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Advertising Manager - **Martin Hinchliffe**.....Tel: 01784 605 601
email: martin@signupdate.co.uk

Editor - **Kathryn Johnson**.....Tel: 01784 605 602
email: editor@signupdate.co.uk

Features Editor - **Jemima Codrington**Tel: 07772 516 227
email: jemimac@signupdate.co.uk

Graphic Design - **Tony Hinchliffe**.....Tel: 01784 605 601
email: tony@signupdate.co.uk

Accounts - **Linda Hinchliffe**.....Tel: 01784 605 601
email: linda@signupdate.co.uk

Publisher - **Roger Hinchliffe**.....Tel: 01784 605 601
email: roger@signupdate.co.uk

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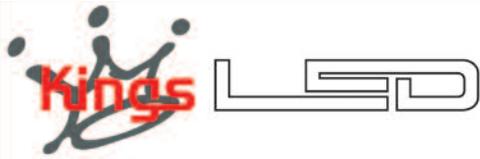
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WELCOME Page

A bounty

Autumn is a productive season, so we bring you this issue, which is bursting with features, projects and products.

The digital printable media feature looks at the latest products, in particular those that are easy to apply. And I'm hoping that the self adhesive vinyl I've just bought to customise some furniture is as easy to apply as it claims! I'm sure it will give me a new respect for those you use vinyl to wrap vehicles, and get such a smooth finish. And to achieve a good finish on printed media, Chris Green from Antalis give his top tips. It's also great to read about the new products that are better for the environment, such as Innotech's PVC free material for banners. Also Grafityp tell us about their environmentally friendly Colibri film, to meet their customers need for cost effective, PVC free products.

Two favourite subjects are covered in the built up letters and traditional sign making features. Not only is it the size, scale and production of channel letters that is so impressive, it's also lighting them, which makes such a difference to the result. Centre Signs (UK) explain how they've integrated new LED technology into lighting stainless steel letters to enable halo and edge lit illumination at the same time. And ZULU Signs explain how they consider fabrication and fixing at the beginning of the project, rather than as an after thought, to make sure they find the right solution.

And feast your eyes on what signmakers are creating by hand painting signs, using materials that have been around for a long time. Although Nick Garrett says the term 'traditional signwriter' doesn't fit anymore, as they use smart technology or a roll of masking tape, alongside their brushes and paints. More and more courses are available for those wanting to learn this art form, such as those run by Wayne Tanswell, who is passionate about teaching the next generation of signwriters.

Also, don't miss the interview with Stuart Cole from Hybrid Services, about Mimaki's grand format printer and why it's been getting so much attention since its launch at FESPA 2016.

Till the next time...

Kathryn



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Mimaki to unveil "next generation" UV curable flatbed printers

The Mimaki UJF-3042 MkII and the UJF-6042 MkII are the latest generation of UV flatbed printers from Mimaki, replacing earlier UJF-3042HG and UJF-6042 models, respectively. The new printers feature "superior productivity, print quality and flexibility than their very successful predecessors, which demonstrate Mimaki's continued commitment to delivering market-leading solutions".

The new models have been developed to enhance the customer experience, by increasing both print speed and print quality, meeting the ever-changing demands of the sector.

The new UJF-3042 MkII and UJF-6042 MkII printers feature print speeds that are 20 per cent faster than its predecessors, and can be used with a wide array of different inksets. For example, LUS-120 inks are ideal for printing on soft material surfaces, such as membrane switches or smartphone wallet cases. This is because of their ability to stretch up to 170 per cent without cracking when pressed or folded. LUS-150 inks, which will be available for the new printers in the near future, are ideal for indoor signs, trophies and other acrylic items due to their "excellent" adhesion properties.



The new UV flatbed printers from Mimaki are faster and produce work that is higher quality than their predecessors, according to the company.

The new printers have the capability to print at maximum speeds of 2.48 sq m/hour and 3.52 sq m/hour, respectively.

LH-100 inks, when used with Mimaki's PR-200 inkjet primer, are also an "excellent" choice for printing on glass, metal and resins, which have traditionally been difficult for UV-curable inks. Mimaki Clear Control (MCC), a clear varnish ink, can be used to both highlight areas with spot or flood coating, as well as to deliver embossing opportunities with multiple passes.

The details

The new printers have the capability to print at maximum speeds of 2.48 sq m/hour and 3.52 sq m/hour, respectively. This is a 20 per cent improvement in speed over current models; as well as has the ability to print on objects up to 153mm thick.

Mechanical functionality is further enhanced with a print table that moves during printing, to reduce printer vibration and deliver precise dot placement.

Preset Mimaki Expand Colour in the printers' RasterLink digital front end software delivers upgraded colour representation for even more "vibrant, solid colour and brighter skin tones".

Automatic detection and cleaning of clogged nozzles allows reliable continual printing and reduces wastage. Mimaki Circulation Technology (MCT) circulates white ink at regular intervals to prevent pigment sedimentation that can lead to nozzle malfunction.

The new models include a fully covered print table designed to improve safety while maintaining print quality by keeping dust and other contaminants out of the system, which is especially important in retail environments.

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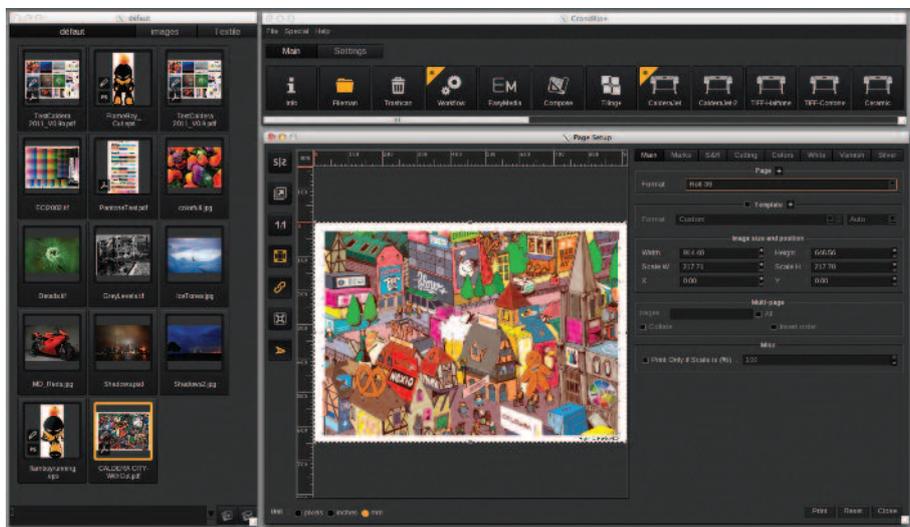
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PRODUCT News

Caldera celebrates anniversary with new version

Caldera celebrates its 25th anniversary with a landmark edition that introduces a variety of improvements for wide-format print houses. V11 incorporates the latest version of Adobe PDF Print Engine (APPE 4), as well as practical advances in image and business control options. Compliant with macOS Sierra, V11 will be available in multiple languages from September this year.

The manufacturer responds to user demand with the addition of a new feature, True Bleed. Operators can clone pixels around the edge of an image regardless of its shape, to create better edge finishing for applications such as print-and-cut, textile and, particularly, canvas. Selected easily within the Caldera interface, True Bleed can also be combined with Contour Nesting and other popular media optimisation options in all RIP packages, such as GrandRIP+, VisualRIP+ and TextilePRO.



Newly launched V11 from Caldera has a range of new features for wide format printing.

"Version 11 represents the totality of our knowledge of today's wide-format production environment."

APPE 4 is the first version of Adobe's processing technology to improve performance specifically for wide-format production through advances in the management of cacheing, memory and technical settings. Caldera V11 draws on this and other features, including expanding the spot colour management to 127 spots simultaneously. This they say, greatly improves selective colour for sign and display producers.

Patterns and masks are processed with greater precision thanks to this latest version of APPE, which also promotes advanced compatibility and compliance with the Adobe CC/DC suite.

The new version of APPE has been expanded to include Tile Parallel Processing, or TPP. This technology speeds up system performance by splitting the components of larger image files into manageable pieces, or 'tiles'. These graphics elements are assigned to a separate instance of APPE, each of which runs on a separate CPU core. By breaking these tiles up and processing them in parallel before reassembling them, rendering times are reduced and jobs are RIPed more quickly.

Sync & Deploy is a feature new to Caldera V11 that provides the ability to run the same

RIP settings across different printers, locations and environments. This reduces installation times for V11 users by sending the configuration to multiple stations. Critical data, such as drivers, ICC profiles and presets for colour and data management can be shared in a user-friendly way, so owners can scale their businesses with additional printers. Caldera will also provide an app that calculates the hardware resources needed to address the production environment correctly.

Joseph Mergui, Chief Executive Officer, Caldera, said: "Version 11 represents the totality of our knowledge of today's wide-format production environment. It gives us all a sense of pride to know that this translates into a number of forward-thinking and powerful opportunities for our growing global user base."

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Film for floor, filmolux® FGS from Neschen, has been optimised to be safe to use on sports floors. The film conforms to the European standard (EN 14904) for sports floors in gymnasiums and indoor surfaces for multifunctional sports activities.

R9 certified since 2015

For more than 15 years filmolux® FGS has been part of the NESCHEN product range. The protection film was originally developed for classic photographs and inkjet digital print media. Filmolux® FGS was R9 certified in 2015 by the IFA (Institute for Occupational Safety) and since then has been an integral part of the NESCHEN floor graphics solutions. Filmolux® FGS makes a "perfect" combination with the NESCHEN print media solvoprint® easy 80 GSP removable, and solvoprint® easy 80 GSP nolite.

Filmolux® FGS protected surfaces and floor advertising can be walked on within minutes of application.

Rita Gerhardt, product manager at NESCHEN said: "These certified products are the result of extensive testing and product development. Now floor graphics can be applied also to all types of sports floors with filmolux® FGS."



NESCHEN's film for floor is safe to use on sports floor surfaces.

Surfaces are immediately accessible

Advertising messages printed on NESCHEN print media are protected by the filmolux® FGS film, which is made of structured, transparent and scratch-resistant polymeric soft PVC. NESCHEN print media has a water-based adhesive, which can be stuck to various surfaces such as wood laminate, ceramic tiles, marble, parquet and

screed, as well as high-quality PVC. It can be easily removed with minimal residue. Filmolux® FGS protected surfaces and floor advertising can be walked on within minutes of application.

www.neschen.com

New routing software from Graphtec GB

Graphtec GB is distributing SA International's (SAi) latest EnRoute Version 6 program. It includes new design and production tools that will "greatly enhance" the CNC routing, cutting, milling and engraving capabilities of sign makers, wide-format digital printers and print finishing and materials fabrication specialists.

EnRoute Version 6 is said to be the most advanced software of its kind so far developed by SA International, which offers both 2D and 3D design and production capabilities. It combines a suite of over 40 new design and productivity tools and is available in a choice of four different editions (Basic, Plus, Pro and Fab Advanced).

Key features of the software include individual programs that cover more advanced component-making; nesting and cutting; increased font utilisation; and the ability to add innovative relief tex-

tures and special effects. It also allows customers to view what a finished product will look like before starting the manufacturing process.

While integrated online movies explain the more advanced design and production capabilities available. These will benefit not only entry-level users, but also existing users with possibly higher levels of proficiency, to realise the software's full potential, says the company.

www.graphtecgb.co.uk



PRODUCT News

New Mimaki JFX200-2531 offers larger printing area

Mimaki is adding the JFX200-2531 LED UV flatbed printer to its popular JFX200 product family. The new machine builds on the success of the JFX200-2513 model with an increased printing area and greatly enhanced productivity, says the company.

The JFX200-2513 has been enthusiastically embraced by the market since its launch just over two years ago, says Mimaki. They are now responding to feedback from customers seeking the same market-leading performance, but with a larger print table. The new JFX200-2531 meets that requirement, with a print area twice the size of its

predecessor. And a unique "toggle print" function increases productivity and improves continuous running capability, by allowing operators to load one board while another is printing.

The new, large flatbed UV-curable inkjet printer is compatible with media up to 2.5 x 3.1 metres. This increases the application range to accommodate large signs, wall decorations, doors and other large items. It can also accommodate two signage boards of the popular 1,220mm x 2,440mm (4ft x 8ft) size, so print companies can benefit from the added productivity enabled by the toggle print function.



The JFX200-2531 flatbed printer, which has a larger printing area to increase productivity.

**Stuart Cole,
National Sales Manager
– Industrial Products for
Hybrid Services Ltd said:**

"I'm certain that this new model will have huge appeal to signmakers whose businesses are expanding, diversifying and are looking for greater output capability."

Additional features of the new JFX200-2531 include improved media handling; and an ionizer that eliminates electrostatic discharge that can affect image quality. Anti-banding functions and variable dot printing also contribute to the creation of "smooth, exceptionally high-quality" images. A vacuum pedal is included as standard for hands-free operation of the media vacuum function.

A wide range of inksets are also available to accommodate the broadest range of applications, such as LH-100 scratch resistant ink, LUS-120 and LUS-150 inks suitable for printing on soft materials. LUS-200 ink, which is ideal for outdoor applications with its resistance to sun, rain and other adverse weather conditions. And LUS-350 ink, which is a unique, stretchable ink suitable for a wide range of thermoforming applications, with the ability to stretch up to 350 per cent without cracking.

With availability anticipated in early 2017, the new JFX200-2531 will be offered through Hybrid's network of specialist industrial products resellers.

www.hybridservices.co.uk

New technology for wide format roll-to-roll printing

Canon recently launched UVgel printing technology that will soon feature in a new line of roll-to-roll printers. This unique technology will offer large format print providers an "unprecedented combination of productivity, image quality, application range, automation and low cost of operation".

Key benefits:

- The new UV curable ink instantly gels on contact with the media, resulting in precise

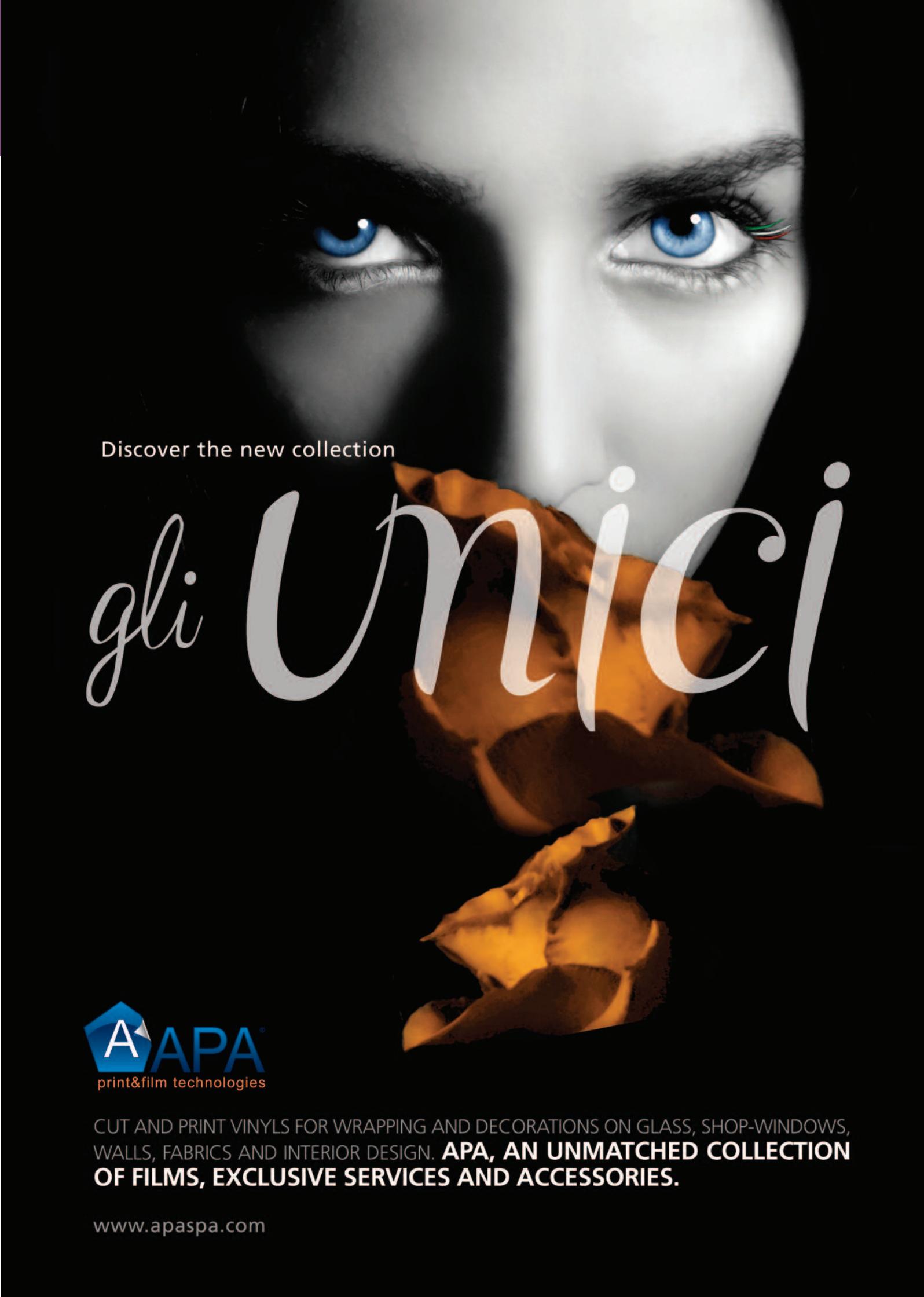
dot placement and area control for perfectly repeatable images at high speed.

- The large colour gamut of solvent inks combined with the environmental benefits and safety profile of latex and UV inks.

- Ultra-thin ink dispersion with almost no discernible physical profile; and the lowest ink consumption rate for up to 40 per cent reduction in printing costs compared to eco-solvent and latex.

All resulting in cost effective, non-toxic, durable, colour fast, high quality prints for almost any flexible media application, says the company.

Canon's new UVgel printing technology will be at the core of a family of new roll-to-roll printing products; the first of which will be a high productivity 64" roll-to-roll printer to be released in Spring 2017.



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PRODUCT News

Creative walls

Avery Dennison's new MPI 8000 Series of multi-purpose inkjet wall films provide creative solutions for a variety of wall graphics and decorations.

Available from William Smith, these films can be applied to a range of wall finishes and interior applications, such as treated wood, latex painted, plastered and concrete walls.

MPI 8726 textured wall film comes in stone, canvas and stucco finishes, with high opacity to cover underlying surfaces. It is a flexible yet tough and scuff-resistant white calendered premium vinyl, says the company; and its hi-tack permanent clear acrylic adhesive performs well on difficult surfaces.

MPI 8626 is a matt white, high opacity calendered vinyl film with hi-tack permanent acrylic adhesive. This makes it suitable to apply to slightly structured surfaces, as well as low energy substrates, such as polyethylene and polypropylene.

MPI 8024 is a premium high performance calendered film with EA hi-tack permanent clear acrylic adhesive, with Avery Dennison's Easy Apply air-release technology. This makes it faster to apply, and bubble-free on flat and slightly structured surfaces.



Avery Dennison's new wall films, available from William Smith, provide many creative solutions for wall decorations.

MPI 8621 satin white calendered vinyl film comes with a clear acrylic removable adhesive. It can be applied to most wall surfaces and has been tested and recommended for use over many kinds of paint. Its thick face film gives "stability and enables reductions in application time".

All Avery Dennison MPI 8000 Series films have been developed specifically to use on a variety of super-wide format latex, solvent, eco-solvent and UV printers.

www.williamsmith.co.uk

SCIGRIP scales up UK production of acrylic adhesive

SCIGRIP, who supply adhesive solutions globally, has scaled up production of their acrylic bonding system SG42 at their UK facility, to respond to customer demand.

Acrylic and PMMA adhesives are increasingly replacing mechanical joining techniques due to the products high strength, high modulus and superior adhesion capabilities says the company. But until now, SG42 was only manufactured at SCIGRIP's US headquarters, which resulted in extended lead times for European customers.

SCIGRIP 42 is formulated to bond acrylic, acrylic to polyester, cellulose acetate butyrate and polycarbonate plus a range of other substrates. The high strength system is used with great success in the sign and display and plastic fabrication industries, says the company. It's particularly effective where good clarity retention is required such as aquariums, windows, windscreens and display cases.

Following a site upgrade and installation of the latest mixing equipment at SCIGRIP's facility in Washington in Tyne and Wear, they can formulate the acrylic adhesive in substantial volumes.

"We appreciate the untapped potential within the European sign and display market and plastics fabrication industries and look to further develop SCIGRIP's profile in this sector", says Tim Johnson, SCIGRIP's European Sales and Marketing Manager.

www.scigrup.com



i-Sub adds two new fabric printers to its soft signage range

i-Sub, specialist distributor and reseller to the textile printing market, has added the "powerful and cost-effective" EFI VUTEK FabriVU 180 and 340 high resolution fabric printers to its portfolio.

Nick Davies, Director at i-Sub, said: "These printers are an exciting addition to the i-Sub range. Graphics providers who want to drive their businesses into the soft signage market will be equipped to print dazzling displays, high-density backlit signs and more with high resolutions and speeds. The EFI VUTEK FabriVU 180 and 340 printers produce robust soft signs and fabric displays that retain the drape and soft hand cus-

tomers prefer; while still creating spectacular graphics that can be washed and dried without wrinkling, folded without leaving marks, and reused time and time again.

"The machines can print direct to textile or onto transfer paper, and changeover from one to the other is fast and simple. This means users can offer customers more choice in textiles, while also saving money by using lower cost substrate materials. These 180-centimetre and 340-centimetre wide printers use genuine EFI water-based CMYK disperse dye inks to print on fabrics weighing from 40 to 300 gsm; and paper weighing from 40 to 160gsm."

The printers provide high resolution of up to 2,400 dpi and four-level greyscale printing with 4pL to 18pL drop sizes. They are designed for the production of flags, banners, wall coverings, backlit displays and other high-end display graphics.

The latest EFI VUTEK system innovations include:

- Patented ink recovery system, up to 95 per cent of ink saving
- Direct to fabric or paper transfer
- 180cm or 340cm width
- Printing speed up to 400/500m² per hour
- Automatic self-cleaning functions
- High efficiency dryer
- Wrinkle detect protection system against costly head strikes

The EFI VUTEK FabriVU 180 provides maximum production speeds of up to 400 sqm per hour, with a production image quality of 200 sqm per hour, and POP image quality at 132 sqm per hour. The EFI VUTEK FabriVU 340 offers maximum production speeds up to 500 sqm per hour, production image quality of 250 sqm per hour, and POP image quality at 165 sqm per hour. Both printers are compatible with all popular desktop file formats, including PostScript®3, EPS, TIFF, PDF and RGB/CMYK.



EFI VUTEK's FabriVU 180 textile printer available from i-Sub.

www.i-sub.co.uk

Fulham LED drivers allow more luminaires per circuit

Lighting components and electronics specialists Fulham offers over 40 models of European manufactured and approved LED drivers, after it acquired Lumotech earlier this year.

Fulham's LumoSeries drivers have been designed at their European Design Centre in Alkmaar, Netherlands to efficiently power and control LED solutions for many lighting applications. The principle benefit of the LumoSeries driver design is the high specification such as low inrush currents. This means more drivers and luminaires can be operated on a single circuit, which reduces the cost of installation as there are fewer circuit panels and less wire to run. Also as LEDs continue to increase in efficiency, luminaire manufacturers can rest assured that with many of the Fulham LumoSeries drivers, output currents can be adjusted accordingly giving them much more flexibility in design.

In the full range of LumoSeries drivers, both constant current and constant voltage models are available, such as versions with various dimming and DALI capability. Some are configurable to operate as either constant current or constant voltage drivers.

The technical specification of this range is comprehensive says the company. They feature thermal overload and over-voltage protection; high power factor; have excellent

EMC behaviour; and have high efficiency across a wide range of loads.

The Fulham LumoSeries of LED drivers are ENEC certified, designed to SELV and carry a full five-year warranty to match typical LED lifetimes. The drivers are available through a network of distributors throughout Europe.

www.fulham.com



LED drivers from the Lumotech range, available from Fulham.

Mimaki launches new direct sublimation printer

Mimaki has announced the launch of the Tx500P-3200DS 3.2 metre direct sublimation printer, the latest in a number of products launched in the last few weeks. With its built in, in-line heat fixation unit, the new printer "significantly reduces" production time through its simultaneous performance of two operations; printing and colour fixation, which reduces two steps to one. With a print speed capability of up to 130m² per hour, the Tx500P-3200DS is ideal for production of samples as well as large batch production with short delivery times, says the company.

Mimaki cites the growing demand for soft signage, with its economic and environmental benefits, as a key driver behind the development of the new model. The new Tx500P-3200DS was specifically designed to meet the requirements of the textile industry, which is moving ever-larger volumes from analogue to digital printing, to meet market demand for the growing number of small lot orders and shortened cycle times. The benefits of the new printer will also make it ideal for meeting the growing demand created by custom orders that require a speedy turnaround, received via the internet by print providers.

The details

The Tx500P-3200DS is uniquely suited to a wide array of textile printing, says Mimaki, such soft signage, customised apparel, and fabrics for home décor and furnishings. It has print speeds of up to 130m²/hour in four-colour print mode and up to 105m²/hour in six-colour mode. It also delivers "unmatched print quality" with print resolution up to 720 x 1080 dpi using 12 print heads in a staggered three-line array. The in-line heat fixation unit, capable of generating temperatures of up to 200°C, makes sure the machine is able to perform its full "single-step" print and fixation process even at the highest operational speeds.

Consistency and stability of print quality are achieved by a pulling roller that maintains appropriate pressure during printing onto rolled textiles, with widths up to 3.2 meters and up to 130kg in weight.

The machine can automatically detect and clean clogged print nozzles and substitute good nozzles for printing during this process, which allows for the operation to continue and reduces waste created by defective nozzles.

Direct sublimation transfer printing requires the fixing of printed inks through heating, and this machines ability to deliver this at the same time as printing removes a step in the traditional process.

This new printer features "precise placement of well-shaped ink droplets onto the fabric for the best possible quality". This is accomplished by automatically taking into account the specific gravity and viscosity of each ink, precisely placing droplets as small as six picolitres for "beautiful, high resolution" printing results.

Exclusively distributed in the UK and Ireland by Hybrid Services Ltd, the company's National Sales Manager - Textile & Apparel, Stephen Woodall said: "The new machine's ability to deliver print and heat fixation in a single operation is a genuinely unique feature, which is certain to have a major impact on productivity and profitability for users. Direct sublimation transfer printing requires the fixing of printed inks through heating, and this machines ability to deliver this at the same time as printing removes a step in the traditional process."

The first machines are expected to be shipped in January 2017.

www.hybridservices.co.uk



Needs a caption: Mimaki's Tx500P-3200DS 3.2m direct sublimation printer.



New films from APA

APA recently launched its latest wrapping film, "Carbon Racing" (CW/RR7-HX), to apply on flat and contoured surfaces. According to the company, this new product is a high-performing cast film, with a black gloss carbon effect. It features a dedicated formula that gives it scratch protection, and facilitates the cleaning process.

Another new product is "Roof" (CW/K97-HX), a black, self-adhesive extra-gloss cast film. This, says APA, offers a good degree of resistance against abrasion

and enhanced outdoor performance; ideal for surfaces that require a particular type of shine.

The new films expand the high quality, wrapping films range offered by APA, which also includes "Ultra Matt Blue" (CW/86.0-HX) and "Jaguar" (CW/RC87X). Both are described as user-friendly, thanks to their innovative, channelled, repositionable RepoTack Air Free System. And their special formula that provides a "high covering power, conformability and mechanical resistance".

And their special formula that provides a "high covering power, conformability and mechanical resistance".

Their new products also include the CW/R00-FX, a gloss, white cast film; printable with solvent, eco-solvent, UV and latex inks.

www.apaspa.com



Wrapped by Vinyl Art.



The new "Carbon Racing" high performing cast film from APA.

Vertical panel saws impress at show

Sagetech launched their re-engineered ZM panel saws at the recent Woodworking Machinery Show. They reported a positive response, which they says is due to its "attractive pricing and the enhanced precision from this updated model". With woodworkers seeking much higher accuracy levels than those normally required in the signmaking industry, the machine's performance is set to be particularly attractive to signmakers, says the company.

The new units have laser cut edges at their core to achieve higher accuracy, with enhanced bearing systems to give smoother running and high precision. The new version also has a significantly strengthened frame, better stops, improved material supports, and better positional locking systems.

The ZM range is available in two sizes; the ZM12 (cutting capacity 2500 x 1250 mm) and the ZM16 (cutting capacity 3100 x 1600mm). For those wanting to cut the larger 3M x 2M sheets, the company offers its Koolkut range, models KF21 and KK21.

The ZM is just one of the four ranges of machines offered by British manufacturer Sagetech, who specialise in vertical panel saws for the smaller business. The Zapkut brand is for lighter duties, starting with the unique ZK8 portable, which when not in use can be folded up compactly and stored conveniently. The Zapkut ZM range is also suitable for cutting sign making materials, but

will handle small quantities of MDF or chipboard. The Koolkut brand is for those needing a heavier duty machine, where the KF and KK Koolkut units offer capacities up to 3.1 x 2.1M.

www.verticalpanelsaw.co.uk



The Sagetech vertical panel saw, which impressed at a recent show.

PRODUCT News

New M Series digital print media from Grafityp

Grafityp UK Ltd supplies a vast range of printable media for every type of application, the majority of which is produced by Grafityp Self-adhesive Products in Belgium.

The newest film in the line up is Grafiprint M Series. This monomeric range of low cost, high quality printable vinyls is suited to apply on to flat surfaces. It offers 10 films with various features that each come with acrylic adhesive in 50 metre rolls lengths and three widths: 762, 1370 and 1525mm.

The collection is made up of products such as the M010 clear gloss 80 microns; M011 clear matt 80 microns; M112 white gloss 100 microns; M112R white gloss 100 microns removable adhesive; M114R white gloss 100 microns grey removable adhesive; and M116 white matt 100 microns grey adhesive. Grey adhesive films provide increased opacity and avoid show through.

To complement these films there are also two new M Series over laminates, as well as a number in the existing range. M101 clear gloss and M011 clear matt are 80 microns thick with pressure sensitive acrylic adhesive, and offer up to three-years outdoor durability.

www.grafityp.co.uk



Pre-launch of new Oki printer

OKI Europe Ltd is set to preview its new E-64s ColorPainter solution at five events this autumn, as it gets ready for the official launch of the wide format printer in December 2016.

The ColorPainter E-64s is the latest addition to the ColorPainter family that includes the M-64s and its "big brother", the H3-104s.

The E-64s provides premium performance and offers a high-level of precision and ease-of-use; as well as supports entry-level, environmentally friendly printing, says the company.

Using OKI's high-pigment ECO solvent SX ink, the new device supports the optimum level of colour at all print speeds for both in-

door and outdoor applications. The ability to handle a wide range of media makes the E-64s the "ideal" choice for high-quality printing. The ColorPainter E-64s achieves "impressive" results whether it is printing on back-/front-lit, technical textile, wallpaper, canvas, hard PVC, banner, vinyl or any kind of paper.

Technologies associated with the M-series including Smart Pass 4; Smart Nozzle Mapping 3; and Dynamic Dot Printing. H3-series technologies like the Safe Scanning System, are integrated in this printer. In the case of printing indoors, where electro static materials are often used, an optional ionizer supports print output.

The ColorPainter E-64s was recently previewed at Viscom Paris and FESPA Africa together with OKI's digital LED Pro Series range of white toner printers and neon colour printers.

www.oki.com/eu

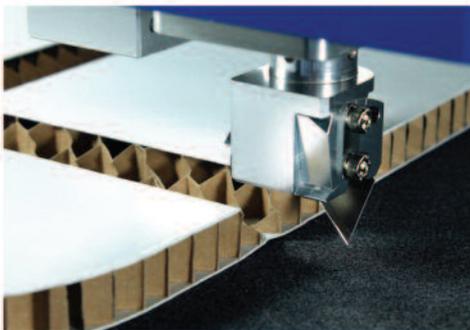


Oki's ColorPainter E-64s will be launched in December 2016.

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PRODUCT News

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite X8

- Small Business Edition makes professional graphic design more accessible to smaller businesses

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite X8 - Small Business Edition makes professional graphic design more accessible to smaller businesses.

The new three-license pack is an ideal solution for small businesses, whether they're looking to bring their marketing in-house or working in graphics production industries such as signmaking, engraving or printing, says the company.

"In today's highly visual world, professional-looking graphics aren't just nice to have - they're a must have. All too often, the costs of graphic production can be a stress on the budgets of small business owners," says Gérard Métrailler, Vice-President, Products at Corel.



Small Business Edition is a complete suite that offers tools for layout, design and photo editing.

"CorelDRAW Graphics Suite X8 - Small Business Edition is an easy-to-use design package to create professional, eye-catching graphics and marketing materials that will grow your small business while keeping your costs down."

The software is a complete suite that offers tools for layout, design and photo editing: CorelDRAW X8: Intuitive vector-illustration and page-layout application

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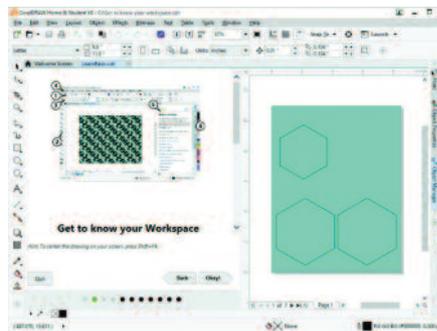
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The suite also includes 10,000 clipart and digital images; 2,000 high-resolution digital photos; 1,000 OpenType fonts; 350 professionally designed templates; 2,000 vehicle templates; 1000+ fills, frames and patterns; and more than five hours of enhanced training videos.

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Height	100mm	150mm	200mm	250mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	700mm	750mm	800mm	900mm	1200mm
3mm	1.00	1.25	2.13	2.80	4.00	5.75	6.50	7.50	8.50	10.50	13.50	16.00	18.50	28.00	35.00	39.50
5mm	1.65	2.10	3.20	4.80	6.80	8.00	10.50	11.50	13.50	15.50	17.50	21.50	24.50	33.00	42.00	58.00
10mm	2.80	4.20	6.80	11.20	14.50	16.00	19.50	22.00	27.00	32.00	34.00	45.50	54.00	68.00	86.00	115.00

FOAM PVC (all available colours - 10mm & 19mm available in white only) no minimum order

Height	100mm	150mm	200mm	250mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	700mm	750mm	800mm	900mm	1200mm
3mm	0.98	1.15	1.39	2.13	2.60	3.45	4.40	4.81	5.80	6.20	7.06	9.80	11.50	15.45	18.80	19.80
5mm	1.20	1.75	2.25	3.14	4.10	5.20	6.40	6.53	7.10	8.60	9.80	15.20	16.00	21.12	25.25	26.50
10mm	1.80	3.35	4.38	6.40	8.10	9.80	10.80	13.90	14.80	17.20	18.90	25.69	26.50	30.80	45.50	47.50
19mm	3.70	4.22	7.45	9.70	13.40	14.50	17.80	19.10	22.00	22.94	27.00	34.20	37.50	42.10	53.40	78.50

3mm ALUMINIUM COMPOSITE (Dibond, Alupanel) no minimum order

Height	100mm	150mm	200mm	250mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	700mm	750mm	800mm	900mm	1200mm
Colours	1.70	2.70	3.60	6.10	7.80	9.50	11.00	12.00	14.50	17.00	19.50	22.00	25.00	34.50	44.00	59.50
Mirror	2.60	4.60	7.50	10.00	14.50	17.00	19.50	22.00	25.00	27.50	30.00	36.00	42.50	45.00	49.00	91.00
Brushed	2.05	3.10	4.50	6.50	8.90	9.60	10.50	14.50	16.20	17.90	18.50	25.50	27.00	35.50	45.00	62.50

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

Height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	700mm
2mm	2.88	3.80	4.30	5.75	6.50	7.25	8.20	9.45	10.50	11.55	12.75	15.85	18.80	26.90	36.00	49.50
3mm	3.20	4.20	4.80	5.90	6.80	7.60	8.50	9.70	10.85	12.50	13.95	17.90	21.40	29.90	42.00	66.00
5mm	3.50	4.60	5.50	6.60	7.40	8.50	9.60	11.20	12.90	14.85	16.75	21.65	25.00	34.75	49.00	71.60

EXTERIOR MDF

Height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	1200mm
6mm	0.58	1.10	1.64	1.83	2.70	2.85	3.30	3.95	4.55	5.40	6.90	9.75	11.25	12.75	14.95	45.50
12mm		1.90	2.12	2.96	4.25	4.90	5.70	6.42	7.65	9.60	10.50	12.20	14.50	17.60	19.75	59.95
18mm		2.70	3.25	4.25	5.30	6.45	7.95	8.90	11.05	12.75	15.20	17.40	21.25	22.90	29.95	89.63

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Colours*	5.20	8.70	10.92	12.40	16.40	19.50	34.90

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INTERVIEW

How the Mimaki UJV55-320 has changed the grand format game

Following the Mimaki UJV55-320's launch at FESPA earlier this year, we spoke with **Stuart Cole**; National Sales Manager – Industrial Products at Mimaki's exclusive UK and Irish distributor, Hybrid Services, to tell us why the grand format roll-to-roll LED UV printer has already gained such a strong foothold in the sign and graphics market.

Sign Update: This year's FESPA in Amsterdam must seem a long time ago, but what was it like being there when the UJV55 was unveiled?

Stuart Cole: It was an amazing few days. We'd seen the printer beforehand so were looking forward to showing it to our customers. But the response was unprecedented! To witness the enthusiasm from our resellers and customers first hand was hugely satisfying. An expert view from industry professionals is always invaluable, and it backed up our initial thoughts that this was a printer destined to be a game-changer. Taking so many orders during the show was the icing on the cake.

Sign Update: Sign & Digital UK followed shortly after. Did you find that to be a similar experience?

Stuart Cole: Absolutely! The UK and Irish visitors seemed to be drawn to the printer; for many it was the first machine they saw when entering the halls and proved to be the star of the show. With print speeds up to 110sq m/hour, backed up by typical Mimaki high quality output, it stood out as something special.

Sign Update: What makes the printer so different?

Stuart Cole: It comes down to something Mimaki is historically very good at, which is delivering a product that offers a solution to a genuine need. The UJV55 has an attractive purchase price of £59,995 and means signmakers and print companies can bring their grand format work in-house.

Sign Update: How important is LED technology to the success of the printer?

Stuart Cole: We should all be aware of the many advantages of LED UV curing by now. So by leveraging these, compared to out-moded mercury halide lamps, companies benefit from substantially lower running costs; a wider choice of media; and significant environmental advantages too.

Sign Update: How does it reduce running costs?

Stuart Cole: It's a combination of things. LED UV curing requires 75 per cent less power to run the lamps, so that's 75 per cent less electricity consumed. Our latest LED UV inks are competitively priced. When combined with the UJV55's frugal ink use, it's possible to produce grand format banners with ink costs below 50p per square metre; and even high coverage backlit graphics with ink costs under £2.50 per square metre.

With its variable dot print heads and the ability to run in either four colour, or seven colour configuration that includes white ink, much of the output that can be produced on the UJV55-320 is quality, high value print. Margins should be strong, making producing work in-house even more attractive.



Stuart Cole, Hybrid Services.

Capable of running two 1.6m rolls side-by-side, it also offers productivity enhancements for wide format jobs.

Sign Update: What would you say to signmakers looking to grow their business?

Stuart Cole: The UJV55-320 is a unique solution that allows signmakers to approach their work more profitably, more efficiently and more competitively. By producing grand format print in house, such as backlit graphics, soft signage or banners, they can remain in control of the process, keep costs low and retain margin. Mimaki has broken down the barriers by engineering a 3.2m machine at such a low purchase price. Coupled with their peerless UV printing heritage, it's an opportunity not to be missed.

www.hybridservices.co.uk



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DIGITAL PRINTABLE MEDIA

Fresh after the Print Show 2016

Jemima Codrington finds out what trends in digital print materials the market can expect in 2017.

Fresh from exhibiting at this year's Print Show, Antalis have a number of exciting new digital print media products that are of interest to sign makers.

"Easy-apply products are the biggest current trend in this sector," says Antalis' Head of Sign & Display Channel, Chris Green. "We showcased a number of these at the Print Show last month including Drytac printable films, Orafol self-adhesive and Coala wallcoverings, an innovative range of easy-apply wall coverings. Time is money in any business and these innovative, new easy-apply graphics are removing the requirement for time restrictive fitting, rendering this style of graphics much more accessible to all businesses." According to Chris, another trend emerging at the moment is that for more textures on walls, windows, and a wide range of interior and exterior surfaces. "Driven by aesthetics, we're seeing a lot more innovative uses of interior personalisation such as kitchen cabinet doors being wrapped with coloured vinyls, such as those we offer in our Oracal ranges, for a more creative look." For those sign makers looking to enter the digital print media sector, deciding on which applications they wish to offer and therefore deciding what supporting machinery is required can be challenging.



Antalis' Head of Sign & Display Channel Chris Green says the sector faces a skills shortage.

Chris's tips for achieving the best possible finish

- The start of the process is always the design element. You should question whether you are using the right design for the application and, critically, whether you have the right skills on the job, i.e. the right person!
- From a machinery point of view, profiling and knowing the settings that are required for certain products is key. The right products for the right applications are vital for a quality finished product.
- Once printed, lamination is a must. People may think that with all the modern technology available, lamination isn't required, but that couldn't be further from the truth. It's imperative that your printing is protected from vandalism, UV weathering, and general wear and tear. One of my trade secrets is that laminating actually makes large format graphics easier to fit - I'm keeping the 'why' bit a secret!

Although the price of investment for a certain piece of machinery or consumable may seem high, if a particular customer segment requires it, then the return on investment will be high. "There are of course economical machines and consumables available, but if they're not going to deliver what your customer base wants, it's a false economy," adds Chris.

In addition to a lack of knowledge about machinery and digital print media that's required to deliver what's required, it can often be the case that market entrants from a background other than visual communications often purchase the machinery and consumables without a comprehensive understanding of the market, the necessary applications, and the whole service offering required to keep customers satisfied. "The digital print media sector is facing a skills shortage,

"Easy-apply products are the biggest current trend in this sector"
- Chris Green, Antalis

as a limited number of people are coming into the sector that understand product, application, colour management and how to run machines profitably and efficiently," says Chris. This factor was a key driver in Antalis launching its Digital Academy, a centre of excellence for digital product, printing and technology. The Academy also helps printers with diversification into new areas, which is growing in popularity as companies look to widen their service offering.

The changing face of digital print media

Chris reveals that as this sector of signage is one that is fast-changing, product offerings have to be updated regularly to keep pace with the demand from sign makers.

Digital print media is a changing space and, at Antalis, we're excited to be a fast growing player in such a diverse and creative market sector," he says. "We are always looking for the new and innovative and welcome ideas and challenges to ensure our product range is fit for purpose and helps to add value to our customers and ensure the market is constantly pushing existing barriers." For sign makers wanting to achieve happy

customers, Chris notes that there is typically a standard formula for success - achieve high quality, and get it right-first-time. In addition to seeing more requests for textures, which in turn has led to a renewed interest in textiles for a wide range of applications, there has also been a lot of interest in environmental products from customers. With these products, sign makers are able to differentiate themselves, improve their environmental performance, and also save money on costly landfill taxes through creative selection of products.

www.antalis.co.uk

Finding a cure for the “PVC-free banner headache”

Russell Alexander is the National Sales Manager at Innotech, the leading trade supplier of large format printing materials, portable displays, and point of sale solutions.

“At Innotech, we’re always looking into ways we can improve our offerings to customers, and we’ve just launched our new Envirotech PVC-Free Material that conforms to government legislations for PVC-free specifications,” he says. The texture, weight, printability and welding capabilities of the material are similar to that of traditional PVC banners, but the materials used help

“One of the common challenges that printers are faced with when touting for business with large retail brands and blue chip companies is the frequent request for printable PVC-free substrates”

- Russell Alexander, Innotech

printers reduce their carbon footprint. According to Russell, finding a “cure to the PVC-free banner headache” has been a challenge facing this sector of the signage industry.

“One of the common challenges that printers are faced with when touting for business with large retail brands and blue chip companies is the frequent request for printable PVC-free substrates,” he explains. “The recent move towards soft signage textile products has been well documented and is still on the rise. However, for external applications and short-term promotions where budgets are under scrutiny, printers have been struggling to come forward with an environmentally friendly alternative to traditional PVC banners. The call for a material that meets this requirement is nothing new, but as the demand increases, printers are aware that the absence of a solution is becoming an obstacle to securing business.

Some materials have been trialled over the years, but none have been suited to the retail market. “One option that is typically used for roadside advertisements is Polyethylene banner materials, which are lightweight, strong and low-cost,” says Russell. “However, whilst its heavily pronounced weave does not pose an issue on roadside skins, the retail market requires a more even material that supports a better quality print finish.”



Russell Alexander, National Sales Manager, Innotech.

Available in two weights, 260gsm and 300gsm, the Envirotech PVC-Free Material can be used for every aspect of banner projects. It’s also flame retardant, as it’s been certified to FR-B1 standards.

www.innotechdigital.com

New print products developed to meet sign maker demand

Grafityp UK Ltd. also returned to the Print Show for its second year, and according to Neil Stevenson, UK Sales Director, the experience was a very positive one.

In addition to being Roland DG’s leading resale partner in the UK, Grafityp was there to promote their own vinyl and print media products, including the brand new M-series.

This brand new range (the “m” in which stands for monomeric) was developed in response to the demand from the sign industry, and so far has been well received. “There are 10 products in the range, with some clears, gloss and matte whites,” says Neil. “We’ve got some removable and permanent adhesives – it’s quite a comprehensive range.

All the printable media are 100 microns, which is something we were being asked for more and more, so we switched over to this brand new formula. We always keep an ear to the ground and we found more people were asking for thicker product.” In addition to developing the M-range in response to consumer demand, Grafityp has also created the odd single product that can be dropped into the line-up to make it stronger. “For example, we were receiving a few requests for glow in the dark print media,” adds Neil, a popular product for those creating seasonal graphics at this time of year. “Quite a few of the existing products are thick and heavy and have a tendency to have a green tinge to them, and people wanted one that they could print onto without affecting the colour too much, so that’s what we created.”

“Quite often, we’ll find that customers have priced a job before taking into consideration the cost of materials to do it”

- Neil Stevenson, Grafityp UK Ltd.

DIGITAL PRINTABLE MEDIA

Finding environmentally-friendly alternatives

Neil notes that Grafityp customers are also on the hunt for PVC-free print media.

“People are trying to be more environmentally-friendly about the things they do, which prompted the creation of our range of Colibri films,” he says. There is one available for eco-solvent printing and one for UV, and the focus has been not only on creating something functional, but that is also within reach when it comes to price point. “Five or six years ago, everybody was very into being as “green” as they can, but it costs more to make green materials than it does to make them the conventional way. We would love it to cost less, and we’ve managed to get it very close in coloured films, but it’s harder to do with printable materials.”

To make it more affordable and more within reach for customers, Neil recommends always factoring in the cost of using eco-friendly materials before presenting a quote to the client.

“Quite often, we’ll find that customers have priced a job before taking into consideration



GrafiPrint™ Digital Printing Vinyl.

the cost of materials to do it,” he says. “I think there are some preconceptions about what print media is or is not going to be, but everything is different. At the end of the day, you have to look at the broader picture and think about what you’re actually

getting for your money, and work out how to best build that value proposition when presenting it to the client.”

www.grafityp.co.uk

Self-adhesive digital print media booms

According to Roberto Vallebona, APA Sales Manager, the evolution of demand has boosted the use of self-adhesive films.

“The customisation of objects and venues has led us to create a new range of films which are ideal for these types of surfaces, a line of high-performance films which in-

“Digital printing insiders should always offer not only the best products but also the best service to their customers, a key factor that nowadays represents a competitive advantage”
- Roberto Vallebona, APA



The APA Printing Interior Design Line can wrap all manner of uneven objects.

cludes materials specifically designed for digital printing,” he says. “The Printing Interior Design line includes films and self-adhesive paper for printing images with solvent-based, latex and UV inks, and specific tools for the decoration of walls, partitions, furniture, furnishings and appliances.”

For sign makers looking to create POS displays and graphics, particularly popular in retail spaces at this time of year, self-adhesive printables can make the turnaround time of jobs much quicker.

Among the range from APA are films such as the AP/HTS80 and AP/HTS90, films that are extremely adhesive thanks to the HTS technology and therefore suitable for applications on uneven surfaces such as walls and wood. "The innovative HTS technology also enables the creation of labels and graphics to be applied to apolar surfaces such as polyethylene and polypropylene plastics."



The wrapping can be used to create eye-catching displays (seen here and above right)

Roberto notes that one of the main challenges that graphics professionals may encounter is meeting the demand for the customisation and decoration of increasingly difficult surfaces. These can be surfaces that are not perfectly smooth, such as furniture, walls, or furnishings. In order to address these needs, APA has created the Interior Design range to include this HTS technology, a special formulation that ensures film adhesion even on irregular or difficult surfaces. "The other major challenge of the current market is linked to the after-sales service offered by companies," adds Roberto. "Digital printing insiders should always offer not only the best products but also the best service to their customers, a key factor that nowadays represents a competitive advantage."

The demand for interior decoration materials is also on the rise. More and more customers are requesting self-adhesive films for digital printing in order to decorate floors, walls and furniture, and choose APA materials because they are created specifically for this industry and are a guarantee of excellence. "Just a few days ago we launched a brand new product, AP/HR2-WL, a high-performance PVC with a captivating texture



and linen finish, ideal for the decoration of walls and partitions, which meets the growing demand for textures and finishes evoking fabrics," adds Roberto.

APA has over forty years of experience in the manufacture of self-adhesive materials, which can provide obvious peace of mind when it comes to product reliability. "We also continuously invest in research, innovation and technological development. These are the keys to APA's success and we look forward to showing the public our 2017 novelties for the digital printing industry."

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PRODUCT Choice

Drytac 'impresses' with window graphic installation

Wallace Print recently installed a window graphic at Drakes Plumbing Supplies, printed on Drytac's ViziPrint® Impress Clear UV film.

Drakes wanted a window graphic for an internal partitioning wall window and had some specific requirements. The company wanted a window graphic what would display all the brands it works with in full colour; yet the material needed to allow the rest of the window to remain optically clear. The final requirement was that the window graphic must be easy to fit.

Large format digital and screen printer, Wallace Print, recommended Drytac's ViziPrint Impress Clear UV film for the installation as it met all the requirements.

Chris Payne from Wallace Print said: "ViziPrint Impress Clear UV film is ideal for self-adhesive applications on glass and other smooth, flat surfaces. And with Drytac's proprietary adhesion technology it is easy to install. It has been specifically designed for the trouble-free, dry installation of graphics."

The 100 micron printable, ultra-clear PET film is compatible with UV and latex printers. ViziPrint Impress Clear UV film is PVC-free, 100 per cent recyclable, and resistant to both wear and tear and water.

Wallace Print designed and printed the window graphic in-house on its UV flatbed digital printer. The printed graphic was backed up with white ink to make the logos stand out.

It really makes the walkway come to life and hits the customer with the key brands we supply.

Tom Taylor, Head of Marketing at Drakes, said: "The new window graphic is next to the entrance corridor. It really makes the walkway come to life and hits the customer with the key brands we supply."

"The best thing is that there's still plenty of optically clear space within the graphic, so customers and staff can still see each other through the window. It was also incredibly easy to apply."

www.antalix.co.uk
www.drytac.co.uk
www.wallaceprint.com



From the entrance all the brands available from Drakes are displayed on the internal window, using ViziPrint Impress film.



From inside the office, you can still see outside the window, due to the properties of the clear UV film.

Signs and Print on a roll with Rollsroller!

Signs and Print in Braintree, Essex is continuing its investment with their latest purchase of a Rollsroller 540/220P flatbed applicator from Spandex.

Signs and Print supplies trade only resellers throughout the UK with all types of signage. With this latest investment they are looking to reduce turnaround times whilst maintain a consistent high quality finish on a wide range of rigid boards.

Lee Reeves, Managing Director said: "In today's climate we are increasingly

seeing demands for shorter turnaround times from our trade clients; and our investment in the Rollsroller enables us to substantially decrease our turnaround times without compromising on quality. Before the Rollsroller was installed we had a bottleneck in our production on the mounting of large boards. Mounting by hand was labour intensive and time consuming, requiring two people to mount larger boards. This can now be done within a fraction of the time and by one operator."



Signs and Print new Rollsroller flatbed applicator is saving them a significant amount of time.

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PRODUCT Choice

Roland DG is the only choice for wall mural business

Print professional Scott Evans was just 18 when he started out in the print industry seven years ago, opening his own sign company business called Customised. With little knowledge of the sector, Scott needed to learn the trade quickly. So he approached Roland DG after a colleague recommended them. He sought a compact desktop cutter that was easy to use. After choosing a Roland DG CAMM-1 GX-24 Desktop Cutter, the predecessor to the CAMM-1 GS-24, Customised was soon able to produce small graphics and signs.

In 2012 he invested in a Roland DG VersaCMM VS-540i to enter into new markets. The integrated print and cut machine

enabled the business to expand its product range by producing wall murals. With the change in direction for the business, Customised was re-launched as WallpaperInk.

Using Roland DG's comprehensive VersaWorks RIP software, Scott was able to programme and design bespoke prints to suit each individual's detailed preferences, and so was able to charge a premium price. Scott wants to expand further by investing in a Roland DG SOLJET PRO 4 XF-640 wide format inkjet printer, one of Roland DG's most productive printers to date.

www.rolanddg.co.uk
www.wallpaperink.co.uk



The premises of WallpaperInk, filled with their Roland DG machines.

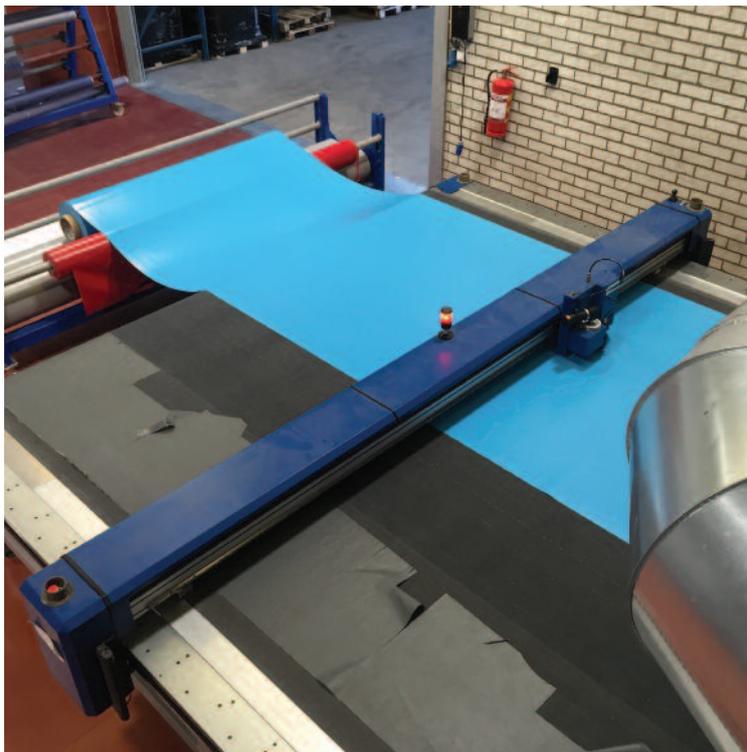
Blackman & White cutter

Dutch company Zeil-Doek has found its Blackman & White Genesis cutter so reliable, it has never had to call out for an engineer's visit.

Zeil-Doek, who make a number of products using sail material, has had its Genesis cutter for seven years, as part of its work flow that includes finishing and stitching.

Owner Rikkert Hoogenboom said: "We custom make unique designs and constructions using PVC-coated fabric that can also be printed with logos, branding and advertising messages.

"We have to be able to finish the designs to any specification, and the accurate cutting of the Genesis with conveyor guarantees accurate results every time."



The Genesis cutter has been working so well for Zeil-Doek, they've not had to get an engineer in for seven years.

Any issues have all been solved over the phone and I can always speak to a Blackman & White engineer when necessary.

Zeil-Doek's products include various types and sizes of awnings and spans such as marquees, tents, stages and patio shades, which can all be printed and meet the required health and safety conditions, such as non-flammable material.

"We can even create technical textiles for industry, use tension fabric to create internal walls and ceilings, or change the appearance of a building by producing a printed outer shell," says Rikkert.

"Despite all the technical challenges of working on such varied jobs, in the number of years I've had Blackman and White machine I have never had to request a visit from an engineer. Any issues have all been solved over the phone and I can always speak to a Blackman & White engineer when necessary."

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PRODUCT Choice

ATC "lets loose its creativity"!

ATC, who have specialised in indoor and outdoor signage, vehicle wrapping and point-of-sale for over 20 years, needed a "dependable" solution to power its fleet of printers and cutters. With Caldera, it has gained not only work flow stability, but also faster turnaround, says the company.

ATC's (Autorise Toute Créativité) 68 employees generate an annual turnover of €12 million from four production facilities in Lyon, Paris, Annecy and Rennes, and occupy 3,000sq m of floor space. The company has positioned itself as one of the leading wide-format digital print houses in France.

Their vehicle wrapping activities include doing the publicity caravans for the Tour de France, and they have a dedicated in-house team of skilled fitters. ATC is also known for using micro-perforated adhesive films for window and building graphics, as well as large-format tarpaulins, such as at the Stade de France arena.

To manage these diverse projects, the company has invested in a wide range of equipment such as eight roll-to-roll printers, and two flat-bed printers with solvent, eco-solvent, UV-curable, and dye-sublimation ink technologies; plus three flat-bed cutting machines. This broad plant list is driven exclusively by Caldera's GrandRIP+ solution, augmented with GrandCut and EasyMedia options for cutting and colour management.

Digital workflow manager Pierre Gaimard, said: "We had major problems RIPing very large files. Either it could not be done or the computational speed was excessively long.

"There was a shortage of options in the tiling modules, and it was difficult to manage all our cutting systems due to compatibility issues with older systems."

His decision to replace the RIP software was prompted by certain functions offered

We have far fewer problems with print file interpretation, processing time and file size limitations.

by Caldera, such as tiling and VisualCut. The optimised, powerful tiling module has proved to be "simple to use and delivered significant productivity gains". While VisualCut improved the efficiency and flexibility of the print-and-cut work flow with automatically generated cut marks and cut files, says ATC.

Pierre said: "We have far fewer problems with print file interpretation, processing time and file size limitations. Caldera is a great tool for managing spot colours and print profiles."



ATC has four production facilities with a range of machinery and equipment, all powered by software from Caldera.

Macro Art growth driven by Durst systems

Wide format service provider Macro Art Ltd is "driving forward business opportunities" with Durst systems at the heart of its expansion.

They've opened a London office, increased turnover by 50 per cent since a management buyout three years ago, and made headway into niche markets.

James Jennings, Michael Green and Matthew Guise are the partners backed by investors just starting their third year heading Macro Art, which specialises in larger projects and dye sublimated textiles. Their work encompasses museums, events and exhibitions, together with retail and automotive opportunities; and they say their success is built around their two Durst machines.

The first is the Durst Rho 512R, which can produce anything from large volume PVC banners, high-end backlit textiles through to block-out fabric for specialist exhibition structures. This summer Macro Art invested in a Durst Rhotex 322, which is the manufacturer's first eight-colour machine delivered into the UK.

Michael Green, Macro Art's Commercial Director, said: "Since taking over we have grown turnover from £6.5m to almost £9m, and this year we will go through the £10m mark. There is no way that we could get there without the five-metre wide Durst. The machine is super reliable, produces very good quality and is exceptionally quick.



Macro Art's newest Durst purchase - the Rhotex 322 eight-colour machine.

"These attributes, including the versatility, has enabled us to deal extremely quickly with the demands from customers in what is a very reactive industry."

Macro Art, which employs 92 people, opened its London office at the Metal Box Factory, near Waterloo, in September. Its high profile projects cover work for Farnborough and Paris air shows, as well as producing flooring for the main arena in a £140,000 contract for the Paralympics at London 2012.

"The eight colour option gives us a much wider colour gamut, particularly for reds and

oranges," says Michael.

"Clients in the automotive industry have commented to us that there is nothing comparable to the quality from the Dursts. Both machines enable us to grow our business."

Peter Bray, Durst UK Managing Director, said: "We're delighted to hear that the success of our first system was a crucial springboard for Macro Art's sudden growth spurt. This has culminated in them investing in a second Durst system, which we are sure will also continue to help them further to diversify and expand into new markets."

Swanline takes finishing to new levels

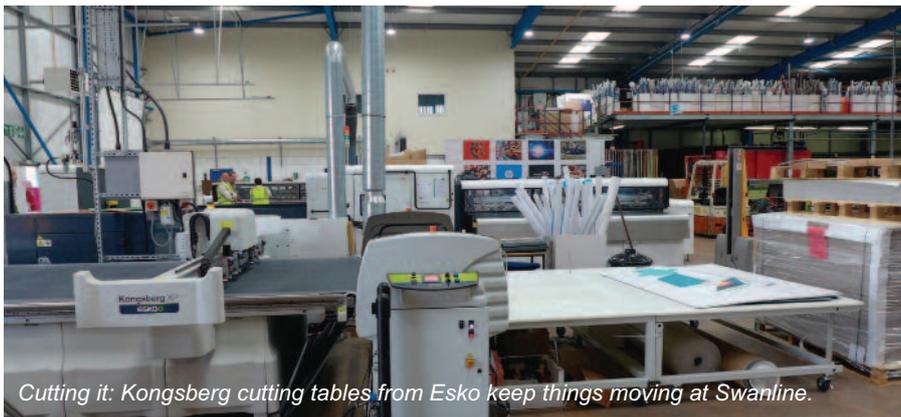
Swanline Paper & Board, the new materials division of Swanline Print Ltd, is taking finishing productivity to new levels with a Kongsberg C24 cutting table from Esko. It features multi-zone operation and robotic loading and unloading.

The investment will join an existing Kongsberg XP digital cutting table, enabling the company's finishing operation to keep pace with two next-generation HP Scitex FB11000 Industrial Presses.

Ross Griffin, Managing Director of Swanline Paper & Board, said: "We came across this exciting system at drupa. We were amazed by its versatility and precision in handling multiple files; and its ability to quickly and efficiently cut any type of material.

"We are convinced that the Kongsberg C24 cutting table is the right solution to keep up with our two HP Scitex FB11000 printing systems and their upcoming upgrades."

Richard Towers, Managing Director of Swanline Print Limited, said: "At a later stage we may also team our existing Kongsberg XP table with the new C24 table to accelerate cutting production, because the robot can be set up to serve two Kongsberg cutting tables simultaneously."



Cutting it: Kongsberg cutting tables from Esko keep things moving at Swanline.

www.swanline.co.uk
www.esko.com

PRODUCT Choice

Sustainable graphics for buses

The new Envision Print Film 48C, non PVC films from 3M, was chosen for the graphics on Stagecoach's 100 per cent biofuel buses, which operate in the West of Scotland.

Stagecoach Group has won environmental awards for its initiatives to reduce carbon emissions, including powering buses servicing routes in Scotland with sustainable biofuel made from waste products. To help these vehicles stand out from the rest, Stagecoach recently invested in special graphics inspired by nature.

OPG in Lanarkshire, recently appointed as a 3M Select1 Platinum partner, applied the graphics to the buses. Stagecoach created the tree-themed concept with floating green leaves, which could be profile cut to create maximum impact without obscuring the view for passengers through the bus windows.

Alan Watson, General Manager at OPG, said: "When Stagecoach presented us with the design, we suggested taking the environmental theme further by printing the graphics on the latest Envision Print Film

48C. This is an intermediate film that combines enhanced sustainability with ideal performance at an economical price."

The Envision films contain no PVC or added halogens, and so eliminate potential hazards to the environment upon disposal at end of life. Envision Print Film 48C has features such as Comply Adhesive by 3M with air-release channels; as well as Controltac Graphic Film Technology that makes it "fast and easy" to apply.

OPG's commitment to safety and the environment complements the properties of Envision film, which is cleaner and safer to produce than conventional vinyls, as well as being easier to dispose of safely.

OPG also used solvent-free latex ink technology to print the leafy graphics. This helps further reduce the impact each bus has on the environment, says the company. The graphic for each bus was printed in three pieces, which were laminated and profile cut ready for separation, before being finally applied to the buses.

Alan said: "Envision Print Film 48C is as easy to use as a conventional intermediate film, which allows us to deliver an environmental edge not only for vehicle graphics and wrapping but also signage, shop fronts and wall graphics. Overall the Envision Range offers versatile choices for attractive, long-lasting and sustainable graphics everywhere."



The leaf graphics printed on Envision Printed Film 48C from 3M, a range of non PVC films that are better for the environment.

Shimmerdisc proves that virtually anything is possible using a Roland DG machine

Shimmerdisc is an innovative new business formed by digital print veteran Andrew Ainge.

The company create sequined displays that use light-reflecting discs to produce photographic quality graphics, which appear to move as the light catches them. Each disc is individually printed on a UV flatbed digital printer, such as the newly launched Roland DG VersaUV LEJ-640FT, to create "pixel perfect images with a unique twist". Every module is reverse printed and optically clear to provide an animated display that offers a convincing 3D effect, says the company.

Roland DG is constantly looking for innovative applications that work in harmony with the versatility of its devices, to create profitable output solutions for its customers. They were impressed by the impact that Shimmerdisc's product makes. The recently formed business is "perfectly suited both for the Roland DG UV-LED technology and also for the creativity and boundless imagination of Roland DG users".

Rob Goleniowski, Sales Support at Roland DG said: "Shimmerdisc uses one of the most innovative techniques available on the current market, and has proved that creative boundaries are constantly being pushed in our industry."

www.shimmerdisc.com



Shimmerdisc's unique display impressed all who saw it at Sign & Digital UK in March.

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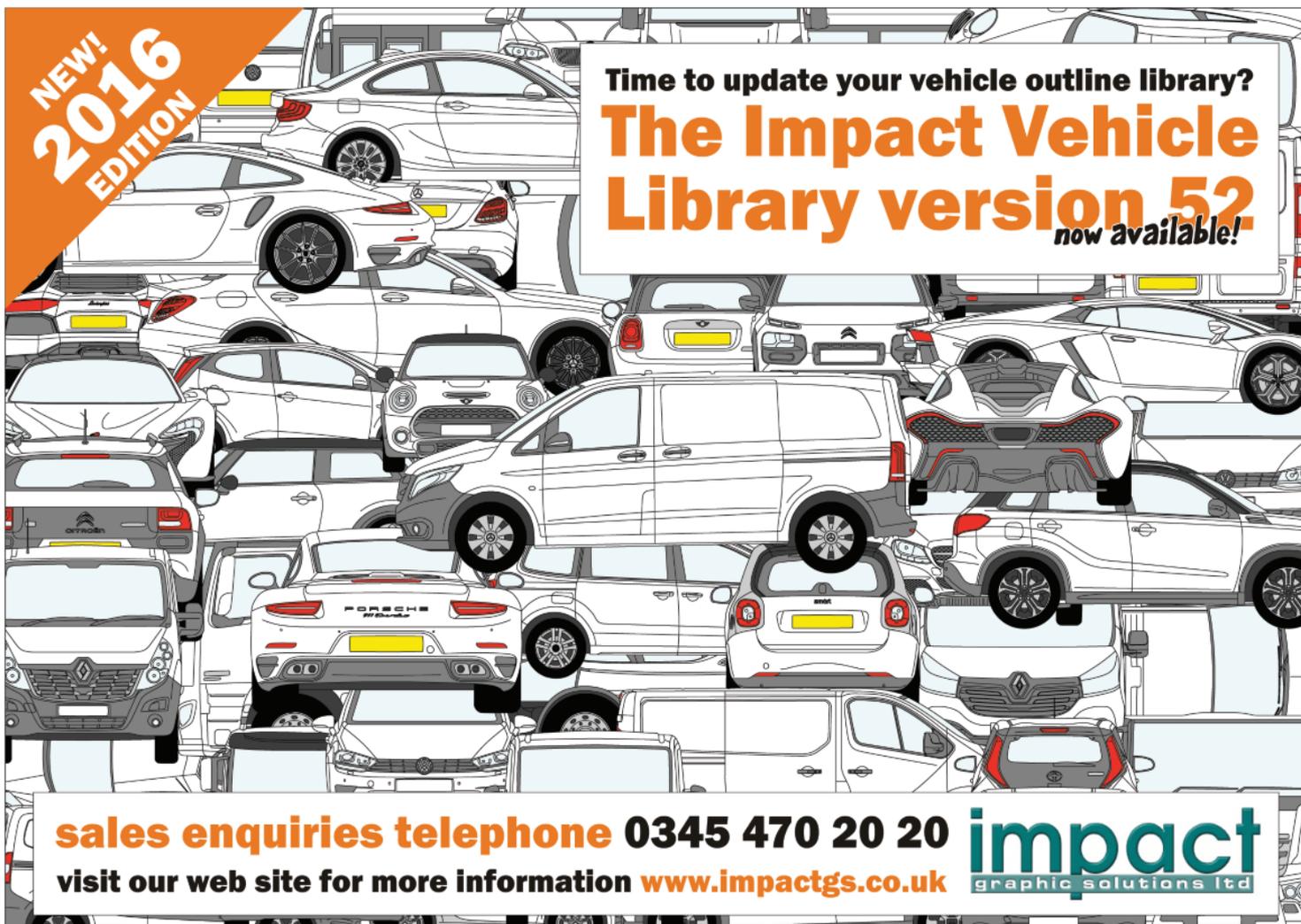
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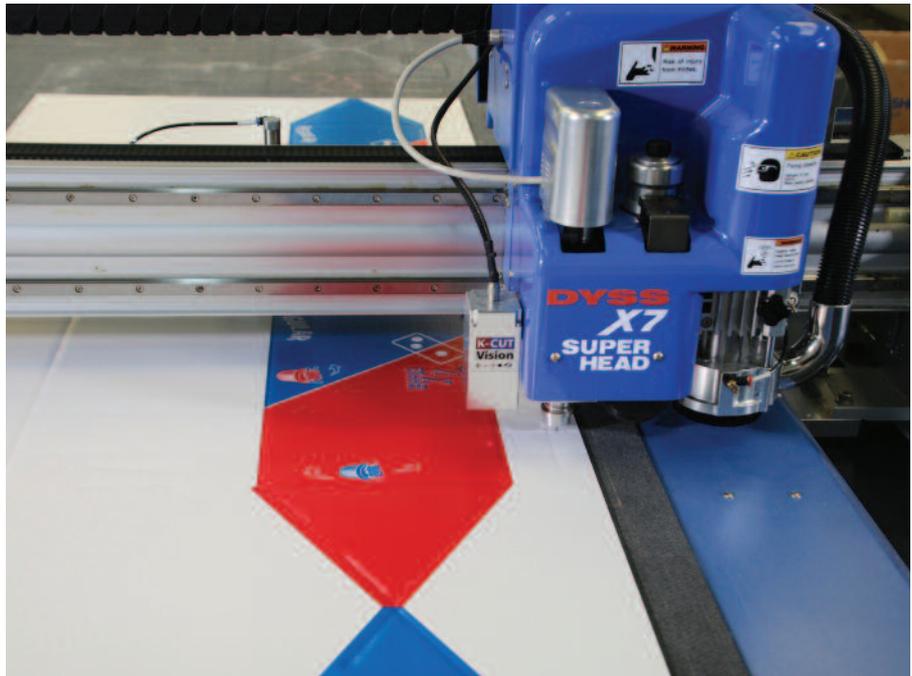
PRODUCT Choice

AG CAD opens up new opportunities for the Colour Crew

The Colour Crew invested in a DYSS X7 digital cutting table from AG/CAD to "reduce lead times and costs, achieve greater in-house control, and open up new markets".

The Colour Crew managing director, Nick Goodall, said: "We were outsourcing a lot of cutting and due to the quantities, this outsourced work often required die cutting and a cutting forme. The issue was the turn-around time of producing the cutting forme and the consequent cutting by an external supplier. Buying a cutting table would bring this work in-house, cut costs and lead-times and also give us control over the process. The investment was a common sense decision."

We have a lot of work with the Domino Pizza Chain that used to involve hand cutting pizza boxes and boxes for sauces and dips.



The DYSS Super Head X7 cutting boxes.

When it came to selecting a suitable cutting table, Nick reviewed the available machines and chose the DYSS X7 for a number of reasons. He found the build quality of the

DYSS exceeded similarly specified machines. Added to this "robust platform", was the incentive of a cost-effective machine combined with the KASEMAKE CAD software.



A selection of jobs created by the DYSS cutting table.

The Colour Crew prints, makes signs and offer PoS solutions. So they handle a range of materials such as foam display board, laminate, vinyl, acrylic, corrugated plastics, high impact polystyrene and aluminium composite. Previously many jobs had to be outsourced for cutting; and if the shapes were challenging, the work was sometimes turned away altogether. But with the new DYSS this doesn't happen.

Colour Crew warehouse manager, John Goddard, said: "We have a lot of work with the Domino Pizza Chain that used to involve hand cutting pizza boxes and boxes for sauces and dips. This would take one employee at least one to three days a week, depending upon batch quantities. This labour resource can be allocated to other tasks as the DYSS cuts hundreds of boxes in no time."

Signs Print Shop is first to install Gandy Digital's Fascin8tor printer

France-based sign and display business, Signs Print Shop, is the first customer to install Gandy Digital's recently-launched Fascin8tor large format digital inkjet printer. A specialist in the production and installation of super-wide format printed projects, Signs Print Shop selected the new high-resolution, five metre roll-to-roll printer to "enhance its overall production efficiency and increase its capability to respond to customer requests".

As the newest addition to Gandy Digital's growing portfolio, the Fascin8tor delivers super-wide format prints with low ink consumption and prints "exceptional" quality regardless of speed.

Signs Print Shop managing director, Bernard-Philippe Mariaz, said: "Thanks to the Fascin8tor's high print speed, we're assured of remaining ahead of overseas competition, who focus predominantly on price. In our experience, the ability to ensure high quality printed output delivered within typically short deadlines, is what counts when it comes to retaining and also winning, new business.

"In fact the Fascin8tor is so fast that we have had to re-think our overall end-to-end work flow configuration to keep up with it, which is a nice problem to have!"

Bridging the gap with a super-wide format capability

The Fascin8tor complements Signs Print Shop's existing seven large format latex printers, and crucially bridges the gap to offer super-wide format capabilities to its growing client base. This portfolio includes a number of large retail chains, for whom the company does interior POS/POP sign and display projects via agencies and interior designers.

"The automatic head height adjustment is really useful and allows us to rapidly change material thickness,"

"The ability to print to five metres in width in one piece is extremely important to us," says Bernard-Philippe. "It means we can produce higher quality output more quickly for the indoor retail-oriented work that is the mainstay of our business. We are operating the printer in four colour plus white configuration, which also means that we can produce high quality back lits."

According to Mariaz, although the Fascin8tor's print size and speed prior were key prerequisites for his company, other factors did play a role in the decision process. "We have direct experience of Gandy Digital's quality and reliability so as a prospective partner they were always a front runner," he says. "In truth, although we researched other options at Drupa, nothing else really came close to offering the wide array of attributes we enjoy with the Fascin8tor.

"The automatic head height adjustment is really useful and allows us to rapidly change material thickness," he says. "Another tool that is particularly practical is the automatic head cleaner, which enables us to switch between print jobs without the need to manually clean the heads with a cloth during the purging process."

www.gandydigital.com



Gandy Digital's new Fascin8tor super wide printer.



Close up of the five metre roll-to-roll printer installed at Signs Print Shop in France.

PRODUCT Choice

Signs Express signs deal for Easymount laminators

Signs Express has announced a deal with Vivid Laminating Technologies, and has selected their Easymount range as their preferred wide format laminator. Vivid's team of engineers will carry out all the installation, training and servicing on all Easymount Systems at Signs Express franchise stores.

Justin Pearce, franchise manager at Sign Express, said: "The Easymount laminator ticks all of the right boxes for our production centres and perfectly complements our other equipment. With a few of the laminators already installed at some of our existing centres, we're looking forward to working with Vivid when specifying equipment for new branches."

Lewis Evans, Vivid's product manager, said: "Signs Express is the UK & Ireland's largest sign franchise and the award-winning Easymount is the No.1 wide format laminator in Europe."

The complete Easymount range is available in cold, heat assist and hot options, from 650mm wide up to 2100mm widths.

The Easymount saves time and money by laminating in-house. It can help with a range of applications in the signage market, including posters, graphics, signs, exhibition stands, roll-up banners and vehicle graphics. The range can also lay down application tapes and vinyls and mount onto a wide range of substrates up to 30mm in thickness.

Many of the systems within the range benefit from a patented pressure gauge handle, lift-up feed table, magic eye safety feature and optional take-up unit for reel-to-reel lamination. Running at speeds from 5 to 10m a minute, Vivid has also recently introduced new side slitters on both the best-selling 1.6m wide Air and Single Hot Easymount systems. The new technology automatically cuts through laminated vinyl when completed and works in synchronisation with the take-up reel.

The complete Easymount range is available in cold, heat assist and hot options, from 650mm wide up to 2100mm widths.

Vivid will also attend this year's Signs Express National Convention at Heythrop Park in Oxfordshire, on 24 and 25 November.

www.signsexpress.co.uk
www.vivid-online.com



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PRODUCT Choice

Signwright (UK) passes the finishing line on time, with support from William Smith

Support and advice from William Smith's technical sales team enabled Signwright (UK) to secure and complete on time a contract for Beverley Race Course, to refurbish the bar and other areas.

The brief required a finish that would complement the features of the overall project, providing a "high-end look without a high-end cost", and to be completed within a 12 week time span. On the recommendation of William Smith, 3M's DI-NOC self-adhesive laminate film was selected for the project.

Providing over 900 patterns in a wide variety of shades, surface textures and finishes, DI-NOC offers "unlimited flexibility for the creation of natural or hi-tech effects for both modern and traditional environments".

The faithfully reproduced wood, metal, marble, leather, stone, stucco and many other finishes of DI-NOC film can be applied to walls, floors, furniture and machines.

"We contacted William Smith at the beginning of the project and they recommended DI-NOC," says Signwright managing director Matthew Wright. "And to help the architect and client select the colour and finish from this extensive range, they supplied sample boards of the material so that everyone could get a real feel for the product and how it would look. This was essential to the project due to the prestige nature of the area of the race course."



The finished bar at the racecourse, which Signwright transformed using 3M's DI-NOC film.

It was their exceptional service that helped us to provide a good product.

He said: "In all around 500 panels were produced, all of which required precise and accurate finish to the corners, and nearly 2,000 fixings were used. We were working within a very tight time constraint but completed installation with around six hours to spare (and a few sleepless nights)."

Sally Iggulden, Chief Executive at Beverley Race Course, said: "Signwright (UK) was an integral part of our £700,000 project to transform our main event suite at Beverley Racecourse. The team at Signwright were involved from the start of the project, and advised on several innovative techniques that not only created a unique look and feel, but also saved a considerable amount of money on our original plans."

Mathew said: "William Smith did a great job, working with 3M to ensure delivery on time, including arranging a special manufacturing run of our chosen material. They were very supportive in helping us achieve our end result. If it hadn't been for their help in ensuring that the logistics worked, we couldn't have done the job. It was their exceptional service that helped us to provide a good product."



The team worked hard for 12 weeks to finish the job on time.

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Northern Print's expanded VUTEk fleet

Merseyside-based Northern Print has expanded its number of EFI VUTEk printers with a new HS100Pro from CMYUK.

The printer, installed in late 2015, was needed thanks to an increasing demand for wide format digital print from both existing and new clients.

Director Richard Parker said: "We needed to make this investment so we could guarantee the capacity needed when we took on extra work. We were already running at full tilt, and had to have a reliable machine to help smooth out the peaks in demand without compromising our existing work.

"As well as giving us the extra capacity that we needed, the HS100Pro offers an incredible flexibility on substrates, and we can use it for sheets, boards, rolls, back lit panels; and a whole range of indoor and outdoor POS, both single and double sided."

About the printer

The 3.2m press handles up to 100 boards per hour or up to 70 boards per hour in Point-Of-Purchase mode (600 dpi binary print mode). Operators can also run multiple jobs at once with multi-queue, eliminating the need to rip larger layout files.

The imaging technology driven by the Orion OS software platform delivers critical

colour accuracy and consistency. And the pin & cure technology delivers precise ink lay down for better image quality and high production speeds, gloss control, increased colour gamut, wider output capability and fewer artifacts, says the company.

www.cmyuk.com



EFI's Vutek HS100Pro printer, from CMYUK.

BUILT UP LETTERS

From new innovations in LED built-up lettering to fresh finishes and exciting applications, the built-up lettering sector is abuzz with development. Jemima Codrington finds out more.

Keep all your “soldering” irons in one fire

Since inception in 1974, Sygnet Signs has been dedicated to becoming the most innovative, all encompassing and complete trade sign manufacture nationwide.

Originally formed in 1974 by Mick Iley and now under the leadership of his son Gary, Sygnet Signs has spent the last 42 years servicing the industry, meeting client objectives and providing the finest signage solutions to meet all requirements. “We aim to provide a wide range of solutions, whether that be a set of flat cut acrylic letters, or the most complicated of totem signs,” says Ross Martin, Department Head at Sygnet Signs, and an employee for 14 years to date. Sygnet Signs offer solutions to any 3D built-up letters, and can produce products such as flat faced letters, trough letters rim and return letters or rimless letters from stainless steel, mild steel, aluminium, copper and brass.

Sygnet Signs acknowledged there was a need to extend its services in order to maintain growth and widen its client market in 1995, when they caught wind of a rapidly increasing demand for the trade manufacturer to supply “the whole signage package”. Recognising the need to evolve, management started investigating the market of built up, three-dimensional letters. “An investment was made, and we purchased our first flatbed laser, a real rarity for a trade sign manufacturer at

the time,” says Ross. “This meant that Sygnet were now in a position to be able to laser cut all stainless steel letter faces in house, completing the build in our newly formed letter shop department. This investment proved pivotal, and profitable.”

Starting out in 3D lettering

It wasn't long before the manufacture of built up letters became staple diet for Sygnet, and this is something that remains the case today.

Whilst the technological world continues to develop new exciting systems and materials, Sygnet's letter shop still operates in a way very similar to how it did in 1995. Highly skilled letter shop operatives, who have honed this art form down to a tee, manufacture the bulk of the work by hand. “Not only are our letter shop staff time efficient, but the quality of their hand crafted, fully soldered letters is unrivalled across the industry. It's safe to say, that no matter the size of your project, with the wealth of experience their letter shop has, you're in very safe hands,” adds Ross.

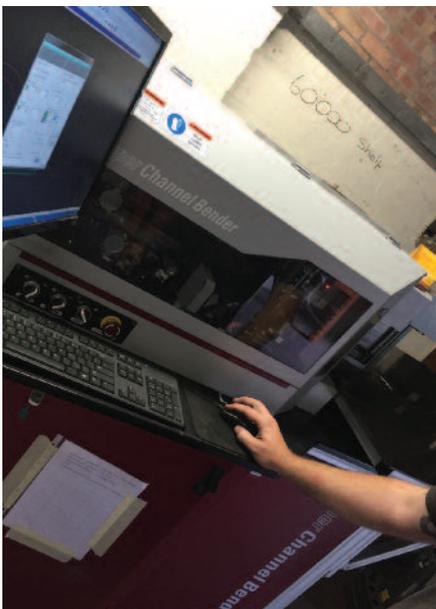
Whilst building letters the traditional way may offer a nostalgia and reliability, it doesn't mean that Sygnet Signs haven't continued to invest to keep up with the leading pack. Having noticed an uptick in the number of enquiries for large nationwide



Bespoke letters are still made by hand.

roll-out jobs, it became apparent that they needed to explore new avenues. Following an abundance of research, Sygnet invested £60,000 in a market leading channel bender. This piece of machinery sets the company up perfectly for roll out projects and bulk orders, as it offers the ability to press through substantial volumes of work quickly and on budget, whilst retaining a precise finish to the completed article. “To introduction of the letter bender will prove invaluable,” says Ross. “It is a cracking piece of kit, and will come into its own when we take on large roll out and repeat work contracts. It gives us the opportunity to become much more cost effective and competitive when tendering for those larger contracts.”

While Sygnet fully appreciates the introduction of such pieces of machinery, Ross is quick to add that having a team of skilled operatives to use it is invaluable, and that this machinery is no substitute for hand-craftsmanship when creating built-up letters. “The collective experience we have is crucial,” he says. “The channel bender is perfect for what it's designed for – bulk work.”



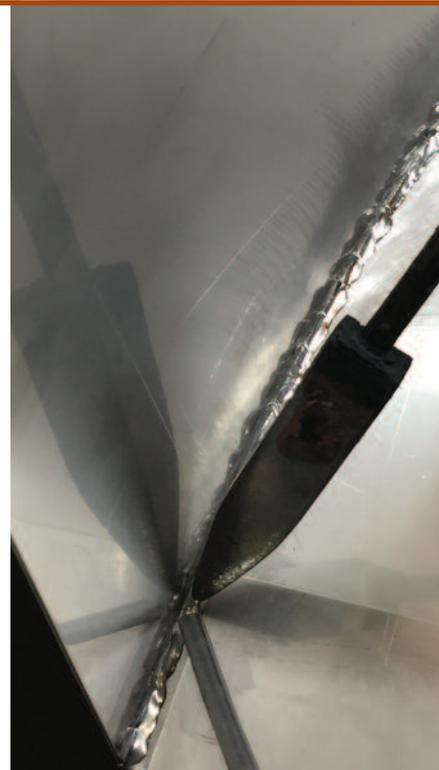
Sygnet use top technology for larger orders.



We understand not all of our work is going to form part of a nationwide roll out, and so the one off, bespoke projects are still all manufactured by hand and that suits everybody. We pride ourselves on the quality of our hand metal built letters, and of course, with so many variations and specifications to the letters we are able to build, some things have to be built the traditional way.”

Sygnnet Signs is also able to supply LED products to illuminate these letters. Their sister company, LED Solutions, is the distributor for HiTech LED, an Italian module manufacturer. All LED modules are supplied with a five -year manufacturer’s warranty on light and power parts.

www.sygnnetsigns.com



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BUILT UP LETTERS

Illuminating built-up lettering

Centre Signs (UK) Ltd has recently revealed a new development in illuminated stainless steel lettering, made exclusively in-house at their premises in Leicester.

"We're proud to introduce our new concept, LUMA™," says Trevor Cockbill, Managing Director of Centre Signs. "In the past, if your stainless letters required Halo illumination, the opal or clear backtrays were fitted inside the letters. This idea has worked perfectly well for at least 25 years, and probably more." Due to the introduction of brighter and better LEDs however, Centre Signs has integrated new LED technology and advanced their letter building techniques. "No longer are the backtrays hidden inside the letters with large visible screw heads, but instead, now the backtrays are fully visible and the letter returns are now "flush" with the edges of the backtrays. This enables halo and edge lit illumination at the same time, hence the name LUMA."

"This is the first stage of the development of this style of lettering, and there will be more to look forward to in the coming months"



Making the letter flush to the Perspex creates both halo and partial side illumination.

This new and exclusive approach to both halo and edge lit letters enables signmakers to create effective and distinctive signage, using white, blue or red LEDs. As you would expect from Centre Signs, the quality of the lettering is up to our own high standard but still within an affordable price range," adds Trevor, noting that all the LEDs used in the installations have a rating of IP65 or higher and carry a three-year manufacturer guarantee.

As with all aspects of LED illumination, there are certain restrictions that will apply with regard to Font style and minimum stroke widths, depending on the typeface or font. However, this should not detract from the final product or the stunning visual appearance that is now possible.

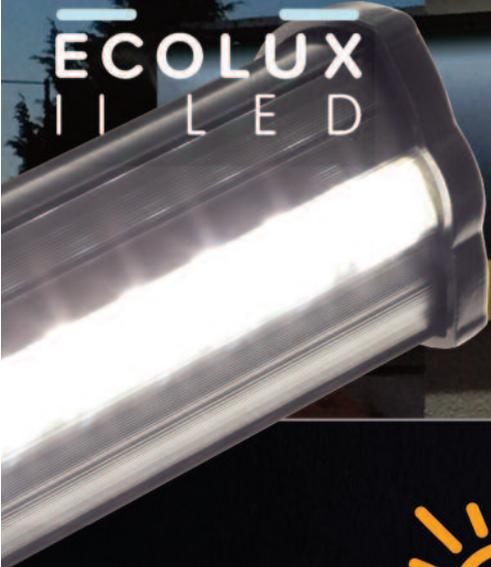
According to Trevor, the new LUMA style is ideal for use in retail and POS applications, reception and conference areas, bespoke interior concepts, arrivals and departures, cruise liners, marketing suites and more or less any application in which signage needs to be noticed, day or night. The letter faces and returns from Centre Signs are of the highest quality, and are available in finishes such as either Polished, Brushed (Satin), T22 Gold, Bronze, Rosy Gold, Blue, Green and Magentas. "This is the first stage of the development of this style of lettering, and there will be more to look forward to in the coming months," Trevor adds.

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The photos show the letter "R" at 125mm caps and "e" at 90mm.

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BUILT UP LETTERS

Built-up letters at work in exterior applications

When producing built up letters, there are a number of things to consider – such as size, shape, material, and illumination.

However, many people still leave fabricating and fixing as an afterthought and deal



ZULU Signs used INDASOL products to create built-up lettering on the Hawkrigde totem installation

with it at the last minute, which can make it difficult to find the right solution.

ZULU Signs recently created a Hawkrigde totem installation, and to steer clear of any issues, MD Matt Albert enlisted the help of INDASOL. The products selected were two versions of the INDASOL Ultra High Bond (UHB) system, the Tensol 12 alternative and 912LX two part adhesive. The UHB system is a pure foamed acrylic bonding system ideally suited to bonding difficult and dissimilar substrates. "The UHB18SF was used for fabricating the trays, the UHB9120G was used for fixing the supports together, and the Tensol alternative 2100 was used for the acrylic fabrication," reveals Paul Robinson, Sales Director of INDASOL. "Finally, the 912LX was chosen for mounting the stand off

locators, which help raise the sign. THE 912LX product is designed to provide a strong long-term bond without causing any read through on the face of composite panels."

Working closely with customers such as ZULU Signs, INDASOL has been able to tailor their range to specific applications and requirements, and have products that can offer either flush or fused bonds, gap filling and flexibility. According to Paul, the latter is one of the key requirements when working with dis-similar materials in built up letters. "Our range is evolving all the time to keep pace with the new materials being used, and as such, we have recently added SIGNBONDER Crystal," he says. "This complements SIGNBONDER white and black with the obvious benefit of being completely clear, but still retaining the same high strength durable properties of the coloured versions."

www.indasol.co.uk

Built-up letters and shapes bring life to seasonal retail displays

Having started his career as a window dresser, Graham Sweet learned a great deal about how to put together eye-catching retail displays.

Graham worked as a window dresser in New Zealand and Australia before returning to his native Wales. Upon discovering he couldn't find a job locally, he started his own business, Graham Sweet Studios, in 1969. Today, they are a large manufacturer of polystyrene letters and shapes that are used not only by major retailers, but also by television and film designers. "I'm more than just a manufacturer – I know what these people want, because I used to be one of them," says Graham. This time of year, he and the team are busy creating numerous large hanging baubles, some of which measure up to 120cm in diameter, that are glittered and sent out to shops for use in Christmas seasonal retail displays.



Glittered built-up letters are especially popular this time of year.



In addition to the baubles and built-up lettering, Graham has also created much larger scale projects using the same technology. For the 1996 EuroShop Exhibition, he was commissioned to build a rustlite beam engine, measuring 5mx3m. "That was used right in the entrance hallway, and we got a lot of feedback from that," he says. "We even finished it to look like a rusty old machine." The sculpture was designed to transport visitors back to the height of Britain's industrial age, and so each piece was carefully constructed and finished with an authentic-looking rusty appearance." The expanded polystyrene used to create lettering was employed to develop the imitation beam engine, a project of which Graham is still particularly proud.

www.grahamsweet.com



Graham Sweet Studios craft letters using a range of materials.

BUILT UP LETTERS

The rise of flex faced lettering

"Built-up letters in flex face are really taking off," says Richard Vincent, Sales Director at Brownings Ltd.

While Brownings has long been a producer of standard shapes such as rectangles, squares and oval shaped objects, over the past 18 months, Richard notes that there has been a marked increase in the interest in flex faced lettering. Along with flex-faced signs, Brownings also produce light boxes, fabric framed light boxes and poster units among other similar items.

So just what exactly has prompted the popularity of flex-faced built up lettering to rise?

"I think predominantly it's as much to do with the introduction for LEDs as it is that (city) planners are probably putting slightly tighter restrictions on the size of boxes," he says. "The left to right span of 4m high built-up letters may only be 12-15m, but I think the finished price of those letters would be less than one big rectangular sign full of LEDs. Yes the physical letters could look expensive, but you're only illuminating that letter, not one single large rectangular box. I think that difference in price is pushing some planners to go down that route."

Brownings are predominantly known for manufacturing flex face, including the SignComp™ Tensioning Systems, the leading system in the world for flex faced boxes. "We do seem to be getting a bit of a name for manufacturing the more strange shapes," adds Richard. "We do manufacture a number of standard rectangular and square boxes, but you can achieve some weird and wonderful shapes with the Econoflex system." This system was developed based on customer feedback on the SignComp clip system, and it saves sign makers considerable time by incorporating the tensioning system the box into a single profile.

There are a number of benefits to using flex face lettering. Firstly, it enables sign makers to create one continual image without any breaks, and there's virtually no limitation on size. Most ultra wide format printers can print the skins for boxes whether they are illuminated or non-illuminated. "They also provide great value for money longevity," says Richard. "The aluminium itself will last a long time, and the PVC skins have a warranty of five years - I've seen boxes that we produced in the first year I joined 17 years ago that are still going. The powder coating we can offer on some of the boxes is architectural coating, which has got a 25-

year warranty on it, but we need to be told beforehand that the box requires it, as it changes the way we manufacture."

Things to bear in mind when ordering flex face:

- Just because it can be drawn on a computer doesn't mean that it can be built. Always check with us first, as we may be able to suggest ways to achieve a finish box close to the required shape. Jagged edges is one area that we always have to change, but the effect could be achieved with the printed skin and a partially block out to the edge of the box.
- The bigger the better. Trying to produce small intricate shapes is a problem - trying to build a 1,500mm high letter "O" would probably take as long as building a 2,500mm high letter O, depending on the stroke width of the letter.
- Keep an eye on angles. Internal angles tighter than 25 degrees can't be built, as we would have to cut too much of the extrusion away, so there wouldn't be any aluminium left for the tension clip to push into.

- Richard Vincent, Sales Director, Brownings Ltd.

www.the-signmakers.com



An up-close look at a 5m letter "A" being manufactured for DNATA.

PROJECT News

London's mosaics star in Pixartprinting's latest project

Pixartprinting has revealed more of the multicultural heritage of Europe's major capitals with London Floors. This is the latest chapter in the content creation project dedicated to everything that lies beneath our feet. The firm has a growing reputation for promoting innovative forms of marketing and sharing unusual content linked to art and graphic design. Having covered the fascinating floors of Venice and Barcelona, photographer Sebastian Erras' 'selfeet' provide users with an original map of the city, to track down a series of brightly-coloured mosaics.

"The messages and designs on a city's floors reveal its soul. In London we discovered a remarkably rich heritage of

unique mosaics, with colours and patterns not seen anywhere else. The three chapters in the Floors 'saga' dedicated to the best decorative features of Europe's cities have been a great success. And they reflect the innovative approach to producing and distributing cultural content that has always set our business apart," says Andrea Pizzola, Sales & Marketing Director at Pixartprinting.

Content creation forms part of Pixartprinting's marketing strategy, and it is one of the reasons for their success, says the company. Projects are developed to "foster new forms of engagement and customer loyalty, where users take centre stage in their relationship with the brand".



St. Pancras Renaissance Hotel.

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3D printer produces bus wraps for Ghostbusters movie

Carisma large format printers created ten 3D printed graphics to promote Sony Pictures' Ghostbusters movie, using their Massivit 1800 3D Printer.

The promotional campaign saw them produce the ten 14 feet (4.27 meters) 3D printed images of the iconic 'No-Ghost' sign, which is the logo for the movie.

The Massivit 1800 3D Printer delivers a new level of creativity and extends our design capabilities further than before.



The 3D printed Ghostbusters wrap glowed at night, to make it even more attention grabbing.

The ten models were 3D printed in robust Dimengel material, then affixed as illuminated 3D printed wraps onto a fleet of double-decker buses, and used nationwide during a month long campaign.

Moshe Gil, Founder and CEO of Carisma, said: "When it comes to creating stunning projects with the attention-grabbing wow factor guaranteed to create a stir, then our Massivit 1800 3D Printer is our method of choice. Visually-appealing bus wraps are not a new application area for companies like ours; but the capability to offer 3D printed versions takes that application to new creative frontiers."

According to Moshe, as with many sign and display projects done by the company, his team had to work to a fairly short production time frame. But thanks to the attributes of the Massivit 1800 3D Printer, were able to complete and install the job on time.

"Fortunately the combination of the printer's high speed and robust material enabled us to rapidly output ten identical models that also boasted the durability to withstand a month outdoors on the road," he says.

"The impact of the bus wraps was incredible, particularly at night when the public were drawn into the eerie glow. Most importantly,



Carisma created the ten 3D models using their Massivit 1800 3D printer.

our client was delighted that the project achieved the objective of producing a huge buzz ahead the movie's launch."

Previously, Carisma produced large format applications using mixed substrates such as cut illuminated acrylic, PVC boards and lenticular lenses. According to Moshe, the Massivit 1800 3D Printer has added a new dimension to his business and has significantly enhanced its service capabilities.

"Before the Massivit 1800 3D Printer was launched there was a substantial gap in the market for a solution with the capability to produce large-scale models with a super-fast turnaround time. The Massivit 1800 3D Printer delivers a new level of creativity and extends our design capabilities further than before."

Yorkshire welcomes home Rio's heroes

It was a carnival atmosphere in Leeds on 28 September when people took to the streets to celebrate the achievements of Yorkshire's Olympians and Paralympians during a city centre parade.

Signs Express (Leeds) branded the five buses used during the welcome home parade, completing the heroes welcome and recognising the athletes' achievements.

The buses, usually used for sightseeing tours and general bus hire, needed to be temporarily branded for the event. So it was important that Signs

Express (Leeds) fully covered any existing graphics with block-out vinyl; whilst also creating an impactful and eye-catching result.

Signs Express (Leeds) centre owner David Nurse said, "After the most successful Olympics and Paralympics in our country's history, with many of the medal winning athletes coming from this region, it's fantastic that Welcome to Yorkshire has organised such a great homecoming. We were delighted to receive the commission for the bus graphics and the design certainly provided the finishing touches to what was a fantastic parade."



The temporary, eye catching graphics on the branded buses, welcoming home those who had competed at the Olympics.



Roland DG UK collaborates for Bill Bailey's performance

Earlier this year, comedian Bill Bailey surprised commuters at St Pancras International train station with a pop-up performance on Roland (UK) Ltd's LX-7 digital piano. The activity was to promote the newly launched product, with a competition to take one home. Keen to maximise the impact of the LX-7 digital piano, Roland (UK) Ltd turned to sibling company Roland DG, and users Think Image, to produce the wrapped graphic. This, they said, made sure the instrument was not only heard, but the competition mechanic was visually communicated.

Tony Lane, of Bristol based wrap specialists Think Image, produced the piano wrap on his Roland DG SOLJET PRO 4 XR-640 print and cut machine. The "crisp lettering and vibrant text colours" could be clearly seen on the piano, directing onlookers to take part in the promotion.

Tony said: "As a branding and graphics company we know accuracy is essential for global brands such as Roland UK. Colour matching and print-and-cut on our Roland kit is not only accurate every time, but simple to use. That's why we love and buy Roland DG printers."

Roland UK's promotion proved to be a success, with more than two million people viewing Bill Bailey's performance recording posted on their Facebook page.



The comedian Bill Bailey surprised commuters at St Pancras with a performance on a Roland digital piano.

Roland DG's technology is the ideal solution for wrapping on a wide variety of objects, from vehicles to pianos or anything in-between.

The competition saw many talented individuals entering by recording themselves playing the Roland LX-7 piano live in St Pancras station, and posting their videos online. In all entry videos the clear and simple wrap communications can be seen, to help further promote the competition.

Natalie Lewis, Marketing Manager at Roland UK, said: "This promotion was a fantastic opportunity to work with Roland DG technology. In such a public environment we knew we wanted messaging that would accurately reflect our brand colours, and most importantly stay pristine and vibrant for the duration of our LX-7 piano's stay at St Pancras. The wrap by Think Image provided both of these things and more."

"Roland DG's technology is the ideal solution for wrapping on a wide variety of objects, from vehicles to pianos or anything in-between. The new TrueVIS range, the VG series and SG series, also offer businesses an easy print and cut solution for producing both wraps and decals for a wide range of surfaces," says the company.



Tony Lane of Think Image applying the wrap to the Roland piano.

www.roland.co.uk
www.rolanddg.co.uk

Brunel makes its mark on new heritage site

Brunel Engraving has engraved over 500 bronze and stainless components at Shakespeare's New Place, a contemporary heritage landmark site in Stratford-upon-Avon, which opened on 20 August.

The site, which was Shakespeare's family home from 1597 until his death in 1616, has been transformed by The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust to mark the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death. Designed to reveal a "window on the world of William Shakespeare for the 21st Century", it features landscaped gardens and specially-commissioned artworks celebrating the playwright's life and works.

We are very proud to have made a lasting mark on this beautiful heritage site in Shakespeare's home town of Stratford.

Although Shakespeare's original house is no longer standing in the grounds, the historic garden was preserved and the contemporary landscape beyond the entrance reveals the footprint of Shakespeare's lost family home, discovered during archaeological excavations of the site. The original Tudor Knot Garden has been fully restored for the first time

since it was created in 1920, and the Victorian Great Garden has been retained. A dynamic new permanent exhibition is housed in a restored and extended Tudor house next door.

Brunel Engraving did all of the intricate engravings, inscriptions, designs and lines from sonnets and plays featured throughout the site. These included the inscription on the oak and bronze gateway which forms the entrance to the gardens, and the intricately designed pattern work etched on bronze circles throughout the grounds. The pattern which runs throughout the site was specially designed to reflect the Tudor era.

Over 500 separate bronze and steel component parts in varying sizes of arcs and flat bars were each individually engraved. The arced pieces featuring intricate pattern work, which formed different sizes of circles had to match exactly, and their thin borders had to be perfectly aligned. Some components took over three days to engrave due to their size, weight, the complexity of the image and depth of engraving.

"We had to maintain total accuracy in the patterned pieces, as the design dictated that a fine border of 1mm ran around the arc and that the pattern in each arc matched perfectly at the join", says Martyn Wright, founder and managing director of Brunel Engraving.

"Some components required a 4mm engraving depth which made the process more complex. This was a detailed and time consuming job requiring intricate precision



Detail of the pattern work.

and attention to detail which our experienced, specialist engravers completed successfully and to schedule.

"We are very proud to have made a lasting mark on this beautiful heritage site in Shakespeare's home town of Stratford. It will attract visitors from all over the world for many years to come!"



Engraving from The Tempest.



Engraving on the bronze gateway to the site.



Arcadian makeover

HNS Signs began work on the redevelopment on one of the city's leading night life destinations; The Arcadian in Hurst Street on 26 September.

The Arcadian called in creative design consultancy Studio Able, who used HNS Signs to help spruce up their appearance. The area is set to have a huge transformation beginning with new 'anamorphic' hand painted signage, and new wayfinding signage throughout the centre.

HNS Signs were asked to hand finish art onto the sides of the building to "bring the site to life" along with hand painted wayfinding signage across the centre.



New signage on The Arcadian nightclub.



Hand painting using a projector.

Michelle Henry said: "Working with Studio Able to bring The Arcadian back to life has been an exciting project to work on. Even though the brief was challenging, my team lapped up the chance to work through the night on one of Birmingham's iconic nightlife destinations.

"Projecting the images across the buildings to outline was particularly interesting, especially after dark. But it was the only way to hand paint a 30 metre long sign professionally, and we are over the moon with the end result."

University of Suffolk rebrand

Spectrum Architectural Signing Limited won the contract to supply and install new signs for the University of Suffolk, following its bid to become an independent university. The university was previously known as University Campus Suffolk, established in 2007 under an agreed partnership with the University of East Anglia (UEA) and the University of Essex.

The project involved an extensive array of sign types to be produced and fitted in phases over the coming months.

By working in partnership with the university's marketing and commu-

nications department and estates department, Spectrum Architectural Signing understood the requirements for the rebrand (including identifying existing signage to be removed) They supplied a programme that detailed how and when the new signs and fascia were to be located on site.

"The project involved new larger monolith signs and new fascia panels, including halo illuminated brush stainless steel built up casement letters on the Waterfront Building," says a spokesperson.

www.spectrumarchitectural.co.uk

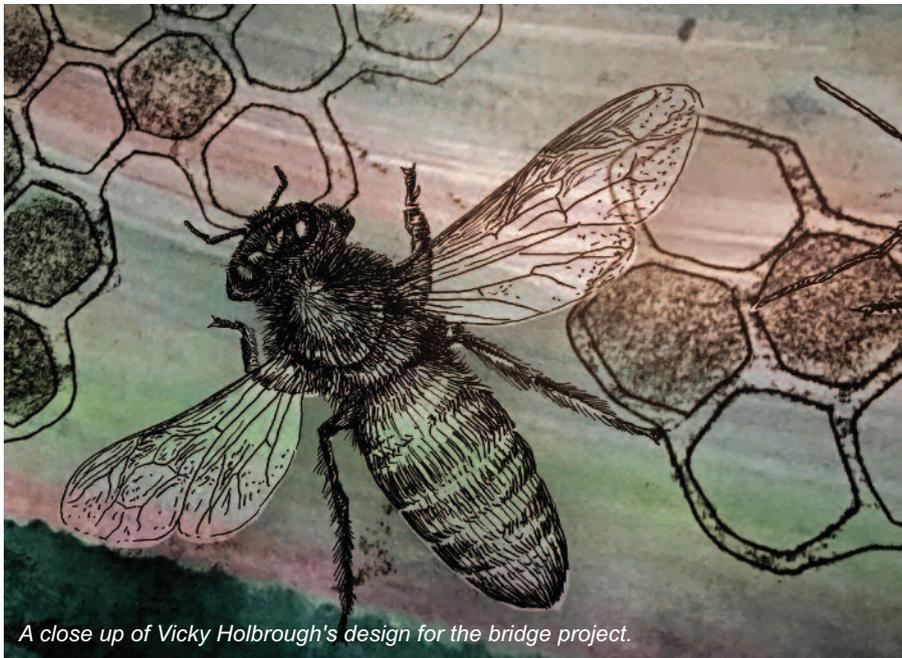


Building bridges

Signs Express has been working closely with a local artist, and Tees Valley Arts organisation, to brighten up two bridges in the largest park in Darlington.

Tees Valley Arts is a government funded organisation working across the five boroughs of the Tees Valley, to encourage creative participation with people of all abilities, ages and backgrounds. It has been the orchestrator of numerous bespoke creative activities across the region, which are delivered by freelance artists using many different art forms.

From first enquiries, through to print and installation, Signs Express has been supportive, thoughtful and efficient in helping me realise a commission for a piece of public art in Darlington.



A close up of Vicky Holbrough's design for the bridge project.

In this case, the organisation has been working with Vicky Holbrough, who has over 15 years' experience and specialises in drawing, print making and sculpture. Vicky contacted Signs Express to assist with bringing her designs to life and installing them on the Geneva Bridge in South Park, Darlington.

This project coincides with the rapid expansion of Signs Express (South Durham), to encompass the Teesside territory and grow its customer base. Daniel Pickersgill, owner of Signs Express (South Durham & Teesside), said: "It is an honour to work with local artists, as this allows us to promote local talent and this project in particular has enabled us to improve a prolific bridge in the area. We still have one more bridge to decorate with Vicky's eye-catching designs and we look forward to this second stage of the project greatly as it is quirky."

Vicky said: "From first enquiries, through to print and installation, Signs Express has been supportive, thoughtful and efficient in helping me realise a commission for a piece of public art in Darlington. Working to create a piece of art for public spaces is often not straightforward; and the work has to meet the needs of the brief as well as being sensitive to the environment and site conditions. All of which Signs Express has considered in their approach."

The bridges are part of a heritage trail that meanders through the park and the artwork on these bridges has been inspired by the wildlife of the North-East's rivers. The project has been launched in a bid to encourage people to reconnect with the River Tees.



Local artist worked with Signs Express on a project to brighten up bridges along the River Tees.



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Helping to "power the future" at Glasgow Science Centre

Signs Express has worked together with Glasgow Science Centre on a new interactive exhibition. "Powering The Future" is the most ambitious exhibition of its kind in the UK, which focuses on the science and technology used to supply energy in the UK. It highlights key issues that society is likely to face in the not too distant future. The £1.5million project has been designed to stimulate public debate and engagement with the key issues around the energy 'trilemma' – security, affordability, and environment sustainability.

Signs Express had the challenging task of organising and manufacturing the new displays and signage at their unit.

Over three weeks, from initial design, there were numerous elements to the work carried out by Signs Express, such as interactive display panels, exhibit interpretation boards, built up text and various bespoke items. There were also various illuminated displays such as the entrance sign, the Biowall sign (a living wall system containing a range of different plant species) and the Dancefloor (expending energy in the form of dancing).

This was the third major project that Signs Express worked on with Glasgow Science Centre. Graham Casey, Signs Express



An exterior illuminated wall sign.

(Glasgow's) owner said: "We really enjoy working with the science centre and were thrilled to be asked to help with this project. Due to the size of it, it demanded all of the in-house equipment, and used all the skills in the team, to make sure we completed the

work to the highest standard. I am extremely proud of the team and the work they delivered."

Glasgow Science Centre's Director of Science, Dr Robin Hoyle, said: "Due to the complexity and scale of the content, artwork sign-off was managed in batches by GSC. Signs Express were very accommodating of this, despite it not being the ideal situation for their production requirements."

Signs Express integrated graphics with set work and exhibits, working with numerous other subcontractors. They delivered the project to a high standard, on-time and within budget as with previous projects that they have worked on with GSC.

"Signs Express always find a solution to our challenging brief, whether it be hundreds of custom cut dibond panels, suspended light-boxes, back-lit acrylic lettering, bespoke acrylic design features or frosted window graphics. All of these elements brought the finishing touch to Powering the Future, and pulled together all the themes of the exhibition to give a cohesive overall design," says the company.



Etched graphics onto glass.

www.signsexpress.co.uk/glasgow



Illuminated acrylic cubes used for high profile media event

W&Co was recently approached by the Huffington Post to supply two illuminated acrylic cubes from the W&Co Nebula illuminated display range. The cubes were to be used as plinths in an online marketing campaign with the celebrity chef Jamie Oliver. The event was guest edited by Jamie Oliver, for The Huffington Post UK, to highlight how parents and children can thrive in today's society. The press shot used the cubes specifically as a prop and focal point, and helped frame Jamie during the interview.

The Huffington Post requested the two fully LED illuminated cubes be created for the press shoot, which took place in their UK head office. Each cube had to be easy to install; light enough to carry; evenly illuminate; and advertise 'Huff Post' with printed and applied sign vinyl to each side of the

These acrylic LED lightbox cubes can be made to order as wall mounted, freestanding or ceiling hanging to suit your display requirements.

cube. The units also had to be "plug and play ready" so staff could use the units instantly.

The Nebula frame-less acrylic cubes are part of the Nebula lightbox range, and are designed from white opal acrylic. Each cube is internally lit by high brightness white

LED's, giving even illumination throughout. They are fully customisable and are available in a multitude of colours and effects from the Perspex range. Other effects and graphics can be displayed by applying vinyl (or window cling print) directly to the faces of the lightbox. These acrylic LED lightbox cubes can be made to order as wall mounted, freestanding or ceiling hanging to suit your display requirements.

The Huff Post requested that these cubes were to be able to free stand, and so sited perfectly at the centre of the press shots.

(Image used courtesy of The Huff/Chris Gorman)



Jamie Oliver poses with the illuminated acrylic cubes from W&Co's Nebula display range.

New signs give "lease of life" to market

Signs Express has "delighted" tenants and traders at the Markets Complex in Rotherham, by manufacturing and installing a range of new signage for the site.

Following a large volume of requests from the public, Rotherham Council secured £25,000 in 2013 to carry out a small, but effective refurbishment on the indoor market, which has over four million customers per year.

The signage above the main entrance looks inviting and vibrant, leading to the many different commodities and services, which are on offer six days a week within the outdoor covered market and Centenary market hall.



The exterior signage for Rotherham market-leading.

Signs Express is a long-standing partner of Rotherham Council, and celebrates their ten year anniversary of working with the organisation in their local region.

Carol Morris, co-owner of Signs Express (Sheffield), said: "We have been supporting the council for a long time and are so proud to be playing a part to rejuvenate and develop the area for residents and visitors."

Signs Express created the main exterior signage, hanging banners and window graphics, which have given the centre a facelift. The £25k project has also allowed urgent roof repairs and maintenance to be carried out across the complex.

The council's markets operations manager, Dean Thurlow, said: "The signage above the main entrance looks inviting and vibrant, leading to the many different commodities and services, which are on offer six days a week within the outdoor covered market and Centenary market hall."

There are also plans to construct a new car park with bowling alley, cinema and food court on the side of the covered outside market, and they hope that the investment in maintenance and signage will provide the area a lift.



Carol Morris (third right) and Steve Morris (middle) with their team.

Tension fabric LED light boxes steer customers in the right direction

Various large format tension fabric LED light boxes were manufactured and installed at Inchcape West London Volkswagen; their largest UK car showroom and new flagship dealership.

W&Co was approached by branding company, Integrity, to help design and manufacture a series of LED light boxes to create a fully illuminated feature wall in the main reception, and way finding signage.

The illuminated feature wall is constructed from numerous large format fabric face LED light boxes. These are fitted around a central doorway, and a nine screen video wall, as well as wrapping around a corner at one end.

W&Co worked closely with Integrity, the site contractors and AV suppliers to make sure it was a well co-ordinated effort to complete this "striking and high quality" light box installation.



The wayfinding fabric face lightbox at Volkswagen's new flagship showroom.



A fabric LED lightbox timeline with images of historical VW models.

The majority of the light boxes that make up the wall have been covered with plain white backlit tension fabric. Whilst some of the larger areas have been digitally printed with images and information on historical VW models, from 1945 to present day.

W&Co also supplied a 7m long, double sided tension fabric light box to act as way finding signage for customers across the four floor showroom, which was fixed to the ceiling for maximum visibility as soon as you enter the dealership.

W&Co designed and developed ceiling hanging tension fabric LED light boxes to go above the cars in other VW showrooms. This square shaped, multi-faced, lighting unit is four double sided light boxes neatly connected together with mitre joins, to create rectangular highlighters above new key VW models on display.

Previously W&Co has supplied ground fixed outdoor advertising LED light boxes for Volkswagen, to illuminate promotional posters close to the roadside.

PROJECT News

Kornit Digital provides production technology for Project Runway

Kornit Digital's digital roll-to-roll printing system played a critical role in an episode of Project Runway. In this American reality competition show, fashion designers compete to create the best fashion pieces with a limited amount of time and resources. The episode, called Sink or Swim, aired on 6 October.

In this episode, the challenge was to create a swimsuit and cover-up design. The candidates were told that they can create a custom design which would be printed and returned to them the following morning. The technology partners enabling the fast turnaround was Kornit Digital and Kornit user Papilio Prints in New Jersey.

The production technology used is called Kornit Allegro. With its print width of 1.8m, it is the world's only single-step digital textile printing system designed for high-speed, end-to-end production. It uses Kornit's patented NeoPigment™ printing process.



Tim Gunn, mentor of Project Runway, with the show's host Heidi Klum.

The system features an integrated pretreatment technology and works on a variety of fabrics, both natural and man-made fibers and blends. It is the only industrial textile

printer available today that integrates all production steps in a single, integrated production line; which removes the need for complicated pre- and post-treatments such as steaming and washing.

T3 exhibition systems add strength to A/W Fashion show



Tecna Display's modular T3 system allowed Golden Strength to create a solution for fashion designer Cabi.

Tecna Display's T3 system helped exhibition display company Golden Strength, to design visuals for the CabiScoop fall fashion show in July at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Centre, Massachusetts.

Golden Strength were asked to create an event display that would give attendees and the public a sneak preview of what was to come in the actual show. This was no easy task considering the amount of fashion lines and accessories that were to be showcased, said the company.

Working together with Tecna Display, Golden Strength used a variety of display techniques to create a "unique and eye catching visual show to excite and thrill the audience".

Philippe Van Ameyde from Tecna Display said: "The entire display of 14 graphic stands, two floating walls and

two encased pedestals was built in the lobby of the convention centre. The design allowed Cabi to use huge stunning visuals on the stands, clothed mannequins in the encased pedestals and to display all manner of products with the floating walls.

"Using a combination of our steel sided fusion tubing and connectors for the framework, the magnetic strips attached to the large graphic panels allowed for the graphics to be mounted securely and without hassle. This was a simple yet effective method and allowed for the wide array of displays to be constructed flawlessly."

Once the event was over, all the components packed quickly and efficiently back into the travel cases and stored for their next job and venue.

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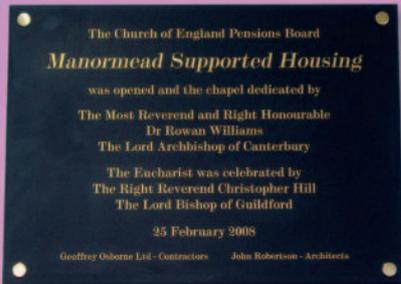
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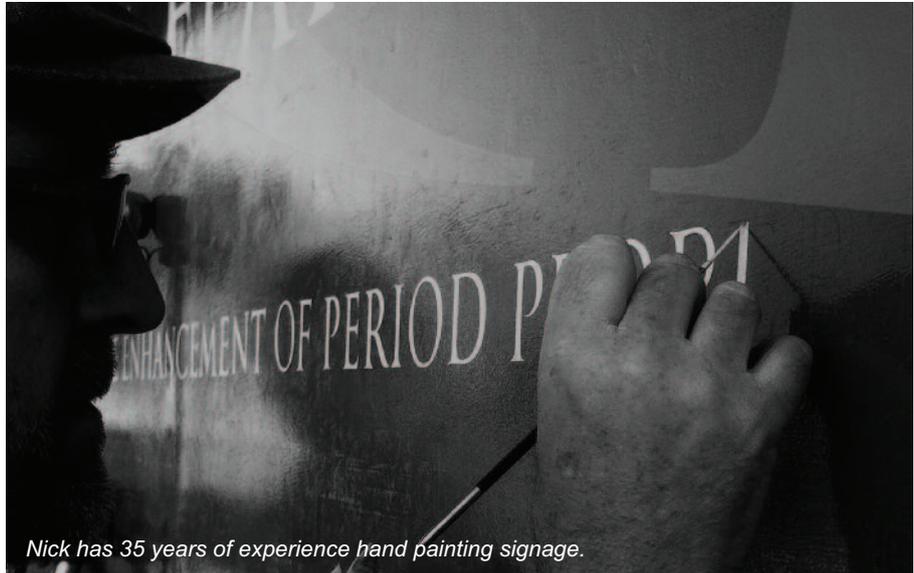
The return of traditional signage

Although signage is moving into an increasingly digital age, there has been a strong resurgence in the demand for traditional hand-painted signs. Jemima Codrington spoke with leading signwriters to learn more.

Nick Garrett of Nick Garrett Signs (NGS) painted his first sign professionally in 1981, at a time before the handset and digital technology were commonplace.

For Nick, the arrival of digital technology massively impacted the traditional market, and the change was noticeable immediately.

"When the vector arrived it impacted us enormously by destroying 30 per cent of the industry overnight," he says. "It was devastating. Fortunately, I was also working in specialist paint finishes at that time and it bolstered my practice, but my first love was for creating painted letters." Today, Nick has noticed a resurgence in the demand for ornate and gilded lettering, alongside that for pure English Sans Serif and Venetian/Roman Serif. "A lot of pop-up signage revolves around 1950s kitsch styles, and the more chic sector is attached to humanist Johnston, Baskerville, Trajan and Bembo." To meet the demands of clients, Nick designs custom fonts and typefaces using Photoshop, Fontlab and pencil to

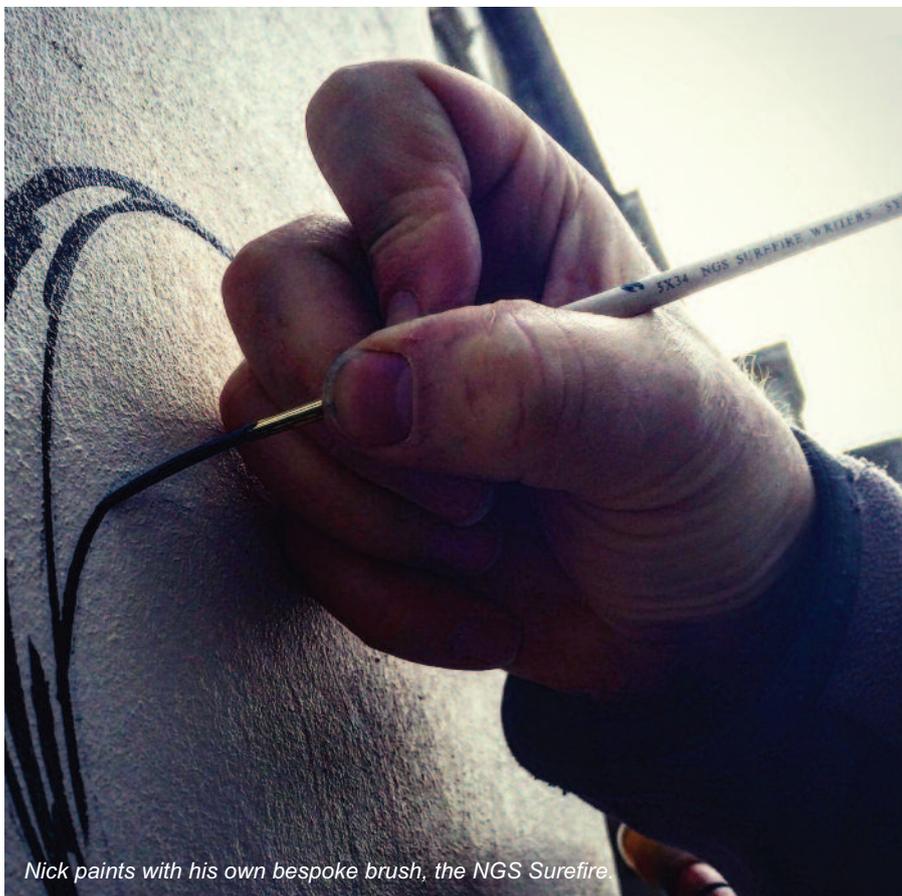


Nick has 35 years of experience hand painting signage.

paper formats. While the demand may be for traditional-looking signage, the methods that are used to achieve this style mean that the phrase "traditional" is something of a misnomer.

"Painted letters have life... they speak, shout, sing, whisper, reach, communicate with an infinite range of voices."

- Nick Garrett



Nick paints with his own bespoke brush, the NGS Surefire.

"The name 'Traditional Signwriter' doesn't fit anymore really," says Nick. "We all use smart technology or a roll of masking tape, so it's actually now at the leading edge. Signwriting started in 78AD in Pompeii and we've never looked back from a design and innovation point of view. To be a great signwriter you must have superb typographic skills, and signwriters are the best makers of letters – the really good ones, that is. It's about more brushstrokes, less keystrokes."

Custom materials for bespoke signage

Drawing upon years of experience, Nick now uses his own brushes, which he has custom-made for him.

The NGS Surefire and Slikshot are based on the Italian writing brush, and can handle pinstriping and block lettering at a stroke. "Italian art and lettering culture has a lot of great things to offer," he says. "I use a host of different paints including Craftmaster and Oneshot, but also Posca pens and Zinsser coatings."

“Painted letters are artworks that talk inside people’s heads. It is why they are called characters... they enter the lives of people.”

- Nick Garrett

While the digital print media age may have impacted the traditional sector initially, for Nick, he still has customers that choose this type of signage over anything else – and for good reason.

“There is no place on earth that cannot benefit from a beautifully crafted, hand painted sign,” he says. “It says everything about the care for and quality of your business. A beautiful, human piece of lettering has no comparison. Painted letters have life...they speak, shout, sing, whisper, reach, communicate with an infinite range of voices. They are artworks that talk inside people’s heads. It is why they are called characters and they enter the lives of people.” For Nick, creating signs that help clients discern and communicate their story is a huge experience, and one that builds great friendships and bonds.



Heritage brands like Fred Perry favour hand-painted craftsmanship.

Diversifying the field

In addition to the development of technology, Nick has seen other changes in the traditional signage market, perhaps noticeably the way in which the field of practitioners has diversified over time.

“Perhaps the greatest achievement for the past generations of blokes with brushes is feeling good about just how many women are now practicing and creating wonderful lettering,” he says. “It is a craft made stronger by the creativity of both women and men, and the young talented design-based writers have it all.”

In order to keep this sector of the industry alive, Nick has focused on teaching the next generation the art of traditional signwriting.

While you’d be forgiven for thinking that NGS stood for Nick Garret Signs, according to Nick – it really means “New Generation of Signwriters”. Over the past five years, Nick has trained a number of successful sign artists, including Jack Hollands, Tobias Newbigin, Hannah Matthews and Chloe Tickner, who now works as his junior partner. “It’s all about sharing - I am proud of them,” he says. “I am an independent signwriter mentoring in-house young artists who want to enter the craft, with a completely open doors policy. Our monthly NGS Signsmith Courses are the leading, regular, signwriting workshops.”

www.nickgarrettsignwriter.com

Taking a punt on hand painted signage



Sheila’s handpainted signage as seen on The Working Boat Pub in Cornwall’s Falmouth harbour.

For Sheila McCann Downes, a career in traditional signwriting came about as “something of a fluke.”

She originally obtained a degree in graphic design, but upon graduating found there were no jobs available in that field. “Instead, I did a training scheme working for a sign company, and they put me through City & Guilds signwriting two year apprenticeship,” she says. “It’s not something I’d ever thought to do, and it was just so different from doing graphic design.” However, by the mid-1990s, the tides had turned, and there was no longer a strong enough demand for traditional signwriting. As such, Sheila moved back into graphic design, until deciding she wanted to do something for herself five years ago.

TRADITIONAL SIGNWRITING

Taking a punt on hand painted signage

Ready for a new challenge, she founded her signage company, "Signs of Good Taste," based in Cornwall. "I knew I already had the skill set, so I set up a single page website just to see if there was any work, and it grew from there." Today, her company specialises in traditional, hand painted signs for boats, pubs and restaurants, shops and other business ventures. "There's been a resurgence in real traditional signwriting. People are kind of sick of the plastic and the generic, and they all want something different. I think especially where I work in Cornwall, people want to see something that's a bit away from the corporate. People setting up a café or something want a sign that's individual, they don't want to look like a chain."



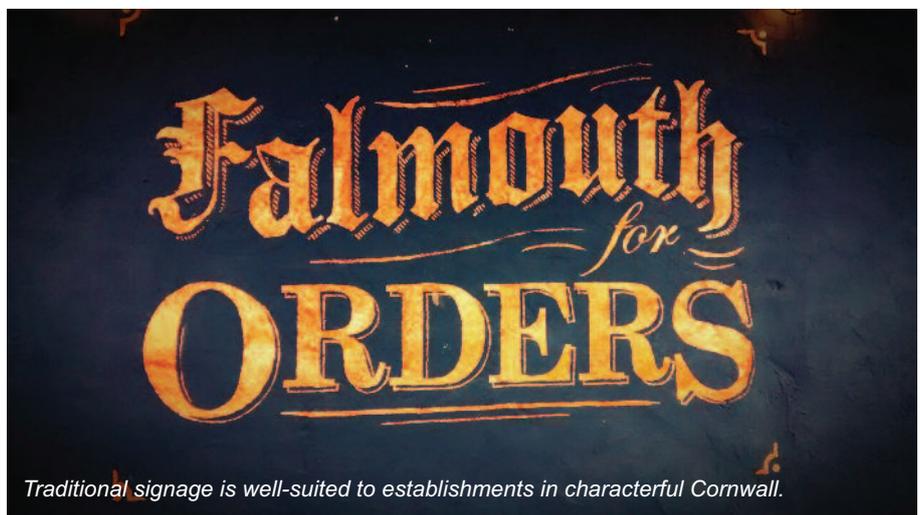
Sheila uses One Shot paints to create her signage, seen in both indoor (above) and exterior applications.

Sheila even works on motorbikes and vehicles for individuals, noting that demand comes from various sectors. To create her signage, Sheila uses One Shot paints, which are ideal when navigating the practical challenges of working in the weather and dealing with Cornwall's coastal conditions. Sheila notes that many people are understanding of the craftsmanship and what goes into creating such bespoke hand painted signage, and are supportive of her work as a result. "I think people who want traditional signage really want it, whereas those who don't, you can't really persuade them," she says. "I think people are under the impression it's going to be really expensive, and for those people, you cannot persuade them if they want a plastic sign because it's cheap and quick. But those who see the value, they really want to go for it, and they'll support you and advertise you to other people, too."

www.signsofgoodtaste.com

"There's been a resurgence in traditional signwriting – people are kind of sick of the plastic and the generic, and they all want something different."

- Sheila McCann Downes



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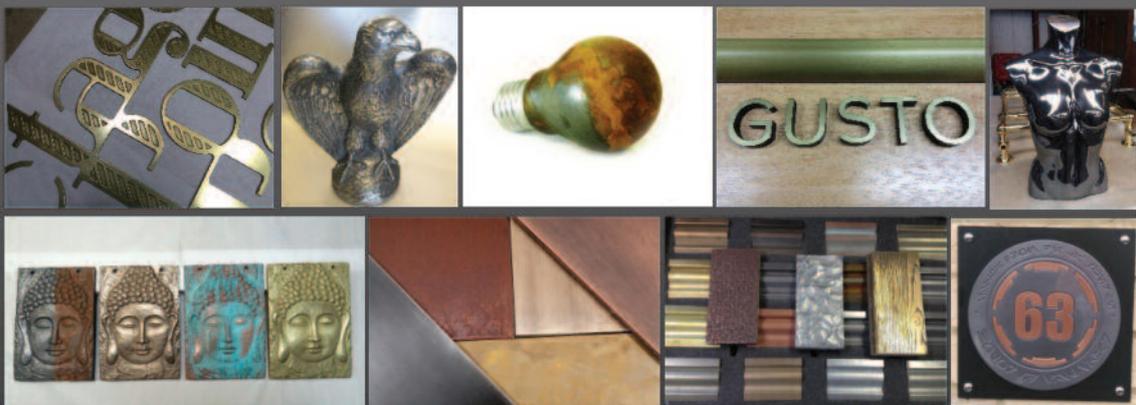
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TRADITIONAL SIGNWRITING

Becoming a traditional signwriting specialist

Wayne Tanswell is a traditional signwriter and lettering artist, and entered the industry by a twist of good fortune as he hitchhiked home on his final day of school.

"I was never academic, and as a child I'd seen someone painting coaches near where I lived, and I wanted to do it," he says. "I was hitchhiking home from Subdury to Long Melford, and a guy pulled up and gave me a lift. As fate would have it, he also gave me a job." Once he held the brush and realised he had a natural flair for it, Wayne entered into a career in traditional signwriting and never looked back. Today, he has a sign studio in which he creates his signage, and he also works on exhibits and public art installations. Not bad, considering at the time, he was unsure of the possible career longevity in his chosen field. "At the time, I thought I was entering a dying trade, as it was around the time that computers and vinyl were coming out," he says. "I suppose really, I was too stubborn to change career. I'd learnt my trade, and I thought this is what I wanted to do, so I stuck at it.

"Hand painted signs
have got soul...(people)
know somebody has done
them and not a machine."

- Wayne Tanswell



Wayne Tanswell is passionate about teaching the next generation of signwriters.

I'm lucky that I live in Suffolk and the local planners and authorities won't let people have plastic signs everywhere, so work has never died out completely."

For Wayne, there's regularly work to be found on historic buildings in the countryside and in London, and there's also been a spike in demand from restaurants wanting a faded style vintage sign, so that it looks like it's been there for years. He notes that people generally like seeing the odd brush-mark or slight imperfection, as it gives the sign some character. "Hand painted signs have got soul...(people) know somebody

has done them and not a machine," he says. "My father used to say to me - the more you stick at it, the more you become a specialist. The more technology moves on, the more you become a specialist. Now people are happy to pay a premium rate, because they know it's done by hand and they know it takes longer, and they appreciate what goes into it."



Wayne has completed a variety of projects since starting out in 1980.

Taking traditional signage to the masses

Wayne is now the author of four books, the latest of which (*The Essential Guide to Hand Painted Signs*) was released last month.

Wayne also teaches, tutoring people wanting to enter the industry at least one day a week. In writing the books and teaching, Wayne hopes to keep the interest in this skill alive, and to encourage more youngsters to take up the trade. "There aren't any schools offering sign writing any-



Wayne has made six visits to Zambia to carry out his work whilst inspiring the locals.

more, so there's no place for the next generation to learn," he says. "If people don't pass on this trade to the next generation, it will disappear – we need to do that. To do my bit, I'm writing books, running workshops and teaching people, and hosting exhibitions to show people how letters are painted."

Wayne doesn't just teach locally – he has travelled to Belgium, Bahrain, and Spain to work on projects and teach sign writing. He has also taken his skills down to Zambia, Africa, a place he's now visited six times. A woman who owns a safari lodge there initially contacted him in want of handpainted signs, as stickers just wouldn't suit the aesthetic. He created over 80 signs for the lodge, and having gotten involved in the local community, he now returns once a year. "I've done signs for the Zambian police force, the airport, everything," he says, adding that youngsters are often quick to watch and learn.



Wayne also uses his signwriting skills to work on other projects to inspire and capture attention. "I did a massive word painting on recycled materials, on which I painted the lyrics of one of Amy Winehouse's lyrics," he says. "It was a limited edition project approved by her mother Janice Winehouse to celebrate her music, and it allowed me to take my signwriting skills and exhibit that this skill is still alive."

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Manufactured from 1.2mm zinc coated steel.
Powder coated in white as standard.
Two heavy duty metal side stays and legged feet.
Double folded sides give extra strength.



 **01663 744824**

 **www.desltd.co.uk**

Atlantic get RICOH partner status

Atlantic Tech Services have been appointed to a RICOH Partner status for the sales, services and support of the RICOH Professional Printer range. This includes the Pro 4100 latex wide format printer series; Pro C5100, C7100 and C9100 colour cutsheet production printers; and the complete multifunctional printers. Atlantic will offer all RICOH printers to their growing customer base together with the new fast drying, high performance AR Latex Inks, says the company. In tests, the inks have proved to increase the L4100 series print speeds by up to 30 per cent over its nearest competitor.

The L4100 series latex printers are available in four colour and six colour versions.

This "offers many opportunities to improve both print speed and increased colour gamut over the current market leaders". The L4100 offers variable 14, 6 and 4 pico litre drop sizes (2,560 nozzles) so that less ink is used to reduce running costs.

Keith Pratt, Atlantic Managing Director, said: "This an exciting time as the RICOH range of printers will give us the opportunity to increase print speeds and improve our customers print quality. We are in the process of upgrading a number of our customers print options with the L4100 latex series printers to replace or run alongside their existing Mimaki or Roland printers.

www.atlantic-ts.com



The RICOH L4130 latex printer, available from Atlantic Tech Services.

i-Sub Digital expands

With a range of printing, cutting and laminating equipment, and software from manufacturers such as Mimaki, Agfa, Zünd, Vivid and Onyx, i-Sub is "ideally placed to recommend and install the best printing solutions for wide format printing".

To further build on its success and meet the next phase of growth, i-Sub moved into new premises in November 2015. The move more than tripled its previous floor and warehouse space. Buying the new 10,000 sq. ft. facility was just the beginning of the



i-Sub's expanded new premises in Kettering will help the company meet its planned growth strategy.

We offer everything that a wide format print specialist could possibly require, such as Agfa, Mimaki, EFI Reggiani, Epson and Dgen printers.

journey; during a four-month long project, they renovated the building to have two new demonstration centres.

When the renovation is finished, current and potential i-Sub customers will be given the chance to see the new facility themselves at a series of open days.

i-Sub Managing Director, Andy Spreag, said: "After more than 15 years dealing with us, customers have come to expect certain standards from i-Sub and we wouldn't want to disappoint them.

"We get visitors coming to us every day to see demonstrations of our printers and gain insight from our expert team. We offer everything that a wide format print specialist could possibly require, such as Agfa, Mimaki, EFI Reggiani, Epson and Dgen printers. And finishing equipment from Zünd, Summa, Monti Antonio and Vivid. We also offer a full range of inks for all of the printers we supply, as well as a consumables range from Metamark, Soyang, Coldenhove and ourselves."

Graphtec GB appoints distributor for new die-cutter

Graphtec GB has appointed Dublin-based DBC Group to distribute the recently launched i-Mark automatic digital die-cutter in Ireland. The DBC Group supply a wide range of industrial and commercial print finishing solutions. These include roll laminators, dye-sublimation products, graphics media, digital printers and heat presses.

Graphtec GB Director, Phil Kneale, said: "There has been a huge interest in and demand for the i-Mark digital die-cutter since its launch just a few months ago. One of the key features of the cutter is that, depending on the thickness of the material, it can handle up to 120 sheets in a continuous cycle; with the ability to add further sheets on demand without

The cutter will handle both thin materials like adhesive sheets and thicker board materials up to 350gsm.



The i-Mark digital die-cutter will be distributed in Ireland by DBC Group.

interruption of the die-cutting process. This is an attribute of the i-Mark machine that sets it apart from any comparable sheet-fed system."

Based on the popular Graphtec CE6000-40 plotter/cutter and i-Mark hardware and software, the die-cutter can be used for a range of print and cut applications. Such as short-run label production, digital prints and packaging and will handle sheets of material of varying thickness, and in sizes ranging from A4 up to Super A3 (330 x 483mm).

The compact size of the machine enables it to be mounted on a table as small as 60 x 67cm. The cutter will handle both thin materials like adhesive sheets and thicker board materials up to 350gsm. Average cutting speed for each sheet of material is 30-40 seconds.

www.graphtecgb.co.uk
www.dbcgroup.ie/about

Blackman & White shortlisted for award

UK manufacturer Blackman & White has been shortlisted in the Export Champion of the Year category of the Amazon Growing Business Awards 2016.

The company, which designs and builds specialist cutting machines, sells to and works in partnership with businesses across the world.

Blackman & White MD Alex White said: "We've been at the forefront of technology for more than 45 years. During that time we've supplied customers across the globe with our unique products and services.

"We're absolutely delighted to be on the shortlist of export champions; we export around half of our ma-

chines so it's a very important and massive growth area for us."

The Blackman & White range includes the custom Orion, Genesis and MasterCut as well as the standard VersaTech and VersaTech2 flatbed cutters. Customers can use them to cut materials ranging from the softest fabric or leather rolled materials, to rigid materials such as acrylic and high-strength Kevlar.

They are sold across a whole range of industries including sign, display and graphics.

The awards will be presented on 30 November 2016.

www.blackmanandwhite.com
gba.realbusiness.co.uk



Mimaki dye sub printer includes two year warranty

Since its debut at FESPA 2015, the Mimaki TS300P-1800 1.8m production dye sublimation printer includes a two year warranty, which "demonstrates its proven reliability in the field".

The TS300P prints quickly thanks to latest generation industrial printheads. It is capable of print speeds of up to 115m²/h, which make it "ideal" as both a stand alone dye sublimation unit, or in a collection of machines for high production. National sales manager for textile and apparel at Hybrid Services, Stephen Woodall, said: "The TS300P has everything you'd expect from Mimaki's long heritage in textile printing. At a price point of £23,995, and with a two year Gold Warranty as standard, it's ideal for sportswear, exhibition graphics and fast fashion."

A key element of the TS300P's success, says Mimaki, has been its compatibility with the economical yet vibrant Sb410 dye sublimation inks. "Mimaki's Sb410 sublimation transfer inks significantly improve profitability through their low cost; and the availability of the ink in two litre sacks for the MBIS3 (Mimaki Bulk Ink System 3) for long, unattended runs," says Stephen.

www.hybridservices.co.uk



The Mimaki TS300P-1800 dye sub printer now has a two year warranty.

At a price point of £23,995, and with a two year Gold Warranty as standard, it's ideal for sportswear, exhibition graphics and fast fashion.

The country's oldest signmaker launches new brand

William Smith, trade supplier to the sign and graphics industry, has unveiled the Smith brand as the company's manufacturing arm of the business.

Although these days predominantly known as a signmaker and distributor of self-adhesive film material, when William Smith was founded in 1832, it was known for inventing the first mechanical road sweeper.

The launch of Smith has been formed to "strengthen and differentiate" the long-established fabrication side of the business away from their distribution arm.

This new brand offers customers a variety of products, such as CE marked traffic signs, illuminated and non-illuminated commercial signs, and wayfinding products for internal or external applications, among others.

"Launching a new brand is always exciting, especially one which has evolved over the years into an eclectic mix of tradition and cutting-edge technology," says Chris Bradley, William Smith's marketing manager.

"What's great about Smith, is that it emphasises our investment and growth plans into an element of the company we are extremely proud of, because it is the one where it all began."

Since producing its first sign in 1930, William Smith has developed significantly over the last century. Today the company offers a broad range of products and services directed at different markets, such as signage, window graphics, vehicle graphics and display graphics.

As part of their plans they also opened a new 14,316sq.ft. purpose-built warehouse earlier this year. The facility includes nearly 2,000 storage bays and has the capacity to store nearly three times the amount of boxes of materials as the previous warehouse.

www.williamsmith.co.uk

Newtech expands for 2017

Coactive Events, the organisers of Newtech, are expanding their portfolio of venues for 2017.

"In our first year we had two events, and three years later we are on course to hold 10 events for 2017," says MD Martin Morrissey. "Thanks to terrific support from our great group of exhibitor partners we are delighted to announce even better nationwide, local coverage to make sure they get an even better return on investment."



"Our format enables us to provide a happy and relaxed environment. We also listen and take on board their ideas and how they want to offer their products and services at each venue. We have a waiting list of new exhibitors and are looking forward to working with an even stronger group next year." Newtech events offer a "non-compete" environment with exclusive rights for each exhibitor partner for their products or services, and a nationwide series of local events over the year.

Previous Newtech exhibitor partners include Epson/Service Offset Supplies, Ultima Displays, The Magic Touch, Ralawise, RA Smart, Golden Finishes, Etrader, Gateway 3D, Antalis, Listawood, Ribbon Writer, Trilogy, Barudan, Amaya, DoroTape, Roland and HP.

For further information or to register as a visitor or exhibitor

www.coactiveevents.com

2017 Newtech venues

London South	Hilton Croydon	24 January
Southampton	Botleigh Grange Hotel	21 February
Theftord (Norwich)	Lynford Hall	14 March
Edinburgh	Norton House Hotel	25 April
Brighthouse (Halifax)	Holiday Inn	16 May
Cheltenham	Cheltenham Park Hotel	13 June
Durham	Ramside Hall	11 July
Leicester	Hilton	26 September
London North	RAF Museum	17 October
Liverpool	Haydock Park	14 November

Signs Express (Telford) under new ownership

Signs Express (Telford) has been established for 22 years and has just welcomed new owner, Martin Geddes-Smith.

Based on Heath Hill Industrial Estate in Telford, Martin is working with the "highly skilled team to continue producing first class, innovative signage solutions whilst expanding their existing customer base".

Having previously worked within the automotive industry and real estate, Martin has experience in customer service and sales that will be invaluable in his new role.

"I was thrilled when the opportunity to buy Signs Express (Telford) became available. Established since the early eighties the centre has a solid customer base and excellent reputation, so I was very interested in taking on the opportunity. I'm looking forward to continue delivering top quality products and am excited for the future," says Martin.

The centre is situated just a few minutes from J6 of the M54 and covers areas in and around Telford such as Shrewsbury, Shifnal, Bridgnorth, Newport and Market Drayton.



New owner Martin Geddes-Smith is "excited about the future".

Growth for PPB Ltd as it expands its Leeds facility

PPB Ltd is "confident about its future growth and expansion in the UK". So work has begun to move into a specifically converted warehouse and office premises, in the North east of Leeds. The new unit extends to 61,000 sq. ft. and has up to 4,000 pallet spaces to store PPB's paper based products; along with its new industrial plastics and Westland digital display portfolio. The final move is planned to be completed over the Christmas period, when PPB's in-house sheeting and re-winding equipment, plus saw and guillotine, will be relocated to the new site.

The new location is one mile from Junction 45 of the M1 and is close to PPB's present Leeds address. This investment comes just a year after PPB invested in a specially designed new warehouse and office premises in London in September 2015.

There will continue to be close stock management between London and Leeds with same day delivery available, as well as an out of hour's delivery service if required. Larger accounts could often benefit from two to three deliveries per day.

Richard Proctor, Managing Director for PPB, said: "We are delighted to have found excellent new premises in Leeds as the next stage in our strategic growth plan.



An operator using a Schelling saw at PPB's premises.

With good road links to the north, and the M1 to the south, it will provide us with a great base to better serve our UK customers and hold new stock especially large format sizes."

"This investment is part of our ongoing strategy to provide the widest range of plastic, paper and board, display materials and finishing services for the screen print and digital display markets," says Richard.

This investment is part of our ongoing strategy to provide the widest range of plastic, paper and board, display materials and finishing services for the screen print and digital display markets.

CorelDRAW® Graphics Suite cash back

If you buy CorelDRAW Graphics Suite X8 from an authorised reseller, you will receive EUR100 cash back. The promotion runs from 1 September 2016 to 31 December 2016.

"CorelDRAW Graphics Suite X8 gives you everything you need to create amazing graphics, eye-catching web designs, show-stopping photos and much more," says Jo Levens, Global Director of Marketing, Corel.



"With this special promotion, there's never been a better time to get creative with this comprehensive graphics package."

CorelDRAW Graphics Suite X8 enables users to create professional designs faster, with a "simplified work flow and unprecedented power and control". It has advanced support for Windows 10, multi-monitor viewing and 4K displays. As well as tools such as the new Corel Font Manager; Healing Clone tool; and customisable work space to create logos, brochures, web graphics and social media adverts.

How to claim your cash back.

Buy CorelDRAW Graphics Suite X8 (either download or box, full version only) by the end date, then submit your claim form to receive the cash back.

Visit www.coreldraw.com/cashback to complete and submit the claim form no later than 14 January 2017. Include your proof of purchase of your CorelDRAW Graphics Suite X8.

You will receive confirmation of receipt of the application form via e-mail within 10 days. Payment will be made via international wire transfer within a further 28 days.

Countries included in the offer: Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, and UK.

SDUK 2017!

Sign & Digital UK trade exhibition for the sign making, display solutions and digital printing industry, is celebrating its 30th anniversary next year. The new look website is live and visitors wishing to attend can register their interest online.

With almost half (42 per cent) of exhibition stands rebooked on site at the 2016 event, organisers are expecting next year's show to be even bigger in terms of metres booked. Suppliers who have already confirmed they will exhibit at the 2017 event, in-

clude Blackman & White, Epson (UK) Ltd, Grafityp, Graphic Printing Technologies (GPT), Perfect Colours Ltd, printMAX, Ultima Displays, Your Print Specialists and Vivid Laminating. New exhibitors confirmed for the 2017 show include A.P.A. UK Ltd and Ribbon Print Ltd.



Rudi Blackett, event director for Sign & Digital UK, said: "We're looking forward to celebrating 30 years of the show. The industry has seen lots of ups and downs in that time, but Sign & Digital UK has been consistent throughout. It has always offered customers the stability, advice and support they need in an ever-changing marketplace.

"We'll be announcing some exciting new show features in the coming weeks and 2017 is set to be a big celebration – watch this space!"

Sign & Digital UK 2017 takes place at the NEC, Birmingham 28 to 30 March 2017 and is free to attend for visitors. To enquire about exhibiting please phone the show team on 01342 332 000, email signanddigitaluk@fav-house.com

www.signanddigitaluk.com

New website for Soyang Europe launches digital print media collections

Soyang Europe's new website takes the company to the "next level", with the launch of its extended material portfolio.

"We're really proud of the new website, which we've built completely with our customers in mind," says the company's sales director, Andrew Simmons. "Finding the right online presence has been key to Soyang Europe moving onto the next level.

"We've added some superb new materials to our already extensive selection and are pleased to reveal our new consolidated material collections; Print, Self-Adhesive, Décor and Textile."

Andrew said: "Our motto has always been to keep Every Surface Covered and our aim is that the new website will give a clear and up to date compendium of our product offering. We wanted the site to be easy and

enjoyable to use, giving a true reflection of what Soyang Europe and its team has to offer to the industry."

www.soyang.co.uk



New Website
Now Live

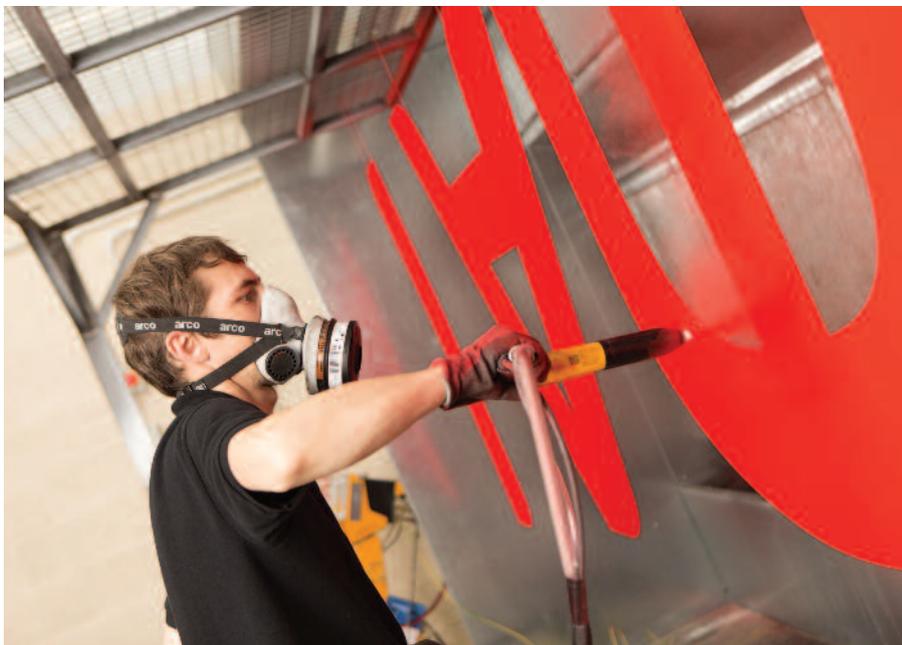
Applelec invest £80,000 in new paint facility

Applelec has invested in a new, dual-purpose powder coating and wet spray plant as part of the continuing development of the company's 6.3 acre Wharfedale Business Park in Bradford.

The new facility has a five metre wide Modulair Waterwash Spraybooth, large and small drying ovens and an auto-wash machine that is used to prepare materials prior to painting.

The generous internal measurements of the large oven can accommodate the largest single sign tray panels possible from a standard 4m aluminium sheet. Sign panels consisting of multiple sections, built-up letters, flat cut letters and snap frames can all be painted in the new facility. The second oven is ideal for quick, low volume projects such as small sets of letters or prototypes and is more economical to run for such jobs.

The new paint shop means Applelec manages all sign manufacture and related processes in-house from fabrication to paint, LED population to wiring, and any required programming. The ability to paint in-house makes sure Applelec can accommodate last minute scheduling changes such as a customer requiring additional letters. The facility will also be available for their customers to use for paint projects including overflow work.



Saving time: powder coating letters in house.

Andy Armitage, head of signage sales at Applelec, said: "Due to space restrictions at our old factory, a paint shop was never possible. Following letter fabrication or sign panel construction, items had to be driven to our painters and then returned to Applelec.

This not only added production time to jobs but also created opportunities for damage to occur. At our new site, the paint shop is located in the next room to our metal fabrication department meaning we can now skim precious hours or even days from our turnaround times."

Stocksigns welcomes new group managing director



Danny Adamson has been appointed as group managing director for The Stocksigns Group. Based in Redhill, the company manufactures and supplies a range of signage solutions from health and safety signs to LED digital displays.

Danny joined Stocksigns in September 2015 as sales and marketing director, and eventually his responsibilities were extended to include Messagemaker Displays.

As group MD, Danny will integrate the individual businesses within the group to create

a total offering, which combines traditional signage, graphics and digital display solutions.

Danny said: "Since joining Stocksigns, I have been deeply impressed by the calibre of staff across the three businesses and the level of their experience, as well as the respect and recognition they attract within their individual specialities.

"I am also hugely excited at launching a new initiative which puts customers at the heart of the business."

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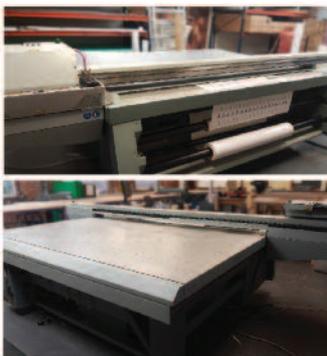
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We require a skilled colour change/digital print vehicle wrapper. You will be working on bespoke jobs from small hatchbacks to lorries to super/hyper cars.

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Requirements:

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Ideally you will be centrally based within the UK travelling to areas covering England & Wales. Your duties include application of reflective & non-reflective ESV Battenburg kits and decals on to various vehicles around the UK. Liaising with clients on site to ensure a seamless application. You must be punctual, presentable and maintain our company's reputation.

Requirements:

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- Full UK Driving licence -

If you feel you can add value to VLS and would like to take this opportunity, register your interest with us at careers@vsltd.biz or call 01482 363 760.



Nationwide Sign Fitter Premium rates of Pay

Widd Signs, an established sign manufacturing Company in Yorkshire, is seeking to employ an experienced Nationwide Sign Fitter, ready for planned growth.

The position will involve working with a small team of Installation operatives and will require travelling to retail store locations across the UK.

The right candidate will need to be an experienced sign engineer with a proven track record with the regular high street retailers. Works to include neon, LED and fluorescent sign fitting, vinyl application and removals.

Mandatory qualifications should include CSCS cards, Asbestos Awareness, IPAF, PASMA

For the right candidate the company will be offering Premium rates of pay, a new vehicle, Pension scheme and Annual Bonus scheme together with all the usual benefits of working away from home.

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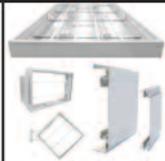


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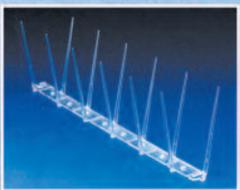
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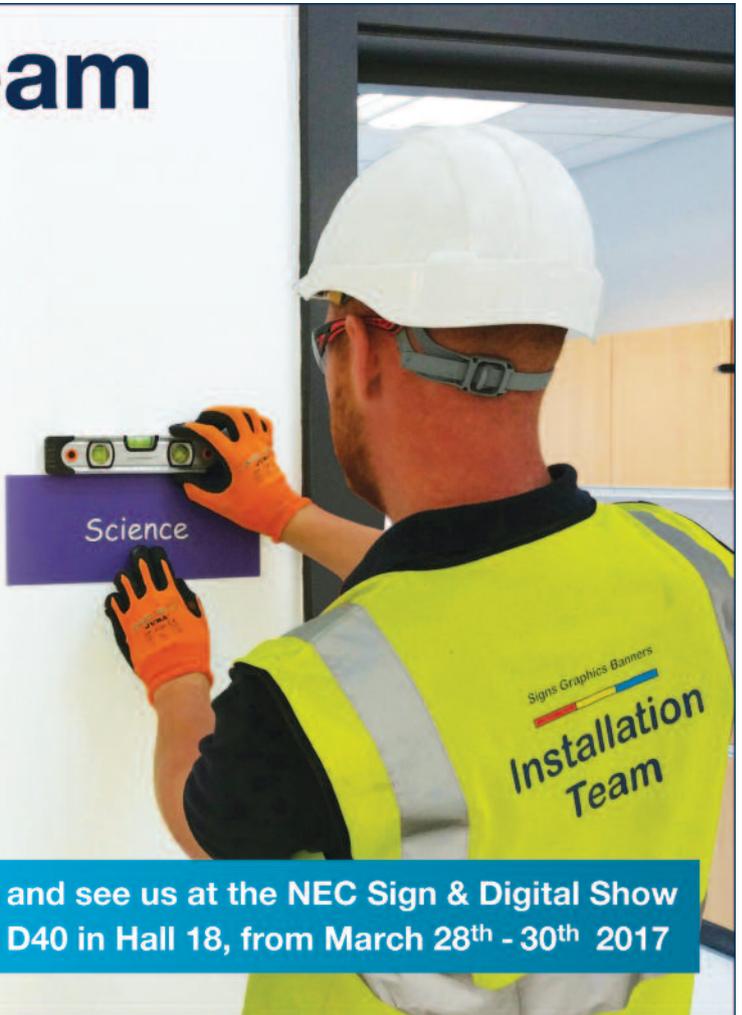
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Trade suppliers of quality 3D built up acrylic letters and logos in colours and finishes from a variety of different sheet manufacturers. Built up letters are available with halo and/or face lit illumination from our award winning and cost effective LED range. Please ask for an information pack or contact one of our friendly and experienced sales staff for assistance. (Flat cut lettering is also available).

I.C.E.

Marcon House, Wyther Lane, Leeds LS5 3BT

Tel: 0113 2242124
sales@icesigns.co.uk
www.icesigns.co.uk

Manufacturers of built up acrylic letters and logos. We can offer face or halo illumination with the installation of LEDs if required. Please call our staff on the number below if you have any questions.

SIGN HERE

179 Fosse Road North, Leicester, LE3 5EZ

Tel: 0500 428 021
sales@sign-here.co.uk
www.sign-here.co.uk

Trade service for 3D built up lettering & logos in a variety of materials. 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.

BUILT UP LETTERS METAL

3D ACRYLICS & METALS LTD

Unit B1, Felling Business Centre, Green Lane, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, NE10 0QH

Tel: 0191 469 1199
www.3dacrilycs.co.uk

In house manufacturers of high quality built up and flat cut lettering and logos in aluminium and stainless steel, we also offer a painting or powder coating service & most letters can be fitted with LED modules. Our prices are very competitive and offer a prompt service.

AES SIGNS LTD (EST. 1972)

The Old Laundry, 15 Barratt Street, Easton, Bristol BS5 6DE

Tel: 0117 951 0234
sales@aessigns.co.uk
www.aessigns.co.uk

Specialist manufacturers of built-up/flat cut letters, logos in stainless steel, brass, aluminium etc. Very competitive prices, excellent delivery, highest quality, full design service. Prompt response to all enquiries.

APPLELEC

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

Tel: +44 (0)1274 774477
sales@applelec.co.uk
www.applelec.co.uk

Trade suppliers of quality 3D built up metal letters and logos. Lettering starts at just 50mm high in materials such as stainless steel, brass, copper, titanium and aluminium with a variety of different finishes. Built up letters are available with halo and / or face lit illumination from our award winning and cost effective LED range. Please ask for an information pack or contact one of our friendly and experienced sales staff for assistance.

AVENUE SIGNS LTD

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Tel: 01634 841300
info@avenuesigns.co.uk
www.avenuesigns.co.uk

Specialists in stainless steel letter fabrication sprayed to your specification. Neon and transformers, etc. also made to suit.

CENTRE SIGNS (UK) LTD

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Tel: 0116 271 4247
graphics@centresigns.co.uk
www.centresigns.co.uk

Specialist metal fabricators to the sign trade only. Built up letters in Stainless Steel, Aluminium, Gold Titanium Stainless, Brass and Copper. Fabricated Aluminium and Stainless boxes to any shape. Flat cut aluminium and flat cut perspex letters.

FABRICUT

Unit 2 Browells Lane, Feltham, Middlesex, TW13 7EQ

Tel: 020 8751 7250
mailus@fabricut.co.uk
www.fabricut.co.uk

Trade suppliers of 3D built up letters and logos. Full LED service available for Halo or Face illumination. Stove enameling available from BS, RAL and Pantone colours. Fast turnaround with competitive prices.

FABSIGN

280a High Street, Berkhamsted, Herts,
HP41AH

Tel: 01442 386 618
Mob: 07739 364 613
info@fabsign.co.uk
www.fabsign.co.uk

Fabsign are a company who specialise in built up letters and logos and metal fabrications. We are experts in this field so we can offer our customers a non compromising service to manufacture to their requirements and expectations at the lowest prices available. We also supply flat cut letters and logos in any material. So give us a call and let us see what we can do for you.

I.C.E.

Marcon House, Wyther Lane, Leeds,
LS5 3BT

Tel: 0113 2242124
sales@icesigns.co.uk
www.icesigns.co.uk

Manufacturers of Built Up - Flat Cut - Rim and Return Letters and Logos in Stainless Steel, Aluminium, Copper and Brass. We also fit neon tube or LED modules within the Letters for face or halo illumination.

LOGOTECH DISPLAY SOLUTIONS LTD

Unit 6, Atley Business Pk, North
Nelson Ind Est, Cramlington,
Newcastle Upon Tyne NE23 1WP
Tel: 01670 737 225
sales@logotech-ltd.co.uk
www.logo-tech.co.uk

In our fully equipped metal department we produce high quality built up letters/logos in aluminium, stainless, brass and copper. Supplied to the trade nationwide, at a very competitive price. We also manufacture boxes, post signs, gantry signs, frames and panels, which can be finished to your specifications. We have our own in-house neon department and can supply you with the complete sign service, ready for you to install.

SIGN HERE

179 Fosse Road North, Leicester, LE3
5EZ

Tel: 0500 428 021
sales@sign-here.co.uk
www.sign-here.co.uk

Trade service for flat cut lettering & logos in Acrylic Foamex, Dibond, Aluminium, Stainless steel & MDF. 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.

SYGNET SIGNS LTD

129 Humberstone Rd, Leicester, LE5
3AP

Tel: 0116 262 6288
sales@sygnetsigns.com
www.sygnetsigns.com

Nationwide specialist trade suppliers of all/stainless steel 3D built ups. Brushed/Satin/Mill/chemically coloured finishes. 1050 grade ali, 316 or 304 grade s/s. We can also supply a variety of back trays to suit and fit LEDs/Neon etc for face/halo illumination. All works carried out in-house. (we also supply flat cut text/logos).

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E-SIGNFITTINGS HOBDAI LTD

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Birmingham, B6 4RR
Tel: 0121 608 4431
sales@e-signfittings.co.uk
www.e-signfittings.co.uk

E-Signfittings are one of the largest suppliers of Cable & Rod Display Systems in the UK. We have large stocks available on next day delivery for orders received before 3pm. Other products in our range include Standoffs, Screw Head Covers, Poster Hanging Systems, Sign Hanging Systems, Leaflet Holders and Poster Displays. Visit our web site to check our current stock levels and fantastic prices.

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www.fairfielddisplays.co.uk

Quality range of cable and rod systems - select from 1.5 & 3 mm cables, 3mm, 6 mm & 10 mm rod systems. Large stocks of components and acrylic accessories. Select from extensive range of easy to order kits see website for full range. Free design and advisory service. Excellent trade terms. Showrooms in Fleet & Shrewsbury

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The Display Centre, Knights Way,
Battlefield Enterprise Park,
Shrewsbury SY1 3AB
Tel: 01743 465531
sales@midwestdisplays.co.uk
www.midwestdisplays.co.uk

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

CAST SIGNS

SIGNS OF THE TIMES LTD

Wingfield Road Tebworth, Beds, LU7
9QG
Tel: 01525 874 185
enquiries@sott.co.uk
www.sott.co.uk

Specialists in the manufacture of quality cast signs - mainly cast in polyurethane but also grp, bronze, brass and aluminium. All patterns are made by our in house pattern maker to your specification. A few millimetres up to several metres in size. Cast signs for town entrances, buildings, way finding fingerpost signs, blue plaques, street signs.

WARD SIGNS

Maze House, Maze Street, Barton Hill,
Bristol BS5 9TE
Tel: 0117 955 3385
info@ward-signs.co.uk
www.ward-signs.co.uk

Plaques, Crests, Lettering. In aluminium and Bronze. From Pattern Making to Finishing in Stove Enamel. 60 Years of Experience.

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AES SIGNS LTD (EST. 1972)

The Old Laundry, 15 Barratt Street,
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sales@aesigns.co.uk
www.aesigns.co.uk

The complete sign service. Engraved/etched screen printed, signs, nameplates, etc in all materials. Very competitive prices, excellent delivery, highest quality. Full design service. Prompt response to all enquiries.

COUNTY ENGRAVERS & SIGNS LTD

Unit 5, Trent View Court, Moreland
Street, Nottingham NG2 3FX
Tel: 0115 985 1171
sales@countyengravers-signs.co.uk
www.countyengravers-signs.co.uk

Fine detail etching of brass and stainless steel. Engraving of all types of plaques, plates, labels and control panels in a wide range of materials. Laser Engraving and Component Marking. Full colour printing from labels to wide format.

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Unit 4 Power Works Industrial Estate,
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Tel: 01322 340 194
mail@desp.co.uk
www.desp.co.uk

DESP has been trading for over 50 years. Chemical Etching, Screen Printing, CNC engraving, Laser Engraving, Heavy Duty Machine engraving (ALL CARRIED OUT INHOUSE), including artwork. So whether its a 1 off or 1,000s off, we can offer a quick competitive turnaround.

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Tel: 020 8686 6649

sales@hallmarksigns.co.uk
www.hallmarksigns.co.uk
SUPERFAST and efficient trade service for ALL commercial and industrial etching, using the latest technology and computerised equipment. One-off urgent specials or long runs no problem. Full graphics and artwork service for logos, crests and designs. Specialists for commemorative plaques, company name plates and awards in all metals and plastics. Professionally designed-drawings supplied free.

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HP19 8RS

Tel: 01296 488902
Mob: 07957 870 756
andy@impactengraving.co.uk
www.impactengraving.co.uk
REAL Trade prices for chemical etching, brass and stainless steel a speciality. ULTRA FAST DELIVERY

MOCKRIDGE LABELS & NAMEPLATES LTD

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Tel: 0161 308 2331
sales@mockridge.com
www.mockridge.com

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

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Northumberland NE61 6JQ
Tel: 01670 512090
sales@multitechnic.co.uk
www.multitechnic.co.uk

We are established specialists in chemical etching. WE ARE THE ONLY TRADE ONLY SIGN ETCHING SPECIALISTS IN THE UK. We can offer effects that nobody else can do such as complex blended colours. All our stainless steel is 316 marine grade, we don't use inferior grades & our brass is the best too. We want your business so will give you a fast turnaround & excellent service.

SIGN INDUSTRIES

Gardyne, Forfar, Angus, Scotland, DD8
2SQ

Tel: 01241 828 694
info@signindustries.com
www.signindustries.com

SIGN INDUSTRIES are specialist TRADE MANUFACTURERS of etched Stainless Steel, Brass, and Bronze. We also Laser Engrave Plastics and Wood as stand alone products as well as moulds for castings. SIGN INDUSTRIES normally work with 3 mm thick material, and can etch bend and weld Stainless Steel up to 3 metres x 1.5 metres, and down to small sequential tags for wiring looms.

TRADE ETCHING DIRECT LTD

10 Pywell Court, Pywell Road, Corby,
Northants, NN17 5WA
Tel: 01536 203813
sales@tradeetching.com
www.tradeetching.com

Trade Etching Direct Ltd is a well-established chemical etching company specialising in high quality etched signage. Our work is 100% guaranteed. Our etching machines are specially designed for deep etching. We can offer gradient fills, a range of patina finishes and hand filled complex multi colours, on a wide range of metals. We can produce etched signs up to 4m x 2m in size.

CHROME PLATED LETTERS

SIGNTRADE LETTERS LTD

225 Long Lane, London N3 2RL
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sales@signtrade.co.uk
www.signtrade.co.uk

ChromaForm; the NEW generation of Chrome effect letters. We now offer a complete range of ChromaForm Letters for a 7 day turnaround not available anywhere else. We can also supply and fit LED lights to the ChromaForm range of letters for an even better effect. Ring Susan or Lesley for details and samples.

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ATA ENGINEERING PROCESSES

ATA House, Unit B, Boundry Way,
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Tel: 01442 264411
sales@ataeng.com
www.ataeng.com

The C R Onsrud range of CNC routers offers a wide variety of options from entry level 3 axis machines up to 5 axis with fixed or moving gantry.

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BRYAN RAWLINGS DESIGN

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Tel: 0117 986 7894 / 7291

bryan@bryanrawlings.com
www.bryanrawlings.com

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

SIGNS OF THE TIMES LTD

Wingfield Road Tebworth, Beds, LU7
9QG

Tel: 01525 874 185

enquiries@sott.co.uk

www.sott.co.uk

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.

WARD SIGNS

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

Tel: 0117 955 3385

info@ward-signs.co.uk

www.ward-signs.co.uk

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.

COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES

MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS

51/59 Waterworks Rd. Norwich NR2
4DA

Tel: 01603 666699

sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk

www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk

Manufacturers of plaques in stainless steel, brass and aluminium, chemically or machine engraved, colour filled to your choice. Logos and text from artwork supplied.

SIGN INDUSTRIES

Gardyne, Forfar, Angus, Scotland, DD8
2SQ

Tel: 01241 828 694

info@signindustries.com

www.signindustries.com

Sign Industries is one of the UK's leading sign making manufacturers, offering a broad range of memorial and commemorative plaques in many varying styles using the finest materials such as bronze, brass, stainless steel and wood. You can now create your own custom plaques and nameplates and order them directly from our website.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES LTD

Wingfield Road Tebworth, Beds, LU7
9QG

Tel: 01525 874 185

enquiries@sott.co.uk

www.sott.co.uk

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.

WARD SIGNS

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

Tel: 0117 955 3385

info@ward-signs.co.uk

www.ward-signs.co.uk

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.

CUT-OUT LETTERS

APPLELEC

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

Tel: +44 (0)1274 774477

sales@applelec.co.uk

www.applelec.co.uk

Trade suppliers of flat cut out letters, logos and intricate laser work. Lettering in a variety of materials such as acrylic, foamex, dibond, stainless steel, aluminium and MDF is available in different finishes and supplied with or without fixings. Please ask for an information pack or contact one of our friendly and experienced sales staff for assistance. (3D built up lettering is also available).

I.C.E.

Marcon House, Wyther Lane, Leeds
LS5 3BT

Tel: 0113 224 2124

sales@icesigns.co.uk

www.icesigns.co.uk

Manufacturers of flat cut letters in ALL materials. Incl. Acrylic, Foamex, MDF, Stainless Steel, Brass, Copper, Corian. Many finishes available- Gilding, painting, powdercoating, lacquering. A special service at a competitive price.

MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS

51-59 Waterworks Road, Norwich NR2
4DA.

Tel: 01603 666699

sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk

www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk

A fully comprehensive service to the trade in acrylic, foam PVC, MDF, brass and aluminium. Contact us for price list or quotation.

SIGN HERE

179 Fosse Road North, Leicester, LE3
5EZ

Tel: 0500 428 021

sales@sign-here.co.uk

www.sign-here.co.uk

Trade service for flat cut lettering & logos in Acrylic Foamex, Dibond, Aluminium, Stainless steel & MDF. 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.

SIGNTRADE LETTERS LTD

225 Long Lane, London N3 2RL

Tel: 0500 456700

sales@signtrade.co.uk

www.signtrade.co.uk

Plastic is our speciality including Flat Cut lettering in Perspex, foam pvc and aluminium composite. All supplied with locators and template as standard. We also offer a complete range of Moulded letters in Perspex and ChromaForm, offering over 60 years experience.

SYGNET SIGNS LTD

129 Humberstone Rd, Leicester, LE5
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Tel: 0116 262 6288

sales@sygnetsigns.com

www.sygnetsigns.com

We have over 5000 styles to choose from or you can send your own artwork. Letters/logos available in acrylic, foam, mdf, polycarb, dibond, stainless steel and much more. All cut by router or laser. With or without fixings. All works carried out in-house (we also manufacture built ups and much more).

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Specialists in Digital Signage made simple for the trade. Select from media players to complete network solutions. Range includes high brightness screens, touch screens and poster screens Full consultancy service and trade installation service. Showrooms in Fleet & Shrewsbury.

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www.mockridge.com

Full Colour Digitally printed self adhesive labels, full colour sub-surface printed overlays, full colour nameplates, including plaques and signs. Low Cost. Quick turnaround.

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8XD

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Mob: 07712 654757

sales@morcant-designs.co.uk

www.morcant-designs.co.uk

Full colour digital printed graphics: monomeric, polymeric, cast or vehicle wrap vinyls. Full colour canvases, banners, roller banners, pop-up frames. Full colour signs, name-plates. All of these at very competitive prices and quick turnaround times.

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AVENUE SIGNS LTD

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

Tel: 01634 841300

info@avenuesigns.co.uk

www.avenuesigns.co.uk

Trade service for digital printing and laminating up to 1600mm wide. Printing onto vinyl, banner, canvas, paper, etc.

CLEARSCORE LTD

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

Tel: 01473 212751

sales@clearscore.co.uk

www.clearscore.co.uk

Trade service for high quality digital print up to 1600mm wide. Printing on to vinyl, PVC banner, paper, lightbox material and artist canvas, also laminating and contour cutting. Providing high quality service and products since 1978.

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ARTSYSTEMS

Units 10 - 12 Glaisdale Point
, Glaisdale Parkway, Nottingham NG8
4GP

Tel: 0115 9380 380

marketing@artsystems.co.uk

www.artsystems.co.uk

UK Trade Distributor for HP Designjet, HP Latex, HP UV printers, Colortrac scanners, Summa Cutters, and Onyx RIPs. ISO 9001, ISO14001 Certified HP and Canon consumables, Neschen media and our own large format media range called Xativa.

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

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www.dorotape.co.uk

Specialists in media for digital printing, Doro Tape supply products from major European manufacturers including Ritrama, Aslan, Xerox and Poli-Tape for all large format printers. Whether it's for sign graphics; interior exhibition or retail displays; floor graphics or vehicle wraps, Doro can supply the right product. Contact Doro Tape for expert advice on digital media.

MACTAC UK LTD

37 Tenter Road, Moulton Park,
Northampton NN3 6AX

Tel: 01604 644697

www.mactac.eu

MACTac are global manufacturers of self-adhesive material for wide-format Digital Printing (Water Based, Solvent, Eco-Solvent, Latex & UV) with Print Profiles to match these materials that are designed for Vehicle Wrapping, Wall, Street, Floor and Window Graphics. Many Laminates available include wood & metal effects. Some products are Class O fire-rated and CBS Outdoors (formerly Viacom) approved.

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Tel: 020 8346 8515

sales@talbotdesigns.co.uk

www.talbotdesigns.co.uk

We are the only company in Europe stocking clear acrylic Domes & Dishes in 20 sizes. We have over 140 other special sizes available and can make ovals, squares and oblong domes. By covering any shape with vinyl or screen printing you can have your own special sign.

EDGE LIT SIGNS

APPLELEC

Appleby House, Walker Terrace,
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Tel: 01274 774477

sales@applelec.co.uk

www.applelec.co.uk

Manufacturers of edge lit signs incorporating a variety of extruded profile options along with bespoke engraved acrylic panels. With award winning and cost effective LED modules and a choice of mounting or hanging shop fitting kits, Applelec supplies an unrivalled range of edge lit trade components. Please ask for an information pack or contact our friendly and experienced sales staff for assistance.

KINGS PLASTICS LTD

The Signbuild Centre, Kelso House,
Waterloo Street, St Philips, Bristol,
BS2 0PH

Tel: 0117 9411 411

enquiry@kingsplastics.co.uk

www.kingsplastics.co.uk

Edgelits are our speciality, we supply our tracks with integral or separate power supplies. Single colour or fully programmable RGB colour changing all up to 3mtrs long. Panels cnc engraved and lasered engraved. We supply three tracks the Reflex, Miniflex & Dualflex. For images and prices please visit our online shop or contact our experienced sales team.

ENGRAVING

AES SIGNS LTD (EST. 1972)

The Old Laundry, 15 Barratt street,
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Tel: 0117 951 0234

sales@aessigns.co.uk

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The complete sign service Engraved / Etched & Screen Printed signs Nameplates etc. in all materials. Very competitive prices, excellent delivery, highest quality, full design service, prompt response to all enquires

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mail@alanrobertsengravers.co.uk

www.alanrobertsengravers.co.uk

Fast Confidential Engraving Service to the trade. We can provide plaques, nameplates, control panels, safety signs, switch plates, commemorative plaques with unveiling unit (on hire basis), bespoke signs and labels etc.

COUNTY ENGRAVERS & SIGNS LTD

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Tel: 0115 985 1171

sales@countyengravers-signs.co.uk

uk

www.countyengravers-signs.co.uk

Engravers of all types of plaques, plates, labels and control panels in a wide range of materials. Fine detail etching in brass and stainless steel. Industrial and Laser Engraving and Component Marking. Full colour printing from labels to wide format.

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Unit 4 Power Works Industrial Estate,

Slade green Road, Erith, Kent DA8 2HY

Tel: 01322 340 194

mail@desp.co.uk

www.desp.co.uk

DESP has been trading for over 50 years. CNC engraving, Laser engraving, Heavy Duty machine engraving, Chemical etching, Screen Printing, (ALL CARRIED OUT INHOUSE), including artwork. So whether its a 1 off or 1,000 off, we can offer a quick competitive turnaround.

FIRST SIGNS & LABELS LTD

Unit 1, Raynham Close, Raynham Rd
Ind Estate, Raynham Road, Bishops
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Tel: 01279 467999

sales@firstsignsandlabels.co.uk

www.firstsignsandlabels.co.uk

We manufacture and engrave nameplates, Labels, Tags, Switchplates, Mimics, Brass Plates, Components, Warning labels, Plaques, Logo's and Signs. We also produce printed fire & Safety Signs & Vinyl Graphics.

HALLMARK ENGRAVING

ETCHING & SIGNS LTD (EST. 1899)

116-118 Selsdon Road, South
Croydon, Surrey CR2 6PG

Tel: 020 8686 6649

sales@hallmarksigns.co.uk

www.hallmarksigns.co.uk

Superfast and reliable trade service with 100 years experience for all etching, routing and profiling. Specialists for nameplate and commemorative plaques in bronze, brass, aluminium, stainless and plastics. Logos and crests. High quality graphics - drawings free of charge. Precision industrial engravers of panels, labels and moulds. Keytop specialist. Presentation silverware and glass engraving experts.

IMPACT ENGRAVING

22-23 Rabans Close, Aylesbury,

Bucks, HP19 8RS

Tel: 01296 488902

Mob: 07957 870 756

andy@impactengraving.co.uk

www.impactengraving.co.uk

REAL Trade prices for Engraving and chemical etching, rotary, diamond, laser and acid. Control panels, data plates etc. Stainless steel, Traffolyte, special laminates, brass, aluminium etc. ULTRA FAST DELIVERY !

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sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk

www.mercuryphillipsigns.co.uk

Manufacturers of all types of plates or plaques, machine engraved or chemically etched using a variety of materials, brass, stainless steel, aluminium, plastics and wood. For high quality and intricate detail with colour infills to your choice.

SIGN INDUSTRIES

Gardyne, Forfar, Angus, Scotland, DD8 2SQ

Tel: 01241 828 694

info@signindustries.com

www.signindustries.com

SIGN INDUSTRIES are specialist TRADE MANUFACTURERS of etched Stainless Steel, Brass, and Bronze. We also Laser Engrave Plastics and Wood as stand alone products as well as moulds for castings. SIGN INDUSTRIES normally work with 3 mm thick material, and can etch bend and weld Stainless Steel up to 3 metres x 1.5 metres, and down to small sequential tags for wiring looms.

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Tel: 01225 718930

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www.gofaso.co.uk

Gofaso Software makes quoting fast and easy! Gofaso has been specialised for Sign companies, providing user-friendly calculation templates, workshop management, invoicing and customer relations upkeep. With module E-CRM you can make use of QR-codes on worksheets. Gofaso includes startling new tips and innovative techniques giving your company the strongest advantage.

EXHIBITIONS

EUROPEAN SIGN EXPO / FESPA

8-11 March 2016, Amsterdam RAI

www.europeansignexpo.com

European Sign Expo 2016 and FESPA Digital 2016 are returning to Amsterdam, from 8 - 11 March 2016, celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Digital show. Together both events, which attract visitors from 120 countries, will showcase the latest technology, equipment and consumables across digital and textile wide format print and non-printed signage solutions from over 400 leading brands.

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Tel: 0121 561 4600

accsign1@aol.com

www.accentesigns.co.uk

Accent Signs have been supplying the sign trade with quality flat cut letters in Acrylic, ACM, Foam PVC, MDF and other substrates for over 30 years. Our letters are supplied with Plastic Locators, Brass Locators or VHB tape, complete with fixing templates or fixing stencils if required. Fast turnaround and confidentiality assured.

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Trade suppliers of flat cut out letters, logos and intricate laser work. We offer lettering in a variety of materials such as acrylic, foamex, dibond, stainless steel, aluminium and MDF in different finishes and supplied with or without fixings. Please ask for an information pack or contact one of our friendly and experienced sales staff for assistance. (3D built up lettering is also available).

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Tel: 0116 271 4247

graphics@centresigns.co.uk

www.centresigns.co.uk

Trade only supplier for all Flat cut lettering and Logo's. Available in Stainless steel, Aluminium, Alupanel, Dibond, Perspex, Foamex, Polycarbonate, Brass and all composite materials. Laser cutting and Router cutting services as standard. Painted finished are always available. We can supply with or without fixings and always with marked fitting templates. We also supply Builtup Metal lettering.

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mailus@fabricut.co.uk

www.fabricut.co.uk

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sales@morcant-designs.co.uk

www.morcant-designs.co.uk

Trade suppliers of flat cut letters and logos. We offer lettering in a variety of materials such as acrylic, foamex, dibond, stainless steel and aluminium which are supplied with or without fixings and templates. We also supply 3D built up lettering in stainless steel or acrylic.

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Tel: 0500 428 021

sales@sign-here.co.uk

www.sign-here.co.uk

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sales@sygnet-signs.com

www.sygnet-signs.com

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157 English Street, Hull, HU3 2BT

Tel: 01482 380900

sales@browningsltd.co.uk

www.browningsltd.co.uk

Brownings is one of the largest, TRADE ONLY suppliers of signage products in the UK. The Company manufacture everything from poster frames to flexface signs. We can supply you lengths of extrusions, signs in kit form or make the whole sign for you. We utilise the Signcomp suite including Econoflex, Retroframe and Fascia Frame. All signs are to your individual, specific requirements.

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sales@insightsignsystems.com

www.insightsignsystems.com

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SIMPLEX LTD

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

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

SIGNTRADE LETTERS LTD

225 Long Lane, Finchley London N3 2RL
Tel: 020 8346 8515
sales@signtrade.co.uk
www.signtrade.co.uk

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

WARD SIGNS

Maze House, Maze Street, Barton Hill, Bristol BS5 9TE
Tel: 0117 955 3385
info@ward-signs.co.uk
www.ward-signs.co.uk

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

NAMEPLATES

MOCKRIDGE LABELS & NAMEPLATES LTD

Cavendish Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs OL6 7QL
Tel: 0161 308 2331
sales@mockridge.com
www.mockridge.com

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

NEON MANUFACTURERS (TRADE)

A1DESIGNS

4 Sandy Lane North, Wallington, Surrey SM6 8JX
Tel: 020 8646 9886
enquiry@a1designs.co.uk
www.a1designs.co.uk

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

AVENUE SIGNS LTD

216-222 Luton Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 5BS
Tel: 01634 841300
info@avenuesigns.co.uk
www.avenuesigns.co.uk

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

LOGOTECH DISPLAY SOLUTIONS LTD

Unit 6, Atley Business Pk, North Nelson Ind Est, Cramlington, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE23 1WP
Tel: 01670 737 225
sales@logotech-ltd.co.uk
www.logo-tech.co.uk

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

NEON PLUS®

THE SIGN GROUP

Victoria Works, Bruntcliffe Road, Morley, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS27 0LF
Tel: 0113 25 24 706
info@thesigngroup.co.uk
www.thesigngroup.co.uk

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

NEON REPLACEMENT LETTERS

ACCENT SIGNS LTD

Units 4, Broadcote Ind. Est., Station Rd., Cradley Heath B64 6NT
Tel: 0121 561 4600
accsign1@aol.com
www.accent-signs-ltd.co.uk

Accent Signs "LITEFORM" letters & logos with a moulded half round acrylic profile of only 15mm to look like Neon glass. Illuminated with super bright Led's. Available in a wide range of colours. Suitable for internal & external use. Supplied with standard locator fixings for ease of fitting.

NOTICE BOARDS - LOCKABLE/EXTERIOR

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

Pear Tree Works, Bath Road, Upper Langford, Bristol BS40 5DJ
Tel: 01934 852 888
sales@signscape.co.uk
www.signscape.co.uk

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

NUMBER PLATES

TENNANTS UK LTD

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

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

PLASTIC SHEETS

BRETT MARTIN PLASTIC SHEETS

24 Roughfort Road, Mallusk, Co Antrim BT36 4RB
Tel: 028 9084 9999
semifinished@brettmartin.com
www.brettmartin.com

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

NE PLASTICS LTD

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

Tel: 020 8308 9990

sales@neplastics.co.uk

www.neplastics.co.uk

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

PERSPEX DISTRIBUTION LTD

2-3 Lonebarn Link, Springfield
Business Park, Chelmsford, Essex
CM2 5AR

Tel: 01245 232800

sales.chelmsford@perspex.co.uk

www.perspex.co.uk

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

RIGHTON LTD

Righton House, Elliott Way, Nexus
Point, Holford, Birmingham B6 7AP

Tel: 0121 356 1141

marketing@righton.co.uk

www.righton.co.uk

UK distributor of Polycasa cast & extruded sheet and Policril cast acrylic. Available in a wide range of clear, opals, colours and special finishes. Also stocked: Alucobest aluminium composite sheet, Marlon solid polycarbonate, PET-G, SAN, polystyrene, hygienic cladding, rigid PVC and fixing accessories, sign post systems, aluminium sheet and extrusions.

TELEGAN PRESSED PRODUCTS LTD.

Unit 3, Old Mercedes Building, Stour
Road, Bathside, Harwich, Essex, CO12
3HF

Tel: 01255 554141

sales@teleganpressedproducts.com

www.teleganpressedproducts.com

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

THYSSENKRUPP MATERIALS (UK) LTD

Coxs Lane, Cradley Heath, West
Midlands B64 5QU

Tel: 0844 846 9573

sales.tkruk@thyssenkrupp.com

www.thyssenkruppmaterials.co.uk

thyssenkrupp Materials are stockists of plastics and aluminium for the sign industry. Experienced staff and an extensive product range give customers the flexibility to cover all their requirements. Products include Acrylic, PETG, Polycarbonate, Dibond and Foam, alongside which we offer a cut to size service and shipment to all areas on our own transport.

POINT OF SALE FITTINGS

SIGNWAVES

Lefevre Way, Gapton Hall Industrial
Estate, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31
0NW

Tel: 01493 419300

enquiries@signwaves.co.uk

www.signwaves.co.uk

Signwaves is the UK's leading supplier of point of sale equipment. From trade exclusive Stand-Off Sign Fixings to a wide range of glass mounted, wall mounted and suspended poster holders, there are a multitude of fittings available to mount displays in any location. Pavement and forecourt signs, illuminated displays and portable exhibition displays also form part of the Signwaves collection.

UK POINT OF SALE GROUP LTD

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

Tel: 0161 431 4400/4411

www.ukpos.com

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

POLYSTYRENE SIGN SERVICE

FONTNEYNE SIGNS & DISPLAYS

Unit 3, 181 Verulam Road, St Albans,
Herts AL3 4DR

Tel: 01727 832146

studio@fontneynesigns.co.uk

www.fontneynesigns.co.uk

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

POSTER HOLDERS / CASES

BROWNING'S LTD

157 English Street, Hull, HU3 2BT

Tel: 01482 380900

sales@browningstltd.co.uk

www.browningstltd.co.uk

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

INSIGHT SIGN SYSTEMS

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

Tel: 0141 774 5990

sales@insightsignsystems.com

www.insightsignsystems.com

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

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

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

Tel: 01934 852 888

sales@signscape.co.uk

www.signscape.co.uk

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

SIGNWAVES

Lefevre Way, Gapton Hall Industrial
Estate, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31
0NW

Tel: 01493 419300

enquiries@signwaves.co.uk

www.signwaves.co.uk

Signwaves supplies poster displays suitable for both indoor and outdoor use. As the UK's largest manufacturer of point of sale signs and displays, Signwaves can provide you with high quality poster frames, snapframes, menu cases and lockable noticeboards. Express made to order service is available for a selection of custom coloured Slimlok Menu Cases, Poster Cases and Noticeboards.

UK POINT OF SALE GROUP LTD

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

Tel: 0161 431 4400/4411

www.ukpos.com

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

PRINT/POSTER FRAMES

BROWNING'S LTD

157 English Street, Hull, HU3 2BT

Tel: 01482 380900

sales@browningstltd.co.uk

www.browningstltd.co.uk

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

SIGNWAVES

Lefevre Way, Gapton Hall Industrial
Estate, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31
0NW

Tel: 01493 419300

enquiries@signwaves.co.uk

www.signwaves.co.uk

Signwaves supplies poster displays suitable for both indoor and outdoor use. As the UK's largest manufacturer of point of sale signs and displays, Signwaves can provide you with high quality poster frames, snapframes, menu cases and lockable noticeboards. Standard stocked snapframes have guaranteed low prices with the Signwaves snapframe price match policy.

UK POINT OF SALE GROUP LTD

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

Tel: 0161 431 4400/4411

www.ukpos.com

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

PROGRAMMABLE LED DISPLAYS

JAYEX TECHNOLOGY LTD

13 Sovereign Business Park,
Coronation Road, London NW10 7QP

Tel: 020 8838 6222

sales@jayex.com

www.led-signs-international.com

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

MESSAGEMAKER DISPLAYS LTD

Unit 43 Ormside Way, Holmethorpe
Industrial Estate, Redhill, Surrey RH1
2LG

Tel: 01737 774 738

info@messagemaker.co.uk

www.messagemaker.co.uk

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

PROJECTING SIGNS

IRON DESIGN

37A Douglas Rd., Poole, BH12 2AU

Tel: 01202 463573

enquiries@ironsigns.com

www.ironsigns.com

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

SIGNWAVES

Lefevre Way, Gapton Hall Industrial
Estate, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31
0NW

Tel: 01493 419300

enquiries@signwaves.co.uk

www.signwaves.co.uk

Signwaves is the UK's leading manufacturer and supplier of projecting signs, fabric flags and flying banners. A selection of wall mounted, glass mounted and freestanding options are available, with many units suitable for interior and exterior use. All of Signwaves' projecting signs and flags can be printed to order if required.

REFLECTIVE VINYL/TAPES

ATC LTD

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

Tel: 01706 633043

sales@apptape.co.uk

www.apptape.co.uk

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

TENNANTS UK LTD

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

Tel: 0115 973 8080

sales@tennantsuk.com

www.tennantsuk.com

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

ROAD SIGNS

TENNANTS UK LTD

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

Tel: 0115 973 8080

sales@tennantsuk.com

www.tennantsuk.com

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

ROUTER CUTTERS/PLOTTER BLADES

ATA ENGINEERING PROCESSES

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

Tel: 01442 264411

sales@ataeng.com

www.ataeng.com

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

EDWARD MATHIAS & CO

PO BOX 121, Frodsham, Cheshire,
WA6 1AA

Tel: 01928 739 799

info@edwardmathias.com

www.edwardmathias.com

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

SCREEN PRINTING

3S PRINT & DISPLAY

Unit 9 Hortonwood 33, Telford,
Shropshire TF1 7EX

Tel: 01952 677506

sales@3s-signs.co.uk

www.3s-signs.co.uk

www.3sballoons.com

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

CLEARSCORE LTD

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

Tel: 01473 212751

sales@clearscore.co.uk

www.clearscore.co.uk

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

DARTFORD ENGRAVING & SCREENPRINTING LTD

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

Tel: 01322 340 194

mail@desp.co.uk

www.desp.co.uk

DESP has been trading for over 50 years.

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

FIRST SIGNS & LABELS LTD

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

Tel: 01279 467999

sales@firstsignsandlabels.co.uk

www.firstsignsandlabels.co.uk

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

HT SCREEN PRINT

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

Tel: 01383 824522

info@htscreenprint.co.uk

www.htscreenprint.co.uk

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

MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS

51/59 Waterworks Rd. Norwich NR2
4DA

Tel: 01603 666699

sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk

www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk

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

SCULPTORS

BRYAN RAWLINGS DESIGN

45 Nunney Close, Keynsham, Bristol
BS31 1XG

Tel: 0117 986 7894 / 7291

bryan@bryanrawlings.com

www.bryanrawlings.com

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

SHEET MATERIALS

N E PLASTICS LTD

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

Tel: 020 8308 9990

sales@neplastics.co.uk

www.neplastics.co.uk

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

RIGHTON LTD

Righton House, Elliott Way, Nexus
Point, Holford, Birmingham B6 7AP

Tel: 0121 356 1141

marketing@righton.co.uk

www.righton.co.uk

UK distributor of Polycasa cast & extruded sheet and Policril cast acrylic. Available in a wide range of clear, opals, colours and special finishes. Also stocked: Alucobest aluminium composite sheet, Marlon solid polycarbonate, PET-G, SAN, polystyrene, hygienic cladding, rigid PVC and fixing accessories, sign post systems, aluminium sheet and extrusions.

TELEGAN PRESSED PRODUCTS LTD.

Unit 3, Old Mercedes Building, Stour
Road, Bathside, Harwich, Essex, CO12
3HF

Tel: 01255 554141

sales@teleganpressedproducts.com

www.teleganpressedproducts.com

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

VISIONS IN PLASTICS

Unit 3, Delta Court (Robin Hood
Airport), Auckley, Doncaster, DN9 3GN

Tel: 01302 775920

sales@visionsinplastics.co.uk

www.visionsinplastics.co.uk

Stocks of Mirrored Extruded Acrylic in clear, 19 colours, See-Thru, Two sided, Anti Scratch, Anti Fog. Mirrored Polycarbonate, Petg and Polystyrene. Non mirrored sheet in Acrylic, ABS, Polycarbonate, Polystyrene and PVC Foam.

SIGN & DISPLAY SYSTEMS

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

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

Tel: 01934 852 888

sales@signscape.co.uk

www.signscape.co.uk

Serving the Sign Trade for over 40 years, we are a leading manufacturer of modular sign and display systems, notice boards & other information displays. Our 6 major sign systems are used and combined, to create a wide range of sign display solutions, including full signage schemes. With all products made to order, we specialise in tailoring solutions to suit each client, location and application.

SIGNWAVES

Lefevre Way, Gapton Hall Industrial
Estate, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31
0NW

Tel: 01493 419300

enquiries@signwaves.co.uk

www.signwaves.co.uk

Signwaves offers sign and display systems suitable for both internal and external use. The Adfresco Café Barrier system has stylish framework components and banner materials available to mix and match. Alternatively, freestanding Modular Pole Systems with a choice of poster frames, brochure shelves and banner sets for 2 channel or 4 channel poles can create informative internal displays.

VISTA SYSTEM LTD

103 High Street, Waltham Cross, Herts,
EN8 7AN

Tel: 0800 404 9151

www.vistasystem.com

Vista System is an international pioneer and world leader in Modular Aluminum Sign Frames with distribution all over the globe. We offers a wide range of products, running the gamut from curved to flat signs, small and extra large signs, LED illuminated and Frame-less signs, innovative Brochure Holders, Illuminated Stretch Fabric signs and many more.

SIGN CASES

INSIGHT SIGN SYSTEMS

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

Tel: 0141 774 5990

sales@insightsignsystems.com

www.insightsignsystems.com

Insight is a trade only manufacturer, offering a made to measure service, with in-house powder coating. A wide range of aluminium signcases are available, ready to accept acrylic panels, with several trim styles to choose from, and various options including hinged opening fronts, gas strut assisted opening, stand-off brackets etc.

SIGN LOCATORS

F. K. MOORE LTD

5 Wilton Road, Haine Industrial Park,
Ramsgate, Kent CT12 5HD.

Tel: 01843 593 440

enquiries@fkmoore.com

www.fkmoore.com

British manufacturers of screw type Brass Locator Nuts, Wall Fixings and stockists of Nylon Locators for the Sign and Shopfitting Industries. As well as other shopfitting, we also manufacture Coverhead Screws, either Flat, Dome, Conical or Mushroom shape in various finishes, in addition to the famous 'Moore's Super Clips' mirror fixings.

SIGN MAKING SOFTWARE

DELICAM LTD

Small Heath Business Park,
Birmingham B10 0HJ
Tel: 0121 766 5544
info@artcam.com
www.artcam.com

Delcam provides sign-makers worldwide with its ArtCAM range of CAD/CAM software, Express, Insignia and Pro, to create 2D and 3D signs. The entry-level package, ArtCAM Express starts from £99 and can be customised with modules (E.g. nesting and font creation).

SIGN SUPPORT SYSTEMS

E-SIGNFITTINGS HOBDAID LTD

57 Aston Brook Street East, Aston,
Birmingham, B6 4RR
Tel: 0121 608 4431
sales@e-signfittings.co.uk
www.e-signfittings.co.uk

E-Signfittings are one of the largest suppliers of Sign Standoffs, Cable & Rod Display Systems in the UK. We have large stocks available on next day delivery for orders received before 3pm and are equipped to supply orders from a few pounds up to thousands of pounds. Products in our range include Screw Head Covers, Poster Hanging Systems, Sign Hanging Systems, Leaflet Holders and Poster Displays.

FAIRFIELD DISPLAYS & LIGHTING LTD

127 Albert Street, Fleet, Hants GU51
3SN
Tel: 01252 758 934
sales@fairfielddisplays.co.uk
www.fairfielddisplays.co.uk

Sign support systems for any internal signage. Wall mounts, directory systems, hanging banner systems, suspended cable/rod systems. Custom made acrylic signs supplied as blanks or printed to your requirements. Best quality components at highly attractive trade terms. See the full range on the website or call for a comprehensive brochure. Showrooms in Fleet & Shrewsbury

I-SPI LTD

47 Mansionhouse Road, Mount
Vernon, Glasgow G32 0RP
Tel: 0141 764 1600
sales@ispitrade.com
www.ispitrade.com

I-SPI Trade supplier of sign support systems. Our range includes wall mounts, cable & rod display systems, screw covers, LED lighting and much more all at THE REAL TRADE PRICE. Massive stocks and next day delivery. See our products on our web site or give Stephen or Sean a call for a brochure.

MID WEST DISPLAYS

The Display Centre, Knights Way,
Battlefield Enterprise Park,
Shrewsbury SY1 3AB
Tel: 01743 465531
sales@midwestdisplays.co.uk
www.MidWestDisplays.co.uk

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

UK POINT OF SALE GROUP

LTD

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

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

SIGN SURVEYOR

PB WILLIAMS SIGN SURVEYOR

48 Durley Rd, Aintree L9 9AW
Tel: 07885 486 182
pbwilliams48@yahoo.co.uk

We specialise in sign surveying to the trade, with 30 years of experience as a sign fitter/manufacturer. I was contracted to large companies in the north west, and country wide. I am based in Merseyside and have PASMA, IPAF/PAL & CSCS qualifications and will travel UK and Europe. For further details please contact the above number or email.

SIGN TRADE SUPPLIERS

BROWNINGSLTD

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

Brownings is one of the largest, TRADE ONLY suppliers of signage products in the UK. We manufacture poster frames, menu cases, slimlocks, signtrim, troughlights, acrylic-faced light boxes, flexfaced signage and now our new Texsign frames for internal use. Any size or quantity, from 1 off to multiple rollouts. We are happy to supply as lengths of extrusion, in kit form or as made-up signs.

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

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Langford, Bristol BS40 5DJ
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sales@signscape.co.uk
www.signscape.co.uk

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

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0NW
Tel: 01493 419300
enquiries@signwaves.co.uk
www.signwaves.co.uk

Signwaves is a UK manufacturer of sign and display products for internal and external use. The range includes pavement signs and a-boards (including Swinger and Ecoflex signage), snapframes, poster mounting and exhibition displays. Signwaves also offer trade exclusive Stand-Off Sign Fixings and Premier A-Board Frames with low prices guaranteed.

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info@thesigngroup.co.uk
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We are a specialist trade manufacturer of bespoke sign systems to the signage, design, shopfitting and display industries throughout Europe. Services Include: Built up letters/logos, sign trays, lightboxes, flat cut letters/logos, laser/cnc cutting, SG LightSheet™, LED Stockists. All inhouse, all in control.

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