative to regular films when being 'green' is a required specification," says Debbie.

www.grafityp.co.uk



The Roland VersaCAMM VS-540i can print onto digital print media.



Floor graphics created using GrafiPrint.



Exterior airport graphics created using GrafiPrint.

DIGITAL PRINT MEDIA

Digital print media feature

In order to provide sign makers with more flexibility than that of just straightforward vinyl, DEP stock a range of durable digital print products that are ideal for use in a variety of applications.

Among them are specialist coated films and self-adhesive films designed to make it easy to install temporary signage, such as window decals for seasonal use in retail.

Numerous manufacturers are offering clear films that can be applied to shop fronts or in-store onto glass, and removed easily when the promotion or the sale is finished. "The great thing about digital print media is it gives you as a sign maker so much more flexibility," says Richard Kirchner, Head of Marketing. "It enables you to do much shorter runs, so for example, you can design and print just one of something if that's what is required."

DEP will be launching a polypropylene synthetic material with an eco-solvent coating, along with metalized coated polyesters. "We see this as something that sign makers would be interested in for things like window displays," he says. "Window films is another area that seems to have grown hugely over the past two to three years." In addition to retail, industries like pubs, clubs, hotels, gyms and leisure centres are also fast adopters of this type of signage.

"We have materials that are easily compatible with a flatbed UV printer, so signmakers can do some really interesting designs."



A IJSP 180 VC eco-solvent print example.



Graphics printed with an HP Indigo printer onto DEP Synplas InkJet polypropylene SPC 250 micron with Indigo printable coating.



A poster printed on Synplas Inkjet Polypropylene IJSP 180 micron with pigment ink coating.

DEP has also begun to develop removal adhesive systems, which allow for simpler removal without being too easy to take off. It's striking this sort of balance that will give signmakers better options with more durable substrates. Other innovations include tear-resistant materials that can go through eco-solvent printers for banners, and eyelet-free materials that can make it quicker to make and recycle this sort of soft signage. "One of the problems with vinyls is they tend to have to be eyeleted, and you can't recycle those very easily," says Richard. "This material we're using for banners can be recycled straight away without having to worry about removing the eyelets."

We have materials that are easily compatible with a flatbed UV printer, so signmakers can do some really interesting designs."

www.depltd.co.uk

Digital print media feature

For Francesco Deruvo, Sales Area Manager, APA Spa., the rise in variance in digital print media has enabled sign makers to enter new territory when it comes to the graphics they can produce.

"The real change that digital print media has created in the industry is that it removes the 'imagination limit' that used to be there before," he says. "Before if you needed to express a visual concept, you had certain limits when it came to things like colours. Now, digital print allows the customer to think about the project or a concept and visualize it, and recreate it from the mind to the computer, and from the computer onto a digital print support."

Digital print media has enabled sign makers to create graphics that catch the eye of the public, and is commonly used to create high-impact advertisements. While window and POS displays are popular, Francesco reveals that digital wrapping media is also having a huge influence on the market. "Wall graphics are also really growing at the moment," he adds, noting that APA provides a number of vinyls that can be used to create these kinds of displays. Vinyls to create floor graphics are also rising in prominence. "A sign maker can create a graphic that can be protected by a laminate, and allow people to walk on it without damaging

the print," explains Francesco.

Vinyl and versatility

It can be seen that clients in the retail and hospitality sectors have been early adopters of digital print media graphics, and these displays are therefore commonly associated with these sectors.

While this is certainly the case, Francesco notes that just about any company can reap the benefits of this type of signage. "These may be the sectors in which we're seeing this the most, but it really is my opinion that this is a market that has no limit," he says. "All sectors can utilise and take advantage of digital print media."

To cater to these different sectors, APA has the AP/990-WL roll, a vinyl that so far has proved to be a great success. "It can be applied on the walls to create a graffiti effect," says Francesco. "That's something that has been used a lot and something that allows you to create a wonderful, realistic effect using either a gloss or matt laminate." They also carry grip laminates that can be applied to the floor and walked on without being damaged. At APA, there is an increasing focus on listening to customer demand so as to be able to develop highly specialised print media products that allow sign



Francesco De Ruvo,
Sales Area Manager. 

makers to create whatever they need. "When it comes to digital print media there are many different opportunities, and what we are trying to do more and more is develop products that are going to be dedicated to specialised use," he says. "This has already happened with the wall and with the floor, along with what we could call the "normal" kind of digital print medias that are already used on flat or curved surfaces."

With a number of films for print and lamination already available, APA are committed to developing this product range to further help sign makers explore, design and invent in the field of digital print signage.

www.apaspa.com

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DIGITAL PRINT MEDIA

According to Andrew Simmons, Sales Director at Soyang Europe, there has been a significant increase in the use of digital print media in hospitality applications.

"Looking at the exhibition and hospitality sectors in particular, we're seeing a big market for both indoor and outdoor promotional media that has grown significantly over



Intercoat rolls at the factory.



Intercoat PVC self-adhesive print, available from Soyang.

the past two years," he says. "There's so much more choice now for sign makers with materials for wallcoverings and flooring media, so the possibilities are open-ended."

Simmons also notes that Soyang has seen vast growth in textiles, which are being used for interior design, exhibition graphics and retail point of sale. They consequently stock products suitable for these and other common signage applications, as well as substrates that are suitable for short-term promotional graphics and for more permanent installations that last from three to five years.

One key benefit of digitally printed textiles is ease of portability, as sign makers don't have to worry about using boards to

"Most print companies would be able to use products such as our So Magic wallcovering range and move into markets like hospitality and tourism straight away, because they are fairly straightforward applications"

cover large areas and can instead use something that can fit into a frame system and be folded for transport. This is particularly beneficial for retail installations, as graphics can be applied easily by store workers ensuring quick turn-around for promotional campaigns and low labour costs as fitters are not required on site. "The simpler it is to swap out graphics," says Simmons, "the more opportunity there is to reprint new messages, which of course is a great way of driving print business too."

Soyang Europe scours the world to come up with new products and present them to sign makers. "Most print companies would be able to use products such as our So Magic wallcovering range and move into markets like hospitality and tourism straight away, because they are fairly straightforward applications," says Simmons. "Installing wallcovering is as simple as it is at home and with our products printable on solvent, latex and UV machines, there's a great chance a sign maker will already have the technology to produce a whole new revenue stream."



Floor graphics created with G Floor from Soyang.

www.soyang.co.uk

Papergraphics agrees deal with CWT worktools

Papergraphics has agreed an exclusive distribution partnership with CWT worktools, to distribute its flat bed applicator and linear cutter products to the UK, Holland and Belgium markets.

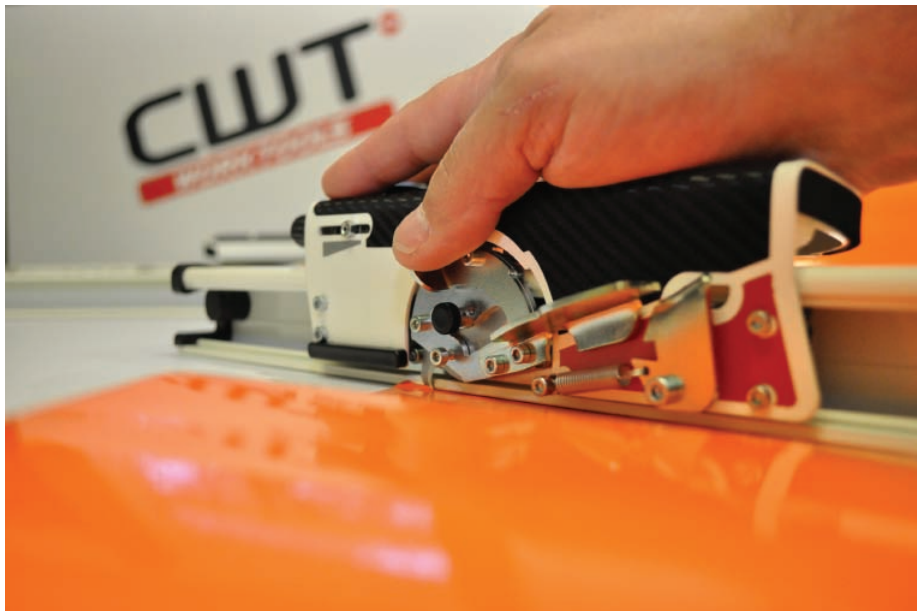
The flat bed applicator, or work table, offers a semi-automated laminating process that reduces production time by up to 85 percent. With manual laminating work requiring much physical effort, it also reduces operator injuries while cutting down waste as human error during handling or application is eliminated.

The work table's new innovative design merges glossy thin foil materials as well as heavier sheets with ease; and is capable of laminating soft or hard substrates up to 70mm or 2.7inches thick. The worktable design benefits from no cross-going overhead beam, to improve operator access. The unique design protected traversing system provides a smooth travel of the roll assembly.

The table cover is made of hardened glass, which is unique for CWT laminators, with high quality LED-illumination available on request.

Thanks to the modular design of the work table, it is also easy to transport and install. The units are delivered in compact packages that are 80 percent smaller compared to other solutions. This means print professionals can have the mounting table installed by Papergraphics in a confined space or areas where access may be restricted.

Nathan Atkins, Managing Director of Papergraphics, said: "We're delighted to announce our exclusive partnership to distrib-



One of the new CWT products available from Papergraphics is the linear cutter, capable of trimming a range of media in a single cut.

ute CWT's innovative work table for laminating print materials. We have no doubt it will be well received in the UK, Holland and Belgium. We've already set up the table in the demonstration area at our Crawley offices as well as at our new premises in Paisley, Scotland and look forward to welcoming print professionals to test these innovative solutions."

Martin Nilsson, Managing Director of CWT Worktools, said: "We are very excited about signing an exclusive distributor agree-

ment with Papergraphics. The market response has already been overwhelming."

The distribution partnership will also provide Papergraphics with the exclusive delivery of CWT's linear cutter capable of trimming media up to 17 foot (5.13 metres) in a single cut. It is suitable for a wide range of materials, such as vinyl and fabrics, floor carpets, PVC and rubber.

www.paper-graphics.com

GEW creates new SUV division dedicated to UV systems solutions

GEW (EC) Limited has a new SUV division, dedicated to develop and market specialist industrial UV curing installations for the coating and converting industry. It is a strategic response to the growing need of businesses using UV technology in areas as diverse as substrate coating and wood printing, says the company.

The team is managed by David Lyus, Sales Manager Digital and Industrial, with support staff recruited over the past 12 months, to lead the commercial side of the

new division. The group works under Malcolm Rae, Managing Director of GEW, and is supported by a specialised team of engineers. The SUV division will oversee the design and technical development of the products targeted for an industry sector handling wider web applications.

The SUV division will market specialist UV curing systems directly and through selected OEM partners. They will provide full pre-sales technical support for operators to determine exact specifications and full inte-

gration into larger systems.

"Over the past months, I have been focusing on how we can take our business to the next level of growth, whilst continuing to give our customers the full benefit of our engineering expertise," says Malcolm Rae. "The new SUV division will increase our ability to pass state of the art technology with substantial benefits on to our customers."

GEW (EC) Limited has its headquarters in England with subsidiaries in the US, Germany and India.

PPB Ltd launches new wide format venture

PPB Ltd has launched Westland Digital, a new wide format media offering that will represent a high standard of materials. It also provides the platform PPB needed to launch a quality range of wide format media. The range comprises of three to seven year vinyl's; over laminates; banners; roll up and pop up medias.

PPB has employed Joanne Smeeton and Glenn Crowley as Digital Sales Specialists. Both have spent many years working in the digital solutions team at PaperlinX, and using their expertise and knowledge has enabled PPB to move quickly into the wide format digital market.

The Westland Digital range of media will be supported by a range of marketing to highlight the quality of Westland products, with applications guidelines and hints and tips on installation.

PPB's in-house conversion and warehouse facilities provide customers with the choice of bespoke sheeting for any wide format media for UV flatbed print demands. Having stock available for sheeting for delivering next day, enables PPB to provide a 'bespoke' offering to customers.

Richard Proctor MD of PPB Ltd said: "Utilising both Joanne and Glenn's experiences has given us the confidence and know-how to ensure that we brought in a quality media range that is clear and compatible with the latest digital technology.



Bringing skills and experience to Westland Digital: Joanne Smeeton and Glen Crowley.

We have been working with some of the leading manufacturers to create a range of digital media that suits today's diversifying markets."

PPB will also be supported by some leading manufactures bringing in a range of

Ritrama digital media and Neschen products such as Easy Dot and Window Grip. Both these key brands gives PPB customers a range of materials suitable for vinyl and over laminate applications through to easy fit window graphics.

Papergraphics expands hardware range with Zünd cutters

Zünd UK has announced the appointment of Papergraphics as an approved partner and distributor of Zünd solutions in the UK.

Available immediately, Zünd's precision cutters become the latest addition to Papergraphics' range of solutions, following its decision to add hardware to its market-leading media offering. The company will be distributing the Zünd G3 and S3 digital cutters, designed to improve the finishing process on a range of applications.

Zünd's digital cutting systems are engineered for 'maximum efficiency, resilience,

automation, safety and flexibility'. Their modular construction allows for changes to be made and new tools to be fitted after installation. This enables end users to evolve and diversify without buying a new machine, with support always available from Zünd's UK team. Zünd G3 and S3 cutting tables can process materials up to 50mm and 25mm thick respectively, with sheet feeders, roll-off units and cutter extensions available to handle an ever-expanding range of substrates.

Nathan Atkins, Managing Director at Papergraphics, said: "We're delighted to be-

come an approved reseller of Zünd's cutting systems in the UK. Over the last few months, we have been expanding our hardware portfolio, which is allowing us to offer a full service to printers across the country. We have chosen to work with Zünd as it's the market leader and the Zünd G3 and S3 cutters offer real value to customers who work with a variety of substrates."

www.paper-graphics.com

Delivering creativity, inspiration and choice

Sign & Digital UK 2016, which will be held from 19 – 21 April at the NEC, Birmingham in halls 17 and 18, is all set to deliver a landmark showcase for the industry, says the organisers.

With nearly 30 years serving the industry, Sign & Digital UK has seen impressive growth in recent years, cementing its reputation as the UK's buying event with many new product launches and show offers. Over 200 exhibitors and 6,800 visitors attended the 2015 event.

"In this fast paced market, creativity and inspiration are key ingredients that drive the industry forward. Making the right choice from the wide range of products on offer at SDUK will help to keep your business competitive. You can see all aspects of the industry at the show, from soft signage, lighting, engraving, sign fixings and fittings, and display systems. Through to the latest wide format printing and finishing equipment, from the leading manufacturers and suppliers," says Rudi Blackett, Event Director for Sign & Digital UK.

In tune with this year's theme, new show branding, a new look website and colour co-ordinated show logo have also been unveiled.



Stand bookings for Sign & Digital UK 2016 are currently running at 20 percent ahead of the same time last year, and the show will feature many new as well as returning exhibitors, such as KIP, Daltons Wadkin, Perfect Colours, Complete

CNC, Epson, Hewlett-Packard, Colourbyte, Biesse, Complete CNC, Inktec/Jetrix, Grafityp, Radecal, I-sub, CMYUK, Your Print Specialists, AG/CAD, Graphic Printing Technologies, printMAX and many more.

Trophex 2016

The annual Trophex show will take place from 17 to 18 January at the NEC in Birmingham. Visiting the show is really a 'must' if you work in the trophy, awards and personalisation industry. It's THE show for the industry with every possible sector represented, say the organisers.

Visiting Trophex will help you to 'diversify and grow your business; look for new suppliers and get better deals; and find out about new innovations and products on the market'. Come along to the show and see all the latest engraving machinery in action via demonstrations; see the latest trends for the coming season; and take advantage of any special offers that exhibitors will offer exclusively to Trophex visitors.

Some of the exhibitors in 2016 include: TheMagicTouch, Glenway Products Ltd and Gravograph. New companies represented include Radecal Machine Sales, The Pen Warehouse and Sarfraz Overseas.

The 2016 exhibition sees the return of the Open Forum Seminars and the Knowledge Centre, which proved successful in previous years. A series of seminars will take place that will offer visitors technical information and advice on a variety of subjects related to the industry. At the Knowledge Centre experts from within the industry will be able to give visitors advice, support, answer questions and solve problems.

A number of companies have already signed up to be a part of these exciting areas at next year's show including Corel UK Ltd. The Corel team will run a series of workshops for engravers on 'Power Tracing Tips'. The Corel team will also be part of the event's Knowledge Centre, where their product specialist will be on hand to offer advice and answer any questions.

www.trophex.com



New name for Print and Cut Solutions

Colorific Solutions Limited, responsible for Colorific print consumables and Lightbar solvent-UV print technology, has rebranded the company to CSL Digital.

This rebranding coincides with the recent announcement that Roland DG has appointed CSL Digital to be an authorised dealer for its range of digital printing and cutting technologies.

Nick Wintle, Managing Director, CSL Digital, said: "We are very proud of all that we've achieved under our old brand.

But we felt that the time was right to build on this success and adopt a new brand identity that would acknowledge our past achievements and highlight our future ambitions."

CSL Digital also has the technical expertise and manufacturing facilities to produce custom engineered solutions for businesses with more complex print requirements. They have been instrumental in the research, development and production of a number of 'ground-breaking' print solutions

in recent years, such as Lightbar solvent-UV ink technology.

Working closely with Roland DG they've integrated the latest solvent-UV ink chemistry with Roland print engines to launch a range of Lightbar printers and printer/cutters. Widely regarded as a more durable and cost effective alternative to printing with latex inks, Lightbar delivers 'bright, colour rich print that's dry, cured and ready to use straight from the printer'.

Josero launches online webshop

Josero has launched its own online webshop, because 'demand is continually increasing for spare parts, media, inks and finishing equipment'.

Joserospares.com provides a 'fast and simple' solution for printing companies who choose to order stock online, confident that they'll receive high quality products through Josero.

Customers can buy everything from printheads, cables and dampers to banner material, ink and cutters; the product range is vast, according to Josero.

Loic Delor, Managing Director of Josero said: "The printing industry is no different to any other market sector where people increasingly choose to buy consumables and replacement parts online. When we researched setting up an online shop we discovered there was some dissatisfaction in the wide format market; with poor customer service, parts being advertised when they were actually out of

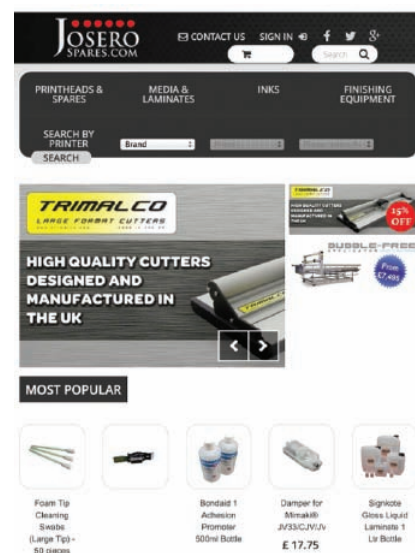
stock, and products that were bad quality Chinese copies being promoted as original products!"

Loic said: "These factors led to our decision to set up our own online service, with high quality stock based in the UK, and where we're regulated by UK laws. Launching a robust and efficient online service requires a great deal of commitment and resources. But we believe we've got it right as the feedback for www.joserospares.com has been extremely positive."

All the products are stocked in Josero's warehouse in Cambridge and can be shipped overnight to customers in the UK.

Loic said: "Customers now have the best of both worlds; a professional team on hand to offer technical support combined with online pricing. We've been online for a couple of months and the shop is proving tremendously successful."

www.joserospares.com



Big screens just got cheaper!

Thanks to recent changes in import duty there are now savings to be made on large LED video walls and big screens, making them a highly cost-effective as well as long life display solution, says Messagemaker.

From May this year, imported modular LED Video screens are subject to a new 0 per cent import duty rate, which replaces the previous much higher rate of 14 per cent.

In the past, selecting the appropriate tariff code for LED screens and components

was complex, and led to errors and miscoding. This latest move by the HMRC has brought any confusion to an end, to the advantage of both consumers and suppliers.

Harry Filer Managing Director of the Messagemaker Group, including MD Vision, said:

"The introduction of the new 0 per cent import duty rate has levelled the playing field, enabling companies like Messagemaker to

compete on price against suppliers who may in the past have applied the wrong tariff codes, avoiding the 14 per cent tax and thus being able to quote lower costs.

"Our customers benefit from lower prices, safe in the knowledge they are buying from a trusted supplier that has always applied the correct tariff code."

www.messagemaker.co.uk
www.mdvision.co.uk

XYZ open days

XYZ, who supply CNC routing, engraving and cutting solutions, will hold two Open House events on 21 October and 19 November. These will build on the success of previous events in 2013 and 2014. Existing and potential customers, as well as members of the trade press will be invited to attend.

The October event will be held at their recently opened new UK and Continental Europe headquarters on the Telford T54 Business Park in Telford. Visitors will be able to see their improved assembly and service facilities, and also selective new or recently launched machine hardware and software solutions.

The event will mark the first public showing of the XYZ Trident hybrid integrated digital finishing solution that combines CNC routing and knife-cutting capabilities. This 'powerful production workhorse' enables the processing of both rigid and flexible materials as diverse as aluminium and other non-ferrous metals; aluminium composites (ACM); acrylics and plastics; foamed and corrugated board; and vinyl and cardboard.



The XYZ team outside their new headquarters in Telford.

Also to be demonstrated will be other machines from the XYZ range, supported by routers from their Pacer and Z series of machines. The event will mark the first public showing of Version 16 of the XYZ PANELBuilder system's software. The combined router and software solution is used primarily for the processing of large-format ACM panels used extensively in the signage and

building cladding industries.

The XYZ CNCRouterShop division will also be represented.

The 19 November event will take place at the Royal Air Force Museum in North London and will feature the same product demonstrations and technical support facilities.

www.axyz.com

CMYUK open days

CMYUK is opening the doors of its demo and training centre in Shrewsbury to all from 10 to 13 November, for a spectacular showcase of more than 10 'outstanding' print and finishing machines. They will include the recently launched MTEX Blue and two new printers from Mimaki.

CMYUK Director Robin East said: "With the MTEX, EFI VUTEks and Mimakis we'll have it all going on at our four-day open house, and it will be well-worth a visit for anyone looking for a wide format print solution.

"Our expert team and suppliers will be on hand to discuss both the machines and consumables on offer, helping to find the right package for the applications customers are looking for."

The event will include demos of:

- The MTEX Blue 1.8m inline sublimation fabric printer, revolutionising digital soft signage and fabric printing. See the fabric prints finished on the Matic Cronos Plus twin needle sewing station in a workshop from Atech

- Zünd G3 fabric cutting with 'DRT' (driven rotary tool)

- The EFI VUTEK GS3250 LX Pro UltraDrop - amazing 7PI quality, 8 colour with white 3.2m LED UV hybrid printer

- The new Mimaki JV300-160 1.6m solvent print and cut roll to roll (2 x CMYK)

- The new Mimaki CJV150-160 1.6m solvent print and cut roll to roll (CMYK, orange, light black and white)

- The Mimaki JFX200 2513 LED UV flatbed printer

- The Mimaki UJF 6042 A2 format desktop LED UV flatbed printer

- The Mimaki UJF 3042 A3 format desktop LED UV flatbed printer.

There will also be special incentives including a free colour management training voucher worth £495; free sample rolls of UTACK digital wallpaper and Berger digital fabric; and a demo unit sale.

The open house event will be held at the CMYUK Training and Demo Centre, Unit 3B, Vanguard Way, Battlefield Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury, SY1 3TG.

www.cmyuk.com/openhouse.

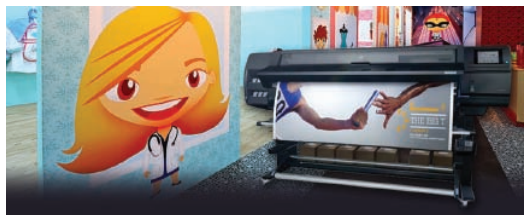


The CMYUK training and demo centre.

SMGG to host 'Print Unlimited' open days

Stanford Marsh Group Graphics (SMGG) will host two open day events at ArtSystems' offices and showroom on 28 and Thursday 29 October 2015.

The events will focus on HP's Latex



See a number of HP latex printers in action at Artsystems Ltd.

300 Series printers and the latest HP DesignJet Z-series models.

The HP Latex 300 Series printers, which includes the HP Latex 310; HP Latex 330; HP Latex 360; and the recently announced HP Latex 370 model, help businesses 'expand large-format printing capabilities; offer new application areas; and build a healthier production environment'.

All models use third generation HP latex printing technology and have 'unprecedented' price / performance levels. The printers have been designed for the fast turnaround of high quality graphics for both indoor and outdoor

applications, such as POP, banners, canvas, wall décor and vehicle wrapping.

Attendees will also be able to view HP's Z6800 and Z6600 printers in action. These fast 60"-wide printers have been uniquely designed to deliver high-value indoor applications and gallery-quality prints, with durable output.

Doors open at 9.30am and close at 5.00pm on 28 and 29 October 2015 at ArtSystems Ltd, Xativa House, Unit 10-12 Glaisdale Point, Glaisdale Parkway, Nottingham NG8 4GP.

To book your place at the Open Day event: www.smgg.co.uk

Signage company 'capitalises on knowledge' with new maintenance division

Creative sign and display manufacturer, Leading Edge, has expanded its offering by launching a new sign maintenance service.

The company has a dedicated team of maintenance engineers who are already delivering on repair and protect contracts across the country. The service includes proactive packages to prevent the deterioration of signage. As well as packages to mitigate existing damage or wear and tear; all designed to extend the working lives of signs, protect their safety and appearance.

Matthew Evans, managing director of Leading Edge, said: "We wanted to extend our existing after-care service by bringing in a specialist team devoted to maintaining signs and maximising their life-span.

"Through close relationships with our clients, we have come to know and understand their issues and priorities.

"Safety has always been a big concern with any business that has signage. Now we can offer regular maintenance checks to ensure the safety of staff, customers and passers-by, providing piece of mind for the business owner.

"We also know that signs incorporating lighting features can require more intensive



care than other non-illuminated features due to the electrical components involved, such as fluorescent tubes and LED modules.

"We have utilised this specialist knowledge and built upon it to provide a much-needed service to existing and new clients.

We now offer a full-circle service from design inception, fabrication and installation, to maintenance and repairs."

www.leadingedgesignage.co.uk/servicing-and-maintenance



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PC Pro Recommendation

TheMagicTouch's on-going collaboration with Oki to develop the "White Toner" printer technology has been recognised. They were awarded "Recommendation" status from the industry's leading computer and printer technology based publication.

A recent edition of PC Pro magazine featured a full evaluation of the TMT/Oki 711WT printer highlighting the many unique features and advantages "White Toner" technology offers. The evaluation concludes the Oki/TMT combination is affordable, easy-to-use and "the most fun you'll ever have with a laser printer!"

Jim Nicol, TheMagicTouch Managing Director said: "It's always good to have inde-

pendent evaluation on any product; especially within the print technology sector with so many options and choices available. Their team of printer technicians put the printer to task over two days and covered all aspects of image quality; value for money; cost per copy; and the benefits of the three year warranty."

One aspect highlighted was the "Space Control" software for its ease of use and compatibility with both Photoshop and Corel Draw, when importing files together with the colour accuracy and management of the transfers produced.

sales@themagictouch.co.uk



Direct-to-textile proves popular at MTEX Technologies' open day event

Around 30 companies looking to expand their business with a move into the soft signage industry, attended MTEX Technologies' recent open day.

During the event they were given an in depth look at the three MTEX direct-to-textile printers dedicated to the wide format sign and display industry: the 5032Pro, the

5032HS and the Blue. And a demonstration of the complete digital direct-to-textile print process from start to finish.

Orders were placed on the day for an MTEX 5032Pro, two MTEX 5032HS's and two MTEX Blues.

Stewart Bell, MTEX Technologies MD said: "I think both ourselves and our visitors

were delighted with this event, where customers had the chance to talk to the MTEX team and compare each printer for speed and suitability for their existing business.

"There was a lot of interest in the different applications such as flag and display for exhibition; but also in the stunning quality that we produced for lightbox applications.

"We discussed the workflow so that customers could fully understand the print and fixation process, the application, sizing and then the cutting or sewing finishing from Atech. Seeing the complete process working in a single dedicated space helped them see how direct-to-textile could fit into their own production area.

"Visitors were particularly impressed by the inline sublimation fixation on all three devices, and the robust build of the machines along with the software and operational interfaces."

As well as inviting clients to the working showroom in Leicestershire, MTEX will also be offering dedicated factory visits in October for customers who wish to see the machines being built.



Visitors to the open day got an in depth look at three MTEX direct to textile printers.

www.mtex.eu



Applelec embark upon multi-million pound expansion with the purchase of a new industrial complex

Phase one of the development has been completed with the opening of the first new factory at the 6.3 acre Wharfedale Business Park site Applelec bought in late 2014.

The complex will see Applelec's operations consolidated at one location with new factories for the signage, display and lighting divisions of the company opening alongside a storage warehouse. The signage factory and company stores will be linked by modern, purpose-built offices designed by NJ+Architects, which will see all staff relocated to the business park in the final phase of work.

Ian Drinkwater, Applelec managing director, said: "After 17 years at our current premises, it's no exaggeration to say that we've outgrown both our offices and factories. We've spent 18 months looking for a new site and Wharfedale Business Park finally provides us with the space we need to meet our expanding workload whilst ensuring we have room to grow in future

years. We're looking forward to an exciting twelve months as the new site develops, culminating in the move of all office staff to Wharfedale."

Opening in the summer of 2015, the signage factory is home to 22 members of staff; three CNC machines; and Applelec's state of the art letter making machinery. The layout of the new factory has been developed with priority to workflow based on historic sales, with additional height to accommodate the manufacture of architectural signs such as large scale fabricated totems and monoliths.

Gary Middlemiss, Applelec operations manager, said: "Signage production is already running smoothly at the new factory with an average of 14 jobs per day leaving the site. We have worked hard to ensure that there has been no disruption to workflow



Inside the newly opened signage factory, part of Applelec's expansion and move to new premises.

with the relocation to the new site and are now planning the second phase of work which will see our new lighting factory opening soon."

www.applelec.co.uk

Amari Plastics celebrates with supplier partners



Enjoying the weekend at Oakley Court in Windsor.

As part of Amari Plastics' year-long 40th anniversary celebrations, they hosted a gala party event for their key suppliers at the historic Oakley Court riverside hotel in Windsor in June.

Over 50 guests from manufacturers throughout the UK, America, Europe and Asia enjoyed a full programme of English-themed entertainment and refreshments over the weekend.

Jamie Manifold, Amari Plastics' Supplier Relations Manager, said: "Our relationships with suppliers are a cornerstone of our success. Without them, there would be no Amari Plastics! So it's always been our priority to engender trust and friendship and build strong and durable, long-term supplier relationships. This party was a way of saying thank you to them for their continued support. Many of our guests represent companies with whom we have been in partnership for decades. For example we have been a distributor of Bayer products since the formation of the company in 1975."

www.amariplastics.com

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- Outstanding colour and performance match
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Signmaker wins two awards

Lee Eaton, who designs signs and graphics for Team Sky, Team Wiggins and Great British Cycling, was the big winner at the 2015 bfa HSBC Franchisee of the Year Awards, supported by Express Newspapers.

Lee won both the 'B2B' category and was named Overall Winner at the awards, for his 'hugely successful' franchise, Signs Express Manchester, based at Trafford Park.

Lee and his team of 17 employees regularly travel around Europe to carry out their work with Team Sky. And following the 2014 and 2015 Tour De France win, the team rebranded support vehicles overnight with the winner's yellow graphics for the last celebratory stage of the tour through Paris.

Andy Brattasani, head of franchising at HSBC, said: "To still be consistently growing in a competitive sector after nearly 20 years is testament to Lee's attitude and absolute belief in his staff; he even bought in a cut-out of them all to be with him at the judging! That's typical of his ethos and focus on his team, which has been crucial in delivering outstanding results and a willingness to go the extra mile."



Become a sign hero at European Sign Expo 2016!

Sign enthusiasts can soar toward European Sign Expo 2016 at the RAI Amsterdam, 8-11 March 2016.

The fourth European Sign Expo will have its own dedicated hall (Hall 2), due to unprecedented growth in visitor traffic at the last show. It's co-located with FESPA Digital 2016, FESPA Textile and Printeriors. European Sign Expo will provide signmakers with the opportunity to see the latest technologies, products and innovative software come to life, such as: dimensional and architectural signage; channel lettering; illuminated LED and neon displays; and digital signage.

The theme of the 2016 show is 'sign heroes'. A spokesperson said: "ESEman will lead visitors through the show; visually striking he is strong and communicative. He delivers impactful messages through signage, and is part of a powerful team alongside

Digiman and Textilewoman. The sign heroes will have their own base in ESE at the Sign Hub, where educational seminars and hands-on demonstrations will be taking place and technical experts will be available to answer any questions."

The 2014 expo saw a visitor increase of 540 per cent compared to the first show in 2013 held on London. Which 'demonstrates the huge growth potential for signmakers and signage purchasers'. With 42 exhibitors already confirmed for 2016's event, visitors cannot afford to miss it!

Roz McGuinness, Divisional Director, FESPA, said: "The post-show visitor data from Cologne, stating a 540 per cent increase, says it all. Traditional and digital signage is an extremely competitive and



lucrative market. Alongside the technologies on display, European Sign Expo 2016 aims to provide those within the signage industry with insights to where the signage industry will go next, through an engaging mix of debates and presentations on key issues; coupled with hands-on workshops."

www.europeansignexpo.com

Signelite launch Public Liability Insurance online

Signelite have launched their new online insurance offering for self-employed installers, contractors and erectors. It is tailored for businesses that do not manufacture or require increased height limits.

The policy comes with indemnity levels to suit most requirements with a choice of £2,000,000 or £5,000,000. This product 'ticks all the boxes' for companies wanting

Public and Employers Liability only. Easy access is provided through their website, and with premiums starting at just £70.00 it's not only competitive but users can have full policy documentation in less than 10 minutes.

Annette Baguley, who runs the SignElite insurance scheme said: "We are delighted with the new online liability product for contractors and installers. Whilst our

main Commercial Combined insurance is available for manufacturers and businesses of a more complex nature, our new online product provides quick and easy access from quote to policy documentation without the need for a phone call."

www.signelite.co.uk

APPOINTMENTS

Hybrid adds to management team as Mimaki textile line-up expands

Hybrid Services Ltd has appointed Stephen Woodall in the role of National Sales Manager – Textile and Apparel. Woodall's position completes Hybrid's sales management team across its core product ranges, as he sits alongside John de la Roche and Stuart Cole – National Sales Managers for Sign & Graphics and Industrial products respectively.

The recent launch of the Mimaki TS300P-1800 dye-sublimation printer indicates continued commitment to developing attractive textile solutions for the apparel and display graphics sectors. Stephen said: "Mimaki's textile heritage was a major attraction to the role and I look forward to working with our specialist textile resellers to present products like the TS300P to customers old and new."



David Neidell, Vice President – International for Arlon Graphics

Arlon Graphics has promoted David Neidell to Vice President—International. In his new role, David will be responsible for strategy, growth and P&L for Arlon in Europe, Middle East, Africa and Asia. Prior to this role, David held the position of Director of EMEA, and was instrumental in successfully launching and growing Arlon's brand of print media and automotive films in the European markets.



Paul Warwick taken on to promote application innovations at CMYUK

CMYUK's drive to offer application-driven innovations in consumables is being supported by new business development manager Paul Warwick. With almost 30 years' in the print and consumables industry, Paul has worked across the entire distribution channel. Michael Crook, Commercial Director, consumables division says that this extensive experience within the wide and super wide format consumables trade were key to Paul's appointment.



Darren Penny is new Head of Sales at Roland DG

Bringing with him 25 years of industry experience and sales expertise, Roland DG has appointed Darren Penny the new Head of Sales for Roland DG UK, following on from Brett Newman's promotion to Managing Director.

Previously holding a variety of management roles at Paperlinx, Darren's career

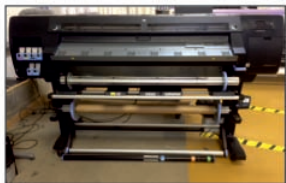
change towards the machinery side of the industry was an easy choice. Darren said: "I look forward to immersing myself in the creative and innovative environment that Roland DG affords its staff; and relish the chance to establish myself with a market leader that is not only successful but devoted to the print industry."

HP Latex 26500 (61")

Only 16 month's old – immaculate condition.
Hardly used due to purchase of a larger printer.

Complete with onyx Postershop 11 Rip, recently replaced new heads, spare head, new cleaning kit and remaining ink cartridges. Manuals, loading accessory.

Total bulk price: **£7,695 + vat**



Buyer to collect from North Yorkshire.
Contact details: info@designsharrogate.co.uk
01423 873555

Mimaki UJV-160 UV LED

Approx 3 years old

Print test available on request but is still in use as seen in the pictures.
Sale due to not being used to full capacity and potential.

York – YO61, collection or delivery.
Requires 1 new print head but has been regularly serviced.

Selling for **£19,000 inc VAT** though reasonable offers will be considered.

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Chesham - Buckinghamshire

Experienced / Trainee

We are looking to recruit an all-round Vinyl Graphics Production Operative, who will be required to help cut, weed and apply Vinyl Graphics in house. Keep the workshop clean and tidy.

Learn all aspects of the Vinyl Graphics industry, including supplying artwork and proofs to clients.

It would be an advantageous but not essential if you have experience in the following and looking to progress within our company:

- Vinyl cutting
- Printing Large Format Graphics
- Finishing including laminating and mounting graphics
- Adobe Illustrator / SignLab / CorelDRAW

www.signupupdate.co.uk/vgpor

Sign Installation Fitter

Stockport, Cheshire

We are looking to recruit a sign installation fitter with proven experience. This is an opportunity to work within a well-established sign business which has a strong vision for professional sign solutions.

Successful applicants will have:

- Must be fully conversant with all aspects of sign and vinyl installation.
- Able to use your own initiative on site and work as part of a team.
- Installation of signs to a wide variety of substrates.
- You will be working locally and nationally, including nights away.
- Ability to work at heights (IPAF Certified).
- CSCS, IPAF, PASMA certified – not essential as training can be arranged.
- Full driving licence.
- Aware of H&S practices.

www.signupupdate.co.uk/sifs

Vehicle Wrapper/Sign Maker

Chorley, Lancashire

Candidate must have an ability to apply vinyl and digital prints to substrates and expertise to apply vehicle graphics/full wraps to a high standard.

CSCS, PASMA and IPAF would be advantageous. A full driving licence is essential.

To apply please send your CV to office@poppysigns.co.uk

NCS Trade Signs is a high growth company serving the fast paced sign industry with top quality signage and graphics. We seek to employ a highly motivated individuals, possessing excellent organisation skills and having strong values aligned with the company's own values, which are; Teamwork, Accountability, Integrity, Clarity, Passion and Excellence.

As we push forwards to become an industry leader in trade manufacture, it is imperative that we appoint ambitious creative people who aspire to make a difference. The company is involved in a number of high profile roll-out programmes across the UK for high street brands and large corporate identities.

Junior Estimator
experienced estimators also considered

Ideal position for someone wanting to progress to sales or project management

Job purpose:

To receive and process customer enquiries you will become responsible for ensuring you have interpreted and translated customer requirements correctly, costing the enquiry based on suitable/available materials and with accurately calculated labour costs.

www.signupupdate.co.uk/jsed

CAD Design Engineer

To form part of the busy CAD design team of a leading trade sign manufacturing business.

Possessing strong analytical and problem solving attributes you will ensure that the attention is in the detail whilst upholding our company values, and accurately interpreting order information, which in turn will ensure we meet and exceed client expectations.

You will liaise regularly with the Projects and Sales teams as well as the Production Manager to ensure that deadlines are met.

www.signupupdate.co.uk/cadd

Project Manager

To support the busy sales team of a leading trade sign manufacturing business.

Providing excellent customer service, to assure our company values are upheld, and accurately interpreting order information, which in turn will ensure we meet and exceed client expectations.

You will liaise regularly with the Drawing department, Fabrication and Production Managers as well as the Sales Team.

www.signupupdate.co.uk/pmd



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Ideal Candidate will:

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Sign Fitter / Installer - Kent

- Experience with fascias, hoarding and post mounted signs
- Shop fitting experience would be an advantage
- UK wide with over nights and possible weekend
- You must be fully conversant with all aspects of sign and vinyl installation
- Able to use your own initiative on site and work as part of a team
- Good communication skills able to deal with clients and site meetings
- To liaise with office personnel to ensure customers' requirements are fully understood and dealt with in the most efficient manner
- An Access equipment background would be an advantage
- Hardworking, honest, trustworthy with integrity
- Must have a good sense of humour !!
- CSCS card
- Full driving licence
- Aware of H&S practices
- Ability to work at heights
- Permanent position with uniform

JRTSIGNS.CO.UK

01622 730 495

Sign Maker / Installer

North London based sign company requires an experienced sign maker / installer to join their team.

Duty will include most aspects of sign making, vinyl application, sign fabrication in acrylic and metal, use of CNC machines and plotters etc.

They must be organised, professional and punctual.

Salary between £18 -22k depending on experience.

Immediate start.

Contact Rosso signs Ltd with CV
by email info@rossosigns.com

CAD signage artworker/technician Shrewsbury

We are looking for someone within the signage industry with experience in preparing ready for print artwork, scheduling and technical CAD skills who is design sensitive and looking to work within the design consultancy side of the industry.

The emphasis of our work is on branding, wayfinding and placemaking but we are growing our digital media services.

We are based in Shrewsbury but work with clients across the UK in different sectors.

We'd like to grow our team by welcoming someone to help underpin our work who is accurate, technically astute and understands the rigours of wayfinding and signage schemes.

Experience with digital signage would be an advantage. Salary commensurate with experience.

CV to: rachel@franraybould.com

Sheet Metalworker / Fabricator

40 hours basic with overtime.

Previous experience required in a similar manufacturing environment.

Salesman

Salary negotiable, dependent on experience

Technical Signs implement a vast range of bespoke manufactured items for well known corporate clients. Allied to this we produce graphics, architectural metalwork, 3D artwork as well as light fixtures, all produced in our factory in Hertfordshire.

The applicant will interact with clients, architects & designers, contributing where necessary and must have a good grounding in manufacturing techniques, materials, administration and with a keen eye for design.

We are looking for someone who takes pride in themselves and their work, is organised and driven by quality, whilst being determined and ambitious.

Some experience with manufacturing drawings would be advantageous.

Senior CAD/Draughtsperson

Experienced technical draughtsperson required for a medium sized bespoke sign and product manufacturing company with a blue chip client base.

A background in signage would be required and ideally an engineering/manufacturing background. The position requires preparation of manufacturing drawings, CNC files and layouts. The applicant will need to be flexible in a fast changing design environment.

Project Manager

Technical Signs implement a vast range of bespoke manufactured items for well known corporate clients. Allied to this we produce graphics, architectural metalwork, 3D artwork as well as light fixtures, all produced in our factory in Hertfordshire.

The role is to manage projects from concept through to installation, ensuring all design, manufacture, cost and delivery requirements are met.

This is a great opportunity for a well organised dynamic individual with a technical and manufacturing knowledge.

Please apply in writing, detailing your salary requirements, to:

Louise Powell, Technical Sign Co Ltd, Hille Business Centre, 132 St Albans Road, Watford, WD24 4AE or
louise_powell@technicalsigns.co.uk

SIGN MAKER / FITTER

Hammersmith

Award Winning Sign and Graphics Company based in the High Street in Hammersmith is looking for an experienced Sign Maker / Fitter. The position includes managing and executing the business's busy installation schedule, reporting directly to Head of Production.

Candidates must have comprehensive signage skills with particularly strong vinyl application skills. Must have CSCS, PASMA, IPAF and a full clean driving licence.

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Sign Maker - West Sussex

BEL Signs are expanding our staff team due to increasing productivity and are recruiting an experienced sign maker for our site in Horsham.

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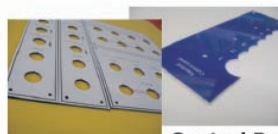
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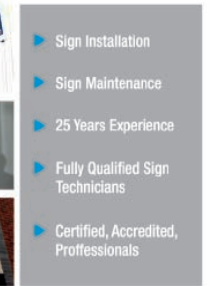
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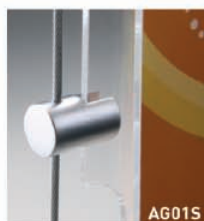
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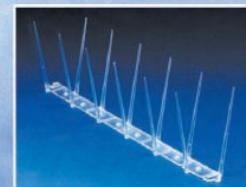


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sales@oshino.co.uk

www.oshino-lamps.co.uk

New H-LED 333 is a chain LED lighting system for built-up channel letters, flat-cut letters and other sign lighting applications. Manufactured using a state-of-the-art automated assembly process, H-LED 333 promises to bring a new level of economy to the discerning sign maker along with a fully featured specification you would expect from Oshino.

SGLIGHTSHEET.CO.UK

(PART OF THE SIGN GROUP)

Tel: 01132 524 706

www.SGLightSheet.co.uk

We manufacture Acrylic Lightsheet to be used in 100's of different ways in signage and display. Our SG LightSheet™ is the most versatile material of its kind, and is extremely bright, even & very efficient. Fast Turn Arounds (Next day), and fantastic prices.

SIGNTRADE LETTERS LTD

225 Long Lane, London N3 2RL

Tel: 0500 456 700

sales@signtrade.co.uk

www.signtrade.co.uk

Chromasign launched at Sign UK. We offer a complete range of ChromaForm Letters with Halo Lighting not available anywhere else. Ring Susan or Lesley for details and samples.

WELOVELEDS.CO.UK

Tel: 01132 524 706

www.WeLoveLEDS.co.uk

The favourite online LED supplier to the sign, display and shopfitting trade. Large stocks carries, experienced sales people, no nonsense ordering. Orders can be made online, over the phone and by email. Use Code: EX10 for 10% trade discounts.

LIGHT BOXES & LIGHTING

APPLELEC

Appleby House, Walker Terrace, Bradford,
West Yorkshire, BD4 7HJ

Tel: 01274 774477

sales@applelec.co.uk

www.applelec.co.uk

Trade suppliers of fabricated and extruded light boxes, custom made to client design requirements. From flat faced and curved styles, to LED illumination and colour changing modules, a definitive range of light box products are available. Applelec's flat light unit LED Light Sheet is regularly used to create ultra slim light boxes with even illumination and a depth of just 25mm.

BROWNINGSLTD

157 English Street, Hull, HU3 2BT

Tel: 01482 380900

sales@browningsltd.co.uk

www.browningsltd.co.uk

Brownings is one of the largest TRADE ONLY suppliers of signage products in the UK. The Company manufacture everything from poster frames to flex-faced signage. We have our own extrusions for the manufacture of acrylic-faced light boxes and can supply as lengths, in kit form or as ready-made up signs. All to your individual, specific requirements in terms of size, colour or shape.

FAIRFIELD DISPLAYS & LIGHTING LTD

127 Albert Street, Fleet, Hants, GU51 3SN

Tel: 01252 758 934

sales@fairfielddisplays.co.uk

www.fairfielddisplays.co.uk

Specialist suppliers of the latest designs in Light Boxes. LED and Cold Cathode light boxes with silver click frames A4 - A0 as standard. Special coloured frames and sizes on request. Innovative Light Pocket - the floating LED light box only 14 mm thick - customers love the design make sure you are offering it. Showrooms in Fleet & Shrewsbury

MID WEST DISPLAYS

The Display Centre, Knights Way, Battlefield
Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury SY1 3AB

Tel: 01743 465531

sales@midwestdisplays.co.uk

www.MidWestDisplays.co.uk

Mid West Displays manufacture wide range of LED illuminated Light Panel Poster Displays. We also stock wall mounts, snap frames, mirror screws, cable/rod suspended systems, poster pockets and many more. We are pleased to be working with the highest quality materials at competitive prices.

MAGNETIC MATERIAL

ANCHOR MAGNETS LTD

Bankside Works, Darnall Road, Sheffield S9 5AH

Tel: 0114 244 1171

sales@anchormagnets.com

www.anchormagnets.com

From our 30,000 sq ft manufacturing facility in Sheffield, UK, we despatch and store considerable stocks of magnetic products and continue to grow through our in-house design and manufacturing teams. Our expertise includes extruding, engineering, laminating, conversion, fabrication and injection moulding of magnetic products.

BISBELL MAGNETIC PRODUCTS LTD.

Hillfield Lane, Stretton, Burton on Trent, Staffs DE13 0BN

Tel: 01283 531000

sales@bisbellmagnets.com

www.bisbellmagnets.com

The UK's widest range of digitally printable wide format magnetic and ferro sheet (both over 1200mm wide). Maxmag vehicle grade magnetic materials available in white, plain or adhesive backed - by roll or cut to your specific requirements. Also available neo magnets, vehicle roof magnets, sign grippers and a full range of high tape to suit every budget and application.

METAL FABRICATIONS

SIMPLEX LTD

Unit 3 - 16 Peter Rd, Lancing Business Park, Lancing, West Sussex. BN15 8TH

Tel: 01903 750333

sales@simplexlimited.com

www.simplexlimited.com

Simplex are a trade only supplier of metal fabrications and sign systems. With an in house CNC router, 3 metre guillotine, brakepress and rollers, full welding equipment and much much more we are able to turn your ideas into reality!! From basic trays, to fret cut and illuminated fascias, oval lightboxes, built up metal letters, right up to 7 metre monolith signs we've pretty much made it all!

METALLIZING SERVICE

MIRROR TECHNOLOGY

Unit 4, Redwood House, Orchard Industrial Estate, Toddington, Gloucestershire GL54 5EB

Tel: +44 (0)1242 621534

malcolm@mirrortechnology.co.uk

www.mirrortechnology.co.uk

Producer of high quality mirror coatings. The process allows coating on flat and moulded surfaces up to 3m lengths. The mirror coating is usually applied to the inner or rear surface of transparent acrylic, giving the best protection to the mirrored surface. Coloured varnishes can be used to achieve a variety of dramatic effects.

MODULAR PANEL SIGN SYSTEMS

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

Pear Tree Works, Bath Road, Upper Langford, Bristol BS40 5DJ

Tel: 01934 852 888

sales@signscape.co.uk

www.signscape.co.uk

Serving the Sign Trade for over 40 years, we are a leading manufacturer of modular sign systems, notice boards & information displays. Our systems create a wide range of sign solutions including: post and panel, flush panel and curved panel signs; wayfinding signs, wall directories, monolith and fingerpost signs. Other products include exterior notice boards, poster/menu cases, and letter boards.

SIMPLEX LTD

Unit 3 - 16 Peter Rd, Lancing Business Park, Lancing, West Sussex. BN15 8TH

Tel: 01903 750333

sales@simplexlimited.com

www.simplexlimited.com

Simplex are a trade only supplier of sign systems and metal fabrications. We offer a range of Pole & Plank products for post and wall mounted signs, fingerposts and mini monoliths. For versatile curved interior directories our System 4 is unbeatable whilst as an approved convertor for the Accord 15 "slat" type system and a recognised supplier of MSS we really hope we can help with all your needs.

MOULDED & FABRICATED PLASTICS

MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS

51-59 Waterworks Road, Norwich NR2 4DA

Tel: 01603 666699

sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk

www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk

Suppliers of moulded acrylic pans and logos up to 2800mm x 1500mm and other types of press and vacuum forming in PVC and HIPS. Specialists in fabricated plastics for POS displays with full screen print, graphics and CNC routing capabilities.

PROJECT PLASTICS LTD

7 Grange Way Business Park, Whitehill Industrial Estate, Colchester CO2 8HF

Tel: 01206 868696

project.plastics@btinternet.com

www.projectplastics.co.uk

Manufacturers of acrylic domes and shapes, tubes, point of sale displays and showcases. Bespoke plastic fabrication. CNC routing, diamond edge polishing, 3m x 2m moulding oven for oven forming, vacuum forming and screen printing. Plastic cut to size service.

MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS

51/59 Waterworks Rd. Norwich NR2 4DA

Tel: 01603 666699

sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk

www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk

Moulded letters and logos in all standard Perspex colours and UV stabilised gold and silver acrylics, in 8 standard sizes, bespoke sizes available on application. Press, vacuum and blow moulded pans, in acrylic and petg also available.

SIGNTRADE LETTERS LTD

225 Long Lane, Finchley London N3 2RL

Tel: 020 8346 8515

sales@signtrade.co.uk

www.signtrade.co.uk

Moulded letters are our speciality with stock of 20 fonts 8 letter heights in coloured Perspex and 1000's of flat cut letters as well. Your own font or logo is made by our own toolmakers. With over 60 years of experience to call on.

WARD SIGNS

Maze House, Maze Street, Barton Hill, Bristol BS5 9TE

Tel: 0117 955 3385

info@ward-signs.co.uk

www.ward-signs.co.uk

Having patented the original method of making cast resin letters, Wards of Bristol can manufacture and supply resin lettering to the highest standard. Our stock patterns for resin letters are a cost effective method of achieving the same styles as traditional bronze and aluminium (which we also cast in house) but we can also make custom designed patterns for letters and logos for all your needs.

NAMEPLATES

MOCKRIDGE LABELS & NAMEPLATES LTD

Cavendish Street, Ashton-under-Lyne,

Lancs OL6 7QL

Tel: 0161 308 2331

sales@mockridge.com

www.mockridge.com

Specialists in chemically etched nameplates. Brass, Stainless Steel and Anodised Aluminium. Any size up to 2400 x 1200mm (8ft x 4ft). One-offs up to 5000+. Trade work is totally confidential.

NEON MANUFACTURERS (TRADE)

A1DESIGNS

4 Sandy Lane North, Wallington, Surrey SM6 8JX

Tel: 020 8646 9886

enquiry@a1designs.co.uk

www.a1designs.co.uk

Neon & Cold Cathode Manufacturers to the Trade. Fast turnaround & Delivery. Quick repair service. Installation, Fault diagnosis, Repairs & Maintenance. Confidential Service. All neon accessories, Transformers, Cable, Tube supports etc.

AVENUE SIGNS LTD

216-222 Luton Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 5BS

Tel: 01634 841300

info@avenuesigns.co.uk

www.avenuesigns.co.uk

Full computerised design service neon and cold cathode lighting. Fully qualified installation engineers, fault diagnosis, fast repair service. Complete sign service from vinyl through to acrylic to polished stainless steel to transformer and neon accessory supplies.

LOGOTECH DISPLAY SOLUTIONS LTD

Unit 6, Atley Business Pk, North Nelson Ind Est, Cramlington, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE23 1WP

Tel: 01670 737 225

sales@logotech-ltd.co.uk

www.logo-tech.co.uk

Specialists in neon manufacture to the trade, all types of neon work undertaken. Quick repair service. Very competitive prices. Over 25 years experience in the sign trade.

NEON PLUS™

3D SIGNS

Unit 2, Sharp's Place, Ellington, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 9TD

Tel: 01843 588 111

vince@3d-signs.co.uk

www.3d-signs.co.uk

Ultra Slimline illuminated letters and shapes suitable for interior and exterior applications. Extremely bright with various colour options. Very strong and robust, easy to fit and will outlast other comparable alternatives.

THE SIGN GROUP

Victoria Works, Bruntcliffe Road, Morley, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS27 0LF

Tel: 0113 25 24 706

info@thesigngroup.co.uk

www.thesigngroup.co.uk

Ultra Slimline illuminated letters and shapes suitable for interior and exterior applications. Extremely bright with various colour options. Very strong and robust, easy to fit and will outlast other comparable alternatives.

NOTICE BOARDS - LOCKABLE/EXTERIOR

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

Pear Tree Works, Bath Road, Upper Langford, Bristol BS40 5DJ

Tel: 01934 852 888

sales@signscape.co.uk

www.signscape.co.uk

Serving the Sign Trade for over 40 years, we are a leading manufacturer of modular sign systems and notice boards. We have the widest range of exterior notice boards of all UK manufacturers, and specialise in tailoring our boards to suit each location. This is achieved through a wide range of options, including; wall, rail, post and stand mountings, mains/solar illumination and custom graphics.

SIGNWAVES

Lefevre Way, Gapton Hall Industrial Estate,
Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 0NW
Tel: 01493 419300
enquiries@signwaves.co.uk
www.signwaves.co.uk

Signwaves supplies Noticeboards and Poster Displays suitable for both indoor and outdoor use. As the UK's largest manufacturer of point of sale signs and displays, we can provide you with high quality Poster Frames, Snapframes, Menu Cases and lockable Noticeboards.

NUMBER PLATES

TENNANTS UK LTD

Tennant House, Mount Street, New Basford,
Nottingham NG7 7HX
Tel: 0115 973 8080
sales@tennantsuk.com

www.tennantsuk.com
Distributors of quality number plate components and suppliers of the UK's best selling number plate printing package the 'Print Pro' system - Full colour number plate printing being used around the world. Our optimised number plate printer will also print Health & Safety Signs, Business Cards, Banners & more. For prices and a free no-obligation demonstration, please call or visit our website.

PLASTIC SHEETS

BRETT MARTIN PLASTIC SHEETS

24 Roughford Road, Mallusk, Co Antrim
BT36 4RB

Tel: 028 9084 9999
semifinished@brettmartin.com
www.brettmartin.com

Brett Martin is a leading manufacturer of plastic sheet products for signage, interior design, shop outfitting, POS displays and fabrication. Products include Foamalux, the extensive foam PVC range in bright White, Satin and Gloss colours and an environmentally friendly Recycled material in addition to Polycarbonate, PVC, Acrylic, aPET, PETg, SAN and Styrene sheet.

N E PLASTICS LTD

Unit 1, Ruxley Corner Industrial Estate,
Edgington Way, Sidcup, Kent DA14 5BL
Tel: 020 8308 9990
sales@neplastics.co.uk
www.neplastics.co.uk

One of the largest independent stockholders of semi-finished plastics in the UK, offering a huge range of both branded and own label products including Perspex, Alliance ACP, Foamalite, Lumex and Arla. A next day delivery service on cut to size and polished Perspex is available. We also offer a trade service on CNC Router & Laser cutting, Sign trays and bespoke plastic fabrication.

PERSPEX DISTRIBUTION LTD

2-3 Lonebarn Link, Springfield Business
Park, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 5AR
Tel: 01245 232800
sales.chelmsford@perspex.co.uk
www.perspex.co.uk

Perspex Distribution offer Perspex cast acrylic, extruded acrylic, aluminium composite, PVC foam and other thermoplastic sheets for the sign industry from their 4 distribution centres in Blackburn, Chelmsford, Tamworth and Weybridge. With a comprehensive stock-holding in many colours and finishes and a cut to size service at all branches, Perspex Distribution can deliver your requirements fast.

RIGHTON LTD

Righton House, Elliott Way, Nexus Point,
Holford, Birmingham B6 7AP
Tel: 0121 356 1141
marketing@righton.co.uk
www.righton.co.uk

UK distributors of Polycasa cast & extruded sheet & Policril cast acrylic. Available in a wide range of clear, opals & colours. Also stocked: Marlon solid Polycarbonate, PETG, Foamalux, Komadur, Hygienic Cladding Rigid PVC, Aluminium Composite Sheet, aluminium sheet, Sign Post System, Stainless steel sheets, aluminium extrusions, fasteners, copper, brass & bronze.

TELEGAN PRESSED PRODUCTS LTD.

Unit 3, Old Mercedes Building, Stour Road,
Bathside, Harwich, Essex, CO12 3HF
Tel: 01255 554141

sales@teleganpressedproducts.com
www.teleganpressedproducts.com
Leading manufacturer of plate pressed PVC sheet offering equivalents to Darvic, Pacton and Cobex under our trade name TELBEX. We also manufacture VYNALAST™ engraving laminate. A comprehensive range of photoluminescent boards and self adhesive vinyl is available in PSPA class B and Class C to order.

THYSSENKRUPP MATERIALS (UK) LTD

Coxs Lane, Cradley Heath, West Midlands
B64 5QU

Tel: 0844 846 9573
plastics.tkmuk@thyssenkrupp.com
www.thyssenkruppmaterials.co.uk
ThyssenKrupp Materials are stockists of Plastics and Aluminium for the Sign industry. Experienced staff and an extensive product range give customers the flexibility to cover all requirements. Products include Oroglas Cast Acrylic, Marlon Polycarbonates, Marcryl Extruded Acrylic, Forex Foam PVC, Dibond and Etalbond Aluminium Composite, Bayer Petg and Quinn Products.

POINT OF SALE FITTINGS

UK POINT OF SALE GROUP LTD

Horsfield Way, Bredbury Park Industrial
Estate, Stockport SK6 2TD
Tel: 0161 431 4400/4411
www.ukpos.com

UK Point of Sale leading manufacturers of display products Acrylic & PVC poster holders, Sign Supports, Aluminium Snap Frames, A Boards, Poster cases & Point of sale fittings.

POLYSTYRENE SIGN SERVICE

Fonteyne Signs & Displays

Unit 3, 181 Verulam Road, St Albans, Herts
AL3 4DR
Tel: 01727 832146
studio@fonteynesigns.co.uk
www.fonteynesigns.co.uk

Manufacturers of all types of polystyrene cut letters, graphics & 3-dimensional models. Virtually any logo, graphic or shape can be cut in polystyrene. Especially useful for short term exhibition, conference or promotional use (All polystyrene has a fire retardant additive). Polystyrene can be faced with vinyl or inkjet prints. Fitting service nationwide. Established 1976.

POSTER HOLDERS / CASES

BROWNINGS LTD

157 English Street, Hull, HU3 2BT
Tel: 01482 380900
sales@browningsltd.co.uk
www.browningsltd.co.uk

Brownings is one of the largest, TRADE ONLY suppliers of signage products. We manufacture poster frames, menu cases, slimlocks, signtrim, troughlights, acrylic-faced light boxes, flexfaced signage and now our new Texsign frames for internal use. The two versions of poster holders, the slimlock and menu case are both thin, lockable and hinged. They are available in any practical size and colour.

INSIGHT SIGN SYSTEMS

67 Dykehead Street, Queenslie Industrial
Estate, Glasgow G33 4AQ

Tel: 0141 774 5990
sales@insightsignsystems.com
www.insightsignsystems.com
Insight is a trade only manufacturer, offering a made to measure service, with in-house powder coating. A wide range of options is available for displaying posters and transparencies (panels not included), including back-lit or non-illuminated, wall mounted or free standing etc. Hinged opening front provides access for maintenance. Rubber gaskets and slam locks provide security. Suitable for outdoor use.

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

Pear Tree Works, Bath Road, Upper
Langford, Bristol BS40 5DJ

Tel: 01934 852 888
sales@signscape.co.uk
www.signscape.co.uk
Serving the Sign Trade for over 40 years, we are a leading manufacturer of modular sign systems, notice boards & information displays. Our Avenue poster case provides high quality yet affordable, external poster display. Sizes from A4-A0, in wall, post, and rail mounted versions, with headers and sign panel options. We also manufacture illuminated menu cases for hotel and restaurant settings.

SIGNWAVES

Lefevre Way, Gapton Hall Industrial Estate,
Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 0NW
Tel: 01493 419300
enquiries@signwaves.co.uk
www.signwaves.co.uk
Signwaves supplies Poster Displays suitable for both indoor and outdoor use. As the UK's largest manufacturer of point of sale signs and displays, we can provide you with high quality Poster Frames, Snapframes, Menu Cases and lockable Noticeboards.

UK POINT OF SALE GROUP LTD

Horsfield Way, Bredbury Park Industrial
Estate, Stockport SK6 2TD
Tel: 0161 431 4400/4411
www.ukpos.com

UK Point of Sale leading manufacturers of display products Acrylic & PVC poster holders, Sign Supports, Aluminium Snap Frames, A Boards, Poster cases & Point of sale fittings.

PRINT/POSTER FRAMES

BROWNINGS LTD

157 English Street, Hull, HU3 2BT
Tel: 01482 380900
sales@browningsltd.co.uk
www.browningsltd.co.uk

Brownings is one of the largest, TRADE ONLY suppliers of signage products in the UK. We manufacture poster frames, menu cases, slimlocks, signtrim, troughlights, acrylic-faced light boxes, flexfaced signage and now our new Texsign frames for internal use. The aluminium frame are available in two widths, 25mm and 38mm, can be supplied to your specification and can even be illuminated.

SIGNWAVES

Lefevre Way, Gapton Hall Industrial Estate,
Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 0NW
Tel: 01493 419300
enquiries@signwaves.co.uk
www.signwaves.co.uk

Signwaves supplies poster displays suitable for both indoor and outdoor use. As the UK's largest manufacturer of point of sale signs and displays, we can provide you with high quality poster frames, Snapframes, Menu Cases and Lockable Noticeboards.

UK POINT OF SALE GROUP LTD

Horsfield Way, Bredbury Park Industrial
Estate, Stockport SK6 2TD

Tel: 0161 431 4400/4411
www.ukpos.com
UK Point of Sale leading manufacturers of display products Acrylic & PVC poster holders, Sign Supports, Aluminium Snap Frames, A Boards, Poster cases & Point of sale fittings.

PROGRAMMABLE LED DISPLAYS

JAYEX TECHNOLOGY LTD

13 Sovereign Business Park, Coronation
Road, London NW10 7QP
Tel: 020 8838 6222
sales@jayex.com

www.led-signs-international.com
Jayex is the UK's largest trade supplier and designer of dynamic moving message LED text and video products. We provide indoor and outdoor LED displays that can be embed into static signs or used as stand-alone item providing an eye catching display of virtually any shape and size. We will design and price LED products for your project, helping to keep your workload to a minimum.

MESSAGEMAKER DISPLAYS LTD

Unit 43 Ormside Way, Holmethorpe
Industrial Estate, Redhill, Surrey RH1 2LG
Tel: 01737 774 738

info@messagemaker.co.uk
www.messagemaker.co.uk
Programmable LED text and video specialists for Electronic Digital Signage, standalone or incorporate in your own sign project. Many products are available from stock for Indoor & Outdoor applications, over 15 years experience in the market. Call now for a free quotation or to arrange a visit from a member of our national sales team.

PROJECTING SIGNS

IRON DESIGN

37A Douglas Rd., Poole, BH12 2AU
Tel: 01202 463573

enquiries@ironsigns.com
www.ironsigns.com

Leading trade suppliers of high quality traditional and contemporary projecting signs and brackets, offering a large range of brackets, panels and lights off the shelf, as well as a comprehensive bespoke service. Competitive prices and next day service. Please visit our website or phone for a brochure.

SIGNWAVES

Lefevre Way, Gapton Hall Industrial Estate,
Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 0NW
Tel: 01493 419300

enquiries@signwaves.co.uk
www.signwaves.co.uk

Signwaves are a UK based supplier and manufacturer of Projecting Signs, fabric Flags and Flying Banners for internal and external use. Our range also includes Snapframes, Pavement Signs and A-Boards, Internal and External Poster Display and Café and Rope Barriers.

REFLECTIVE VINYL/TAPES

ATC LTD

Calf Hey South, off Well'ith Lane, Rochdale
OL11 2JS

Tel: 01706 633043

sales@apptape.co.uk
www.apptape.co.uk

Suppliers of Micro prismatic reflective tapes (3m, Avery, Reflexite) and glass bead reflective vinyl for use on emergency vehicles (police cars & chapter 8 legislation etc) also HGV markings as per EC 104. We stock Conspicuity tape manufactured by Reflexite and Avery which are some of the most reflective materials available on the market. Chapter 8 chevron kits also available.

TENNANTS UK LTD

Tennant House, Mount Street, New Basford,
Nottingham NG7 7HX

Tel: 0115 973 8080

sales@tennantsuk.com
www.tennantsuk.com

The UK's largest distributor of Orafol and Reflexite reflective vinyl. Our range includes Class Ref.1, Class Ref.2, Micro-Prismatic, commercial grade, engineering grade, construction grade & hi-intensity in many colours. Used for chapter 8 chevron kits, ECE 104 conspicuity tape, permanent & temporary road signs & emergency vehicles. Visit our website for guides, prices & application instructions.

ROAD SIGNS

TENNANTS UK LTD

Tennant House, Mount Street, New Basford,
Nottingham NG7 7HX

Tel: 0115 973 8080

sales@tennantsuk.com
www.tennantsuk.com

Tennants UK is one of the UK's largest manufacturers of temporary road signs and distribute economy grade Zintec road signs through to BS EN 12899-1 specified permanent signs. Many years have been spent working closely with leading Traffic Management and construction companies enabling Tennants UK to cater to their every need, including metal frames, cones, barriers, lamps & sign design software.

ROUTER CUTTERS/PLOTTER BLADES

ATA ENGINEERING PROCESSES

ATA House, Unit B, Boundry Way, Hemel
Hempstead, Herts HP2 7SS

Tel: 01442 264411

sales@ataeng.com

www.ataeng.com

Extensive range of high quality solid carbide, PCD, carbide tipped and HSS cutters manufactured by ONSRUD CUTTER offer routing solutions for most types of material.

EDWARD MATHIAS & CO

PO BOX 121, Frodsham, Cheshire, WA6 1AA

Tel: 01928 739 799

info@edwardmathias.com

www.edwardmathias.com

Specialist manufacturers/suppliers of tungsten carbide plotter blades and router cutters. We don't just sell blades, we are the UK's leading manufacturer. Note - we have no connection with any other company who sell or re-sharpen blades.

SCREEN PRINTING

3S PRINT & DISPLAY

Unit 9 Hortonwood 33, Telford, Shropshire
TF1 7EX

Tel: 01952 677506

sales@3s-signs.co.uk

www.3s-signs.co.uk

www.3sballoons.com

Screenprinters to the sign trade. POS, Estate Agency boards. Full colour up to 8' x 5', vinyl stickers, mark resist, Foamex. Contact us for best trade prices on large or small runs.

CLEARSCORE LTD

Unit 1, Tudor Works, Turret Lane, Ipswich
IP4 1DL

Tel: 01473 212751

sales@clearscore.co.uk

www.clearscore.co.uk

Trade service for high quality screen printing, large or small runs on to most substrates. Providing high quality service and products since 1978.

DARTFORD ENGRAVING & SCREENPRINTING LTD

Unit 4 Power Works Industrial Estate, Slade
green Road, Erith, Kent DA8 2HY

Tel: 01322 340 194

mail@desp.co.uk

www.desp.co.uk

DESP has been trading for over 50 years. Screenprinting, anodic printing, correx boards, stickers, overlays, signs, chemical etching, engraving processes also covered (ALL CARRIED OUT INHOUSE), including artwork. So whether its a 1 off or 1,000s off, we can offer a quick competitive turnaround.

FIRST SIGNS & LABELS LTD

Unit 1, Raynham Close, Raynham Rd Ind
Estate, Raynham Road, Bishops Stortford,
Herts, CM23 5JP

Tel: 01279 467999

sales@firstsignsandlabels.co.uk

www.firstsignsandlabels.co.uk

We specialise in high quality screen printing. We are suited to meet print requirements onto many substrates. We have finishing capabilities with die cutting and CNC routing. We offer a fast and efficient service, should you require 1 off's or larger run's give our team a call.

HT SCREEN PRINT

9 Merlin Way, Hillend Industrial Estate,
Dalgety Bay, Fife, KY11 9JY

Tel: 01383 824522

info@htscreenprint.co.uk

www.htscreenprint.co.uk

Trade screen printing of garments, estate agency boards, pvc, vinyl, acrylics, metals, glass, wood, POS, anything flat. HT Screenprint have been in business for over 20 years, supplying the highest quality screen printing to the trade at very competitive prices. Our experience produces quality quickly!

HUMPHREYS SIGNS LTD

Unit 6, Spencer Trading Estate, Denbigh,
North Wales LL16 5TQ

Tel: 01745 814066

sales@humphreys-signs.co.uk

www.humphreys-signs.co.uk

Trade Printers for over 40 Years. Estate agency boards a speciality (price list on our web site) Printing on correx, pvc, vinyls, acrylics, magnetics as well as digital printing. Large and small runs.

MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS

51/59 Waterworks Rd. Norwich NR2 4DA

Tel: 01603 666699

sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk

www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk

High quality screen printing to all types of rigid and flexible base materials ie. self-adhesive vinyl, paper, plastic and metal. From single to full colour and small or large runs.

SCULPTORS

BRYAN RAWLINGS DESIGN

45 Nunney Close, Keynsham, Bristol BS31
1XG

Tel: 0117 986 7894 / 7291

bryan@bryanrawlings.com

www.bryanrawlings.com

Designers and makers of coats of arms, emblems and all types of sculptural and decorative signage. GRP, cast resins, metals, detailed hand painting and much more. Large range of royal coats of arms available. Specialist suppliers to the sign trade.

SHEET MATERIALS

N E PLASTICS LTD

Unit 1, Ruxley Corner Industrial Estate,
Edginton Way, Sidcup, Kent DA14 5BL

Tel: 020 8308 9990

sales@neplastics.co.uk

www.neplastics.co.uk

One of the largest independent stockholders of semi-finished plastics in the UK, offering a huge range of both branded and own label products including Perspex, Alliance ACP, Foamalite, Lumex and Arla. A next day delivery service on cut to size and polished Perspex is available. We also offer a trade service on CNC Router & Laser cutting, Sign trays and bespoke plastic fabrication.

RIGHTON LTD

Righton House, Elliott Way, Nexus Point,
Holford, Birmingham B6 7AP
Tel: 0121 356 1141

marketing@righton.co.uk

www.righton.co.uk

UK distributors of Polycasa cast & extruded sheet & Policril cast acrylic. Available in a wide range of clear, opals & colours. Also stocked: Marlon solid Polycarbonate, PETG, Foamalux, Komadur, Hygienic Cladding Rigid PVC, Aluminium Composite Sheet, aluminium sheet, Sign Post System, Stainless steel sheets, aluminium extrusions, fasteners, copper, brass & bronze.

TELEGAN PRESSED PRODUCTS LTD.

Unit 3, Old Mercedes Building, Stour Road,
Bathside, Harwich, Essex, CO12 3HF

Tel: 01255 554141

sales@teleganpressedproducts.co.uk

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www.teleganpressedproducts.com

Leading manufacturer of plate pressed PVC sheet offering equivalents to Darvic, Pacton and Cobex under our trade name TELBEX. We also manufacture VYNALAST™ engraving laminate. A comprehensive range of photoluminescent boards and self adhesive vinyl is available in PSPA class B and Class C to order.

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Tel: 01302 775920

sales@visionsinplastics.co.uk

www.visionsinplastics.co.uk

Stocks of Mirrored Extruded Acrylic in clear, 19 colours, See-Thru, Two sided, Anti Scratch, Anti Fog. Mirrored Polycarbonate, Petg and Polystyrene. Non mirrored sheet in Acrylic, ABS, Polycarbonate, Polystyrene and PVC Foam.

SIGN & DISPLAY SYSTEMS

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

Pear Tree Works, Bath Road, Upper
Langford, Bristol BS40 5DJ

Tel: 01934 852 888

sales@signscape.co.uk

www.signscape.co.uk

Serving the Sign Trade for over 40 years, we are a leading manufacturer of modular sign and display systems, notice boards & other information displays. Our 6 major sign systems are used and combined, to create a wide range of sign display solutions, including full signage schemes. With all products made to order, we specialise in tailoring solutions to suit each client, location and application.

SIGNWAVES

Lefevre Way, Gapton Hall Industrial Estate,
Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 0NW

Tel: 01493 419300

enquiries@signwaves.co.uk

www.signwaves.co.uk

Signwaves are UK manufacturers of signs and display products for internal and external use. Our range includes Snapframes, Pavement Signs and A-boards, Forecourt signs, Poster Displays, Menu and Brochure Displays, Projecting Signs and Flags and Cafe and Rope Barriers.

SIGN CASES

INSIGHT SIGN SYSTEMS

67 Dykehead Street, Queenslie Industrial Estate, Glasgow G33 4AQ
Tel: 0141 774 5990
sales@insightsignsystems.com
www.insightsignsystems.com
Insight is a trade only manufacturer, offering a made to measure service, with in-house powder coating. A wide range of aluminium signcases are available, ready to accept acrylic panels, with several trim styles to choose from, and various options including hinged opening fronts, gas strut assisted opening, stand-off brackets etc.

SIGN MAKING SOFTWARE

DELCAM LTD

Small Heath Business Park, Birmingham B10 0HJ
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info@artcam.com
www.artcam.com
Delcam provides sign-makers worldwide with its ArtCAM range of CAD/CAM software, Express, Insignia and Pro, to create 2D and 3D signs. The entry-level package, ArtCAM Express starts from £99 and can be customised with modules (E.g. nesting and font creation).

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Tel: 0121 608 4431
sales@e-signfittings.co.uk
www.e-signfittings.co.uk
E-Signfittings are one of the largest suppliers of Sign Standoffs, Cable & Rod Display Systems in the UK. We have large stocks available on next day delivery for orders received before 3pm and are equipped to supply orders from a few pounds up to thousands of pounds. Products in our range include Screw Head Covers, Poster Hanging Systems, Sign Hanging Systems, Leaflet Holders and Poster Displays.

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127 Albert Street, Fleet, Hants GU51 3SN
Tel: 01252 758 934
sales@fairfielddisplays.co.uk
www.fairfielddisplays.co.uk
Sign support systems for any internal signage. Wall mounts, directory systems, hanging banner systems, suspended cable/rod systems. Custom made acrylic signs supplied as blanks or printed to your requirements. Best quality components at highly attractive trade terms. See the full range on the website or call for a comprehensive brochure. Showrooms in Fleet & Shrewsbury

I-SPI LTD

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Tel: 0141 764 1600
sales@ispitrade.com
www.ispitrade.com
I-SPI Trade supplier of sign support systems. Our range includes wall mounts, cable & rod display systems, screw covers, LED lighting and much more all at THE REAL TRADE PRICE. Massive stocks and next day delivery. See our products on our web site or give Stephen or Sean a call for a brochure.

MID WEST DISPLAYS

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Tel: 01743 465531
sales@midwestdisplays.co.uk
www.MidWestDisplays.co.uk
Mid West Displays stock a wide range of sign support systems. We also stock wall mounts, snap frames, mirror screws, cable/rod suspended systems, lighting, poster pockets and many more. We are pleased to be working with the highest quality materials at competitive prices.

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UK Point of Sale leading manufacturers of display products Acrylic & PVC poster holders, Sign Supports, Aluminium Snap Frames, A Boards, Poster cases & Point of sale fittings.

SIGN SURVEYOR

PB WILLIAMS SIGN SURVEYOR

48 Durlay Rd, Aintree L9 9AW
Tel: 07885 486 182
pbwilliams48@yahoo.co.uk
We specialise in sign surveying to the trade, with 30 years of experience as a sign fitter/manufacturer. I was contracted to large companies in the north west, and country wide. I am based in Merseyside and have PASMA, IPAF/PAL & CSCS qualifications and will travel UK and Europe. For further details please contact the above number or email.

SIGN TRADE SUPPLIERS

BROWNINGS LTD

157 English Street, Hull, HU3 2BT
Tel: 01482 380900
sales@browningsltd.co.uk
www.browningsltd.co.uk
Brownings is one of the largest, TRADE ONLY suppliers of signage products in the UK. We manufacture poster frames, menu cases, slimlocks, signtrim, troughlights, acrylic-faced light boxes, flexfaced signage and now our new Texsign frames for internal use. Any size or quantity, from 1 off to multiple rollouts. We are happy to supply as lengths of extrusion, in kit form or as made-up signs.

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

Pear Tree Works, Bath Road, Upper Langford, Bristol BS40 5DJ
Tel: 01934 852888
sales@signscape.co.uk
www.signscape.co.uk
Serving the Sign Trade for over 40 years, we are a leading manufacturer of modular sign systems, notice boards & information displays. Our systems create a wide range of sign solutions including: post and panel, flush panel and curved panel signs; wayfinding signs, wall directories, monolith and fingerpost signs. Other products include exterior notice boards, poster/menu cases, and letter boards.

SIGNWAVES

Lefevre Way, Gaptown Hall Industrial Estate, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 0NW
Tel: 01493 419300
enquiries@signwaves.co.uk
www.signwaves.co.uk
Signwaves is a UK manufacturer of signs and display products for internal and external use. Our range includes Snapframes, Pavement Signs and A-boards, Forecourt signs, Poster Displays, Menu and Brochure Displays, Projecting Signs and Flags and Cafe and Rope Barriers.

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129 Humberstone Rd, Leicester, LE5 3AP
Tel: 0116 262 6288
sales@sygnetsigns.com
www.sygnetsigns.com
We manufacture most sign solutions you will ever need. Fascia's, built up letters/logos, flat cut letters/logos, laser/router cutting service, "off the shelf" or made to measure illuminated poster cases, LED illumination, powder/stove enamel coatings, 3D development in both design and manufacture. All works carried out in-house.

THE SIGN GROUP

Victoria Works, Bruntcliffe Road, Morley, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS27 0LF
Tel: 0113 25 24 706
info@thesigngroup.co.uk
www.thesigngroup.co.uk
We are a specialist trade manufacturer of bespoke sign systems to the signage, design, shopfitting and display industries throughout Europe. Services Include: Built up letters/logos, sign trays, lightboxes, flat cut letters/logos, laser/cnc cutting, SG LightSheet™, LED Stockists. All inhouse, all in control.

SOLAR POWERED SIGNS & DISPLAYS

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

Pear Tree Works, Bath Road, Upper Langford, Bristol BS40 5DJ
Tel: 01934 852 888
sales@signscape.co.uk
www.signscape.co.uk
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sales@apptape.co.uk
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Suppliers of various speciality films including Etch glass, Reflective, Fluorescent, Reflexite daybrite, Reflexite prismatic reflective, Hi intensity reflective, Photoluminescent, Cast metallics, 2yr Fluorescent, Gemstone metallics, Multi lens, Transparent colours, Checker plate, Mirror colours, Prismatic colours, Glitter colours, Brushed aluminium silver and gold.

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www.mactac.eu
MACTac are global manufacturers of self-adhesive Speciality Films incl PVC, PET, PP, PE and more. World renowned brands include MACmark (coloured Vinyls) MACscreen, Imagin and Permacolor inkjet printable films and Protection Laminates. Also available, a diverse range of Technical Tapes and Label substrates using Speciality Films and products Class O fire-rated and CBS Outdoors (Viacom) approved.

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We manufacture poster frames, menu cases, slimlocks, signtrim, troughlights, acrylic-faced light boxes, flexfaced signage and now our new Texsign frames for internal use. Frames range from a 17mm "retro" extrusion to a 180mm deep double-sided application. The profiles can accept a digitally-printed image by way of a rubber keder attached to the edges of the print and can be changed in seconds.

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Brownings is one of the largest, TRADE ONLY suppliers of signage products in the UK. We manufacture poster frames, menu cases, slimlocks, signtrim, troughlights, acrylic-faced light boxes, flexfaced signage and now our new Texsign frames for internal use. The troughlight comes complete with a high impact, hinged polycarbonate face. We supply in any size, colour or quantity.

INSIGHT SIGN SYSTEMS

67 Dykehead Street, Queenslie Industrial Estate, Glasgow G33 4AQ
Tel: 0141 774 5990

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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 trough lighting Highlight Mk4 Highlight HV and Highlight Eco-Star.

VINYL & GRAPHIC INSTALLATIONS

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Specialist applicators of all types of vinyl and graphics. Vehicle application, Windows, Wall & Floor graphics etc. Fleet specialists. Nationwide service.

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Tel: 020 8311 4400

apauk@apaspa.com

www.apaspa.com

One of Europe's main vinyl manufacturing companies supplying own brand self-adhesive plotter film and Digital Print media. Films from short-term to 10 years including APA-BANNER and APA-TRUCK vinyl. Cast wrapping carbon-effect, frost-effect, printable reflective, bespoke banners and extensive range of Print material for UV, Solvent and Dye/Pigment inks, all application aids are available.

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Calf Hey South, Off Well'ith Lane, Rochdale, Lancs OL11 2JS

Tel: 01706 633043

sales@apptape.co.uk

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Distributors of Ritrama UK's full range of signmaking vinyls including their complete portfolio of Digital Films. We also have available a full range of signmaking vinyls manufactured in the UK by KPMF. We stock a range of application tapes from R Tape USA and various Digital Media manufactured by LG Hausys. Discounts available on credit card payments.

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The UK's widest range of digitally printable wide format magnetic and ferro sheet (both over 1200mm wide). Maxmag vehicle grade magnetic materials available in white, plain or adhesive backed - by roll or cut to your specific requirements. Also available neo magnets, vehicle roof magnets, sign grippers and a full range of high tape to suit every budget and application.

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sales@dorotape.co.uk

www.dorotape.co.uk

Doro Tape provide an extensive range of vinyl from major European manufacturers such as Ritrama and Aslan. Specialist films include reflective, fluorescent, glass etch effect films, holographic films, window tints, Ritrama gemstone vinyl, vehicle wrap films, polyester mirror and brushed effect films and stencil masking films, plus a large selection of accessories.

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Offering a full range of Monomeric & Polymeric Sign Vinyls, Wide Format Digital Inkjet Films, Car Wrap & Interior Decoration Films, 3M Cushionmount™, Trade Slitting (Custom Slitting-Width down to 6mm in any Length available). Credit Card Facilities Available

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www.mactac.eu

MACTac are a global manufacture of self-adhesive materials including Vinyls for CAD CAM plotting, Laminating or Printing using many techniques including Ink Jet, Screen and Litho. The range has products specifically designed Vehicle Wrapping, Wall, Street, Floor and Window Graphics as well as General Signage. Some products are Class O fire-rated and CBS Outdoors (formerly Viacom) approved.

MDP SUPPLIES

Unit 11 Lumina Park, Bromborough, Wirral CH62 3PT

Tel: 0151 334 2300

info@mdpsupplies.co.uk

www.mdpsupplies.co.uk

Distributor to sign makers and garment printers. Stocking Ritrama, KPMF, DeTape and many other leading brands. Order online at www.mdpsupplies.co.uk, by phone or at any of our 7 branches across the UK. No account needed. Last order time - 6pm for next day delivery.

SIGN TRADE SUPPLIES LTD

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Tel: 01622 689 410

orders@signtradesupplies.co.uk

www.signtradesupplies.co.uk

Distributor to sign makers across the UK. Supplying a large range of sign making supplies including vinyl, digital print media and sign making tools. Receive next day AM delivery as standard when purchasing online. We stock Avery Dennison, Image Perfect, Ritrama, Oracal, 3M, Reflexite & many more.

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www.selfadhesivevinyls.com

Distributors of self-adhesive vinyls since 1966. Stockists of a huge range from leading manufacturers: MACTAC, ASLAN, SCHWARZ, POLITAPE, RITRAMA and INTERCOAT. As part of the Pyramid Group we can offer the full range of MACTAC cad and print vinyls along with ASLAN specialities such as 2-sided Metallised films and Memoboard films. All stock available for national next-day delivery.

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Tel: +44 (0)1274 774477

sales@applelec.co.uk

www.applelec.co.uk

Trade suppliers of curved or flat-faced way-finding and aluminium display systems with directories incorporating wall mounted, projecting, and totem signs. Poster display frames with a snap side profile to allow for easy interchange of inserts and an exterior light box series are available. Please ask for an information pack or contact one of our friendly and experienced sales staff for assistance.

I.C.E.

Marcon House, Wyther Lane, Leeds LS5 3BT

Tel: 0113 2242124

sales@icesigns.co.uk

www.icesigns.co.uk

Suppliers of internal and external wayfinding and directory systems to DDA (1995) guidelines if required.

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

Pear Tree Works, Bath Road, Upper Langford, Bristol BS40 5DJ

Tel: 01934 852 888

sales@signscape.co.uk

www.signscape.co.uk

Serving the Sign Trade for over 40 years, we are a leading manufacturer of modular sign systems & information displays. We have 4 major systems for creating interior and exterior wayfinding sign solutions including: post and panel, flush panel and curved panel signs; desk, door and wall signs, wall directories, monolith and fingerpost signs. We have also offer a full graphics service if required.

WIDE FORMAT SOLUTIONS PROVIDER

COLOURGEN

The AmBer Centre, Oldfield Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 1TH

Tel: 01628 588722

sales@colourgen.com

www.colourgen.com

Colourgen is the UK's leading specialist distributor of large format digital colour printing solutions, consumables, bespoke software, engineering and technical support services. The Company is the exclusive UK distributor for the Mutoh Sign & Display, Speciality/Industrial, Dye Sublimation and Direct to Textile printers.

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www.allwoodproducts.co.uk

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Top Tip from Lee

Internal signs can be used to convey brand messages and help create a sense of fun in ways that external signage rarely does. Why not use our LED cabochon bulbs for an interior statement sign that delivers all the fun of the fair.

Give me a call on 01274 774477,
I'm here to help.

Lee

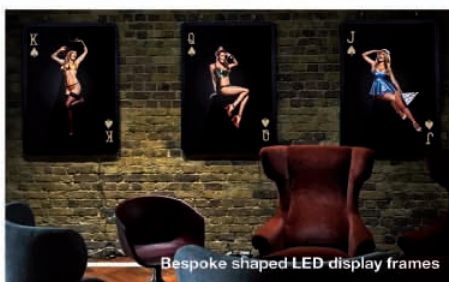


Signs | Display | Lighting | Components

Images: L.E. Graphics (The Bush), Lite-House Europe Ltd (Pin-up light boxes)
Office of Light (Whisky Shop), Nebula Creative (Mark Leeson)



Cabochon bulb industrial-style letters



Bespoke shaped LED display frames



Halo illuminated built-up letters



Stencil cut design illuminated by LED Light Sheet

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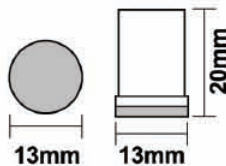
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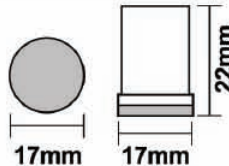


Medium

£16 per 250 complete

£9.50 per 250 cups

£6.50 per 250 studs

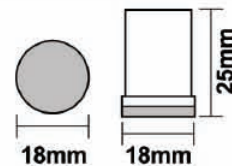


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