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ISSUE 164 MAY/JUNE 2016 Sign Update 3







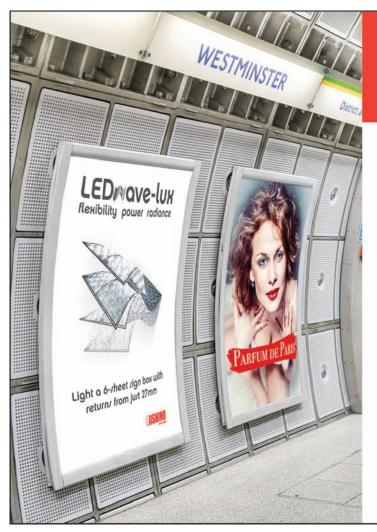
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# WELCOME Page

## Welcome page

We looked, we talked (a lot), we got the blisters... Sign & Digital UK is over for another year, and we can rest our weary feet. And speaking of which, has anyone discovered the perfect exhibition shoes? We spoke to a few exhibitors, men and women, who struggle to find the ideal solution to standing on your feet all day for three/four days. Although we couldn't complain about the hospitality from a lot of stands; visitors to the show got to enjoy ice cream at Hybrid Services, the Antalis coffee shop, and Roland DG's cafe. Read a short review about it on page 71.

Most of the biggest stands at these shows represent the digital side of the industry. An area that is seeing huge growth as markets and customer demands change quickly; and where there is much innovation, research and development. Our hard working features editor has spoken to many in the industry, and written two features exploring what's new in digital printing and digital signage.

We have some wonderful case studies in this issue, such as Signage Express (Sheffield) who decorated the walls and ceilings of a children's hospital. Or check out 20 vintage VW campervans wrapped in bespoke 70's designs for a holiday rental company. If you have worked on something you're proud of, we'd love to publish it, so get in touch.

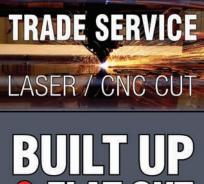
Read some glowing testimonials from printing and sign companies about latest purchases, such as Josero's Bubble Free Pro Applicator; the AXYZ 6010 CNC Router; and a DYSS X7 Digital Cutter.

Hopefully the weather will stay nice to enjoy spring!

Till the next time...

Kathryn

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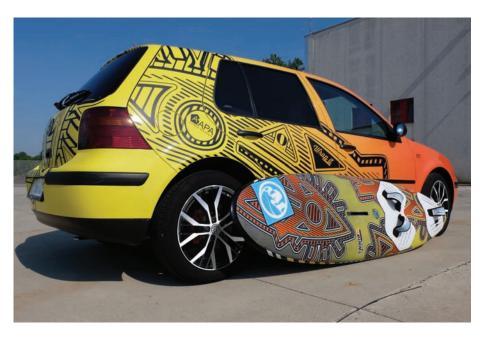
### New printing film with "Repo-Tack" technology

APA has launched CW/R00-FX, a "top quality" white gloss cast film for long-term digital prints such as wrapping applications. It can be printed with solvent, eco-solvent, UV and latex inks.

Because of "Repo Tack", its repositionable adhesive, CW/R00-FX is easy to apply, says the company. The "Air Free System" technology also helps you position and reposition the film, through micro-channels that favour air ejection upon application.

"The excellent printability with bright and defined colours, and the B-S2-D0 reaction to fire certification, make APA's CW/R00-FX an unrivaled film in the current market; destined to revolutionise the concept of wrapping and full decoration of flat and curved surfaces," says a spokesperson.

www.apaspa.com



## Four new films in Solar&Safety range

APA expands its Solar&Safety range with four new films, which "combine innovation and top quality, the features that distinguish the products from the Italian manufacturer". SF/WI-550 and SF/WI-650 are two new self-adhesive films that filter the sunlight



APA expands its Solar&Safety range with four new films.

while maintaining visibility and illumination inside the rooms.

SF/WI-650 is specifically designed to be applied on shop windows. Because of its special blue hue and high transparency, it filters most UV rays without altering the colours of the goods displayed, and keeps it well lit inside.

SF/WI-550, with a light champagne colour, is highly transparent. It is also "extremely efficient" at reducing heat, as well as filters UV rays.

They also present SF/WX-911, a selfadhesive reflective film for glass, which improves privacy and appearance. Due to its reflectivity properties, it "significantly" reduces heat transmission and blocks almost all of the UV rays. This reduces excessive overheating inside the rooms, says APA.

The growing need for protection has inspired APA to create a new version of the Safety line, the clear, safety self-adhesive film SY/W2-175. It makes glass safer by holding fragments or splinters in the event of breakage. A glass protected with this film is class 1B1 certified according to EEC standards. SY/W2-175 also has had anti-scratch processing that facilitates cleaning and preserves its transparency over time.



## Light is homogeneous Less is more – thanks to the new Square Lens Technology

The patented square lenses from OSRAM, which are used in BackLED S and M Plus G15 modules\*, provide a light distribution similar to that of batwing lenses with OSRAM Flat-Ray Technology – but with fewer LED modules. Light is OSRAM

#### Your benefits

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- No shadows with black holes
- Perfect illumination of very slim installations due to a larger beam angle

\* Available in white (from 3,000 to 6,500 K) and other light colors with a luminous flux of 35 to 75 lm per module







### Transparent coloured overlaminates from Avery Dennison

Avery Dennison Graphics Solutions recently launched new transparent coloured overlaminates for Conform Chrome™ films. The overlaminates are available in three colours; orange, green and purple, to combine with the five existing Conform Chrome colours.

"Avery Dennison developed a new innovation with coloured cast overlaminates to complement our Conform Chrome films," says Oliver Guenther, marketing director, Avery Dennison Graphics Solutions Europe. "We are the first to market a coloured cast overlaminate film designed specifically for vehicle wraps, and are excited to see the installers' creative colour combinations."

When paired with Conform Chrome, the overlaminates create "more than just additional colour options". Together, the films offer a multi-layer functionality that protects the chrome film from being scratched or damaged. With the trend for chrome finishes



The transparent coloured overlaminates are available in three colours.



gaining popularity, the new product allows installers to offer even more creative solutions, says the company.

"The transparent coloured overlaminates are a jaw dropper and definite conversation piece," says Eddy Speelman of ModiForce in the Netherlands.

"I am getting such a positive response to the colours made possible by these transparent green, orange and purple overlaminates. I'm constantly finding myself in conversation about how amazing the colour looks."

graphics.averydennison.eu/col



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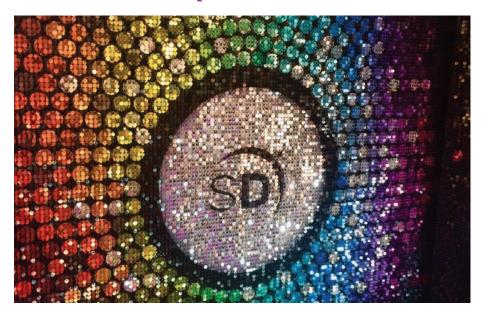
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### Shimmerdisc makes an impact

Shimmerdisc Sequin Display offers photographic quality "shimmering brilliance" to any display and signage, inside and out. The Shimmerdisc patented modular and scalable disc display can be custom printed, creating pixel-perfect images, with over 5,000 sequins per square metre. The finished effect presents "inspiring, eye-catching" moving image displays that look almost 3D. According to the company they create impact on indoor and outdoor signage, retail displays, events, exhibitions and can "animate" an area to attract attention.

Any artwork can be printed on Shimmerdisc, from logos to photography, fine art to linear graphics.

Steve Collins, Marketing and Channel Manager Agfa UK, said: "I'm always on the look out for applications in our industry that allow creativity from our UV flat bed technologies. Every now and then, a new idea comes along that stops you in your tracks. One of these moments occurred recently while I was walking around the Sign & Digital exhibition at the NEC in Birmingham. The Shimmerdisc image of David Bowie immediately caught my eye with the stunning effect of the sequin displays. Shimmerdisc is an application that is perfectly suited to our Agfa UV flat bed products such as our Anapurna range and the Jeti Mira and the Tauro. When the two are combined, the fusion of the photographic quality from our products, along



with the creative attributes of Shimmerdisc, create a final printed result that is visually amazing. Shimmerdisc is a perfect example of a product that will take display imagery to a higher level."

All Shimmerdisc products are made in the UK and can be shipped worldwide. Shimmerdisc is also waterproof so can be in-

> stalled outside, perfect for signage of all kinds, says the company. As the system is modular, Shimmerdisc can be printed any size, great for billboards, marketing, events and exhibitions, retail and commercial signage, festivals, bars, clubs, restaurants and backdrops.

> "We're pleased the industry are excited about including Shimmerdisc in their portfolio. Introducing Shimmerdisc into your print offering, opens up more business and is an opportunity to show your customers something new that they will never have seen before. Guaranteed to totally knock their socks off!" says Andrew Ainge, Managing Director of Shimmerdisc. "We've got some interesting projects and installations coming up, from fine art to major branded high street window displays."

> Shimmerdisc has partnerships with the major printing companies such as Agfa, Roland, HP, Fuji and Mimaki.

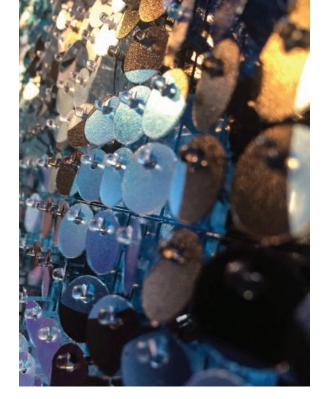
### How it's done

Shimmerdisc is printed on flatbed UV printers or specifiers can order direct through Shimmerdisc. The bigger the display the more impact it has. A 1000 x 1000mm display is the smallest they will do, which is 5,625 discs. Wall Installations typically have around 100,000+ discs.



Displays are ordered in 200x200mm modules with 225 printed 13mm discs per module. This is scalable to any size from 1 square metre to billboard size and can be custom printed, plain or reflective. They can also produce 3D virtual proofs of a design and animated video showing how the design will look. Visuals can be shown in room sets and they can apply various lighting conditions.

www.shimmerdisc.com



## Blackman & White's new software and technical developments

Specialist British large format finishing manufacturer Blackman & White (B&W) recently demonstrated their latest image recognition software at Sign and Digital. It uses the latest generation of camera technology with advanced distortion control to produce a "high speed, accurate solution" for sign and print cutting and registration.

Visitors at the show saw the new conveyor belt technology in use on a 1.6m Versa-Tech, which allows fast and easy control for switching between the laser and knife conveyor belts.

The Versa-Tech is a "versatile" cutter with a multi-head feature that makes it a popular choice for sign and print companies that need accuracy, reliability and flexibility.

The Versa-Tech can handle a range of substrates from self-adhesive vinyl, Foamex, Dibond, Foamcore, acrylic, textiles, PVC, sandwich board, card and paper. The Versa-Tech is ideal for the sign and display market and particularly those companies who have made the move into digital textile printing, says the company. It is available in flatbed, conveyorised, or laser-equipped models for "incredible functionality with a fast return on investment".

Managing Director Alex White said: "As a UK manufacturer for 50 years we offer



The Versa-Tech offers a 1.6m cut width with router and laser tooling options.

the best of British innovation. And as we're 'on the doorstep' for our European customers, we can provide a swift and truly responsive, manufacturer-direct service from delivery right through the lifetime of our machines." The Blackman & White range includes the MasterCut  ${}^{\rm TM},$  Genesis and Orion models.

www.blackmanandwhite.com www.cuttingresources.com

## Stand-off sign fixings exclusively for trade

Following their unveiling at Sign & Digital UK 2016, Signwaves have officially released Stand-Off Sign Fixings for trade customers.

The fixings can hold sign-panel thicknesses from 2mm to 12mm and are available in diameters of either 13mm or 19mm. Unlike many competitor offerings, Signwaves has a range of materials and finishes to choose from. Such as stainless steel, aluminium and brass. The stainless steel offering means that the Signwaves fixing range covers both internal and external usage. All fixings have no apparent screw heads, so this concealed mounting method acts as an effective tamper deterrent, says the company.

Another feature of the fixings is that

they are protected from scratches and dirt before they are even distributed to customers. This is because individual units are protectively sealed in twin polythene sleeves. For this reason, although sold in pairs and cartons, they cannot rub together and cause surface abrasion before being installed.

From the recent brochure release and website updates, the stand-off sign fixings have already attracted a number of largequantity enquiries, according to the company. These inexpensive yet stylish sign accessories are "forecast to prove a popular item with Signwaves' trade customers".

www.signwaves.co.uk



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## "Innovative" solutions for the print and display industry

Brett Martin's range of direct to print plastic substrates attracted a wide variety of visitors to the stand throughout the course of FESPA Digital, says the company. Among these substrates was Coexcell, the latest addition to their foam PVC sheet range; as well as new thin gauge options for Brett Martin's Marpet-g FS PETg and Polycarbonate ranges.

"For Brett Martin, FESPA continues to be a must-attend exhibition," says Hayley Lowry, Group Marketing Manager at Brett Martin. "The exhibition has been a great opportunity to show our excellent direct-to-print substrates, and our new offering to the print and display sector."

Brett Martin exhibited its "market leading" Foam PVC Range (Foamalux White, Foamalux Colour, Foamalux Ultra and Foamalux Xtra). As well as its Transparent Sheet Range (Marlon FS Polycarbonate, Marpet-g FS PETg, Marpet-a FS aPET and Marcryl Acrylic), which is one of the broadest available in Europe.

The new thin gauge products for the Marpet-g FS PETg and Polycarbonate ranges come in various options: 0.5mm, 0.75mm, 1mm and 1.5mm. Offering "ease of workability and thermoformability" at low temperatures, the thin gauge range has "outstanding durability" for lower sheet thicknesses. Typical applications include a wide range of sign and display applications, point of sale equipment, illuminated advertising signs, displays and graphic arts.

Coexcell is Brett Martin's premium printing, cladding and fabrication sheet that has a co-extruded solid PVC skin and foamed PVC core. Combining "excellent strength and rigidity with ease of workability", the substrate is used for signage, POS, retail and exhibitions.



Brett Martin's plastic substrates attracted a lot of interest at FESPA Digital.

### **3M expands Envision films**

3M has expanded the Envision range of high-performance non-PVC vehicle graphics films, with Envision Print Film 48C. This "naturally versatile" intermediate film will provide graphics printers and vehicle wrapping specialists with an easy-to-apply and remove film, which is compatible with all printing technologies.

The non-PVC film combines excellent print quality with ease of application and re-



moval for high-quality promotional graphics, according to the company. Available in a permanent or removable format, the film has a high-tensile strength that resists tearing, for faster and cleaner removal. It is also more tolerant of higher temperatures than vinyl, during installation and removal.

This economical single film meets the fire certification for EN45545-2 (Rail) and EN13501-1(Building). The film can be used for a wide range of applications, such as indoor and outdoor signage, wall and glass graphics and POP displays.

3M Envision Print Film 48C can be selected with or without 3M Controltac Technology and Comply Adhesive. This enables the film to be repositioned until perfect registration with the substrate is achieved, due to the non-visible air-release channels. This makes sure the application is smooth and free from bubbles. Scratch resistance and UV protection are provided by the compatible non-PVC Envision Gloss Over-laminate 8048G.

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## Kala and Caldera eliminate finishing errors for printers

Caldera has expanded its relationship with Kala, to ensure full integration between its V10 RIP suite and the range of wide-format print finishing equipment from the French manufacturer.

The cooperation between the companies "guarantees" users of Kala's laminators, dye-sublimation calendars and cutting systems the "power" of Caldera's expertise in the print production process when using its RIP software. Owners of Kala machinery benefit from time saved, accurate placement of crop and registration marks, plus automation in the finishing service, says the company.

"If a print is mishandled in any way during finishing it means a reprint, which means wasted time, media and resource," says Laurent Bouchard, Co-General Manager at Kala. "Finishing is a labour-intensive process, so it's essential for business owners to look at how this department can be made more efficient. By using Caldera, sign and display printers can address that rapidly and therefore improve profitability."

Caldera has developed a number of features to improve cutting and finishing processes for Kala users. V10 users can take advantage of accurate cut marks for single- or double-sided production; automated calculation of margins; and stop indicators that aid manual position changes. These functions remove many manual interventions from the finishing process, improving operations by reducing the chance of human error.

By using the Caldera RIP with the Trim-O-Matik module, owners of Kala laminators and cutters can "exploit" the capability of their machinery. The KalaXY semi-automatic trimmer, can cut a 50m roll measuring 1.32m into A4 sheets within five minutes and is simple to use, even for unskilled or temporary workers. A roll of print laminated using one of Kala's range of hot or cold laminators can be transferred to the KalaXY trimmer rapidly thanks to an intelligently designed, interchangeable roll shaft, says the company. Kala's approach is very much like Caldera's: all finishing devices are engineered to save time and money for users.

"Kala's approach is very much like Caldera's: all finishing devices are engineered to save time and money for users," says Patrick Marillier, Co-General Manager at Kala.

"Our existing customers who are using our cutters, calenders and laminators in combination with the Caldera RIP are achieving fantastic results, improving quality and eliminating many reprint and wastage costs."



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### **CDS launch transparent OLED displays**

Crystal Display Systems introduce The LucidVue, a "game changer" in transparent display technology.

Based on Transparent OLED (Organic Light Emitting Diode) Technology, this is an evolution in display principles that eliminates the need for display lighting and showcase box. This development in technology creates so many more options to innovate in a world of display, says CDS.

The LucidVue can improve brand impact, "astound" customers, and help "set yourself apart from the competition or inspire the next generation". Possible applications for this new technology include; retail promotion, exhibitions, museums and digital signage.

CDS's Technical Director, Tony Large, said: "This new genre of technology adds a further dimension to our transparent display offering, giving some real benefits for high end applications that require an emissive display. It will complement our existing range T-LCD panels." TOLED displays are available in a 55" module use the latest production techniques; this self-emitting display enables a crisp image while also offering a high transmittance rate of around 45 per cent.

The self-emissive pixels contain four sub pixels, red, green and blue for generating outstanding vibrant colours; and the final sub pixel (which would typically be black) is clear, to make it transparent.

"Poly-silicon TFTs act as the switching method for the Active Matrix of OLED generating a sumptuously rich colour palette of over one billion colours, with a

180 degree viewing angle in both vertical and horizontal planes. This can deliver a mind blowing visual to even a large audience," says Tony.



CDS say their new The LucidVue is a game changer in transparent display technology.

### **New Mimaki inks**

Mimaki will be making a new ink available in Summer 2016. Mimaki LUS-350 is a unique, stretchable ink suitable for a wide range of thermoforming applications, especially those that require "exceptional hardness and durability" such as automotive parts. Mimaki LUS-350 ink is compatible with the Mimaki UJF-7151plus and JFX200-2513 printers and will be available in CMYK, white and a unique clear ink.

The new ink is set to change the way vacuum moulded, or thermoformed applications are created, says Mimaki. With its ability to bring the benefits of digital printing to



This new ink technology allows thermoformed objects to be imaged before forming.

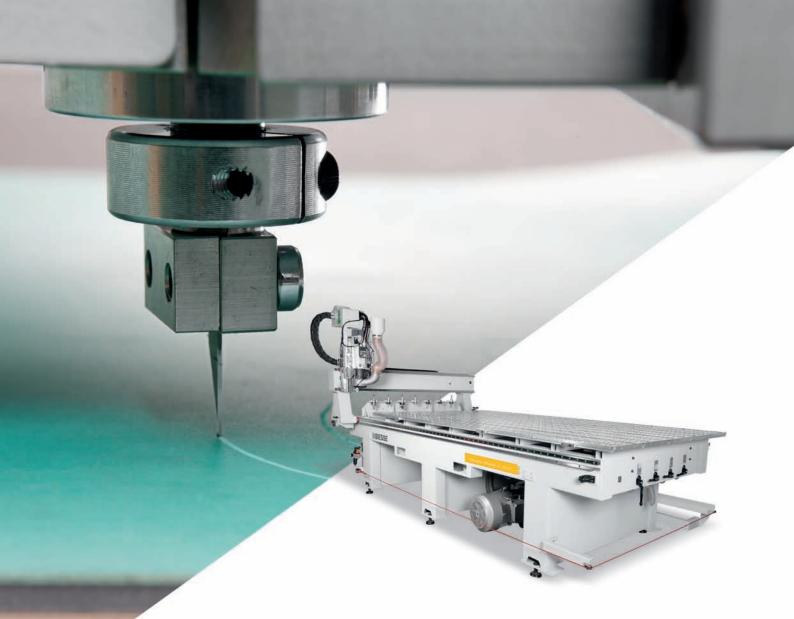
this market sector, it addresses the requirement for fast turnaround, short-run moulded objects with "exceptional" graphic quality. Up until now, it was necessary for objects to be formed prior to the images being applied manually or by screen printing, which is a time-consuming and expensive process. This new ink technology allows thermoformed objects to be imaged before forming, using Mimaki digital printers running inks that will not crack or otherwise be damaged during the heat-based forming process. This process will provide a "beautiful" finish for a wide range of applications such as car parts, mock-ups, moulded signs and more.

#### The details

Mimaki LUS-350 ink will stretch up to 350 per cent when heated to between 120 deg.C and 200 deg.C. After cooling to room temperature, the ink's rigidity is restored, while securely adhering to the moulded product without cracking or peeling. Images are initially printed on flat substrates using specialised imaging software, and then formed into the desired shape using vacuum, thermoforming or other moulding techniques.

Mimaki's LUS-350 clear ink is also unique in the market, adding texture or a glossy finish that can't be achieved with coloured ink alone.

www.hybridservices.co.uk



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## Spandex launches new materials for interior decor applications

Spandex has expanded its family of ImagePerfect materials with the launch of two new products aimed at the interior decor market place. Both enhance the existing range of ImagePerfect products and offer "exceptional" time and cost savings to end users.

### ImagePerfectTM 2420 ETU Wallpaper

The ImagePerfectTM 2420 ETU (Easy to Use) Wallpaper is a washable, non-woven paper with high opacity and a smooth surface. It has been designed with an inherent water-activated paste that enables it to be quickly and easily hung. This reduces costs and eliminates challenges associated with the more traditional method of applying wallpaper with paste.

Once activated, the pre-coated paper allows the installer to easily position it on the substrate. But when dry it develops a solid bond that has the same performance levels as a conventional paper and paste system.

As is typical of the Spandex IP wallpapers, it has a higher level of dimensional stability than would normally be found in other printable wallpapers on the market. Unlike other options that must be applied with an overlap to compensate for any shrinkage or pull back that can happen once the paper has been applied to the substrate, IP 2420 ETU Wallpaper can be applied with the panels side-by-side. "dimensional stability" lts makes sure that there is no subsequent movement.

Able to be used on a wide variety of substrates including painted or plastered walls, the product simply needs to be dipped in a tray of water before being applied direct in a fast, easy and clean process.



The new Clear Graphics is a printable, highly transparent film for glazed areas.

### ImagePerfectTM 2557 Clear Graphics

ImagePerfect 2557 is a versatile product for branding and advertising, as well as privacy screening. The whole look of a room can be "quickly and simply" transformed by enhancing a glazed area (window, glass panel or mirror) with this printable, highly transparent film.

The product is supported on a polyester liner that helps prevent static discharge and enhances the clarity of the material in application. Suitable for use both indoors and outdoors, IP 2557 is manufactured from PVC and has the added advantage of durability and flexibility over its PET counterparts. This makes it ideal for longer lasting applications (up to eight years if applied on standard window substrates) and for use on both flat and curved surfaces. The images produced are also more vibrant because of the ink load it can maintain.

Both IP 2420 and IP 2557 have been specially designed for digital printing on large format inkjet printers and can be used with eco solvent and solvent inks as well as UV cured and latex inks.

"Sign makers and graphics producers are always on the lookout for innovative, cost-effective products, which can bring a design to life; but will help save them and their client's time, while still giving that impactful, professional finish we all demand," says Steve Jacques, ImagePerfect Category Manager at Spandex.

www.spandex.co.uk



The new wallpaper has been designed to be quickly and easily hung.

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The new Easymount Air laminates stunning wide format graphics and board mounts, on 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. Rollers can be locked in place at the exact thickness of the board to prevent crushing the front edge and giving rollers a longer life. The roller 'floats' down to sit on the board without damage.

The revolutionary Easymount Air features 30mm mounting thickness for even more applications and at 10m a minute, is over 50% faster than most other wide format laminating systems.





## **OKI Europe launch neon colour printer**

OKI Europe Ltd has launched the Pro6410 NeonColor printer, and introducted white toner technology to its Pro Series range of graphic arts printers.

The Pro6410 NeonColor enables the print of "super-bright, eye-catching" fluorescent designs on transfer media, for use on almost anything. Print houses and graphic arts departments can use it to create fluorescent effects on either light or dark backgrounds. There is the added option of using OKI's neon white toner as a security mark, only revealed when checked under UV black light.

The versatility of the Pro6410 Neon-Color and its vibrant colour spectrum means



The Pro6410 NeonColor printer.

businesses have "fast access to new revenue-streams" in garment and product decoration, personalisation, proofing, pointof-sale and in-store signage.

OKI Europe has also introduced its award-winning white toner technology to its Pro Series graphic arts printers, with the launch of the Pro7411WT and Pro9420WT printers.

"These fast, affordable solutions unlock creative and commercial potential, combining high definition digital LED printing with white toner technology; which provides a level of performance that has normally only been achievable with expensive production equipment," says a spokesperson.

The flexibility in printing, proofing and production of these new solutions means deep, solid whites can be delivered on to a variety of coloured media. Or printed over other colours to create vibrant transfers for use on dark backgrounds.

"These new printers will unleash the full creative and commercial potential of print houses and graphic arts businesses," says Dave Willcox, product marketing manager, OKI Europe. "The Pro6410 NeonColor is another OKI first, electrifying conventional graphics with bursts of high-voltage, fluorescent colour on almost any medium.

"This is part of OKI Europe's continuous commitment to innovation that opens up new, practical, revenue-generating opportunities for customers."

www.okieurope.com.

## Adding a personal touch to your tables

Papergraphics has launched its new digidécor creatable called Table Covers.

These table coverings will be available in three finishes; linen weave, fine linen and a brushed texture. Made from 100 per cent PVC, they benefit from a non-woven backing that adds a soft quality to the material. This makes it "ideal" for draping over any type of table surface. It can be easily cut, with a blade or scissors, without the edges fraying, to allow for an "easy and fast" finishing process.

The table cover can be printed using latex, UV, eco-solvent and solvent ink technology. It is fully waterproof and wipeable, and its tough, resistant finish means it can be clipped securely to tables without causing damage to the covering, says the company.





### **Eurobond adhesives**

Signmaking is an art, says Eurobond. It's a "combination of skilled craftsmen, using high quality tools to produce outstanding signs". The Penloc® range of structural adhesives from Eurobond Adhesives is recognised by thousands of signmakers throughout Europe as the "must have" adhesive, says the company. It is used in many diverse applications such as bonding channel or stiffener bars to the back of Dibond; fabricating built up letters; bonding many different materials together; Big Head fasteners; fabricating back light boxes; lighting trays; and fabricating monolyths. The range includes different cure speeds, different viscosities (thicknesses) and is available in 12ml, 25ml 50ml and 400ml cartridges to "suit just about every application".

Eurobond say their high performance range of structural acrylic tapes rival those of 3M'S VHB tape, but with the added benefit of a much lower price. Surface preparation prior to bonding is essential and helps promote adhesion which helps ensure the final integrity of the bonded joint. Eurobond's low lint, heavy duty surface cleaning wipes are specially designed for the sign industry. They are "easy to use, cost effective and safe".

Phone 01795 427888 sales@eurobond-adhesives.co.uk



Eurobond adhesives are used and trusted by "thousands of signmakers throughout Europe".

## Take creativity to "new heights" with new UV printer

Roland DG (UK) LTD have launched the VersaUV LEJ-640FT, the newest in the series of UV ink-based printers. With a "sleek design and improved usability", the LEJ-640FT represents the next generation of wide format flatbed printers in the VersaUV range, says Roland DG.

Designed with production versatility in mind, the LEJ-640FT offers businesses the size and functionality of a flatbed with the flexibility of ECO-UV inks, including gloss and white for luxury effects and textures. It's capable of printing on flexible or rigid substrates or objects up to 150mm (6 inches) in height, and 100kg in weight. And the combination of instant curing and ability to print on a variety of non-traditional substrates, makes the LEJ-640FT the "ultimate in versatility" in the flatbed market.

Mark Elvidge, Business Development Manager, Roland DG (UK) Ltd, said: "The VersaUV LEJ-640FT is a product we're proud to add to our UV range. With improved production workflow, a large, robust print area and advanced ECO-UV inks, the LEJ-640FT will provide the ideal solution to businesses who need something on a larger scale than the VersaUV LEF-300."



The VersaUV LEJ-640FT printer is the next generation wide format flatbed printer, according to Roland DG.

The LEJ-640FT offers a 1606mm x 2490mm (63.25" x 98") print area, making it "ideal" for printing on anything from signage to guitar cases and heavier substrates. With the LEF-640FT's quadruple zone vacuum technology, printing on large quantities of smaller substrates or items is also simple.

With the flatbed not requiring an external compressor, the floor space required is greatly reduced and the machine is more accessible from all sides. Whist the Handy Panel included offers high levels of machine control without a loss of movement or being tethered to one workflow.

Mark said: "With the Handy Panel and quad zoned vacuum bed, a multi-product workflow with the LEJ-640FT is effortless. Intuitive controls, full Roland DG support and easy ways to keep track on your printing ensure using a wide format flatbed is as simple as using any of our UV printers, leaving you to achieve perfect prints and profits."

Included with the LEJ-640FT are a number of added benefits such as Roland DG's VersaWorks RIP software. And Roland OnSupport enables you to remotely track your production, with automatic alerts to your computer or smart phone to update you on the requirements of the printer. The LEJ-640FT is supported with a one-year Silver RolandCare warranty, providing "peace of mind" to new users.

www.rolanddg.com / www.rolanddg.co.uk

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## **Gravotech laser marking solutions**

The traceability marking specialists have redesigned its laser ranges and present the newest solutions: Fiber-Series, Hybrid-Series, Green-Series and CO2-Series.

Gravotech will introduce these new machines for the first time at LASYS Exhibition at the end of the month. Other innovations in marking, engraving and laser cutting will also be shown at their stand.

#### Among the major innovations:

- New 3D module: "guarantees" quality marking on multi-level surfaces or inclined surfaces.

- Vision Manager: integrated vision system that ensures full traceability. Detecting the piece to mark, instant control of 2D codes content and data recording.



The new LS900 fiber laser engraves a wide range of metals with high quality contrast.



The large size LS1000XP laser quickly cuts and engraves objects of all sizes, either individual pieces or batch quantities in a series.

"These innovations are real technological breakthroughs and allow to cross new boundaries in traceability marking," says a spokesperson.

Gravotech is one of the few manufacturers to develop software solutions for CAD – CAM and the software management of its machines. Discover the re-designed Gravostyle ™ 8 software for controlling Gravotech's engraving machines; as well as 3D laser engraving capabilities of LASER-TYPE, the professional software solution designed for laser machines. **20** years experience in laser technology With over 20 years in laser technology, Gravotech uses all the properties of the laser beam and its different wavelengths to "enrich the mastery" in permanent marking and provide an expanding range of applications. Gravotech lasers are widely used in commercial, institutional and industrial applications whether to personalise, engrave, cut or identify.

WW.ITC-LTD.CO.UI

## New feature enhancements to FlexiPRINT HP Latex Editions

SA International (SAi) has released a free Version 12 download for all existing licenses of the SAi FlexiPRINT HP Latex Edition software.

The new version includes a suite of new features for FlexiPRINT Premium and FlexiSIGN-Pro Editions; as well as enhancement to their FlexiPRINT Basic Edition software, available on HP bundles worldwide for customers of the HP Latex 310 and 330 printers.

All three packages are compatible with Microsoft® Windows® 10; have intuitive job nesting alignment tools; and an updated HP Latex Driver SDK. Those running FlexiPRINT Premium and FlexiSIGN Pro, immediately gain access to a far greater set of tools engineered for an efficient and precise design, print and cut workflow, says SAi.

### Among the many features

#### Artwork approval tool

To save time and get designs approved quicker, this new tool sends designs to customers so they can review and comment on the artwork through their web browser. The tool also tracks each approval project and revision, as well as notifies print businesses when their customers have reviewed or approved artwork.

#### Banner and canvas finishing tools

Enables users to prepare all the finishing aspects of banners with grommet marks, folds, stitch marks and bleeds in a matter of seconds. Automatic bleed setting and marks accelerates throughput and accuracy over manual marking and preparation of canvas jobs.

#### Animated cut viewer tools

Allows users to analyse exactly how designs will cut prior to the process with an animated preview that displays all blade and cut movement, for one or all vinyl colour layers.

#### Contour cut true shape nesting

This makes maximum media savings for print-and-cut jobs with contour cut true shape nesting, which automatically rotates and nests images based on their actual shape. Users can import multiple bitmaps or vector images into Flexi, add a contour cut path and true shape nest them – all in a matter of seconds. The nest can then be sent to Flexi Production Manager or conveniently exported to other RIP software.



HP Latex 310 and 330 customers can enjoy new feature enhancements with the SAi FlexiPRINT HP Latex Edition software.

The new version includes a suite of new features for FlexiPRINT Premium and FlexiSIGN-Pro Editions; as well as enhancement to their FlexiPRINT Basic Edition software

#### New mobile app

This enables business owners to view recent jobs on their Apple or Android smartphone, tablet or smartwatch on-the-go. The new dashboard also shows them monthly, quarterly and annual production insights for both print and vinyl cut-only volume which they would otherwise not know.

#### Support for the latest HP Wallart Suite

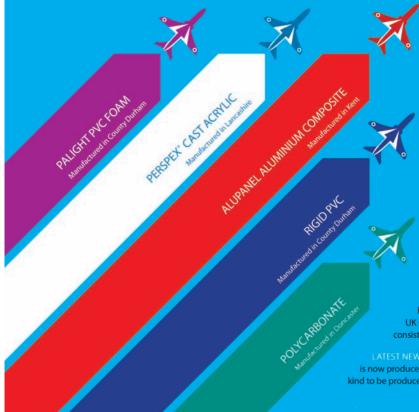
With the highest level of HP Certification. FlexiPRINT provides a seamless web-toprint workflow from a user's HP Wallart account through FlexiPRINT to HP Latex production printers.

"The new upgrades to our SAi FlexiPRINT HP Latex Edition software offer significantly increased functionality to users of the HP Latex 300 Series printer solutions," says Gudrun Bonte, Product Director at SAi.

Existing customers can download the new updates through the 'Free V12 Download' icon in the cloud web window. All new orders of SAi FlexiPRINT Basic, Premium and FlexiSIGN-PRO HP Latex Edition include the new Version 12 and do not need to be updated.

www.ThinkSAi.com/Update

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## **PRODUCT Choice**

## Allprint purchases new VUTEk H2000 to focus on "high-end" installations

Allprint Display Ltd invested in a new EFI VUTEk H2000 hybrid printer from wide format specialists CMYUK in November 2015, and they say that the impact has already been "amazing."

Director James Daldy said: "We needed a new printer to work in particular on our high end retail POS jobs where the images have to be of a very high quality; for example, backlit installations for cosmetics companies.

"We looked at several options and chose the H2000 as we were very happy with our other two VUTEk printers, and knew the quality we would be getting. The installation process and training was also first class from both EFI and CMYUK.

"The H2000 ticks a lot of boxes for us, with the greyscale technology specifically being a big plus as the image quality is as good, if not better, than that we have seen on any printer. And the production speeds mean we can take on more demanding jobs.

"The impact has been amazing in the three months the printer has been installed; we have already completed several large orders that we would not have been able to produce before.

"Existing clients have also commented on the image quality that the H2000 produces, which has led to further opportunities. Lead times have also been cut as this machine is three times quicker than our previous flatbed.

"And as well as the high end work we're producing on the H2000, the fast production speeds mean we can use the machine for virtually any application, including self -adhesive vinyl or production runs of Foamex and Dibond."



Allprint Display invested in a new EFI VUTEk H2000 hybrid printer from CMYUK in November 2015.

Robin East, Director at CMYUK said: "The six-colour H2000 with UltraDrop Technology is perfect for the high end work that Allprint want it to focus on.

"It offers single-pass, multilayer print capability with high apparent resolution and high-definition quality that gives outstanding smoothness in shadows, gradients and transitions. The dual white ink channel configuration also supports production of more premium-margin applications."

Allprint knows all about adapting to the market and investing for the future; it started as a family-run screen printer 25 years ago, and gradually moved into digital print. James said: "Ever since the first investment in a flatbed digital press the original company has grown and has changed completely. Screen print has gone and we are now just purely digital, servicing clients up and down the country as well as locally. Even though the company has grown we still hold the same values of service and quality.

"We also recently introduced small format digital to our offering, which has been well received. With this and the new VUTEk, we feel we are in a good position for continued growth over the next 12 months."

www.cmyuk.com www.allprintdisplay.co.uk

### Prompt Side returns to EFI with VUTEk FabriVU Printer

UK theatrical industry supplier Prompt Side Theatrical Drapery is the first to invest in the new EFITM VUTEk® FabriVU® 340 soft signage printer. They already use a VUTEk GS3250LX Pro LED printer. The company, who produce theatrical drapery, was looking for a way to add polyesters and other fabrics to its portfolio; something that would "increase its versatility for interior and exterior stage and event projects".

After seeing the high-end polyester imaging capabilities possible with the new VUTEk FabriVU printer line during Fespa Digital, Prompt Side ordered the new fabric graphics printer.

With its recent purchase, Prompt Side will extend the types of scenery, backdrops and drapery it produces for a vast range of applications. The company will be able to work with lightweight, polyester-based materials that offer environmental and logistical benefits, such as easy delivery and installation.

"Prompt Side has a bigger competitive advantage, with a new, powerful and sus-

tainable platform to address growing demand for fabric graphics," says Paul Cripps, EFI's regional vice president of sales. "Peter Baker and his team will capture new opportunities as the first users of this advanced printer, and that serves as a great example of how businesses can follow the real momentum in the market by taking digital graphic display printing to a new level of innovation."

www.lmagingofThings.com www.efi.com.

## W.C. O'Brien orders first Mimaki UJV55-320 for Ireland

Dublin-based W.C. O'Brien Sign & Print Ltd has placed an order for the first Mimaki UJV55-320 to go into Ireland, during the recent Sign & Digital UK exhibition. The new grand-format, roll-to-roll, UV printer was heralded the "star of the show".

"We flew in specifically to have a demonstration on the new UJV55-320 from Mimaki, having seen the printer at FESPA in March," says the company's director, Andrew O'Brien. "We spoke to Mimaki reseller, Reprocentre and found out the printer was only £60k. We realised this was an investment we simply couldn't miss out on."

The new grand-format, roll-to-roll, UV printer was heralded the "star of the show"

The company's own print files were produced at the exhibition on the UJV55-320 by UK & Irish Mimaki distributor, Hybrid Services. Andrew quickly realised the print quality, size and productivity of the UJV55, along with its keen price point, meant it was an opportunity for developing the business further.



Andrew O'Brien of W.C. O'Brien and Bernard Hoey of Reprocentre with the Mimaki UJV55-320.

"We're not only going to bring our own grand-format print work in-house, which will speed up our workflow and give us greater control, but we'll be providing a trade service too. We will work with independent exhibition companies and sign and graphics installers throughout Ireland to deliver a high-quality printing service for display and exhibition graphics," says Andrew. "We were blown away by the quality, even when our own files were printed at the highest speed the output was exceptional." The Mimaki UJV55-320 received a formidable amount of interest at Sign & Digital UK, says Hybrid Services. It "wowed" visitors with its price tag and features such as twinroll simultaneous printing; an internal lightbox for proofing backlit applications during the print; and grand format UV printing onto rolls up to 3.2m wide.

www.reprocentre.ie. www.hybridservices.co.uk



The new Mimaki UJV55-320 grand-format LED UV inkjet printer.

## **PRODUCT Choice**

## Drytac's "spot on"

When Cornish clothing company Seasalt Cornwall decided to open a new store in Canterbury, they asked Wallace Print to assist with a temporary printed graphic, prior to the shop's launch in January 2016.

Seasalt wanted a full colour printed window wrap to obscure the building's internal renovation work whilst it was taking place. The graphic needed to be quick and easy to apply, yet be removable by Seasalt's staff prior to the opening, without leaving any adhesive residue.

Kent-based Wallace Print was able to recommend Drytac's SpotOn® film for the project.

Chris Payne, Sales Manager at Wallace Print, said: "Seasalt searched online for a local company that was able to turn around this particular type of project quickly and effectively and got in contact with us.

"Our in-house team was able to quickly install the printed window graphic. It was very simple – and that's the beauty of Drytac's SpotOn® vinyl."



We suggested the use of Drytac SpotOn® vinyl as it seemed the perfect fit for this type of project, with its straightforward and easy-to-apply/easy-to-remove air release technology."

	CRAFT GRAFT	
seasalt		seasalt
OPENING SOON	ţ, ţ	OPENING SOON

Wallace Print chose Drytac SpotOn Vinyl because it's quick to apply and remove.

Suitable for short-term indoor graphics applications, SpotOn® is 100µ (4 mil) high quality, ink receptive printable vinyl, developed specifically for the creation of shortterm graphics that require quick and easy application and removal.

Available in clear matte frosted, clear gloss, white matte and white gloss versions, Drytac SpotOn® is printable by solvent, ecosolvent, HP Latex and UV inkjet techniques.

Key to the simplicity of application is a "dot pattern" printed pressure sensitive adhesive that allows the printable film to be easily applied, bubble free, on a wide variety of smooth interior surfaces such as walls, windows and glass.

Chris said: "Within 48 hours of the order coming in, the graphic was printed on our large format digital flatbed, a Fujifilm HS with white ink technology, using the in-line digital white ink to back up the print.

"Our in-house team was able to quickly install the printed window graphic. It was very simple – and that's the beauty of Drytac's SpotOn® vinyl."

www.seasaltcornwall.co.uk www.wallaceprint.com.

#### Drytac product availability

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

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



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## **PRODUCT** Choice

## **Hello Handsome!**

Within hours of the show opening, CMYUK shook hands with The Handsome Prints Co for a Mimaki JFX200-2513 UV Flatbed printer, on their stand at Sign & Digital UK. Founded by industry expert Rob Harrison, the company started with a small but loyal customer base, which continues to grow and covers East Anglia, London and the South.

Initially they worked with design houses and small format print companies who were looking to outsource some of their work. Now The Handsome Prints Co works direct with agencies, as well as third party support to specialist large format printers who sometimes need to deliver a more "bespoke" service to meet the requests of their clients.

Robin East, director at CMYUK said: "The Handsome Prints Co is a great example of how with combined expertise, the right equipment and an entrepreneurial spirit, the wide format print industry is growing and has room to grow. We're thrilled that Rob decided to come to Sign & Digital UK and make this announcement."

hello@handsomeprints.co.uk



Rob Harrison of the Handsome Prints Company shakes hands on the deal with Sarah Fenna on the CMYUK stand at Sign & Digital UK.

### **Octink chooses DIBOND® digital**

3A Composites and Antalis UK Ltd. have announced that Octink will become an exclusive DIBOND® digital user in the UK. As one of the leading producers of signage, graphics and decorated interiors in the UK, Octink delivers "innovative display and branding solutions" in sectors such as retail, leisure, property and construction. "With DIBOND® digital from 3A Composites, we have chosen a high quality printing substrate, made in Germany, which has a lacquer system that is optimised especially for direct to substrate digital printing," says Mike Freely, Managing Director of Octink.

Brad Candy, Operations Director said: The combination of enhanced ink adhesion



From left to right: Brad Candy (Operations Director,Octink), Tim Dance (Director Octink), Damien Clarke (Key Account Manager, Antalis UK), Mike Freely (Managing Director Octink), Tony Marshall (Divisional Director Antalis UK), Simon Philpott (Sales Team Leader UK & Ireland 3A Composites GmbH), James Griffiths (Supply Chain Manager, Octink)

and extreme flatness of the panel allows us to reproduce very fine structures and lines at an increased printing speed. DIBOND®digital is UV-resistant and can be used with temperatures up to 80°C, which results in two advantages. First, our UV lamps don't cause any distortion; and second, the material can be used outside being resistant to any temperature change."

DIBOND®digital is widely specified for both internal and external signage, advertising campaigns, exhibitions and event marketing, photo mounting, hoardings or whenever there is the need for high quality imaging and long service life. This makes DI-BOND®digital the right material to choose for Octink's various fields of application. DI-BOND®digital is free of any hazardous substances and fulfils the REACH and ROHS regulations.

DIBOND® digital will be supplied to Octink via their long standing UK distribution partner Antalis UK Limited. Damien Clarke, Key Account Manager at Antalis UK Ltd said: "We are delighted to be working in partnership with Octink to supply DIBOND® digital to support a wide variety of applications. Having worked with the company for some time we were confident that our strong product expertise and service will be able to support their growing pipeline of projects for major brands."

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## **PRODUCT** Choice

## New T3 Affinity proves a "winner" for Absolute Graphics

Absolute Graphics installed one of the first T3 Affinity display systems from Tecna Display in March.

Dermot Malone, Director, said: "We were very excited when we heard about the launch of T3 Affinity in February, as the new system offered the perfect solution for a conference we were supporting for the Irish Health Service Executive (HSE) this month."

Absolute Graphics, based in Bray, County Wicklow, covers every aspect of client requirements, from concept and graphic design, through to finished printed product.

Dermot said: "Our brief was to deliver seven equal stand areas for different sections of the HSE to use. The challenges we faced were that the room was on a first floor level with a very small lift for access, and it had very low ceilings at just 2.4m. So a standard type shell scheme simply wouldn't fit.



"The new T3 Affinity system proved to be an ideal solution as we were able to choose a flexible configuration so that the uprights could be just under 2m in height.

This allowed room for two LED spotlights to connect on top of every stand space and we chose two 1.2m cross bars for each booth.

"The client only wanted 0.5m returns on each side, so we recreated the curved wings that we'd seen on the Tecna website, which was also a great opportunity for some branding for the event.

"Each individual booth used four 1m x 1.2m panels which were easily transported in the small lift, and for the two that requested it, we used the standard T3 monitor hooks. We also linked the Affinity uprights using the new connector to our standard T3 bars to create a podium for laptops, which gave the system extra stability.



The T3 Affinity offered Absolute Graphics the perfect solution to the relative small dimensions of the display area available at a recent conference. "The system was an absolute winner, and the client was very happy. We're planning to meet soon to discuss using the Affinity at more events."

### **About T3 Affinity**

T3 Affinity was launched at the end of February 2016 at Exhibition Live in Las Vegas, and subsequent interest has been "incredibly high".

T3 Affinity is a new and unique solution built around the globally recognised T3 system, designed and developed by Tecna Displays Ltd.

It uses T3's simple and unique Twist, Lock, Connect mechanism, which means no tools are required during assembling. It can also be easily combined with existing T3 systems, giving stand designers unlimited display options. Used with T3 Flexiframe, flexible walls can easily be built and clad with graphics such as shelving, literature holders and monitor supports as further options.

The system is made of aluminium horizontal beams and vertical posts ranging from 200mm to 1500mm in length with custom lengths available for bespoke projects. There is an extensive range of retro fit parts for every possible requirement.

www.t3affinity.com

### **AXYZ** router "excels" at B2B Exhibitions

An AXYZ 6010 CNC router, supplied by AXYZ International, has enabled B2B Exhibitions to take on a lot more work, which has helped future growth prospects. The company mainly produce bespoke exhibition stands; special event promotional displays; and point-of-sale and shop fitting units. The router is used for virtually all of the company's output. This involves primarily the processing of medium-density fibreboard (MDF); melamine-faced board for high-end exhibition stand; and special event display elements and Perspex acrylic sheet.

Owner Greg Shire said: "The increased volume of work it has now been possible to do has led to the setting up of an affiliate company called cncwarehouse co.uk. This further utilises the router's massive capabilities and helped attract new customers." The AXYZ 6010 has a processing area of 2159mm (width) x 3048mm (length). It incorporates the AXYZ Automatic Tool Change (ATC) facility for multiple tooling functions. And the AXYZ Vision System (AVS) ensures "optimum material alignment and precise routing/cutting to enable a perfectly finished end-product".

Like with all AXYZ routers, the 6010 can be supplied with a host of additional machining options. Among these are the AXYZ Auto Zone Management facility that makes sure the material being processed is always held securely during the routing/cutting process.

www.axyz.com www.b2bexhibitionsltd.com



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## **PRODUCT** Choice

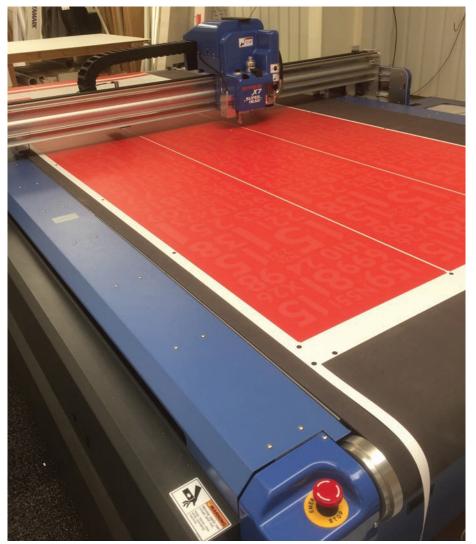
## Print, signage and PoS company projects growth with DYSS

Projects & Print devised a business strategy to maintain an equal balance between the print, signage and PoS markets. This they say was to retain an equilibrium and protect the business against fluctuations. Five years after the company started, the Kings Langley company has invested in a heavy duty router; an Anapurna direct-to-substrate digital printer; and a DYSS X7 Digital Cutter from AG/CAD to grow each of its business divisions.

The arrival of the DYSS X7-1630C in February comes shortly after the arrival of a 2.5m wide Anapurna printer. Projects & Print Commercial Director, Mr Chris Parker said: "We bought the Anapurna as it has the option of roll feeding as well as handling rigid sheets, which is ideal for the 12m long mesh banners we produce for Network Rail. Fur-



DYSS X7 cutting at Projects & Print.



DYSS X7 cutting roll fed material.

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thermore, we print a lot of 50m rolls that require subsequent cutting. These rolls would take two members of staff four hours to cut and with our roll print quantities; this would see two men permanently deployed to hand cutting banners. This is why we bought the DYSS."

The DYSS X7-1630C purchase has immediately eliminated the permanent twoman manual cutting operation, reduced labour input and the subsequent bottleneck that was also the result of manual cutting. The 50m rolls can now be cut by the 3m by 1.6m (10'x5') DYSS in 20 minutes with just one machine operator, as opposed to two members of staff taking four hours. The result for Project & Print is reduced overheads, the deployment of staff to other tasks and faster throughput.

Chris said: "We looked at every machine, but it was the DYSS that impressed us for processing 50m long rolls. The DYSS has clamps that traverse along the bed on the gantry of the machine. After processing each section, the clamps automatically grip the material and the machine conveyor then pulls the roll forward accurately for the next section to be processed. To ensure each consequent cut from the roll retains its precision, we print registration marks along the entire length of the roll. The K-Cut Vision system on the DYSS automatically locates these datum positions and cuts every sheet from the 50m roll with amazing precision. This proves invaluable for the hotel wallpaper we manufacture."

Not only was the roll feeding a major advantage of the DYSS. "We cut everything from Foamex, DIBOND, Kappa, Vinyl, DISPA, Corian fluted board, acrylic and much more. However, one material we struggled to cut with precision and a decent edge finish was Foamex PVC from 3 to 5mm thick. We asked the leading cutting table suppliers to demonstrate how well their machines could cut the material. Again, the combination of the DYSS machine and the expertise of the AG/CAD team, made the DYSS the only machine that could cut thick foamex at speed with precision and an impeccable edge finish," says Chris.

The North London company uses the DYSS machine across all three of its business divisions. The DYSS X7 is applied to cutting print work that the company does for Network Rail, BP and Costa Coffee. It's also used for PoS work that includes display units for Samsung, Curry's and other white goods sales outlets. The DYSS has also been used to create acrylic signage for hotel chains.

Chris said: "Our Tekcel dedicated CNC router is used for heavy duty cutting of MDF and Corian - a man made stone. This machine has a huge 9kW spindle designed for really tough materials. However, when it has been overloaded with work, we have used the DYSS to cut the 12mm thick Corian. The DYSS cuts Corian in three passes but at a much higher rpm and feed rate. This makes the DYSS faster on difficult materials than the dedicated CNC router. Above all, it demonstrates the build quality and rigidity of the DYSS.

"The DYSS has been a game-changer for us. It has slashed throughput times and eliminated bottlenecks; it has reduced labour requirements; improved precision and edge quality. The DYSS has given us the ability to take on new work that we would have previ-



Roll feed capability put into use on DYSS machine.

ously have turned away. For example, the high specification DYSS permits the cutting and folding of complex forms and geometries that would have been impossible to do by hand or on the CNC. We have rapidly increased our turnover by 25 per cent, which is largely down to the DYSS X7 machine. The impact of the DYSS has led us to start a new business called 'Projects & Signs' and we are also looking at cardboard engineering projects, the potential is almost endless."



Network Rail banners cut on the DYSS.



Used to cut obscure shapes at Projects & Print.

## **PRODUCT Choice**

## New FASTSIGNS® franchise invests in printing equipment

The new FASTSIGNS® Oxford North franchise was officially opened on Tuesday 5 April 2016.

The team has invested in high quality equipment to enable them to deliver an "exceptional" service to their customers.

The team that will manage the new franchise is part of school photography, creative design and marketing group Ward-Hendry Ltd. Jon Tremlett, who has been with Ward-Hendry for seven years, has been appointed as the centre manager.

Over the past few months the team has purchased a range of finishing kit from print equipment specialist Josero.

- Josero's flagship Bubble Free Pro Applicator for mounting and laminating a wide range of materials in "super fast" time whilst eliminating the danger of bubbles or creases.
- A Graphtec cutter, a stand-alone cutting plotter for kiss-cutting lettering, contour cutting stickers and cut-through for sign applications.
- A Trimalco Apollo vertical cutter, a revolutionary multi substrate vertical cutter offering a "high degree of performance and accuracy".
- A Kala Mistral Laminator, a heat assisted, top roll laminator offering single-sided lamination and simultaneous lamination.

Mike Ward-Hendry, Franchise Partner, said: "We're extremely excited to be offering businesses in Banbury, Oxford and the surrounding areas a wide range of printing services. To support the launch of this new branch we needed impartial and technical advice to enable us to make the most informed choices about the equipment we required. We approached Josero and were very impressed with their knowledge and expertise. And in particular their understanding of our business requirements as we expand into new markets. They were keen to establish our short and long-term objec-

tives and only then did they recommend the equipment they believed to be the best fit to achieve these."

The team from FASTSIGNS® Oxford North witnessed the equipment in action at Josero's head office in Cambridge, where they were given the opportunity to trial the kit and ask numerous technical questions.

FASTSIGNS® Oxford North will be offering a variety of printing services such as exterior and interior signs, window graphics, exhibition displays, PVC banners and health and safety signs. Their target audience is small and medium businesses and specific markets they will initially concentrate on are



The team at the newly opened FASTSIGNS franchise in Oxford North.

manufacturing, construction, retail and the hospitality sectors. Their strength lies in a knowledgeable, committed and experienced team who know how to provide a high level of service and products, says the company.

Loic Delor, Managing Director of Josero said: "We're thrilled to be working with FASTSIGNS® Oxford North. This new venture for the Ward-Hendry group is fantastic and we're keen to ensure the starting kit provides a good return on their investment. We believe that this is the beginning of a long term partnership between our companies."

www.josero.com

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## "Consistency, price and support" win Nazdar and QPS loyalty

Marshall Signs was among the first UK-based print businesses to try Nazdar 702 series UV inkjet inks last year, and remains a "very satisfied" customer a number of months on.

Released in autumn 2015, the Nazdar 702 series inkset has been developed by Nazdar Ink Technologies as a "high-quality, affordable" alternative to OEM inks for Océ Arizona printers. As Nazdar's first entry into the plug-and-play UV inkjet market, the inks offer a "seamless conversion process with excellent colour and chemical compatibility". They are also reliable and consistent with vibrant results, says the company, as Marshall Signs discovered at the end of last year. The health and safety sign specialist was running a second-hand Océ Arizona 250 GT with alternative inks from a different supplier, but was waiting for the availability of the Nazdar 702 series.

"I had already been in contact with Chris Bailey from Nazdar inks distributor QPS about compatible inks for the Océ Arizona 250 GT, so he emailed me as soon as they were ready," says Marshall Signs Owner Andy Marshall.

"Conversion was simple and the inks are very consistent. The health and safety signs that make up the bulk of our work require block colours. The Nazdar 702 inks provide vibrancy and a nice matte finish with none of the striping we experienced with other inks. We're very pleased with them."

He said that the Océ Arizona 250 GT has three print quality settings and even on the lowest (production) setting the Nazdar inks do a great job at high speeds. And, as an illustrator and graphic designer, Andy Marshall's occasional work printed on the fine art setting are "unbelievable quality" The Nazdar 702 series UV inkjet inks are intended as a direct replacement for IJC256 inks commonly used in Océ Arizona printers. Colour reproduction capabilities are so accurate that flushing, purging or re-profiling is not necessary, says Nazdar. Colours can be replaced separately so that users do not have to waste ink when switching to Nazdar.



Marshall Signs have had great results using the new Nazdar inks in their Océ Arizona printers.

# JKN Digitally Print onto Easy Apply Textile Wallpaper (with repositionable adhesive)



## JKN Easy Apply Textile Wallpaper

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# DIGITAL Printing

# New products, bigger ideas

With markets like soft signage, POS graphics and interior wall art forging ahead, digital print providers are being quick to meet market demand. Jemima Codrington spoke with industry leaders to find out what sign makers can expect from digital printers, cutters and substrates in 2016...

#### Digital cutters now available from Josero

Josero is a leading distributor of digital printing products, and recently launched the COMAGRAV DIGI, an industrial flatbed large format digital cutter at Sign and Digital UK.

The product has been designed for cutting anything from high density foam to aluminium panels and a wide range of other products. Already a popular digital cutter in Europe, the product is now available to the UK market. In addition to this, Josero still stocks products from manufacturers such as Ricoh, and they are still the distributor for the bubble-free application table, one of their most popular products.

#### Did you know?

Digital technology can print and finish in the same process, so orders can be completed quicker

Managing Director Loic Delor notes that at FESPA, it became apparent that there was a lot more soft signage being developed. "Textiles printing and soft signage is definitely exploding; it might have been the tendancy for the past few years now, but it seems that now, it's getting to a stage where most people are offering a solution for that,' he says. "It is certainly a strong trend. Sign makers and printers are always looking for different avenues to create revenue, and I think soft signage provides lots of advantages in terms of the materials you can print on, costs associated with the shipping side, and things like that." He also adds that wallpaper has emerged as a huge trend in recent years, and that this kind of decorative interior graphics is becoming more and more popular. "Again, it's been around for a few years, but it's being offered by more and more people now. I think these are the two

Did you know?

As digital printing does not require customers to place a minimum order run, it can be one of the most cost-effective methods for sign makers

areas where people are really trying to push forward." Ricoh latex inks are particularly ideal for use in these sorts of indoor applications, as there are no odours and the ink is environmentally friendly. As wallpaper goes inside, end-users prefer to have inks that won't release any chemicals into the house.





The COMAGRAV DIGI is now available through Josero.

According to Loic, technology may have reached a pinnacle having moved forward very quickly in a short space of time. However, changes are still occurring; many of the big manufacturers are making machines that are very application specific and becoming more reliable. Over the past year, Josero themselves have expanded more into the used machinery space, dealing a lot more with used equipment. They have also launched a new initiative, Josero Spares, an online portal through which sign makers can log on and buy spare parts directly over the web. This provides sign makers with confidence that they are buying the right parts from trusted manufacturers, all with the support and advice available from Josero as an already-established supplier.

www.josero.com

#### **Roland DG provides impressive UV solutions**

Roland DG is at the heart of many business solutions across the UK, offering a range of advanced machinery that caters to a number of creative industries including signage.

For the professional sign maker, the newest Roland DG launch suited for their business need is the TrueVIS VG printer and cutter series. The TrueVIS VG-640 and VG-540 are the most productive print and cut series developed to date, and is ideal for sign makers working to meet high production levels. These integrated machines are available in two sizes (64-inch and 54-inch), making the series a perfect partner for businesses of all sizes. Equipped with four newly developed FlexFire print heads, the VG provides consistent precision at quick speeds.

The developed contour cutting mechanism included with the machine ensures the VG series is able to cut a range of materials using forces of up to 500gf; perfect for professionals in the signage industry that work with thicker materials. The new cutting car-



The Roland VersaCAMM® SP-300i.

#### The power of UV Flatbeds

Professionals use the Roland DG LEF-300 desktop UV flatbed printer across the creative industry, as it enables them to customise a range of items through direct-to-object printing.

As the largest and fastest printer from the successful VersaUV LEF desktop series, the LEF-300 caters perfectly for professionals offering bespoke promotional items. This machines aims to bridge the gap between



Live demonstrations of the TrueVIS VG-640 by Rob Golienowski proved popular.

riage positions the blade with maximum stability meaning that there is minimal room for the material to move during the process - reducing the risk of any potential errors and increasing accuracy. The VG series also comes fully equipped with the new Roland DG Mobile Panel, which allows users to have full control panel functionality from a smartphone or tablet, whether remote or connected to the machine.

"The Roland DG TrueVIS VG printer and cutter series is ideal for professional sign makers"

"For high-volume businesses that require high output with low operation costs, the SOLJET EJ-640 wide format digital printer is ideal," says Rob Goleniowski, Sales Support Manager. "With lower running costs than other digital printers on the market, the SOLJET EJ-640 is a highly productive and profitable solution. Engineered with dual staggered print heads, an advanced media feed and an innovative and stable industrial design, the Roland DG machine is able to produce premium quality products at high speeds. "From wraps to posters, indoor and outdoor signs, vehicle wraps and banners; the SOLJET EJ-640 is a worthy and cost-effective lifetime investment."

high output printing and low level customisation offering a new and easy solution to direct-to-object printing. According to Rob, an increasing number of Roland DG users are choosing to work with UV technology for ondemand prints. More specifically and most frequently, customers choose the VersaUV series, which instantly dries prints. "To support customers post-purchase, Roland DG has also developed Roland OnSupport, and the Mobile Panel App, enabling users to remotely track print production by offering automatic alerts to a tablet or smartphone to update customers on the print project," he says. "This feature ensures seamless print production and gives users confidence in the ability of the machine to complete a job in the most effective manner, maximising profits for businesses.

.....Continued on page 42

# DIGITAL Printing

Across all sectors, Roland DG has become more aware of the trend for innovative and creative prints using white and metallic inks. The VersaUV LEF-300 UV printer delivers white and clear (gloss) inks through two channels for faster printing, as well as offering increased density in white and gloss layers, meaning the possibility for creativities ventures are virtually endless. When applied in multiple layers, the advanced UV inks can mimic embossing and 3D textures to create a huge range of artistic and special effects to add premium value to the product and increase profit margins.

According to Rob, in a time where consumers have more choice than ever before,

Did you know? Digital printing is a great choice for last-minute signage jobs



The VersaUV LEF-300 UV Flatbed Printer from Roland.

there is a growing desire for customisation and bespoke items. "In using Roland DG UV technology, users are able to extend their customisation offering with minimal effort to include products such as branded merchandise, industrial goods, and product prototypes in addition to signage," he says. "As well as being a lucrative trend, digital customisation is also fairly accessible and so for professionals with limited knowledge of the sector. The Roland DG VersaUV LEF-300 printer is the perfect machine, with an easyto-use interface and user-friendly advanced software."

# <complex-block><complex-block>

Investing in a digital printer – what is required?

There may be a great deal available in the way of hardware and software, but according to Rob, simply finding the capital to purchase the products is not enough to remain competitive.

"It's clear that investing in a digital printer isn't enough to fully succeed in the dynamic and exciting creative industry nowadays, which is why Roland DG launched its Roland DG Academy," he says. "The industry-recognised training facility provides attendees with an engaging learning environment equipped with state-of-the-art training technologies and the latest Roland DG technology. The Roland DG Academy aims to develop customer's skills and expertise across the print industry and it is designed to suit all skill levels."

In addition to debuting five new machines at this year's Sign & Digital UK, Roland DG was also proud to announce the release of VersaWorks Dual software for its next generation machines and a range of new and developed inks in 2016. "Roland VersaWorks Dual can be run on four separate Roland DG devices, making it an ideal upgrade for those with high turnover," adds Rob. The advanced software boasts new and exciting features to improve product output and minimise inaccuracies including: embedded ICC profile support, ink level adjustment tools and proofing capabilities.

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# DIGITAL Printing

## New Mimaki printer hailed a "game changer"

#### Mimaki has a strong offering in the wide format sign and display sector with a wide variety of products for varying budgets and applications.

It's latest release is the UJV55-320, which is proving to be a game changer in the market. UK and Irish distributor for Mimaki, Hybrid Services gave the UJV55-320 its UK debut at the Sign & Digital UK exhibition in April. National Sales Manager for Industrial Products, Stuart Cole, explains why the new printer is taking the industry by storm.



The new Mimaki UJV55-320 had it's UK debut at Sign & Digital UK.



Mimaki's National Sales Manager for Industrial Products, Stuart Cole.

"The Mimaki UJV55-320 has a number of identifiable features that are making it extremely popular since its first European outing in March, with a large number of units being sold on back-order at FESPA and Sign & Digital UK," he says. "It's a 3.2m wide, rollto-roll, LED UV printer with an affordable price point at £59,995, and is the only product of this size and specification available in this affordable price bracket. This makes the UJV55-320 easily accessible by way of an investment for even small sign and graphics producers who want to expand in to the increasingly popular remit of UV printing for applications like retail PoS backlit graphics and exhibition displays."

#### "Miamki's latest release is the UJV55-320"



The UJV55 320 on display at Sign & Digital UK.

"The UJV55-320 works with Mimaki's new LUS-120 UV inks that are both affordable at just 8p/ml"

#### Why choose the new UJV55-320?

The UJV55-320 is fast with print speeds of up to 110m<sup>2</sup>/h, but speed is only one of the factors that makes this a highly productive solution to roll-to-roll UV printing. It utilises an in-line lightbox for proofing on the fly when printing onto backlit material and it offers the capacity to print onto two independent rolls of media (up to 1524mm), with separate print jobs simultaneously for ultimate productivity, in addition to printing grand-format up to 3.2m wide, opening up the fast-growing exhibition graphics industry where large, seamless graphics and light boxes are required. "The UJV55-320 works with Mimaki's new LUS-120 UV inks that are both affordable at just 8p/ml and offer a great colour gamut with CMYK plus light cyan, light magenta and white," adds Stuart. This is ideal for retail PoS environments, where punchy graphics are required to grab attention and print quality is paramount with audiences getting up close to the print."

Like all Mimaki's UV printers, the UJV55-320 incorporates LED UV technology, which has many benefits over traditional 'hot' lamps for UV curing, such as lower energy consumption, less CO<sup>2</sup> emissions, minimal heat production and a 5000 hour lamp warranty.

www.hybridservices.co.uk

## shop4pop.com fills gap in retail space

shop4pop.com is an Online Point of Sale Printing service, which enables users to upload their own artwork to be digitally printed.

"The shop4pop.com website was specifically developed to address a challenge faced nationwide by a multitude of businesses, sourcing short-run print in quantities of one upwards, at a reasonable price," explains Siobhan Sweeney, Marketing Executive, at shop4pop.com. "Many small signage businesses and independent retailers in particular struggle to maximise their marketing budget whilst competing with larger high street retailers. With years of experience creating award winning POP campaigns for national clients such as TUI, AG BARR and Matalan, Simpson Group wanted to be able to pass on their knowledge and expertise to smaller businesses."

Adding that the team has seen particular success in the design, film and retail sectors, Siobhan says the customers from a wide range of industries utilise the service. In order to meet the demand, shop4pop.com has a Durst 312 (Reel fed) and a Durst Rho P10 (Flatbed and Reel Fed), along with an HP 11000 flatbed. "We use UV colourfast inks from Durst and HP in six colours along with white," adds Siobhan. "We are able to print on several Reel types including paper, Cling Z, PVC and Magnetic materials.



Our receptionist, Kerry, getting to grips with our display cubes!



Shop4Pop.com offers online Point of Sale printing on a range of products.

Our flatbed presses take corrugated boards and print direct to surface – most usually E, NE, B and EB Flute, as well as box boards, PVC and standard paper stocks. This means sizes can be 1600 x 2500 or longer."

The team at shop4pop.com already had HP Flatbeds for the longer run work, and these were upgraded and replaced by the 11000. "The Durst P10 was brought in to accommodate shorter runs and one-offs that we wanted to offer through shop4pop.com, quantities that we had not been able to produce efficiently before especially with 3D POS Units."

What's next for digital printing markets? Siobhan notes that in the opening months of 2016, the team has already seen a growing trend of consumers reengaging with physical formats.

"Despite the recent collapse of BHS – the highest profile retail failure since Woolworths - we are still seeing previously online "Previously online only retailers such as Amazon and Google are opening physical stores, which will create a demand for signage and graphics"

only retailers such as Amazon and Google opening their first bricks-and-mortar stores," she says, adding that this is likely in response to customer demand for a real, authentic and physical shopping experience. This in turn is creating new markets and retailers for which there will be a demand for point of purchase retail graphics, window signage, digital signage and more.

www.shop4pop.com



One of our printers hard at work, creating a custom-made design.

# **PROJECT** News

# Retro wraps for classic Volkswagen campervans

Over 20 classic Volkswagen campervans have been wrapped with bespoke retro 70s designs using Arlon DPF 6000XRP vinyl supplied by Spandex.

Cambridge-based Iconic Signs, a well-established full signage company dedicated to vehicle graphics and restaurant signage, took up the challenge to design and wrap campervans for pioneering holiday rental company, Wedubyou. The initial project will complete with the wrapping of approximately 60 vans, which will be available for rental in France, Spain and New Zealand.

Iconic Signs has worked with Burwell-based Type 2 Detectives, who specialise in classic Volkswagen restoration, for many years. So, when WeDubYou commissioned Type 2 Detectives to source all of the classic vehicles for its new business venture, it was only natural that they turned to Iconic Signs for help.

Mike Swift, owner of Iconic Signs and Spandex customer for five and half years, said: "When Type 2 Detectives contacted us about this project, we jumped at the opportunity to get involved. We worked closely with Type 2 Detectives who carried out all the necessary vehicle repairs such as mechanical functionality and trimming the interiors. We then created the full wrap project, from the design and artwork, to the wrap itself. The intention is to be as loud and vibrant as possible."

The team at Iconic Signs considered everything from quality and durability to the cost and customer service when considering the Arlon DPF 6000XRP vinyl and colour change Arlon Ultimate PremiumPlusTM films. "We chose Arlon DPF 6000XRP because of its excellent print quality and conformability, both huge factors when working with vehicle graphics. The matching 3210 laminate series also offers the perfect gloss finish.

"For us, the most fun and challenging element is definitely developing the designs. The installation is probably the easiest part as we have lots of experience in this area and we know Spandex will deliver the materials we need, when we need them," says Mike.

www.spandex.com www.iconicsigns.co.uk www.type2detectives.com



The 70's designs are all bespoke and were created by Iconic Signs.



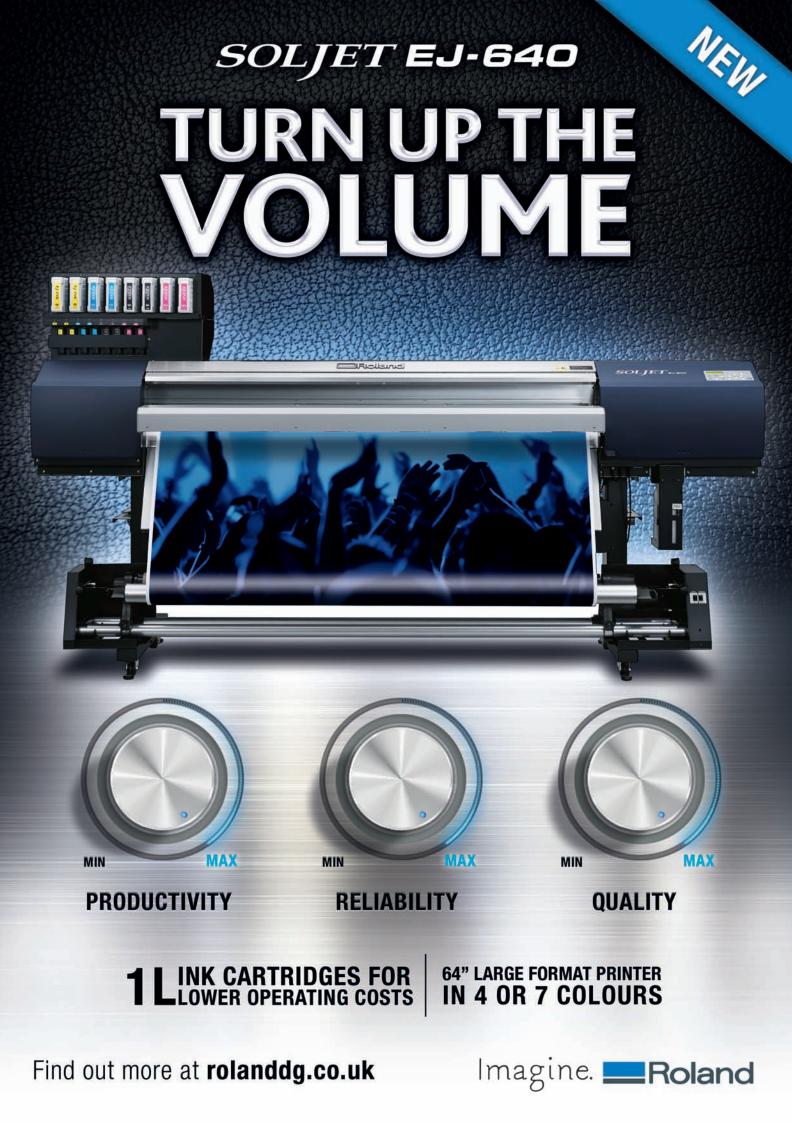
Iconic Signs used Arlon DPF 6000XRP vinyl, supplied by Spandex, to wrap the vans.



Around 20 VW campervans have been wrapped for holiday rental company, WeDubYou.







# **PROJECT** News

# Printed beagles show the way at mountain bike event

When the Red Bull Fox Hunt mountain bike event returned to the Pentland Hills outside Edinburgh recently, the organisers were looking for something a bit different for event signage, and turned to Creative Solutions.

Operations Manager and co-director of Creative Solutions, Jedd Whittington, said: "We've been fortunate enough to work with Red Bull on a number of interesting projects since first being recommended over five years ago. And we're delighted that they continue to trust us to deliver signage and graphics for a number of major high profile events."

The Fox Hunt format has been running for several years in Northern Ireland. In 2014 Downhill World Champion Rachel Atherton decided to launch a women-only version. It pits Rachel as the "fox", against the "hounds"; more than 100 female mountain bikers in a mass-start race that turns the traditional concept of a fox hunt on its head. With the "fox" chasing down the pack, attempting to pass as many riders as possible before reaching the end of the course.

"I thought it would be so cool if we could get more women racing." says Rachel. "I wanted it to be a really welcoming way to get into competing. For a lot of people, it's the first race they've ever done."

Jedd said: "One of the key requirements was to print over 40 life-sized images of a beagle dog onto rigid PVC boards to be used as way-markers around the course;



The Mimaki JFX200 was used to print rigid boards for the event.

acting as a tongue-in-cheek reference to a real fox hunt. Our recently installed Mimaki JFX200-2513 LED UV flatbed printer was the perfect machine for the job, coping easily with the demand of high quality, high volume print."

The company originally started out in 1999, producing relatively simple vinyl banners. The business continued to expand and



Co-director Ben Whittington setting up a job.

develop by producing an increasingly wide range of signage, exhibition graphics and other wide format print. In 2014 they moved to new premises in Axminster, Devon, where they now do all design, production and assembly in-house.

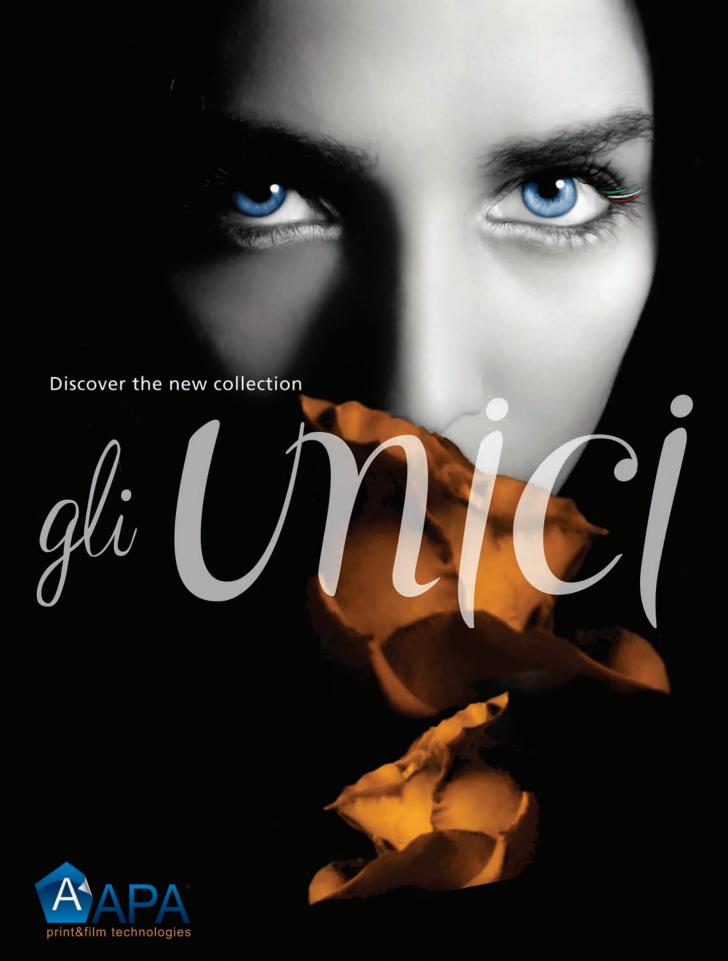
"In today's competitive markets, adding value is key to business growth, and being able to respond to customers' print requirements with ever more diverse products means having the necessary skills and experience, but equally importantly, having the right equipment for the job," says Jedd.

"Since installing our first Mimaki printer in the early 2000's; a JV3, we've come to depend on their inherent reliability. Since then we've had another JV3, a JV33 and more recently a JV150-160 as well as the JFX200.

"Our high quality arsenal of print and cut kit has had a major impact on our ability to retain and develop high- profile clients such as Red Bull. A brand like Red Bull is always looking to push the creative boundaries and we work very closely with them to develop branded graphics and supporting materials which really make an impact. The new equipment enables us to take on these kind of commissions with real confidence.'

The 2015 Red Bull Fox Hunt proved to be a real success, with the event sold out in hours.

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# **PROJECT** News

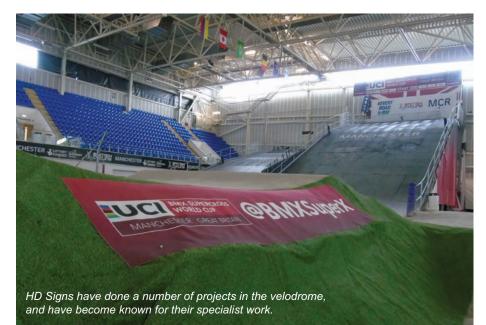
## Signage and graphics company helps UCI BMX Supercross World Cup get off to racing start

HD Signs & Display was asked to produce a range of signage and graphics for round two of the world cup, held at the National Cycling Centre at Manchester Velodrome's indoor BMX Arena.

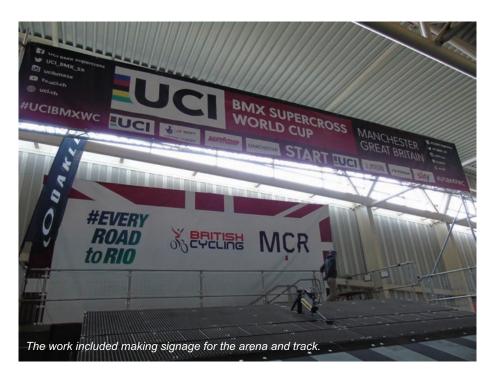
Their specialist team worked on behalf of British Cycling to produce, print, install and then remove: the track branding; arena event signage; podium boards; interview backdrops; printed carpets; directional signs and posters; and the starting line graphic boards.

The highly anticipated world cup features the "fastest, bravest" riders in the world competing at five events, held in three continents from March to October.

"We have done a number of velodrome based projects over the past year and are well known in the field for the highly specialised, quality work that we produce."



BMX Supercross has been part of the Olympic programme since 2008. The races take place on tracks around 350m in length, with four straights and three corners with racers starting on an eight metre high start ramp. The track also features numerous bumps and jumps.



In the past year HD Signs & Display has done a number of cycling related contracts, such as installing logos for sponsors at the historic London Six competition. And painting on track lines and sponsor logos for round two of the 2016 UCI World Track Championships.

Jan Korab, HD Signs & Display Managing Director said: "We are delighted to have been approached by British Cycling to do the work for the highly anticipated UCI BMX Supercross World Cup.

"We have done a number of velodrome based projects over the past year and are well known in the field for the highly specialised, quality work that we produce."

HD Signs & Display, which is part of the Linemark UK Group, offers everything from commercial and stadium signage through to specialist surface graphics.

With headquarters at Riverside Business Park in Rawtenstall, HD Signs & Display uses the latest manufacturing and printing technology, and has its own in-house design and manufacturing capabilities.

## New signage helps Skysmart fly high

Skysmart, Aviation Component Support approached W&Co to commission new signage for the front of their new premises in Great Dunmow in Essex, in spring 2016.

Skysmart make gauges and integral components for the aviation industry. Their prominent new location give good transportation and business links to the South East and London clientele. Their core mission statement of high quality precision, and service was "reflected in the signage that W&Co produced for the client". W&Co strived to give the client the "best high quality premium" signage possible to reflect the client's idea. W&Co's used their internal graphic and visualisation department to create 3D visuals based on the client's initial brief, to give an idea of what Skysmart was going to receive before they made it.



The new sign at Skysmart's premises in Essex.

W&Co made a new 3800mm long x 800mm high sign tray with stencil cut logo details and text. The sign was powder coated grey and was made at 100mm deep, which enabled the high quality LED modules inside to illuminate the logo and text. The lettering was built up in 10mm opal acrylic, and pushed through the face of the tray enabling the light to travel through the opal to give a "halo" glow.

The client's aircraft logo was the most visual part of the sign. Alongside the lettering, it needed to stand out on the industrial estate when lit during the night, and non-illuminated during the day. The client looked at various translucent colour samples of vinyl from the Metamark sign range, which was then applied to the face of the lettering and logo. To give a sharp contrast of colour the 'Aviation Component Support' strap line was faced in black where the sides only illuminate.

## New signage suits Stock Brook to "a tee"

W&Co was approached by Stock Brook Manor Country Club in the spring of 2016, for new signage. The complex is located in the village of Billericay in Essex, with its 250 acre estate and golf course.

The client's initial brief was to rejuvenate the existing external signage mounted to the main entrance fascia wall. It had degraded over time and affected the overall appearance of the entrance.

Working closely with the client, W&Co delivered the "optimum balance of high quality materials with the most economical costs" tailored for the client's budget.

W&Co's graphic and 3D visualisation department produced various 3D visual renders based on measurements taken from a site survey. These were developed with feedback from the client, until the final signage layout was approved.

The existing signage was originally built up, stencil cut lettering of the Stock Brook Manor text and the company's 'tree' logo. Over time this had degraded, so it was crucial a new material was needed to be used that was high quality and long lasting. Stock

Brook Manor looked at various samples of metal materials suitable for external signage. They finally chose the mirror finish of Rimmex Prestige Polished Gold stainless steel.

W&Co produced the signage to suit the 3.6 metre span using 1.5mm thick polished gold stainless steel with welded brass locator fixings mounted to the rear.

It was also suggested that the client rendered the brick wall and painted it in the same colour as their other rendered buildings. Firstly to make it suitable for the signage to be mounted; and secondly to increase the contrast of colour and materials to make it stand out. The flat cut signage was then installed onsite by one of W&Co's experienced installation teams.



The new sign on the main entrance was made from Rimmex Prestige Polished Gold stainless steel.

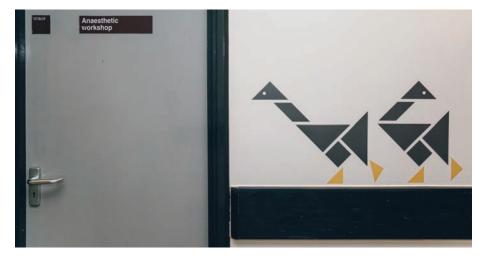
# **PROJECT** News

# An "Artfelt" project

Signs Express (Sheffield) has helped to create a positive and relaxing environment for young patients going into surgery, working with arts programme, Artfelt, at Sheffield's Children's Hospital.

The designs that Signs Express (Sheffield) had to work with were based on the Chinese tangram, which is a traditional puzzle consisting of flat shapes that are put together to form shapes. The resulting geometric designs that have been installed at the hospital provide a "colourful distraction" to the surroundings.

The artwork was devised by designing company Thomas Matthews and lines the theatre's corridors and treatment rooms as a distraction for children during the anxious moments before they are anaesthetised.





The artwork lines the theatre's corridors and treatment rooms as a distraction for children during the anxious moments before they are anaesthetised.

Using the tangram theme, the artwork builds scenes with tessellating shapes that break away to reveal animals, plants and buildings to create a whole new world in the corridors of the hospital.

Carol and Steve Morris, co-owners of Signs Express (Sheffield) won an award at last years' BSGA (British Signs and Graphics Association) awards for a previous project at the Children's Hospital that was commissioned by Artfelt. Steve said: "We love working with Artfelt, as it gives us the opportunity to collaborate with local artists and designers in order to create signage that will really make a difference."

Thanks to the designers and the staff at Signs Express (Sheffield) shapes also "dance" along the ceiling of the double height corridor, in the form of a Perspex mobile. This leads to a life-saving £2.3m 3T MRI scanner, funded by The Children's Hospital Charity.



"We love working with Artfelt, as it gives us the opportunity to collaborate with local artists and designers in order to create signage that will really make a difference."



The mobile was designed to make the most of a large space with a lot of natural light; the coloured, transparent shapes create patterns of rockets that move in and out of sight as patients walk below. The work culminates with a focal light box in the ceiling of each new anaesthetic room, which can be used by staff to encourage children over the "daunting threshold".

Artfelt, funded by The Children's Hospital Charity, who exist to brighten the hospital's walls with art, commissioned the work. Artfelt's Manager, Cat Powell said: "Our focus was to create something that would not only complement the state-ofthe-art new theatre suites, but would flow consistently between the old and new parts of the department. Patients range from aged 0 - 16 years, so it was important any scheme acted on multiple levels. It needed to be an aesthetically pleasing uplifting piece, providing tools for improvisation and dialogue, but without being patronising to older patients."



# **PROJECT** News

# Warrington sign makers assist rebrand

Signs Express (Warrington) gives Cockhedge Shopping Centre a colourful facelift with new external signage.

Signs Express (Warrington) has much experience rebranding shopping centres, having previously done Birchwood and Runcorn Shopping centres' signs. Cockhedge's marketing company approached the team at Warrington to rejuvenate their out dated signage, and bring it in line with a much needed rebranding project. With the agency setting the design, the team at Signs Express (Warrington) had to make these designs "come to life". As well as make sure the install was thoroughly organised to cause the least disruption possible. The project comprised 15 double sided illuminated signs; three large illuminated fascia signs; six panel and post signs; as well as interior floor graphics.

The project took 18 months to complete; from the initial contact with the agency through to the installation. The install itself took three weeks and required two sets of high access equipment to complete.

"The Cockhedge project was especially interesting considering the size and scale of the manufacture and install, which has also made a massive impact on the appearance of the site," says David Morris, owner of Signs Express Warrington.



Cockhedge Fascia Sign.



Cockhedge welcoming sign.







For more information contact your local sales team 01925 868 650 signanddisplay@antalis.co.uk antalis.co.uk



# **PROJECT** News

# 'Pleasure Will Steal Your Soul'

The unusual installation entitled 'Pleasure Will Steal Your Soul' from Pixartprinting was unveiled to mark Design Week in Milan. It was open to the public for five months at BASE MILANO, and had three objectives: to provide visitors with a moment of wonder; to astonish them; and to excite them.

"This project shares Pixartprinting's courage to experiment and innovate and represents a new concept in the field of culture and creativity", says Andrea Pizzola, Sales and Marketing Director at Pixartprinting. "Creativity and innovation have always been assets at our company, which invests in cultural initiatives that promote content creation. This one was designed to last several months, and aims to be a starting point for producing additional content and a source of inspiration for other creative minds."

The historic former Ansaldo factory is home to 'Pleasure Will Steal Your Soul', an enormous flower made up of numerous colourful and animated smaller flowers. The petals open and close with a mechanical rhythm caused by the 'breathing' of rubber balls. And due to the principle of shape memory, return to their original position with a fluid and organic motion, opening up the flower.



The installation is made up of one large flower, containing lots of smaller flowers.



A beam is emitted from centre of the installation, found in the former Ansaldo factory in Milan.

A beam of light is emitted from the centre of this installation, "dazzling" spectators, while, concealed within, a video camera "steals the moment of wonder" of those looking at the work. It projects these images onto a panel outside the building, which is the basis for the idea that 'Pleasure Will Steal Your Soul'.

The installation also reveals a lot about Pixartprinting: a "concentrated mixture of creativity and inventiveness that interacts with technology to produce surprising creations". Every single printed part in 'Pleasure Will Steal Your Soul' was created by the Venicebased W2P company, encouraging people to imagine the numerous potential creative uses for the materials the company uses. The firm uses them to create printed items such as display stands and packaging.

The project was completed in record time by the creative team at Pixartprinting, in collaboration with Dadomani Studio, and involving professionals in various roles.



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# **DIGITAL SIGNAGE** Feature

# **Discovering digital signage possibilities**

*Ever changing and more sophisticated technology is altering the face of digital signage – so what can the market expect from 2016? Jemima Codrington spoke to leading suppliers to find out...* 

#### **Touch Screens are new for 2016**

Fairfield Displays & Lighting are leading providers of digital signage solutions in the UK, and have already made an impact on this sector of the signage market.

"Our digital screens have been installed in outlets as diverse as fast food restaurants, estate agents, government departments, retail stores and museums," says Janice Fairfield, Marketing Director at Fairfield Displays & Lighting. New for this year is the PCAP touch screen, a product launched at the UK Sign and Digital exhibition in April.

PCAP (Projected Capacitive Touch) uses the very latest Touch Screen technology, which created a tremendous amount of excitement at the show. PCAP has the sensor behind the glass, which provides a much speedier response when the screens are touched compared with the traditional infrared systems. "Also, there is no need for a bezel at the edge of the screen, making the

## What are the key benefits of digital signage?

- Information can be changed quickly, especially if there is a large portfolio of screens on numerous sites
- It is incredibly easy to drag and drop new information in a few seconds to different branches (this works well in retail outlets where prices are constantly changing)
- Access can be given at different levels so that the local manager can have the deal of the day, which can easily be updated from a template while the marketing department can run the main campaign

- Janice Fairfield, Marketing Director at Fairfield Displays & Lighting.

entire unit look extremely clean and attractive," adds Janice. "This new range has screens that look like large tablets, and they work in a very similar way. You can literally size up images and videos with your fingers and go straight to websites."

> "Fairfield is the only company in the UK who has the patent to supply suspended screens on cables and rods"

The screens are available from 22" up to 42" and can be wall mounted or positioned on an angled floor stand. The screens have dual operating systems android/PC built-in to the screen, which creates a highly compact unit that is easy to install. "You can literally just switch from one system to the next in a few seconds; all you need to do is load apps or Windows 10 and the unit is ready to use. There is no complicated set up or programming required, and the number of applications is endless. This product certainly engages people with digital signage, which is the commercial objective," says Janice.

Fairfield has also launched a new improved software package for the Fairfield Smart Screens network this month.

The updates enable users to work straight from Windows, which means they can drag and drop information from Excel spread sheets, PowerPoint and even PDF files straight onto the screen.



PCAP touch screens are new from Fairfield this year.



PCAP screens have the sensor behind the glass.

These new features make it even easier for non-technical people to use, but beyond ease of use, there are many more benefits for the sign maker to sell digital signage.

"The main opportunity is that screens are media hungry, and there is a lot of opportunity to supply new content on a regular basis which creates a continuous revenue flow," says Janice. "In addition, if the sign maker sells a network solution there is a small monthly income for the use of the software packages and additional to the initial revenue of the sale."

However, one thing to consider is that these screens need to have their content changed on a regular basis. "The main drawback is that the sign maker needs to work with a supplier who is able to guide them through the initial sale," says Janice. "There are a few simple questions that need to be asked to the end user to make sure the correct style of screen and software is supplied to meet the client's requirements. By working closely with a supplier who will guide the sign maker with the initial specification of the screen, brackets and software packages, the project will run smoothly."

Digital signage can be used in many different sectors, but screens work especially well when there is a lot of information to be displayed and needs changing on a regular basis. For example, settings in an Estate Agent, reception areas, hotels and conference centres work best, as do screens in fast food outlets and restaurants. "The key to any digital signage is to clearly define what it is going to be used for, and once this has been done, you will find it can be used anywhere that information needs to be seen," says Janice. "Software exists which can image the information at a set time each day and this can be done using media players or network solutions."

www.fairfielddisplays.co.uk



# **Centre Signs (UK) Ltd**



Trade Letter Specialists
Tel: 0116 2714247 email: graphics@centresigns.co.uk

#### Taking charge of content

Unlike some traditional signage applications in which design, fixtures and fittings, and placement are key, with digital signage, it is the content that takes centre stage.

In order to manage this messaging, sign makers can make use of cloud-based software from Signagelive. With this solution, there is no need to download or install software, and users can manage content from anywhere using an app or web-browser. Digital media can be managed easily, which is great in applications where the content needs to be frequently changed. Signagelive software is utilised in many different sectors, with heavy usage coming from the retail market. "A few years ago, retailers were thinking, do we do digital signage? Now the question isn't do we do digital, it's who are we going to do it with – it's almost standard that it has to be done," says Raffi Vartian, Chief Marketing Officer at Signagelive.

The company was founded by current CEO Jason Cremins around 30 years ago, and was initially a provider of all digital signage solutions. However, this changed when the company won the UK Lottery Contract in 2004. "It really transformed the company, and we shifted focus to purely selling software." The company moved quickly once the contract was secured, moving from white board to deployment in about six to eight weeks. In the 12 years following this baptism by fire of sorts, Signagelive has refined it's offerings to create a sleek, streamlined software product that can be used anywhere there's a working internet connection. "A lot of the time, digital signage software providers talk about the different niches in which they specialise, but really we have a fairly generic software tool," adds Raffi. "The tool allows people to get content into the system – whether that's images, videos, an RSS feed or anything else – and effectively organise and distribute that content right away."

.....Continued on page 60



Signagelive software can be used anywhere there's a working internet connection.

# **DIGITAL SIGNAGE** Feature

#### The benefits of cloud-based solutions

In a world where messaging and campaigns change rapidly, there is a need now more than ever to have software that enables the messaging on digital signage to be managed immediately, effective, and from anywhere.

Signagelive is therefore incredibly popular in applications such as retail, the guickserve menu industry, and for internal corporate communications. However, they are also branching out with several pieces of new technology to work in areas like medication, hospitals, and education environments. One of the key variables to this success and diversity is the fact that it can be used anywhere, and the software can be found in over 40 different countries through over 1,500 resellers. Another benefit to the cloud-based solution is that, unlike other digital signage software providers, there is just the one product available. This product can be customised to your needs, but as sign makers only have the one product to choose from, this saves a substantial amount of time and back and forth that can accompany





choosing solutions from multi-channel providers. "It really is as simple as getting your Samsung screen for example, connecting it to the internet, connecting to one of our licenses, and then you can start sending content down right away," says Raffi. "We try to streamline the whole process as much as possible." While Signagelive specialises in non-PC media technologies, such as Samsung media chip screens, LG system chip screens and Google Chrome stick systems, the product is compatible with traditional platforms like Windows as well.

Raffi notes that while there may be several components involved with deploying a digital signage solution to an end customer, there is one that is ultimately the most important. "Yes you have the screens, the mounts, the connectivity and the software – but then there's the content. The content is the thing that really is the profit centre, it's the thing that has not been commoditised. That's were the value comes in - that's where people in the traditional signage industries think that we're a good partner, and that digital signage in general is a good avenue to go after with a focus on content production and distribution."

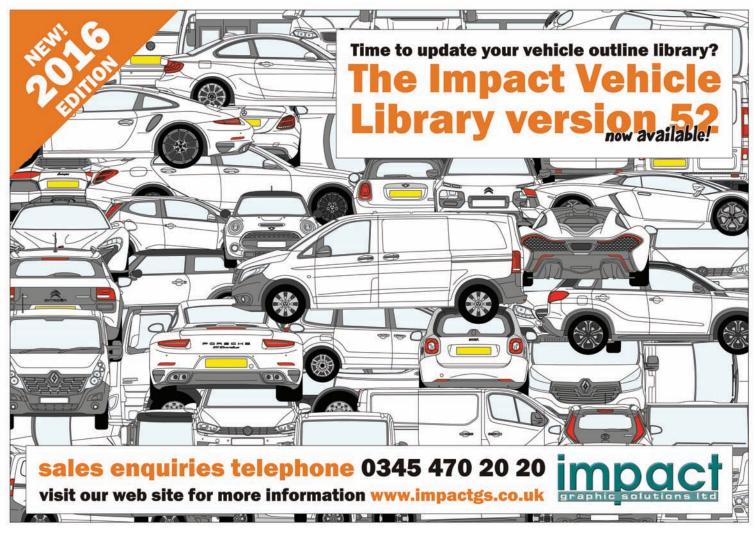
www.signagelive.com

84 per cent of UK retailers believe digital signage creates significant brand awareness Source: Samsung UK Retail Digital Signage Survey

63 per cent of people report that digital signage catches their attention Source: RichMediaTechnologies: Outdoor Effectiveness



Signagelive software can be seen in hospitals and on the high street.



#### Virtual assistants bring digital signage to life

Tensator Group is known for their worldfamous Tensabarrier®, an effective form of crowd control found in over 150 locations worldwide.

"Our bread and butter as a company is looking at people flow and customer guidance, and making sure that space is optimised and that people are safe in any environment," says Rebecca Fennell, Marketing Manager at Tensator Group. In order to build on this, the company launched an innovative new form of digital signage - the Virtual Assistant. Dubbed the "next generation of digital signage solution", the assistants utilise either live action or animation footage, which is then projected onto a lifelike stand to convey information. These are commonly found in international airports, including Birmingham, Heathrow, Miami, Dubai, Glasgow, and Madrid. "A lot of these airports were having high levels of rejected luggage in the security search, because people weren't paying attention to the normal signage that designated the rules about liquids over 100ml on board," reveals Rebecca.

"We were looking for a way to capture the passenger's attention to make them aware of the rules." As consumers become desensitized to the myriad of promotions and conventional signage that can be found in airports, the UK-manufactured Virtual Assistants proved to be the perfect solution for cutting through the noise and delivering a message.



.....Continued on page 62 Tensator Group have just launched an animated Virtual Assistant for Tetley.

# **DIGITAL SIGNAGE** Feature

#### Virtual assistants bring digital signage to life

In fact, to test the effectiveness of these new designs, Tensator Group ran a trial comparing the Virtual Assistant to other kinds of digital signage. "We found that the Virtual Assistant was ten times more effective at influencing behavioural change," says Rebecca. "We also ran a trial with Network Rail; they wanted to encourage people with luggage to take a lift rather than an escalator, as with the latter there's an increased risk of passenger injury. They used the Virtual Assistant at the bottom of the escalator to direct passengers with luggage to take the lift, and they actually saw an improvement of 260 per cent."

#### Did you know?

The Tensator Virtual Assistant is 10 times more effective at influencing behavioural change than other forms of digital signage Did you know?

Information on digital signs should be short and sharp, no more than 30 seconds

Perfecting the art of crowd control

One sector in which crowd direction and control is of paramount importance is sports.

Tensator Group were heavily involved with The London 2012 Summer Olympics, and will be again with the event in Rio this summer. Tensator Group is a global company with six offices around the world, including one in France. As such, they will be providing crowd control solutions to help ensure the UEFA Euros 2016 are safely attended.

This versatility in application comes down to the fact that the Virtual Assistants are hugely customisable. Companies can choose any actor, speaking any language and wearing any uniform, and they will be filmed and the footage uploaded onto the Virtual Assistant for projection. "Alternatively,



A Virtual Assistant seen in Glasgow Airport.

you can use animation – we have actually just launched a campaign using the Tetley gaffer. One of the most important things to know is that the Virtual Assistant is so adaptable to any application; it works, it captures peoples attention, and it's also really adaptable in terms of what that person would need that digital signage for," says Rebecca.

www.tensatorgroup.com



The Virtual Assistants are hugely customisable, and are proving incredibly popular.



# Packed with power.





Vector artwork created by Joseph Diaz

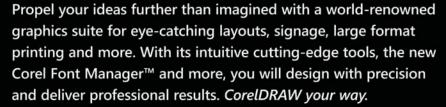




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# SIGN News

# Call for trade resellers for the new T3 Affinity exhibition and display graphics system

Exhibition and display graphics system manufacturer, Tecna Display Limited, has called for trade customers to apply to become authorised resellers of their new T3 Affinity display system.

Tecna Display Limited, with manufacturing facilities in North London, is known throughout the world for their famous T3 "twist-lock" cube connector and aluminium extrusions. This has enabled thousands of customers to build re-usable and re-configurable display graphics for hundreds of applications.

An opportunity opens to companies in the retail, exhibition, sign making, trade printing and exhibition graphics industries to become authorised resellers of their T3 Affinity system. This system enables the building of a whole host of structural systems for hanging/ displaying graphics and products using



Become a reseller of the new T3 Affinity display system.

T3 Affinity beams and posts such as, retail displays; interactive retail points; perimeter signage; and information points.

The Affinity system has a range of shelving and garment display options, making it "perfect" for retail environments. T3 Affinity has a 90 degree connector so rightangled structures including plinths, towers, stands and stand-alone units can be built rather than just flat walls, making it a "flexible, dynamic and profitable system".

Managing director Jonathan Evitt, said: "When I developed the original idea for T3, and the 'twist, lock' connector, we always intended it to be a medium from which trade printers could hang and display wide format graphics.

"T3 Affinity offers just that but also the option of easily fitting shelving, monitors and product/clothes displays. It has standard sizes so trade resellers will find it extremely easy to design, measure, print and install graphics, plus create displays for products. In fact, T3 Affinity is so easy to use, end customers will be able to install simple designs and change graphics and product displays with ease."

Tecna Display Limited invite all companies interested in joining the new T3 Affinity Global Partner Programme to first register their interest by emailing sales@t3affinity.com. Or phone Tecna Display on 020 8803 4469.

T3 Affinity will also be available through Tecna Display's UK distributor; Tecna UK Ltd.

# Avery Dennison to acquire Mactac Europe

Avery Dennison recently announced a definitive agreement to acquire the European business of Mactac from Platinum Equity, a private equity firm, for the purchase price of €200 million including assumed debt. The business manufacture high quality pressuresensitive materials, serving several highvalue segments, including graphics, specialty labels and industrial tapes. With 2015 year-end run-rate revenues of €147 million, or approximately \$170 million, and around 470 employees, Mactac's core product lines complement Avery Dennison's existing graphics portfolio. "The acquisition of Mactac Europe enhances our competitiveness in high-value graphics, where we have sustained aboveaverage growth over the past few years," says Dean Scarborough, Avery Dennison chairman and CEO. "Known for high product quality and outstanding service, Mactac complements our existing business with a strong brand and loyal customer base, expanding our product offering, capabilities, and distributor network."

Avery Dennison will maintain the Mactac brand for graphic films, building on its existing strengths and customer relationships. Mitch Butier, president and COO, Avery Dennison said: "We plan to continue operating Mactac's manufacturing facility in Soignies, Belgium and to make the facility and its people a key driver of Avery Dennison's future innovation and growth in Europe."

Avery Dennison will fund the acquisition with existing cash and credit facilities. The acquisition is expected to close within three months, subject to customary conditions and approvals.

# CMYUK and Eagle Plastics Ltd form partnership

CMYUK provide super-wide digital printer and are the UK's long-term partner of EFI. They also supply the full portfolio of wide and superwide-format VUTEk® printers and are a UK partner for the provision of Zünd, Mimaki and MTEX.

Eagle Plastics Limited is an independent supplier of thermoplastic sheet materials, with a wide range of popular sheets sizes, thicknesses and colours. Materials ranging from ABS and HIPS to PETG and Polycarbonate can be distributed on a next day service or made to order for specific projects.

CMYUK and Eagle Plastics have "joined forces" to promote a new range of printers and ink. Supported by materials to complement the "impressive" capabilities of this new technology in an ever changing retail world.

The new EFI H1625-SD UV digital printer features the latest EFI SuperDraw inks with elongation characteristics for printing directly onto formable substrates.These inks have "unparalleled" adhesion on various plastics, such as acrylic, PETG, polycarbonate, polystyrene and PVC. This unique UV ink set is super resistant to heat forming and stringent finishing such as die-cutting / routing and sawing, with no chipping, cracking or loss of adhesion.

CMYUK provides a unique range of digital print materials, with exclusive offerings from Berger Textiles and ATP adhesive products as well as UTACK removable and repositionable materials and UDECO interior décor and wallcovering medias.

Eagle Plastics hold large stocks in their centrally located warehouse facility. Material can be cut to size using their modern guillotine and beam saw equipment. Computerised cutting facilities allows the cutting of material quickly and accurately, always ensuring "optimum yield to give the best possible value".



The H1625-SD UV digital printer features the latest EFI SuperDraw inks with elongation characteristics for printing directly onto formable substrates.

## New company launch Direct to Media Printing

Peerless Plastics and Coatings have a "new addition to the family", Direct to Media Print. Based on the success of Peerless over the last few years, they noticed a need for large format, eye catching graphics and print which can be enhanced with a protective coating for everyday use.

The new partner company is based in the same headquarters as Peerless in Thetford. Allowing seamless transition from the print bed to the coating line for a fully protected, UV cured hard coat, says the company. Protective coatings can be applied in both clear gloss or matte finish and give full protection against cleaning with even the most stubborn of chemicals. They also provide abrasion resistance and protection from UV degradation.

A large print bed of 2.5 metres wide and the ability to print onto rigid media up to 50mm in thickness provides "endless opportunities". Alternatively reel to reel printing is available on flexible media such as vinyl or canvas.

An integral design studio is also present and full design is available including graphics, photo correction and multi panel layouts for large wall art and buildings.

www.dtmprint.com

# SIGN News

# **CDS become distributor for Displax Touchfoils**

ALL

With the growth of interactive touch display solutions being used in many applications and projects around the world, CDS are have decided to distribute the "amazing" Displax Touch foils.

Touch foils bring "simplicity and flexibility" to many displays, which customers want to revolutionise with touch interaction. And even more so with Displax's range of multi touch foils up to 105" and 100 touches, which have many benefits and advantages that similar products on the market lack, according to CDS.

They are easy to laminate to any display, as well as there being multiple options for screen size, aspect ratio, number of touches, glass thickness, operating systems and signage players, which make them "highly customisable and flexible".

CDS is the foremost distribution and Value Added Reseller (VAR) partner for the International manufacturer Displax, in the UK and Europe. Including technical support and advice; UK stock holding; demonstration samples; and laminating facility to support their current and new customers. CDS is introducing the latest higher quality Multitouch foils technologies and software developments to give the user an "improved and more accurate" solution.

Chris Bartram said: "Companies have had to accept the older dual touch technology for foils but that has now changed and the results are staggering. But do not take our word for it and let us show you today."

# Vivid's Easymount Air Laminator wins' award in America

Easymount Air Wide Format Laminator wins product award

Vivid's new system has won in the Finishing: laminating equipment category of the Wide-Format & Signage 2016 Readers' Choice Top Product Awards, announced on 1 April.

"We're very proud to win a second award for our laminating systems in the U.S.," says export manager Bruce Cozens. "We were presented top product for our Matrix OPP Laminating Systems. For the Easymount Air to also be recognised as a top product is a great achievement. Two awards in just six months is incredible."

A "revolution" in the wide format lamination and mounting market, the Easymount Air's patented technology uses one of the most advanced concepts seen in a wide format laminator.

The laminating rollers are controlled by pneumatic air pressure, which allow wide format printers and sign makers to mount and laminate with "remarkable" precision. Pneumatic air allows the rollers to adjust to the exact thickness and pressure required, giving faster production times.

"We've smashed the competition because of the ground-breaking technology within the Easymount Air," says Bruce. "The top roller 'floats' down, which means that foam and fluted boards aren't crushed. When the rollers achieve the correct substrate thickness, they can be locked in place to keep the required gap, making board feeding faster and more accurate."

The award was officially presented to Kevin Grabiec of Rock Hill Distribution, Vivid's Exclusive Distribution Partner for the Easymount in the U.S., at April's ISA International Sign Expo in Orlando.

www.vivid-online.com



# **ITC introduces new look Folio Catalogue**

At the recent Sign UK exhibition, Industrial Tooling Corporation (ITC) gave visitors a first opportunity to look through the latest edition of their cutting tool catalogue for the signmaking and digital print sector. With a new colour scheme, new design and lots of new product lines, the fourth issue of the Folio Catalogue has everything the modern sign maker needs, says the company.

ITC has packed the new catalogue with the latest product innovations and increased the diversity of the product offering, whilst removing many of the less relevant imperial tools from the latest edition. The result is a 60 page catalogue that has 20 per cent more pages and more content than previous issues. ITC has evolved its range of balanced routing tools, and the new catalogue caters for all the latest technology advancements, with balanced tools for a diverse range of material types and applications. The industry's "most comprehensive series of balanced tools has just got bigger, and it's all in the latest catalogue".

Another key addition to Issue 4 is the inclusion of ITC's comprehensive new line of knife tools. The Tamworth manufacturer has included a selection of flat drag knife blades; round shank drag knife blades; oscillating blades; and rotation blades. They are listed with a huge variety of sizes, geometries and cutting angles for processing an extremely diverse range of material types and thicknesses.

ITC's Sally Hunt said: "Our R&D team has developed a plethora of new products that will undoubtedly deliver results for customers. Added to this, we wanted to incorporate a more diverse product mix to make our catalogue the 'must-have' reference for sign-makers. By including a range of high quality drills, hand-taps, toolholders and collets, MQL coolant and even sacrificial sheets for protecting machine beds; we have issued a catalogue that will accommodate the increasingly diverse needs of the industry."

www.itc-ltd.co.uk Phone: 01827 304500

## Nth Degree Imaging wins SignRacer deal

Nth Degree Imaging has been appointed as a UK Distributor, in partnership with SSE Worldwide, for the new flatbed and hybrid UV printer range from SignRacer GmbH.

With over ten years of experience of adapting and enhancing digital print equipment, SignRacer GmbH has developed their Hybrid UV printer range to deliver a "unique combination of quality and price". Each model is equipped with a range of utilities, such as automatic media thickness detection, and reverse blowing for easy positioning of heavy media. SignRacer's have an adjustable UV LED curing capability allowing the printing of temperature sensitive substrates and enabling print onto a wide range of materials and objects.

Each printer can be configured with a different number of print heads to allow for a variety of ink configurations, such as white and varnish and faster running speeds. All of this can be tailored to suit different types and volumes of work, as well as individual budgets. The capability and versatility of Sign-Racer UV printers opens up new markets for added-value printed products.

Phil Dowson, Managing Director of Nth Degree Imaging said: "We are ideally positioned to offer SignRacer into the UK market in Partnership with SSE Worldwide. We already offer a vast array of inkjet hardware, digital media, colour management and software solutions, all aimed specifically at the graphic arts and sign and display sectors. At Nth Degree Imaging we recognise the opportunities and challenges created by rapidly evolving digital print technology. We don't just sell off-the-shelf products; we provide independently researched solutions based upon our extensive know-how. The addition of SignRacer printers to our portfolio is a great example of this approach in action."

www.nthdegreeimaging.com



# SIGN News

# Stylo wins SDEA best stand award

ALU!

Graphics solutions specialist and SDEA member Stylo, received an "outstanding vote of confidence" from SDEA members for their stand at the VM and Display Show, London.

Members voted for the best stand from a selection of individual and "visually arresting" exhibits at the display industry show. Stylo's bold, colourful and innovative creation won them over and was crowned the winner, say the organisers. This is the second time Stylo has secured the award, claiming it for the first time in 2015 at Retail Design Expo.

Managing Director, Simon Olley was presented with a specially commissioned crystal glass award on his winning stand by SDEA President, Alan Pegram.

www.shopdisplay.org



(L to R) Alan Pegram, SDEA and Simon Olley, Stylo.

## SDEA confirms support for Retail Design Expo 2017

Shop and Display Equipment Association (SDEA) will support Retail Design Expo when it returns to Olympia, London in May next year.



The success of the March 2016 event has confirmed the association's decision to back Retail Design Expo, when it was first announced two years ago. With the second show proving an even bigger hit than the first, SDEA has had "no hesitation" in signing an agreement to support the third event in 2017. The show organisers will in turn reward SDEA members with a five per cent discount on stand space.

SDEA will take a stand at the show and its director, Lawrence Cutler, will remain on

the steering panel which will help shape the 2017 event.

Lawrence said: "Retailers, designers and suppliers have all heaped unprecedented praise on Retail Design Expo and rightly so. It's given the retail design and display community a real focus and deserves the support of SDEA and everyone else in this great industry."

Retail Design Expo takes place at Olympia on 8 and 9 May 2017.

www.shopdisplay.org

# **OKI extends warranty**

OKI Europe Wide Format Division has extended its warranty term to three years, for the ColorPainter™ M-64s and Color-Painter™ H3-104s large format inkjet printers.

As the premium printers of the Color-Painter M- and H3-Series are operating with

"great success" in the field, delivering consistent, fail-proof reliability in the production environment, OKI is proud to provide customers extended warranty.

The new warranty programme covers replacement parts such as print heads, which provides greater peace of mind while reducing customers' total cost of ownership, says the company. The extended three-year warranty is available for all ColorPainter M-64s and H3-104s printers installed by OKI authorised distributors and dealers after 1 April 2016.

# Kall Kwik celebrates 30th anniversary

Tally Barash opened Kall Kwik Kentish Town in 1986 and is still trading from the same high street premises, although the business has changed dramatically over the past three decades.

The four strong team at the Kentish Town franchise has come a long way since the days of lithoprint, fax bureau services and photocopying. Now the business is primarily digital print. The large majority of jobs involve large format posters, and the old ground floor print room space has been turned over to large format production. Kall Kwik Kentish Town has also built up a repu-



Tally and her team celebrate 30 years of business.

tation for producing conference materials, and ships its work to venues all over the world.

Tally said: "From day one I was determined that my business would be the best. I have a long serving loyal team working alongside me. Sales Director Sujit Vaghela, who has worked for the company for 20 years; digital consultant Pete Bown; and Riley Matthews Graphic designer with 25 years' all share my values. Together we make sure that clients receive the high level of service that we would like to receive ourselves."

Highlights of Tally's 30 years in business include being featured on BBC programme the Apprentice, when Kall Kwik Kentish Town helped the contestants in the design challenge. And seeing Kentish Town transform from a tiny place on the North London map to the thriving up and coming community it is today.

"We're very fortunate that we are one of the independent businesses that can afford to still be on the high street. Although there's not as much passing trade now as there was in the quick print days, we still reap the benefits of being so centrally located in growing successful part of North London," says Tally.

## Stanford Marsh wins HP PageWide Partner Award

Stanford Marsh was presented with a prestigious award by HP, following the launch of HP's PageWide wide-format printing platform. Stanford Marsh Ltd. has been named 'Best Partner from Day One for HP PageWide XL Technology.'

The award was presented to Stanford Marsh's Sales Director, Danny Davies, and recognises the extensive pre-launch training by their sales and service teams. The training schedule took nine months to complete and has enabled the company to support HP's UK launch of the platform; and to offer robust Service Level Agreements (SLAs) to early adoptees of the PageWide technology.

Matthew Perkins, Director at Stanford Marsh, said: "Our teams have spent many hours learning about the HP PageWide platform. The training seems to have been well worth the investment though, as our first customer took delivery of four HP PageWide XL 8000 Printers."

HP PageWide technology enables users to experience the fastest large-format monochrome and colour printing, with up to 50 per cent savings in total production costs. It enables purchasers to grow their businesses with GIS map and point-of-sale (POS) poster printing to generate new revenue streams.



# SIGN News

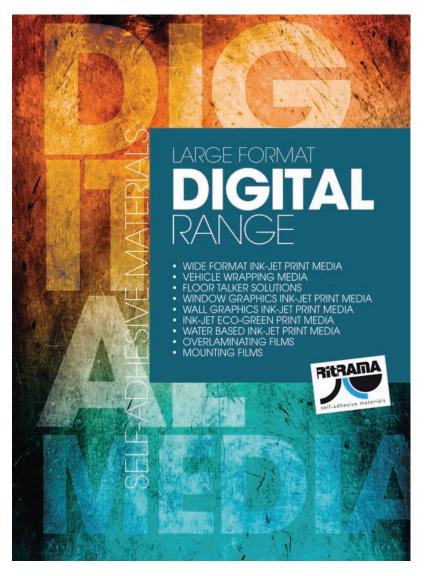
## **Ritrama's new large format digital brochure**

- ALUI

Ritrama SpA has a new large format digital range catalogue, which is a collection of selfadhesive materials suitable for many applications. The brochure has been redesigned and features a new layout and graphic presentation; as well as new product categories to make it easier to "identify the best solution for a particular application".

The new brochure introduces several innovations, both in terms of products and layout, says the company. It shows a description of their various self-adhesive materials according to the product code, the face material and the adhesive. This offers a "quick and easy" way to choose the right product. Special consideration is given to the "wide format inkjet print media", listed according to the different face materials. Such as monomeric vinyl, polymeric vinyl, CAST, apolar surface, one-way vision, static cling and specialities. In the brochure each product is shown with its recommended laminating film.

The new brochure is also an opportunity for Ritrama to present its latest products: RI-JET 100 Matt White and Gloss Clear. This monomeric film with Airflow technology and removable adhesive is for "easy" decals on glass, panels, on flat or slightly curved surfaces, which do not require the services of a professional applicator. RI-JET 100 POLY Gloss White, is a 100u polymeric film with a white gloss finish and extra permanent adhesive, to customise surfaces. HI-GRIP 75 Gloss Clear, the 75µ polymeric film with an extra permanent adhesive is "ideal" for covering and wrapping irregular and corrugated surfaces with low surface tension.



## The V&A Museum appoints CCD for new wayfinding strategy

The V&A museum of art and design, has appointed CCD, the "human-factors led" design consultancy, to create a new wayfinding strategy. This follows an extensive selection process. The appointment will see CCD do an in-depth programme of research to understand how different visitors and staff see, interact with, and understand the building. They will use those views to develop and shape the final wayfinding strategy and design solution.

David Bickle, Director of Design, Exhibitions and FuturePlan at the Victoria and Albert Museum said: "We are delighted to find a design partner following a rigorous and lengthy selection process which took place over a ten month period. The V&A attracts visitors from all over the world, and CCD has grasped that by understanding their needs we can create a wayfinding system that will improve people's time at the museum."

CCD will lead a consortium of experts consisting of designer Nick Bell, The Team, and Wood & Wood Signs. The project is in several stages, starting with the research, before moving to the initial design and testing phase with the system expected to be completed by the beginning of 2017. Chris Girling, CCD's Head of Wayfinding said: " In a complex environment such as the V&A, we can only unlock the ideal design solution once our behavioural research gives us an understanding of the interaction between people, the architecture, collections, lighting, landmarks and signs. The research will provide us with the evidence to deliver a creative design solution which will be developed alongside the V&A team."

www.designbyccd.com

# Sign & Digital UK 2016

Sign & Digital UK, the exhibition for the sign making, display solutions and digital printing industry, has delivered another "stellar" show, with a host of sales, product launches and new show features. Plans are already underway for the exhibition's 30th anniversary, with 42 per cent of the 2016 floor space rebooked for 2017.

Companies already booked for Sign & Digital UK 2017 include Blackman & White, Biesse, CMYUK, Complete CNC Solutions, Digital Blanks, Fairfield Displays, Graphic Printing Technologies (GPT), Inktec/Jetrix, Innotech, Perfect Colours, PrintMAX, Resolute DTG, Rollsroller, Signmaster Systems, Signwaves, Soyang Europe, Ultima Displays and Your Print Specialists (YPS).

The three-day event took place at the NEC Birmingham from 19 to 21 April 2016 and was attended by 6,240\* unique visitors from across the UK, Ireland and rest of the world. The show featured exclusive product launches; live demonstrations; more than 35 daily seminars; and workshops. New for this year was the Digital Signage Theatre, plus the "Become a Wrap Expert" workshop, which featured two of the world's leading vehicle wrapping experts.

Strong sales were reported across all three days of the show, with many exhibitors commenting on the quality and genuine interest of the visitors who came to their stands, say the organisers.

#### Feedback was positive: Vivid Laminating Technologies Richard Marlow, sales director

We've had a great show this year. The quality of visitors has been good, they're all here to buy and as a result we've seen some strong sales through our dealer channels.

#### Your Print Specialists

**Garry Brown, managing director** We've had the best show ever in terms of sales, and the footfall has been of a higher quality across the board.



#### Service Offset Supplies Ltd Ashley Fleming, sales manager

This year's show has been a big success for us; we've had positive results, made sales during the show and got a lot of prospects to follow up afterwards. Sign & Digital UK is the one show that everybody attends each year to do business – it's a buying show.

#### Modul UK Ltd James Kemp, business development manager

The show has been busier than we expected, and the quality of the footfall has been really good. The most important thing for us is not just the volume of leads, but the fact that people are approaching us with upcoming projects.

#### Nth Degree Imaging Ltd Phil Dowson, managing director

"The show has been busy for us this year, lots of people have visited the stand and we're hoping to convert those leads into some sales. Sign & Digital UK is a great opportunity to showcase new products, to expand the business and get some decent exposure in the marketplace."

#### Shimmerdisc Sequin Displays Andrew Ainge, managing director

"The show has been amazing for us; we've developed some really strong leads and partnerships to grow the business. We've seen a really high quality of visitors across all three days – it's really exciting! Sign & Digital UK is the main industry show to visit."

Rudi Blackett, event director, said: "This year's show has been another huge success! The combination of exclusive product launches and good quality visitors resulted in a buying bonanza across all three days.

"We'll be celebrating 30 years of Sign & Digital UK in 2017, and with record rebookings, it is set to be a great anniversary event. We look forward to seeing everyone back at the NEC Birmingham from 28 to 30 March 2017."







# Rolover Flatbed Applicator

This premium machine is a very versatile, profitable and efficient tool for all kinds of applications.

The excellent functionality is powered by the idea of facilitating and streamlining the multiple tasks

encountered in the daily work of signmakers. Regardless of media type such as self-adhesive foil applications, road signs, glass application, banners etc. up to 90mm in thickness, the Rollover will ensure a perfect result at a minimum of time.



165 cm - 65"

Flexible media Easy one hand holders activation button

Rottover

operation and protected

Premium finishing solutions from Signmaster

The final solution

Signmaster Systems Ltd

#### PREMIUM RIGID MATERIAL CUTTER featuring best clamping system with advanced pneumatic technology

Interchangeable cutting head system

6

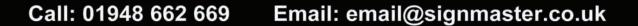
- Double handle system for cutting tough and rigid materials
- Laser Beam accessory to indicate the cutting line
- Two bearing blocks located on a linear rail for a fast and accurate cutting head movement
- Guided counterbalance supports the load of the cutting
- Telescopic legs to find easily the most comfortable working position
- Easy to set up and square through the adjusting screw system
  - Cutting thickness up to 20 mm for semi-rigid materials

Silent Compressors

Can be mounted on the wall or supported by a free standing

Available in 3 sizes 165cm / 210cm / 250cm





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# APPOINTMENTS

## **Rennicks UK**

Rennicks UK has appointed Martin Rodgers as the their new Sales Director, to further expand and develop its expertise in providing intelligent transport solutions. Martin will focus on repositioning the organisation to develop Rennicks UK's core traffic products, alongside Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), solutions to increase safety and visibility for all road users.

Martin said: "I am excited to start a new challenge with Rennicks UK and look for-

ward to working with the team. Using our unique knowledge and understanding of the retroreflective sheeting and traffic and transport industries; to apply technology providing systems, products and services which will help our customers deliver their goals."

Michael Flanagan, Group MD said: "Martin brings with him a wealth of experience within the ITS arena and will help shape and build our business"





## PPB

PPB Ltd has appointed Terry Pritchard to focus upon the growth of sales of industrial plastics, in the recently expanded London and Home Counties regions. Terry's role of Account Manager will include supporting and developing the sales of polycarbonates, Lumex G (PET-G), Lumex A (APET), foam PVC, Priplak and the newly launched Westland Digital Media range for wide format printing. Terry joins PPB after spending 16 years with Robert Horne, and subsequently PaperlinX and has an "extensive" knowledge of the industrial plastics market.

PPB Ltd recently moved into a specifically designed new building in September of 2015. The new 13,000 sq. ft. distribution centre has over 1200 pallet spaces and is serviced by four 26 tonne lorries. Terry's appointment is one of many recent new investments in people, products and conversion made by PPB over the last 12 months.

Richard Proctor, Managing Director for PPB said: "We are delighted to welcome Terry to our rapidly expanding London team.

PPB has invested heavily to provide the widest range of plastic, paper and board, display materials and finishing services for the screen print and digital display markets.

Our in-house conversion equipment, such as our Schelling Saw and Cauhe Guillotine, allows us to provide a high value bespoke service to sign makers, fabricators and wide format digital printers across the UK, often next day."

# Staff expansion for Soyang Europe

Soyang Europe has added to its sales team as it prepares for the launch of its new interior décor collection, to complement its portfolio of digitally printable materials.

Newly promoted Oliver Mashiter is to reinforce Soyang's sales team as Sales Manager for the North of England. He said: "I'll be taking our fantastic new products out to customers old and new and talking to them about what they want to see in the future, to feedback and enhance the product development at Soyang Technologies in China. It's going to be an exciting challenge."

The team at Soyang Europe HQ also welcomes new recruit Amy Aspinall to the position of Telesales Executive. Amy will be an integral part of the internal sales team, providing font-line order processing support to Soyang's customers.

## Durst appoints technical applications specialist



Durst UK has taken on Stuart Morrison as a Technical Service Engineer, specialising in technical applications.

Having worked in printing for 25 years, all his working life, Stuart brings a wealth of experience to the role, including digital, litho and wide format, as well as pre-press and printing finishing.

Mr Morrison joins from Domino Printing Sciences, where he had been a workflow and colour management engineer.

Peter Bray, Durst UK and Ireland Managing Director, said: "This is another important step forward as part of our expansion plans in the UK. Stuart joins us at a crucial time, when we are continuing to grow the Durst presence in many diverse markets."

Mimaki JV33-160 printer Au



Check our website for the latest job vacancies or items for sale.

#### BUSINESS FOR SALE

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## **Fully refurbished** from £6,500\* Also available: CG-FX Cutters and

Laminators

\*Plus VAT

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A Gerber Edge FX and Envision 375 were sold before going to print this time, so for the latest offers, visit: www.signupdate.co. uk/for-sale

#### Laser Welding machine for Built Up Letters

Very little use. Like new. Spare set of laser lamps. Can weld thin Stainless Steel and

Aluminium. With additional 5 metre optical cable to

weld big parts. Photo: www.signupdate.co.uk/for-sale

Used NEON making equipment. Lots of glass tubes and other parts.

mmsigns@yahoo.co.uk or by phone +370 60802587

#### JOB VACANCIES





Due to our continued expansion, we are looking for professionals with a strong background in signage to join our team. We have a number of positions available at both our Head Office in London E8 and in our new production facility in Hadleigh, Essex.

#### LONDON:

We are looking for office based individuals who can confidently liaise with clients, assist with general office administration, enquiries & sales, and expand our portfolio. Salary is negotiable based upon experience and performance.

#### ESSEX

We are looking for experienced individuals with a good understanding of signage production. You will need to confidently manage projects, work to tight deadlines, and produce work to the highest standard. Salary is negotiable based upon experience and performance.

Please apply in writing providing a background of your experience and a full CV to studio@kemplondon.com

#### WWW.KEMPLONDON.COM

#### Sign Technician/Installer - Kent

Steve Marsh Design pride themselves on excellent skills and teamwork to produce and install the best quality signs for their customers, with over 15 years' experience in the business. As part of our continuing growth we now require a full time Sign Technician/Installer to join the current team of staff.

#### Job Description:

To install a variety of signs and apply vinyl decals to fulfil client orders at sites nationwide. The successful candidate must do this in an efficient and effective manner ensuring maximum customer satisfaction and minimising errors. Responsibilities will include the ability to ensure that all products are fitted to the highest standards, taking photographs of your work and reporting information, whilst adhering to the most stringent H&S working practices. You will be required to work away from our main office, this may include; early-morning work, night work, overnight stays and weekend work, although rates of pay reflect this.

#### Skills and qualifications:

- PASMA, IPAF, Asbestos Awareness, First Aid and Ladder Use qualifications are desirable, but not essential.
- Knowledge of vinyl and signage fabrication and installation is essential.
- The individual will be self-motivated with a great attention to detail and
- accuracy. The individual will be a team player with good time management and the ability to remain calm under pressure
- The individual must hold a full, clean UK driving licence.

The contracted hours of this role are 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday. However, overtime hours may be required.

In the first instance please forward your CV with a covering letter to steve@stevemarshdesign.co.uk



## Account Manager or Sales Exec

South East Region (work from home)

#### The Role:

This role is an account management based role, where you will be dealing with specific customers. On a day to day basis you will be dealing with some of our large accounts, taking relevant and specific information from our clients, ensuring work is complete on-time and in good order. This is also a customer facing role so you will need to engage directly with the customer to identify their needs and resolve any changes they require, visit customer sites to survey for signage and follow up survey to inspect quality of work. As we deal with some high-profile customers, this is a demanding and fast paced role where leadtimes need to be adhered to and organisation is essential.

#### Job Requirements:

- Experience in Customer Account Management.
- Organised individual.
- Reliable and responsible.
- Good understanding and able to use Microsoft office and especially Excel.
- Must be able to work to deadlines and under high pressure.

#### Benefits:

- A terrific opportunity to work within a growing company.
- Opportunity to work with high profile customers.
- Dealing with multiple people.
- **Company Vehicle**
- Laptop
- Mobile Phone

#### **GK Signs & Screenprint Company Profile:**

Established in 1992, GK Signs and Screenprint Ltd now provides signage, vehicle livery, banners and other services to multinational companies all over the country. As the progression continues, we strive to win new business and provide quality and service to both our new and existing customers. Working with a team of great people this the perfect opportunity for someone who wishes to excel.

Contact: Michelle Prangley on 01392 494044 Michelle.prangley@gksigns.co.uk



Borney UK, based in Cambridgeshire are one of the UK's leading manufacturers and suppliers of signage, flags, banners and exhibition displays.

## We're recruiting!

#### Signage Team Leader

We are seeking an experienced Signage Team Leader to manage a small team of sign makers, fitters and vehicle wrappers.

Responsibilities include managing the teams schedules, vinyl graphic application, sign making and installing signs and display materials on and off site.

#### Vehicle Wrapper

Here at Borney UK, we are seeking a Vehicle Wrapper with experience of wrapping digital images and cut vinyl graphics.

A full, clean driving license is essential, as is the willingness to work on your own or as part of a team.

For full details please contact Human Resources with your CV on the details below:

E: HR@borneyuk.co.uk

- T: 01480 456689
- W: www.borneyuk.co.uk

# **CUSHIN**

## Sales Representative

#### Midlands

Oshino are a well-established lighting manufacturer in automotive, aerospace and signage and have been based in Nottingham for over 35 years. We are looking to fill a vacancy for a Sales Representative to cover a wide geographical region in the UK promoting our LED products and Power Supplies to the signage industry.

#### You will need to have:

- a track record of achieving set sales targets
- a good knowledge of the signage industry
- a professional appearance and good communication skills
- a sound knowledge of LED lighting
  - the ability to work within a small dedicated team

#### We offer:

- a basic salary plus commission and pension
- a fully expensed company car, travel expenses, laptop, mobile
- some overseas travel

Please e-mail your CV in confidence to david.tyler@oshino.co.uk

or by post to: Oshino Lamps UK Ltd, 1 Churchfield Court, Robey Close, Linby, Nottingham NG15 8AA

#### JOB VACANCIES



#### Attention! Sign Company Professionals

Chillipepper Signs in Monmouth is expanding the team prior to re-location to new purpose built premises in the beautiful Wye Valley. We are interested in hearing from anyone with good sign company skills and experience including:

#### All Rounder / Manager

Hands-on and experienced in all aspects of a sign company including site surveys, quoting, design, production, fitting, vinyl application and installation. Managerial & training experience aspirations a distinct advantage.

#### Studio Operative / Art Worker

Creating proofs, artwork and other images for client approval. Preparing and sending production ready files to the printer. Maintenance of printer. Software in use: Illustrator, Signlab, Photoshop and Clarity.

#### Sign Maker / Installer

Responsible for all aspects of sign making including vinyl application on vehicles and signs. Sign installation using scaffolding towers etc. Vehicle wrapping experience an advantage.

All the above would be expected to support all areas of the business as necessary.

Come and help us grow the company and enjoy a great quality of life! Good schools, great outdoors, River Wye and Forest of Dean, the Black Mountains all on our doorstep. Bristol, Cardiff, Hereford & Gloucester all within 1 hour. Good travel links nearby with junctions off the M50, M4, M5.

Excellent salary for the right people. Please e-mail CV's to sally@chillipepper-signs.co.uk or call 07880 682105.



## Lead Vehicle Graphics Applicator

Smart Graphics is looking to add a highly skilled vehicle graphics applicators to act as a Lead applicator to cover England and Wales.

The successful applicants' duties will involve taking the lead on projects ensuring that all QC procedures are being fulfilled. The successful applicant will be responsible for assessment of applicators to recommend additional training and to assess contractors.

You will also be required to undertake the application of printed and cut vinyl graphics to bus and commercial fleets and also some sign and graphic requirements at customer or dealer locations when required.

Experience of leading and organising fitting teams is essential as are the skills to wrap digital images and to fit cut vinyl graphics. A clean and full driving license and experience of working with graphic installation on buses would be an advantage but is not essential.

The successful candidate will be, presentable, have good communication skills be self-motivated, able to work away from home, be flexible to accommodate the differing needs of our customer base and the projects we undertake and also have strong on site problem solving and management skills.

A very attractive package is available for the successful candidates including a competitive salary, overtime payments, a company vehicle, mobile phone and expenses.

Please submit your CV to Paul Bellard via careers@smartgraphics.co.uk



- Vinyl application skills including manifestation and large format prints.
- Signage fabrication and fitting.
- Great attention to detail and accuracy.
- The individual is expected to be Self motivated and self managing.
- Experience in Sign Lab, Omega or CS Illustrator software would be beneficial
- Clean and full driving license.

Please ring: 01628 810071 Email CV to : sales@creativesg.co.uk

## Production Manager



Based: Within M25 / M40 / M4

Signs - Graphics - Exhibitions

To work within an experienced group to develop current production programmes and focus the department on achievement.

The right person will demonstrate all the following skills to achieve goals whilst working within a fast moving environment.

Hands on team Leader who motivates by example and encouragement. Works well under pressure of deadlines. Goal Setter and Achiever. High level of attention to detail.

A knowledge of the sign or an associated industry will be a prerequisite for this position, as well as an understanding of print, manufacture and installation to a high standard. Managing everything post sales to finished project.

Managing Internal Staff and External Contractors. Overseeing Production and Installation. Liaising and negotiating with suppliers & customers on cost and lead times. Project Cost Control.

Site Visits, ability to survey sites and understand drawings.

Very Competitive Salary. Company Car or Allowance.

In the first instance please apply in writing providing a background of your experience and a full C.V. to sales@aztecgroup.net





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Cast in polyurethane with detail in relief and hand painted full colours. May be cast on their own or as part of an entrance sign, blue plaque or street sign etc. We also cast coats of arms in aluminium, grp or bronze. Please send details for a quotation.

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info@ward-signs.co.uk www.ward-signs.co.uk Wards of Bristol Specialise in manufacture, restoration and accurate reproduction of historic and modern coats of arms. We are able to produce from originals, information from heraldic associations, or even from a photograph. Check our website for recent projects.

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Cast blue plaques with detail in relief. Usually cast in solid rigid polyurethane and painted blue background with white, silver or gold letters. Send us artwork or copy of the text for a quote.

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Tel: 0117 955 3385 info@ward-signs.co.uk www.ward-signs.co.uk Wards of Bristol have produced countless cast metal commemorative blue plaques, but also specialise in traditional bronze plaques and custom 3D hand crafted plaques, which are hand painted to depict scenes of historical events, places and figures.

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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.

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179 Fosse Road North, Leicester, LE3 5EZ Tel: 0500 428 021 sales@sign-here.co.uk www.sign-here.co.uk Trade service for Laser flat cut & built up lettering & logos in Acrylic, Aluminum & Stainless steel. We will give you a professional reliable & efficient service at a competitive price. From a single letter to a fully illuminated sign ready for installation. For a quote or just friendly advice contact us. We are here to help. Work with us.... work with experiance

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Tel: +44 (0)1274 774477 sales@applelec.co.uk www.applelec.co.uk Trade suppliers of proven LED lighting solutions and manufacturers of the flat lighting unit, LED Light Sheet. Energy efficient, award winning LED lighting modules in a variety of colours including RGB (colour changing) are available for both indoor and outdoor applications. Applelec offer unrivalled service and after sale technical support for our LED solutions to ensure customers receive continued assistance.

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www.kingsplastics.co.uk White, warm white & coloured LED modules in 4 sizes and LED ribbon - bright or super bright and RGB colour changing. 12v power convertors, RGB controllers, together with a range of connectors. Leds ideal for lettering & lightboxes. For full details on our range, prices and for images, check out our website & online shop. Competitive prices guaranteed!

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129 Humberstone Road, Leicester LE5 3AP Tel: 0116 262 5933 sales@ledsolutions.co.uk www.ledsolutions.co.uk LED Solutions supply quality, energy efficient LED products to the sign trade. We are UK distributors for DAEHAN LED who specialise in sign illumination and offer 5-year warranties with our sign LED module range. We supply RGB modules, LED Light panels, Flexible strips, Neonflex, and IP Rated Power supplies, so please contact us for any assistance.

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1 Churchfield Court, Robey Close, Linby, Nottingham NG15 8AA Tel: 0115 964 1305 Mob: 07766 777878 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.

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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.

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Tel: 01603 666699

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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

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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.

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#### PERSPEX DISTRIBUTION LTD

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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.

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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

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