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WELCOME Page

On with the show!

With the ice and snow (hopefully) now a distant memory we can look forward to the Spring and this year's main event for the sign industry - SDUK 2018.

To help you plan FOR and get the most from your visit, this special issue is packed with the latest information about the show including some of the highlights, a comprehensive list of exhibitors and detailed seminar and workshop programmes. SDUK promises more interactive features than ever with live demonstrations, panel debates and keynote talks taking place in the show's bespoke TV studio - Sign & Digital Live, while 'Mary Queen of Shops' Mary Portas will be interviewed followed by a Q&A with the audience.

This year's show offers lots of opportunity for networking and the Sign Update team looks forward to meeting you - so please stop by and say hello.

Our in-depth features this month look at the latest developments in acrylic sheet materials and their varied applications for signage along with specialist advice on achieving the perfect edge on acrylics using cutting-edge tools and technologies.

On a more serious note, we report on the BSGA's concerns about the HSE's position on router safety. We will keep you up to date on that story.

See you at the NEC.

Sue



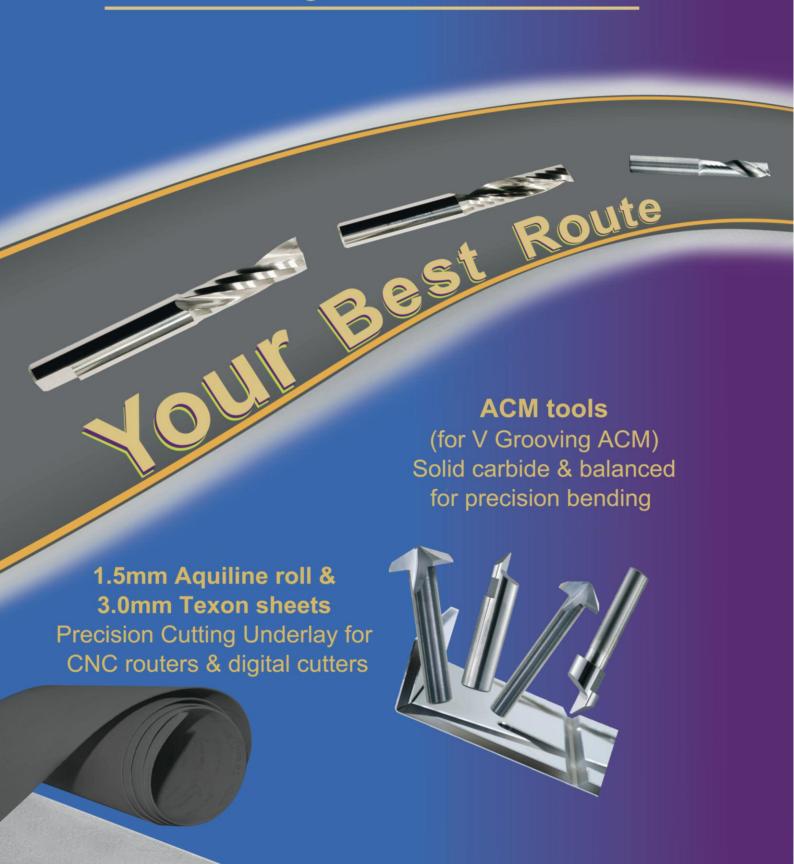
"This sir, is our latest model, designed for the UK market only. It has four sensors, one at the front of each wheel and as you approach holes, the appropriate wheel lifts, so saving damage to tyres and wheels. This then leaves our customers the chance to watch for speed cameras, bus lanes and any other roadside fines awaiting the motorist".





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APA presents a 'revolution' in the decoration of PVC truck curtains

By overwhelming demand, APATruck print film for curtain-sided vehicles will now be available in a gloss finish.

The leading brand in the production of self-adhesive films made in Italy has launched the latest generation, gloss white version of the AP/290 truck film for the decoration of PVC curtain-sided vehicles

> subsequent to its utilisation, the film flawlessly unfolds over the canvas without creasing

A new film that combines the high quality of materials with cutting edge technology thanks to an exclusive and dedicated adhesive APA-ColTruck/Ultra-P Plus for PVC curtains, the new product is said to guarantee an excellent welding capability and offer a high degree of resistance against stresses to which PVC curtains are exposed every day.



The film boasts outstanding printability in its gloss, lamination finish by ensuring a remarkable coverage and a bright veneer

Manufactured in compliance with the highest market standards and the strictest UNI regulations, the film boasts outstanding printability in its gloss, lamination finish by ensuring a remarkable coverage and a bright veneer with vivid, brilliant and well-defined colours, even against dark backgrounds.

AP/290 has been designed to provide for easy use, thanks to its direct dry application, highly conformable and elastic properties: subsequent to its utilisation, the film flawlessly unfolds over the canvas without creasing.

www.apaspa.com

ITC develops bond with manufacturers cutting ACM

The machining of aluminium composite materials (ACM) such as Di-Bond that is commonly used in the sign-making industry has become an increasingly difficult challenge for industry. The rise of low quality imported ACM materials instigates unreliable and inconsistent tool life, poor surface finishes and edge finishes; these difficulties can now be

minimised with Industrial Tooling Corporation's (ITC) new 1001 Series of solid carbide routing tools.

ITC already has an extensive portfolio of routing tools, drills, knife tools and special purpose cutters. The solid carbide 1001 Series of single flute router tools incorporate a new geometry with a

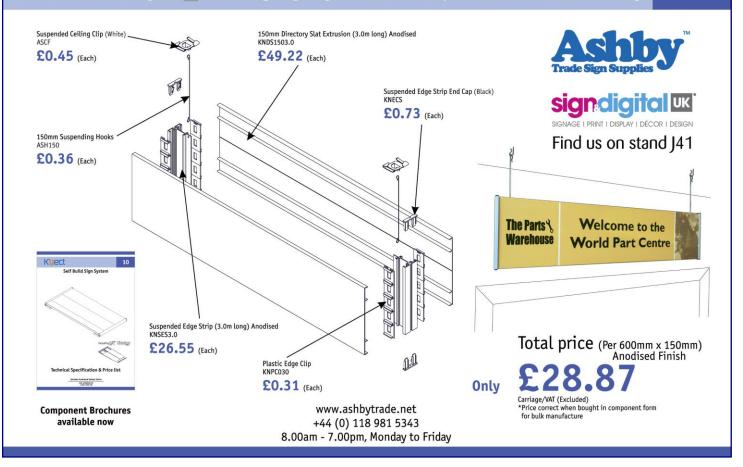
Manufactured from an ultra-fine micro grade carbide substrate with ITC's Vitreo coating, the 1001 Series outperforms alternative routing tools

dynamic rake and clearance angle that superbly copes with the challenges of lower quality ACM sheets. Manufactured from an ultra-fine micro grade carbide substrate with ITC's Vitreo coating, the 1001 Series outperforms alternative routing tools, said ITC.

The combination of new geometry, extremely hard substrate and advanced coating technology is complemented by precision tool balancing. These tools are balanced to work effectively on high frequency, high-speed digital cutting tables that run at speeds in excess of 30,000rpm. The routing tools are available in 2, 3, 4 and 6mm diameters with an overall length of 50mm and a shank diameter of 6mm.

www.itc-ltd.co.uk

You can now buy Kinect Signage Systems in component form from Ashby

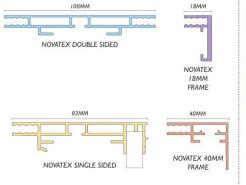


FABRIC DISPLAYS

From the Nation's Leading Aluminium Sign Systems Supplier









NOVATEX

NovaTex ticks all the boxes for displaying the vibrant graphics available when using textile signage. The range of profiles are good for housing images up to 3m square and are all constructed with a screw free appearance. All use the 'passive wedge' method for self-tensioning offering frameless stunning visuals.

NOVADISPLAY



NovaDisplay works with a gripper system which removes the need for any face preparation. Images are pushed into its channel using the installation tool provided giving wrinkle free images every time. The system's 'soft nose' design gives a friendlier visual of the display box and is constructed with a screw free appearance. At 90mm the single sided option can be surfaced mounted whilst the double sided profile at 100mm allows for both free standing and hanging applications.

NOVADISPLAY SINGLE SIDED NOVADISPLAY DOUBLE SIDED

NOVAEDGE

"The self-adhesive silicone edge that stays put". NovaEdge is designed for use with all the NovaTex profiles. The silicone edge strip is applied to the edge of the graphic eliminating the need for any stitching.







Durst launches P5 next-generation technology platform

Durst has launched a new printing platform - the P5 series. The first member of the family is the large format printing flagship P5 250 HS, with shipping starting from April.

This machine is targeted toward high volume industrial production, as well as one-offs in offset quality. P5 relates to five core features at the heart of this technology: productivity, reliability, workflow, versatility and print quality.

The P5 technology consists of a series of new generation printers along with newly, in-house developed software and workflow solutions. The family has touch operation based user-interfaces and leading-edge remote service capabilities. Everything is aimed and streamlined to maximise performance and uptime of the printing family, along with unparalleled flexibility in media and job handling.

When compared to the industry benchmark - Durst P10 250 HS - the new P5 is 70% more productive. Featuring

latest MEMS nozzle plates powered by Durst proprietary data-path and electronics, the result is a high-speed printing system with ultra precise drop placement and industrial level reliability.

Technology features include print volume capability in two-pass mode up to 240 sqm/h and high resolution modes of 1200 dpi; offset printing quality with a drop-size of 5 pcl; Durst Analytics information platform for pre-emptive maintenance and detailed machine and consumption data to guarantee maximum uptime; Durst Workflow which provides an in-house developed suite of applications custom tailored for Durst printers.

Chief executive Christoph Gamper said: "The new P5 platform, including workflow software and advanced service tools, represents our key strategy to further invest into large format printing technology and further afield. We believe that there is a lot to explore in this market space and the P5 250 HS is our first statement. In an integrated world, printers need to change

In an integrated world, printers need to change as well. With the P5 family we provide tools for change and profit and our firm commitment to continue to lead the innovation in the large format market

as well. With the P5 family we provide tools for change and profit and our firm commitment to continue to lead the innovation in the large format market."

www.durst-group.com



When compared to the industry benchmark - Durst P10 250 HS - the new P5 is 70% more productive



Introducing Fabricut's new helping hand



Known for producing high quality built up lettering, Fabricut has purchased the ALB-04 UNI 180 letter bender to assist with high demand.

With clients requiring built ups in days rather than weeks, but not wanting to compromise on quality, we can now offer our high grade, fully soldered hand finished letters and logos with up to 180mm returns

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High performance magnetic tape easy to reposition

MagneTape is a high performance magnetic tape from Eurobond Adhesives for mounting printed media to another surface. Applying magnetic tape to the rear of the substrate enables the sign or the graphic be installed quickly and easily and repositioned as many times as required.

MagneTape can be used to create high quality attractive signs both for internal and external use including aisle end signage, pop-up displays, exhibition stands, graphics and flat cut letters.

Available in several width sizes on a 30m long roll, the tape comes with two types of

We offer free project evaluation, on-site product demonstrations and training to sign makers

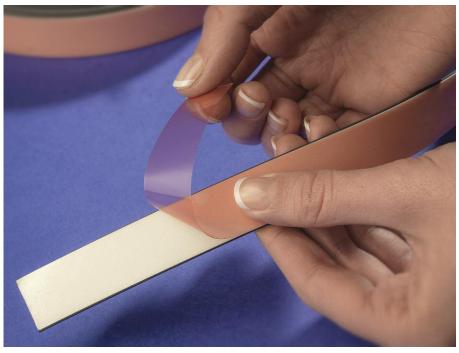
adhesive backings. It can be supplied with a high strength pressure sensitive acrylic (VHB type) adhesive or a foam adhesive for use on uneven surfaces or where shock or vibration absorption may be required.

A UV coating on the magnetic face prevents marking of either the surface upon which it is mounted or of the other prints when stacked for storage or distribution.

In addition to our MagneTape range of magnetic tapes, the company will be displaying its Penloc range of 2-part, fast curing structural adhesives and range of foamed acrylic adhesive tapes at Sign & Digital.

Come and talk to our technical team on Stand No G66. We will be happy to discuss your specific project and offer the best bonding solution for you; 99% of our products are stock items and available on a next working day delivery basis. We offer free project evaluation, on-site product demonstrations and training to sign makers.

www.eurobond-adhesives.co.uk



Applying magnetic tape to the rear of the substrate enables the sign or the graphic to be installed quickly and easily and repositioned as many times as required

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KernowPrint Elite synthetic paper helps control static

Kernow Coatings has launched KernowPrint Elite Synthetic Paper, an RIT 3-Star certified bright white synthetic material aimed at helping users control static and deliver extremely high-quality prints on a tear-resistant sheet.

KernowPrint Elite Synthetic Paper is a new line of HP Indigo printable synthetic media built to help address the specific needs expressed by digital print customers. The material takes advantage of the newly developed Kernow Cobalt Coating Technology for HP Indigo to create an optimal surface for ink adhesion and colour vibrancy while fully controlling static. Lab tests using Kernow's Cobalt Coating have shown to eliminate or reduce static by more than 50% compared to competitive synthetics in the market. The thermally stabilised sheet delivers excellent results in multi-shot printing without distortion while the non-porous nature of KernowPrint Elite allows it to easily repel liquids, greases and oils, including harsh industrial chemicals.

> Synthetics are a very hot item right now for digital printers but with the benefits, often come challenges

The KernowPrint Elite range marks the flagship product for the newly released KernowPrint for HP Indigo material line driven by Kernow's proprietary Cobalt Coating. The combination of a bright white surface and excellent durability make KernowPrint Elite ideal for applications ranging from replacing laminated paper constructions such as menus and labels to safety signage and identification tags. High heat resistance and stability allows KernowPrint to be used in high heat



KernowPrint Elite Synthetic Paper is a new line of HP Indigo printable synthetic media built to help address the specific needs of digital print customers

environments without the risk of damage to the sheet itself.

"KernowPrint Elite is the result of a strong collaboration between Kernow and the users of HP Indigo presses," said HP Indigo materials product manager Dan Lawellin. "Synthetics are a very hot item right now for digital printers but with the

benefits, often come challenges. The goal with KernowPrint Elite was to eliminate the concerns we heard the most: static build up, tail-end stretch and distortion under stress. KernowPrint really does do an excellent job of addressing each of those."

www.kernowcoatings.com

Advanced digital print film added to VION range at William Smith

Due to rising demand, the VION Monomeric Calendered Digital Printing Film range from William Smith has expanded with a high tack solution for short-term graphics.

The new 3-year durability, VION VP3900-12HT features an impressive high grab adhesive, ideal for low energy surfaces such aspolypropylene, polyethylene and emulsion painted walls. The 100-micron film has a high-quality, matt white face film, which offers excellent printability.

Part of the VP3000 Series, this new film brings the total number of film choices in the Series to seven.

The VP3000 Series has proven popular among UK signmakers, due to the film's solvent-based pressure-sensitive adhesive and a high quality 140gsm double-sided PE coated liner that gives excellent stability during printing and handling.

Ideal for flat and slightly curved surfaces, the films are suitable for solvent, ecosolvent UV and latex print systems.

Options include white or transparent with gloss or matt finish, grey or clear permanent, removable or high tack adhesive, providing great flexibility.

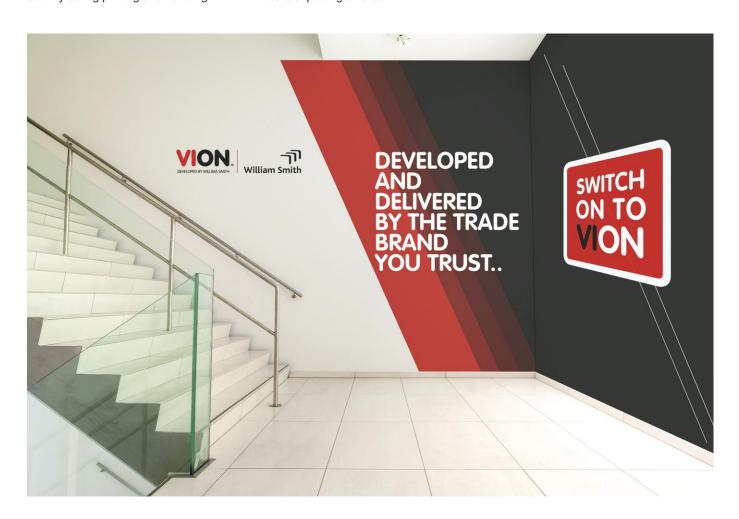
William Smith predicts the new high tack option of the VION 3-year digital print film will be in high demand following the success of the polymeric 5-year digital print film with the same adhesive.

Head of marketing Chris Bradley said: "We're delighted to have expanded our popular VION VP3000 Series and offer more choice to our customers. With same day despatch available on all orders, thanks to the large amount of stock we hold on site, we can ensure the majority of our customers receive materials within 24 hours of placing an order."

We're delighted to have expanded our popular VION VP3000 Series and offer more choice to our customers

The latest addition to the ever-growing range of VION Digital Print Films is available to order now in sizes 1370mm x 50m and 1520mm x 50m.

www.williamsmith.co.uk





VUTEk HS presses for high-volume signage and graphics applications

Electronics For Imaging (EFI) has announced the VUTEk HS125 F4 and HS100 F4 inkjet presses for Fast Graphics out-of-home applications to its lineup of hybrid flatbed/roll superwide format products. The printers reconfigure the eight ink channels of the VUTEk HS series platform in a CMYK x 2 setup, efficiently addressing the need for cost-effective production on banners, billboards, building wraps and similar applications.

The new press models offer a significant speed increase, printing up to 225 boards per hour on the HS125 F4 and up to 190

boards per hour on the HS100 F4. The presses include the proven, standard HS features and options customers have come to expect such as pin and cure, variable-drop grayscale imaging and fulland semi-automated materials handling.

"Our CMYK x 2 configuration, which is available in several other EFI VUTEk superwide format printers, is an ideal offering for out-of-home applications where total cost per square foot is key," said EFI Inkjet vice president of marketing Ken Hanulec. "These two new printers run more than 50% faster and a speed

These two new printers run more than 50% faster and a speed boost like this gives our customers an important new opportunity to increase their margins



boost like this gives our customers an important new opportunity to increase their margins."

EFI's VUTEk HS presses for Fast Graphics out-of-home production will be available this quarter from EFI while customers who purchase VUTEk HS125 Pro and HS100 Pro presses can convert them to the new F4 models through a modification completed in the field.

www.efi.com

Five new KernowPrint Vivid tear resistant synthetics certified for HP Indigo

Kernow Coatings has expanded its range of HP Indigo printable synthetic papers with five RIT certified products including vivid red, yellow, orange, blue and green, engineered utilising Kernow's proprietary Cobalt Coating Technology to eliminate static and improve print performance.

KernowPrint Vivids for HP Indigo are designed to help customers expand their application range through the creative use of new materials. The sheets are manufactured to be waterproof, tearresistant and static controlled. This release of yellow, red, orange, green and blue addresses some of the most commonly requested colours and each of the KernowPrint Vivids for HP Indigo provides users with the ability to create eyecatching prints quickly and easily.

These synthetics, combined with the white ink system of the HP Indigo, opens the door to the rapid production of very bright signage, POP displays, brand merchandising opportunities and specialty promotion pieces.

For end users and brand owners, KernowPrint Vivids offer an extremely durable way to hit target colours and help call attention to advertising and tags. By incorporating the colour into the sheet itself, printers are able to hit consistent, repeatable results without the risk of colours degrading through ink scratching, abrasion and moisture. For customers utilising multiple print locations, KernowPrint Vivids allows for brand consistency across printers and machine types.

www.kernowcoatings.com





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NovaTex and NovaEdge for perfect finish

It's no surprise that textile visuals are now commonplace in store. The stunning images achieved with today's modern printers are an advertisers dream.

LED illumination adds to the vibrant look and the fact that the promotion can be changed in store with ease just adds to the popularity.



Available in 10m rolls, the NovaEdge silicone strip has a double-sided tape applied to one side and is suitable for use with all printed textile materials

The textile skins are housed within aluminium boxes or frames from the NovaTex range of profiles and tensioned using a passive wedge known as the silicone edge.

The majority of silicone edges are attached to the textile perimeter by use of a sewing machine stitching the silicone securely in place. This has to be done after the skin has been printed so can limit the sign maker who may be able to print the textile but unable to stitch the silicone edge in position.

Available in 10m rolls, the NovaEdge silicone strip has a double-sided tape applied to one side and is suitable to be used with all printed textile materials.

Applying the strip to the printed material by hand is simple to give the adhesive an equal spread NovaEdge needs to be rolled "such as a wallpaper roller" giving an initial 70% bond. There is then a curing period of four hours to achieve maximum bind.

www.nova-aluminium.com

Portable spectral unit for flexibility and outstanding accuracy

Barbieri electronic has introduced the Spectro LFP qb. The spectral unit - the detachable measuring head - delivers reliable spot measurements and the measured colours are visualised instantly in the touch display while the spectral values are forwarded to the computer via WiFi or USB for further processing.

The system comprises an ultra-precise spectral core, three light sources for uniform illumination of the media surface from three different angles and seven LEDs per light source for real M1 daylight illumination pursuant to the standard. That makes the Spectro LFP qb, with its portable measuring head, a must for all businesses that work in conformity with M1 and are committed to an uncompromising standard of quality.

The main features of the spectral unit include conformity with the new ISO 13655-2017 M1 part 1/method a, M0, M2 and M3; detachable measuring head for measuring spot colours and colour matching; measurement of fluorescing inks; and battery operation.



The detachable spectral unit delivers reliable spot measurements

"The detachable measuring head was one of the enhancements most frequently requested for the Spectro LFP Series 3," said Barbieri electronic VP international sales & marketing Wolfgang Passler. "We have implemented it in the Spectro LFP qb so that users can now enjoy absolute flexibility with an automatic

spectrophotometer that delivers the ultimate in precision on all materials plus a flexible manual spectrophotometer for measuring and comparing spot colours on a wide range of materials."

www.barbierielectronic.com

Gallant roller banner can take just about anything thrown at it

The Gallant Roller Banner has been designed specifically by Innotech Digital to withstand the usual hard knocks during deliveries and is sturdy enough to endure heavy handed, every day usage and still maintain its tension properties.

Available in 850mm wide, the Gallant roller banner addresses a need for a robust unit that can still be relied upon to work perfectly every time, even if it has been dropped or bashed about in the back of a delivery van. Roller banners are essentially a commodity item but they remain the number one promotional marketing tool for small to medium businesses and the growing sole trader sector of the market. This means that they need to be as affordable as possible while working first time, every time.

Sales manager Russell Alexander said: "Some people may require a banner for occasional use only while others will open and repack their roller banner several times a day, so as a Print Service Provider (PSP) it is important to be able to offer a range of products at differing price points to address each need correctly.



"Although we already have a great range of banner stands there was a specific need for a budget stand addressing PSPs who make a large volume of bespoke single units being sent out to sole traders and individuals all over the country and want to be confident that it can handle being knocked about during the delivery process and handled several times a

week, thereby reducing return rates and increasing profits."

The Gallant Roller Banner weighs 2.5kg without graphics and is individually box packaged and delivered with its own heavy-duty drawstring bag.

www.innotechdigital.com

The future in ceramic blades



Ceramic blades tick all the boxes in terms of safety and durability

Sign Industry supplier SNAPFIX has this month launched a partnership with US ceramic blade manufacturer SLICE Inc. to bring ceramic blades and knives to the UK sign market.

The blades are manufactured from 100% zirconium oxide, which is second in hardness only to diamonds. This allows the blades to last up to 10 times longer than standard metal blades. The blades are also safer than metal so no sharps box is needed for disposal; they are nonsparking, non-conductive and non-magnetic.

When tested, metal blades will cut on average 141 times before the blade starts to go blunt, whereas the ceramic blade will cut on average 1237 times.

SNAPFIX managing director Mark Ashcroft commented: " After seeing the test data supplied by SLICE I was very keen on bringing the blades to our UK sign maker

clients; we have invested heavily in stock and early feedback is very promising going forward".

www.snapfix.com

"Having the sharps bin was a nuisance... it was filled up with knives and we'd have to get someone in to dispose of it safely... we no longer have to do that"



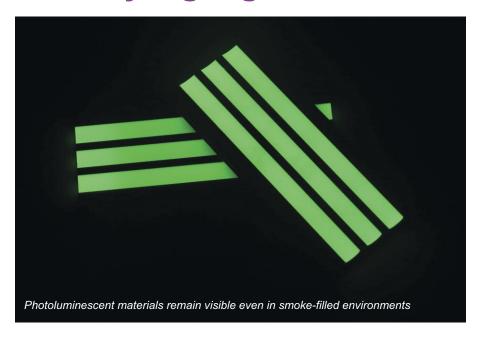
Glow in the dark safety signage

A photoluminescent safety way guidance system (SWGS) is a series of 'glow-in-thedark' way components including signage, designed to facilitate the safe and efficient egress of a building's occupants under emergency and blackout conditions. When installed according to ISO 16069, a SWGS at low level provides a clear, unambiguous escape route to the final exit.

The system is designed as a standalone product, although it will complement both electrical exit signage and emergency lighting. In a fire situation, smoke will fill a room or corridor from the roof downwards, often obliterating mains-powered emergency lighting necessitating evacuees to adopt a lower position to avoid smoke inhalation, hence the positioning of egress strips, signage and floor-markers at low level.

Photoluminescent materials, because of their lower light intensity and type and consistency of 'emission' remain visible even in smoke-filled environments.

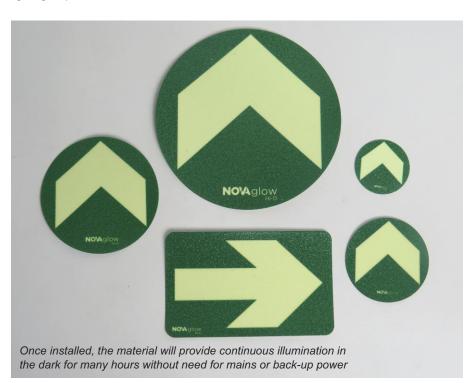
A photoluminescent SWGS needs no power source, just simple illumination, either from daylight or an artificial source in order to charge. It has almost zero running cost, requires little or no maintenance and as long as there is a light source to charge it, it will not break down or develop faults and will perform when needed. Signage includes low location lighting strips, stair nosing, drive lane markers, handrail lighting strips and floor markers.



Although it is not currently a legal requirement to install a photoluminescent SWGS within a building, the PSPA (Photoluminescent Safety Products Association) advocate fitting a SWGS under the scope of ISO 16069 as a 'best practice' solution.

The emergency services require proficient guidance through a building during all situations. Visible and effective markers will greatly assist them in this area of their standard operating procedure and recent

Once installed, the material will constantly charge under all forms of light and provide continuous illumination in the dark for many hours without need for mains or back-up power

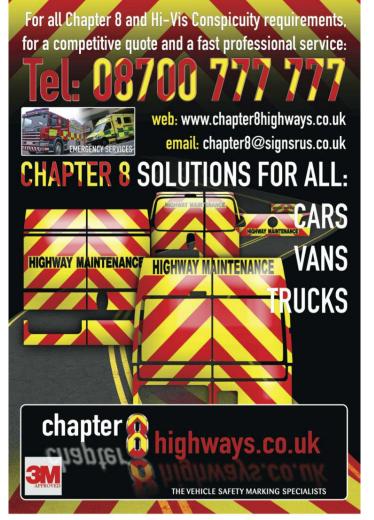


studies have shown photoluminescent materials to improve their evacuation times by up to 30%. Many UK Fire & Rescue Services have confirmed the legitimacy of photoluminescent Safety Way Guidance Systems.

Once installed, the material will constantly charge under all forms of light and provide continuous illumination in the dark for many hours without need for mains or back-up power. Innova's entry-level PSPA Class C products fulfil the requirements of ISO 16069 whereas its enhanced product offerings of Class D and those even surpassing Class G, will provide even brighter afterglow for much longer. The lighting strips are available in three different extrusions to suit any environment and budget.

www.innovasolutions.co.uk









New small-format cutting plotter from Graphtec

The popular CE series of cutting plotters from Graphtec has now been expanded with the introduction of the CE Lite-50 machine. Described as a "new category" small-format entry-level professional cutting plotter, it claims design and production capabilities invariably not found in any similarly positioned and priced machine.

Included in the number of key features of CE Lite-50 are a faster than normal cutting speed of 500mm/sec, a 50cm-wide roll media facility that is ideal for the handling of heat transfer media, LED-based sensor, intuitive touch-panel operation and expandable interface. The machine incorporates as standard Graphtec's latest Version 7 of the proprietary ARMS

The machine will accommodate sheets of material in sizes of A4, A3, SRA3 and Super A3

(Automatic Registration Mark Sensing) system for radically enhanced media plotting and cutting accuracy and Cutting Master software that enables use of design data created in Adobe Illustrator and CorelDRAW programs.

The CE Lite-50 cutting plotter can be used for a diverse range of applications including those found in the craft skills and hobbies sectors, typically apparel, accessories and promotional products decoration, small-run label production, glass-decorative and vehicle graphics and self-adhesive vinylbased signs. The machine will accommodate sheets of material in sizes of A4, A3, SRA3 and Super A3.

www.graphtecgb.co.uk





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Mimaki defines the future of 3D in full colour

Mimaki has introduced the official campaign for its 3DUJ-553 3D printer. Commercially available since January 2018, the machine has the ability to produce more than 10 million colours in layers as fine as 20 microns. Its water-soluble support material can be easily washed off, saving time and reducing the possibility of damaging the object when removing support material. Furthermore, the availability of clear ink adds the possibility to create translucent printed pieces.

"We are very excited to be formally bringing this breakthrough product to market in Europe," said Mimaki Europe general manager sales Ronald van den Broek. "Making the leap from UV-curable 2D inkjet printing devices to 3D printing was a logical step for Mimaki and we have dedicated significant R&D resources to our 3D development efforts. The Mimaki 3DUJ-553 is our first foray into the 3D market and it uses a unique technique based on its advanced UV inkjet printing technology. Since we first unveiled the technology at drupa 2016, we have received excellent feedback from the marketplace and look forward to bringing a new level of innovation once again to an emerging market."

Mimaki's 3DUJ-553 is differentiated from other 3D printers in several aspects including its ability to print objects with more than 10 million colours, the only 3D printer in the market with this capability. Colour profiles can be used to ensure accurate and consistent colour. This means no overpainting is required, saving time and labour.



Mimaki's 3DUJ-553 3D printer has the ability to produce more than 10 million colours in layers as fine as 20 microns

The Mimaki 3DUJ-553 offers white as well as a clear ink that can be mixed with colours to add transparency to the printed product. Its water-soluble support material eliminates the need for manual work to cut tags or other support structures and allows even the most intricate designs to be realised. The Mimaki 3DUJ-553 features a maximum build size of 50 x 50 x 30 cm. which is larger than comparable 3D printers.

Exclusively distributed in the UK and Ireland by Hybrid Services, the company will shortly be adding a Mimaki 3DUJ-553 to its centrally located showroom to enable prospective customers to audition the machine in the UK. To kick off the campaign, Mimaki has launched a dedicated page on its website for the 3DUJ-553 where visitors can find more details about the product.

www.mimakieurope.com/3d

New technology enables latex printing on multiple surfaces

HP has announced what "the first, true hybrid latex technology" that merges its flexible printing capabilities with rigid printing. The HP Latex R Series brings the most vibrant colours into the rigid printing world and pioneers white ink capabilities with the introduction of HP Latex White Ink.

HP said the Latex R series brings unparalleled speed and quality to a wide range of rigid materials including foam boards, foam PVC, cardboard, fluted polypropylene, solid plastics, aluminum, wood and glass. Unlike UV printing technology, which creates a thick layer of ink that completely covers the material and requires time to dry, HP's water-based

Latex Inks preserve the look and feel of the media and deliver odourless prints that are safe both for the environment and the printer operator.

"With the new HP latex rigid technology our customers can expand their offering into new, high value applications while opening fresh creative ideas and concepts for sign and display that provide their users greater value," said Joan Perez Pericot, general manager, HP Large Format Graphics Business.

Tackling one of the industry's most pervasive limitations in printing, HP's White Latex Ink has an innovative system that recirculates to avoid settling. It delivers glossy, high quality 'true white' that doesn't yellow over time.

The HP Latex R Series will be available during Q3 of 2018, with a full industry debut in May at FESPA in Berlin, Germany.

www.hp.com



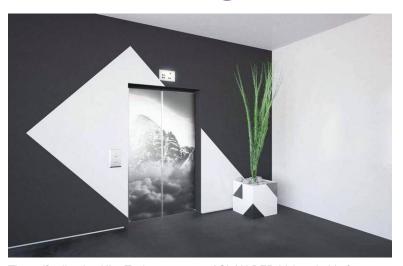
ASLAN presents transparent digital printing film with ultra-strong adhesion

ASLAN is introducing a transparent digital printing film with ultra-strong adhesion. The self-adhesive UltraTack transparent ASLAN DFP 06 is designed for long-term applications.

Advantages include reliable adhesion on difficult surfaces including low-energy materials (i.e. plastic dustbins) and on rough, uneven or cold surfaces. The digital printing films of the UltraTack range perform well even in application temperatures starting from 5°C (41°F).

This self-adhesive film is said to be excellent for applications requiring the substrate's integration in the design. Whether you want to save the motif's release or if the subfont to adhere is part of the motif - there is no limit.

The polymeric plasticised self-adhesive film with a seven-year outdoor durability is equipped with a silicone release liner, double-sided PE-coated for optimum moisture and temperature stability to guarantee an excellent result. The digital



The self-adhesive UltraTack transparent ASLAN DFP 06 is suitable for applications requiring the substrate's integration in the design

film is printable with all current solvent, eco-solvent, latex, UV-curing inks as well as screen printing inks.

www.aslan-schwarz.com

Massivit offers 3D printing solution for visual communication applications



Massivit 3D's pioneering portfolio is addressing a growing demand for customised channel lettering and soft signage

Massivit 3D Printing Technologies is expanding its product portfolio with the Massivit 1500 Exploration 3D printer designed to enable print businesses of all sizes to target new revenue opportunities.

The Massivit 1500 delivers an affordable, print shop friendly solution to enter the world of large format 3D printing. By incorporating 3D printed models or enhancements to existing 2D applications, print providers can expand their product portfolio to offer innovative, head-turning applications. These include, audienceengaging POP/POS displays, illuminated signage and props as well as highendurance moulds for cost-effective thermoforming for the retail, advertising, entertainment, events and interior design markets.

Based on the company's proprietary Gel Dispensing Printing technology, the

Massivit 1500 can quickly produce lightweight, hollow pieces up to 1.45m/4.8ft high, which can be joined together to make any size model or display.

Beyond integrating perfectly within an industrial or print shop environment, the Massivit 1800 and 1500 address a growing demand for greater customisation in traditional signage and displays including attention-grabbing channel lettering and soft signage structures.

With Massivit 3D's solutions offering geometric freedom, sign businesses can transform standard channel lettering or soft signage into complex structures in a fraction of the time and cost compared to traditional methods.

www.massivit3d.com





new cast aluminium chamber and sits comfortably in a step grommet allowing cables to freely pass through for easy installation of longer runs.





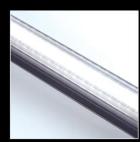
The new Multi Bracket is double slotted allowing the fitter to orientate the back plate fixing position from horizontal to

vertical in an instant.





Smart new cast end caps with rear entry cable glands tidy and conceal unsightly cables from view.



Behind Ecolux Mini's

90° magnifying lens, the superb 1650 lumen 14.4W per metre LEDs deliver a punch to sign fascias and an unrivalled performance of even illumination.



5 YEAR WARRANTY



NEXT DAY DELIVERY



VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES





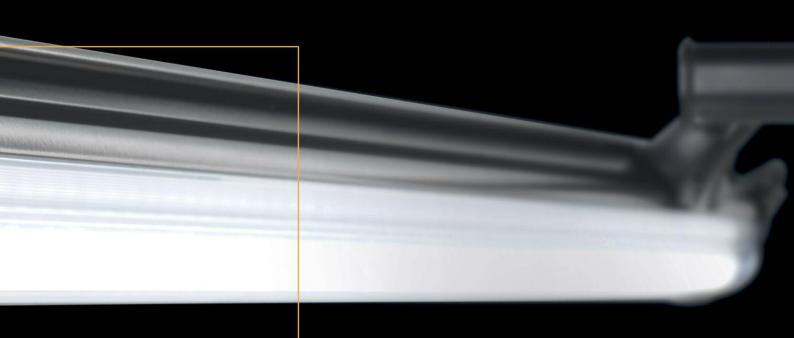
portlandlighting.co.uk





The all new Ecolux Mini

The evolution of LED sign lighting has arrived.





The clip fix uses a clever and unique spring clip fixing captive in the channel at the rear of the sign light. The clip slides and springs over a retaining nipple on the bracket fixing.



The new sleek and stylish 45mm casing is the slimmest available in the UK with integral drivers.



EmplUX

Available NOW!



The solar range - accelerating the transition to sustainable lighting

The solar range currently consists of four main product lines: solar post, a 1 metre high bollard; solar street - a 2 metre high street light; solar case - post mounted for information displays, available in A1 portrait and A0 landscape as well as custom sizes to customer specification; and solar eye a 360 degree surface mounted delineator.

Four years of research and development has resulted in a product range combining cutting edge technology with outstanding quality and design.

It is now possible to light up communities with a single range of products. The modular nature of the system allows the same components to be used throughout the range, thereby reducing costs and creating a cohesive look and feel to any installation that uses a combination of multiple products.

The key benefits of the system are zero energy costs with quick and easy installation, offering substantial cost and resource savings compared to hard wired options. Our products can be installed without the need for trenching, cabling, mains connection, making good and all the general permissions that would normally be required. The range offers dusk to dawn lighting even in demanding environments such as northern European winters. Recent installations include a development in New York state and a marina on the west coast of Scotland.

The technology has the capability to customise on/off time settings to suit clients' exact requirements and the system can be supplied in special finishes and

Using the very latest battery technology with a minimum five-year life, the solar range offers a two-year warranty on all parts. The range features an on/off activation system, which shuts down the product while in transit or storage.

Solar cases have recently been installed on rural railway stations by Great Western Railways (GWR). New legislation requires timetables to be lit at night and the solar cases are the ideal solution where hard wired options are not viable. The settings of the solar cases for GWR were customised to shut down the lighting at midnight after the last trains, thereby reducing light pollution.

When not being viewed, the solar cases are lit at a low light level so that they can be detected from a distance, but as you approach, PIR sensors detect traffic and increase illumination so that the information can be easily read - the solar cases then power down again after a short while when no further traffic is detected. The solar post and solar street function in the same way and several products installed together create an integrated, 'intelligent' environment.



The solar range is designed and produced in the UK. Existing customers include Airbus, Great Western Railways, Lord Wandsworth College, together with numerous public sector and private developments across the country.

www.solar-range.com

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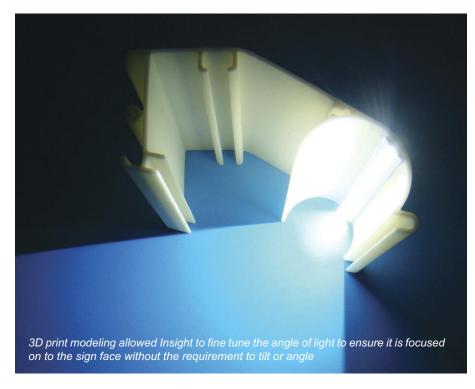
Find out how we can help your business grow more profitably.

COME AND SEE US AT STAND G30

Insight Systems focus on Highlight trough lighting

After more than 30 years of continuous expansion of products and production, operating from three factories in Ashtonunder-Lyne, Yate in Bristol and Glasgow, with over 120 extruded aluminium profiles, Insight is back to just one: Highlight trough lighting. This was the single product Insight started with in 1987, following the sale of Rinn Signs where Highlight was developed in 1981.

The profile design which is tested by 3D print modeling allowed Insight to fine tune the angle of light to ensure it is focused on to the sign face without the requirement to tilt or angle



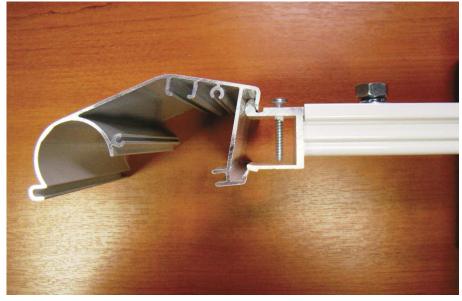
At that time Highlight was the only made to measure trough lighting extrusion in the UK and Europe. Over the years it has had many updates and although it is currently called Highlight Mk5, with Mk6 due out late summer, many other profiles with different shapes and names have come under the Highlight banner.

In November last year Insight sold the rights to the Spectra system to Sign Shapes of Doncaster. This range of sign cases, poster cases and flex boxes was Insight's primary focus due to nominated contract work while Highlight took a back seat. All that is set to change when Mk6 comes out, which will offer unrivalled brightness of up to 3500 lumens per metre and a very high efficacy of around 170 lumens per watt.

The profile shape with its bullnose front of just 30 mm gently slopes back giving it a very slim appearance. The clip on fit brackets remain the same, having never failed in 27 years and with more or less an unchanged design, allowing installation to be very fast indeed. The profile design which is tested by 3D print modeling allowed Insight to fine tune the angle of light to ensure it is focused on to the sign face without the requirement to tilt or angle.

Three options are available for brightness, all optimised to be brighter than the closest competition while using less energy due to high efficacy; the LEDs have a five-year warranty.

www.insightsystems.com



The profile shape with its bullnose front of just 30 mm gently slopes back giving it a very slim appearance

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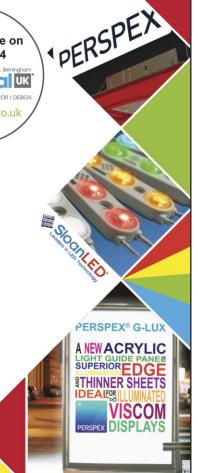
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- Leading suppliers of SloanLED modules for cost effective signage and displays.





SHEET MATERIALS Feature

The type and quality of sheet materials used are paramount when it comes to getting signage right. Sue Mason has been speaking with some of the industry's experts on the subject.

Materials maketh the signage

This is what Luke Martyn, Marketing Manager of Perspex Distribution Ltd. had to say about the company's recently introduced new sheet materials and why they were pioneered.



Luke Martvn. Marketing Manager. Perspex Distribution Ltd

Have there been any developments in the industry of late?

Perspex Distribution has recently launched a number of sheet materials designed to open up new application areas for sign makers and reduce workshop processing time.

For signmakers interested in illuminated displays and signage, Perspex® G-lux is a newly developed cast acrylic sheet designed for optimised edge illumination. Of particular interest will be the fact that the diffusing properties within the sheet enables a light sheet panel to be created without the need to engrave or print the sheet first. This means signmakers, without the machinery to engrave or print their own light diffusion patterns, can now produce their own illuminated panels from scratch.



The sheet uses new particulate filled technology to carefully control the reflection of emitted light, giving excellent sign efficiency and superior, even illumination with a graphic/diffuser making it particularly suitable for projects such as shop estate agent panels, wayfinding signage and general illuminated displays.

The range has also been developed, to enable thinner signage and, with different sheet grades optimised for various illuminated panel sizes up to 1500mm.

What other news can you tell us?

Wide format printers have instantly seen the appeal of Multishield, a new steel composite panel offering printers the opportunity to easily produce whiteboards or printed magnetically receptive panels with no additional processes required.

Previously sheets would need to be laminated with a magnetic and a white board vinyl using valuable workshop time.

Signmakers will be familiar with Alupanel aluminium composite, which is the only UK produced ACM and is widely used in signage, hoarding and POS. The same Kent factory that manufactures this is now able to produce a strong and rigid galvanised steel composite panel, Multishield.

The steel skin makes the panels magnetically receptive which greatly increases the scope of possible applications for the material. The product is also available in either a digital/digital finish, or a digital/whiteboard coating, meaning that printers can produce whiteboard products without requiring additional processes and lamination. The digital coating helps to produce vibrant colour-fast prints.

What sizes is Multishield available in?

It is available in a 3mm and 6mm thickness, the panels have a polyethylene core between two 0.25mm galvanised steel sheets, offering load bearing rigidity and panels that are easily fabricated.

When might the product prove particularly effective?

Its versatile benefits make it suitable for exhibition graphics, hoarding panels, signage and outdoor advertising.



Multishield, a new steel composite panel, has had an instant appeal, welcomed as much behind the scenes as it is by customers

Dream team

Director of Supplier Relations and Product Development at Amari Plastics, Jamie Manifold, sheds some light on the partnering of two products; how this dream team relates to customers' needs and how the materials work together.



Jamie Manifold, Director of Supplier Relations and Product Development at Amari Plastics

What would you say the expectations are when it comes to sheet materials in the UK signage industry today?

With the wide range of quality products available today, customers should not have to compromise on what they want. Customers look for reliability, with materials that require little maintenance and longevity of performance. In short, they want value for money. This is key alongside reduced running costs for the end users' environmental and low-cost requirements.

> "One end user consideration which influences customers more and more is how products affect the environment."

With that in mind, what products would you recommend to meet customers' expectations as well as making them stand out?

Our Oshino B-LED range, exclusive to Amari Plastics, is ideal for a wide variety of signage, POS/POP and light applications. We recommend using Oshino B-LEDs in conjunction with Green Cast Seta-LED®; a new environmentally-friendly acrylic which has been specifically designed for illumination of signs and displays, and comes with a 10 year UV external warranty. These are two very credible brands that have been providing marketleading products for decades and when partnered together, their products create incredible, cost-effective signage.

What qualities do Oshino B-LED and Green Cast Seta-LED® lend to signage projects?

Oshino B-LED's are premium quality and dust and weather resistant, offering high brightness and even illumination with the use of wide angle lenses. Green Cast Seta-LED® acrylic is formulated to meet the typical wavelength of LED colours and maintain the same tone, with or without illumination

Studies have shown the combination of Oshino and Green Cast Seta-LED® significantly reduces LED spotting as Green Cast's excellent light and diffusion properties create a uniform finish and increased light transmission. These properties enable lower LED populations resulting in reduced material cost and lower energy



Green Cast Seta-LED® comes in a range of standard colours and thicknesses

consumption which not only results in cost savings for the customer, but benefits the environment with reduced CO2 emissions.

Green Cast is 100% recycled and 100% recyclable; Amari Plastics also offers the safe disposal of the acrylic through our sister company, Recycled Plastics.

Where can readers find these materials and related products?

Amari offers an extensive portfolio of products and services, further complementing Oshino LEDs and Green Cast Seta-LED® to meet any application you have. We have 14 nationwide locations that offer an in house cutting facility for cut-to-size materials, even on the same day. This means you can collect your material the same day you order it, or get it delivered the next day to site. Amari also offers technical support, advising on what material or how many LEDs you will need for your project within 48 hours.

For more information on Oshino B-LED, Green Cast Seta-LED® and other products, email enquiries@amariplastics.com or visit our website amariplastics.com





SHEET MATERIALS Feature

Materials on display

Andy Jakes, Product Manager at Ultima Displays explained more about the different types of materials available, including portable, lightweight, flexible and durable products.



Andy Jakes, Product Manager at Ultima Displays

Which sheet materials do you use?

We use a variety of foamex variations from 2mm up to 10mm on our Linear and Vector modular display and stand build solutions. We also use Correx with our portable furniture range when weight savings are paramount.

We use 10mm foam PVC for our Wedge banner holder and 1.2mm aluminium for our Shield banner holder which is a rigid sign board. We also use acrylic for shelving and traditional lightboxes.

With our flat-bed printing technology we have the ability to print onto many sheet materials on demand, such as Di-bond, honeycomb and foamcore to name a few.

Of these, what are the major differences?

Foam PVC is suitable for both indoor use and temporary outdoor use whereas aluminium is suitable for longer term outdoor use and can also be recycled.

With its fluted design, Correx offers a good level of rigidity and reduces the weight of the overall product. Di-bond, being a premium material, will provide longevity for external usage and a high quality surface to print onto.

What are the benefits of each?

Foam PVC is extremely durable and is used for functional rigid sign boards with double sided printed graphics. Foam PVC also allows the flexibility to create custom shapes for creating eye catching displays.

Pre-stamped aluminium sheet is also used for rigid sign boards and a message can be displayed on the sheet using selfadhesive transfers or UV flatbed print directly onto the aluminium. Printing directly onto the aluminium sheet provides a hardwearing and long-lasting graphic, which is ideal for indoor or outdoor use at shops, restaurants or bars.

Correx is an economical solution that gives the ability to create flexible shapes whilst retaining strength and helps to reduce weight when handling and shipping.



Ultima Displays uses 1.2mm aluminium for its Shield banner holder



Ultima Displays use 10mm foam PVC for its Wedge banner holder











Other LED Products – We stock and distribute a variety of Tridonic and Mean Well LED Drivers as well as JCC Lighting products.* TRIDONIC



* PENCILLIGHT

Pencil light is a well-established, reliable and cost effective trough lighting solution – ideal for illuminating signage and billboards. The electronic ballasts within Pencil Light maximise life span of the fluorescent tubes whilst improving efficiency.



LED Ultra uses the latest T8 LED Tube technology. Each tube incorporates its own built-in LED driver, replacing conventional fluorescent tubes. The LED Tubes are made from aluminium and polycarbonate. This provides strength and minimises risk of breakage in transit.

CIGNTRIM

SIGNTRIM is a contemporary aluminium extrusion designed for fabricating sign frames; it provides a finish that is completely unblemished by screws or fixings. SIGNTRIM is quick and easy to install and is suitable for non-illuminated sign panels 5–6mm in thickness.



www.visiondepot.co.uk



PRODUCT Choice

Sign maker brings laser cutting in-house

Investing in a Trotec laser has enabled Bristol based signage company AllSigns Visual Communication to diversify its portfolio and bring laser cutting in-house.

AllSigns manufactures bespoke signage and decorative artwork for workplaces and commercial environments, with a commitment to investing in new technology which will benefit customers. The purchase of a Speedy 400 laser cutter has enabled the company to respond more quickly to customer demands.

Managing director Graham Wood said: "While we previously outsourced our laser cutting work, the Speedy 400 has given us the control required to work to tight deadlines by bringing the work in-house. We are now able to create prototypes and samples for our clients and have significantly increased our production capabilities. From cutting individual lettering for signage to producing completed displays, our laser plays an important part in our production process."

The addition of the Trotec laser cutter has improved efficiency at the business by eliminating time-consuming and costly processes.

> We have been able to rely upon Trotec's after sale support whenever we have needed it and I cannot fault our experience

"The Speedy laser has improved our workflow and made us more efficient," explained Graham. "Previously we would have to CNC route acrylic letters and flame polish the edges to achieve a clean cut finish. The laser cut achieves a flame polished edge without additional processes, saving us both production time and costs.



From cutting individual lettering for signage to producing completed displays, the laser plays an important part in AllSigns' production process

During the decision-making process, Graham and his team visited Trotec's Bristol showroom where they received a full demonstration on the laser and a complete overview of the possible applications.

"The demonstration opened our eves to what other applications would be possible with a laser, so right from the first meeting we've felt supported by Trotec," concluded Graham. "We have been able to rely upon Trotec's after sale support whenever we

have needed it and I cannot fault our experience."

The Speedy 400 is a flatbed laser with a bed size of 1000mm x 610mm, high-speed processing up to 3.55m/sec and a superior product build for dust protection; making it a versatile option for integration in to production lines where cutting, engraving and marking of materials, parts or components is required.

www.troteclaser.co.uk

Zeta's LGP helps attract potential homebuyers

Key information contained on hoarding around the marketing suites at Redrow's Millfields development in Hackbridge and Saxon Square in Luton, is illuminated thanks to Zeta Specialist Lighting's UKmanufactured Light Guide Panel.

Redrow commissioned City & County Graphics to create visually appealing hoarding for the marketing suites at two of its new developments, featuring both the company and development logos while communicating essential information including opening times and telephone numbers.

City & Graphics built the 80 x 2.4 metre installations using aluminium composite material (ACM panels) consisting of two thin sheets of aluminium continuously bonded to a polyethylene core. Zeta's Light Guide Panel (LGP), which is made from the highest quality acrylic, was inserted behind the panel to illuminate the logos and lettering.

The Zeta LGP utilises ultra-efficient Philips Lumiled LEDs with RGB options available: providing scope for sign-makers to offer a range of different effects and mood lighting. In this case, City & Graphics opted for a purple background, illuminating the letters and logos in white.

One reason for selecting the Zeta solution was fast turnaround; as the LGP is manufactured in the firm's UK production facility, Zeta was able to deliver within the agreed timescale. In addition, City & Graphics have used the product in previous applications and as such were confident in the quality and efficacy of the solution.

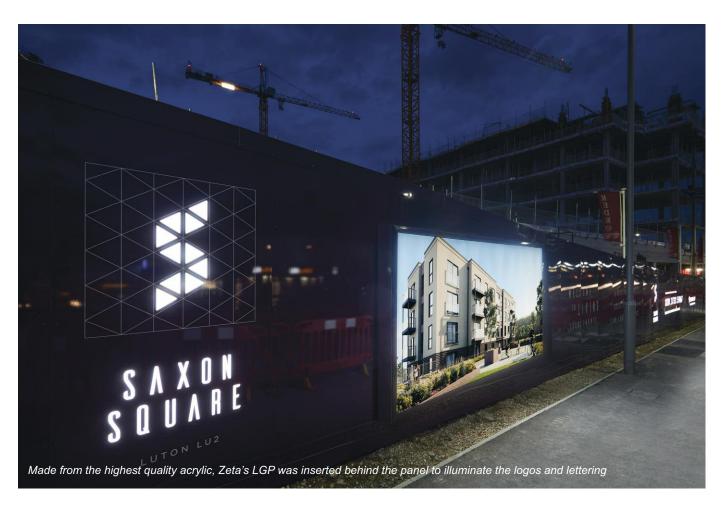
Zeta's LGP has a grid pattern etched into it that's been specifically designed to deliver shadow free illumination and deliver uniform light distribution, ensuring optimum performance. This cost-effective, space-saving, easy to install solution can be used in both single and double sided

This cost-effective, space-saving, easy to install solution can be used in both single and double sided applications and has a waterproof option available, making it suitable for both outdoor and indoor use

applications and has a waterproof option available, making it suitable for both outdoor and indoor use.

Featuring an ultra-slim profile starting from just 6mm, the Zeta LGP is available in bespoke sizes and provides a flexible, energy-efficient solution to deliver optimum illumination across a variety of signage applications.

www.zetaled.co.uk www.cityandcountygraphics.co.uk





PRODUCT Choice

i-Sub delivers 3.2m Agfa and Zünd machines to Digital Wordcrafts

Digital Wordcrafts has purchased an Agfa Anapurna H3200i LED UV printer from i-Sub to replace VUTEk printers along with a Zünd G3 XL3200 digital flatbed cutter to replace two smaller Zünd machines.

Managing director Adrian Bingley said: "For many years i-Sub has provided all our large format Mimaki solvent machines and we have always been very happy with their service and support. We began with a 1.3m Mimaki and as demand grew so did the width of our printers and we ended up with a 2.6m Mimaki JV34 and a 3.2m JV5. Now we have two 1.6m and one 1.3m Mimaki JV150 machines, all of which are serving us very well."

The new Agfa Anapurna H3200i LEDUV is a belt-driven hybrid machine that can handle all types of rigid sheet materials up to 3.2m wide and with the ability to print a 10' x 5' (3000mm x 1500mm) sheets landscape, productivity is impressive. Roll media is available up to 3.2m wide, both in single- and dual-roll configurations.

"While we were very happy with the VUTEk, we wanted to go to a 3.2m machine that could offer inline white," continued Bingley. "The Agfa Anapurna represented incredibly good value coupled with very high quality. We compared the products and particularly on the white ink, what we saw from the Agfa was as good if not better than the more expensive VUTEk machine."

The Agfa Anapurna is now installed at Digital Wordcrafts and running for 15 hours a day, every day.



The unit cost per print is lower thanks to the reduced cost of Agfa ink which has improved margins and profitability

"The productivity and speed of the Agfa is around double compared to our previous machines and perfect for where our business is today," said Bingley. "It has opened new opportunities and allowed us to take on bigger and more profitable projects. For example, one customer asked for 400m of poster paper to be turned around within 26 hours. We ran it in addition to our already busy schedule and delivered on time, which is something we couldn't have done before.

"We have used Zünd cutters for many years and were keen to keep this relationship going," explained Bingley. "We needed a wider, faster and more versatile machine and i-Sub did a great job arranging a deal that allowed us to part exchange our two previous Zünd P/N model cutters. The new machine has a conveyor belt system that allows us to add a roll on one end that moves through the cutter and delivers a seamless workflow. The time saving this delivers has had a massive impact on our overall productivity.

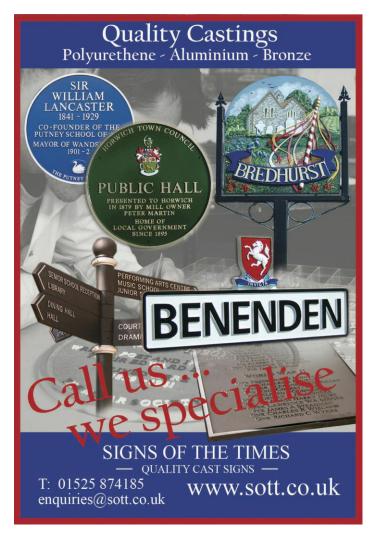
"Our new machines have allowed us to get through more work more quickly and provide much higher quality than we could previously offer. The inline white in particular offers a very dense, bright white that our customers really love."

i-Sub sales director Emma Plant said: "We have worked very closely with Digital Wordcrafts for many years now and our relationship has been based on an open structure whereby we always discuss their needs and propose solutions that are best for their requirements."

www.i-subdigital.com



A conveyor belt system allows Digital Wordcrafts to add a roll on one end that moves through the cutter and delivers a seamless workflow









PRODUCT Choice

AB Screenprint continues to save and prosper with Nazdar Inks from QPS

Liverpool-based AB Screenprint provides a full range of promotional and display materials to a variety of customers in and around the Liverpool area. The company has been using Nazdar inks supplied by Quality Print Services (QPS) for over a decade.

"We have a range of printers that allows us to deliver just about anything asked of us and the quality of what we produce ensures we maintain a very high level of repeat business," said co-founder Kevin Baker.

"For more than 10 years all our printers have run Nazdar inks. Our portfolio of large format printers allows us to meet virtually any customer requirement and thanks to Nazdar and QPS, they remain in very good working order and ready to deliver.

"Nazdar inks are non-aggressive and cause minimal wear and tear on the printer heads, nozzles and other components. With the excellent maintenance and support we receive from QPS and the huge cost savings from not using manufacturer inks, we have a very reliable and successful wide format printing offering."

AB Screenprint's production room houses a Uniform Grenadier SP-1900, an Agfa Grand Sherpa, a Mimaki JV3-160 and a Roland VersaExpress RF-640. The Grenadier and Mimaki printers run on Nazdar 1300 Series inks; the Roland uses Nazdar 202 Series inks and the Agfa runs the Nazdar PhotoChrome aqueous inks.

"When we first installed the Grenadier printer in 2006 we struggled with it," explained Kevin. "The main problem was that the inks (OEM and third party) we were using were so aggressive they were practically destroying the machine. Someone recommended QPS who suggested we try Nazdar's inks in the Grenadier and ever since we've had no issues and reduced maintenance and spare part costs."

As business grew the company needed to expand its printer range and soon purchased the Mimaki JV3-160 printer followed by the Agfa and the Roland.

"As each new machine came on board we immediately installed them with bulk ink systems from QPS. It's not just about the cost benefits," said Kevin. "The inks are so gentle on the printers that they are vital in ensuring they stay in top condition. Our



Nazdar 1300 inks offer long-term exterior performance with proven resistance to the effects of UV degradation and colour fading

customers have come to expect and enjoy the very high levels of detail and colour accuracy we can produce for them time and time again."

Nazdar 1300 inks offer long-term exterior performance with proven resistance to the effects of UV degradation and colour fading. Colour-matched to the OEM inkset, they provide consistent colour density values and excellent adhesion and flexibility on vinyls. The Roland VersaExpress printer was converted to run on Nazdar's 202 Series inks which are colour matched and chemically compatible with Roland Eco Max 2 inks.

"The success of our business is built on the very long-term relationships we have with our customers," said QPS managing director Chris Bailey. "We achieve this by focusing on what is important to them. They have made huge investments in printing technology and we are committed to ensuring they maximise the longevity and value of these machines."

Kevin Baker concludes: "QPS has been absolutely brilliant over all the years we have worked together. They will come out to us at 10pm if needed and nothing seems to be too much for them. They offer great maintenance services and technical

Customers have come to expect and enjoy the very high levels of detail and colour accuracy AB Screenprint can produce every time

support; we wouldn't go anywhere else."

www.qualityprintservices.com

Bow Design takes aim at big-brand clients with Roland TrueVIS VG-640

Bow Design is a small business but its new Roland DG TrueVIS VG-640 has allowed it to take some of the UK's biggest companies as clients.

Matthew Anderson bought a small Swansea-based sign company in September 2017 and decided to invest in additional printer power to the business – rebranded as Bow Design - almost straightaway.

"We had a 14-year-old Roland VersaCAMM SP-540 - which is still going strong - plus a laminator and a CNC router but I wanted to go after large accounts," said Anderson. "A contract with one of the UK's biggest retailers depended on upgrading our printing capacity."

Matthew saw printers from several manufacturers in action but decided to stay with Roland, narrowing down the choice to a TrueVIS VG-640 wide-format inkiet printer/cutter after seeing it at a Creative Centre Experience Day at Roland DG UK's headquarters in Clevedon.

We now have two operational Roland machines, running all day every day and I've calculated production has increased by 72%

"As an existing Roland user I know that Roland's service is second to none," he commented. "The TrueVIS VG-640's speed and quality are great and the RIP is almost identical to the VersaCAMM so I knew it would be easy to use. You know what you're getting with Roland, and that's a quality machine."

As a direct result of the TrueVIS installation in February, Bow Design is now producing work for seven supermarket branches including window graphics, point of sale, internal hanging signs, filling station graphics and Easter displays. The TrueVIS – supplied by Roland reseller printMAX – prints and cuts stickers at an incredible rate.

"The week before the TrueVIS was installed I printed 100 stickers on our older machine in 39 minutes," explained Anderson. "A week later, on the new TrueVIS, I printed 100 stickers in nine minutes. We now have two operational Roland machines, running all day every day and I've calculated production has increased by 72%."

The next step for Bow Design is to open a stunning showroom for potential customers and partners, inspired by Roland's Creative Centre. With media samples from Metamark, the company is using digital wall coverings, window graphics and other signage and display work to create an inviting space with the wow factor. The new machine is key to this project.

"The TrueVIS is perfect, it hasn't missed a beat," said Anderson. "It also looks nice in our new showroom."

www.bowdesign.co.uk www.rolanddg.co.uk



As a direct result of the TrueVIS installation in February, Bow Design is now producing work for seven supermarket branches including window graphics, point of sale and internal hanging signs



PRODUCT Choice

Print company re-aligns strategy with DYSS digital cutting table

When TriStar Printers re-aligned its business strategy in a concerted effort to add value for its customer base, it added 40% to its floor area to house a large format print department with a Canon Océ Arizona flatbed digital printer and a DYSS X7 digital cutter from AG/CAD.

Tristar director Abu Ahmed said: "Off the back of the recession, the industry became very price oriented and to thrive as a business we realised that we had to add value for our customers and extend our capabilities to be a one-stop solution provider. Our aim was to look at new ways to create value for the customer; the DYSS and Océ combination have certainly done that."

The transition has seen the company supplement its traditional services of brochures, booklets and vearbooks with large format work that has included shop signage, shopping centre displays, PoS displays, pop-ups and wall art.

All manufactured on the DYSS X7-1624C SuperHead digital cutter and printed on the Océ Arizona 1260GT, the company sees the potential of targeting large format work.

"The Arizona has a 2.5 by 1.25m bed and allows us to print direct to substrate whether it's card, wood. Dibond or Foamex. All of these materials can be processed on the DYSS X7 with its powerful SuperHead that has a router spindle for cutting tough materials as well as tool slots for a variety of knife and creasing/scoring tools.

"The ability to print direct to substrate with the Océ and cut absolutely anything on the DYSS is winning huge amounts of new business. The new large format department is giving existing customers a 'one-stopshop' for all their needs. In addition, we are winning new business from retailers, sign makers and small companies looking for pop-up banners and signage, shopping centre display units and back-drops.'

The software allows for mocking up and visualisation of exhibition stands, signage and shop-fitting projects

Tristar was interested in the DYSS because the robust, heavy-duty build quality compared to alternative machines gave an immediate perception of longevity. AG/CAD provided an extensive warranty period, which gave Tristar confidence in the product's reliability and performance. A further key aspect was the comprehensive KASEMAKE CAD software provided by AG/CAD.

"We bought a suite of in3D design software. Operating within the KASEMAKE CAD suite, it is a powerful visualisation and animation tool that allows us to build virtual 3D environments including supermarket aisles, shelf units or even a complete store. The software allows for mocking up and visualisation of exhibition stands, signage and shop-fitting projects. KASEMAKE has extensive import and export facilities that allow it to seamlessly interact with in3D while the comprehensive exchange formats for files such as PDF, AI, CF2, DDES, DWG, DXF, HPGL and EPS deliver complete transparency and conformity.

"The combination of KASEMAKE and the K-CUT vision system enables us to design backdrops for shopping centres and create box board furniture. The synergy between the Arizona RIP and the K-CUT vision system seamlessly delivers the precision for the DYSS to cut out our printed work highly accurately, regardless of material. We are cutting a lot of E-Flute corrugated, folding boxboard, 3 and 5mm thick Foamex, 5 and 10mm thick acrylics and Dibond. The DYSS X7 has the software, precision, build quality and powerful cutting head to handle everything we run through it with ease."



Tristar has added 40% to its floor area to house a large format print department with a Canon Océ Arizona flatbed digital printer and DYSS X7 digital cutter from AG/CAD

www.agcad.co.uk

McGowans further cements Durst partnership with latest investment

Durst has supplied two more systems in a €850,000 agreement with long-standing customer McGowans as part of further growth for Ireland's biggest digital printer now expanding its presence further into Britain and abroad.

McGowans founder and managing director Mal McGowan said investment in a Durst Rho 512R Plus and a Durst Rho P10 160 are further examples of Durst always being "weapons of choice" in both roll-to-roll and flatbed technologies.

"We have a long and proud history with Durst and the relationship with them is perfect," said Mal. "As our customers demand ever-higher quality and faster turnarounds for shorter production runs the need for digital increases even more. The quality and reliability of the Durst systems is outstanding and the machines are virtually maintenance-free."

The Durst P10 160 hybrid six-colour with white machine has gone into McGowans' Belfast site where turnover has been growing at 25% a year. McGowans has also taken delivery of a Durst Rho 512 Plus 5 meter wide 12 picolitre UV dual and triple roll printers into the Dublin headquarters. The investment for McGowans, which employs 130 people, further opens up new markets for mesh, polyethylene and fabric UV printing.

"The quality has been absolutely fantastic," said Mal. "I wouldn't expect anything else. We already have exceptional quality on our Durst machines but this takes us to yet another level. Our customers will certainly notice the difference and the investment will open up new opportunities for our business. Durst provides the most reliable digital technology we have ever bought, either large or small format."

The opportunities are limitless with these latest Durst investments and we'll continue to deliver on time every time with the highest standards for our clients

The new investment takes McGowan's Durst complement to five machines, the others being a Durst Rho 1330 fully automated machine, a Durst Rho 1312 three-quarter machine and a Durst Rho P10 3.2m roll-to-roll with white machine.

"We looked at other manufacturers but there was no comparison," said Mal. "The Belfast site is strategically important for us in light of Brexit because it gives us manufacturing capabilities in Britain as well as here in Dublin. We've made the investments in two more Durst machines. because our business is growing exponentially.

"Our customers have the highest of expectations with quality, speed and cost and we are dedicated always to improving our machinery offering and all-round service. The opportunities are limitless with these latest Durst investments and we'll continue to deliver on time every time with the highest standards for our clients."

standing partner and we're delighted that it products that we're proud and delighted to be supplying."

Durst UK and Ireland managing director Peter Bray said: "McGowans is a longhas achieved another 'first' in Ireland with Durst as it continues to expand its operations both at its headquarters and opens up new markets for mesh, polyethylene and fabric UV printing further afield. With extremely tight deadlines companies such as McGowans continuously rely on Durst technology to provide state-of-the-art, reliable, high volume and extremely high quality



Investment in a Durst Rho 512R Plus and a Durst Rho P10 160 further

www.durst-group.com

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PRODUCT Choice

Bespoke 'experiential décor' flooring created using G-Floor vinyl

International artist Emily Campbell has been creating stunningly beautiful, bespoke vinyl flooring for over 20 years. Her unusual and individual designs, promoted under the name of Blue Butterfly Flooring, makes use of images taken from above, emulating the sensation of standing in the actual landscape. Through the use of photography, she creates a world that contains both reality and the imaginary. It's through this 'experiential décor' that one really gets the sense of standing in an actual landscape.

"The floor in a room can dramatically shift the dynamic of a space by either creating drama, or a sense of tranquility," said Campbell. "We're more used to floors being solid surfaces such as wood, carpet or ceramic, but my designs are all about creating illusions, telling stories and transforming spaces."

For several years, Campbell has worked alongside Vinyline Graphics, which has transformed her designs into printed

"Initially, Vinyline printed my designs onto a dance floor material that required overlamination," continued Campbell. "Then about three years ago the team introduced me to G-Floor from Soyang Europe and I immediately fell in love with the product."



Emily Campbell's unusual and individual designs makes use of images taken from above, emulating the sensation of standing in the actual landscape

G-Floor is a special vinyl floor graphic material, manufactured in the USA, being far more versatile and durable than traditional vinyl flooring. It's anti-slip, easy to clean, tear-resistant and is extremely heavy duty for use in industrial environments or areas of high footfall. Graphics are reverse-printed to the underside and backed up with white ink so when the flooring is laid the image can be

seen but is well protected by the topcoat above it, preventing images being scuffed or damaged.

"We've been exploring the world of printed flooring for over a decade but G-Floor has been a game changer for us," explains Vinyline's Steve Moneypenny. "I've been in the printing trade for over 30 years and G-Floor is one of the most exciting materials I've worked with in that time, transforming our client offering and giving them the tools to really use their imagination and get creative with printed flooring in a wide variety of settings."

Soyang Europe's sales and marketing manager Kerrie-Anne Moore commented: "There are a number of printable flooring options around but what G-Floor brings to the table is extreme durability without compromising on any of the creative aspect. What this has meant for Blue Butterfly Flooring is that Emily is able to offer her uniquely creative services to commercial environments such as education and retail settings, where a product needs to withstand a lot of wear and cover health and safety requirements, which is what they get from G-Floor.

G-Floor is anti-slip, easy to clean, tear-resistant and heavy-duty

www.bluebutterflyflooring.com www.soyang.co.uk. www.vinyline.co.uk.

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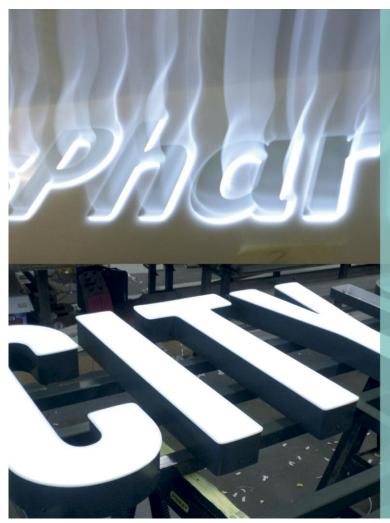
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Sign Update spoke with a number of specialists this month on the subject of how to get as smooth an edge as possible on acrylic. CNC cutting tools and routing systems experts gave us an idea of what goes on behind the scenes and their tips and views on this frequently asked question. And we found out more about flame polishing, diamond polishing and circular saws from some of the people who know best. Here is what the professionals had to say...

CNC diamond polishing routing tools

Cutting edge tools from Norway

Ulf Helliksen, managing director and Ursula Hesener, partner at Crown Norge in Norway, have been in the business of making innovative diamond polishing router tools for decades. Ulf talks in depth about cutting and polishing and why it is so important to have the right tools.

Do you sell polishing equipment or router tools, Ulf?

We do not sell polishing machines, we sell diamond polishing router bits.

One of the downsides of using a flame polisher or cutting with a laser cutter, is that the heat causes stress in the material. This means that when you clean it with some chemicals it can crack like a windshield on a car when it is hit by a stone.

With a polishing machine you don't generate any heat and avoid this problem, but you can only polish straight edges.

With diamond polishing router bits you can make curves, you can polish inside holes and you don't generate any stress in the material.

Do they cut and polish at the same time?

No. First, you cut with a standard single flute router bit and then go in after with the diamond - barely touching the material between 0.05 and max 0.1mm into the

In order to get good results, you need a good machine. Because in clear acrylic, everything is visible. If there is any vibration, of course, you will have distinct rotation marks in the surface.

I'm always honest; I don't sell an expensive diamond tool to anyone who has a low quality machine. In the best case, the end result would be poor and in the worst case, they'd end up with an expensive powder after ten seconds.



Ulf Helliksen, managing director and Ursula Hesener, partner. Photo: Geir A. Carlsson / Fredrikstad Blad

The diamond being so hard means that it lasts a long time. On average a customer will not need to come back to have the tool re-sharpened for two years, when using monocrystalline. However, the diamond being so hard means there is no flexibility, so if you have a little shock due to vibration or drop it on a concrete floor, or if it touches metal, it will probably break.

How many times can diamond polishing tools be re-sharpened?

You have natural, monocrystalline and polycrystalline diamonds. Monocrystalline is harder to get in bigger pieces and the price is similar to natural diamond.

If the cutting edge on the tool is not damaged and there are no cracks, with just normal wear, you can re-sharpen it up to ten times.

And if you drop it on the ground, can it be re-sharpened?

If it falls in the wrong position, it will break into pieces and there will be nothing to repair. Very often, if people have the most expensive monocrystalline - the most expensive we have is 11mm long - and there is an accident, it is only the end of the diamond that gets broken; we can take it off the shank, put it on a new shank and re-sharpen it. You will still have a good tool; it will just have a reduced length.

It's still worth doing it because these monocrystalline tools are expensive.





Polished "ACRYLIC" single flute router bit.

How expensive is expensive?

We stock monocrystalline diamonds from 3 mm to 11 mm in length. The 3 mm diamond costs £438 and the 11 mm is priced at £3,031.

Our lower priced polycrystalline range starts from £444 for a 14 mm tool to £796 for a 33 mm long tool.

The monocrystalline gives a slightly better surface finish and lasts 10 times longer than the cheaper polycrystalline.

These prices are based on the current exchange rate as at March 15th 2018.

If we need just a good edge, rather than a highly polished edge, for say just normal coloured acrylic, then what is important here?

Then you just need the Single flute acrylic router bits, which are very sharp and highly polished, which is very important. The better the polish, the less friction between the acrylic and the tool, which is important for the result. The less friction, the better the finish.

I think it's fair to say that our range includes some of the best on the market; especially made for acrylic.

These special acrylic router tools you've described, how often do they need to be sharpened? How long do they last?

Speaker monitor used at six Nobel Peace Prize concerts.

They are like consumables. For anything up to 6mm cutting diameter, there is no point in trying to re-sharpen it. To try to make the same perfect geometry, it is almost impossible and of course, you would reduce the cutting diameter of the

Most of our customers repeat the same jobs, so they have everything programmed. If the diameter of the cutting tool changes, it means a lot of extra work for them.

It's a different story for bigger, more expensive tools. Then it might make good business sense to get them re-sharpened. But with the tools that we sell, with smaller dimensions, it's not worth the money, and the result will never be quite the same as with a new tool.

And with the single flutes and a good machine, will you get a good finish for normal coloured acrylic, is it necessary to diamond polish after if you really want a good finish.

You would get a very good surface with a single flute.

You should never use the diamond tool for coloured acrylic.

Why's that?

Because in most of these coloured acrylics there are objects inside the acrylic that will wear down the diamond. In clear acrylic, it's purer, you cannot cheat. It's impossible to put in some inferior, cheap recycled material. It's quite normal to do this in coloured acrylic.

There's a very big difference between clear and other types of acrylic.

I have had one customer for around 21 years; they buy all their tools from us. They have bought several diamond tools and a while back, they had a sheet of clear acrylic glued together with a piece of coloured acrylic, which was polished with a diamond. After one day's use, the part of the diamond that had polished the colour acrylic had worn down and needed to be re-sharpened.

You can see the difference.

When properly used on clear acrylic, they last on average 2 years, yet here, after just one day, it needed to be re-sharpened.



Acrylic material routed with a single flute "ACRYLIC" router bit and then given a superior finish with a diamond (MCD) polishing tool.



So, really the diamond polishing tools are just for clear acrylic?

Yes. not coloured.

You sell an extensive range of tools. What advice do you give to customers?

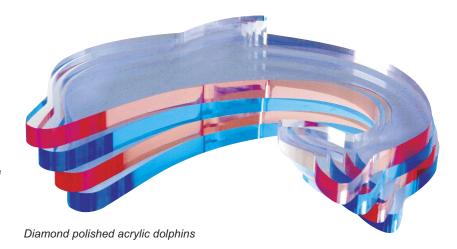
There are different factors that are important.

The first is a good quality machine. We are approached by a lot of people wanting tools yet they have a low quality machine. I tell them to go to the hardware store and buy cheaper tools. On these types of machines, you get so much vibration, there is no point in wasting money on high quality tools so it makes sense to buy the cheaper ones.

Similarly, if you have a very, very high end machine - state of the art - and you go to the hardware shop and buy cheap tools, of



Display material for Calvin Klein



course, the result will not be the best. You need the right machine, high quality tools, and of course, you need a skilled operator with a trained ear; because they are the experts on rpm and feed rate.

There are so many different types of material out there. For example, aluminium comes in 600 different forms. There is the original acrylic from Germany, expensive, but gives a good result and then you have the cheaper copies.

One of the worst examples I can think of is ACM (Aluminium Composite Material). The original comes from 3A in Germany. I was with them last week. I have a customer here who made boxes for garbage on the trams in Oslo and he did 18,000 metres with just one tool, without changing.

In contrast, another potential customer approached me at an exhibition and he had to throw away a similar tool after just five metres. That was down to some of the cheapest materials you can find on the market. Some are practically impossible to work with.

How do you know when you've got good material?

The advice I give to customers is not to buy ten pallets of material without testing it first.

Could you tell us more about the differences between the single flute and the spiral two fluted tools?

Spiral two fluted tools form only a small range. Our main markets are the signage and plastic industries because the same tools are used.

So, for us it is the single fluted spiral tools that are most important. Aside from perfect geometry on the cutting edge, the ability to transport the chips away is the next important factor. In the two fluted tool, you have more material in the tool and less space for the chips, so if you route in any material with a two fluted tool without any suction, you will see that the chips stay on each side of the groove.

If you do the same with a single fluted tool you will see that the chips are flying out on the floor because there is less material in the tool and much better space for the chips. So the geometry in the single fluted tool is almost functioning like a vacuum cleaner and removing the chips very, very efficiently, and that is of course, very, very important.

And what about the balancing of a tool, how important is that? Is it just about stopping the vibration?

Reducing vibration is important in order to get a good surface, there is also less noise and an extended tool life. The carbide in the tool is hard and brittle so if you have any vibration, it will chip off the tool and reduce its lifespan.

If there is a lot of vibration in the tool, you'll quickly break down the bearings in the spindle, and to have a spindle repaired can work out costly.

Of course, when a tool lasts longer, the operator doesn't need to stop so many times. The highest expense in this production is the salary of the operator, so every time he has to stop because the tool is gone, that could cost. The longer the tool lasts, the better.

.....continued on page 54

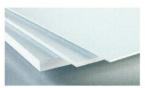


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TE A E S





CNC routing tools

A balanced approach

David Wylie, General Manager of Regal Tools UK - a leading supplier of premium carbide CNC router cutters for professional sign, display and POS manufacturers and the major supplier of Crown Norge router tools in the UK describes how you can deal with even the toughest of acrylics.



David Wylie, General Manager of Regal

You have a wide range of balanced tools; could you tell us more about them?

With newer CNC machines now capable of spindle speeds in excess of 60,000rpm, we have found an ever increasing use of

The balancing flute also improves the chip flow

balanced tools for the larger cutting diameters of 6mm or greater. The use of balanced tools will result in a superior surface finish, less vibration, less noise, longer tool life and reduced surface finishing, leading to reduced total job costs. Customers that have a CNC routing machine which can fully exploit the surface finish benefits of using fully balanced tools are now more than offsetting the small additional tool price premium involved. Regal tools has a range of balanced tools for Acrylic from 5mm diameter in cut lengths to suit most production needs.

And how about the bending stiffness of a CNC router tool?

Having identified that our Crown Norge Acrylic tools (Regal AC and ACB range) are excellent for achieving superior edge finish, it is very important that optimum tool size is selected. The router tool is a sidecutting tool, so the cutting force is pushing sideways and bending the tool, so the bending stiffness of a CNC router tool is key and will aid in better surface finish. The stiffest tool possible, given other constraints, should always be selected.

Bending stiffness is proportional to two fundamentals: the Elastic Modulus (which is a physical property of the material and is typically three times higher for 100% tungsten carbide than for steel) and the dimensions of the tool (which are the geometric properties of the tool size chosen). For any given type of carbide router tool, the stiffness is improved by choosing a higher cutting diameter, a lower cutting length and a higher shank diameter.

Do you have any generic advice on selecting the right tool size?

There is no single perfect tool size, but we have found that there are four optimal sizes which will cover most eventualities for most customers, depending on the requirements of their various jobs.

For thicker Acrylics and for the best surface finish, the exceptionally stiff AC-35 is the tool. This has an 8mm cutting diameter and a 32mm cutting length on an 8mm diameter shank and is also available as a balanced tool, ACB-35, for improved surface finish.

A 6mm cut on a 6mm shank is a sweet spot for value and stiffness. The AC-28 has a 6mm cutting diameter and a 12mm cutting length on a 6mm diameter shank. A balanced version is also available.

"Regal tools has a range of balanced tools for Acrylic from 5mm diameter in cut lengths to suit most production needs."

For tighter radiuses, a 4mm tool is still a good option. The AC-22 has a 4mm cutting diameter and a 12mm cutting length on a 6mm diameter shank.

If an even lower cutting radius is required, then a 3mm cutting diameter can be used; the AC-20 is a very popular choice with a 3mm cutting diameter and an 11mm cutting length on a 6mm diameter shank.

These four tools and cutting diameters provide a very capable armoury for customers facing the most demanding acrylic jobs.



Highlight added in yellow showing the balancing flute and balancing cut

CNC routers

Route to success

Ged Lodge, Application Specialist at AXYZ International - a leading global manufacturer of CNC router systems and CNC knife systems - gives his view on the best ways to ensure the smoothest of acrylic edges when using CNC routers.

Why are high quality cut edges so important?

Poor quality cut edges are a visual distraction and they result in inaccuracy. Sometimes, a piece may need to be cut to a precise size so that it works with another part. A part that fails the quality assurance test because of poor cutting quality will not be the size needed by the customer. This can be extremely costly. It's therefore paramount it is done right.

What can you tell us about machine fundamentals when it comes to CNC routing acrylic edges?

There are several features that will affect the quality of the cut. These include the drive systems, spindle and its general construction.

Even the smallest amount of vibration will create unsightly marks on the cut edge. Vibration can be caused by the drive systems, the spindle – even the controller. Whilst it's tricky to eliminate completely, a machine that's manufactured well will help tremendously.

One of the best ways to reduce vibration is to use a heavy duty, single piece, welded steel frame mounted on high quality machine mounts.

The drive system needs to be right, too. Misalignment or coarseness in the drives

"Using a set of properly specified machine mounts has been proven to reduce transmitted vibration in the machine by up to 98 %. And they decrease noise levels and extend the life of the machine too."

will be passed on to the cutter and will result in indentations or ripples on the surface of the cut part.

Helical rack and pinions or ballscrews are commonly used on CNC routers. Ballscrews are great for a smooth appearance though they have limitations when it comes to larger machines. Without adequate support or a sufficiently large diameter - which can prove costly - a long ballscrew can introduce vibration.

A regular straight rack and pinion, whilst very adaptable and lower priced can be unfavourable if you have a single pinion tooth engaged in the rack at any one time as this could cause notches and lead to wear over time: this will then lead to issues in the drive. It is therefore advisable to invest in the more advanced helical rack and pinion; which should perform as well as a ballscrew, without the disadvantages. For an enhanced finish, couple with high quality servo motors.



Ged Lodge, Application Specialist at AXY7 International

"When it comes to the routing spindle, running at 24,000 rpm or higher, any balance inconsistencies in the spindle or its bearings will be immediately noticeable through tool marks on the acrylic."



AXYZ's extensive range of CNC routers can fit any CNC project, for any industry



Avoid buying a cheap spindle at all costs and be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions. Take advice from the machine manufacturer on whether a high-speed spindle, which typically runs at 40,000 rpm, is right for you.

They are more expensive and you may well need to buy a cooling system and good toolholding systems too; though they give superior cut quality and are up to three times faster than when using a normal spindle.

Chip removal has a lot to do with the quality of cut. This needs to be done during and after cutting. If dust and debris aren't removed quickly and properly, the tool's cutting flutes cut will become clogged or could even begin to melt.

A well-designed pressure foot, if used correctly, will produce a cyclonic vortex which draws the waste from the cut efficiently.

Could you explain more about vacuum decks and machine hold down?

We, in fact, have a blog dedicated entirely to this on our website.

If you are in any doubt about any areas of cutting acrylics or, indeed, how to get the most out of your CNC routing machine, we always advise getting in touch with the manufacturer; they will know how to help and what will work best with their machine.

Flame polishers

Flame polisher that's a small wonder

Louise Gardener, Managing Director of Signgeer describes a handy product they have co-developed for smaller businesses. Collaborating with highly regarded tool developers worldwide, Signgeer supplies signage products to professionals throughout the industry.

Can you give us any examples of how you develop tools to accommodate different customers' needs?

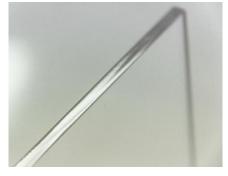
Signgeer strives to offer the best range of innovative signmaking tools and signmaking equipment for the professional signmaker - developing our own quality brand and working with some of the most innovative tool developers in the world.

Sign companies come in all different shapes and sizes which can prove challenging for smaller firms wishing to offer the same types of services as the bigger companies. A good example of this is flame polishing.

Not every company can warrant the investment of a £500 flame polisher or a £20,000 laser for the occasional polished acrylic edge.

Acting on feedback from fellow signmakers, Signgeer and Yelllotools have developed the Mini Flame Polisher.

The Mini Flame Polisher is a hand held



Clearly, a perfect edge

gas burner with a clever, easy to use variable spacer to enable you to achieve the perfectly polished edge on acrylic of any thickness.

The finish on the edge can be regulated via the user by the speed in which the user glides the tool, i.e., slower for a more polished finish. At a price of £79.95 it is an affordable solution.

The product can be found at signgeer.com

.....continued on page 58









Flame polishers

A Polished Performance

Stephen Ferrie, Managing Director of iSpi Trade explains more about flame polishing - how it achieves professionally smooth edges, alleviates the need for conventional exertion and its potential for long term cost savings.



Stephen Ferrie - iSpi Trade Managing Director

How do you get the perfect edge finish on acrylic without the elbow grease?

If you supply acrylic signage then you may be familiar with the struggle of prep work, chemicals, abrasive paper and some elbow grease. There's good news: flame polishers provide a better way to achieve the perfect, crystal clear, glass like edge to your acrylic product. Delivering that polished, quality finish you strive for, that makes your product look better and safer, with no ragged rough edges.

iSpi Trade supplies a wide range of companies with flame polishers and the



feedback every time is "That's what we needed." A simple, cost effective way to add that finishing touch to acrylic as well as an easy way to repair any acrylic damaged during installation from scratches or scuffs.

How do they work?

It's a pretty simple, safe and cost saving process. Using only a standard electrical supply, the flame polishers produce a high temperature flame, delivered at low pressure. With a very small volume of gas required, no storage or compression is needed, meaning the operation is safe, with no cumbersome cables.

Our range of flame polishers can be used, and provide excellent results, on all grades of clear and transparent acrylic, giving a high gloss finish. When applied to most opaque acrylics, they generally give a gloss or satin polish.

What do they cost and how do you get started?

There is a range of machines available to suit larger and smaller businesses; each

caters for different needs. To give an example of costings, the 300W Single Operator Model is priced at £549 and the 600W Three Operator Model costs £759.

All machines come fully ready to use with your starter torch kit and a range of flame

Many sign companies will outsource their acrylic supply and flame polishing does add cost from suppliers, so there is long term cost savings by bringing this inhouse. The fact that these provide a quick and easy way to fix any acrylic damaged during installation, directly on site, is another reason every sign company should consider flame polishers and polishing as part of their product and service itinerary.

To learn more about iSpi Trade and shop for Flame Polishers, visit www.ispitrade.com





Flame polishers deliver the perfect finish for acrylic signs

Flame polishers and diamond polishers

Smooth operators

Andy Gleeson, Managing Director of Awltech, specialist suppliers of plastic fabrication equipment, gives advice on flame polishers...

The Awltech flame polisher produces its own gas from distilled water so they are very cost-effective to run. And they are safe, too, as there are no gases to store when not in use.

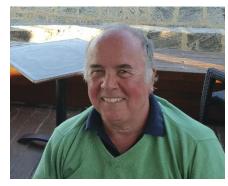
And how many different kinds of these machines do you supply?

There are three flame polishing machines in the Awltech range: the A-Plus which can polish up to 5mm in one pass; the super A

which can polish up to 10mm in one pass; and the model B that is able to polish up to 15mm in one pass or run more than one

Why is it so important that you polish in just one pass?

Every time you pass the flame along the edge of the acrylic, it puts stress into the material so the trick is to do it as fast as possible.



Andy Gleeson, Awltech's Managing Director

The flame polisher makes the edge turn transparent so if the material has been cut on a router you will still see the router marks albeit polished marks.

For the perfect finish, scrape the edge first and then flame polish. You can buy ceramic scrapers, however a trick of the trade is to get some 2mm steel cut to a handy size without getting it deburred. The sharp edge is perfect for scraping the edge of cut acrylic.

For more information, visit www.awltech.co.uk.



...and on diamond polishing acrylic

When diamond polishing, you are able to choose different types of tools for different materials. Our machines provide the opportunity to work with both natural and synthetic diamonds.

There are always two tools in the cutting head: one cutter that does all the work called a PCD (Polycrystalline Diamond) and a finisher - a natural diamond or synthetic diamond finisher.

The height of the tools are not set by the person using the machine; they are set back at our tool maker factory.

The finisher is set 0.02mm higher than the cutter, so the cutter goes over the material removing 0.48mm of material, followed by the finisher skimming the surface and removing the last 0.02 mm.

So, in total 0.5mm of material is removed.

Some people want to remove 0.75mm; they can adjust the machine to cut deeper so the cutter would remove 0.73mm and the finisher diamond would skim off 0.02mm.

Why do you offer both natural and synthetic diamonds?

We offer both because they each serve different purposes. The natural diamond produces a perfect finish so is ideal for use on blocks and the synthetic diamond is used on panels.

Also, the difference in price is vast. The natural diamond can cost up to £900 whereas a synthetic diamond is priced at around £300-400.

We also have a range of tools for other materials.



The EF-200 diamond polisher: acrylic moves across the milling motor



Could you tell us more about the types of diamond polishers available?

There are two types of diamond polishers: one where the acrylic moves across the milling motor, like our EF200, and one where the milling motor moves and the acrylic stays still, like the Bermaq and Homag machines on our website.

For large production, most people use the Bermaq or Homag type of machine. You can polish stacks of material up to 3.1m in length and up to 120mm deep on our large machine.

The latest addition to these machines is a mop polisher which is built in. Another new feature is the facility to stack bevelled material and diamond polish.



The Bermag: the milling motor moves and the acrylic stays still, just as it does on the Homag machine, pictured page 59 middle left

Circular Saws

I saw the sign

Craig Williams, Managing Director of Sagetech Machinery, vertical panel saw specialists, reveals the types of blade he considers ideal for cutting acrylic and indeed, the majority of sign making material. He talks precision, aesthetics, productivity and cost saving.

What advice do you give on cutting acrylic and other sign making materials?



The Koolkut KF: accurate, fast and clean

As a leading British manufacturer for vertical panel saws, we provide an entire range of sheet cutting machines; innovative, affordable solutions which allow buyers to benefit from increased productivity, cost saving and reduced waste from materials.

For acrylic - and most other sign making materials too, such as aluminium, aluminium DIBOND® and Foamex - we recommend our professionally made triple chip saw blade. With their trapezoidal teeth, bevelled on both sides, the amount of teeth marks left behind from the blade cut are reduced.

So, how do you ensure the acrylic is secure, ensuring no room for movement?

Our machines have a vertical standing bolted frame that holds the material in place whilst the moving column can make vertical and horizontal cuts. Once the material is secure, using the correct blade to cut the material to size is key to the finish you will achieve.

We want our customers to get the best out of their machines, and making sure they

"When using acrylic, once cut to size, we recommend changing the blade to a diamond tip saw blade and scoring the edges of the acrylic leaving a diamond, clear, precise finish."

are using the right blade for the materials is as important as their choice of machine. We deal with sign makers across the UK and Europe, and when working with acrylic and other signage material, achieving the perfect edge helps with the aesthetics of their product.

How can our readers find out more about what you stock and what you do?

We have a complete range of vertical panel saws to suit every application. Our precision machines are designed, manufactured and built in the UK.

For more information on Sagetech's range of Vertical Panel Saws contact our team on 0191 691 3044 or visit our website sagetechmachinery.co.uk.



SALES & SERVICE

NEW MAXICAM M3 CNC ROUTER

UPGRADED CONTROL . NEW INTERFACE . IMPROVED WORKFLOW



24TH - 26TH APRIL 2018 - SIGN AND DIGITAL UK

THE MACHINE

The new Maxicam M3 CNC from
POWELL CNC is our most advanced
CNC router yet. Packed with new
features and improved design the
latest M3 is sure to impress. The new
M3 for class leading productivity and
affordability.

WHAT'S NEW?

- High efficiency vacuum table
- Totally redesigned user interface
- Improved dust extraction
- Latest NC controller from OSAI
- Windows 10 Pro OS
- Remote support over Ethernet
- Latest digital servo drives & motors



3M adds wow factor to the BRIT Awards with Mastercard stage

Audiences were wowed by the set of this year's BRIT Awards created by Misty Buckley Production Design, using DI-NOC architectural finishes by 3M.

A dramatic, origami-inspired stage backdrop which stood at 15m high and 59m wide, captivated architects, interior designers and the viewing public.

The bold structure comprised multiple folded and prism-shaped formations with names including Iceberg, Moving Mountain, Peace Crane and Shard. Cleverly constructed to look like one formation, each plane was made separately, using a different pattern from the science-based technology company's DI-NOC finishes collection. The entire structure was projection mapped using 23 laser projectors.

This created the ultra-realistic appearance of the entire structure being made from solid dark metals although it was manufactured out of a steel structure with a hard cladding of aluminium composite board and covered in 3D-conformable DI-NOC finishes by 3M.

The innovative DI-NOC architectural finishes by 3M resemble natural materials. Following the recent addition of 153 new patterns and textures based on the latest trends, the range now encompasses more than 800 different designs, enabling almost infinite creativity both for interiors and exterior facades.

While the materials in the range accurately mimic the effect of everything from wood grains and stone to leather and textiles, those seen at the awards event came from the Advanced Metallic, Metallic Hairline and Metallic ranges, mimicking the look of different types of metal.

3M Commercial Solutions division marketing team leader Pen Webley said: "We were honoured to have played a part in helping to create Misty Buckley's fantastic stage. The end result shows that with the DI-NOC range of architectural finishes by 3M, the only limit is your own creativity."

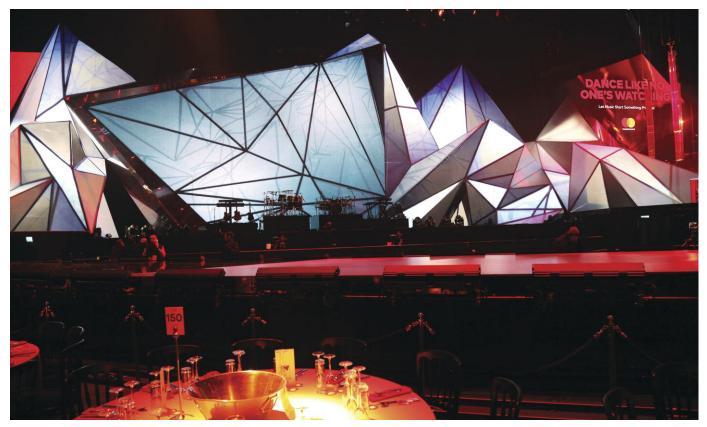
Production designer Misty Buckley added: "We've been delighted with the response to our stage design for the BRITs, from both the industry and the general public.

The end result shows that with the DI-NOC range of architectural finishes by 3M, the only limit is your own creativity

"The DI-NOC range of architectural finishes by 3M allowed us to achieve an outstanding look that really brought our whole design together. The 3M materials responded incredibly well to projection, giving a texture and depth not seen before in conventional projection materials."

The materials used were the DI-NOC Architectural Finishes AM-1697, AM-1702, ME-1434, VM-306, PA-039, ME-379, ME-377 and Mirror films by 3M.

www.3M.co.uk/graphicsolutions



Cleverly constructed to look like one formation, each plane was made separately, using a different pattern

Drytac products 'breathe vividness into colour' for Canadian artist

Since founding his company Render DC in 2007, Canadian artist Robert Ryan has been combining his print knowledge, passion for the outdoors and artistic skills to create one-of-a-kind images which he sells to a diverse clientele including professionals and commercial establishments as well as other artists and photographers.

With a background in screen printing, large format printing, photography and graphic design, Robert sells his finished images in galleries across Canada, as well as online. He offers private showings in his Calgary, Alberta-based workshop and his work can be seen throughout the country in many high-end restaurants, salons and offices. Robert creates photo reproductions and reprints of other people's work and helps prepare fellow artists for art shows by producing and finishing their artwork for them.

A keen fan of Drytac's products, Robert explains: "I first came across Drytac in 1998 when I was in the silkscreen and sign businesses. I then rediscovered the products when I worked in a photo studio which did its own processing, mounting and printing. I quickly realised that Drytac products were of very good quality compared to sign-grade material and have sought it out for my own personal prints and creative projects ever since.'

Robert explained his specific approach to creating his art. "Once taken, each photograph is printed onto different media to make the images stand out and glow. Some look great on metal, others look better on a rough cotton paper or canvas with resin."



Drytac's Protac overlaminate film and its double-sided mounting adhesive are critical in the finishing of Robert's artworks

Drytac's overlaminate film is outstanding as it breathes vividness into colour, especially when mixed with metallic print media

Once the print work is complete, Robert chooses and builds frames to create stunning, unique artworks. Drytac's Protac overlaminate film and its double-sided mounting adhesive are critical in the finishing of Robert's artworks.

"Print permanence, colour, detail and feeling are the end objectives in a print," explained Robert. "Drytac's overlaminate film is outstanding as it breathes vividness into colour, especially when mixed with metallic print media. I use it as a base for my epoxy work as it acts as a very thin piece of plexiglass that can be sanded and even coated with clear epoxy. Without this product my gallery work would not be the same. It has helped me sell my work - and often - at an increased price.

"Additionally, the double-sided Drytac mounting adhesive is incredibly strong yet flexible which enables me to enhance the creative options in my work. I use it to laminate a multitude of substrates. It allows for bending of substrate without separation and is suitable for use in a wide range of temperatures, ensuring greater stability and longevity of my prints.

"I would definitely recommend Drytac products as there is a wide gamut of product offerings to suit many types of mountings and laminations. Drytac has put a lot of effort into its research and development to establish a solid product line which meets the needs of artists such as myself."

www.renderdc.com www.drytac.com



The double-sided adhesive allows for bending of substrate without separation and is suitable for use in a wide temperature range

PROJECT News

Signs Express gives Lancashire organ donation campaign a big lift

Signs Express has supplied and installed three eye-catching lift wraps for Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to promote the health service's blood and transplantation service.

Staff, patients and visitors at the Sharoe Green Lane hospital in Fulwood now get a prominent visual reminder of the importance of organ donation and the vital work the service provides managing the donation, storage and transplantation of blood, organs, tissues, bone marrow and stems cells and researching new treatments and processes.

Royal Preston Hospital's senior estates manager Paul Collier said: "Signs Express have been a supplier of signage to the Trust for a number of years. Their expertise in understanding the needs of both the Trust and NHS is invaluable to us as an estates department.

"Both their office staff and installers are pleasant and professional when undertaking work and are aware of the needs of both the patients and staff when working in clinical environments. Their response to urgent signage requirements is impressive and I would have no issue in recommending them."

Specialist nurse for organ donation at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Ben Armstrong said: "A big thank you to Signs Express for making these lift wraps a reality. We have



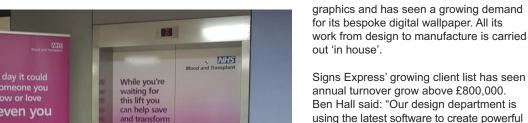
Signs Express has supplied and installed three eve-catching lift wraps for Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to promote the health service's blood and transplantation service

received very positive comments and all three lifts look amazing."

Signs Express carries out repeat work for hospital trusts, schools and colleges across Lancashire, local authorities, universities and manufacturers. The company's 15strong workforce based in Rough Hey Road, designs, produces and installs a full range of signage for its growing client base and is owned and run by father and son team Stephen and Ben Hall.

As well as external and internal signs, the company creates vehicle and window

It's a very competitive market but the advantage we have is being able to take on work of all sizes and to successfully project manage them



"We've got graphics and fabrication workshops that are equipped with the latest technology. It means we can produce all aspects of sign work including illuminated, tactile and braille signs. It's a very competitive market but the advantage we have is being able to take on work of all sizes and to successfully project manage them.'

messages. We pride ourselves that we are

more than just a sign company.

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Signage System



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PROJECT News

Northern Print stands out from the crowd with an LED Pop-Up System

The versatile a.berger LED Pop-Up Systems are quick to assemble and dismantle, light and practical, while remaining stable and flexible. After being introduced to the product by CMYUK, Northern Print decided to purchase one for an upcoming exhibition.

Northern Print director Howard McKeirnan said: "This is a totally new area and product for us and the system that Joel at CMYUK introduced us to looked fantastic. The combination of the stand, the textiles and the crystal floor outshone all other stands. The textiles printed excellently on our VUTEk HS125. It's really opened our

eyes to the future potential of this system in retail and exhibition."

The stand was set off with the UDECO Crystal Floor, which was printed in reverse and backed in white ink to ensure no damage to the print. The Samba Opaque was used for the side of the system to ensure a complete block-out to hide the framework and Samba FR was double struck for the front of the system. The portable, lightweight system can be backlit with an LED curtain and textiles are all crease resistant.

www.cmyuk.com

The portable, lightweight system can be backlit with an LED curtain and textiles are all crease resistant



CMYUK provides templates to print and stitch the textile, ensuring a tight drum-skin effect

Centre Signs (UK) Ltd









EDUCATION & TRAINING Feature

An education on innovation - digital wallcoverings

As the visual communications industry continues to evolve, presenting new challenges and opportunities along the way, it's critical that printers and signmakers have the ability to adapt and take advantage of new market trends in order to maintain their competitive edge. Giles Bristow, head of Antalis' Digital Academy, discusses how these opportunities can be maximised.

Digital wallcoverings application is a great example of an area ripe for the picking. It's a trend that shows no sign of abating and it's little wonder as it's such an effective method of instantly transforming any interior into something creative and inspiring. From hotels, restaurants and shops to offices and homes, there's no end of possibilities to customise and personalise any interior environment. For businesses, it's a quick way to refresh their setting and create stand out aligning to new concepts or branding. For interior designers, it's increasingly sought as a way to effectively transform a space - from walls to ceilings and flooring, the possibilities are endless. Product development in recent years has meant that a range of high quality options are

readily available that are relatively simple to install and remove; it's a win win situation for those wanting to add another string to their bow. That's not to say that anyone can make the leap without the right training and support in place.

With the right know-how and training, it's possible for commercial printers and signmakers to upskill into the discipline of digital wallcovering application and tap into this growing movement. With this in mind and to respond to increasing demand across the retail, leisure, commercial and interior design sectors, Antalis has introduced an intensive one-day workshop. This is aimed at companies with large format Inkjet technology with the ability to print digital wallcoverings who are looking to get a complete overview of all aspects of application from preparation and positioning to getting the best from your materials and tools.

Led by Tom Earthrowl, the workshop offers comprehensive advice around product types and suitability, as well as practical hints and tips on preparation and application. Key areas covered will include application techniques - both in general and in

From hotels, restaurants and shops to offices and homes, there's no end of possibilities to customise and personalise any interior environment using wallcoverings.

relation to different product types - and the pros and cons of certain products in relation to their suitability for different applications. There are a wide range of products to choose from, each with their own merits.

Paste the paper products are the most cost effective and suitable for long-term home décor installations for example, as they are durable and washable. Paste the wall products are quick to apply and easy to remove, as they come off in one piece. They're best for hard-wearing residential and commercial applications, where you might need to regularly change imagery. Pre-pasted products are a quick to apply with minimal mess - you can just immerse the sheets in water and apply straight to the wall so they are ideal for environments that need to be changed regularly. With paste the wall and pre-pasted products







Hotel lobby after wallcoverings applied, instantly transforming space into something creative and inspiring

you can save up to 40% on application time compared to conventional paper backed wallcoverings, which is why it's so important to know the difference and pick the right product for the job.

The importance of preparation will be a central theme of the workshop, from practical preparation ahead of a job and physical preparation of the surface area and materials, to having the right tools on the day. For example, making time to visit the site beforehand can give you an advantage as it allows you to inspect the surface and layout ahead of time and work out the best starting points, as well as preempting any potential obstacles to image/ pattern matching, like windows and doors. You can assess how much the existing surface area needs to be prepared; for example whether new product can be applied over existing wallpaper or will it need to be removed and the surface filed, sanded and primed. The difference between the two in terms of time needed for the job can be vastly different.

Troubleshooting and anticipating problems and preparing solutions will be high on the agenda, including advice on what to do in challenging environments, be it in difficult environmental conditions or in tricky locations. The weather, for example can have a significant impact, with extreme heat and sun causing the adhesive to dry too quickly and extreme cold causing the vinyl to become brittle.

Top tips on digital wallcovering application

- · Make time for a site survey: inspecting the space and taking note of potential problem areas before application can save time and money in the long-run. Take note of optimal positions for joints, furniture or obstacles to be considered and the type and quality of surface you're working with. Preparation is key.
- . Prepare the surface area. As with all graphics, they'll only look as good as the surface they are applied to. Make sure the surface is suitable i.e. a smooth plastered or painted wall or a wall boarded with wood. Many adhesives can be incredibly powerful and seep through an unsealed surface, affecting the finish, so it is always worth using a sealant to provide an effective bond and keep the wallpaper in place, as well as protecting the surface underneath.
- . Scratch test your product. I've worked with lots of different wallpaper and vinyl products over the years and quality of production can vary. To make sure it's up to the job, experiment with a small piece of the print to see what it's

- capable of withstanding; if it hasn't been cured properly the chances are it will scratch when applied. It's much easier to change your product than redo the whole application.
- . Choose the most suitable cutting method for the surface you're working on. Consider whether it could be damaged if you cut into it.
- . Keep it plumb: use a plumb bob weight or spirit/laser level if you prefer to ensure you keep to an accurate vertical line. It's critical when say you're papering a long corridor with a perfectly flat floor that you start the first drop so its long edge is exactly vertical or 'plumb'. The rest will follow. It is important that edges are trimmed accurately during the production process; true vertical lines can be established on site during application.

www.digital2business.co.uk/antalisacademy www.antalis.co.uk



New Air Lounge takes off for Amari Plastics

Located in the heart of London at the prestigious Business Design Centre in Islington, Amari Plastics has unveiled the Amari Air Lounge as the new destination for its Amari Interiors brand.

The brand creates new and exciting opportunities for architects, designers and contractors alike to innovate with artistic high quality materials from market-leading brands. The new brand features a contemporary design along with its own website which have been created to strengthen Amari Plastics' position in the interiors market.

The Amari Air Lounge allows those in the commercial & leisure, retail, public and residential industries, to experience the combination of style and substance with the deluxe applications of Amari's products.

Managing director Andy Carroll said: "We're delighted to introduce our new brand with the opening of our Amari Air Lounge showroom. This is a project that we have worked hard to perfect. Our showroom exists to provide interior inspiration and demonstrate our large portfolio of products in a true setting. We look forward to greeting you on-board."

www.amariplastics.com



Amari Plastics has unveiled the Amari Air Lounge as the new destination for its Amari Interiors brand

OKI Europe signs wide format specialist Print Partnership

OKI Europe (UK & Ireland) has signed a new agreement with Print Partnership Reprographics, an independent supplier of printing equipment and services specialising in wide format. As a result, Print Partnership becomes a reseller partner for OKI's award-winning, wide format ColorPainter range.

Print Partnership business director and owner Jim Harwood is delighted to add such a quality range of eco-solvent printers to his range, opening up the potential for indoor and outdoor applications for his customers.

"In particular, I see OKI's newest addition to the well-established ColorPainter range, the E64s, being a popular choice for our customers."

The E64s is an affordable option for sign and graphics businesses wanting to stick to realistic costs of adoption. At the same time, it takes advantage of OKI's advanced SX ink and proven print technologies inherited from high-end models. The lowodour SX ink improves working environments while achieving a wide range of colours, vivid glossy prints, high density colour, superior outdoor durability and low operating costs, making it ideal for a broad range of interior and exterior applications from vehicle wraps to backlit displays.

Established in 1998 to meet the specialised print needs of the construction industry and architects, Print Partnership grew quickly, expanding its target market.



"Print Partnership is a company dedicated to supplying only print and printing equipment at affordable prices without compromising on service, so it's a great fit with OKI," said OKI head of industry Print Rob Brown. "We believe access to OKI's E64s opens up potential in a whole range of areas including building and vehicle wraps, exhibition graphics, banners, backlit signage, fleet and vehicle graphics and wall and floor graphics."

www.oki.com/uk



HSE refuses to discuss router safety issue

Appeals from the BSGA (British Sign and Graphics Association) for a meeting to clarify the safeguarding requirements for CNC routers used in the sign industry have been rejected by the HSE (Health and Safety Executive) which has stated: "the law on this issue is clear".

However, the BSGA believes that in this instance, the HSE is wrong and is being unfair to sign makers who purchased CE marked routers in good faith.

The problem came to light following an unannounced visit to a sign maker by an HSE Inspector who issued an enforcement notice because the inspector considered the company's router did not have adequate safeguarding even though the machine was CE marked. The business had to pay an HSE fee and suffered disruption and the additional costs associated with installing the extra safeguarding demanded. Since then other sign businesses have been similarly affected.

"What the BSGA and our members don't understand is why the Inspector decided to issue the notice when the machine in question carried the CE mark," said BSGA director David Catanach. "None of the built-in safety features had been bypassed, tampered with or disengaged.

"Our view, which is echoed by our expert advisors, is that, with the CE mark, the machine conformed to the relevant British Standard BS EN 849-3:2012 Safety of Woodworking Machines and did not warrant further safety equipment.

We wanted to sit down with HSE to discover why, if a product complies with and earns a CE mark, HSE Inspectors are issuing Enforcement Notices."

HSE rejected the proposed meeting and in a written reply stated: "The CE mark is not a quality mark and in the Inspector's view the machine did not comply with the relevant standard or HSE Guidance".

"They are patently wrong," said Catanach. "The CE mark is intended to confirm that a product complies with all relevant European safety standards. Why else is it there? To receive a CE mark a manufacturer must meet and document all the necessary requirements and produce a Declaration of Conformity as a safeguard against products not meeting safety standards or regulations. In this case, HSE seem to be applying additional standards over and above the British and European ones".

He went on to say that the BSGA has a deep respect for the work of the HSE "but we believe in this instance they are wrong and the problem is exacerbated by the fact that there is great inconsistency in the application of this practice across the country leading to speculation among some that sign companies are 'easy pickings' for some inspectors.

"The BSGA will continue to lobby the HSE but because they have so far refused to engage with the Association, the advice to BSGA members who already own and operate CNC routers is to read and consider the implications of both the HSE



Enforcement Policy Statement and its WIS (Woodworking Information Sheet) 22 covering safe use of routers (both available to members on the BSGA website).

"It may mean sign makers have to make changes and incur additional costs but until the HSE is prepared to engage and work with the industry like they used to when we had a balanced approach from experienced inspectors, it seems there is little else we can do."

Purchasers of new routing machines should be safe.

"Manufacturers and sellers of routing equipment are now well aware of the HSE stance and are including or offering additional safeguarding, ranging from pressure mats and guard rails to light beams, on all new machines," said Catanach. "However, the onus is still on the purchaser to ensure that both equipment and how they use it meets the standards."

www.bsga.co.uk

Snooker's Steve Davis to host British Sign Awards

The BSGA has announced that British Sign Awards will return to the Athena Centre in Leicester in November and hosted by former world professional snooker champion Steve Davis.

"We are delighted that Steve has agreed to host this year's awards, which once again will have Signfab UK in partnership with Current by GE as the main sponsor," said BSGA director David Catanach. "Confirmed sponsors include Epson, Roland DG, Blackburns Metals, Trade **Etching Direct and Wilson Access** Services. Others are pending but there are still a couple of awards categories available and if any other sign-related

business wants to be involved in this unique event we'd be happy to talk to them.

Based on feedback from entrants, changes have been made to some award categories and full details together with the first call for entries are published on the awards website.

"The closing date for entries will be in early September but we suggest that any company wishing to enter for an award, does so as soon as their project is complete rather than waiting until the last minute," concluded David Catanach.

www.britishsignawards.org



This year's Sign Awards will be hosted by former world professional snooker champion Steve Davis



Why the roller banner is still big news

In an era of digital signage, integrated screens, apps and video content - are the days of traditional roller banners for exhibition use over? We don't think so.

Digital signage is playing a bigger part in exhibition and events than ever before, creating a cacophony of sound and moving images. What was cutting edge and stood you apart from the competition has now become the norm, with the impact being ever more diluted by the volume of businesses adopting the same approach 'to be different'.

The roller banner still offers key advantages over digital signage in a myriad of ways: it's designed for maximum impact at a minimal cost, offering a focused functional message and making it accessible to all businesses from startups to multi-nationals. The very nature of roller banners means their height of over two metres guarantees visibility across a room.

Set up is simple and can be easily achieved by one person in a few minutes. With no power supply required or weighty display units to be installed (unlike their digital counterparts), roller banners can be situated anywhere you have a flat floor and in the case of products such as the X-Banner from Signwaves, even rough or uneven terrain is not an issue. Compact and lightweight, roller banners take little storage room when not in use; simply remove the back support pole, roll up the banner and slide it all back into the carry case the banner comes with. Often these cases feature shoulder straps, allowing the user to carry them easily without needing additional manpower for dismantling and transporting the display.

Roller banners are often (quite rightly) associated with exhibitions and events but they are also strong awareness drivers in car showrooms, shops, supermarkets, museums and leisure centres and even hotel and restaurant foyers.

There are many grades of quality with roller banners; some offer the ability to change the printed graphic in the hardware, with others designed almost for a one or two use life. The quality of printed material you choose for your banner will partially define the lifespan, be it a standard PVC or premium polyester film banner.

It's worth spending a little time to think about how much wear and tear your banner will be subjected to and how long you are looking to use it for. Premium brands and high end businesses would do well to invest into a higher quality roller banner with a premium print finish to reflect their perceived brand values.

With banners available in a myriad of different widths, it's quite possible to create a stunning wall effect with your banner, offering greater awareness and visibility but still affordable.

Simple, striking, high-resolution visuals with minimal text are absolutely key to creating a roller banner with real purpose. High quality graphics and crisp, sharp digital print will automatically draw the eye to the banner, whereas poor quality images and design could well do more harm than good. Keep fonts easy to read, such as classic sans serif, to ensure the viewer is not turned off by overly elaborate text. Where possible, try to keep key messages to around waist height and above to avoid messages being lost at a lower level.

The ideal situation is traditional display such as the roller banner and digital signage working together to create a rounded and considered marketing message that will get your business noticed.

www.signwaves.co.uk



Roller banners are strong awareness drivers in car showrooms, shops, supermarkets, museums and leisure centres and even hotel and restaurant foyers

Stock Displays rebrands as SIGN SH Formerly STOCK DISPLAYS

South Yorkshire based trade signage supplier Stock Displays Ltd has recently changed company name to Sign Shapes Ltd. Marketing manager Chloe Hignett explained: "The name change guite simply complements our growing focus on signage products as we expand our range of post, panel and tray systems.

In addition, we are very pleased to announce the acquisition of Insight Sign Systems' Spectra and Speedflex ranges. You can read more about these products and projects online".

Sign Shapes continue to be one of the largest stockholders of exhibition and display equipment, offering a complete range to the UK sign Industry.

Sign Shapes has made considerable investment over the past 12 months into new machinery with both the CNC router and powder coating facilities. Along with the recent business acquisition and 23 new product lines to the range, they seem committed to continuing manufacturing in the UK long into the future.

Along with the launch of a new website, there will be a new customer Trade Portal available to order and track, talk to dedicated account manager and access marketing support.

Commercial director Damian Edwards added: "To show our appreciation to all our valued customers, all stock lines will be held at current pricing throughout 2018. Part of our promise to continue to be leaders on price and offering our unrivaled trade guarantee."

www.signshapes.com

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CE6000

Graphtec's latest addition to the CE6000 range, the CE6000 Plus, is now available with new and enhanced features that enable higher levels of productivity. The new Plus series comes with 450g force and are supplied with Graphtec Pro Studio Software from SAi.

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Featuring an electronic design and a manufacturing process that minimises lifetime environmental impact, the 6000 series is also cleaner and greener.



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Spectra - the multi-signcase system for KFC

South Yorkshire based trade signage supplier Sign Shapes is now the approved product supplier to KFC across the UK. After the recent acquisition of insight Sign Systems' product lines Spectra and Speedflex, they now provide the in-house manufactured systems direct to the main sign contractors for installation across the

The origin of the Spectra signcase system dates back to the end of 1971. The die print confirms that Alcan produced a die for the extrusion in May 1972, making it one of the first extruded aluminium signcases in the UK. At that time the system was known as Strata, the rights to which were owned by H. Astley & Co.

Over 30 years have passed and the system has received many modifications, the basic construction has remained the same: utilising captive bolts for assembly, which offers superior strength compared to systems which rely on pop rivets, while allowing for re-adjustment.

When Insight purchased The Signcase and Lighting Company along with all the registered designs from H. Astley & Co., the aim was to develop this signcase system to cover a wide range of applications. This was achieved in that the Spectra Multi Signcase System utilises a family of extrusions to produce signcases of many styles and configurations to suit almost any application.

Sign Shapes offer a custom service, providing fully made up cases to any exact size and powder coated to any RAL colour and claim prices to be highly competitive and the best in the Industry



You can purchase the standard Spectra signcase from which all other variations derive; this is the most basic part of the system. Intended primarily for housing 3mm, 5mm, or 6mm acrylic panels (supplied by Sign Shapes), either in backlit or non-illuminated form, Spectra signcases are available in powder coated or mill finish should you wish to paint inhouse.

Three main body sections provide many variations. Standard body can be used for illuminated cases in single or double-sided formation. Slimline body is recommended primarily for non-illuminated single or double-sided cases. Wall bracket can be used for all case types.

Double-sided cases can be fitted with hooks for suspending purposes or a standoff bracket to your chosen location when used as a projected sign. Additional internal components are incorporated to reinforce projecting cases over circa 600mm square.

Sign Shapes offer a custom service, providing fully made up cases to any exact size and powder coated to any RAL colour and claim prices to be highly competitive and the best in the Industry.

Sign Shapes is now the approved product supplier to KFC across the UK

www.signshapes.com



Signs Express Norwich invests in equipment and staff

Due to ongoing expansion and development, Signs Express Norwich has recently invested in upgrading their equipment and recruiting additional staff.

The CNC router will allow greater control of quality, continuity, response time, flexibility and product innovation which provides us with a greater competitive edge in the marketplace, all which will benefit our customers

The company is now the proud owners of a Tekcel 4m x 2m flatbed CNC router which was purchased with help from HSBC, New Anglia Growth Hub, Suffolk County Council, the European Regional Development Fund, the Small Grant Scheme & Complete CNC Solutions.

"The CNC Router will allow greater control of quality, continuity, response time, flexibility and product innovation which provides us with a greater competitive edge in the marketplace, all which will



Installation of a Tekcel 4m x 2m flatbed CNC router is part one of a four-phase plan for updating and improving the production centre

benefit our customers," said marketing manager Rebecca Dick.

Signs Express (Norwich) franchisee Ken Venables said: "We have provided a consistent service with previous equipment but as technology progresses we came to a point where an upgrade was required. We opted for a larger equipment solution, choosing the 4m long bed option

over a 3m, as the additional length will give us far more flexibility and capacity, improving productivity".

The installation of the router is part one of a four-phase plan for updating and improving the production centre with over £85k invested to date.

www.signsexpress.co.uk

Europoint expands its delivery fleet



Tom McCullagh from Truckeast, Steve Jones and Mark Wills of Europoint Northampton

Well at least the 'Beast from the East' bought a smile to Steve Jones and Mark Wills' faces at Europoint Northampton - a major supplier of materials to the UK point of sale, signage and digital printing

They were pleased to see the delivery of a new 26-tonne Scania, expanding their fleet to five vehicles. This bespoke vehicle was produced in conjunction with Truckeast and Newlands Coachworks of

Northampton and brings the total Europoint fleet to 13 delivery vehicles covering the North and South of the UK.

Transport manager Mark Wills said: "The Scania is the biggest vehicle now in the group and with the increased capacity we can service our larger customers on a single run, ensuring the delivery of any size of order."

www.europoint.co



Signs Express Grimsby celebrates 25th anniversary after record-breaking year

Signs Express N&NE Lincolnshire celebrated its 25th year in business with a record-breaking year in both sales and investment in equipment and staff.

The business has continued to invest each year in its custom design production centre in Grimsby, most recently purchasing a new larger flatbed printer to cope with increased demand and offer enhanced flexibility to their customer base.

Directors Matt Bevis and Claire Lindley have both worked in the business for more than 15 years, taking over the reins from Ken Bevis, who was one of the first franchisees to join the market-leading brand in 1992.

The huge UV Oce Arizona 7.5sqm flatbed printer uses revolutionary technology to print onto a variety of materials and finishes and is able to use white ink.

offering a great deal of flexibility for printed signage. This new kit is housed alongside a large CNC router which cuts lettering and shapes from a wide range of materials, laser engraving and cutting machinery, large format printers and a host of other equipment.

The 26-strong team has developed customer relationships spanning many years and attributes its success to their ongoing commitment to their customer

Managing director Matt Bevis explained: "Whether we're helping a local business with graphics for their van or delivering a nationwide roll-out of exterior signs we ensure our customers receive the same level of care and attention.

"At the heart of what we do is our customer and whether it's the attention to detail on the design we produce, quality checking during the manufacturing process or ensuring the installation is completed safely, every single member of the team has the customer first in mind.

"I'm immensely proud of our team and the results we've achieved. To have our biggest ever year while celebrating our 25th anniversary is a very fitting tribute to everyone involved. Our hard work and determination continue as 2018 is set to be even bigger."

Signs Express N&NE Lincolnshire's extensive product range includes signs and graphics for both indoor and outdoor areas from printed wallpaper and office décor, production and site boards through to large-scale signage, hoardings and vehicle graphics.

www.signsexpress.co.uk



The new UV Oce Arizona 7.5sgm flatbed printer is housed alongside a large CNC router, laser engraving and cutting machinery and large format printers

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SIGN News

HNS Signs' Ted Baker project shortlisted for FESPA award

HNS Signs has been shortlisted in the FESPA global print and signage awards for their traditional signwriting project for Ted

Managing director Michelle Henry said: "It is amazing to be shortlisted again for such a high calibre event. We are truly thrilled with the work we have done with Ted Baker across three stores to enhance their customer experience, and it's even more pleasing to be externally recognised for our efforts.

"Fighting off the competition to win in this category looks tough but we have taken the top trophy before, for our innovative work at The Arcadian in Birmingham, which was chosen over well-known global brands such as Harley Davidson."

HNS Signs worked with the interior design team at Ted Baker to initially add some old school traditional quality to one of their stores

We never realised such crafts existed until we stumbled across HNS Signs

After competing against hundreds of nominees to the shortlist stage, HNS Signs are overwhelmed with the judges' feedback and are preparing for the prestigious event to be held in Berlin in May, where they will compete alongside Australia's Seen Technology, Morova Reklamcilik of Turkey, The Look Company, Qatar, and London's Better Letters.

The award shortlisting comes as a welcome reward for the team who worked in conjunction with the interior design team at Ted Baker to initially add some old school traditional quality to one of their stores, which quickly led to a store roll-out thanks to HNS Signs' craftsmanship.

"Why haven't we found you sooner," were the exact words of the lead interior design team at Ted Baker when they saw the finished look. "We never realised such crafts existed until we stumbled across HNS Signs."

www.hnssigns.co.uk

Roland DG to celebrate customers with Roland Hero Awards 2018

Throughout 2018 Roland DG will be on a mission to find, celebrate and recognise the remarkable things achieved by Roland users. As part of the mission the company launched the Roland Hero Awards 2018 on 11 April.

The company will be looking for Roland users across Europe, Russia, CIS, Middle East, North Africa and India who might have transformed their hobby into a business, created work for quirky, unusual or famous customers, grown their business really fast, passed their business down through several generations, worked in unique locations, developed an innovative product, built a winning team, donated work for charity or good causes or just gone that extra mile. Roland DG knows there are hundreds of thousands of Roland users with special stories to share and their search has already uncovered some fantastic ones.

"Having worked for this company for almost 9 years, there's something quite unique and special about Roland," said head of marketing, EMEA Gillian Montanaro. "I know it's a cliché but we really do have our customers at the very heart. I've always been totally amazed by the commitment of our staff to working cooperatively together with customers to find solutions, identify new opportunities and help them to run successful

"Our philosophy really is about looking for how we can be the best and help our customers to produce the best, and of course be successful. That's why we have a network of offices and Roland authorised dealers throughout the region that enable us to be available locally, and keep in regular touch with customers. This initiative is about telling the stories of



The 2018 Roland Hero Awards promises to reward, recognise and celebrate

customers who have done amazing things because we want to recognise this and help them to build their reputations - as that is what we're all about."

www.rolanddg.co.uk/landing-pages/hero



CMYUK appointed sole UK and Ireland distributor for EFI VUTEk FabriVU dye sublimation printers

CMYUK has been appointed as sole UK and Ireland distributor for EFI VUTEk FabriVU dye sublimation printers, enabling them to provide a variety of soft signage printing solutions. Customers will be supported with pre-sales consultation through to integration, colour profiling and training. CMYUK's equipment portfolio is complemented with an extensive range of textile materials suitable for applications including graphic display, retail, décor and design, speciality innovations and soft image and textiles.

The EFI VUTEk FabriVU digital fabric printer delivers ultra-high resolution of 2,400 dpi in 4 to 18 picoliter drop sizes at ultra-fast speeds of up to 500 sqm per hour. With four-colour printing, wide colour gamut and deep colour saturation, it is suitable for profitable soft signage printing including banners, backlit displays, flags, wall coverings and other high end display graphics. The VUTEk FabriVU printer is available in 1.8m, 3.4m and 5.2m widths.

EFI sales director UK and Nordics Martin Mayo said: "CMYUK is the perfect fit for

us. Their showroom facilities are exceptional, their coverage in the marketplace is unrivalled, but even more important is their ability to include a consumable element - fabric is the fastest growing sector of our industry and we needed someone who could move equally fast. CMYUK is without doubt the right company for the job."

An established supplier of digital textiles, CMYUK looks to continue its growth in this market with the launch of a décor and design range of materials. As the textile industry continues to boom with improving quality, variety and technological processes, this move comes as no surprise.

"The scope for digitally printed textiles is huge and one that CMYUK is fully committed to," said commercial director Michael Crook. "With new innovation textile materials being released constantly we ensure our customers gain the most competitive UK pricing across all stocked material, despatched directly from our distribution hub in

Fabric is the fastest growing sector of our industry and we needed someone who could move equally fast

Berkshire - many products you won't find anywhere else from exclusive brands such as PONGS and Berger. We will be offering a complete marketing and training package supporting numerous textile applications."

To complete its textile portfolio CMYUK has established a UK distribution agreement with Klieverik, offering their market leading calenders for a perfect match with the VUTEk FabriVU. With its oil-based heating drum, best belt guiding and pneumatic paper tension system, this reliable equipment finishes high quality prints with brilliant colours. The Klieverik GTC 101-3500 will be on-site at CMYUK's demonstration centre in Shrewsbury. The transfer printing and fixation calender has a drum size of 365 mm / 14.4" with a throughput of 326 m2/h or 3509 ft/h at a speed of 1.7m/min or 5.6 ft/min.

Klieverik marketing and sales manager John Selfhout said: "Klieverik calenders are designed for the professional and quality conscious customer and thus a perfect match with the EFI VUTEK equipment and CMYUK's highly professional approach".

www.cmyuk.com



From left: CMYUK group director Robin East, EFI senior manager regional marketing Adriana Puccio and EFI sales development manager Steve Stokes



Innotech Digital publishes 2018 Display Guide

Wide format material and display specialist Innotech Digital has launches its 2018 Display Catalogue for the wide format display graphics and signage industries.

The Innotech Digital Display Guide features possibly the largest collection of display graphics products in the market with over 300 products listed for displaying digital print as well as non-print display products such as A-boards, chalk and white boards. LCD mounts, tablet displays and presentation media. It includes products launched by Innotech Digital throughout 2017 including the Qube roller banner series, Panorama 3.2m wide roller banner and Illuminate Pop Up lightbox.

The Innotech Digital Display Guide will feature new products for 2018, the first of which to be announced is the TEXstyle Suspend range for digitally printed textiles.

One of the new products in the TEXstyle Display range, this hanging banner frame series comprises a clip-together aluminium tubular framed system for stretched fabrics which is simple to build and easy to transport. It comes in circle, square and triangle shapes and will be available up to 20ft in size.



The Innotech Digital Display Guide features possibly the largest collection of display graphics products in the market with over 300 products listed

The TEXstyle Suspend hanging banner frame is designed to hang directly over an exhibition stand or space, suspended from a ceiling with your message and branding printed directly on the fabric, meaning you can stand out from the crowd at any exhibition or event and make use of that precious empty space above your stand.

Another product addition to the 2018 catalogue is the effective Illuminate Popup system, which combines a pop up

fabric display wall and LED light box in one. Easy to set up and build by a single person, the Illuminate Pop up light box series is lightweight and portable, folding down into a single bag. It will fit easily into a standard car boot, making it the ideal product for pop up shops, retailers, events managers, exhibitions and just about any venue where an illuminated backdrop will really make an impact.

www.innotechdigital.com

CMYUK opens dedicated material sample production facility



CMYUK has opened dedicated premises to facilitate production of its material sample binders

CMYUK has opened dedicated premises to facilitate production of its material sample binders. Showcasing 80 innovative application materials, the binders are being used as the ultimate reference tool by clients, said CMYUK. Containing materials relevant to a wide range of industries, they include laminate and adhesives, décor and design, flooring, soft image and textiles.

The binders mix cutting-edge materials with popular everyday substrates and are produced 100% in-house. They showcase finishes achieved from multiple ink technologies including UV, solvent, latex and dye sublimation. With CMYUK handling the printing, cutting and collating, the production process allows the freedom to introduce new materials, keeping the binder up to date and consistently moving forward to reflect current trends.

Commercial director Michael Crook said: "The binders have proved incredibly popular. They are the ideal tool for our customers to take with them to client meetings as they highlight the latest materials, textures and finishes. We back this up with a strong consultation service including sample material for evaluation, statements on material positioning, client visits, online application videos and product training. All of this ensures that our customers get the support they need, allowing them to position their products correctly."

As one of the largest UK suppliers of digital textile materials, CMYUK recently announced that it is launching a new décor and design range.

www.cmyuk.com



William Smith welcomes **Button-fix to its portfolio**

William Smith has strengthened its portfolio with the introduction of British Sign and Graphic Association's (BSGA) 2017 Sign Industry Product of the Year.

Innovative, versatile and fitter-friendly, Button-fix is a sign component accessory that offers a quick and precise way of attaching panels to walls and other substrates. The product comes in four models and works by bringing panels together with durable nylon buttons which are attached to the back of one panel and mating fixes fastened to the other, these then slide until the Button-fixes 'click' into place.

Button-fix is an innovative panel fixing system which has already collected multiple awards

The award-winning product, which has been verified by independent test house, Sandberg LLP, is suitable for both signs and interior fit-outs, a useful product for those within the signage industry.



Innovative, versatile and fitter-friendly, Button-fix is a sign accessory that offers a guick and precise way of attaching panels to walls and other substrates

Created by Button-fix director Tony Wills and co-creator Brian Watson in 2012. the product was developed in response to a customer specification for flush mounts to fix washroom panels. After finding the fasteners on the market were difficult to align and disengage, the duo created the Button-fix concept, which introduced a range of possibilities for different substrate applications.

William Smith head of marketing Chris Bradley said: "We are really excited to have this product as part of our range. Button-fix is an innovative panel fixing system which has already collected multiple awards. Fitter-friendly and versatile, it is sure to prove popular among sign-makers, shopfitters and installers."

www.williamsmith.co.uk

Dover Digital Printing is corporate partner for FESPA Global Print Expo 2018

Dover Digital Printing has been announced as a new Corporate Partner for FESPA Global Print Expo 2018, which takes place in May in Berlin, Germany.

Dover Digital Printing is the newly formed operating company within Dover that brings together complementary digital textile, graphics and signage solutions from Caldera, MS Printing Solutions and JK Group. This new entity covers printing equipment, inks and software to create a specific digital printing subsidiary to address the growing digital printing industry, especially in the textile market.

Vice president for marketing Sébastien Hanssens commented: "FESPA is the premiere show for the digital printing market and we're excited to form this partnership as FESPA 2018 is the point of convergence for all three brands. The show will provide a valuable platform to formally showcase the new Dover Digital Printing brand to the entire specialty print community as we believe this will be an innovation-filled year for the graphic arts industry."

FESPA Global Print Expo is supported by eight additional partners including Efi and



Hexis as Platinum Partners; Aleph, Brother, HP, Mimaki and OKI as Gold Partners; and Dgen as Digital Textile Partner.

www.fespaglobalprintexpo.com www.dovercorporation.com



Pair form partnership to take over Signs Express Farnborough

James Hancock and Malcolm Trounce are the new owners of Signs Express (Farnborough). The pair have already expanded the workforce and will be

utilising their many years of experience in project and technical support management in the airline industry to drive the business



Jonathan Bean, Malcolm Trounce and James Hancock

"We have both been aware of the Signs Express franchise for quite a while and feel extremely fortunate to buy the wellestablished Farnborough centre when it became available," said Malcolm. "The level of professionalism, knowledge and support offered by the franchise support team in Norwich has been incredible and I'm delighted with my decision to join Signs Express. "We're looking forward to working with customers old and new and have ambitious plans to grow the business in the coming years".

Signs Express managing director Jonathan Bean commented: "We are really excited that James and Malcolm have joined us by buying our existing franchise in Farnborough. There is great potential for success and I'm delighted to have them on board. We wish them all the best and extend a warm welcome to them from our network."

Based in the Hercules Way business hub, Signs Express (Farnborough) is ideally located to working with companies in the north Hampshire/Surrey areas.

www.signsexpress.co.uk/Farnborough

Antalis urges industry to "Step Right Up"

Antalis is calling on the UK and Ireland's print and design community to 'step right up' as it declares The Review 2018 Design & Print Awards officially open for entries.

Following on from the success of last year's 'Make Your Mark' themed event, this year Antalis will host an exclusive circus-inspired awards evening, which will take place on 18 September at Circus London, an opulent mirrored cocktail club famed for combining classic circus cabaret and cuisine. Category awards up for grabs this year include Best Direct Mail, Best Corporate Brochures and Best Luxury Retail Packaging.

Now in its 27th year, The Antalis Review is designed to reward those who have created exceptional print work using Antalis media, with the awards attracting some of the most talented designers and printers in the industry each year. Every piece of work entered is judged by a panel of leading industry experts and all finalists are invited to the awards event and are

published in The Antalis Review book, with winners receiving a coveted The Antalis Review Award trophy.

Entrants are invited to submit design pieces that have been printed on Antalis' choice of paper stock until 29 June 2018, which is the official closing date for entries.

www.antalis.co.uk/thereview



The Antalis Review is designed to reward those who have created exceptional print work using Antalis media



DECAL wide format media launches authorised reseller program

Digidelta, the manufacturer of DECAL environmentally friendly wide format print media, has created a reseller partner program aimed at helping its customers grow their business and support their PSP customers.

DECAL - Think Green is a high quality and environmentally friendly brand of PVC and solvent-free materials for the wide format digital print market suitable for graphic exhibition, signage and display, decor, textile and labelling.

Business development director Armando Mota da Silva said: "We want our customers to gain a competitive advantage and explore new and profitable business opportunities so we have invested more than €8.5million in a new 10.000m2 industrial unit in Torres Novas. Portugal and in developing new and innovative products that generate added value for all concerned - the reseller, sign maker and print service providers as well as their customers.

"Our products form a cutting-edge line employing the latest technology, transforming the way we print and apply media, making everything easier for our customers, print service providers and installers.

"We created the DECAL partnership program to provide special features and differentiation to those customers who want to expand and grow their businesses and to help them in turn further support the existing community of print service providers and signmakers."

Official DECAL partners will be able to offer major benefits to wide format print companies looking to switch to DECAL for their media.

DECAL is the first European media manufacturer to produce 100% PVC and solvent free medias across their product lines: they manufacture medias for all ink types including UV LED and latex.

"Innovation is what drives us to improve and invent new medias for every ink type to enhance our visual world," continued Armando, "An example of this is our new over-lamination process for UV LED printing which eliminates the 'silvery' effect often seen on other medias. We have a range of new medias compatible with HP Latex printers for the emerging textiles and décor market."

DECAL has designed a communication tool with a QR code printed on the back liner of each roll or box of material which gives full traceability should an issue occur.

The customer can scan the QR code using the app and this will then send all the

There's no middle man in the chain, resellers deal directly with us and we can pass the savings directly to you and in turn to your customer

batch information to the reseller and, in turn, the manufacturing team in Portugal, who can then quickly remedy any potential issue and identify any further batches that may be in the system.

"This system of complete traceability is totally unique in the industry and reinforces our commitment to maintaining high quality standards for print service providers, signmakers and specifiers all over the globe," explained Armando.

Pricing will be extremely competitive with especially good pricing on everyday products such as self-adhesive vinyl backlit medias.

"We are the manufacturer and will support our channel," said Armando. "There's no middle man in the chain, resellers deal directly with us and we can pass the savings directly to you and in turn to your customer."

"Our experience shows that the best results come through teamwork but for this to be effective, the team must be cohesive and demand high standards in terms of relationships, sharing and respect, as well as demonstrating vision and integrity. This is our professional commitment to our customers and our reseller channel with our new authorised partner program."

www.decal-adhesive.eu/thinkgreen/





Open day success predicts strong future growth for AXYZ

Major supplier of high-performance routing, cutting and print finishing systems, AXYZ International recently held its first 2018 open day event at the Royal Air Force Museum in north London.

According to vice president (market development) Robert Marshall: "It was one of the best of the open day events held so far, attracting a large number of existing and potential new customers and facilitating demonstrations throughout the day of selected machines from the extensive AXYZ portfolio. It allowed promotion of our 24/7 online resource for tooling options, spare parts, accessories and consumables. Application specialists were on hand to answer questions, provide technical support and discuss our bespoke product training courses."

The recently upgraded AXYZ Trident hybrid CNC combined routing/cutting machine and an AXYZ 4000 series Twin Z router were the key products on display

and were shown handling different materials to highlight specific machining capabilities. Both machines featured the AXYZ ATC (Automatic Tool Change) facility while the Trident incorporated both the AXYZ AVS (AXYZ Vision System) for radically enhanced machining accuracy to accommodate the more intricate finishing applications for which the machine was designed as well as an oscillating knife unit for handling materials specific to these applications.

The Trident machine features a triple-head tool configuration, comprising a CNC router spindle coupled with tangential and oscillating knife-cutting units. These units are interchangeable to enable the processing of frequently problematical thin materials such as vinyl and foils and thicker and heavier materials including solid woods, foamed and particle boards, aluminium and other non-ferrous metals, aluminium composite sheet (ACM), acrylic and plastics.

I was particularly impressed with the positive interest shown by many of our prime existing as well as potential new customers who visited the event which serves as an indicator of the on-going business strength and market status of AXYZ International

Production tool enhancements include a kiss-cut knife-cutting tool, high-speed 8.7HP 40,000rpm router spindle and an expanded ATC facility. The kiss-cut knife option extends the functionality of AXYZ CNC routers by accommodating a much wider range of materials. It can be adapted to fit most commonly used routing/cutting spindles and tangential knife tools. The HDS spindle is said to represent a major advancement in high speed routing and cutting by providing up to three times the power and speed of a standard spindle and with no compromise on the quality of the edge finish on the materials being processed. The expanded ATC facility features a choice of 10 or 14 tool stations to complement the existing seven- and 21station options.

Robert Marshall concluded: "This first 2018 open day has built on the success of its predecessors. I was particularly impressed with the positive interest shown by many of our prime existing as well as potential new customers who visited the event which serves as an indicator of the on-going business strength and market status of AXYZ International."



The Trident machine features a triple-head tool configuration comprising a CNC router spindle coupled with tangential and oscillating knife-cutting units

www.axyz.co.uk



William Smith offers a rainbow of possibilities with 3M's new dynamic colours

Trade supplier to the sign and graphics industry William Smith has bolstered its portfolio with new additions to its range of 3M coloured translucent films.

William Smith now has 34 new dynamic colours available to customers including seven additions to 3M Envision Translucent Film Series 3730 and 27 additions to 3M Scotchcal Translucent Graphic Film Series 3630. This brings the total selection of 3M's coloured translucent films to 103 across the two product ranges, highlighting the company's commitment to become the number one choice for materials and signage.

Allowing companies to achieve unmatched global consistency and unleash creative potential, the new colour possibilities provide business owners with a product that can dramatically boost their brand's image.

Following extensive research, 3M has developed a range of translucent colours which are consistent with developing trends in design and corporate identity, ensuring that customers have the products they need to achieve marketing goals.

The new additions to 3M Envision Translucent Film Series 3730 offer a choice of colours including Regal Red, Olympic Blue and Plum Purple. By achieving the same level of brightness with fewer light sources, reducing material and maintenance costs, these films can contribute to a firm's sustainability goal.

Now available in 25 colours with a 10-year durability, the matt, cast 50-micron translucent film has a clear, permanent, pressure sensitive adhesive and delivers high light transmission levels, which provides a vibrant, rich colour on LED illuminated signs.

The latest colour additions to the ever-growing range of industry leading materials can be ordered as full or part rolls with same day despatch available on all orders



William Smith has bolstered its portfolio with new additions to its range of 3M coloured translucent films

The 3M Scotchcal Translucent Graphic Film Series 3630 which now boasts 78 colour options including Fire Engine Red, Berry Burgundy and Electric Pink, is suitable for first and second surface application on plastic and glass substrates, to create internally-illuminated sign faces and window graphics.

With a clear, permanent, pressure sensitive adhesive and a 10-year durability, the 50-micron translucent film is designed to be thermoformable.

"The latest colours to the 3M range have cemented our commitment to supplying the UK with the best illuminated sign solutions portfolio," said head of marketing Chris Bradley. "All 3M Illuminated Sign Solution products are backed by the 3M MCS Warranty and a custom colour matching option is available, providing our customers with a brilliant range of options."

The latest colour additions to the evergrowing range of industry leading materials can be ordered as full or part rolls with same day despatch available on all orders.

www.williamsmith.co.uk



UK's first Signarama Light opens its doors

Having launched the concept in 2017, Signarama has launched the UK's first Signarama Light showroom in Salford.

"We are thrilled to have officially opened the doors of our Signarama Light," said the new operator Keddy Banda. "The opportunity to expand our business through the Light model was too good to miss. You get all the benefits of the franchise in terms of training and support but on a low investment, high ROI basis. It's win-win for us."

Designed to offer a more affordable entry level to the UK's booming signage market, Signarama Light showrooms are fully fitted out just like all other Signarama centres but crucially, don't have any production equipment on site. As a result, the required building footprint is much smaller and therefore attracts lower rental and business rates, keeping costs to a minimum.

Signage and graphics production is outsourced to top quality national and local suppliers including existing franchisees in the Signarama network so there's no need for an in-house production and design workforce. Consequently, Signarama Light franchisees can focus on doing what they

do best - meeting customers and driving the business forward through sales and strategic development. Ensuring the highest quality of product and service to customers is a number one priority. In addition, franchisees can choose to upgrade to full production facilities as they grow or, as Keddy and the team plan to, open a network of Light showrooms that can feed a central production centre:

"Our main Signarama showroom in Preston handles all production in-house," said Keddy. "We have a fantastic team there and together we're focussed on building an empire of Light showrooms in nearby territories with Preston being the hub. I think the flexibility of the model now is going to be really appealing to people because of how many different ways you can grow and expand as a business."

With over 900 franchisees in 60 countries, Signarama is already recognised as a global leader in the signs and graphics market. Thanks to the introduction of the Signarama Light model, the UK network is taking the first steps towards its mission for the future: to be the UK's leading signage brand and the go-to solution for all businesses seeking to improve their brand visibility.

It opens up the industry to a much wider audience including younger generations keen to get into business ownership but previously priced out of the market

"We're very excited for the Signarama Salford team, it's just the beginning of a new era in Signarama's UK history," said UK managing director Aliyyah-Begum Nasser. "The Light model is really grabbing the attention of aspiring business owners as well as those already in the sector. It opens up the industry to a much wider audience including younger generations keen to get into business ownership but previously priced out of the market".

www.signarama.co.uk



The UK's first Signarama Light showroom has opened in Salford



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with optional wooden backing







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for a clean, modern look

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PPB acquires **NE** Plastics

Independently owned national distributor and converter of point of purchase materials and substrates to the screen print, digital, large format and industrial plastics markets PPB has acquired NE Plastics, a well-known and respected flat sheet plastic supplier and bespoke fabrication specialist in the South of England.

The purchase of NE Plastics will introduce both NE Plastics and PPB's customers to new products, services and further business opportunities. Both companies have expertise in fabrication, cutting and various other finishing processes of plastics and boards and will be offering these extended services to both new and existing customers.

The South of England is an important growth region for PPB and it has been looking for an opportunity to build upon the success of its existing Thurrock operation. The purchase of NE Plastics will provide PPB with the opportunity to expand plastic sales in the London area, especially south of the river.

PPB is one of the biggest independent POS distributors in the UK and has been supplying print substrates to the sector for 40 years

PPB director Richard Proctor stated: "We are delighted to welcome NE Plastics to the PPB family. NE Plastics is a great business with a reputation for good service and honest dealings. This acquisition will allow customers to benefit from a wider choice of products and services including state of the art conversion facilities.

Our national distribution network, serviced by a new fleet of vehicles, will enhance both stock levels and servicing. Customers can be assured that it is business as usual but with the ongoing security of dealing with a larger scale business that is investing in this growing sector."

The combining of these companies will take the group turnover to over £30 million. PPB is one of the biggest independent POS distributors in the UK and has been supplying print substrates to the sector for 40 years. In the past few years it has been successfully distributing thermoplastics and ACMs to the sign trade. The acquisition of NE Plastics is a continued investment in the distribution of signage materials. The products and services of NE Plastics are complementary to those of PPB.

NE Plastics managing director Nick Warne stated: "The purchase of NE Plastics by PPB is a very strong signal for continuity and an additional reason for complete confidence in us as a supply partner."

www.ppb.uk.com



Both companies have expertise in fabrication, cutting and other finishing processes of plastics and boards and will offer these services to both new and existing customers



Signmaster appointed to Mimaki channel with sign & graphics focus

Signmaster Systems has been appointed an authorised reseller for Mimaki's wide format sign and graphics product range by the company's exclusive UK and Irish distributor Hybrid Services. Following their purchase of the long-established business, new owners Lucy Ratcliffe and Samantha Kehoe have instigated a renewed focus on hardware sales and support, setting up the opportunity to represent the Mimaki brand.

"Becoming a Mimaki reseller again was the first item on our wish list when we

bought Signmaster," said Ratcliffe. "Sam and I had Mimaki machines when we first started our print business. We believe in their quality and wanted to start offering them to our customers again and were truly delighted when Hybrid felt the same."

Boasting an enviable showroom along with training and warehouse facilities, the business has a substantial customer base within the sign making sector and a strong reputation for service and product knowledge.

"We're very pleased to be working with Lucy, Sam and the team at Signmaster and look forward to helping support them and their customers with their investment in Mimaki solutions," said Hybrid's national sales manager John de la Roche.

It is a range we are all passionate about and we look forward to helping customers by adding Mimaki or upgrading their current Mimaki machine

"Our plan for Signmaster Systems is to provide our customers with a choice of the best products and technology in the market - Mimaki most definitely fits into that vision," said Ratcliffe. Signmaster sports a range of Mimaki's latest sign and graphics hardware in its showroom including the new UCJV Series LED UV printer/cutter and a dedicated JV150 solvent printer with matching CG-FX plotter and the team extends a warm welcome to companies investigating a wide format printer purchase.

"Visitors to Signmaster will be impressed with the facilities and the opportunity to demo the latest Mimaki hardware in an inspiring environment," continued de la Roche.

"Bringing Mimaki back into the business has created a lot of excitement for the staff at Signmaster," Ratcliffe concluded. "It is a range we are all passionate about and we look forward to helping customers by adding Mimaki or upgrading their current Mimaki machine."

www.hybridservices.co.uk www.signmaster.co.uk



From left: Sam Kehoe, John de la Roche and Lucy Ratcliffe with one of the company's new Mimaki printers



ADAPT - the new home for ADS and GPT

As part of Amari Plastics' strategic direction into the digital market, ADS and GPT are amalgamating to bring to the industry Amari Digital Printing Technologies, also known as ADAPT.

ADAPT is a single source supplier who can offer the full spectrum of formats and media through their family of specialists. Their customers no longer have to shop around; instead, they get greater efficiency, better rates and increased knowledge on complementary technologies.

ADAPT's experienced specialists are always on hand and continually looking for new and innovative products to meet even the trickiest applications. They'll help you find a way, no matter how ambitious your ideas are. They supply industry leading,

large-format printing, cutting and finishing solutions to sign-makers, photographic reproduction specialists, graphics production companies, corporate agencies and government agencies.

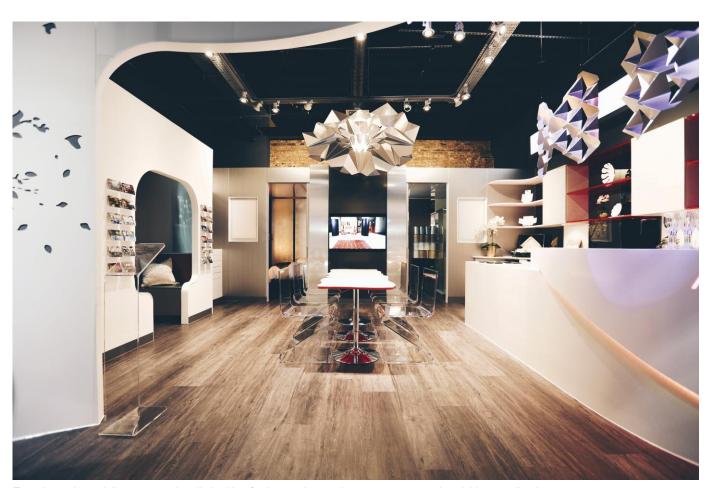
ADAPT will be showcasing their new brand and unified business at Sign & Digital UK. You can visit them at Stand E20, where you can see on stand demonstrations from four of their marketleading printers, as well as a sample wall to showcase their in-depth portfolio. Alternatively, you can visit their brand new website - amaridigital.com.

ADAPT's general manager Richard Barham said: "The merging of ADS and GPT, alongside our partnership with fellow Amari businesses, provides all of our customers with everything connected to

ADAPT will be showcasing their new brand and unified business at Sign & Digital UK

printing - from boards and hardware to roll media and inks - all from the same place. All formats, all media, all good."

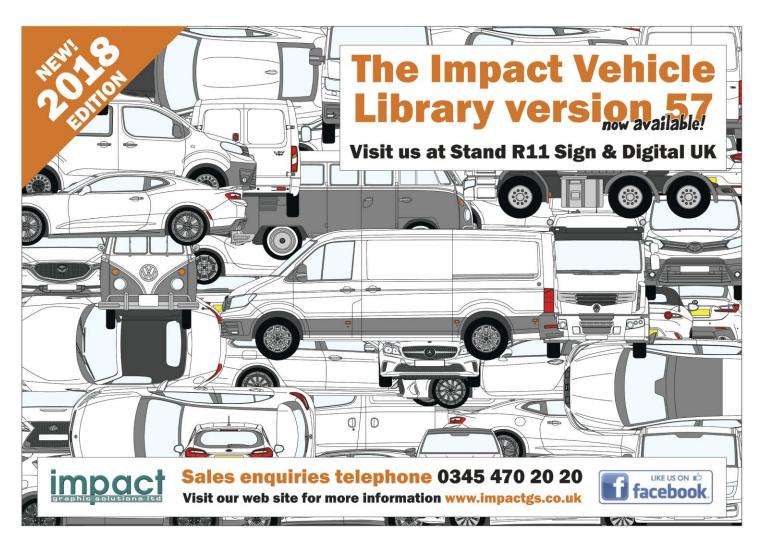
www.amaridigital.com



Experienced specialists are continually looking for innovative products to meet even the trickiest applications

You can now buy SIGN FRAME Signage Systems in component form from Ashby







Antalis now offering full range of Drytac Polar printable self-adhesive films

Drytac has announced that its exclusive UK & Ireland distributor Antalis is now stocking the entire range of printable selfadhesive Drytac Polar films. The comprehensive range complemented by matched overlaminate components offers a solution for nearly every printed graphics requirement.

The Polar range of premium vinyls is available in both matte and gloss finishes with both permanent and removable adhesive versions. Printable by (eco)solvent, latex and UV inkjet technologies, Polar products are suitable for numerous medium and long-term indoor and outdoor graphics applications.

Global product manager Shaun Holdom explained: "Using high quality PVC face films, the Polar range offers excellent ink adhesion and vibrant colours, delivering

fantastic graphics with longevity in mind." Polar products feature a high quality twosided liner, offering superior moisture stability in all weather conditions.

"This two-sided PE liner has been designed to eliminate media cockling; this keeps production flowing and greatly reduces the possibility of printer damage caused by printheads striking the media," continued Holdom

The outdoor durability of the cast and polymeric films is up to seven years when used in combination with the weather shield laminates. The Polor Perma monomeric films have a life of up to three vears when matched with Drvtac's Interlam or Protac ranges of lamination

"The Polar range of films provides a high quality, cost-effective option for all types of graphics applications from signage and general advertising through to floor and vehicle graphics," said Holdom. "With 15 different films in the Polar portfolio, of varying thickness and finishes, there is a solution for almost every graphics requirement."

Antalis UK 's product manager - Viscom Mike Collins added: "The new Drytac Polar range expands our product offering and provides solutions for every application. Drytac Polar self-adhesives provide a quality matched system when paired with Drytac laminates, giving us peace of mind that our end users' expectations are met."

www.drytac.com



Polar products feature a high quality two-sided liner, offering superior moisture stability in all weather conditions

Appointments

Kernow Coatings has appointed Alan Lomas as European channels manager. Alan will be responsible for the growth of distributor networks in target markets as well as the growth of Kernow's new line of HP Indigo printable synthetics. In addition to speaking four languages, Alan brings 17 years of experience providing coated and adhesive materials to customers around the world.



Nazdar Ink Technologies (UK) has appointed Jim Whitehead as sales manager, EMEA. Based in the UK, Jim will be responsible for sales management of Nazdar branded and non-OEM private labelled screen, digital and narrow web products in the EMEA region. In previous roles, he has taken responsibility for narrow web product lines and had experience in optical media, screen printing and digital printing technology.



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Sign & Digital UK 2018 Exhibitor List

C30	2innovate.	D72	Chevron Warehouse	R20	Guangzhou Goodsense
E20	ADAPT	L20	Clarity LED		Decorative Building
G72	Admiral Tapes & PSP	C12	Clarity Software		Materials Co
	Marine Tapes	J10/20	CMYUK Digital	R25	Haining Jinmao
K10	Aeeon Technologies	C62	ColGraphix		Warp Knitting Co
J68	AE Sewing Machines	D66	Colour Mill	E44	Hampshire Flag Co
D20	AG CAD	C34	Colourbyte Europe	R26	Hanolex
D2	Amaya Sales UK	L42	Colourgen & Mutoh	C20	HEXIS
L10	Antalis	J44	Complete CNC Solutions	D42	HPC Laser
L4	Anylux Co	F41	cuttingmatsxxl	E10	Hybrid
L52	arken POP	F40	CWT Worktools	K54	Image Reports
J41	Ashby Trade Sign Supplies	A40	D & K Europe	F24	Imatech Digi-Tech
C32	ATA Engineering Processes	L54	DCR Machines		Materials Co
D14	Atlantic Tech Services	K22	Digiprint Supplies	R11	Impact Graphic Solutions
C52	Automatic Letter Bender	K1	Digital Blanks	D36	Impulsa
E76	Award Crafters	D34	Dorotape	J55	Indasol
G44	Awning Depot	J43	DTP Supplies	G22/H20	InkTec
F20	AXYZ International	D12	Emo Neon	G12	Inurface Media
K52	Bakker Magnetics	D30	Epson (UK)	E50	Industrial Tooling
K32	Bannermate	K34	EPTANOVA		Corporation (ITC)
G42	Bergmen	J10/20	Esko	C22	i-Sub Digital
G10	Blackman & White	G66	Eurobond Adhesives	R10	JB Art Studio
G52	Boxford G52	E56	Expomax (China)	H20	Jetrix
A60	Brand-It Technologies		Advertising Display	D40	Jiansu Naisi
L2	BrandStand UK	J52	Forty4Three		Digital Technology
H42	Brett Martin	J56	Gazeboshop	L34	Josero
G68	BSGA	J40	Global Erecting	E66	Kunshan Yijiao Industrial
E42	CADlink Technology		Sign Services	H67	Landor UK
H10	Canon (UK)	D45/J30	Grafityp	E66	Latitude Mapping
R24	Chang Xin Yu Canvas Co	L10	Granthams	A27	LED HUB UK
D62	Changzhou Wison Flag	G30	Graphic Dealers	G40	Leopold
	& Display Co	A50	Graphtec GB	R36	LION Picture
E72	Cheapestbanners.co.uk	E54	Gravograph		Framing Supplies
G20	Cherwell	F26	Great K2 Industry Co	G36	Listawood Trade Supplies







K60	Longier UK	D24	Righton Plastics	C16	Streetwise Digital
D69	Lumen LED Co	C39	Rimex Metals UK	F32	Substance Europe
E74	Mastergrave	H30	Roland DG (UK)	G30	Summa
D22	Maxicam – Powell CNC	J50	Rollsroller	A10	Super-Wide Digital
D52	Merlin Tools	C2	Rotatrim	J57	System Standex
F54	Mida Sign Services UK	K40	Sabur Digital	J2	Tecna UK
C14	Modular Grid Signs	K10	Sanco Technology	L50	Tharstern
	Damar Interiors	A20	Secabo UK	F60	The Magic Touch
G14	Multipanel UK	D32	Service Offset Supplies	A16	Thinklaser
D56	Mynice Optoelectronics	D60	Shanghai Helen Metal	F22	Tigrox
G62	Nantong Zhongfa	A36	Shanghai Soardist Display	G34	TMT elektronik
	Display Equipment	G50	shopVOX	E70	Trade Etching Direct
F42	Neschen Supplies	A30	Sign Elite	H67	Trimalco
H50	Nova Chrome	C72	Sign Making Tools	E40	Trotec Laser
G30	Onyx Systems	L60	Signarama	A56	UK Metalcraft
D50	Oshino LED Lighting	H60	SIGNET Sign Systems	F10	Ultima Displays
D10	Perfect Colours	L30	Signgeer	A46	U-MARQ
G14	Perspex Distribution	C40/50	Signmaster Systems	D54	Universal Laser Systems
E64	PowerPax	J54	SignProMax	K20	Very Displays
F30	PrintMAX	A26	signs2signs	H40	Vivid Laminating
F50	Printvision (UK)	C70	Sign Update		Technologies
C60	Pureimage	G22	Solent Sewing & Welding	L36/40	William Smith
A22	QCR Recycling Equipment	F44	Soyang Europe	C38	Xante
K2	Quality Print Services (QPS)	E30	Spandex	J60	Your Embroidery Services
C11	R A Smart	K50	STADUR Produktions	C10	Your Print Partner
C36	Resolute	E62	Stand-offs.eu	E2	Your Print Specialists (YPS)
D1	Ribbon Writer	G1	Stanford Marsh	K30	Zünd Plotting Systems (UK)

The above is correct at the time of going to press.

Check the website www.signuk.com for the latest information.



SIGN & DIGITAL UK 2018 Preview



96 Sign Update

ISSUE 177 APRIL/MAY 2018



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Hall 17



SIGNAGE I PRINT I DISPLAY I DÉCOR I DESIGN





SIGN & DIGITAL UK 2018 Preview

Packed with creativity, innovation and networking opportunities

This year's Sign & Digital UK (SDUK) will see more than 180 leading exhibitors revealing the latest product, technology and service innovations for the signage, print, display, décor and design sectors.

The show returns to the NEC from 24 to 26 April with a new theme for 2018: Creativity Brought to Life. It promises more interactive features than ever, with lively panel debates and keynote talks taking place in the show's bespoke TV studio - Sign & Digital Live.

"As an annual event that's on everyone in the industry's calendar, Sign & Digital UK gives us a very strong platform with which to present the latest Mimaki technology to the print and creative industries."

John de la Roche. national sales manager, Hybrid Services (E10)



SDUK has teamed up with Antalis, Spandex and Hybrid Services to bring visitors a series of live demonstration workshops, offering practical insight into what can be achieved using newly developed technologies and products.

Event director Rudi Blackett said: "As well as offering an informative and enjoyable day out, inspiration from the latest innovations and guidance on new techniques, Sign & Digital UK is the industry's ultimate business event in the UK. The 180-plus leading suppliers at the show will offer expert advice as well as some exclusive show offers. If you're looking for ways to stand out from the competition then make sure you take the time to visit Sign & Digital UK 2018."



Exhibitor highlights

This year's show welcomes specialist brands and services, ranging from soft signage, interior and exterior signage, through to printers, plotters and cutters, as well as substrates and materials, sign fixing tools, adhesives and tapes.

Names not to be missed include AG/CAD DYSS, Antalis, Atlantic Tech Services, Automatic Letter Bender, CADlink, Canon, Complete CNC Solutions, Colourgen, CMYUK, D&K Europe, Emo Neon, Epson, Eurobond Adhesives Ltd, Grafityp, Hexis, Hybrid Services/Mimaki, Lion Picture Framing Supplies, Listawood Trade Supplies, Roland DG, Sign2Signs, Signgeer, Signmaster Systems, Spandex, Ultima Displays, Very Displays, Vivid Laminating, Zund and many more!

- it's this year's unmissable event

Visitors will see many new exhibitors at the show this year including Aeoon Technologies, Ashby Trade Sign Supplies, Brand-It Technologies, Hampshire Flag Company, Impuls Apparatebau, INDASOL Tapes & Adhesives, Keencut, Mastergrave, Modular Grid Signs, PureImage, QCR Recycling Equipment, Rimex Metals UK, Sabur Digital, Signarama, SIGNET Sign Systems, Streetwise Digital and Xanté.



Guest speaker and celebrity retail consultant Mary Portas will headline this year's educational programme

"The Sign & Digital UK show always provides a really good mix of visitors interested in signage, wide format business graphics and small format print-on-demand applications - all areas that are important to us at D&K Europe."

Karen Turner, commercial manager, D&K Europe (A40)

Workshops and seminar highlights

The popular, free-to-attend education programme returns in 2018 with a host of energetic seminars and debates, keynote talks with audience Q&As and live demo workshops.

For the first time in the show's history, the main stage will be attached to a TV studio creating a fast-paced, high energy atmosphere. The daily sessions will cover practical applications and technical tips, as well as new business ideas and guidance on identifying revenue streams.

Celebrity retail and business consultant Mary Portas will take centre stage during the show's opening day, Tuesday 24 April, with a live interview and audience Q&A. Mary will share her expert insight and wealth of business knowledge. Speaking alongside her at SDUK this year are industry experts who will deliver a series of keynote talks, interactive sessions and panel debates across the three-day event. Topics to be covered include Creativity in the sign & graphics industry, Running a successful business in the sign & graphics industry and Getting into wide-format.

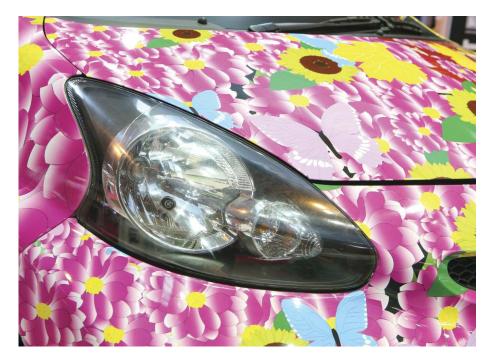
A series of new practical sessions, Sign & Digital Explains, is set to shake up the workshop schedule this year by exploring a range of topics including Textiles & Textile Printing and Dye Sublimation for Giftware and Promotional Items.

Two sessions on Wall Décor will feature experts discussing the practical applications for interior decoration and wall graphics. The session will introduce delegates to best practices when working with a client: from brief to design, production and installation.

From the basics of vinyl applications to learning more about vehicle livery, this year's Signmakers' Workshop will see the industry's most in-demand skills and techniques being put into action by expert signmaker Paul Hughes.

For visitors looking to get up to date with the latest software developments, the Adobe and Corel Theatres will return in 2018 to provide a whole timetable of daily training sessions covering the latest software packages. The CADlink technology showcase will help visitors discover the benefits of a single vendor software provider.

All of the seminars and workshops are free to attend and there's no need to book. Visitors can find a full schedule on the website ahead of the show, as well as practical 'sign & digital explains' articles and guides.





SIGN & DIGITAL UK 2018 Preview

Live demonstration highlights

Sign & Digital UK has partnered with leading brands to offer a series of practical lessons across three brand-new demonstration areas headlined by a team of experts from Antalis, Spandex and Hybrid Services.

The Spandex team will show visitors how to apply the latest and greatest materials in an exciting Vehicle Wrapping Live demonstration. Antalis' Décor Live feature will demonstrate practical ideas and applications for all types of digital décor including vinyl for walls, windows and floors plus wall coverings and magnetic substrates.



"We're hoping to meet ambitious professionals who want to forge ahead in the UK's ever-growing signage industry!"

Aliyyah-Begum Nasser, director, Signamara (L60) With a focus on retail application, the Textile Printing Live demo in partnership with Hybrid Services will present an interactive digital production workshop where visitors can follow a printed textile product from design through to reality.

Sign & Digital UK 2018 takes place at the NEC, Birmingham from 24 to 26 April and is free to attend. To pre-register for tickets, or to view the full list of exhibitors and details of all show features visit www.signuk.com.

www.signuk.com





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SIGN & DIGITAL UK 2018 Preview



Signmakers' Workshop

See the industry's most in-demand skills and techniques being put into action by expert signmaker Paul Hughes. These popular practical sessions will this year take place each day in the Sign Trade Services Pavilion, where you can find all of the day-to-day sign making items.

10:30-10:50 and 13:45-14:05

Basic application of vinyls: first steps in vinyl application

Learn the basics of applying vinyl graphics and what vinyls/techniques to use when and where, including weeding and applying application tapes; preparing surfaces for application of vinyl; use of water/application fluids; applying basic

Basic application of vinyls: moving on from the basics

10:50-11:15 and 14:05-14:30 Applying multi layers of vinyl; flood coating of substrate with vinyl; applying large panels of vinyl; working on glass-etched films.

Basics of vehicle livery: first steps in vehicle livery

11:30-11:50 and 14:45-15:05 Get back to basics - forget vehicle wrapping this is all about the ever-popular lettering on commercial vehicles, including general advice on layout - easy and hard areas to fit graphics to; cleaning an preparation of the vehicle; and basic application of vinyl to vehicle.

Basics of vehicle livery: moving on from the basics

11:50-12:15 and 15:05-15:30 Applying graphics to the front of vehicle making it look straight; flood coating recessed panels; handling large panels of vinyl and their application; applying vinyl over recesses and basic curves; trimming vinyl on a vehicle - dealing with door/panel seams.

The basics of making a signboard: first steps in making signboards

12:30-12:50 and 15:45-16:05 Most vinyl graphics have to be applied to something, if not a vehicle then it is probably a signboard, find out how and from what to make them, including stepby-step guide to making your own sign

"As Spandex offers a wide range of products from industry leading brands we are able to support our customers to bring to life any application they can think of. Using ImagePerfect, we have tried to further the possibility of making any application a reality. With first-hand experience of the industry, we listen to and follow where new developments may be required." Andy Pirie, Spandex (E30)

trays; frames - what, when and how; and making and fitting your own flat cut letters.

The basics of making a signboard: moving on from the basics

12:50-13:15 and 16:05-16:30 Step-by-step guide to making your own sign trays; frames - what, when and how; making and fitting your own flat cut letters. (16:05-16:30 not on Thursday)





Software training

Adobe Theatre

Learn from our resident Adobe expert Terry Steeley in the free daily sessions on the latest software editions including Adobe Bridge CC (2018), Adobe Photoshop CC (2018), Adobe InDesign CC (2018), Adobe Illustrator CC (2018) and Adobe Acrobat Pro DC.

Tuesday 24 to Thursday 25 April 10:30-11:15

Adobe Bridge CC (2018)

- Creative Cloud's unsung hero Take control of all your digital files with Adobe Bridge CC, Adobe's powerful visual media manager. You will master many of the time-saving features of this underestimated yet invaluable tool. Considered essential viewing for designers, photographers and creative professionals, don't miss the opportunity to stay ahead of your competition.

11:30-12:30

Totally Colour Managed - stay in control of colour

If colour management seems confusing, then this seminar is for you. Created for professionals who struggle with the day-today fundamentals of colour management, this informative session promises to equip you with the necessary skills to correctly set-up your workflow's colour settings, learn the cost-saving benefits of onscreen soft-proofing and produce that perfect



13:30-14:30

Adobe Photoshop CC (2018) - making the impossible, possible

From posters to packaging, unforgettable logos to engaging icons, eye-catching banners to stunning websites, Adobe Photoshop CC continues to keep the design world inspiring. Boasting a significant performance boost, Photoshop continues to shine and so will we. Exploring some of the newest and most exciting features from the 2018 version as well as blend of the hidden gems of yesteryear. This interactive fast paced seminar should not be missed.

14:45-15:45

Adobe InDesign CC (2018), Adobe Illustrator CC (2018)

- see what NEW can do

Can't decide between using Adobe InDesign or Adobe Illustrator? Let us help! We've shoehorned the best features of these two industry standard heavyweights into an action packed hour. Be sure to arrive early as we explore the strengths and weaknesses of these creative powerhouses. Not to be missed.

16:00-16:45

(Tuesday and Wednesday only)

Adobe Acrobat Pro DC - keeping business moving on any device Work can't always happen in the office. You need a smart way to take it with you, wherever you go! Adobe Acrobat DC is the world's best PDF solution and it's all you need to scan, convert, sign and manage documents on any device. Packed with many time-saving tips and best practice guidelines for creating high-end print production PDFs, come along and see what Acrobat can do for you.

Corel Theatre

Learn about the latest software on offer from Corel in their free daily workshops and drop-in surgeries. Look out for new tips, techniques and tools from expert Suzanne Smith on a range of topics using CorelDRAW and Corel PHOTO-PAINT and Wilcom Embroidery Studio Decorating.

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Software training

11:00-11:45

NEW: CorelDRAW Graphics Suite - an overview of all the latest features In this tutorial we will be running through all the new features of the latest release, highlighting all the new tools that will help you create anything from distinctive logos and signs to custom websites, web graphics, billboards, car wraps and flyers.

12:00-12:45

NEW: Designing a new logo, sign and banner design from scratch

In this tutorial we will be looking at creating a new logo and sign for a client and the basic design rules for creating roll-ups and

13:00-13:45

Wilcom ES Decorating e4 with **CoreIDRAW Graphics Suite**

Ideal for users in the apparel and promotional items industries, as well as embroidery hobbyists, this new suite makes it easy to visualise and design garment printing, embroidery and appliqué.

14:00-14:45

Variable Data Printing (VDP) with CorelDRAW

In this tutorial we will be looking at creating a .CDR file that's suitable for variable data printing.

15:00-15:45

CoreIDRAW Surgery

Need some advice on a particular project you are working on? Got a file that is driving you to distraction? Bring along your questions and your files on memory stick to this drop in session and get help and support from the experts!



"Bringing creativity to life is all about the transformation process. Adding a frame to a canvas, printed panel or print truly turns any media into a piece of art!" Sarah Coussens, marketing manager, Lion Picture Framing Supplies (R36)

CADlink Technology Showcase

CADlink Technology Showcase: making machines run better and design/production workflows more efficient is a free educational showcase on the benefits of a single vendor software provider and the leading-edge technology available that will make the day-today running of your business infinitely more efficient and profitable.

In today's highly competitive business environment, most shops now offer multiple products and services all of which require unique design and production workflows utilising specific output devices for production.

In many cases, each output device is accompanied by a limited-use software product developed by a different vendor. The result is that many businesses now have to learn, train staff, trouble-shoot and upgrade multiple software packages that all have different user interfaces and in many cases incompatible file formats.

CADlink Technology solves that problem by offering multiple software brands for virtually any design/production workflow a shop requires - all with the same look and feel and all compatible with one another.

Visit Stand E42 and get a guick education on the benefits of a single vendor software provider and the leading-edge technology available that will make the day-today running of your business infinitely more efficient and profitable.



DIRECT TO YOU. NOT YOUR CUSTOMERS.





We've been dealing with the trade for over 185 years, so take the hassle out of signage and make us your outsource partner.

We don't go direct, ever.



01833 694707

www.smith-signdisplay.co.uk



SIGN & DIGITAL UK 2018 Preview



Main Stage Theatre

Tuesday 24 April

10.45-11.30

SD Explains Session 1: Surface decor for walls, windows and floors

Find out how you can produce eyecatching, interior enhancing products including bespoke walls, windows and floors to produce creative applications that can transform a room, business space or retail environment.

Pete Colman, managing director, Classic Print Chris Green, head of visual communications. Antalis

11.45-12.30

Panel discussion:

Bringing the modern workspace to life The modern workspace is changing: companies are working harder than ever to create spaces that are individual, on brand and inspiring. This discussion, with leading names from the interiors and workspace design arena, looks at the ways inspirational graphics, printed textiles, signage and even wayfinding can bring the modern workplace to life. This is a 'must' for anyone interested in discovering new and creative ways to connect and inspire staff and customers -

Align and Interaction Roland DG UK

and even the public.

12.45-13.30

Canon Elemental beauty campaign case study

Canon has designed a fictional cosmetics brand ELEMENTAL to help proactive and progressive PSPs unleash the power of print when working with customers in the fast-changing digital world, showing how traditional and innovative print applications can work together to maximise consumer engagement.

14.00-14.45

Celebrity Interview/Q&A with Mary Portas

Interviewer: Jon Card, The Telegraph/Guardian

15.00-15.45

SD Explains Session 2: Promotional printing

Discover the world of dye sublimation and transfer printing and how you can get started with promotional printing from giftware to garments and uncover a wealth of market opportunities.

John Paul Burton, director, YES Ltd

16.00-16.30

The rise in personalisation: how to take advantage of the 'make it mine' phenomenon

Wednesday 25 April

10.45-11.30

SD Explains Session 1: Textiles and textile printing

Find out all there is to know about getting started with digital printing onto textiles from two of the UK's foremost industry experts.

Magnus Mighall, managing director, RA Smart

Stuart McLaren, managing director, YPP Ltd

"Every machine that Mimaki develops is designed around assisting users in expressing their creativity. Hybrid will be demonstrating a substantial array of creative applications across the full gamut of Mimaki products, so we look forward to engaging with Sign & Digital UK visitors to see what their creative c hallenges are."

John de la Roche, national sales manager, Hybrid Services (E10)

11.45-12.30

Panel debate:

The future of our industry

Chaired by editor of Print Business Gareth Ward, industry leaders debate what the future holds for this exciting and dynamic market; topics include:

- Future trends for next three years.
 Which sectors of the market are growing?
 What's the next big thing?
- How important will people and their skills be in the future?
- Will price be even more of an issue in the future or will customer service win?
- What does it take to run a successful sign and print business?
- · Where is wide format going in the future?
- Mobile consumerism: how will it help or hinder the industry?

BPIF

Hybrid Services/Mimaki Spandex

12.45-13.30

SD Explains Session 2: Vehicle wrapping Lift the lid on vehicle wrapping as we look at how to get started in this fast moving industry. Find out how you can transform your business with vehicle wrapping from our panel of experts.

Jason Price, freelance vehicle wrapper Scott Breaker, managing director, Coastline Graphics



13.45-14.30

How can we increase demand for digital print particularly from the creative communities?

Did you know that digital print represents only 3% of print production? This seminar explores the ways in which the demand for digital print can be increased, particularly from the creative communities. Whether you are a creative or a printer, this will excite and inspire. Here, you will discover the latest ideas, trends and digital print possibilities for décor, architecture, workspaces and retail.

Frazer Chesterman and brand identity expert Brian Griver

14.45-15.30

SD Explains Session 3: Get into wide format printing

You already know how to print so why not add another lucrative string to your bow? Find out how to make more money for your printing operation with wide format applications.

Brett Newman, chief operations manager, Hybrid Services Alan Rigglesford, managing director,

Kingswood iOptus

15.45-15.30

Campaign printing: how to output consistently across multiple print devices

This workshop will discuss and illustrate how to output similar looking print from different printers on different media, covering the following topics:

- · Using PS 10 profiling tools to profile different printing devices.
- · How to produce verified prints according to industry standards with the Proof Standard Digital Module.



- · Setting up simulation workflow across different printing devices using different media and ink types.
- · Quality assurance and media device synchronisation to produce colour consistent prints at any time.

Giles Bristow, digital support manager, Antalis

Jan Edgecombe, colour management expert, Revolution Digital

Thursday 26 April

10.45-11.30

SD Explains Session 1: Surface decor for retail applications

Surface decor for retail display is one of the fastest growing trends in the wide format sector. We look into the many varied applications and uses for surface graphic materials for retail.

Alan Rigglesford, managing director, Kingswood Display



11.45-12.30

Panel debate: Running a successful business in the sign and graphics

BSGA director David Catanach will chair what is expected to be a lively debate on what makes a successful business in this market, covering the following topics:

- · Price versus customer service- getting the balance right
- · Specialist or generalist which is the better option?
- · Keeping your business at the cutting edge - what are the priorities?
- · Can having the latest technology win vou business?
- · How important are people in a successful business?
- · Is creativity key in offering client solutions?

Blackman & White DMA Signs Hexis Signarama Signbox

12.45-14.00

Digital signage seminar

14.30-15.30

SD Explains Session 2: Textiles and textile printing

From fashion and furnishings to sportswear and interior decor, let our expert panel be your guide to getting started with applications for digital textile print production.

Mark Mashiter, managing director, Soyang Europe

Brett Platt, product manager textiles, Hybrid Services



SIGN & DIGITAL UK 2018 Preview

2innovate

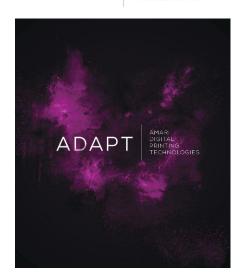
C30

Trade only supplier of built-up letters, flat cuts, fabricated and bespoke signage. All work backed with a market leading service and five-year parts and labour warranty. With over 20 years experience in built up letters and signage manufacture we specialise in any substrate: brass, copper, stainless steel, mild steel, aluminium, acrylic. Let us have the opportunity to help innovate trade supply by supplying to you. www.2innovatesolutions.com

ADAPT

E20





As part of Amari Plastics' strategic direction into the digital market, ADS and GPT are amalgamating to bring to the industry Amari Digital Printing Technologies (ADAPT). A single source supplier, which can offer the full spectrum of formats and media through their family of specialists, their customers no longer have to shop around. Instead, they get greater efficiency, better rates and increased knowledge on complementary technologies. ADAPT will showcase their new brand and unified business. Visit their stand to see demonstrations from four of their market-leading printers, as well as a sample wall to showcase their in-depth portfolio.

www.amaridigital.com

Admiral Tapes & PSP Marine Tapes



This year we are located in the Sign Trade Services Pavilion, which is a perfect arena for us to showcase our high performance double-sided tapes, two-part structural adhesives and banner reinforcing tape EDGE-It. Every year we use Sign & Digital as a platform to see existing customers and to meet new ones. This year we have a new staff member experiencing the exhibition for the first time. Simon will be pleased to assist you with any tape enquiries. With years of supply into the sign and digital market we can be relied upon for quality product and sound advice.

J68 AE Sewing Machines

www.ae-sewingmachines.co.uk

www.admiralpsp.co.uk

www.aeeon.com

Aeeon Technologies K10

AG CAD D20

AG/CAD bring together the power of KASEMAKE CAD and the speed, precision and quality of the DYSS X5, X7 and X9 digital cutters, which provide precise, efficient, camera-guided routing and knife cutting, automating your finishing, reducing mistakes and keeping labour to a minimum. The latest K-CUT vision system enables automatic cutting of materials up to 3.2m wide and unlimited lengths with the optional roll-off unit. Equipped with tools to suit any material, the powerful router will shape materials like acrylic and dibond; cut vinyl with the kiss cut tool; plastics, foamex and polypropylene with the heavy duty drag knife.

www.dyss-uk.com

Amaya Sales UK

D2

Décor

G72

www.amayauk.com

Antalis

L10

Through an innovative retail stand concept Antalis will showcase its full range of rigid and flexible media in application and help visitors to gain insight into the business's hardware partnerships with Agfa, Revolution Digital and Granthams. Its Décor Live demos comprise two separate, rotating sessions covering all things vinyl and wallcoverings/magnetic substrates to aid those seeking to make the most of the emerging décor opportunity. In addition, a seminar on the subject Campaign printing:



how to output consistently across multiple print devices, promises insight and advice on how signmakers can hone their performance across a variety of media. www.antalis.co.uk

Anylux Co

L4

www.anylux.co.kr

arken POP L52

arken specialises in producing customised graphic display products including poster frames, lightboxes and freestanding signs. These are mostly based around the aluminium clip frame system, which was an original arken patented product. Alongside their graphic display offer, arken designs and manufactures award-winning POP displays, working with a wide range of clients in sectors including health and beauty, consumer electronics and FMCG. www.arken-POP.com

J41 Ashby Trade Sign Supplies

Signage

www.ashbytrade.co.uk

K32

G42

G10

ATA Engineering Processes C32

The new ATACAM range of laser cutters includes models for both metallic and nonmetallic materials. These are equipped with co2 laser tubes which can be used for cutting metal sheet such as carbon steel, stainless steel and non-metallic materials such as acrylic, MDF, plywood, etc. The new range of affordable ATACAM CNC routers offers the same high quality build that you come to expect from a company that has been supplying CNCs for over 20 years along with the support and technical back up.

www.ataeng.com

Atlantic Tech Services D14

Signage, print, print finishing equipment, interior signage, heat transfer and sublimation, promotional wear and products, inks, wide and super wide format digital printers, laminators and films, textile and DTG printing equipment, plotters and cutters, exterior signage. www.atlantic-ts.com

C52 **Automatic Letter Bender**

Automatic Letter Bender machines take 20-40 minutes to achieve standard bending of serif letter 200 mm high, made from tape 0.6 mm wide and 60 mm high. We can create sophisticated forms of letters or logos; the quality of bending and precision are attributed to cutting technology that leaves the edges smooth and aesthetic; we can achieve a minimal bending radius of 3.0 mm. We have introduced the ALB-03 SSA 300 bending machine for tapes 300 mm wide for customers who want to produce stable 3D aluminium letters up to 2 mm thick and stainless steel up to 1.2 mm. www.letterbender.net

Award Crafters

Specialists in high durability, high accuracy aluminium nameplates and signage. Their products are practically indestructible, with service life expectations that exceed 20 years in harsh environments such as salt water, heat, chemicals, abrasion and sunlight. They work exclusively as subcontractors. www.awardcrafters.co.uk

E76

Awning Depot

Awning Depot is a UK commercial and domestic awnings supplier and installer, specialising in custom UK-made awnings. We are looking for sign makers to work alongside us as agents and sales people to work alongside the traders, helping them from sales to installation. www.awningdepot.co.uk

AXYZ International



AXYZ International will demonstrate the Trident hybrid CNC combined routing and cutting print finishing system. This powerful production workhorse enables large-format sign and graphics and print finishing specialists to increase output by as much as 50% by comparison with standard CNC routers, while obviating the need to invest in two separate machines to carry out these dual requirements. Trident is said to comprehensively resolve issues frequently encountered when processing an ever-increasing range of different rigid and flexible materials that invariably require a wider, longer and deeper routing/cutting capability. AXYZ International will also showcase its 24/7 tools and accessories online resource. www.axyz.co.uk

Bakker Magnetics

K52 In a nutshell? We create magnetic solutions that stick. We are passionate about magnets, and have been for over 45 years. As innovators we enjoy a challenge and love to come up with new ideas to support our customers' businesses. We've developed many patents and groundbreaking concepts for customers worldwide in industries such as, retail and Visual communication. www.bakkermagnetics.com

Bannermate

G44

F20

Based on market and customers' application demand, we build up new concepts and ideas to keep developing market leading rollups and popups. The most popular rollup at the best price is the Roll S series. Popup and big graphic: SEG popup, Popup Tex, Magnetic popup, self-locking popup, Quiclic system. Other portable display: counters, brochure stand, lighting and display case and package. While we invent new products, we develop the reliable production process and have a high quality assurance and quality check system in raw material purchase, production, subject to quality consistency and continuous improvement. www.bannermate.com.cn

Bergmen

Bergmen as a brand with almost 20 years experience in advertising market, supplies the most efficient and the highest quality solutions for signage makers: LED modules, LED strips, power supplies, aluminium profiles, frames and boxes, reflective films etc. All products are stored in a large warehouse in Poland with availability of a few days from the order's date. Beside advertising components, Bergmen helps with design projects and provides after sales support. www.bergmen.eu

Blackman & White

Blackman & White is the only UK manufacturer and a world class leader in the field of industrial flatbed cutting machines. Its cutting machines are used across a wide range of industries including marine, automotive, aeronautical, printing, construction and upholstery sectors. Their cutters and plotters range from the Orion, designed for light to medium duty, to the Mastercut heavy duty platform. Blackman & White's innovative Versa-Tech represents the industry's most grand format digital flatbed cutting system and is the only system that incorporates full conveying for laser, router and knife cutting all on one system. www.blackmanandwhite.com

Boxford

G52

Plotters and cutters, signage, display, design, CNC routers and consumables. www.boxford.co.uk



Brand-It Technologies

A60



Brand-It Technologies supplies tension fabric system aluminium profiles, components and accessories and an easy to apply, edge lit Light Guide Panel Film (LGF) that redirects edge lit LED lighting from the core of the acrylic 90 degrees and out the face or front of the panel on one side. Its Fabexx fabric profiles are multi-functional and interchangeable. The CoreLight allows users to create bespoke ultra thin illuminated panels 2-5mm thick clear acrylic and maximum width of 1500mm by any length. A 'hanging lip' allows for removal and re-attachment of high level displays without the need for specialist tools.

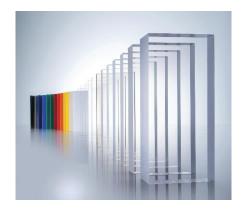
www.brand-it-technologies.com

BrandStand UK L2

BrandStand International provides innovative fabric display and digital solutions for marketing professionals and creatives around the world. The BrandStand experience is built around the idea of pairing functional design with simplicity to achieve a beautiful product that is made just right. Never overengineered, never overpriced. Always guaranteed.

www.brandstand.co.uk

Brett Martin H42



Let your imagination fly with Brett Martin's range of plastic substrates developed specifically for the print and display sector. Versatile, easy to print, cut and form, Brett Martin offers a wide portfolio of options in foam PVC, polycarbonate, PETg, aPET and acrylic. The marketing leading Foamalux Foam PVC Range includes white in 1-24mm, a palette of 16 solid colours, six premium gloss colours and a white-black-white version which is perfect for routering. The full range is available through local distribution networks – ask at our stand for details. www.brettmartin.com

British Sign & Graphics Association (BSGA)

The BSGA is the UK's premier trade association for the sign and graphics industry. Visitors are welcome to our stand to network with friends and contemporaries and discuss the benefits of membership and the advantages these this will bring to your company and your customers.

CADlink Technology

www.bsga.co.uk

In today's competitive business environment, most shops offer multiple products and services, all requiring unique design/production workflows for specific output devices. In many cases, a limiteduse software product accompanies each device. The result is that many businesses must learn, train staff, troubleshoot and upgrade multiple software packages that have different user interfaces and potentially incompatible file formats. CADlink Technology solves that problem by offering multiple software brands for virtually any design/production workflow, with the same look and feel, and all compatible with one another. Visit our stand and get a quick education on the benefits of a single vendor software provider.

www.cadlink.com

Canon (UK)

Come and see our latest innovation in action - the Océ Colorado 1640 - first 64" UVgel roll-to-roll printer. In addition to wide-format and cut-sheet technology, our experts will be available to discuss how you can improve your business with our workflow solutions, cross-media communication tools and web-to-print platforms. Get inspired by our new ELEMENTAL campaign, showing how traditional and innovative print applications can work together to maximise consumer engagement. Canon's fictional cosmetics brand has been designed to help proactive and progressive Print Service Providers (PSPs) unleash the power of print when working with customers in the fastchanging digital world. www.canon.co.uk

Chang Xin Yu Canvas Co. **R24**

Exterior signage, soft signage, tension fabric systems: CQ canvas with high resolution, fast absorbing ink, colour reproduction distinct characteristics, is a professional digital photo, print output, frame, photography, wedding studio photos, process simulation painting material, the ideal of architectural renderings. www.wjcxy.com

Changzhou Wison Flag & Display Co

G68

E42

D62

Changzhou Wison flag and display company offers a professional printing service. The main products are outdoor advertising flags, banners, beachflags and display products including pop up wall, tube stand walls and light box. We can offer direct printing and heat transfer printing and supply gazebo tent printing and finishing. www.wisonfd.com

Cheapestbanners.co.uk

E72

Print, display, décor.

G20 Cherwell

We have gained the reputation of being a reliable supplier of high quality products, sign systems and services, to small and large businesses in the UK. Our time in the market has given us insight into the needs of the industry and its demanding nature, which often leaves our clients short lead times to deliver their proposals. We hope to alleviate some of this pressure by working closely with them to find solutions. Our aim is to have market-leading dedication to the timescale of order fulfilment and we look forward to working with you to achieve this goal. www.cherwellsigns.co.uk

Chevron Warehouse

D72

www.chevronwarehouse.co.uk



+44 (0)121 54 11 444 www.mantechmachinery.com mantechmachinery@gmail.com

(Price Reductions Ex Demo Models)

Routers / Lasers / Press Brakes / Guillotines / Heat Benders / Digital Cutting Tables

Ex-Demo Desk Top Laser 300 x 500mm /Red Dot Pointer /Rotary Indexer/Rise & Fall Table£ 2,780.00 Ex-Demo Mantech Router 3000 x 1500mm/Vac Bed / Dust Extract /Cad Cam Software/Delivered £11,750.00 Ex-Demo Mantech Mammoth Laser 2550 x 1250mm /Fully Enclosed /Double Extraction / Delivered £12,990.00 Ex-Demo Digital Cutting Table 2500 x 1700 mm (With Auto Conveyer Belt)

Includes: Oscillating Knife + Router Spindle + Camera System + Creasing Wheel + Plotting Pen £38,500.00

Support is Key!

Full Coverage of the UK & Ireland by our team of fully qualified Service Engineers – Wherever you are.... we are local to you!

Our service department are second to none in response time. Should your machinery require service or attention for any reason, our support team and mobile Service Engineers are available via phone or email 24/7; should you require support on hardware, software, design or operational issues.

Information is Everything.

Visit us in our 2000m2 facility here in the Midlands where most of our machines are sold from stock. We can organise a demonstration of our machines followed by a technical meeting with one of our sales engineers to discuss your requirements and application in detail.

Need a Quotation?

Please do not hesitate to contact us for a quote. We can give immediate quotes for any machine. Our product range offers great value for money and prices are inclusive of Delivery, Installation, Commissioning and Training.

QH11D-3.2X2500





Clarity

Clarity LED Displays specialises in producing LED signs such as scrolling LED board, countdown clock, full colour led display board for video pictures or low budget shop window LED signs to show your message or advert. Easy to change LED display content offers the flexibility to keep information up to date and enables the targeting of potential customers according to time of day, week or season; the right message to the right people at the right time. Bespoke design, installations and software that offer dynamic content and integrate with elements of your branding and marketing. www.clarityled.co.uk

Clarity Software

Designed for print, sign and digital, Clarity Software calculates complex quotes in an instant. Know upfront how much wastage, resource and machine time a job demand or let your competitor make a loss on it instead. Clarity schedules production, manages sales, organises stock and books deliveries. www.clarity-software.com

CMYUK Digital J10/20

CMYUK is one of the longest established, independent suppliers of wide-format printers and cutters that span all production requirements. We are distributors of EFI Vutek, Esko Kongsberg cutting tables and automation systems, HP Latex, MASSIVit 3D printers, Mimaki digital printers and cutters. We pride ourselves on being able to provide the complete package including demonstrations, training and support. We have an extensive range of materials suitable for almost any application; ask about our free sample binder. www.cmyuk.com

ColGraphix

ColGraphix is a global operating distributor of high-tech products for the digital dye sublimation business, exclusively representing leading brands in the industry. www.colgraphix.com

Colour Mill

www.xl-ink.co.uk

Colourbyte Europe

LED

C12

C62

D66

Heat transfer and sublimation, inks. labels/decals, laminators and films, plotters and cutters, promotional wear and products, sign and print media, substrates and materials, soft signage, textile and DYG printing equipment, wide and super wide format digital printers. www.colourbyte.co.uk

L42 Colourgen & Mutoh



Colourgen will demonstrate applications using Mutoh's LED UV printers. The ValueJet 426UF A3+ desktop printer is ideal for gadgets such as phone cases and key rings and for industrial labelling, bespoke signage and creative image applications. The new ValueJet VJ-626UF, 6-colour A2-size flatbed LED UV printer handles solid materials and objects up to a thickness of 150 mm (5.9"). An optional rotary system allows it to print on cylindrical objects up to 120 mm in diameter and 360 mm long. Offering a bed size of 594 x 483 mm (19" x 23.4"), the printer is targeted at short-run personalisation of gifts and gadgets, packaging prototypes, awards, specialty industrial items, labels, decals and signs. www.colourgen.com

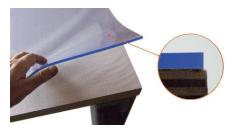
J44 **Complete CNC Solutions**

The new Tekcel EXR is driven by the GEN-III control system with its touchscreen interface; the system's efficient waste extraction system has seen an engineering overhaul. The machine creates a map of the material being cut and will modulate the cutting depth to suit the material's actual, rather than nominal thickness. In addition, its knife cutting capabilities have been enhanced. A twin tool bay is available and the Opticut system simplifies knife or router-cutting of flexible or rigid materials in repeatable, tight register with printed matter. An all-new Racer-Blade option is spindle-mounted and effortlessly cuts lighter films and masking media. www.completecnc.co.uk

CuttingmatsXXL

C34

F41



cuttingmatsxxl specialises in transparent and flexible cutting mats to protect your work table. Your blade will cut smoothly through your foil, giving you a comfortable and precise cut. Thanks to the self-healing characteristic of the mat, the cuts will fade and not interfere with your next project. After many cuts you can flip the mat over to start with a new untouched surface, doubling its lifetime.

Come to our stand and get a sample with a discount code. We produce mats for all brands of flatbed applicators including RollsRoller, Lamidesk, Roll-X, Bubble-free, Rollover, CWT and BigLamimator. www.cuttingmatsxxl.com

CWT Worktools

F40

CWT Worktools has the tools you need to take your business to completely new levels of production capacity and functionality. We use only the highest quality components to give the steady, smooth operation that characterises our equipment. We work closely with users and listen carefully to all feedback in order to develop products that will make your work more effective. We build all our flatbed applicators in module systems, giving you access to nearly any space. We pay close attention to ergonomic design, something we have learnt all about in our own production. www.cwtworktools.com

D & K Europe

A40

D & K Europe has long been in the forefront of both narrow and wide format business graphic presentation, with a range of innovative products for mounting, laminating and encapsulating. At Sign & Digital this year we will be exhibiting the Atlas wide format laminator and the latest B3 Neptune PB thermal laminator, a double-sided model capable of delivering an identical finish to both sides of the sheet and with optional re-wind unit for specialist laminates and foils. www.dkeurope.co.uk

DCR Machines

L54

www.dcrmachines.com

D30

Digiprint Supplies K22

Sign and print media, substrates and materials, wide and super wide format digital printers. www.epson.co.uk

Established in 2007, Digiprint Supplies is the only one-stop online shop for spare parts, accessories, software and tools for all eco-solvent, solvent and UV digital wide-format printers. www.digiprint-supplies.com

EPTANOVA

Epson (UK)

K34

EPTANOVA is an Italian leading provider of complete advanced finishing solutions for a variety of industries and leads companies all around the world. Our business units EPTAINKS, EPTACOAT, **EPTATECH and EPTAINKS DIGITAL** develop and manufacture products and applications in the domain of industrial printing inks (screen printing, pad printing, transfer printing, sublimation printing, offset and rotogravure), functional coating, advanced materials technology and digital printing inks. EPTANOVA provides its customers with a complete range of innovative products and quality services, including a continuous and specialized technical support, conceived and designed to offer a tailormade solution to your every need.

www.eptanova.com/en

Digital Blanks

K1

Digital Blanks is a specialist supplier of products and jigs for flatbed digital printing. We source the highest quality products and design our own to produce exclusive lines. We can supply jigs for every product in our range, while offering a custom jig design service. We work closely with major manufacturers such as Mimaki, Roland and Mutoh to ensure our jigs fit a wide range of digital printing machines. We hold stock of jigs for all products in our range for a number of printers including Mimaki 3042, 6042, 7151; Roland LEF-12, LEF-20, LEF-300; DCS 1024UV; and HP FB 700.

www.digitalblanks.com

Esko

J10/20

Dorotape



D34





Dorotape is a major consumable supplier to the UK's sign, graphics and retail industries. Its extensive range of quality products include self-adhesive coloured and decorative films, large format digital print and textile films. This year the company will be presenting a large selection of metallic films and a new PVCfree range.

www.dorotape.co.uk

Esko will share a stand with CMYK to showcase its complete solutions from order, design and finish through to shipping products. On display will be the Esko Kongsberg C64 - a multifunctional super wide digital cutting table for signage and display applications. The Kongsberg X24 cutting table comes with a wide range of specialty tools offering speed, power and flexibility to handle materials including corrugated, folding carton, solid board, foam, coating blankets, wood and plastics. Esko will demonstrate its software portfolio: Studio structural design software and ArtiosCAD for 3D projects, i-cut Suite to optimise prepress production and Automation Engine QuickStart for Sign. www.esko.com

DTP Supplies

J43

DTP Supplies will exhibit a sample from its range of eyelets and associated machinery and giving away free sample rolls of the revolutionary HEM-It tape. We will be delighted to meet existing and potential customers. www.dtpsupplies.com

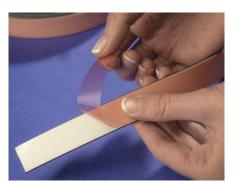
Emo Neon D12

We are an enterprise manufacturer for the advertising industry and specialise in all kinds of light signs. We constantly search for improvement of our company procedures, allowing us to offer ever more sophisticated products and over two decades of experience allows us to provide competent counseling for the form, technology and construction of light signs. www.emonneon.pl

Eurobond Adhesives

G66

In addition to its MagneTape range of magnetic tapes, Eurobond Adhesives will be displaying its Penloc range of 2-part, fast curing structural adhesives and range of foamed acrylic adhesive tapes. Come and talk to our technical team.



We will be happy to discuss your specific project and offer the best bonding solution for you; 99% of our products are stock items and available on a next working day delivery basis. We offer free project evaluation, on-site product demonstrations and training to sign makers. www.eurobond-adhesives.co.uk

Expomax (China) Advertising Display E56

Expomax has various types of specialised machinery and equipment and more than 50 skilled workers. Many of our products have been awarded the national patents and passed CE international certification. Our products include tension fabric displays, pop up displays, roll-up displays, brochure holders, beach flags, light boxes, flags, outdoor poster boards, flags, gazebos, promotional counters, X&L stands.

www.expomax.com/cn

Forty4Three

J52

We have produced online systems for clients requiring diary management, equipment calibrations, sales prospecting, helpdesks and quoting calculations. All of our online solution clients have spotted an area in their business that could be improved by automating existing processes. Implementing robust userfriendly platforms Forty4Three have vast experience in providing tailormade online solutions. Our process starts with in depth consultancy to establish the specifications of the project and follows through with the implementation of robust platforms and user-friendly systems; experience in other coding languages often used during support, has already been input into software or an existing online database. www.forty4three.co.uk

Gazeboshop

J56

www.gazeboshop.co.uk



Global Erecting Sign Services

J40

Exterior/interior signage, sign and display installation and maintenance, tension fabric systems, signage. Global Erecting Sign Services is the UK leading high level banner and signage installation company. They install all varieties of signage from street level to extreme high level including full building wraps and advertising and promotional works. The company offers the complete package from initial site inspection/survey to finished installation, including supplying all the required health and safety documentation, CAD drawings and operatives' certification. www.gess.uk.com

Grafityp

D45/J30

Grafityp UK will be offering visitors the chance to view the extensive range of sign vinyls, automotive and decorative films, print media and laminates in the GrafiTack, GrafiWrap, Colibri PVC-free films and GrafiPrint collections, all manufactured by GRAFITYP in Belgium. See all the latest in print technology from Roland, GCC and Canon Océ Colorado, with demonstrations of the TrueVIS Print/Cut Series, VersaUV Series plus the JF-240 UV-printer. www.grafityp.co.uk

Granthams

L10

Display systems; interior and exterior signage; financing, leasing and business insurance; inks; laminators and films; plotters and cutters; print finishing equipment; sign and print media, substrates and materials; wide and super wide formal digital printers. www.granthams.co.uk

Graphic Dealers

G30

Labels and decals; plotters and cutters; print finishing equipment; sign and print media, substrates and materials; soft signage; wide and super wide formal digital printers; colour management and design services; interior and exterior signage; inks. www.gdlnetwork.co.uk

Graphtec GB

A50

Graphtec GB will demonstrate plotter/cutters for a wide range of sign and graphics and digital printing applications running on the latest Graphtec Pro Studio software. The entry-level CE LITE-50 desktop-mounted cutter offers a faster cutting speed of 500mm/sec and a 50cmwide roll media handling facility.



The CE6000 Plus incorporates features to enable higher productivity levels, while the FCX2000 is the latest flatbed cutting solution for both flexible and rigid materials. The FC8600 cutter provides a cutting speed of 1,400mm/sec, maximum acceleration of 4.0G and a selectable cutting force ranging from 20 up to 600G, while the renamed F-Mark automatic digital die-cutting machine is based on the CE6000-40 plotter/cutter. www.graphtecgb.co.uk

Gravograph

Large and small format lasers and engraving machines. Award-winning automated Braille sign making system. Metal cutting and engraving equipment direct from the world's largest manufacturers. Live demonstration on the

www.gravograph.co.uk

Great K2 Industry Co

F26

Professional large format digital printing, self-adhesive vinyl manufacturer and supplier. With good R&D and customised ability, we consistently release specialty films for sign and graphics to the market: High tack, low tack repositionable, asphalt sticker, optical clear, and TPU optical clear window perforated lamination film. Our products have been certified by Rheinland-REACH and HP-Latex for digital printing and window perforated; TUV-R10 for floor graphics lamination. www.greatk2.com

Guangzhou Goodsense Decorative Building Materials Co

R20

One of the biggest decorative building materials enterprises in China, it specialises in producing decorative building materials such as aluminium composite panel, mosaic ACP, quartz stone, polycarbonate sheets and greenhouse. It has 12 advanced international technology production lines of aluminium composite panels which can produce two-meter width aluminium composite panel curtain wall, with an annual production capacity of 15 million square meters ACP, 400 thousand square meters guartz stone and 3 million square meters of PC Hollow Sun Sheet. www.chinagoodsense.cn

Haining Jinmao Warp Knitting Co

R25

With warp knitting other support equipment made by KARL MAYER, we specialise in producing various warp knitted fabrics including flag, banner, display and backlit, used for sublimation direct printing, paper transfer printing, silkscreen printing UV printing, latex printing and eco-solvent printing. Some of our popular garment textiles with customers include clinquant, mercerised, super-soft short hair and common short hair velvets. www.hnjmjb.com

Hampshire Flag Co

E44

Display systems; exterior and interior signage; trade print services; vehicle delivery products and services. www.hampshireflag.co.uk

Hanolex

R26

Display systems, print finishing equipment, sign and print media, substrates and materials, sign fixings, tools, adhesives and tapes; eyeleting solutions for banners; storage solutions for print media. www.eyelets.co.uk

HEXIS

C20

Visit HEXIS UK for the latest information and up to date products; we will be ready to discuss your needs for sign, automotive, digital and textile applications. www.hexis.co.uk



China's Definitive Sign Event

19 - 21 September 2018

Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC)

Concurrent Events

LED CHINA 2018

DIGITAL SIGNAGE 2018

Organiser

UBM Trust Co Ltd

Tel: 86 20 3810 6261, 3810 6263

Email: sign-trust@ubm.com

Website: www.SignChina-sh.com

Shanghai Office

Tel: 86 21 6157 7288

Email: info-trust@ubm.com

Shenzhen Office Tel: 86 755 2691 7607

Our Network:

USA Tel: 1 516 562 7855 Email: cecilia.wun@ubm.com

Korea Tel: 82 2 6715 5406 Email: jameshj.lee@ubm.com

Taiwan Tel: 886 2 2738 3898 Email: info-tw@ubm.com Tel: 81 3 5296 1034 Email: ubmcanonjapan@ubm.com







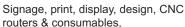
HPC Laser

D42 Image Reports

E10

www.imagereportsmag.co.uk

InkTec G22/H20



engraving/etching/laser cutting. HPC Laser supplies LASERSCRIPT CO2 laser engravers and cutters and sold over 4000 laser machines since 2006. Their lasers are capable of cutting and engraving a wide range of materials including laminate, metal, glass, acrylic, textiles, wood, paper, card and leather. All machines are supplied with a 12-month warranty, unlimited technical support and use of LASERSCRIPT user community forum and competitive finance packages. Machines can be split to fit through a single door. They have supplied famous establishments including Burberry, Rolls Royce, Google UK and The University of Cambridge.

www.hpclaser.co.uk

Hybrid

Imatech Digi-Tech Materials Co

F24

K54

Digital printing materials manufacturer providing water-based, solvent, ecosolvent, latex, UV digital printing materials including super wide backlit and frontlit textile, canvas, fine art paper, and backlit PET film. We focus on inkjet printing materials for more than 15 years. www.tnrinkjet.com



InkTec will showcase the JETRIX LXi8

LED-UV flatbed printer alongside the

JETRIX KX6U-LED. This new printer

dynamic of being an entry level LED

in terms of what it can do and on price.

InkTec will showcase its latest inks and

consumable portfolio including the new

LED UV ink for Mimaki JFX200 printers

where users could save up to 50% on their

application clear and self-adhesive medias for the solvent, latex and UV markets.

media with new supplements to their

ink costs; and Natura's specialist

www.inktec-europe.com

encapsulates all the capabilities of the well

established JETRIX series with the added

printer which is designed to be competitive

Impact Graphic Solutions

We offer a range of software with many

Vehicle Outlines Library to our Health & quickly and efficiently. In addition to our the premier sign design and production tool available to the sign and graphics industry.

R11

applications and uses. From our unique Safety library, we produce the tools you need to produce signs and vehicles both own products we sell Cadlink's SignLab,

www.impactgs.co.uk

D36

J55

Inurface Media G12 www.inurfacemedia.co.uk



For the first time Hybrid will show the

entire range of Mimaki's UCJV Series LED

Indasol

Impulsa

www.A1Laser.de

Industrial Adhesive Solutions Ltd

Industrial Tooling Corporation (ITC)



UV printer/cutters, with both the UCJV300 and UCJV150 displayed together. "The new Mimaki UCJV Series brings revolutionary technology to the sign and graphics market, using the latest LED UV cure inks and offering an unparalleled range of applications from the one machine, making them very popular with sign makers, print providers and graphics houses," said national sales manager John de la Roche.

Mimaki's key solvent printers and printer/cutters will be on display. In addition, Hybrid is running the Textile Printing Live Demo feature that will showcase a variety of inspiring applications.

www.hybridservices.co.uk

Indasol are the leading supplier for sign making and fixing products. We specialise in supplying the 'Best Bond in the Business' whether it's channel fixing with our UHB, banner work with our hemming or stiffening tapes, locator bonding with our structural adhesives or just bonding a sign to a door with our foams, we have a product for you. At this year's Sign and Digital we will be launching our new clear and flexible built-up letter adhesive, powder coat UHB tape and newly formulated SIGNBONDER and showcasing our innovative 3D SIGNBLOCK material.

ITC will introduce new products and demonstrate its technical expertise. Its new Folio catalogue incorporates a comprehensive range from solid carbide routing tools through to engraving, folding, edge rounding and radius tools, carving tools, knife blades, taps, drills, rotation blades and a complete line of special tools that can all be manufactured in the UK.

www.indasol.co.uk

Making its debut, the 1001 Series is a single flute router manufactured from an-ultra wear resistant micro-grain carbide, ideal for machining Di-bond and other aluminium composite materials. An innovative line of knife and blade tools has been extended with new cutting geometries added for the efficient cutting of vinyl, corrugated board, foam-board and other materials. www.itc-ltd.co.uk

i-Sub Digital **C22**

Signage, print, display, décor, labels and decals, soft signage, print finishing equipment, interior signage, heat transfer and sublimation, promotional wear and products, inks, wide and super wide formal digital printers, laminators and films, plotters and cutters. www.i-subdigital.com

R10 JB Art Studio

www.jbartstudio.com

Jiansu Naisi Digital Technology D40 Naisi Digital specialises in researching, developing and manufacturing digital printing media. We are highly accredited in the specialty of ink-absorbed coating, adhesive and environmental friendly flex banner. For many years Naisi has been dedicated to research, development and production of digital inkjet media across multiple industries such as advertising and photographic imaging, medical. www.chinanaisi.com

L34 Josero

The Bubble Free Applicator has become Josero's flagship product since it was launched in the UK four years ago, with sales soaring throughout the country. The key to the success of the Bubble Free Applicator lies in the fact that it delivers exactly what it says - it eliminates bubbles and creases, operates at rapid speed and is excellent value for money, delivering a quality product every time. It carries a 5year warranty and since last year is available in two models: the PRO and the Mouse, to suit the requirements of all printers and sign makers. www.josero.com

Justprint

Justprint will be launching a web2print shop powered by Puzzleflow technology with integrated automated pre-flight check and planning to offer special discount to everyone who will register at cheapestbanners.co.uk as a trader during the show.

We are planning to offer the best price for most large format prints in UK with great print quality and connect with British advertising and event agencies, print houses and individuals who would be interested in partnering with us to gain better margins for large format printouts. Our goal is to increase the sales by 10000 sq. meters of printed substrates per month.

www.just-print.co.uk

E66 Kunshan Yijiao Industrial

We specialise in non-metal cut letters: acrylic cut, PVC cut, foam, sandwich cut, wooden cut; cut metal letters: stainless steel, aluminium, brass and copper; fabricated metal letters in brass and aluminium; LED illuminated letters: acrylic, channel, resin and neon signs; light box: double sided, face lit, vacuum foaming, slim and flag; directional signage: toilet plate, wayfinding, indication sign, etched plaques, door number; and building, retail shop and gas station, canopy, pharmacy, bank, pylon, etc www.yijiaochina.cn

Landor UK H67

Sign and print media, substrates and materials, wide and super wide format digital printers. Landor UK is the exclusive European distributor for the patented. innovative Landor Phototex self-adhesive fabric and Clearshield protective coatings. www.landoruk.com

Latitude Mapping E66

Latitude supplies maps and cartographic services in the UK. www.latitudemaps.co.uk

A27 LED HUB UK

www.ledhubuk.com

Leopold **G40**

Leopold Professional Imaging is a UK market leader at the forefront of the Imaging and print finishing industry. The company has been established for over 50 years and supplies within UK and Ireland. Products include FOTOBA X-Y cutters for roll media up 3.2m wide and COLEX CNC flatbed cutters up to 3.2m x 3.2m. www.leopold.co.uk

LION Picture Framing Supplies

R36



LION Picture Framing Supplies will bring all the ammunition you need to inspire the transformation of your printed media. On show will everything you need to display and frame panels including aluminium frame mouldings security fixings and easy to use joining hardware. LION will be demonstrating how easy it is to cut aluminium frame profiles using the Inglet electric saw. Visitors can see demonstrations throughout the day or pop along and ask. Expand the services you offer and increase your revenue streams. www.lionpic.co.uk

Listawood Trade Supplies G36

Listawood will launch a selection of new products and technology designed with sublimation decoration in mind. We will showcase our new, extended collection of Duraglaze sublimation mugs, offering sublimation decorators more choice than ever before with over 50 different styles in their collection. Listawood's new extended collection of flatbed presses, 3D sublimation machines and mug presses have new and updated features, low startup costs and great ease of use. We have a series of special offers and package deals on printable products and machinery including some great deals to get customers up and running with dye sublimation printing. www.listawoodtradesupplies.com

Longier **UK K60**

With an impressive spec at a keenly positioned price, the launch of the new FP2513 UV LED flatbed will, we hope, increase the size of the Longier user family. The first FP2513 has already been installed at Evans Graphics to complement their FR3900. We recently installed the first RU3200 UV LED 3.2m roll to roll and with three rows of Ricoh Gen5 heads the performance figures are impressive. All our printers run Nazdar inks and SAi Flexiprint rip. Nazdar inks typically give a 30% saving on OEM products, often with improved performance. www.hallmark-longier.com



Lumen LED Co

D69 Merlin Tools

E74

D52 Multipanel UK

F54

C14

G14

With OPEN LED you get a high quality LED that is made with best components available, this is the perfect solution for your advertising needs. Quickly and easily input messages with eye-catching effects to capture the attention of your target audience and in a few seconds turn them into customers. LED signs have been proven to increase revenue for businesses so you can be confident in your investment and enjoy the returns on your purchase with our energy saving technology you can have it advertising for you 24 hours a day at minimal cost.

Merlin Tools is a market leader in the supply of premier quality solid carbide router tooling and associated spindle tooling in the UK. We have been established for over 20 years and continue to develop and expand our range to bring the latest cutting tool technology to the

Multipanel UK is the only UK manufacturer of ACP. Our high quality aluminium, steel and PVC substrates have become marketleaders across the world. Our huge stockholding and global network of distribution partners means we can provide quick and easy access to a choice of products in a variety of formats. www.multipaneluk.co.uk

www.ledslumen.com

Mida Sign Services UK

www.merlintools.co.uk

Mynice Optoelectronics

D56

Mastergrave

MidaSignServices UK Installation Team • Print Team

Focus on LED signage light source products includes LED module, LED stripe and linear products. MYNICE imports several auto production lines, a variety of testing, developing and production equipment such as brightness measure system, UV test equipment, lead-free reflowing soldering machine, SMT machine and baking oven. www.myniceled.com

Mastergrave supplies engraving machines and materials to suit a wide range of requirements. Our new material and signage frames complement the machines. We hold a large stock of metals and laminates, which we can sell by the sheet or as custom cut shapes and sizes for smaller companies. Our materials are suitable for both laser and rotary engraving. Our supply of engraving cutters, vinyl cutter blades and materials are ready for next day delivery. We have been supplying the engraving and signage trade since 1979 allowing us to gather a wealth of knowledge to offer to our customers.

With 34 years of experience as an installation company for signage working throughout the UK and Europe, our enthusiastic installation teams have an indepth knowledge of their trade with support at all times from our dedicated office team who have a wealth of technical knowledge and experience. We offer a print and finishing department allowing us to offer customers a comprehensive service from artwork completion to print and finishing requirements. Using up-todate equipment and industry software we can print direct to various substrates and are able to maintain quick turn-around times at competitive prices. www.midasignservices.co.uk

Nantong Zhongfa Display Equipment

G62

Nantong Zhongfa Display Equipment is engaged in display equipment production including injection molding, extrusion, blow-molding and assembling. www.zf-display.com

www.mastergrave.co.uk

Modular Grid Signs Damar Interiors

Neschen Supplies





Maxicam - Powell CNC **D22**

Powell CNC has cemented a reputation for quality reliable products with first class support that offer exceptional value for money. The company has again committed to a large stand with a running machine and is showcasing the latest generation of the M3 CNC routing machine with upgraded digital NC controller. This machine is ideal for the sign maker/printer who needs the capability to rout a vast array of different substrates from acrylic, foamex, diabond, hardwoods and softwoods with ultraprecision at high speed. Consumables and tooling will be on display and are available online from the companies new ecommerce platform. www.powell-shop.com

Modular Grid Signs Damar Interiors is launching Modular Grid Signs, a new and innovative form of business signage. In addition, there will be a beautiful illuminated scene on the stand. Modular Grid Signs are an excellent way to advertise your business or gain extra revenue by selling advertising space to others. Our display should encapsulate the idea of creativity showing and illuminating a beautiful landscape image brought to life. Our design team helps to create customers' ideas and bring them to life. We hope to introduce to visitors a new and exciting opportunity in business signage. www.modulargridsign.com

ArtSystems will join Neschen to promote its signage and graphics media and this year the stand will be themed around a retro garage look. Our team will be able to talk visitors through the processes and demonstrate how they can obtain stunning, bubble-free results. The classic range of Neschen Easy Dot products will be on show including the Print n Walk floor system; Window Grip media; and the Chalkboard black. Neschen Performance Wallpapers will form part of the stand graphics, illustrating what can be done with 21st century graphic and display materials.

www.artsystems.co.uk

SISIS SISIS

Rand Made In Manchester

Acrylic Built up letters & logos • Flat Cut letters & logos Composite fret cut sign trays • Acrylic fabrication

sales@signs2signs.com www.signs2signs.com

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Nova Chrome

Onyx Systems

Onyx Graphics will demonstrate all

H50 **Perspex Distribution**

G14 **Printvision (UK)**

F50

Nova Chrome UK supplies one of the widest selections of dye sublimation products in the market, with a full range of Unisub products, aluminium sheet and pre-cut blanks, fabric based items, glass, acrylic photo panels and slate. Simple A4/A3 based solutions are available while those in need of production or photo quality have the option of the Sawgrass Virtuoso VJ-628. This 24.8" unit features a choice of Dual CMYK, 8-colour or the new Fluorescent HD inksets. Whether as an individual printer or press or bundled together as a 'starter kit', you can be assured of comprehensive support and guidance. www.novachrome.co.uk

G30

solutions with its channel partners, focusing on Onyx Hub which is part of our ONYX Site Solutions already delivering savings through the reduction of waste and increased productivity through better print job handling. We will be running sessions to help printers get a real hard data on how much they could be saving and increasing their profits by. We are the world's most popular RIP for wide format print; we have unique technologies for colour matching and work closely with all the key printer

D50 Oshino LED Lighting

vendors to help develop new products.

www.artsystems.co.uk

This year we will be exhibiting new lighting products for the sign maker including Mini Orbis LED for built-up letters with shallow and broad strokes plus many shallower sign and media sign boxes and the latest version of our popular and very economical to use Eco-LED strip modules. Come and see the whole range and meet the team at our stand. www.oshino-lamps.co.uk

Perfect Colours

Their large portfolio of products includes the aqueous-based inkjet machines on which the business was founded and UV flatbed print technology from the likes of Durst and Hewlett Packard, solvent based printers from Roland and Epson and environmentally friendly latex outdoor print solutions, also from Hewlett Packard. Perfect Colours sales team of highly qualified and trained individuals can advise on large format hardware, applications, media, software, colour management solutions and office stationery. www.perfectcolours.com

ERSPEX® G-LUX A NEW ACRYLIC THINNER SHEETS

Perspex Distribution is inviting visitors to take a stroll down their high street to see the vibrant and eye-catching signage and displays made possible with Perspex acrylic. Their stand will offer a glimpse of how Perspex acrylic can make it easier for fabricators to produce vibrant signage and displays. Perspex G-Lux is a newly developed cast acrylic sheet for edge illumination, enabling signmakers to produce a light sheet panel without the need to engrave or print the sheet first. The high street will showcase Perspex Spectrum LED acrylic and SloanLED modules working together to create bright signage and vibrant displays. www.perspex.co.uk

PowerPax

E64

Lighting: lit sign systems and power supplies. PowerPax supplies power conversion products. The company has a comprehensive range of LED drivers developed for illuminated sign and light panel applications including ultra slim range of constant voltage LED drivers which are available in both 12vdc and 24vdc outputs from 30W to 100W. The complete range of LED drivers consists of both constant voltage and constant current models in power ratings from 6W to 600W. PowerPax offers a complete range of high quality LED strip lighting and controllers. www.powerpaxuk.com

PrintMAX F30

Three brands: Mimaki, HP and Roland and one independent supplier, offering advice and knowledge to find your company the best investment. We are committed to delivering our services with high quality support to ensure you get the best return. We offer a complete solution and look forward to exceeding your expectations. www.printmax.co.uk

From business card printing to even managing printed deck chairs, there's no job that's too big for us. Our clients have been diverse over the years as we cater to a nationwide customer base. It could be outdoor flags and flagpoles or even flyer printing for a campaign; our services cover a large area. We offer a range of services from our super-wide digital printing to our linear display units. The many different printing types, which we provide include feather flags, fabric display stand, tension fabric systems with its literature holders, twist stands, pop-up stands and pavement sians.

www.printvision.co.uk

Pureimage

C60

We are dedicated to providing a professional, responsive and effective resource, providing products and services to all businesses for their outdoor and print needs. We work closely with our partners, enabling them to better meet the needs of our customers, employees and suppliers. Currently our most popular products are projecting lightbox (blade) signs; double sided LED window display panels for estate agents; and wall-mounted, LED backlit, poster display panels. We constantly review the latest products and display technologies to bring you innovative signage solutions to help you grow your business. www.pureimageuk.com

A22 QCR Recycling Equipment

QCR Recycling Equipment is one of the UK's largest suppliers of recycling and waste reducing equipment and has helped many businesses in the printing sector with their waste cardboard in particular. With a huge equipment range to choose from including cardboard and plastic balers, general waste compactors and industrial shredders there is a solution for everyone. QCR offers free site surveys and equipment trials for all customers. www.gcr.co.uk

Quality Print Services (QPS).

As Nazdar's main UK distributor, QPS is hosting Nazdar Ink Answers Live and will offer a free introductory ink cartridge to new customers who register at the show. In addition, the first UK demonstrations of the new VersaEXPRESS RF-640 with ID-64 will provide in-depth knowledge of this new 64" wide printer that uses UVL ink to produce output that is instantly dry for



immediate application or post finishing. It combines many of the advantages of ecosolvent and latex printers but with significantly reduced running costs when compared to latex solutions.

Representatives from Nazdar and QPS' ink experts will be on hand to answer aueries.

www.qualityprintservices.com

C11 R A Smart

We are launching the Impres digital printing solution comprising industry leading technologies from MS, JK Group and Caldera and aimed at the dye sublimation/soft signage sector. Currently available in two widths (320cm and 180cm), R A Smart is partnering The Dover Group to offer Impres in the UK. We will also launch REXframe into the UK market – a silicone edge graphic signage system made from lightweight aluminium, assembled using a simple connector system. It can be custom designed or shaped to fit any space, wall-mounted or freestanding, suspended, retrofitted or used to build an entire structure. www.rasmart.co.uk

Resolute DTG

C36

Inks, promotional wear and products, sign and print media, substrates and materials, textile and DTG printing equipment. www.resoluteink.co.uk

Ribbon Writer

D1

D24

Textile and DTG printing equipment. Supplies ribbon printing machines and consumables. www.ribbonwriter.com

Righton Plastics

Righton will exhibit for second time at Sign & Digital following a successful first time appearance in 2017. This year the company has a lot to say with the launch of new products including a mill/mill ACM, ideal for the vinyl overlayer projects; two dual finish ACM options in light grey/dark grey and light/dark bronze; two ACM colours in brown and orange; and an external grade mirror ACM. With so much to talk about, Righton is looking forward to a busy exhibition. www.rightonplastics.com

Rimex Metals UK

C39

External and interior signage www.rimexmetals.com

Roland DG (UK)

H₃₀

Roland DG UK will offer advice, knowledge and support from the world-renowned manufacturer of wide-format print technology. Visitors to the stand will be greeted with not only Roland DG's latest technology but the chance to have a coffee and a chat with a Roland DG expert from the specialised RolandCare and Academy teams through to the Roland users who will be available on the stand. For businesses interested in gaining some informal product, technical or maintenance advice or simply visiting the stand to find out more about Roland DG there will be a wealth of information available. www.rolanddg.co.uk

Rollsroller

ROLLSROLLER flatbed applicator has revolutionised the finishing work of many sign makers. Using manual processes for sign making can make it difficult to meet your customer's growing demands. Many of the manual procedures are strenuous, time consuming and demanding and results can vary. ROLLSROLLER flatbed applicator gives you perfect results in a

third of the time. www.rollsroller.se

Rotatrim

By utilising only the finest quality and precision engineered components which are then hand assembled by our skilled engineers, Rotatrim offers a range of precision trimmers which are unrivalled in their quality, accuracy, reliability and longevity. Currently a global leader recognised in the production and manufacturer of the finest rotary cutting equipment, Rotatrim products are renowned for their design, safety and durability. In addition, Rotatrim offers an excellent level of customer support with a 5-year guarantee on the majority of its products and markets a broad range of cutting equipment, spares and a full range of accessories. www.rotatrim.co.uk

Sabur Digital

K40

Heat transfer and sublimation, inks, laminators and films, plotters and cutters, print finishing equipment, soft signage, textile and DTG printing equipment, wide and super wide format digital printers. www.saburink.com

Sanco Technology

K10 www.sancotechnology.com

Secabo UK

A20

Secabo UK are distributors of Secabo heat presses, vinyl cutters and draw cut software. We offer a large range of manual to fully automatic pneumatic presses, with entry level to professional vinyl cutters and a large range suitable for small to large businesses. www.hexis.co.uk

Service Offset Supplies D32

We believe our team's in depth knowledge of the print and graphics industry, coupled with our Fogra Certified Colour Management specialist, offers the very best customer service support. We provide a complete solution for wide format customers including hardware, consumables, rip software and most importantly colour management. www.serviceoffsetsupplies.co.uk

Shanghai Helen Metal **D60**

Our main products are LED slim light box and advertising display for exterior and interior signage, sign and display installation and maintenance. www.helenmetal.com

Shanghai Soardist Display **A36**

Fast printing of display systems, exterior signage, promotional wear and products, soft signage, tension fabric systems. www.soardistuk.com

G50 shopVOX

shopVOX is the only comprehensive, webbased pricing, workflow management, CRM and point of sale (POS) system built for your custom shop and industry. We serve the sign, print, awards/engraving and promotional industries. www.shopvox.com

Sign Elite **A30**

Exterior and interior signage, plotters and cutters, sign and display installation and maintenance, vehicle livery products and services, wide and super wide format digital printers. Products for the sign and print industry include Printcover+ which complements the successful Signelite product, which is designed specifically for the sign and graphics industry. As print and signs merge more there is a gap in the market for a print specific product that provides an element of installation cover for signage. Existing print products do not currently do this. Printcover+ offers this and maintains the all important print cover extensions needed by the industry. www.signelite.co.uk



Sign Making Tools

C72

Sign Making Tools' catalogue is divided into job types. From vehicle wrapping to storage, knives to squeegees, products have been sourced from around the globe. Sign Making Tools offers staples of sign making and new and exciting tools that could transform the way you work. Many of the products have been manufactured 'in house'. Sign Making Tools are open to suggestions and if you are stuck on a specific job, contact us and we may be able to help. One main theme runs through our product range, we want to make your work easier and save you time. www.signmakingtools.co.uk

Signarama

Founded in 1986, Signarama is one of the most experienced signs and graphics franchises in the world and franchisees enjoy all the benefits that go with it: worldclass training and support, enviable buying power, instant brand recognition and an R&D department that brings the latest technology and software innovations to market. Experience in the sign industry is not essential. As a franchisee, your role is to develop and grow the business, recruiting experienced staff to deliver the highest standards of essential visual communications to the local business community.

www.franchise.signarama.co.uk

SIGNET Sign Systems H60

Let us present our Swedish flexible modular sign system SIGNET used for visual communication. Come and see how our unique double-sided profiles can be used in at least 10 different ways and meet our compatible flat systems SLIM, SLIDE-DOWN, MAGNETIC and FLEXI; the curved CONVEXA and ELEGANCE; and the freestanding pylon TOTEM. www.signet.se

Signgeer

L30



Super tools for sign heroes. SIGNMAN is back at the NEC to save Printropolis again. We will launch our new website with another massive giveaway and introduce over 40 new to industry gadgets.

Check out KEENCUT's new prototype vertical board cutter, a mid-weight option to the SteelTraK and build your own tool carrier on stand with the new YelloGEER system from YELLOTOOLS. We'll be blasting vinyl with the MBX Vinyl remover and show a selection of products from our partner brands including Swann Morton, Olfa, 3M, SAi Flexi Signmaking Software, Raceramps, WrapGlove, VR15 Vinyl Remover.

www.signgeer.com

C40/50 Signmaster Systems

Signmaster Systems can provide solutions to all your wide format needs from purchasing new printers and finishing equipment to stocking up on inks and media. We pride ourselves on going the extra mile and so our customers benefit from impartial advice, technical support and training. Our stand this year will be slightly different to the norm; we are going interactive and given our visitors a change to demo printers, finishing equipment and other exciting products new to our range. www.signmaster.co.uk

SignProMax

Founded in 2011, SignProMax is a UKbased professional display solution company. We are one of the world's leading manufacturer and printing service providers for high quality display solutions. We focus on easy fabric displays, research and development, marketing, manufacturing and services. www.signpromax.com

signs2signs

A26

J54

signs signs

For signs2signs this will be our fifth consecutive year at Sign & Digital and we'll be building on the success of previous shows. We pride ourselves on being a true trade supplier and a Manchester-based manufacturer with two decades of experience, paying the same attention to detail whether we are supplying a single letter or complete signs for multiple sites. Signs2signs will be the only approved Perspex fabricator at Sign & Digital and we are looking forward to showcasing our 3D acrylic work and Perspex material. www.signs2signs.com

Sign Update

C70

We aim to inspire, inform and support all those in the sign making and graphic display industries, with relevant news, features, tutorials and case studies. The magazine and our website have latest job vacancies, businesses and equipment to sell and a comprehensive buyers guide. Started in 1990 by a sign maker, we are the oldest signage magazine in the UK and are passionate about the industry. Come say hello! www.signupdate.co.uk

Solent Sewing & Welding G22

Products include Miller Weldmaster T3 Extreme Entry level banner welder to eliminate time-consuming and costly taping processes; Miller Weldmaster T300 Extreme Edge High speed banner welder with speeds around 20m/min; Solent Texsew Pro Convevorline - a versatile sewing system that produces soft signage where latex/silicone keder is sewn to the fabric edge to be fitted in a frame; tooling for sewing PVC, Velcro and webbing reinforcements on banners. Miller Weldmaster AES1800 fully automated banner production system from a roll, welds both edges simultaneously (hem/pocket / keder), eyelets at specified points and cut's banners to length. www.solentsew.co.uk

Soyang Europe

F44



Soyang Europe returns to showcase its extensive collection. Getting back to basics with our Print Collection will be a real focus. Products include a variety of banner and mesh materials offering blackout, backlit and double-sided solutions. In addition to a strong portfolio of staple products such as self-adhesive vinyl ranges from Intercoat and DECAL and the Endutex range, we have speciality products such as G-Floor and AlumiGraphics. Visitors will see Soyang's SoFlat range of scrimless, non-curling banner, ideal for pull-up banners and SoDecor printable wall coverings, along with a showcase of products from our flooring range. www.soyang.co.uk

HIGHLIGHT®

COMING SOON THE BRIGHTEST, MOST EFFICIENT TROUGH LIGHTING SYSTEM AVAILABLE

Hyperbright 3,500 lm/m with 167 lm/W efficacy Superbright 2,000 lm/m with 167 lm/W efficacy Ecobright 1,200 lm/m with 167 lm/W efficacy

Highlight is the original made to measure extruded aluminium trough lighting system, available since 1981. It provides shadow-free illumination, thanks to innovative design controlling the direction of light to angle it in to the sign face.

The clip-on fit fixing brackets make installation fast and hassle-free.





Spandex

E30 Stand-offs.eu

E62 **Substance Europe**

F32

G30

Spandex will present the Wrap Revolution feature where visitors will be able to 'have a go' at wrapping with a wide range of colours and textures from 3M, Avery Dennison, ORAFOL, Arlon and ImagePerfect. Our experts will demonstrate wrapping throughout the day on the 'mystery' car. We will showcase our ImagePerfect signage range for window, coloured vinyls and specialities and the new swissQprint LED flatbed printer series, demonstrating lightning fast productivity and a broad range of print applications with the nine freely configurable channels. We will demonstrate print devices including the new Epson SureColor SC-S80600, which features print speeds up to 95.1m²/h. www.spandex.co.uk

STADUR Produktions K50

Producer of lightweight foam boards, sign and print media.

STADUR offers a full range of lightweight foam boards for the advertising market. Thanks to the special surfaces, the lightweight foam boards are excellently suitable for digital or screen printing and for photo mounting, PoS/PoP display construction, shop design and much more. STADUR will present their new product VISCOM MAGNETIC which will be launched this summer and mainly serve as the media for easily exchangeable advertisements and long lasting store design projects.

Furthermore, STADUR will show how their products can be transformed into PoS displays, furniture and stand-up displays. www.stadur.com

Stand-offs.eu is an international supplier of a range of high quality stainless steel stand-offs for sign makers. A limited selection of the most popular stand-offs and a professional range of more than 200 CitinoxPLUS stand-offs offer unlimited fixing solutions. All products are manufactured in Germany, which is your guarantee for long-lasting and beautiful presentation of your signs. Delivery within three days and 100 % cash-back if you are not happy with our products or service. Free house delivery if your order value exceeds £50.00. Please visit our stand and collect samples and our price list.

Stanford Marsh

Stanford Marsh Group supplies plot-IT and nationwide services for 3D printers, HP latex and pagewide XL printers, Canon PRO & TX Series, SUMMA cutters and ONYX Rips with online sales of consumables for next day delivery. We offer hardware supply, consumables and ongoing maintenance. www.stanfordmarsh.co.uk

C16 **Streetwise Digital**



We are the UK distributors of the iGirouette, the world's first smart, digital, rotating fingerpost system. Designed and manufactured in France by Charvet Digital and only launched last year, iGirouette can be interacted with directly by users, responding to their precise needs. It will display an unlimited number of messages and can be configured to deliver real time information from existing sources. Its movement and digital display grabs the attention of the public and its versatility makes it ideal for a wide variety of locations including town/city centres, transport hubs, shopping, commercial and entertainment centres, exhibition halls and sports arenas.

www.streetwisesystems.com

Substance Europe Ltd and Substance Incorporated have quickly gained a solid reputation in the motocross/kart/jet ski and snowmobile sector with our printing vinyls and laminates designed from the ground up for this intensive purpose. We remain one of the largest suppliers of High-Tack MX products to the UK, Europe and the USA. We will be showcasing our range of High-Tack printable vinyl and laminates while a selection of substance vinyl products includes FLO technology, which we use to great effect on our Ultracurve X1, our best selling motocross vinyl; FLO technology makes the fitting of vinyl easier for the end user.

www.substance-europe.com

Summa

For nearly three decades Summa has delivered the world's highest quality vinyl/contour cutters and flatbeds cutting systems. This year we will be showing a comprehensive range of solutions based on our vinyl cutters and expanding range of F Series flatbed cutting systems. Demonstrations of all our products will take place throughout the show and our technical sales team will be available to answer your questions. www.artsystems.co.uk

A10 Super-Wide Digital

Display systems, soft signage, tension fabric systems, trade print services. With one of the most advanced ranges of print and finishing technology in the country, Super-Wide constantly invests in the latest equipment to ensure its customer base stays ahead of the competition. A proud user of EFI Vutek technology, Super-Wide can handle any size job, large or small, in tight deadlines to the standards expected by even the most demanding of clients. www.super-wide.com

System Standex J57

System Standex is a trade supplier of aluminium frames for the display of printed panels and fabric graphics, all produced for our own range of purpose designed aluminium profiles. We manufacture frames and light boxes in a modular format and to your specific design and frames for graphics and merchandise. www.system-standex.co.uk

Tecna UK

J2

Tecna wants to produce creative and stunning looking displays that will really make your displays out from the competition. Being design led, they listen to their clients and take on board what they really have in mind. Their skilled teams can transform any scribbled idea/design and turn it into a presentationready CAD visual and quote for clients within 24 hours. Together with their knowledge to provide consultation, budget costs, designs for a variety of projects, global installation support, to full turnkey solutions, their aim is to make things as easy as possible for you at every stage. www.tecnauk.com

L50 **Tharstern**

Tharstern is a market leading software company, providing management information systems to the printing, packaging and label industries. Their MIS is a fully integrated and modular system that can be configured to the requirements of each business. The solution supports all the major print disciplines including wide format, digital, packaging and label and has been installed in over 700 companies throughout the world. At Sign & Digital visitors will be able to take a closer look at our different modules including Business Intelligence, Estimating, CRM and Advanced Imposition. www.tharstern.com

The Magic Touch

F60

The Magic Touch in the UK, under its DyeSubMagic sublimation brand confirms their appointment as exclusive distributors for the UK and Ireland for Duraluxe HD metal. This HD powder coated aluminium product offers certified UV resistance together with anti-graffiti properties delivering innovation for full colour outdoor signage as never seen before. The Duraluxe panels are compatible with most recognised sublimation ink brands including Sawgrass, Jtec, Kiian, Sensient, STS and Epson. www.themagictouch.co.uk

Thinklaser A16

Engraving/etching/laser cutting. Thinklaser design and manufacture high performance laser engraving and laser marking systems aimed at industrial production environments and engraving and cutting machines for non-metallic applications.



They have brought together a team of people with the technical expertise and specialist skills that will give you confidence when you invest in Thinklaser laser based systems and services. They have full control over product design and manufacture, application development and the support criteria provision for every machine sold. Their approach to your needs will be met in a professional and refreshing way that stands them apart. www.thinklaser.com

F22 Tiarox

Display systems, interior signage, sign and print media, substrates and materials, soft signage.

www.tigrox.com

G34 TMT elektronik

Signage www.tmtleds.com

E70 **Trade Etching Direct**

Display systems, engraving/cutting etching/laser. If you're looking for quality etched signs or precision chemical milling, Trade Etching Direct is an industry leader in chemical etching; 100% quality guaranteed; deep etching; trade prices that give you an excellent margin; and fast turnaround.

www.tradeetching.com

H67 Trimalco

Plotters and cutters, signage www.ftcuk.com

E40 Trotec Laser

Market leaders in laser cutting, engraving and marking machines and materials. Trotec will showcase a selection of laser machines for a variety of signage, display and design applications. Visit the stand for live demonstrations and see what your business can achieve. www.troteclaser.co.uk

UK Metalcraft

A56

Cut/moulded/built up letters, exterior signage, interior signage. www.ukmetalctaft.com

Ultima Displays

F10

Ultima Displays will be showing its new Vision banner range, a modern, sleek and elegantly designed range to display any brand message with both style and impact.



The range covers all extremities of the market from the budget conscious Element to the sleek, curvaceous Revolution that is ideal for the premium brand conscious consumer. The range also caters for desktop presentation with the new Stellar. Ultima Displays is committed to continuous product development and its experience and knowledge is demonstrated through continuous creation of new and innovative products that compete not only on design but also on price. www.ultimadisplays.co.uk

U-MARQ A46

U-MARQ is the leading UK manufacture of computer engraving machines. The company will be launching its UK manufactured range of laser engraving and cutting machines. These will be available with glass tubes and RF Ceramic Core from 40 watt to 125 watt to suit your requirements. All of our machines are designed and manufactured in our facilities in the UK, including all electronic control systems software, etc. The lasers will be a genuine UK manufactured product with backup and service to match. www.u-marq.com



Universal Laser Systems

D54 Universal Laser Systems is a leading global provider of CO2 and fibre laser systems and recognised experts in laser materials interactions and processing. The modular design of ULS laser solutions provides an unprecedented degree of flexibility with respect to overall performance and system control. Individually configured, the systems are tailored for the most diverse of requirements, applications and materials. www.ulsinc.com

UV Creative

We will present some of our new printable textiles and speciality finishes from the AlumiGraphics range of foil-based material. We have a state-of-the-art textile manufacturing facility in China through our partner, Soyang Technologies and distribute a number of specialist printable materials for highly creative or niche applications in addition to our staple sign maker materials. Our distribution centre holds stock in excess of 1.5 million sq/m and we operate on a next day delivery service as standard. "We're very much looking forward to giving visitors the opportunity to explore the possibilities our broad range of materials provides the wide-format market." www.uvcreative.co.uk

Very Displays

Our aim is to set the benchmark for trade display solutions by providing innovative, high quality products at the most competitive prices. Trust Very Displays to enhance your brand and exceed expectations from a personalised service through to same day dispatch. www.VeryDisplays.com

Vivid Laminating Technologies



Vivid Laminating Technologies offer reliable systems to extend the in-house capability of their customers while improving cost-efficiency through simple set-up and faster production times. Vivid will be showcasing the award-winning EasyMount Air, which features a swing-out arm for easy set-up, along with new materials which expand the creative possibilities for wide-format. Vivid will be demonstrating the latest Matrix lamination/foiling/spot UV systems, capable of running at up to 20 m/min and the Omni-Flow Deep Pile Feeder, retrofitable to any Matrix Pneumatic. A new range of cutter/creasers offering speeds of up to 50x faster than manual cutting/creasing will also be on show. www.vivid-online.com

William Smith

L36/40



William Smith will show a wide selection of sign and graphics and architectural interior décor and special effect materials and promote the sign manufacturing facilities it provides. The company is the leading UK trade-only stockist and distributor for leading brands including 3M, Avery Dennison, Arlon, VION and Stvl', Live demonstrations of the latest vehicle wrapping and architectural decorative and special effect films will be held. The Smith Sign & Display division will showcase the service and manufacturing capabilities available to the trade. William Smith will promote the range of hands-on customer training courses now available via the William Smith Group Training Academy. www.williamsmithgroup1832.co.uk

H40

Xante is a major provider of professional digital solutions for the graphic, sign and packaging market, meeting the demands of print professionals who are looking for state-of-the-art technology at practical price points. Xanté products are distributed through a worldwide network of reseller and distribution partners. www.xante.com

J60 Your Embroidery Services

Your Embroidery Services (YES) has been successfully serving the garment decoration industry for 23 years. Initially offering only embroidery machines from established pioneers SWF, the range has progressively expanded to include direct to garment printers from world-leaders DTG digital, UV LED printers from Compress, Print Wizard transfer printing machines and bling machines from Spangle. YES offer the widest range of machinery to suit all needs, budgets and industries. www.yesltd.co.uk

Your Print Partner

C10

Your Print Partner (YPP) provides its clients with the complete end-to-end design and printing service from concept creation to printing, finishing and delivery. YPP is the UK's biggest producer of soft signage, with an extensive product range including everything from printed flags, banners and street branding to POS and new 'stretch' exhibition displays. www.yourprintpartner.co.uk

Your Print Specialists (YPS) **E2**



YPS is inviting visitors to 'expand your potential with HP Latex' and will showcase the HP Latex 560 and the range of products from home décor to sign and graphic that can be produced on this versatile machine. There will be a focus on sign and graphic with an eco-solvent Roland TrueVIS centre stage. A Mimaki specialist for many years, the YPS stand would not be complete without the new Mimaki UCJV300-160. Visitors can explore the capabilities for industrial print with the UCJV's ability to print to a range of sensitive and unusual materials thanks to its UV-LED curing technology. www.yourprintspecialists.co.uk

Zünd Plotting Systems (UK)

The Zünd name is synonymous with performance, reliability and quality. Established in 1993, Zünd UK has rapidly become one of the industry leaders in the supply and service of precision cutting systems.

www.zund.co.uk



To advertise on these pages call Martin on 01784 605 601

For the latest:

Equipment for sale: www.signupdate.co.uk/fs Job vacancies: www.signupdate.co.uk/jobs Businesses for sale: www.signupdate.co.uk/bus

Equipment for Sale

HP Latex 335 64-inch Printer (2017)

Includes, Warranty, Onyx RIPCentre HP Latex Print and Cut Edition, remaining inks, and some spare cartridges. Automatic Take-up Unit, Stand and Spindle £10.250 + vat

sally@chillipepper-signs.co.uk

Mercedes-Benz sprinter (2013)

93k miles. Very high spec Sign makers van. Graphite grey, with top Clifford security, deadlocks and armour panels, roof rack with walk way and roller and ladder. Aircon and parking sensors etc £10.250 + vat

danielsmith515@gmail.com



- Table size: 3660mm x 1580mm
- Roller width:1300mm (No cut marks)
- Steel box Frame
- Glass table top
- Self-healing cutting matt
- Air Rams and roller system
- Selling as we have run out of space

Collection from N. Ireland Email: darren@signreload.com

Inca Spyder 320 £8k ono



Print Type: Flat bed Year of Manufacture: 2007 Condition: Good Ink Type: UV

Print Width/Area: 3.2m x 1.6m Colour Combination: CMYK, LC, LM

(2 white heads but these have been de-commissioned)

RIP Included: Yes Available Immediately Service history available Any remaining inks will be included

Contact jo@positivegroup.co.uk or 01202 714040

Equipment for Sale

For the latest equipment go to www.signupdate.co.uk/fs

Mimaki JV33 Printers





Fully refurbished

£5,495*

Also available: **CG-FX Cutters and Laminators**

www.applied-image.com

Equipment Wanted (Trade)

Classified advertising rates

Half page Quarter page £120 1/8th page £70 1/16th page £40 1/32th page £30

Job Vacancies and items for sale also

WANTED

Engraving Machines

Manual and computerised, most makes, in any condition.

Tel: 01992 899 255 Fax: 01992 899 256 sales@ronamachines.co.uk

Businesses for Sale

For the latest businesses go to www.signupdate.co.uk/bus

SIGN BUSINESS FOR SALE - £25k with freehold premises - £125k

The Sign Shop is well-established and successful. It has a broad range of customers providing an impressive amount of repeat business, as well as continuously attracting new customers.

There is also plenty of opportunity for future growth. Located in the rapidly expanding market town of Hailsham the business is now perfectly positioned for a new owner to benefit from the excellent reputation that has been built up over the last 20+ years. The premises are a recently modernised industrial unit with workshop,

1st floor studio/office, 5 parking places and zero business rates. Overdue retirement forces sale, hence competitive price.

OIRO £150k for business & premises

(will consider selling just the business)

T: 01323 846080 E: nic@thesignshopsussex.co.uk

SIGN BUSINESS FOR SALE

Established in 1996 from its current location in Batley, West Yorkshire A RARE OPPORTUNITY OF AN ON GOING GROWING BUSINESS Best offer over £20k

Virtual Tour: https://goo.gl/maps/39eRdhM6hnz It has good repeat business and strong growth based on referrals and long term customer relations. We provide an all types of signage to general businesses and general public which has lead to adopting a business ethic of maintaining ongoing business relationships with customers over along period of time. Training will be given, with an on going help. There is a lot of scope to expand this business

The premises is quite large and is on very low rent of £80 per week. For more information please contact 01924 420 773 07813 696566 - No time wasters.



VACANCY SALES MANAGER

KINGSTON - SOUTH WEST LONDON

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY IN THE CREATIVE AND DYNAMIC SIGNAGE INDUSTRY

THE ROLE:

- Key member of the management team.
- Responsible for Major Key Account sales, and managing the sales teams activities from lead generation through the complete sales process.
- Direct and manage marketing activities to support the sales strategy.

IDEAL BACKGROUND:

- All round sales and marketing experience gained, preferably from a similar role.
- Excellent motivational and leadership skills
- Highly motivated with a genuine drive to succeed.

Full job description at: www.fastsigns.co.uk/869-kingston/about/careers

Interested? Send your CV to jason.hartland@fastsigns.com















Vehicle Graphics Applicator

Southampton

Smart Graphics are looking to add a skilled vehicle graphics applicator to thier already experienced applications team to cover the South of England and further afield as required.

The successful applicants duties will involve the application of printed and cut vinyl graphics to bus and commercial fleets and also some sign and graphic requirements at customer or dealer locations.

Experience of wrapping digital images and cut vinyl graphics is essential to this role as is a clean and full driving license. Experience of working with graphic installation on buses would be an advantage but is not

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

A great package is available for the successful candidate.

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



Classified advertising rates

Half page	£220
Quarter page	£120
1/8 th page	£70
1/16 th page	£40
1/32 th page	£30

SK Signs & Labels

Sign Maker / Installer

Due to continued growth, we are looking for an experienced sign maker / installer to join our team in Southend, Essex

- 2 years+ experience in the Sign Industry
- Ability to fit vinyl graphics to substrates, vehicles, windows & fascia installations
- Fitting of frame & panels, sign trays, stand-off letters etc.
- Excellent communication skills
- Good standard of English, Maths and computer skills - SignLab preferable
- Flexible, common sense, can-do attitude
- Fitting mainly in Essex and London
- Clean UK driving licence required
 Call 01702 462401

Email CV to: info@sksigns.co.uk

Classifieds





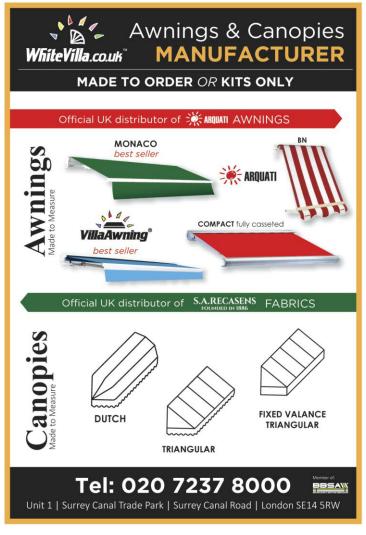


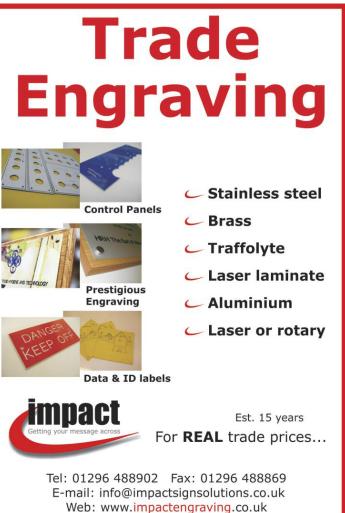


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ACRYLIC ALUMINIUM **MDF FOAM** DIABOND

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Specialists in Quality built up & flat cut lettering & logos

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Built up Illuminated Metal Letters

Projection Signs

Our comany has been supplying the UK Sign Industry for over 15 years & have worked with various countrywide companies







Built up Rim & Return Metal Letters

Built up Rimless Letters

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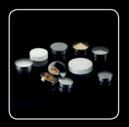
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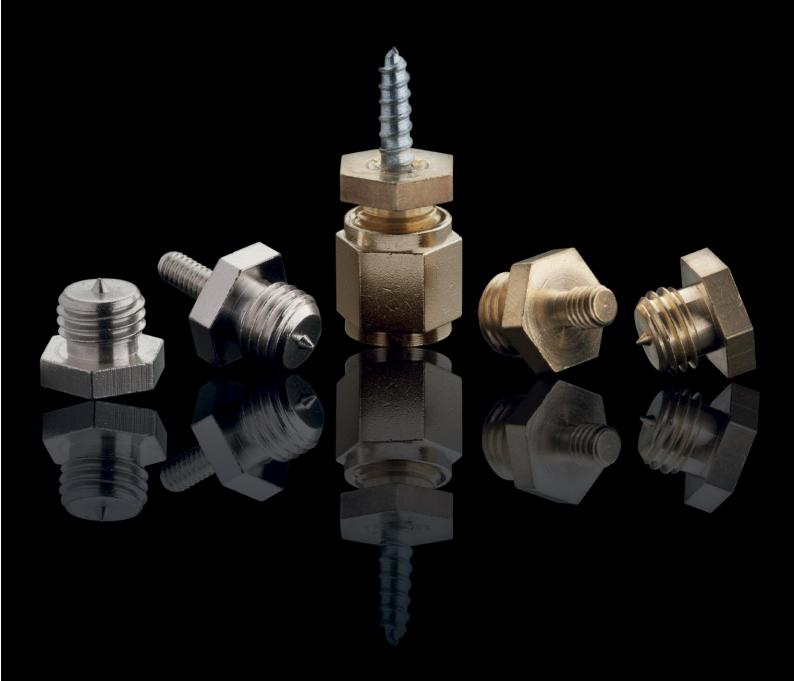
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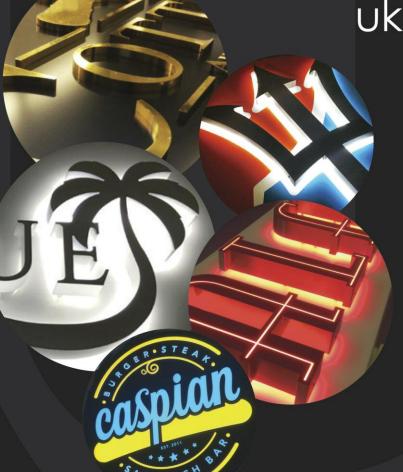
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JPH Signs are an up and coming UK Sign & Vinyl Company. From Shopfronts to Flex faces, From Window Manifestation to Digital Wall Prints, we handle it all and our Portfolio can be seen via our website. Midlands Based UK Coverage. Continuously over the past 18months to work with some of the UK's biggest sign companies.

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Trade service for Laser flat cut & built up lettering & logos in Acrylic, Aluminum & Stainless steel. We will give you a professional reliable & efficient service at a competitive price. From a single letter to a fully illuminated sign ready for installation. For a quote or just friendly advice contact us. We are here to help. Work with us.... work with experiance

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Our Subcontract department offers a high quality laser engraving service for permanently marking flat, cylindrical and irregular surfaces of virtually any material. We also offer laser cutting up to 1400 x 900mm in size and 18mm in thickness on a wide variety of non-metallic materials such as acrylic, PLY and MDF. With a minimum order value of £30, laser processing has never been so affordable.

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The "Lightblade" range of flatbed CNC laser cutting and engraving machines are specifically designed for non-metallic marking and cutting applications. Our comprehensive system specification and 1st class training and support ensures you will be up and running in no time. With bed sizes ranging from 300 x 400mm up to 1600 x 1000mm there's a system to suit all applications and pockets. Call us now!

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Tel: 0121 561 4600

accsign1@aol.com

www.accentsignsltd.co.uk

Accent signs "SLIMLITE" flat cut letters & logos made from 6mm opal acrylic with imbedded super bright white Led's to create a unique edge and halo illumination. Available with ACM, Acrylic or vinyl faces. Suitable for internal & external use. Supplied with standard locator fixings for ease of fitting.

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We are a trade only supplier of LED Modules for all types of channel letters, light boxes and solid acrylic "Neon" effect type letters. We have some very unique specialist LEDs, visit our website for product information and installation tutorials. We offer premium grade reliable products at highly competitive prices. Our unrivalled pre-sales guidance and after sales support will ensure your projects are executed with maximum effect.

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sales@applelec.co.uk

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

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Tel: 01903 750333

sales@simplexltd.com

www.simplexltd.com

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

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Tel: 01603 666699 sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk

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

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project.plastics@btinternet.com www.projectplastics.co.uk

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info@ward-signs.co.uk

www.ward-signs.co.uk

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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 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.

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

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

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Tel: 01727 832146 studio@fonteynesigns.co.uk

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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.

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SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX

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

Tel: 01934 852 888 sales@signscape.co.uk

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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

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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.

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www.signscape.co.uk

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SIGNWAVES

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www.signwaves.co.uk

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

Tel: 01493 419300

www.signwaves.co.uk

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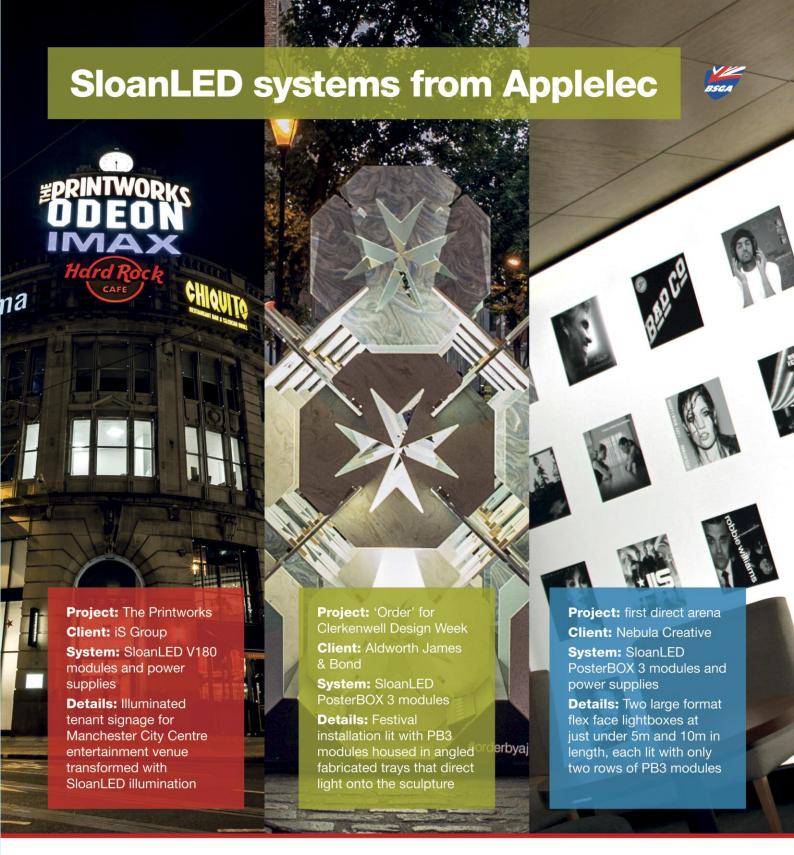
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For almost 70 years, we have been supplying the UK Sign Industry with quality Flat-cut, Built-up and Wet-Sprayed letters as well as engraved plagues and Tray Signs



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In Acrylic, ACM, MDF, Stainless Steel and Foam PVC



BUILT-UP LETTERS

In various finishes, both aluminium and stainless steel

OTHER SERVICES WE OFFER



ENGRAVED PLAQUES IN BRASS, STAINLESS STEEL AND LAMINATES



TRAY SIGNS IN ACM AND ALUMINIUM



SPECIALIST FABRICATION



FLAT-BED DIGITAL PRINTING

WE OFFER A FAST AND EFFICIENT SERVICE Email our experienced sales team to assist you with your next project

ECO-FRIENDLY MANUFACTURING 100% renewable energy used in our manufacturing process

Carbon neutral delivery vehicles

100% CONFIDENTIAL Trade only supplier (we do not give factory tours)

100% of our waste material is recycled





We use only the highest quality materials in all our manufacturing processes to ensure the goods you receive are of the highest standard





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