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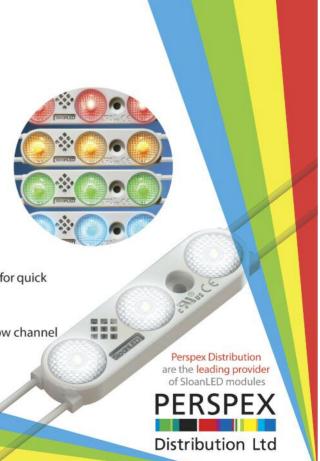


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Subscriptions - Annual subscriptions are £14.00 including postage and packing • Europe €28 • Rest of world £28 Send Cheques and postal orders made payable to Sign Update Ltd to: Subscriptions Department, Sign Update Ltd., Allens Orchard, Chipping Warden, Banbury, Oxon OX17 1LX

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WELCOME Page

Warming up

As the month of June drew to a close we enjoyed a heatwave and a resounding win for England in the World Cup. With winter a distant memory, issues such as Brexit and longestablished businesses under threat, might fade into the background somewhat. Even so. the British people continue to prove their resilience in the face of economic reversal and government discord – and even sporting disappointments – so maybe it's a case of: prepare for the worst and a better outcome will be a welcome bonus!

Whatever the weather, sign and display businesses are flourishing. Signs have been around an awfully long time. As long as people have been buying and selling, travelling, visiting public spaces - signage impacts on everyone's lives, though often imperceptibly. Signs are meant to be seen and acted upon whether it's to avoid danger, get 'sold' on a brand, make a purchase, find your way to a destination - yet most of us take them for granted.

While signs have come a long way since the first hand-painted wording outside a tavern or shop, to sophisticated lighting, vinyls and built-up lettering just about everywhere you look, there is still demand for simple, straightforward information 'boards' that get the message across just as well, if not sometimes better, than a glossy vehicle wrap or a giant mural.

This month's special features highlight this broad diversity, looking at the clever use of lighting to grab attention, to simple fingerposts and panels for wayfinding. In addition, articles considering aspects of routing and cutting as well as lamination and finishing offer practical suggestions for the signmaker.

In the September/October issue special features include education & training, routing & engraving and promotional items alongside our regular sections covering the latest products, applications, projects and industry news.

Sue Deane Editor







Anti-graffiti overlaminates offer huge savings potential

3M has launched its "two most versatile anti-graffiti wrap overlaminates yet", bringing the potential for huge cost and time savings to the rail industry.

Their Anti-Graffiti Wrap Gloss Overlaminate 8588G and Matte Overlaminate 8590M by 3M are not only easily cleanable but highly conformable and durable. This makes them suitable for curved surfaces, marking a breakthrough for train operators.

On train exteriors the products can be used to wrap and protect all surfaces including parts such as railcar noses, while for interiors they can be applied to everything from textured carriage walls to window frames. In train stations they can even cover textured and small brick walls.

Highly durable and able to withstand repeated abrasion from washing, both products are covered for up to eight years by the 3M MCS warranty and the 3M Performance Guarantee.

3M technical expert Tim Beyer said: "Rail operators have been crying out for wrap overlaminates that offer great stainresistance, stretching properties and durability all in one so we are excited to announce our latest offering, which we believe has potential to save these customers huge sums each year."

Rail specialist laboratories including SNCF in France have independently tested the new 3M wrap overlaminates.

While many anti-graffiti overlaminates must sacrifice conformability to achieve stain-resistance, the 3M products attain both, thanks to their fluoropolymer blend.

This composition gives them an excellent anti-silvering performance, providing a quality finish even on textured surfaces along with their superior durability.

"At 3M our dedicated team of experts is continuously innovating to push the

"Rail operators have been crying out for wrap overlaminates that offer areat stain-resistance. stretching properties and durability all in one"

boundaries of what is possible," said Tim. "These new anti-graffiti wrap overlaminates make a worthy addition to our already extensive portfolio."

www.3M.co.uk/graphicsolutions



On train exteriors the products can be used to wrap and protect all surfaces including parts such as railcar noses

Smaller and lighter flatbed cutting plotter

The range of flatbed cutting plotters from Graphtec GB has been extended with the introduction of the latest FCX4000 model. It replaces the FC4500 and incorporates many of the advanced features found in the FCX2000 cutting plotter but is a lighter and smaller version. Developed primarily for the garment and accessories decoration sector, the FCX4000 is equally at home when processing materials used for traffic signage, point-of-purchase display and printed label/sticker applications.

Available in two sizes (FCX4000-50ES and FCX4000-60ES), the machines have respective cutting areas of 660 x 488mm and 976 x 660mm, an identical cutting force of 600gf and a maximum cutting speed of 750mm/sec. Both are supplied with a high quality steel cutting blade, water-based fibre-tipped pen and a creasing/scoring tool that will enable jobs to be cut and creased from the reverse of the sheet being processed to avoid damage to the printed surface. Graphtec's latest own-brand Graphtec Pro Studio and Cutting Master 4 design and production software programs are included in the package.

The FCX4000 comes with Version 6.0 of Graphtec's proprietary ARMS (Advanced Registration Mark Sensing) system for optimum plotting and cutting accuracy. Further key design features include an ability to run off a USB key using a barcode system and networked or run via a USB directly from a PC; dual configuration to enable perforation



cutting/creasing on the curve; offline cutting operation using the USB memory; a facility to monitor cutting blade wear; and data management using the barcode function.

This cutting plotter will handle a wide range of media in various thicknesses including self-adhesive fluorescent/reflective vinyl up to 0.2mm, heavy paper/board up to 0.5mm, compressed foamed sheet up to 0.8mm, cardboard up to 1.5mm, high density reflective film up to 1.0mm and sandblast resist rubber up to 1.0mm. The FCX4000 is compatible with Windows 7, 8, 8.1 and 10 and complies with all relevant CE safety and performance standards.

www.graphtecgb.co.uk

Matt and gloss laminating film for UV-curable inks

ASLAN has developed a high quality laminating film especially made for UVcurable inks.

The self-adhesive PVC film is available in the dimension 1.35 m x 50.0 m. in both matt and gloss. This transparent laminating film protects the printed surface from UV rays, weathering and mechanical wear

Compared to a conventional laminating film, the special adhesive of UV-PrintProtect ASLAN SL 27 and UV-PrintProtect matt ASLAN SL 28 is said to guarantee excellent adhesion on UVcurable printed media without any of the disturbing silvering effect.

This laminating film is suitable for digital prints with high colour brilliance, is scratchresistant and compatible with the ASLAN digital printing films.

www.ASLAN-Schwarz.com



This transparent laminating film protects the printed surface from UV rays, weathering and mechanical wear



Innovative developments in film products

Orafol introduced a series of new and innovative products for the graphics industry at FESPA including ORAJET 3952F digital printing film. The long-term durability and easy application of this cast and highly transparent film makes it suitable for shop windows and glass doors; wet application is highly recommended. The suitable lamination film for the material is the new ORAGUARD 252F.

A digitally printable etched glass film for long term applications, ORAJET 3851 etched glass film is not limited to cut designs but offers the possibility to combine with creative digital prints. The material is suitable for shop windows and glass doors.

The ORACAL 970 Premium Special Effect Cast range now includes eight colours,

which are ideal for both full vehicle wraps and tuning. In addition, the range of ORACAL 351 metallised films has been expanded to include Rose Gold, available in 50 micron thickness with a glossy surface.

ORAFOL's range of fluorescent films has been extended with an improved version, specifically developed for application onto emergency services vehicles. The ORACAL 7710RA comes in fluorescent yellow and fluorescent red and offers extended durability as well as improved application properties.

ORAGUARD 244G makes it easy to wipe away graffiti; UV resistant, it can be cleaned without reducing its effectiveness while protecting high quality prints.

www.orafol.com

"The long-term durability and easy application of this cast and highly transparent film makes it suitable for shop windows and glass doors"



The long-term durability and easy application of this cast and highly transparent film makes it suitable for shop windows and glass doors

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ED FLEXI-NEC

A new addition to Kings LED is our LED Flexi-Neon. This PVC based product offers a durable & flexible alternative to glass neon, allowing you to create almost any shape you want simply by bending it & fixing it in place. This product also works well as perimeter lighting for buildings, exhibitions, bars & even kitchens! With a maximum run length of 20m on a 24v system it's also more energy efficient & better for the environment too!!





Available in a variety of colours & shapes with white or warm white lamps, these exterior grade LED Cabochon bulbs are easy to use with solder free connections & all screw fit parts. These bulbs are the perfect addition to built up letters, sign trays & more!







Made from 15mm, our new Opal LED Halo letters offer the simplicity of a flat cut letter with the illumination of a built up letter. Fitted with our Kings LED Flexi-Ribbon to provide a consistent & bright LED halo. These letters can be supplied sealed or unsealed for external & internal applications



















Films for vehicle customisation and value protection

Avery Denni

Automotive Window

Avery Dennison Graphics Solutions has launched two new ranges of vehicle films addressing comfort, safety and value protection.

Three new series in Avery Dennison's Automotive Window Film (AWF) range are designed to enable highly creative vehicle restyling as well as safety enhancements and heat and glare rejection while its Supreme Protection Film XI (SPF-XI) offers self-healing protection for vehicles and resists damage caused by stone chips, road debris, insect stains and weathering.

Senior director, marketing and channel strategy Oliver Guenther said that the new window film portfolios are especially attractive to installers because they allow material characteristics to be matched very precisely to user needs.

New ranges of vehicle films address comfort, safety and value protection "Safety materials are

designed to keep shattered glass in place and use a specialist adhesive that ensures no smears or smudging, with outstanding clarity and colour stability"

"There are 17 distinct materials in the window film portfolios," said Oliver. "It means that whatever aesthetics and level of light transmission a customer wants from 6% to optically clear — one of these materials will be a good choice. In addition, Avery Dennison adhesive technology enables very good dot matrix fitting and easy installation."

Window film options include highperformance, infrared and non-reflective. Key account manager Pascal Braker expects a high level of interest in the new

"These materials offer outstanding performance both during installation and over time," he said. "They add significantly to vehicle comfort and allow some arresting designs to be created by installers.

AWF non-reflective films use nanotechnology to reject heat. Light transmission ranges from 5-50% with 99% UV block and up to 94% glare reduction. They do not contain a metal layer so create no interference with electronics.

The AWF infrared film rejects heat radiation while allowing visible light and blocking 99% of UV light. High clarity means it is suitable for front-cabin installation.

The largest of the new ranges is the AWF high-performance films portfolio; 12

different films, each available in three widths, allow for the desired level of cost, solar, heat and safety performance. The range's HP Pro films give outstanding shrinkage performance, quick drying time and ease of handling - at four different light transmission levels.

With four transmission levels, the HP films are cost-effective metal-dye hybrid materials with good dot matrix compatibility. The portfolio's HP Safety materials are designed to keep shattered glass in place and use a specialist adhesive that ensures no smears or smudging, with outstanding clarity and colour stability.

Avery Dennison Supreme Protection Film XI (SPF-XI) improves and safeguards vehicle aesthetics while helping to retain resale value. It uses a high quality, self-healing thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU) film that is easy to apply and ultra-clear to ensure excellent aesthetics.

www.averydennison.com



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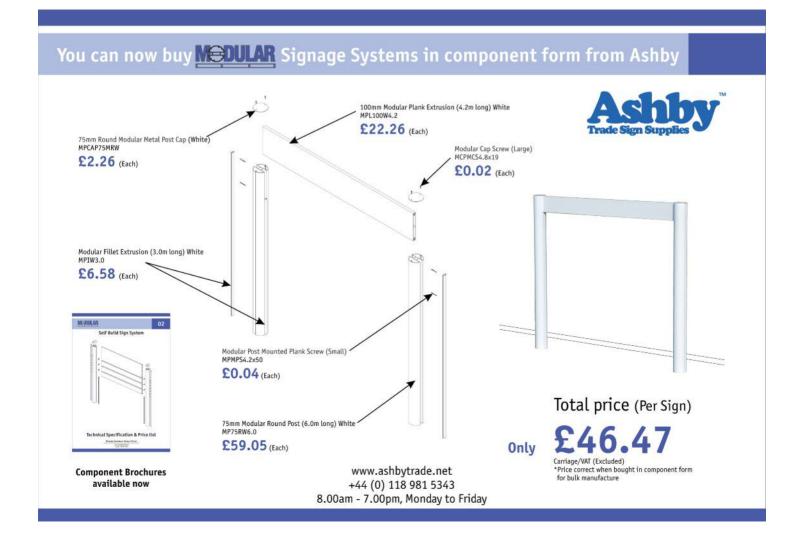
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Architectural window films offer security and protection

The appearance, performance and safety of commercial, industrial and residential buildings can be transformed with a new range of architectural window films introduced by Avery Dennison Graphics Solutions. The portfolio gives installers a wide range of choices when planning building improvements.

Senior director marketing and channel strategy Oliver Guenther said that the range has been designed with aesthetics. sustainability and building safety in mind:

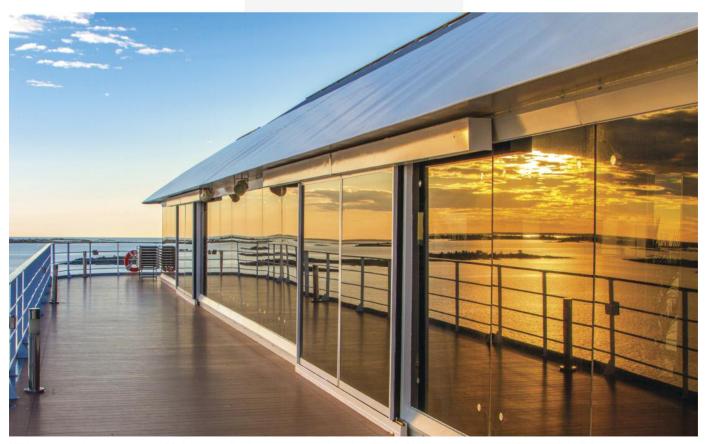
"These materials can improve the comfort of building occupants by rejecting damaging solar radiation and shielding from excess heat. Safety films are able to prevent injury from shattered glass and there are films to enable simple removal of graffiti. Our goal was to provide architects and specifiers with a complete range of window film options in one place."

"The safety window film range is designed to improve security, offering a range of protection levels for glass breakage caused by accident, malicious intent or extreme weather conditions"

The high performance solar window films filter damaging solar radiation and reduce interior heat build-up, providing multiple benefits to occupants including enhanced comfort, reduced glare, no fading of furniture and lower energy costs. With a comprehensive range of finishes available, users can select their level of privacy as they transform their building's appearance.

The safety window film range is designed to improve security, offering a range of protection levels for glass breakage caused by accident, malicious intent or extreme weather conditions. Additional surface protection solutions are available with anti-graffiti properties.

www.averydennison.com



With a comprehensive range of finishes available, users can select their level of privacy as they transform their building's appearance



Large format printers offer high output and superior image quality

HP unveiled its new DesignJet Z Printer series at FESPA to showcase innovative large format technologies offering "amazing image quality and fast, simple output" for print service providers (PSPs), retailers and creatives to deliver "beautiful photos, impactful graphics and technical applications".

The HP DesignJet Z6 and Z9+ Printer series is designed to maximise printing performance. By tightly integrating the materials, hardware and software, they offer print permanence with fewer inks to simplify manageability and reduce costs. A new vertical trimmer is featured on select models to optimise output in addition to innovative technologies for rapid high quality production from professional photo quality prints to retailer signage. The result is printing "2.5 times faster and postproduction 20% faster".

"The new DesignJet Z Printer series radically enhances the customer experience and reinvents printing possibilities for both professional photo and signage to ignite business growth and adapt to future needs," said Guayente Sanmartin, general manager and global head, HP Large Format Design Printing. "We thoughtfully designed the new printers to deliver impressive photo quality without compromising time resources and output speeds with the new vertical trimmer and innovative color technologies."

"The series is designed to handle even the most complex files with powerful processing architectures and the Adobe PDF Print Engine"



The HP DesignJet Z6 and Z9+ Printer series is designed to maximise printing performance

HP DesignJet Z Printer series, available in 24- and 44-inch formats, are built to give PSPs a competitive edge by enabling "the fastest printing capabilities available on the market today". The HP DesignJet Z6 and Z9+ offer a premium option with onboard vertical trimmer for fast and efficient production. New color technology, HP Pixel Control, "for the first time" manages colors in a truly digital way to help customers embrace new opportunities for color-rich and dynamic printing.

The DesignJet Z6 Printer series is designed for geographical information systems (GIS) creators and users, PSPs and retailers who require a simple to use solution for high quality technical and graphics applications with water/fade resistance. The series is designed to

handle even the most complex files with powerful processing architectures and the Adobe PDF Print Engine.

In addition. HP has announced enhanced HP DesignJet Z6x10 Printers for a better user and output experience. These have new labeling indicating the printer colors to simplify ease-of-use and new printheads and Chromatic Red Ink formulation to deliver sharp detail and precise line quality. Optimised fast and normal print modes for heavyweight coated, polypropylene and canvas to speed-up production and enhance image quality. These printers will have 500 GB HDD with more virtual memory to process complex and graphic intensive prints.

www.hp.com



True hybrid for flexible and rigid printing

HP has unveiled the Latex R2000 printer, the first hybrid solution for rigid and flexible sign and display printing in one device, enabling customers to expand their offering into high value applications while opening fresh creative ideas and concepts for sign and display.

"Anyone who tracks this industry knows today is a major milestone in printing as we unveil the HP Latex R2000 Printer," said general manager large format graphics businessJoan Pérez Pericot. "HP developed this breakthrough technology based on print service providers (PSPs) continued request for an HP latex printer to print on both rigid and flexible materials using our water-based inks. This introduction is another step forward in how HP creates the best experiences for our customers, continually reinventing the possibilities of print."

Coupled with the revolutionary HP Latex White Ink - delivering the the glossiest white on transparent and colored media the R2000 powers PSPs with ultimate versatility through a single ink set. Applications including retail, outdoor signage, window graphics, events and exhibitions, decoration and car wrapping are now a possibility.



HP Latex White Ink delivers the the glossiest white on transparent and colored media

Advanced engineering and driving high productivity, printer performance specifics include high-speed quality up to 88 m2/h - continuous loading; high accuracy belt system and productive workflow with 14 automatic independent chambers; reliable flexible printing, leveraging assets from current portfolio up to 100 kg rolls; redesigned HP Latex Inks to achieve vibrant colour gamut on rigid while preserving media gloss and

feel and prints with no smell; durable and flexible water-based ink for high adhesion and scratch resistance with a new HP Latex Overcoat: lower temperatures allowing wide media versatility; automatic maintenance, smart vacuum, and easy loading; and productivity enhanced with HP Smart Services.

www.hp.com



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Submit your hardware challenge antalis.co.uk/challenge1



HARDWARE



TRAINING



INNOVATION



MEDIA



Enhancements to digital textile printer improve quality

Mimaki's production class Tiger-1800B digital textile printer family has been enhanced with new features and capabilities as the company continues to drive higher quality. The Tiger-1800B MkII offers an additional high quality mode at 1,200dpi and several enhancements to improve quality including reduction of banding and other printing defects.

"The conventional-to-digital transformation continues to heat up in textiles and apparel and Mimaki, an early mover in this space, is dedicated to bringing affordable, industry-leading solutions to this segment," said product manager EMEA Bert Benckhuysen.

"The Tiger-1800B MkII printers, available in two models for direct to textile and heat transfer sublimation, are just another example of this strategy in action. Our strategy goes beyond simply providing outstanding printers; especially in an emerging market such as this, it is critical to be a total solutions provider. To that end we are making available a new range of pre-treatment and post-treatment machines and working toward the



Mimaki's production class Tiger-1800B digital textile printer family has been enhanced with new features and capabilities

development of Internet of Things for textiles and apparel market."

Distributed in the UK and Ireland by Hybrid Services, a direct-to-textile Mimaki Tiger-1800B commissioned with reactive dyes for printing to natural fabrics can be exclusively viewed at the company's headquarters.

www.hybridservices.co.uk

Gloss metallic car-wrapping film colours

For installers seeking an 'edge' with their car wraps, Avery Dennison Graphics Solutions released further additions to its premium car wrap ranges Supreme

Wrapping Film and Conform Chrome at FESPA 2018. The addition brings the colour count across the two ranges to more than 100.



Four new gloss metallic colours are available to make wrap designs shine with a fine gold dust that says 'luxury': Radioactive, Spark, Eclipse and Magnetic Burst.

Three colours have been added to the Conform Chrome range: Violet, Rose Gold and Matte Silver, which provides a new matte finish that complements mirror-like materials in the range and enables greater creativity for installers thinking about vehicle accents. A new larger width of 1.36m has been made available.

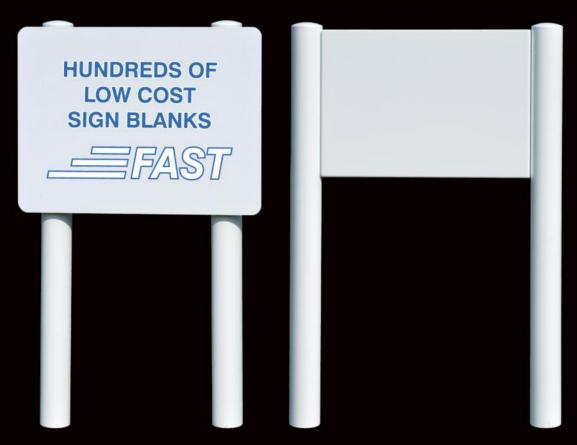
Both Supreme Wrapping Film and Conform Chrome materials come with Avery Dennison Easy Apply RS adhesive technology for faster installation and higher quality installation results.

www.averydennison.com



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Wide format flatbed LED UV printer for high quality jobs

Mutoh Europe presented its first true wide format flatbed printer at FESPA in May. The PerformanceJet 2508UF is a 1250 mm x 2540 mm (4' x 8') LED UV printer with moving gantry. The standard PJ-2508UF incorporates two powerful UV LED lamps and four variable drop greyscale heads mounted in a staggered setup allowing either 2x CMYK or CMYK + white and varnish printing. The machine will be field upgradable to six heads to combine speed and functionality.

The PJ-2508UF can deal with media thicknesses up to 100 mm (3.94") and 50 kg/m², has a print bed sectioned in different vacuum zones and an airpowered pin registration system to prints as well as a blowback feature for easy handling and positioning of heavy

facilitate multi panel jobs and double-sided media.

"With these two new products Mutoh will be able to offer a complete portfolio of UV LED printers ranging from desktop object flatbed printers to wide format hybrid, roll-to-roll and true flatbed solutions"

"We were delighted to present the PJ-2508UF for the first time in the EMEA business area at FESPA", said managing director Kenji Yasuhara.

"The PerformanceJet was staged next to our new roll-to-roll UV LED ValueJet 1638UR printer model presented for the first time. With these two new products Mutoh will be able to offer a complete portfolio of UV LED printers ranging from desktop object flatbed printers to wide format hybrid, roll-to-roll and true flatbed solutions".

www.mutoh.eu





Trimming system cuts most media types

Atlantic Tech Services has released the XY Matic Plus Trimming system into the UK market. Supplied with adjustable X and Y axis speeds, automatic self-alignment adjustment and double sensor cross mark reader, the LCD touch screen has a builtin operator training video for the continued reference or support of the operator after installation.

The XY Matic features an integral silent compressor with pneumatic pinch rollers, automatic waste collection with up to 10 vertical cutting devices. It cuts most media including vinyl, vinyl stickers, reflective media, canvas, polyester, wallpaper, laminated or encapsulated paper, backlit and frontlit media and polycarbonate.

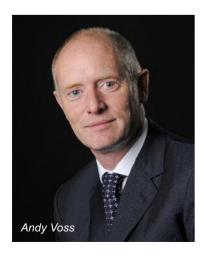
A number of optional extras are available to speed up production including single cutting unit (max 10), central twin cutting unit, laser ray for vertical cut and a table for copies collection.

www.atlantic-ts.com



Anti-glare film aimed at retail customers

Lintec Europe is launching a hard-coated, scratch-resistant anti-glare film. Featuring exterior durability and optimum seethrough vision, the AR-2200UH film has been designed specifically for premium retail applications.



Managing director Andy Voss said: "Glare often proves to be a challenge for brick and mortar retailers as reflectance can prevent customers from looking directly into window displays when they are exposed to bright sunlight or strong artificial light sources. However, as conventional window films compromise the visibility of the displays, business owners need to look for other ways to eliminate or reduce reflectance. This is where an antiglare window film such as Lintec's product makes for an effective solution as it allows customers to enjoy a clear, uninterrupted

Lintec's AR-2200UH film represents a cost effective countermeasure to combat reflected light. Featuring 99% of ultraviolet light blocking properties, the substrate

offers superior UV resistance give it a highly extended lifespan, maintaining performance over time without degradation. The AR-2200UH film has been created for both interior and exterior use and will result in higher performance when two films are applied on different sides of the same window surface.

"If the film is applied solely to the inside of a window surface, the reflectance drops to 5.5%," explained Andy. "If however two films were applied to both the inside and the outside of the window, then the performance is significantly heightened, with reflectance dropping to 2.4%. The visual barrier caused by the glare is virtually removed."

www.lintec-europe.com



Lightweight aluminium framing system

A new system from Nova Aluminium "ticks all the boxes" for hanging directional and point of sale signage which is frequently used in store.

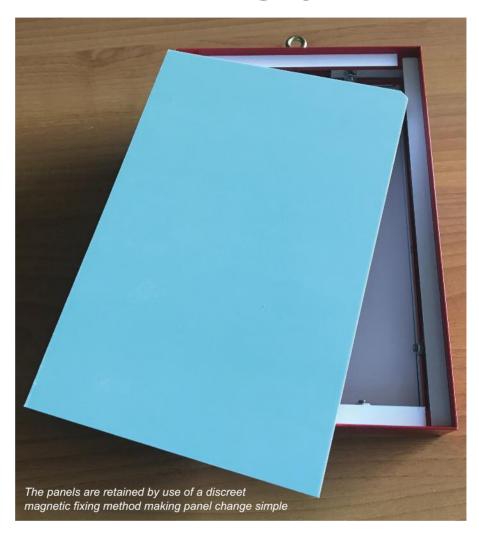
NovaGuide is a lightweight aluminium framing system, which houses 5 mm foam panels or similar, in either single or double-sided formats.

The panels are retained by use of a discreet magnetic fixing method, making panel change simple. The frame itself is designed to give a full bleed visual, giving the designer the maximum area to work with graphics. A divider profile can be fitted within the frame allowing for individual panel removal if required.

The system is particularly suited to hanging information signs such as those used in supermarket aisles and instore promotions due to its lightweight construction, which gives enough stability to hang correctly while not appearing to be "swinging in the wind."

NovaGuide has a screw-free appearance and although just 40mm in width, it comfortably accepts eye/hook bolts for suspension.

www.nova-aluminium.com





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The UK's No.1 Sign Lighters.



The new IP68 connector is concealed within a new cast aluminium chamber and sits comfortably in a step grommet allowing cables to freely pass through for easy installation of longer runs.



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.





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.



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

horizontal to vertical in an instant.

The **evolution** of LED sign lighting has arrived.



5 YEAR WARRANTY





NEXT DAY DELIVERY



portlandlighting.co.uk







LED flatbed printers for high quality displays, posters and banners

swissQprint has introduced a new generation of machines: Nyala 3, Impala 3 and Oryx 3, together with speed models Nyala 3S and Impala 3S. Each of these LED flatbed printers has the accustomed add-on features, which now include an extended roll-to-roll option shown for the first time at FESPA.

Product manager Adriano Gut explained: "Mechanical refinements make these new systems even more stable and precise than their predecessors; we have completely redesigned the architecture of the print head carriage."

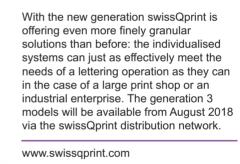
A new control system contributes to the advances and to increased userfriendliness, this being evident in many details such as control and regulation of the vacuum effect.

Nyala 3S and Impala 3S are designed for high output operations: Nyala 3S delivers up to 370 m²h, Impala 3S up to 317 m²/h, with remarkable print quality in view of their pace. The new high performance models cleverly combine print density and speed. High quality POS items, displays, posters, banners, backlit and other similarly demanding media are the classical applications. The maximum productivity level extends to print products intended for viewing at a distance including mega posters, banners and wraps for buildings under conversion.

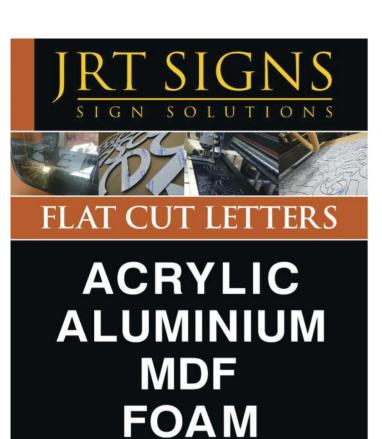
swissQprint is introducing an extended roll to roll option as part of printer generation 3. A new spreading roller smoothes material before it reaches the print bed in order to prevent wrinkles and resulting crashes. Meanwhile, carbon brushes on the spreading roller dissipate static charge from the material, aiding precise droplet placement. In combination with LED curing, the roll-to-roll option increases the variety of materials by making it easy to

process delicate and heat-sensitive media. This solution includes a further variant: the dual roll option for printing two widths of material in parallel, doubling productivity at

"A new spreading roller smoothes material before it reaches the print bed in order to prevent wrinkles and resulting crashes"

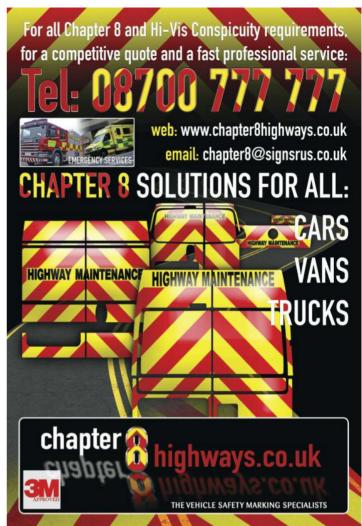


Generation 3 printers cleverly combine print density and speed



01622 730 495 info@jrtsigns.co.uk

DIABOND



FABRIC DISPLAYS

From the Nation's Leading Aluminium Sign Systems Supplier

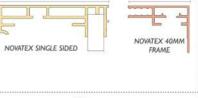




NOVATEX DOUBLE SIDED NOVATEX IBMM FRAME 83MM 40MM

NOVATEX

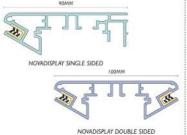
NovaTex ticks all the boxes for displaying the vibrant graphics available when using textile signage. The range of profiles are good for housing images up to 3m square and are all constructed with a screw free appearance. All use the 'passive wedge' method for self-tensioning offering frameless stunning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





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.









Vehicle wrap offers superior repositioning

Arlon IllumiNITE Wrap has been added to the growing portfolio of innovative materials at William Smith.

Thanks to FLITE Technology, the wrap is effortlessly installed and its superior repositionability minimises bruising and chatter lines, resulting in optimal reflectivity and allowing graphics to command attention during the day and night.

This premium digitally-printable reflective film gently conforms to irregular and smooth surfaces and can be combined with an overlaminate to protect and enhance graphics.

Ideal for decals, full and partial vehicle graphics and fleet markings, the 125 micron wrap is easily removed and has an exceptional gloss finish when used with Series 3220 overlaminate.

Arlon has added a matt overlaminate to Series 3270. Suitable for use with SLX Cast Wrap, this premium cast overlaminate boasts a seven-year durability and can be used in deep channels, rivets, compound curves and even on smooth wall surfaces.

Designed to extend the life of graphics by up to two years, the overlaminate shields graphics from outdoor elements, thanks to added UV stabilisers. It is constructed from a 50 micron cast vinyl film with a clear, permanent pressure-sensitive adhesive.

In addition, this protective matt overlaminate is ideal for use with DPF 6100XLP and DPF 6000XRP vinyls for vehicle and fleet applications.

"The additions to the Arlon range have cemented our commitment to supplying the UK with the best quality materials, said head of marketing Chris Bradley. "The IllumiNITE Wrap with FLITE Technology provides an excellent way to ensure graphics can be seen clearly 24 hours a day and with effortless installation. it's a brilliant film to work with."

www.williamsmith.co.uk



Table-top cutting bar for rigid media

Atlantic Tech has released into the UK the NEOLT Easycut horizontal and versatile cutting bar, suitable for trimming large format prints and rigid materials.

The European built table-top cutter is available in widths of 110, 165, 210 and 310 cm (additional sizes are available on request) and supplied with or without a table fixing kit.

An ergonomic double carriage offers the possibility of adjusting the blade depth and it provides a 10 mm maximum cutting thickness with very high precision (maximum possible tolerance 0.2mm/meter).

Further features include anti-slip rubber on the bottom of the bar along the cutting length; round bar for easier handling; while an optional pair of suction cups that allow a good fixing to the table.



Firmware upgrade for cutting plotters

ArtSystems has introduced a firmware upgrade bringing enhanced features and significant performance improvements to Summa's S Class 2 cutting plotters. This upgrade is free for cutters purchased in 2018, however for older models there will be a charge.

ArtSystems' divisional manager sign & display Andrew Edwards explained: "The S Class 2 cutting plotter is already a worldclass machine but this firmware upgrade adds exciting features which offer superb system enhancements to improve its offering including greater user-friendliness; G-Performance; Dog Ear; OPOS XY2; and a screensaver.

"With G- Performance installed, the S Class 2's performance is boosted by up to 40%, including faster cutting speeds across a wider range of substrates and swifter reading of registration marks. It makes a great machine even better helping streamline workflow and increase



With G- Performance installed, the S Class 2's performance is boosted by up to 40%

productivity; we think customers will be keen to take advantage of it as quickly as

For all S Class 2s purchased during 2018 the free unlock is available by visiting www.summa.eu/g-performance; the unlock

is sent directly to the customer on completion of the online form. To access the unlock for older cutters, customers will need to contact the reseller from whom they purchased the machine.

www.artsystems.co.uk

New colours and faster matching service for premium film

Mactac Europe has launched 16 new colour choices and faster colour matching for the MACal 9800 Pro range for longterm vehicle marking, window graphics, decorative and signage panels.

Senior director marketing and channel strategy for Mactac Europe brand Oliver Guenther said: "MACal 9800 Pro is one of our most important premium quality films with bright, opaque and long-lasting

Mactac announces new colours and faster matching service for the MACal 9800 Pro Series

colours using high quality pigments. The solvent adhesive formulation avoids issues such as cracks, edge-lifting and shrinkage. These 16 new options join an existing range of 100 high gloss colours.

"We have also improved our Colour Matching Service, which is now available for as few as 15 reels for all films other than High-Tack and Bubble-Free".

The expanded MACal 9800 Pro range includes four new High-Tack grades (black and white in matt and gloss), two Bubble-Free (black and white, gloss), six new matt colours and three metallic. Adhesion for all is very good on flat and curved surfaces; durability is 10 years for black and white. eight years for colours and five years for metallics.

In addition, Mactac is able to match almost any colour needed by a converter, with high precision, more quickly. Converters can send a sample of the required colour (or supply a RAL reference) and will receive an initial colour match sample within two weeks.

www.mactacgraphics.eu



LIGHTING Feature

Illuminating the way

There are various methods available for sign manufacturers to choose from to light up a sign or an area, ensuring it gets noticed and subsequently, does its job; whether the sign is to promote a business brand, product or service or to help keep the public safe or direct them in a certain direction, there can be no doubt that lighting has its place in the market. Technology is only set to advance. By its very nature, it is largely at night that lighting comes into its own, though done right, it can be useful – and add a special, stylish touch to signage – during the day, too. Sue Mason has been looking into how lighting and signage work hand in hand.

Pnina Kedar Feldman, manager of international sales & business development at Vista System, explained just how far back illuminated signs actually go.

There are few products that have been in general usage longer than signs. A vital element in trade, commerce and industry for centuries, signs have brought business to businesses for many, many years.

It was in 1840 that the first illuminated signs appeared, using the gas lighting technique. Technology has come on a long way since then and today's illuminated signs are so much more advanced.

Vista System International first worked with a non-illuminated modular curved frame technology system, though we were keen to develop Vista Light – our own backlit signage system.

To begin with, signs were illuminated by neon tubes. We then went on to use fluorescent lights and today we use state-of-the-art LED lighting.

Clients can select from a choice of three different LED illuminated sign systems:

Vista System goes to great lengths to achieve signs that don't go unnoticed

Vista Light – which uses curved frame aluminum extrusions; Vista Verge – a flat frameless system which uses stretch fabric technology; and FLB – a flat, light aluminum light box with white translucent polycarbonate graphics substrate.

We develop products by asking ourselves what is needed. Firstly, how one determines the quantity, quality and colour of LEDs that will be needed per sign. We look at the design and individuality of the product, taking decoration into account as well as its purpose. To ensure the sign stands out and proudly conveys the message, we also involve the sign manufacturer when deciding which LEDs to suggest for the sign. The style of graphics influences the LED colour. The size of the sign dictates the LED power the watts - and how many LEDs per meter, as well as the degree of lumens required. (Lumens measure the visible light emitted by a source.)

Next, we look at the ease and cost of maintenance. Good quality, long-lasting LEDs are known for being low-maintenance and are subsequently, cost-effective to run. We give thought to locations, exposure to the elements and ease of installation. Again, the manufacturer needs to be involved, particularly for larger signs as they will know the specifics of the project.

Our third consideration is cost. Whilst our illuminated signage solutions are not considered custom made – which keeps the cost competitive – other factors do affect the end price of a sign including: transformers and total electrical power. It is for this reason that the customer's input is essential. It's highly likely that they will have a budget in mind.



This wayfinding sign is bright and clear for passengers and those who need pointing in the right direction

Our final step is to be sure that the product will be easy to install. When supplying LEDs with the sign, we make it as easy as possible for the installer. Even when a signmaker buys LEDs locally, we do all we can to ensure the success of the project; this can include installation drawings, recommendations for LED installation and advice on the power required.

www.vistasystem.com



LED trough lighting: even greater efficacy in sight

Established in 1987, UK-based Insight Sign Systems provides made to measure trough lighting, to match the precise length of most types of sign, predominantly to the signage and electrical markets. This is what Richard Rinn, managing director, had to say on efficiency and the development of the company's latest LED strip light.

Insight are striving for the best efficacy (lumens per watt or lm/W) on LED trough lighting.

We use the following analogy to define lumens to clients expressing an interest in understanding how they work: lumens per watt of electricity is a bit like efficient cars getting more miles to the gallon, only it is more brightness per watt of electricity with LED lighting.

LEDs were brought out to replace the likes of fluorescent lamps which could only achieve around 100 lm/W maximum, yet even now some are not much more efficient, meaning the extra cost for LEDs, over fluorescent, can work out to be not that worthwhile.

Here at Insight, we have been testing our latest LED strip for almost a year, during which time it has been faultless, operating very coolly. This is thanks to high quality Samsung LED's incorporating temperature sensors, operated through the very wellknown MEAN WELL brand drivers, famous for reliability. The LEDs are achieving 167 Im/w and brightness of up to 3500 Im/W almost double the brightness of most other trough lighting available. By next year, we hope to reach 200 lm/W.

We will soon have the three new brightness variations in stock, offering a range of 1200 lm/W, 2000 lm/W and 3500 Im/W LEDs, allowing clients to choose a suitable brightness level for their application.

Insight is proud to be the first company to offer made to measure extruded aluminium trough lights to the trade since 1981. Our innovative approach sets us apart from our competitors. With continual design and performance upgrades over the past 27 years, we are at the forefront of technological, planning and shop front solutions and designs.

"With continual design and performance upgrades over the past 27 years, we are at the forefront of technological, planning and shop front solutions and designs."

Our next Highlight Mk6 has been 3D printed prototyped and is on test waiting on the 200 lm/W versions. Since the sale of our Spectra System in November last year, we have plenty of extra space and the capacity to allow us to focus on the highlight business, just as we did in the early days. It was this area of lighting that Insight first specialised in and we recognise the need to continue developments here. Of course, today we have many other products too – as can been seen on our website - however, we believe that with so many UK high street shops closing, there is a need for some pioneering highlight technology; we are currently looking at other markets too, such as domestic security lights and so on

www.insightsignsystems.com



Insight Sign Systems has got off to a good start in 2018 being awarded the contract to supply Highlight for 300+ Rexel Electrical Distributors stores, most having 2 or 3 lights per store.

LIGHTING Feature

Delivering versatile LED lighting

Sue Mason spoke with Jimmy Fung, Focus LED UK's director on a variety of lighting subjects, including LED lighting products, light sheets and Neon Flex. This is what Jimmy had to

When it comes to what type of LED sign lighting to choose for an outdoor sign, it's best to think about what is going to be most important for a successful project.

Is the priority that it is cost-effective due to tight budgetary requirements? Or that there is no spotting? Perhaps quality matters more, so that the products will last longer, or is it more important that LEDs are IP rated or that they carry the CE mark, meaning European Conformity? Maybe simplicity of installation or the level of brightness are what's going to determine the success of the job in hand?

The chances are that you will need a combination of some or most of the above factors.

LED Rigid Bar

Focus LED UK Ltd. has introduced the LED Rigid Bar which is ideal for a lengthy light box and is without limitation. Powered by 24 volts to avoid any noticeable voltage drop from the light source, it gives a good, even distribution of light.

In comparison with LED modules on a 4000mm x 900mm x 150mm light box, it will cost around £50 more - a small price to pay if brilliance and absolutely no spotting are required.

The LED Rigid Bar comes in different lengths of 350mm, 700mm, and 1400mm and can be joined together to form different lengths. This multipurpose lighting can also be used for counters, wall patterns and even for fridge lighting.

LED Light Sheets

LED light sheets are clear acrylic sheets that light up with an LED strip. Typically used for bespoke exhibition stands, the light sheet is slim and stylish in design and consumes less power when lighting up large surfaces. Graphics printing on backlit film can be put on the outwards side of the light sheet for lighting up the whole picture without spotting.

A special technique is used to reflect the lighting onto the surface of the panel. To create a light sheet, some companies use reflective paper which reflects the light.

Others may use a laser machine on the acrylic which can work out to be rather expensive and time consuming. The size of the laser machine will dictate the size of the finished product and there are limitations with smaller lasers, so often a larger one is needed.



Installed by The Image Group, this sign is a shining example of what the 10mm Ultra Slim Neon Flex can do

There is another - more economical method which is where you spray white dots on to acrylic so that they reflect the light.

To get the best finish, naturally the lasers or dots must be distributed evenly.

All techniques, aside from the graphics printing on backlit film, are used on the reverse side of the light sheet; i.e. not the outward facing side.

Here at Focus LED UK, we can supply bespoke light sheets if you require large quantities.

Neon Flex

The Neon Flex is never an alternative for replacing neon lighting. Neon lighting is a work of art.

Neon Flex is extremely versatile. Its flexibility makes it ideal for sign making, to name just one of its functions.

It has been on the market for years, though there is now an enhanced version. We offer this newer and improved product. The Ultra Slim Neon Flex comes in widths of 6mm or 10mm. Being so slim means that this version can give a particularly stylish and clean shape for that ultimate, cutting edge finish.

Our team are always happy to discuss requirements. If you are visiting, please Hellidon Close, Ardwick, Manchester, M12 7778 or email sales@focusledltd.co.uk for details.

note that we have recently moved from Unit 64 to Unit 38. Our address is now: Unit 38, Cariocca Business Park, 2 4AH. Alternatively, please call 0161 272

sales@focusledltd.co.uk



Example of what the 6mm Ultra Slim Neon Flex can do. This sign was installed by The Image Group



Empower your creativity.

CoreIDRAW* Graphics Suite 2018 offers an exceptional design experience for graphics, layout, illustration, tracing, photo editing, web images, typography and more. New, innovative features include Symmetry drawing mode, Block Shadow tool, bitmap perspectives, publish to WordPress and much more. Be more productive with faster processing and unmatched compatibility for saving, sharing or printing.

Imagine it. Then design with confidence to achieve stunning results.





LIGHTING Feature

The value of LED lighting systems

Majert, a German company, based in Essen, has been a driving force in the development of LED lighting technology since 1999. We spoke with Marco Klan, marketing director on the subject of LEDs in today's market. He had this to sav.

In terms of increased performance, greater environmental awareness and lower maintenance, LED lighting systems continue to demonstrate why they provide a more cost-effective solution to traditional neon and fluorescent systems. For this reason, LED lighting systems have now been adopted by an increasing number of major sign manufacturers in the UK and Continental Europe.

By comparison with neon and fluorescent, LED systems have a much lower voltage requirement (typically 12V), thereby reducing power consumption by as much as 70%. They are also easier to install and maintain and invariably have better technical support, with 24/7 access to a wide range of component parts such as diodes, lenses, heat sinks and electrical circuitry to reduce downtime.

For signage to function efficiently and with only minimal maintenance, it is important to invest in branded and proven quality LED lighting systems and avoid the temptation to opt for unbranded cheaper but intrinsically inferior systems in order to save on installation costs. These systems invariably emanate from the Far East and have no tangible technical support or easy access to product replacements. These two factors will lead to all kinds of

operational problems, not to mention the high cost of replacement.

Since 1999, Essen, Germany-based Majert has been a major force in the advancement of LED lighting technology, with a comprehensive R&D facility and a range of products under the well-known Chiplite brand. These are CE-marked and meet all relevant BS/EN safety and performance standards and certifications. Of special significance is the RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous Substances) certification, a CE rating in accordance with the lighting devices standard, BS EN 55015. All Chiplite modules have an IP65 rating to BS EN 60529 covering the sealing efficiency of electrical enclosures against the ingress of water, salt, dirt and other contaminants.

Majert has also announced major enhancements for virtually every one of the 12 different Chiplite modules currently available by increasing the lighting efficiency to more than 100 lumens/W. For example, the popular CL-XOL module has now been increased from the existing 40 lumens/0.48W to 58 lumens, so 120 lumens/W is now possible. Furthermore, this system can accommodate up to 100 individual modules soldered in a continuous chain without the need for additional power input, thereby further reducing installation costs.

Another important development has been the introduction of CL-FLEXO LED. This is now available in an outdoor version to enable outdoor lightboxes in a depth of 40mm with a 80 x 80mm grid.



Neon Flex is Majert's new neon-effect LED module that is capable of synthesising and simulating the powerful visual effects of neon but at a fraction of the cost

For completely different applications and special effects, Majert has introduced CL-NEON FLEX, a distinguishing feature of which is the ability of the modules to synthesise and simulate the power of neon but at a fraction of the cost. The modules do not require a high voltage and operate at just 24V. They also have a much lower maintenance requirement by comparison with more expensive neon lighting systems. Typically, CL-NEON FLEX modules are supplied in 10-metre lengths that can be cut in 80mm segments to accommodate different application requirements. With an IP67 rating, it can be used for both interior and exterior applications.

Other LED systems from Majert include the CL-EL3 and CE-EL4 modules for the edge-lighting of both single- and doublesided lightboxes. The CE-EL4 model enables lightboxes up to three metres square in size, made possible by the generous 400 lumens/4.5W lighting capability.

For further information, e-mail Malcolm Hill on marco.klan@majert.de.

www.chiplite.de



The latest Chiplite Flexo LED module





Perspex Distribution offers brighter sign cabinets with SloanLED

We spoke with Luke Martyn, marketing manager at Perspex Distribution Ltd, suppliers of a broad range of Perspex® cast acrylic sheets, extruded acrylic. aluminium composite, PVC foam and a variety of other thermoplastic sheets and LEDs. Luke filled us in on what he calls 'the new standard in sign cabinet liahtina'.

There is good news for signmakers seeking maximum ROI for new and retrofit sign cabinets. We will shortly be launching SignBOX 3 - the new standard in sign cabinet lighting, including SloanLED Prism lens technology resulting in unparalleled, uniform illumination using state of the art ultra-efficient LED technology.

Soon to be available from Perspex Distribution, the units are mounted on flexible straps enabling signmakers to install or retrofit sign cabinets quickly and easily; they are manufactured in 60-foot rolls, three times longer than the previous modules, resulting in less waste and increased yield. The width of the module has also been reduced, making it more versatile during installation.

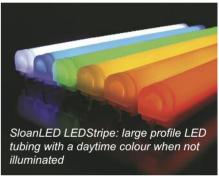
With superior efficacy, longer life, and lower installation and maintenance costs, SignBOX 3 delivers maximum ROI as the lens-based LED lighting solution for new and retrofit sign cabinets. This new model increases the efficacy by 33% to 156 lm/W and over 240% more modules per 100W power supply.

SloanLED president & CEO, Ervin Cash, has spoken with confidence on the new modules. "SignBOX 3, like the generation before it, is the new gold standard in LED cabinet lighting for the sign industry. Engineered to surpass anything on the market in both performance and ROI, we're confident that our customers will agree that we exceeded our objective".

SignBOX 3 is UL and cUL recognised and ROHS compliant and built on the SloanLED Prism series platform, a unique arrangement of micro prisms designed for producing brilliant, uniform light at the sign face.

Alongside the well-known range of channel letter and light box modules, SloanLED have been producing neon alternative architectural lighting for years. FlexiBRITE, LEDStripe and ColorLINE ranges provide plenty of scope for signmakers looking to create unique neonlike illuminations.







Add that "neon look" to any LED-lit sign with our range of completely flexible LED tubing. FlexiBRITE is field bendable making it easy to create an endless array of profiles, contours and patterns on the go; ideal for exterior and interior lighting applications such as sign perimeters, letters, symbols, accent stripes, borders and open-face channel letters.

LEDStripe® is a rigid tubing system suited to long runs and is commonly used for retail, restaurants, and hotels. It also provides a daytime colour when not illuminated. ColorLINE provides a thinner alternative in equally vibrant colours.

www.perspex.co.uk



SloanLED SignBOX3 module with flexible install straps for quick installation and Prism lens technology for increased light output



LIGHTING Feature

Nanolight addresses industry wants, wattage and water concerns

Working closely with sign manufacturers has enabled Vision Depot to get a good understanding of what is most required by those in the signage industry. Dan Bagga, Vision Depot's Managing Director, spoke with Sign Update on how they came to design their most recently introduced trough lighting product, Nanolight.

Vision Depot has specialised in manufacturing and supplying premium quality lighting for the signage industry for more than a decade now.

"With a focus on quality control and in-house production, we provide a quick turnaround."

Our newest product, Nanolight, has been meticulously engineered from the ground up in partnership with a team of experts. The result: a stunning and precise design which focuses on ease of installation and modularity.

After undertaking extensive research, and gaining user insight from sign makers, to ascertain market requirements, it very quickly became evident that there was a demand for a trough lighting product that was flawless and compact in design smaller and slimmer than any of its predecessors so as not to detract from the signs themselves. It needed to be state-ofthe-art in design – functional, as well as contemporary in style. It had to be small yet perfectly formed; super-efficient with a powerful light output. The ability to withstand copious lashings of water, in preparation for those rainy days, was the priority for most.

Every detail was thought through in painstaking detail and is in keeping with the design brief and with what sign makers said they were looking for. From its inside components to its stylish and modular design, we have thought of everything.

Careful selection of components in the early stages of the design process allowed the team to drastically reduce the amount of wasted space in the unit. Attention to detail was greatly emphasised during development in order to conform to a variety of manufacturing and testing standards. Paying considerable attention to the design of a new middle connector system which ensures structural integrity, as well as full protection from water ingress.

Every decision made, as well as the use of patented technologies, resulted in the production of an accurate, high performing IP66 rated product that is quick and effortless to install in a variety of configurations. Rigorously tried and tested, Nanolight achieved an IP66 certification, testament to the extensive 18-month development process and verifying that no amount of water will break the seal and ruin the lights. With an IP rating suitable for harsh marine lighting conditions, sign makers can rest easy when making the choice to offer Nanolight to their customers. Especially those in coastal

After achieving a ground-breaking design, we didn't want to stop there. We wanted exceptional performance. We have incorporated custom LED strip technology within the ultra slim Nanolight profile, achieving an efficiency of 11.5 Watts per metre and outputting an impressive 140 lumens per Watt. With a focus on quality control and in-house production, we provide a quick turnaround.

Our ongoing research and development, including that of making Nanolight more efficient and powerful, ensure our aim of providing better products whilst maintaining competitive pricing thus ensuring we maintain our status as one of the UK's leading lighting specialists.

www.visiondepot.co.uk



Versatile IP67 rated power connector handles up to 240 volts



The power connector is neatly concealed in a waterproof compartment



Both parts bolt together to provide a secure seal

Kings of Neon

Since 1947, Kings Plastics has offered complete signage solutions to clients throughout the UK. With clients such as **BBC**, Thames TV, Aardman Animations and Buhler UK featuring in their extensive portfolio, their exacting standards in all things signage and their forward-thinking approach sees the company continually evolving. Sue Mason spoke with Will Stapleton, LED sales consultant to find out more about the launch of their new LED neon lights. This is what Will had to say.

How did the launch of your new LED neon lights come about?

We've always been interested in retro style signage and neon has always been one area of signage that we've never got involved with because we didn't have the necessary skill set or equipment needed to make neon signs in house. However, our new Kings LED Flexi-Neon means we can now start exploring the avenue of supplying neon signs that we can make in house without worrying about glass tubes, gases or extra equipment.



Aluminium clips help Flexi-Neon stay in place and bend round these corners

How popular are they proving to be?

Very popular. The great thing about our Flexi-Neon is its versatility. It's great for making signs with, whether its letters or shapes but it also works extremely well as a décor product for edge illumination around things like exhibition stands, bars, offices and even kitchens. It's IP67 rated which means it can be used outside as well as inside.

What makes them special?

The great thing about our Kings LED Neon is that it makes neon accessible for almost anyone. It's simple and easy to work with, meaning that anybody can use it to make what they want out of it. We are offering the product as an off the shelf item, so the customer can either choose to make their finished product themselves or use us to do it for them.



Because our Flexi-Neon is LED it means it requires less power to run. We use a 24volt system in our Flexi-Neon to keep running costs down whilst maintaining brightness and performance.

How robust are they? Are they easy to replace or maintain?

Flexi-Neon is much more robust verses traditional neon. The outer body is made from flexible PVC; not only can it bend but it can be dropped or handled without the fear of damage, unlike glass neon.



Script style lettering made possible with Flexi-Neon

Maintenance on this product, as with all LED signage is minimal, not much can really go wrong with our Flexi-Neon as the LEDs are encapsulated within the PVC. Flexi-Neon has cut points every 100mm so if a section does go down then it can be cut out, disconnected and replaced relatively easily.

What types of signs are they used for at present?

So far, it's most popular use is for perimeter lighting around bars and exhibition stands, because it can be run in a single 20m length offering a continuous light source without interruption and the need for loads of wiring. We have also made a few text signs with the neon though we're still exploring the types of fonts that we can use; we look set to start using it more very soon.

www.kingsplastics.co.uk



We keep pure white, warm white, red, green, blue and pink on the shelf



Simple yet effective, red Flexi-Neon mounted on clear acrylic panel

WE PRINT AND FINISH CUTTING EDGE TEXTILES

FOR



Celebrating 30 Years in the Industry

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PRODUCT Choice

Digital UV printer proves itself for fast turnaround service

Lasercut.London discovered its new Roland VersaUV LEF-12i offered far more than the one function for which it was installed.

"We design bespoke, high end products, offering the highest quality in London and work with multiple clients in the USA," explained managing director Chris McGee. "We offer a fast turnaround service for quality-focused customers; work is completed typically in three to five days and sometimes overnight.

"More of our clients request brandmatched colours which are not feasible on short runs with acrylic sheet as we would need to order costly minimums of the material with three-month lead times

Last year we saw a very popular trend for colour-gradient logos on awards, which are not possible with off-the-shelf acrylic sheet. The answer to meeting these requirements was a digital UV

"I've always respected Roland's status within the print industry and chose the Roland VersaUV LEF-12i printer for its high quality output and build, designed for a clean workplace," said Chris.

"It was the only machine in its class that was fully enclosed; we like things to be as clean as possible in our studio environment. We bought the machine for one specific application but once it was installed and I started playing around with it, I discovered many more of its functions. I love the white ink and the

"Last year we saw a very popular trend for colour-gradient logos on awards, which are not possible with off-the-shelf acrylic sheet"

surface textures possible with printing layers of gloss UV ink. It brings 3D effects into traditional print."

The most compact of the LEF series, the Roland VersaUV LEF-12i prints directly onto a huge variety of materials and objects, making it ideal for personalisation, prototype designs and one-offs. Printing a bottom layer of white ink makes colours on top really pop, while the gloss ink option enables spot gloss or matt finishes and touchable embossed effects.

"While fun, the LEF-12i is also a technical machine and our training at the Roland Creative Centre was really worthwhile," concluded Chris. "I would definitely recommend other users go on a course. The experts there steer you much quicker to what the machine can do for you than YouTube videos or the manual can. In fact, the whole experience with Roland is really great, right from the beginning."

Chris is considering upgrading the LEF12i to one of its larger siblings, which offer bidirectional printing for faster speeds.

www.rolanddg.co.uk



Printing a bottom layer of white ink makes colours on top really pop, while the gloss ink option enables spot gloss or matt finishes and touchable embossed effects



Printer increases soft signage capacity

Dublin-based CoverUp is the first company to purchase EFI's 340i model printer which was launched in May. The company chose the 3.4 m-wide machine to take its soft signage capabilities to the next level of quality and productivity.

The EFI VUTEk FabriVU 340i advanced, aqueous dispersed dye-sublimation printer features a new platen and extraction system that enables in-line heat press

sublimation directly from the printer. Available at a price that is less than the cost of a comparable printer and heat press purchased separately, the combined printer/heat press system uses less floor space than would be required with separate printing and sublimation stations.

The big attraction for CoverUp was the printer's efficiency with its combination of quality at high speed and inline heat fixation. "Quite honestly, we were struggling before EFI showed it to us," said operations director Anthony Byrne. "We looked at other direct textile printers but some needed a separate calendar unit, which doesn't really suit our needs. At a demonstration in Italy we found this model created the best quality, especially when printing solid colours.

"We were looking to increase our soft signage printing capacity with a reliable printer with inline fixation. "We found the 340i to be a significant upgrade in terms of image quality, productivity and reliability compared to our existing fabric printers. The addition of this latest technology from EFI will give us a significant competitive advantage in our marketplace."

The new printer provides the high quality of EFI VUTEk FabriVU aqueous dispersed dye-sub printing with sublimation, completed inline at fast production speeds. Customers who occasionally need to print to transfer paper and then sublimate offline can utilise a special direct-to-paper mode on the 340i model for printing only.

www.efi.com



From left: Martin Mayo, EFI inkjet regional sales manager; Steve Stokes, EFI inkjet sales development manager; Anthony Byrne; CoverUp employee; and Frank Mallozzi, EFI chief revenue officer

UV systems enable entry into new markets

Wide format service provider Macro Art started live printing in June with two further Durst machines as new customers come on board in continuing rapid expansion. Little more than four years after a management buyout, Macro Art's turnover has shot up from £6million to £11million. Contract gains are being secured on the back of the new investments in Durst systems now totalling four.

The Rho P10 250 HS-Plus UV hybrid system and Rho 512R-Plus roll-to-roll UV printer were installed at Macro Art's base in Abbotsley, Cambridgeshire. The Rho 512R, which includes fine art mode, will enable Macro Art to produce fine quality,

backlit work. Macro Art, which specialists in larger project and dye sublimated textiles, will use the machines across its core areas of business including events, exhibition and retail sectors where evershorter lead times and higher print quality are demanded by customers.

Commercial director Michael Green said: "Durst kit has revolutionised our business. The investments have enabled us to step into quality markets that were unobtainable before. We would not be where we are today without the equipment.

"As one example, the investments will help with backlit work commissioned by a major

new retail client that requires top quality print in a very short lead time. Furthermore, we could never have created 60% of the exterior printing for an international air show within the agreed timeframe without our 5m Rho. Print requirements and delivery, even to Europe, are now as little as 48 hours. With the new investments we are incredibly excited about the potential opportunities ahead."

The P10, often referred by customers as the "benchmark in quality, production and reliability", will replace another manufacturer's equipment and ramp up capacity. There were environmental considerations for the Rho 5m printer, which will benefit from lower ink by using Durst flexible inks. The company already has Rho 512R and Durst Rho 322 production printers.

Durst UK and Ireland managing director Peter Bray said: "We're confident that these new investments in our systems will help take their business to yet another level."

www.durst-group.com



The Rho 512R will enable Macro Art to produce fine quality, backlit work



PRODUCT Choice

High performance cutting machine doubles productivity

Having been in the print business since 1983, Pure Innovations offers a range of services from 3D rendering to retail graphics, large format printing to window displays and live event build to signage and 3D logos.

Steady company growth resulted in a recent decision to invest in their digital department due to increased production for high quality digital print. In order to double productivity, it became apparent that a top-performing cutting machine would be required — one that not only had the accuracy for CAD cutting but the speed to keep up with workflow.

"We spent a couple of months looking into various cutting machines," said operations director David White. "After a demonstration set up by CMYUK at their new demo centre we were wowed by the Kongsberg C series and made the decision there and then that the Kongsberg C44 was the one for us. Since being installed we have been extremely impressed with its capabilities and most of all, the speed that this machine can run at – it's flawless.



Pure Innovations has been extremely impressed with the capabilities and particularly the speed of the Kongsberg C44

Our operators are thrilled with its performance and ease of interface. We definitely made the right choice."

CMYUK business manager Nick Reed added: "Speaking with the operations team at Pure Innovations it was clear that the key requirements for the new machine were versatility and productivity. Kongsberg digital cutting machines are synonymous with both performance and reliability, coupled with a massive range of tooling options

that can be added in the future; the Kongsberg C series really is best in class."

The Kongsberg C44 is designed to keep up with faster, wider printers with exceptional standards in versatility, precision and productivity. It is the very first multifunction super-wide digital finisher for signage, display and packaging applications.

www.cmyuk.com

UV LED hybrid inkjet improves image quality

The decision to expand into digital printing was taken when JPL acquired a second, larger unit, enabling the company to house its short-run digital and conventional litho in the new site and locate the complete wide-format operation in the original building, thus providing a comprehensive service to its customers.

"When we first looked at wide-format display we realised that a substantial amount of the finishing was done by hand," explained joint managing director Jim Lynch. "Then we saw the Zund cutting table which helped solve that problem and decided to invest in wide-format around five years ago."

JPL takes pride in the quality of print it produces and works to FOGRA and ISO standards in all areas of production.

"Before investing in wide-format we asked several customers if they would give us their display business and they said yes, providing the quality was a close match to our litho work", commented joint managing director Mark Kay.

Agfa produces its own UV LED inks, which offer one of the widest colour ranges in the market.

"The image quality is impressive and far better than anything else we have seen so the decision was taken to upgrade to the Jeti Tauro, which offers both roll-to-roll and flatbed printing," continued Mark.

"I especially like the fact that Agfa makes its own inks that achieve amazing results while only laying down the thinnest of ink layers and without affecting print speeds, which are fantastic".

The Jeti Tauro is engineered for 24/7 production environments, can print on an extensive variety of rigid and flexible substrates as wide as 2.54m and is capable of throughput speeds of up to 275m2/hr.

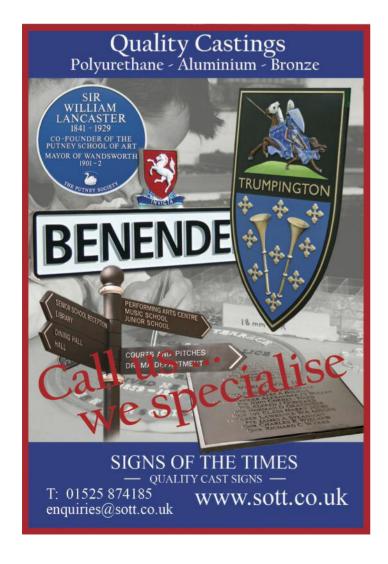
"Now, the Agfa Jeti Tauro really sets us apart and will make a significant difference to our future potential," concluded sales director Mike Harrold.

www.agfa.com



From left: Mark Kay and Mike Harrold









PRODUCT Choice

Digital printer and cutter helps business expansion

To add diversity to the business, Professional Print Finishing Services (PPFS) recently installed an AGFA Anapurna M2540FB large format digital printer and a DYSS X9-2230C digital cutter from AG/CAD.

Director Annette Hobbs said: "Digital print jobs are increasingly requested in smaller quantities and we were losing this short run print and assembly work because the cost of conventional die-cutting was pricing us out of the equation. Projects with a run of less than 200 were typically too small to make die-cutting a viable option. We were losing work that we used to mount and die-cut, for example for smaller retailers or jobs printed in multiple languages, therefore we had to look at ways we could offer our clients this service more competitively.

"At the same time we wanted to expand into large-format digital print to open new markets; we knew that without a digital cutter alongside, a printer on its own wouldn't be sufficient to retain the short run work we were losing."

"The AG/CAD solution won us over on two key factors," explained Annette. "It is the leading package and recognised as the industry standard for display work. AG/CAD are the developers of the software as well as suppliers of DYSS digital cutters, so why opt for another supplier's cutter using inferior software?

"The second reason was based on the fact that we conducted trials on all the leading cutting tables using E, B and EB flute boards as 80-90% of what we process is corrugated. None of the other machines could match the performance of the DYSS. Die-cutting historically delivers a better cut quality than a digital cutter when processing these boards because it has high precision, repeatability and superior creasing.

"With a digital cutting machine the board is susceptible to cracking and splitting during the cutting and creasing process. Knife tools can show drag marks on the board or rip, while creasing tools must apply the exact pressure to generate perfect creases.

"We can evolve the configuration of the machine to suit our business while being comfortable with the knowledge it is one of the fastest machines on the market"

We were not prepared to compromise on the quality of our products; fortunately the DYSS X9 was far superior to other machines we trialled. We couldn't tell the difference between DYSS cut boards and our standard die-cut boards."

The immediate benefit is that projects with runs up to 200 can now be manufactured cost-effectively without the £400-500 cost of large die cutting tools.

"This instantly makes us cost competitive, it eliminates the cost of dies and reduces our lead-times," said Annette. "We can now turn jobs around immediately if required without waiting 2-3 days for external suppliers to produce the die tools. Going forward, our die-cutting set-up and die costs will fall significantly, our lead-times have already fallen and we can do samples on the X9. Additionally, we can undertake design work and offer consultancy advice as well as proving-out jobs prior to entering die-cut production. The DYSS has a taping head that allows us to tape samples and test pieces instead of gluing them, which is a huge benefit for prototype work."

The next generation 2.2m by 3.2m DYSS X9-2230C machine wasn't just selected for its high speed capability or enhanced drive technology and precision levels. For PPFS, it's all about buying the very latest technology.



Annette continued: "In a few years DYSS could introduce next generation tooling and we don't want to be behind the curve. This new machine is completely modular; it allows us to upgrade elements and features at a later date. We can evolve the configuration of the machine to suit our business while being comfortable with the knowledge it is one of the fastest machines on the market."

The X9 has a Combo-head configuration with a high-speed oscillating knife, highfrequency routing tool and creasing tools. Using the supplied K-CUT Vision System these tools all help guarantee the quality and accuracy levels that PPFS requires. The combination allows PPFS to process a range of media including plastic, vinyl, corrugated, display board, Foamex PVC, Correx and foam core.

"Essentially, the DYSS gives us the ability to say 'yes' to just about anything the customer throws at us," concluded Annette. "At present, we're doing a lot of PoS, FSDUs and posters for cinemas, the home entertainment sector, supermarkets and the health and beauty industry.



Projects with runs up to 200 can now be manufactured cost-effectively without the £400-500 cost of large die cutting tools

"Since the DYSS was installed we have been targeting more short-run digital print work as the machine gives us a clear edge over competitors when it comes to low volume, fast-turnaround work. Small run digital work has historically been 10% of our business, a percentage that had been in decline due to the cost constraints and limitations of

traditional die-cut production over the years. The DYSS has rapidly recouped this dwindling element of the business and we are expecting significant growth in the short to mid-term future. This upturn is a credit to both the DYSS and the Anapurna."

www.agcad.co.uk

Cutting table reduces wastage

After purchasing an EFI VUTEk GS2000LX Pro from CMYUK in 2017, Fantasy Prints found that their existing cutter couldn't keep up with the speed of the new printer and backlogs started to become a problem. They returned to CMYUK for a solution that would give them greater productivity and more

options for different media and purchased a Kongsberg X24 Starter cutting table.

The size and speed of the Kongsberg has allowed the company to expand into new markets, reduce overtime, save money and cut back on wastage.

WIEL The Kongsberg X Starter offers a broad selection of tools, providing quality results on a wide range of cutting, creasing and plotting tasks

"We now have the capability to offer a complete one-stop solution"

"The training we got from CMYUK was excellent," said managing director Sarah McMorn. "We're really excited about the Kongsberg, especially considering the new opportunities we can offer our clients and the money we can save. We now have the capability to offer a complete one-stop solution. CMYUK always take an interest in the company and offer solutions that will benefit Fantasy Prints and the team members in the company."

www.cmyuk.com



PRODUCT Choice

LED UV integrated printer and cutter aids business growth

UK POS has further expanded its in-house print service to offer a more diverse printing solution. After recognising the high demand and continued growth in the print industry, the investment in more advanced technology was a must.

"This investment is the next step in our continuing growth plans and complements the recent investments within other areas of our print manufacturing facilities"



It became apparent that a high speed machine with accuracy for CAD cutting was required

The machine purchased is the Mimaki UCJV300-160, distributed in the UK and Ireland by Hybrid Services, one of the world's first 64-inch UV-LED print and cut devices, offering speed, precision and flexibility.

UK POS has been successfully offering printed displays and branding alongside its products for several years. The addition of a new LED UV integrated printer and cutter provides the facility to print two images in one pass, allowing customers to create day to night marketing material in one print.

What makes this printer different is the innovative four-layer printing which creates a multi-functional print which can be used on backlit applications, creating a vibrant image when the light source is adjusted.

This investment means higher quality more diverse prints produced at an unbeatable speed. The machine operates at up to 25.8m2/hour in fourcolour CMYK and prints at resolutions up to 1200 dpi.

Director Jason Leslie said: "This investment is the next step in our continuing growth plans and complements the recent investments within other areas of our print manufacturing facilities. This is something we are really proud of achieving as a business and are excited for the new opportunities this will bring both ourselves and our brands.'

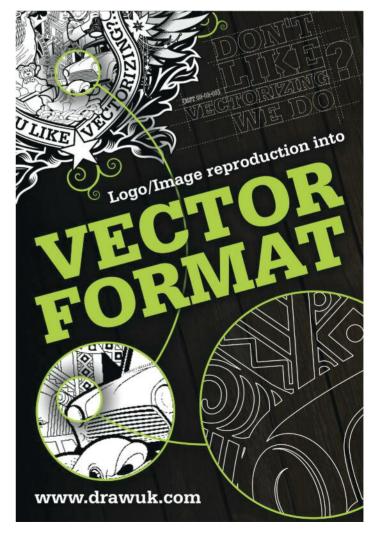


This investment means higher quality more diverse prints produced at an unbeatable speed

www.hybridservices.co.uk









PRODUCT Choice

Flatbed printer expected to quadruple output of old machine

VGL has become the first company in the UK and Ireland to sign up for a specialised version of Durst's P5 Series. The P5 250 HS system - configured with white as a printing colour - will be installed at VGL's production facility in Reading, Berkshire, this summer.

Committed to investing in latest technology, VGL is a supplier to major retailers, exhibitions and live event organisers, museums and public and private sectors, including rail and fleet companies. The company already has seven Durst systems: two Rhotex fabric printers and five roll-to-roll digital inkjet machines. The P5 will bring a print volume capability (in two-pass mode) of up to 240 m²/h and high resolution mode of 1200 dpi.

Managing director David Gray explained: "Our flatbed capacity needed upgrading because one of our machines had come to the end of its useful life. We considered all options and although we've never had a Durst flatbed before, it ticked all the right boxes. It will quadruple output in comparison to its predecessor and at a higher resolution. This will open a lot of doors for VGL and is a huge step forward. We're seeing a significant increase in demand in flatbed sales which drives this investment



"This printer will quadruple output in comparison to its predecessor and at a higher resolution; it will open a lot of doors for VGL and is a huge step forward"

"At VGL we're committed to investing in the very latest technology so the launch of P5 was of interest to us. The Durst manufacturing facility is impressive, every component that goes into the machine is produced in the factory and this is reassuring in terms of standards of build quality and reliability. Plus their after-sales service and care is excellent. In addition, P5 has been designed following consultation with existing Durst customers in terms of how the user interface should look and feel. The P5 will be an exciting addition to our portfolio of kit and further strengthens our relationship with Durst."

Durst UK and Ireland managing director Peter Bray said: "We're extremely proud that long-serving customer VGL has become the first company over here to sign a deal for our next generation technology. This was a perfect fit for VGL, a company recognised as producing outstanding printed products for a diverse range of customers across numerous sectors. With the P5 family we provide tools for change and profit. We have a firm commitment to continue to lead innovation in the large format market."

The P5 250 HS is targeted toward high volume industrial production and one-offs in offset quality. P5 relates to five core features at the heart of this technology: productivity, reliability, workflow, versatility and print quality.

www.durst-group.com www.vgl.co.uk



Durst's P5 250 HS system will be installed at VGL's production facility this summer



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PRODUCT Choice

Flatbed/roll-fed printer helps support growth

Reade Signs has recently installed a new EFI Vutek LX3 – one of only 11 in the UK, supplied by CMYUK. The company has seen steady growth over the past three years (20% year-on-year since 2015) by selling into more diverse markets including architectural and wayfinding signage while maintaining excellent client retention in existing markets.

With its roots in the property sector, Reade Signs manufactured and installed over six miles of hoarding graphics last year, as well as building wraps, illuminated sign boxes, site signage, flagpoles, flags and banners. The company managed over 2,500 production jobs through its factory in Hampshire in 2017 alone.

The EFI Vutek LX3 Pro enables the company to match customers' growing demands for higher quality production speed and resolution with advanced multilayer printing.

Managing director Andy Fergus Smith commented: "We specialise in printing weatherproof hoardings and regularly invest in state-of-the-art production equipment. The EFI Vutek LX3 allows us to further increase the quality of our production and be more competitive."



The versatility of the EFI Vutek LX3 Pro supports a wide range of media and applications

Reade Signs decided to update its large format printing capability significantly in terms of functionality and performance with a machine that would support growth into the future

"We've always found CMYUK's advice and support to be excellent," concluded Andy. "They are a trusted partner to our business so it was a bit of a no-brainer to work with them again on purchasing our newest asset." CMYUK senior digital sales consultant Tony Winterbottom said: "To minimise their down time we completed the install over a weekend and then went straight into setting up the software and training their staff on the following Monday. By Tuesday evening they were running live jobs."

www.cmyuk.com www.readesigns.com

CNC router boosts production capacity

Benson Signs works with a diverse range of material reflecting the needs of its customers; plastics, metals and naturally occurring woods feature in addition to recycled and engineered materials and modern composites. These materials are all machined or processed in-house and often find themselves in creative alliance with others.

Demand for Benson Signs' services and output had recently grown to the extent that more production capacity was needed in order to maintain service levels and the quality that is expected. The company opted for a second Tekcel, an EXR CNC production routing platform supplied by Complete CNC Solutions.



The Tekcel EXR is available in a selection of sizes and can handle todays' sheet sizes easily and efficiently. With 30mm recirculating ballscrews, it's engineered to deliver exceptional cut quality without post-cutting manual intervention and is clean to operate. Complete CNC Solutions can supply Tekcel CNC routers and digital cutters with a range of safety measures including area and boundary guarding IR lasers making the system fully compliant with workplace standards.

Production needs are handled on the EXR routing platforms by a 9kW spindle and automated tool changing. Very effective vacuum material holding systems keep the workpiece securely anchored. In use, jobs that would otherwise require manual intervention can be completed in one operation involving multiple tool changes. Complete CNC Solutions also makes knife-cutting and print-cut registration systems available for the Tekcel EXR.

www.completecnc.co.uk

Safety measures include area and boundary guarding IR lasers.

UV ink technology makes huge savings on ink costs

Edinburgh-based signs and commercial graphics specialist First Display was one of the first companies in the UK to work with the new DURAUV ink technology now available for the Roland VersaEXPRESS RF-640 printer.

As one of Scotland's premier suppliers of signs and commercial graphics, First Display offers a comprehensive range of services from initial design through print production to final installation. Led by managing director Jamie Bowes, the team offers many years of industry experience complemented by a policy of ongoing investment in the latest production technologies. This combination ensures that First Display remains competitive and offers the most cost-effective solutions to its customers.

The availability of DURAUV ink technology came to the attention of First Display several months prior to its official launch in May 2018. It utilises the Roland VersaEXPRESS RF-640 printer, professionally converted to UV LED by specialist supplier CSL Digital. The DURAUV version is presented in the standard 2 x 4 colour CMYK configuration with mirrored print heads (CMYKKYMC) making it a "formidable production printer for any sign and print business". The powerful but simple to use Roland VersaWorks Dual RIP is included to make life as easy as possible for the operator.

Jamie Bowes was quick to spot the potential benefits of DURAUV ink technology for First Display as his business prints on a wide range of sign and materials including self-adhesive vinyl, banner, wallpaper, materials and soft signage textiles. As an early adopter of new print technologies, Jamie was keen to sign up as s Beta test site for CSL Digital several months prior to the official launch.

"Since the arrival of the DURAUV printer in January 2018, following test print samples, we have utilised the benefits of guick curing UV inks and the ease of use of it being based on a Roland platform," said Jamie. "The DURAUV is great for several medias we use regularly, including monomeric and polymeric vinyls, banner and weather mesh, both coated and laminated. In particular, it works well printing blinds, which is a significant part of our business. As we supply mainly to the trade, as well as long term retail clients, we face demanding deadlines on a daily basis.

"The DURAUV printer has helped us increase our output in two ways: it has removed the delays in production caused by the need to 'gas off' the print because the DURAUV ink is cured instantly. In addition, many of our jobs that required lamination no longer do so thanks to the durability of the DURAUV print. This has resulted in savings in labour costs, laminates and resulted in increased service speeds for our clients."



A much wider range of materials may be used with DURAUV printers including specialist films and display fabrics unsuited to the high heat drying systems associated with conventional inkjet printers.

The feedback provided by First Display, along with several other beta sites, has enabled CSL Digital to optimise the performance of the DURAUV ink technology prior to its official launch date.

"We would like to thank Jamie and the rest of our beta test site customers for the valuable feedback they've provided," commented managing director Nick Wintle. "The 'real world' data of how DURAUV has performed in real working environments, producing real print work for actual clients, has reflected the results of our own product testing and exceeded our performance expectations in a number of key areas, most significantly, ink usage. Analysing the figures that we've received to date, the average ink usage costs associated with DURAUV are almost half that of conventional ink technologies at just 7-8 pence per ml. That works out around 80 pence a square metre. It's certainly another very compelling reason to switch to DURAUV ink technology."

DURAUV systems based on the Roland VersaEXPRESS RF-640 are now available from CSL Digital and can be purchased with a dedicated contour cutter if print cutting is required.

www.firstdisplay.co.uk www.csl-digital.com



Many jobs that required lamination no longer do so thanks to the durability of the DURAUV print



WAYFINDING Feature

Lighting the way forward

LED lighting specialist Bright Green Technology works with illuminated wayfinding signage. There is a huge installed base and the focus is often on retrofitting from fluorescent tubes to reduce maintenance, improve the appearance and save energy, writes CEO Andy Clark.

Locations for illuminated wayfinding signage are usually sites including airports and transit hubs so the savings are significant and the carbon reduction contributes to achieving corporate or government targets.

We have completed many projects in the UK and around the world: analysing, designing and producing LED lighting and control systems installed in international airport hubs including Heathrow and Dubai.

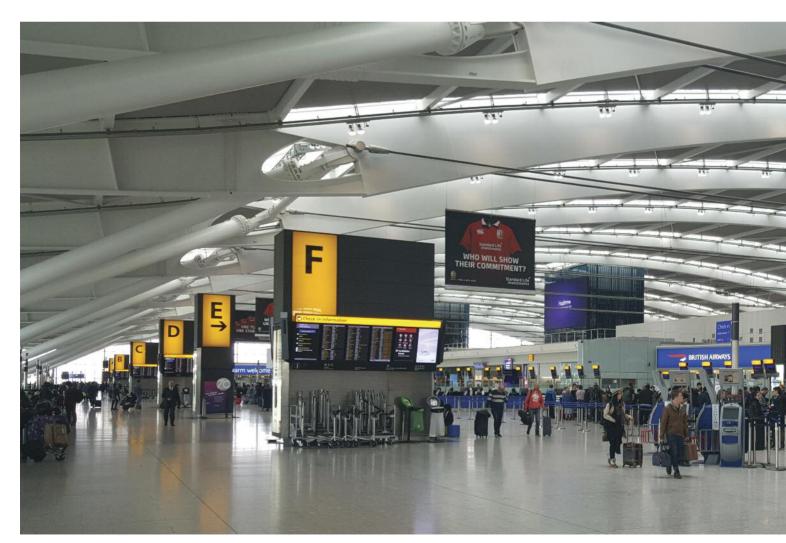
The challenges when designing new signs or retrofitting existing ones can be complex however; appearance, lighting performance, efficiency, ease of install, power conversion and control are all important considerations.

"Wayfinding signs will join the IOT world and start to gather data; they are ubiquitous in public places and ideally placed for this" It's imperative to start with a survey. This defines the scope of the project, the product options and critically, the ROI and carbon saving. We always send an engineer to evaluate any unexpected issues and finalise the technical proposal.

Maximising light output

Appearance is about the diffusion of light and quality of the acrylic face. Most signs can be LED edge lit and this is almost always the easiest install method.

Consider backlighting where the box is small or narrow. If it's a retrofit project, remember that the signs have been in place for some time so cleaning should be included in the project plan. To maximise light output, use LED optimised acrylic for the face.



Bright Green Technology has installations in international airport hubs including Heathrow and Dubai

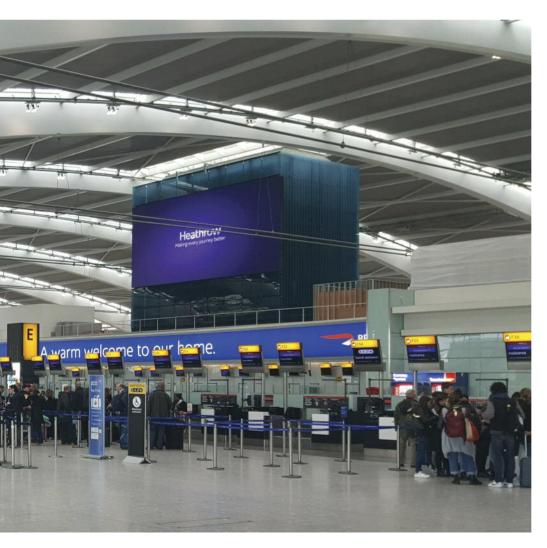
Lighting performance encompasses brightness, colour temperature, heat extraction, lifetime and LED binning. Large installations need consistency from sign to sign so control of these factors is essential. The LED colour temperatures should be selected to match the sign colour; testing several options is highly recommended.

Luminaire efficiency

The efficiency of the system is determined by luminaire efficiency (lumens per watt) and the performance of the power supplies. Premium LEDs will generally emit more light per watt of energy and retain brightness for more operating hours; they will perform more consistently over time. The efficiency of the power supplies is also a critical factor; the load should be within the efficient operating range and they should be power factor corrected.



Large installations need consistency from sign to sign so control of these factors is essential



The most significant recent development is in power and control design. Control protocols such as DALI are becoming more prevalent and this requires care to make sure that the original functionality is retained. We specify DALI enabled power supplies from our sister company Bright Green Connect to ensure compatibility. Again, testing is the only way to be sure that the chosen products work seamlessly with the installed control system. This is especially the case with emergency signs where the installed kit has to communicate effectively during regular testing and during an actual emergency event.

More connected

Into the future, we can see exciting developments in wayfinding signage. They will become more connected to the airport IT system, to each other and to passenger experience. Networking signs will enable smart operation such as dynamic changes to illumination levels, sensor control and fault reporting. Wayfinding signs will join the IOT world and start to gather data; they are ubiquitous in public places and ideally placed for this.

Wayfinding signs turn out to be more complex than they first appear. Bright Green Technology has unique expertise, experience at major sites and a focused product range to deliver a successful project.

www.brightgreentechnology.com



WAYFINDING Feature

Stylish customised solutions grab attention

Businesses are looking for wayfinding systems that are easy to install and update as needed. Innotech offers systems that not only do the job effectively but offer a stylish solution that fits perfectly into any office or public building environment. Innotech national sales manager UK Russell Alexander discusses some of the latest options.

Our Slimlite freestanding, double-sided totem and battery-powered LED infoboard, both introduced during the past year, are perfect for wayfinding and are proving incredibly popular. They offer sophisticated yet user-friendly wayfinding solutions that will match with the style of any modern environment.

Freestanding totem

An ideal choice for the design conscious seeking to achieve maximum impact with a minimalist design is our Slimlite freestanding totem display. The clean lines of its black frame instantly transform a graphic into an attention-grabbing work of art.

Measuring just 33mm deep, the ultra slim display panel is easy to install, the base itself is wide for excellent stability and the ultra low profile makes the Slimlite display practical for use even in high traffic areas. An LED light panel offers safe, reliable and cost efficient illumination of graphics and signage, which can be inserted and

changed quickly and easily by simply removing the magnetic front panel. This means that wayfinding information that needs to be updated regularly, for example in a conference centre hosting a range of events each day, can be changed simply and easily, retaining a professional finish each time

> "Whatever the space available, the level of visitor traffic or the frequency of change needed, there is a modern wayfinding system out there for every environment"



A battery powered LED infoboard is particularly suitable for signposting or providing information in low light environments



Battery powered LED infoboard

Innotech's battery powered LED infoboard uses a long life eight-hour lithium-ion battery, which means there are no dangling power cables to worry about. Its contemporary design features an ultra slim LED backlight panel, which accepts A3 or A4 posters. It's particularly suitable for signposting or providing information in low light environments including archival exhibitions, cinemas and theatres or evening events. A plastic poster cover protects printed graphics and there's a built in on/off switch for simple operation.

Continued on page 52.....

EasyMount Air Scoops
Top Products Award!









Wide-Format&Signage







Front mandrel swings-out for easier loading of vinyl



Rear mandrel swings-out for easier



Patented pneumatic rollers 'float' down and will not crush soft materials like Correx® & foam boards.

- Patented 'floating' rollers up to 50% faster when mounting to boards, compared to traditional wide format systems
- Easy set-up
- Intelligent pneumatic technology sets height & pressure automatically
- Runs at up to 10 metres a minute
- NEW Swing-out arms for easier loading of laminate and vinyl
- Up to 30mm mounting thickness





WAYFINDING Feature

.....Continued from page 50

Both of these solutions are proving very popular within the retail and leisure markets, for example restaurants using the infoboard to display a menu or a hotel reception using the totem to help guests find their way around.

In addition to these systems that can be moved around as needed, we've seen a trend for creating more permanent directional signage that is actually incorporated into the design of customised wall coverings.

It's an incredibly neat and sophisticated way of building wayfinding into the interior design of a room, without the relative 'clunkiness' of additional signage which clients would obviously need to pay for in addition to their wall covering. By incorporating wayfinding into the wall covering, clients can save money when creating their environment and offer a really professional customised interior design.

Wall coverings

Launched in late 2017, Vertex Texture PVC-free coated polyester is perfect for bespoke wall coverings. This range is probably the most versatile universal media ever to reach the market and compatible with Eco-Solvent, Solvent, UV Curable and Latex ink technologies.

Companies arranging for bespoke printing of wall coverings that promote their company's values, messaging and culture and fit in perfectly with their design style can easily incorporate wayfinding messages into those designs, projecting a really professional, permanent feel to an environment.

Excellent wayfinding solutions not only give guests a great first impression on arrival, they enhance the experience of a visit as a whole, which can only reflect well on a business and its professional image. There are so many solutions available today there's no need for the old pin boards; whatever the space available, the level of visitor traffic or the frequency of change needed, there is a modern wayfinding system out there for every environment.

www.innotechdigital.com



The ultra low profile makes the Slimlite display practical for use even in high traffic

Pointing in the right direction



Due to its robust design, sturdy aluminium construction and the incorporation of a special concealed security device, the Stylos fingerpost is highly resistant to acts of vandalism and extremes of weather

With developments in terms of materials, designs and the clever use of lighting moving apace, there is still great demand for traditional fingerpost and panel systems that offer enormous versatility. Chris Bradley of Smith Sign & Display explains their appeal.

A division of William Smith 1832, Smith Sign & Display supplies a range of wayfinding systems to the trade comprising the Stylos fingerpost, Slat Sign and Post and Panel systems that are familiar features typically, within inner city, town and rural locations and at industrial and commercial sites, business parks, university campuses and hospitals.

Technologies have certainly advanced with commercial signage but not wayfinding systems; it is very much a case of: if it is not broken, don't fix it. The objective of a wayfinding sign is completely different to other types of signage so the simpler the



"The objective of a wayfinding sign is completely different to other types of signage so the simpler the better"

I have only rarely come across illuminated fingerpost systems. I think it will be many years before these see significant growth as they will be costly and require constant maintenance. Post and panel and fingerpost systems will continue to be a staple of the industry for the foreseeable future.

Tried and tested since 1989, the Stylos fingerpost is probably the most flexible and versatile wayfinding system of its kind. Due to its robust design, sturdy aluminium construction and the incorporation of a special concealed security device, it is highly resistant to acts of vandalism and extremes of weather and has therefore become a preferred choice of local authorities as a result of its low maintenance capability.

Customised solutions

Each Stylos unit can be customised to meet a customer's specific requirements and supplied with a choice of both standard and optional features. For example, the system can be configured to accept arms that can be set in up to eight different directions and at varying heights.

There is a choice of either traditional or contemporary bases and finials that can be customised with caps, logos, symbols and fonts to match individual branding requirements.

Typical applications for the Stylos fingerpost sign system can be found at many local authority locations. These have included Manchester City Council for route signage on the Manchester Cycleway, Barnsley Council for a town centre and primary out-of-town route signage systems and Farnborough Borough Council for its town centre development project.



Due to the modular nature of the Post and Panel system, the panels can be cut to size and fixed at a chosen height

Modular construction

The Post and Panel system supplied by Smith Sign & Display is of a modular construction, extremely well engineered and highly customisable, making it ideal for locations such as industrial and business parks, university campuses and hospitals. It features four different profiles (D Post, Square Post, Round Post and two-way Round Post) and is available at different panel depths in increments of 50mm from 100mm up to 300mm. Thanks to the modular nature of the system, the panels can be cut to size and fixed at a chosen height.

As with all of the products, the Post and Panel system can be supplied with full graphics, fonts and symbols or as standard components for customisation when installing on-site.

Interchangeable slats

The Slat Signage system is ideal for situations where there is the need for frequent change and/or updating.

This modular aluminium wayfinding directory system features interchangeable slats that are held in position by pop clips and are very easy to remove and change as required. It is an extremely slimline system that protrudes only 20mm from the wall. The system is available with six different slat profiles from the smaller 15, 16, 45 and 60mm to the larger 90, 120 and 150mm formats. The system can be fully customised to include individual colour/s and corporate branding themes.

www.smith-signdisplay.co.uk



WAYFINDING Feature

Traditional post and panel stand test of time

Like all forms of signage, wayfinding has changed considerably over the years. The concept is still the same though, in that it helps each one of us to navigate through all types of areas both indoors and outdoors. Paul Vickery, director of Nova Aluminium Systems discusses some of the key developments.

Most would consider wayfinding to be one of the most important factors of all signage - I mean, we all need to know where we are going.

"Many sign
applications can be
used for wayfinding
but systems designed
specifically to direct
give clear and concise
instructions to tell
you which way to go
are a better option"

Some of the wayfinding schemes you now find in city centres, shopping malls and entertainment venues are indeed works of art. Digital signage is becoming hugely popular for indoor directional signage and can be seen in most modern complexes.

However, the good old-fashioned post and panel or as we here at Nova call it, Pole and Plank, is still the first choice for many directional schemes including campuses, hospitals and car parks.

Illumination is being widely used and easier to implement with modern LED lighting capabilities including use with outdoor post and panel signage.

Of course, many sign applications can be used for wayfinding but systems designed specifically to direct give clear and concise instructions to tell you which way to go are a better option.

Pole and Plank, for example, is perfect for outdoor wayfinding and NovaSlat is nearing completion to offer an exciting choice for internal directional information.

NovaGuide is our new lightweight aluminium system, which allows for a 5mm foam panel to be retained by a magnetic fixing method making panel change the simplest of operations. The profile can be either single or double sided and is perfect



Old-fashioned post and panel or Pole and Plank, is still the first choice for many directional schemes including campuses, hospitals and car parks

for aisle directional signage such as those you find suspended in supermarkets. The frame itself is designed to give a full bleed visual giving the designer the maximum area to work with graphics. A divider profile can be fitted within the frame allowing for individual panel removal if required.

www.nova-aluminium.com

Signposts to site safety



LED displays are used for wayfinding in foyers, university campuses, hospitals, hotels and other locations where footfall is high during the hours of darkness

We often take wayfinding signs for granted but let's be honest, without them we would all be wandering around looking for direction. Wayfinding isn't just informative and practical, it also forms part of health and safety legislation, writes iSpi Trade managing director Stephen Ferrie.

Health and safety legislation recognised the need for all workplaces and public areas to have easily recognisable signs and symbols relating to safety.

These Regulations cover various means of communicating health and safety information including the use of illuminated signs, in addition to traditional signboards such as prohibition and warning signs.

Fire safety signs including those for fire exits and fire-fighting equipment are covered.

Employers have a legal duty to maintain safety signage in their buildings and campuses, explain unfamiliar signs to their employees and tell them what they need to do when they see a particular safety sign. This legal obligation usually falls to facilities managers or maintenance departments to ensure all signs are in place and well maintained.

Safe condition signs indicate exit routes in the event of a fire or emergency and form part of the illuminated signage legislation. For full details and to download HSE guide to Safety Sign and Signals visit: www.hse.gov.uk

Practical and stylish

You may not realise it but we all interact with wayfinding signage on a daily basis. You can't enter an office block, hotel, shopping centre, campus, airport or gym these days without being signposted to areas or information. Many don't notice but at iSpi Trade we lose sleep over signage which doesn't look the part or worse still, is unsafe.

As the UK's trusted sign industry support partner we see regular orders coming not only from traditional sign installers but local authorities, university maintenance departments, hotels and facilities management companies. The initial design and installation of signage will usually fall to a sign company but increasingly replacement and repair will be the responsibility of an internal department that usually requires the support of a sign installer - so bear this in mind when thinking about potential new clients.

Most products in the iSpi Trade online shop have been purchased as part of a wayfinding project, ranging from sign standoff fixings used for office, hotels and



Sign clamps are used for directions and fire exits



Aluminium sign fixings are available in a range of colours and finishes, add some style and are easily changed to match a new décor

meeting room nameplates, LED sign fixings for low light hallways to sign clamps for directions and fire exits. With our aluminium sign fixings available in a range of colours and finishes, they add some style and are easily changed to match a new colour scheme after a makeover.

I'm sure you have been asked: "can we get them in gold to match the handles?" Our range of screw head covers add a nice finishing touch and along with many other products are available in a choice of finishes and colours to help make your job easier. In addition, these can help meet health and safety criteria by hiding ragged screws which could cause injury.

Night-time solutions

iSpi Trade offers a wide selection of signs and display systems used across the UK. I'm sure you will have noticed when you walk down your local high street at night, it seems a bit brighter than before. Estate agents, hairdressers, betting shops and restaurants have been illuminated by LED window displays but these are also being used for wayfinding in foyers, university campuses, hospitals and other locations where footfall is still high during the hours of darkness.

Making information readily available is one of the main criteria for any business or organisation. Our cable and rod display systems are a common sight in reception areas of hotels and offices and are the ideal solution for displaying guidance information. In many office blocks these are used to list which businesses are in the building and signpost safety and security information.

"Initial design and installation will usually fall to a sign company but increasingly, the replacement and repair will be the responsibility of an internal department that usually requires the support of a sign installer"

Wayfinding signage plays an important part of any business which a sign company has on its books.

At iSpi Trade we are here to help direct you to the right product for your customer and at the right price.

www.ispitrade.com



ROUTING & CUTTING Feature

Importance of selecting the correct router tool

Good quality routing and cutting tools are essential in order to get the best out of any CNC router. AXYZ International applications specialist Ged Lodge explains why purchasing cheaper yet invariably inferior quality alternatives often proves a false economy, leading to a sub-standard finish, significant decrease in tool life and a corresponding increase in material wastage.

The most common reasons for tool failure include selecting the wrong tool for the material to be processed, using a tool well past its predicted lifespan, failure to use an appropriate coolant or lubricant and not changing tool-holding devices such as collets within the recommended time scale

Tooling is a continually developing area of routing/cutting technology, fuelled by the availability of new and frequently more complex materials, coatings and geometries and the need to process widely differing materials to accommodate multiple applications.

As a leading supplier of high performance routing and cutting systems, AXYZ International claims to have comprehensively addressed these requirements via its 24/7 online CNCRoutershop division. This regularly updated facility provides both general purpose and specialist tools that support not only machines in the extensive AXYZ International portfolio but also those from virtually any other supplier regardless of make or country of origin.



Tooling is a continually developing area of routing/cutting technology, fuelled by the availability of often more complex materials, coatings and geometries.

"Devices currently being tested include a high power routing spindle that provides twice the power and speed of a spindle"

Extending performance capabilities

The choice of tools and accessories available includes routing/cutting devices; blades for oscillating; tangential and dragknife cutters; collets and cones; accessories such as cutting fluids; and a wide range of spare parts. These are constantly supplemented with new devices to further extend the performance capabilities of CNC routers.

Devices currently being tested include a high power routing spindle that is said to represent a major advancement in high speed routing/cutting technology by providing twice the power and speed of a standard spindle and a kiss-cut knifecutting tool that will further extend the capabilities of CNC routers by enabling a much wider range of materials to be processed. Subject to the success of these product tests, both devices will be available in the near future.

A typical example of the specialist tools supplied by AXYZ International is the Marathon Compression Tool. Designed for use on solid and particle woods and laminates, it features an advanced cutting geometry and a special coating to protect the cut edge of the materials being processed from the high temperatures generated during the routing/cutting cycle. The combined upward and downward spiral geometry ensures a clean and perfect finish to the top and bottom surfaces of the materials being processed, a function that is of special significance if chipping of double-sided laminates is to be avoided or when using natural woods where edge-finishing might prove problematical if alternative standard spiral tools are used.



This compression tool would be suitable for sign makers, particularly those producing exterior signage for prestige locations

While used mainly for wood-related applications, this tool would be useful for sign makers, particularly those producing exterior signage for prestige locations including theme parks, places of historical interest and the more environmentally aware locations where wood is a preferred material.

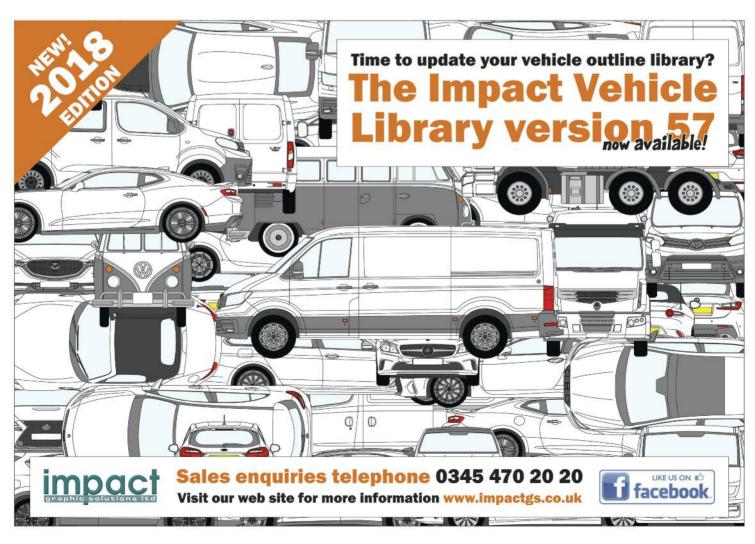
www.axyz.com www.cncroutershop.com



A common reason for tool failure is selecting the wrong one for the material to be processed

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







Multiple UV ink layering on clear self-adhesive film creates stained-glass effect

AllSigns Visual Communications was recently approached by Bristol-based building contractor KP Wilton & Sons with a brief to create a stained-glass effect manifestation to be applied internally to the entire entrance of the newly-built atrium at St Patricks Catholic Church in Bristol.

With extensive sampling and test prints they created a mosaic effect using multiple UV ink layering, printed directly onto a clear self-adhesive film on their EFI Vutek QS2 Pro supplied by CMYUK.

The EFI VUTEk QS2 Pro is a robust, production level UV printer offering a wide colour range and ensuring maximum reliability and performance. Its in-line multilayer print capability and greyscale

technology with variable droplets, allows designers the freedom to create maximum visual impact.

"We have made significant investment in several pieces of key printing and finishing machines from CMYUK including our cutting table, along with our Vutek QS2 Pro," said director Graham Wood. "CMYUK has offered fantastic support to our business and been on hand to give us lots of expert advice over the years. Far more than a supplier, CMYUK is considered a partner for us. The team's after-sale support is second to none and allowed us to maintain steady growth through technology in a very competitive market."

www.cmyuk.com www.allsigns.uk.com

"Its in-line multi-layer print capability and greyscale technology with variable droplets, allows designers the freedom to create maximum visual impact"



The EFI Vutek QS2 Pro produced stunning results, far exceeding the client's expectations



High profile signage puts finishing touches to £25m school of medicine

Signs Express Preston has put the finishing touches to the Life Sciences Accelerator building at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, the £25 million scientific research centre in Daulby Street.

The operation saw the installation of five sets of built up letters, eight direction signs and seven door signs. The week-long installation is the fifth large contract for Preston's Signs Express with the School of Tropical Medicine and a joint contract from the school and Vinci Construction.

"This was a difficult night-time installation of built up letters up to 18 m high and because the location was above a main entrance"

Facilities supervisor at the School Richard Burslem said: "The service from Signs Express was superb providing both guidance and a high level of expertise that was a great asset from the artwork stage through to installation. This project has been a great success and users of the building are very impressed with the finished work.'



The after midnight operation saw the installation of five sets of built up letters, eight direction signs and seven door signs

Matt Rutlidge from Signs Express said: "This was a difficult night-time installation of built up letters as much as 18 metres high and because the location was above a main entrance.

"We brought in specialist 18m scissor lift access equipment along with a cherry picker for the above entrance installation. Working on such distinctive signage on such a high profile building in Liverpool and seeing the successful implementation from artwork to installation has been very rewarding.

Signs Express carries out repeat work for hospital trusts, schools and colleges across Lancashire, local authorities, universities and manufacturers. Its 15-strong workforce designs, produces and installs a full range of signage for a growing client base and is owned and run by father and son Stephen and Ben Hall.

As well as external and internal signs the company creates vehicle and window graphics and has seen a growing demand for its bespoke digital wallpaper. All its work from design to manufacture is carried out in-house.

Signs Express' growing client list has seen annual turnover grow above £800,000. Ben said: "Our design department is using the latest software to create powerful messages. We pride ourselves that we are more than just a sign company.

"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."



Five sets of built-up letters were used along with eight direction and seven door signs

www.signsexpress.co.uk/preston

PROJECT News

Citroën 2CV receives wrap makeover for 70th anniversary

A Citroën 2CV has been transformed into the world's smallest and most eyecatching food truck with help from 3M, to celebrate the model's 70th anniversary.

One of the project's principal supporters, 3M led the car's exterior overhaul, together with one of its award-winning Authorised Vehicle Wrappers (AVWs), Coastline Graphics.

Experts at Coastline wrapped the car, transforming it from a dated off-cream colour to a shimmering dark grey with psychedelic highlights using 1080-S261 Satin Dark Grey and 1080-GP281 Gloss Flip Psychedelic wrap films from 3M.

"When I first saw what Coastline Graphics had done with 3M's products I couldn't believe it was the same Dolly"

The latter is one of the new colour flip shades in the popular Wrap Film Series 1080 by 3M.



Experts at Coastline wrapped the car using first class 3M wrap films, transforming it from a dated off-cream colour to a shimmering dark grey with psychedelic highlights

These have completely different transmitted and reflective colours, which shift and shimmer depending on the viewing angle.

Coastline Graphics project manager James Archer said: "The Citroën 2CV is a beautiful car so we wanted to make sure its exterior looked fittingly special for the model's 70th birthday.

"3M's stunning wrap films have allowed us to create a magnificent finish that will look as good after hundreds of miles on the road as they do now."

Dolly is now touring the UK; her first stop was the London Motor Show held in May and a documentary covering the vehicle's transformation and upcoming travels is being filmed.

Creative director of the 2CVat70 project Andrew Mellon said: "We're thrilled to have 3M on board as a principal supporter as there's no company better when it comes to wrap films and their AVWs are also second to none.

"The car looks incredible. When I first saw what Coastline Graphics had done with 3M's products I couldn't believe it was the same Dolly. She's sure to catch more than a few eyes on her travels."

www.3M.co.uk



Signs Express Grantham rebrand Leicester Tigers stadium

Signs Express (Grantham) was the chosen sign and graphics specialist to rebrand the Tiger's stadium. As long-standing supplier and player sponsor of the Tigers' Signs Express (Grantham) were given one week to execute the rebranding of the historic Crumbie stand and the 'Cube' building within the stadium.

Director Ian Charles commented: "this is the most prestigious project we have worked on with Leicester Tigers to date, giving us an immense sense of pride in the end result".

Construction giant Breedon Group, for whom Tigers chairman Peter Tom is executive chairman, has strengthened its links with Leicester Tigers with the naming rights for the Crumbie Stand until the 2021/22 season. A quick turnaround was ensured so that everything would be ready for the fans watching the East Midlands derby match versus Northampton Saints.

The Crumbie stand accommodates 8,500 supporters, creating one of the largest jobs in Signs Express (Grantham's) history. Its sheer size meant the existing sponsor branding on the stand had to be completely removed before the Breedon Stand signs could be installed. All the signs were manufactured from full colour printed aluminium composite material and totalled some 300 metres worth of boards weighing in at 700 kg. These were situated within the stand along the entire inside rear, the front of the seating area,



The new brand of The Cube was due to international manufacturer Häfele being welcomed to The Leicester Tigers' family

which act as wayfinding and two signs fitted to the roof stating the name of the stand. A rope access crew was contracted to assist with the install of the signs on the roof of the stand because it was not possible for powered access to perform the install either off the pitch or from the terrace in front of the stand.

All work was completed on time and the Breedon Group and Leicester Tigers are delighted with the end result.

The new brand of The Cube was due to international manufacturer Häfele being welcomed to The Leicester Tigers' family. The rebrand brought Signs Express franchisees together from both Grantham and Northampton to make sure the work was completed on time. Due to the time restriction and the 8m x 9m size of the branded cube, Signs Express Northampton acted as a sub-contractor crew to help carry out this part of the project.

First, the existing graphics had to be completely stripped from the building. Once this was done, the building was rewrapped in a base white vinyl. From there the final logos and a massive 5m x 9m full colour print were applied to the building, resulting in the stunning end picture. Signs Express managed to use cherry pickers and scissor lifts to complete the vast rebrand and even battled with rain, wind and mist to make sure the project was completed before the East Midlands derby.

Leicester Tigers commercial director Andrea Pinchen concluded: "we're all delighted with the end result that Signs Express have been able to achieve. We share a long-standing relationship with Signs Express and aim to continue this for seasons to come".



Existing sponsor branding had to be completely removed before the Breedon Stand signs could be installed

www.signsexpress.co.uk/Grantham



Digital board chosen for photo exhibition

Antalis has donated DIBOND Digital board to support a photographic exhibition highlighting the plight of rare Welsh Mountain goats in Snowdonia.

C3imaging Liverpool turned to Antalis when one of their printers Stuart Hill, was looking for a material suitable for mounting photographs. C3imaging agreed to print the photographs free of charge, while Antalis recommended and donated DIBOND Digital board for the 15 A1-size photographs to be mounted onto.

Channel head for visual communications at Antalis, Chris Green said: "Stuart discovered that the goats, which have lived in the Snowdonia mountain range since around 4500BC, have been under threat from hunting, something which both he and John were keen to raise the awareness of. This fuelled the idea of creating an exhibition of Stuart's photographs at the Electric Mountain visitor centre.

"We offered to donate the photography mounting boards he needed and for the best possible finish recommended DIBOND Digital for its high level of flatness, strength and rigidity while being lightweight.

Production manager at C3imaging Liverpool, Martin Lloyd added: "As an existing Antalis customer we trust the team's advice when it comes to recommending exactly the right product for our needs but were thrilled when they agreed to donate it in support of Stuart's exhibition. It was clear during the production process that all composite aluminium boards are not equal. The DIBOND Digital panel is far superior to cheaper ACM and hoarding boards and was perfect for the high quality print and finishing we were looking for. We were delighted with the finished result."

C3imaging Liverpool printed the A1 images onto a satin photo paper using their HP DesignJet Z6200 Photo Production printer. The images were then laminated with Drytac Emerytex laminate before being mounted onto the DIBOND

"It was clear during the production process that all composite aluminium boards are not equal"

Digital using Drytac MediaTac. The DIBOND Digital was cut to shape using a Zund XL3200 cutter.

DIBOND Digital is an aluminium composite material with a special PU lacquer system for high quality direct to substrate printing. In this instance, the sheet was chosen for its suitability as a mounting board and superior A1mg alloy, ideal for CNC cutting to shape, assuring a quality finish.

www.antalis.co.uk



DIBOND Digital was chosen for its suitability as a mounting board and superior A1mg alloy, ideal for CNC cutting to shape, assuring a quality finish



Inside and out wrap for beer bus

HNS Signs' most recent project involved wrapping both the exterior and the interior of a beer bus for Sadlers Ales.

Fourth generation sign writers HNS Signs was approached by Sadlers after completing a more conventional sign painting project at the new taproom in Quinton

"They had done an amazing job in Quinton so it was an easy choice for us to use HNS for this next project", said operations director Jim Pycraft.

The aim of the beer bus was to convey the brewery's image to a wider crowd at event settings. Sadlers approached HNS with a basic brief of trying to convey their taproom experience in a transportable format. HNS put its considerable creative and design talents into addressing this and proposed a novel solution - wrapping not just the outside of the vehicle but the inside too. Interior wraps are incredibly rare and even rarer on this scale but the sign firm felt it would significantly contribute to creating a realistic pub ambience.

A demanding timeline required it to be ready for its first engagement on 21 April at the City Social in Birmingham - leaving just three and half days to complete the project. A further issue was the sheer size



The sheer size of wrapping such a large vehicle was a challenge but fortunately HNS signs workshop was just about big enough

of wrapping such a large vehicle; fortunately HNS signs workshop was big enough to fit the bus - just. Once in, the whole HNS team literally got on board with the project. The whole company helped wrap the bus, staying late some evenings to stay on track. In fact, with the tight timeline, parts of the design were still being designed while other parts were being fitted so multitasking and teamwork were paramount.

"We're delighted how HNS understands our vision and created innovative signage solutions for us and intend to use them as our creative partner of choice as we continue to grow"



Sadlers approached HNS with a basic brief of trying to convey their taproom experience in a transportable format

"The bus has had a terrific impact at the City Social event and we've had a fantastic response to the vehicle," concluded Jim. "We're delighted how HNS understands our vision and created innovative signage solutions for us and intend to use them as our creative partner of choice as we continue to grow".

www.hnssigns.co.uk

PROJECT News

Renault Sport F1 team chooses Roland to produce racing car livery

Renault Sport Formula One Team unveiled the new livery for its racing car in February: a slick black and yellow design with graphics printed with Roland DG equipment.

The team has relied on Roland DG for its racing car vehicle graphics for several years, using a Roland TrueVIS VG-640 wide-format inkjet printer/cutter at its technical centre in Oxfordshire, where its racing cars are designed and manufactured. The paint and graphics studio was on total lock-down ahead of the livery launch, with its staff sworn to secrecy over the design.

Renault Sport Formula One Team's cars will compete in 21 Grand Prix around the world this year, with an audience of more than 400 million viewers. Brand exposure plays an essential role in sponsorship programmes and it is essential to reproduce the livery accurately. If any sticker gets damaged or dirty, the team will replace it immediately. To ensure this,

racing cars always travel with several sticker sets, all printed on the Roland TrueVIS VG-640.

"The team always carries 30 versions of every sticker so they can be replaced if needed," said head of paint and graphics Joe McNamara. "This amounts to around 1,400 stickers for every race; 80% are sponsor-related so have to be replaced with absolute precision."

While normally Renault Sport Formula One Team's expertise makes this process go as smoothly as changing a tyre, Joe knows he has the back-up of Roland users around the world who can print the designs quickly and accurately if need be.

"It's comforting to know that, if necessary, I can find a graphics company with a TrueVIS VG-640 that is local to the track, to whom I can email a file and all they need to do its hit 'play' at their end to produce perfect stickers," he said. "I won't

see a difference between their stickers and ours. We really are part of a Roland family, all over the world."

In addition to the TrueVIS VG-640, Renault Sport Formula One Team studio uses a Roland CAMM-1 GX vinyl cutter soon to be upgraded to the latest GR-640 model - and four Roland MDX-540 milling machines to manufacture Rohacell foam cores for some car parts that require this dense but very lightweight foam sheet

"The Roland MDX machines are known here as phenomenal workhorses; they just don't go wrong," said Joe. "In fact, every Roland machine we use is hugely reliable. The VG-640 is quick, accurate, easy to operate and easy to clean and the four MDX machines are simply bulletproof. We don't have downtime here. It's not an option."

www.rolanddg.co.uk



Renault Sport Formula One Team has relied on Roland DG for its racing car vehicle graphics for several years, using a TrueVIS VG-640 wide-format inkjet printer/cutter



Flooring collaboration makes impact

Soyang Europe understands the importance of a well designed and created exhibition stand. Working alongside international artist Emily Campbell of Blue Butterfly Flooring and specialist print supplier to the events industry Hollywood Monster, its stand at Sign & Digital showcased the power of printed flooring as it continues to promote the use of innovative print materials.

"We wanted to demonstrate something unique, creative and powerful on the stand this year," said sales and marketing manager Kerrie-Anne Moore. "We've talked a lot about the creative opportunities that innovative printable flooring materials provide through our blog series over the past 12 months and working with Blue Butterfly Flooring on a stand design was a special experience."

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.

"Being part of the Sign and Digital exhibition and working with Soyang Europe and Hollywood Monster was a great experience," explained Campbell.



Print Floor from Soyang Europe has been designed especially for UV printing and the print quality looks makes an impact

"The flooring design was aimed at drawing people onto the stand and making them want to explore the image further. We used Soyang's Print Floor material because of its cushioned feel, which is ideal for people on their feet all day."

The project was printed and installed by Hollywood Monster who produced the print on an EFI Vutek HS125.

"The HS125 utilises the latest UV printing technology that allows us to print flexible and rigid substrates up to 38mm thick, in 8 colours plus the option of white inks,' explained managing director Simon McKenzie. "Print Floor from Soyang

Europe has been designed especially for UV printing and the print quality looks amazing and impactful."

"We're specialists in supplying the event industry with creative display solutions. We use Print Floor for temporary staging for events and exhibitions as the material is very durable and ideal for heavy footfall. It was an exciting project to be involved in and we were able to project manage the whole process and see things through from Emily's original design to print and installation at the show.'

www.soyang.co.uk www.hollywoodmonster.co.uk.

Charity shops rebrand with fresh signage

St Luke's Hospice Plymouth has a new look for their charity shop portfolio thanks to Signs Express (Plymouth). Its signage had been in place for many years, had no uniformity and was becoming to look tired and out of date in keeping with the modern high street. The rebrand gave the charity an opportunity to address the uniformity, add a contemporary look and incorporate each shop into local community it serves.

Head of communications and marketing Rob Maltby commented: "the hospice has been a client of Sign Express (Plymouth) for five years. Each project they have

worked on has had exceptional quality and we can really push the creative and material boundaries with them. When deciding on who to do this rebrand we knew we could trust them as they have taken the time to understand our values. what our brand stands for and the sensitive areas and challenges a medical environment may present to their fitters".

The project took just over two months to complete and Signs Express Plymouth worked closely with the St Luke's designer to help come up with a fresh logo while ensuring the materials used were to suit

their budget and integral with the branding. The signage is a combination of aluminium composite tray signs with digitally printed graphics and aluminium composite flat panels, depending on the shop front installed.

"On a some of our new shops Signs Express (Plymouth) assisted with delivering internal branding from a distinctive till feature wall using stand-off acrylic to incorporating our care messages to highlight to the customer the link between their purchase and the difference it has made to our care," said Rob. "The guys really delivered on this project".

Signs Express (Plymouth) managing director Chris Reilly said: "St Luke's is a fantastic charity and we understand our signage solutions must be cost effective to ensure every available penny is spent on patient care. We like to do our bit to support them through charitable fundraising events. It is good to feel part of the local community and helping such a worthwhile cause".

St Luke's Hospice shop manager Marie Young outside the Estover store

www.signsexpress.co.uk/Plymouth



Antalis invests heavily in Yorkshire facility

Gaining access to leading visual communications solutions has become a whole lot easier for commercial printers, POS printers and signmakers operating in Yorkshire as Antalis brings regional stock and a new conversion facility to its Leeds distribution centre.

As part of vast growth plans for its visual communications arm, the business has invested in reconfiguring the centre in order to accommodate the local stocking of a comprehensive range of fast moving rigid and digital roll media from leading brands including Orafol, 3A, Drytac and Coala.

Visual communications business director and marketing director UK & Ireland Ian Webb said: "We know that our customers are under immense time and cost pressures so we want to do everything we can to make their lives that little bit easier.

"We have therefore invested heavily in updating our Leeds regional hub to include stocking of our core visual comms inventory so customers operating in Yorkshire can quickly and easily get their hands on all types of products as and when they need them. What's more, with a new conversion machine on site, supported with our skilled team, we can actually deliver products to them to the

required size and format, meaning less hassle and minimised downtime.

"Given the nature of the current visual comms market where it isn't uncommon for orders to come in last minute and with tight deadlines, this increased service offer ensures that our customers can get a wide range of materials to their specific needs so they can get the job done quicker."

It's not just about the products but providing the expertise behind them, which is why the new facility will be supported with a full team of experts to provide advice and full technical support. Customers will be able to take advantage of the Antalis Academy training facility and its hardware solutions, as well as a samples offer.

"In these changing times, commercial printers and signmakers must remain progressive and fast-moving in order to stay ahead of the innovation curve," said lan. "Through our new facility our remit is to help in this by providing the ultimate one-stop-shop for the full scope of visual communications needs in the Yorkshire region, coupled with expert support."

www.antalis.co.uk



Customers operating in Yorkshire can quickly and easily get their hands on all types of products as and when they need

CHAS accreditation for sign company



The Sussex Sign Company takes health and safety very seriously

When it comes to ensuring the highest levels of health and safety for its staff and customers, The Sussex Sign Company has scored top marks.

The Portslade-based company has a long record of providing some of the most innovate and creative signage in the UK and has been awarded CHAS (Contractors Health and Safety Assessment Scheme) accreditation for the second year running, which is considered to be the highest accolade in terms of health and safety credentials.

Managing director Norman Mayhew was delighted to report that his business is one of a few who have achieved the status on top of Safe Contractor certification putting The Sussex Sign Company at the top of its game in terms of health and

safety. Norman said health and safety is taken very seriously and the business constantly works toward improving its processes and systems wherever possible.

"We are delighted to gain the CHAS Accredited Contractor Award for another year," commented Norman. "It demonstrates our commitment to health and safety legislation and because it focuses on reducing duplication it helps our suppliers and buyers work with us seamlessly".

The Sussex Sign Company holds SafeContractor accreditation, which further provides assurance that the business has achieved the highest levels of health and safety compliance.

www.sussexsigns.com



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AXYZ launches online CNCRoutershop facility

A newly designed and expanded CNCRoutershop 24/7 online facility launched by AXYZ International, is said to be much easier to navigate and locate products of choice and to work better with mobile devices for remote access.

A Live Chat feature enables visitors to the site to talk with application specialists while browsing to help in selecting the product/s of choice, while a Loyalty Points initiative for volume purchases provides attractive discounts. The facility is described by AXYZ International as the largest source of routing, engraving and cutting tools and accessories currently available, accommodating every conceivable requirement not only for AXYZ and Pacer machines supplied by AXYZ International but any other machine regardless of type or country of origin.

The CNCRoutershop is clearly segmented to cover the widest range of routing. engraving and cutting tools, accessories, spare parts, consumables and software that can be used to process virtually any kind of material including all kinds of natural and particle woods, foamed boards and laminates, stainless steel, aluminium and other non-ferrous metals. The range includes high quality router bits, collets and cones that will accommodate various spindle types, oscillating and tangential knife blades and special-purpose tooling.



The expanded CNCRoutershop 24/7 online facility is said to be much easier to navigate and locate products of choice and to work better with mobile devices for remote access

Supplementing these is a range of technical support facilities that includes breakdown cover and standard and bespoke training courses that can be conducted at either the customer's own facility or at the AXYZ Training Centre inTelford.

Regularly updated with information downloads and providing access to a team of specialists to ensure the correct products are always selected for a specific application, the products displayed have been sourced from leading UK and Continental Europe suppliers and regularly updated as new solutions become available.

www.cncroutershop.com

CSL Digital lands International Trade and Export Business Award



From left: CSL Digital general manager Georgina Waterman; head of economic development at Heathrow Sundeep Sangha; CSL Digital managing director Nick Wintle; Huw Davies; and sales/marketing director Justin Atkinson

CSL Digital has landed the prestigious International Trade and Export Award sponsored by Heathrow. Well known in the UK for supplying and supporting wide format digital printing and cutting systems on behalf of major manufacturers including Roland and Fujifilm, the company has invested significantly in its international trade and export activities over recent years.

Sales and marketing director Huw Davies said: "Given the high calibre of the other companies in the International Trade and Export category we were genuinely taken aback to win this award. It's an amazing achievement that everyone at CSL Digital can take great pride in. To be recognised by an organisation such as Heathrow is a huge honour and it will go a long way to helping us further expand our overseas business activities."

www.csl-digital.com



Signmakers need to recommend sustainable media to customers

Amid recent furore around plastic waste in the UK, Antalis is reminding signmakers of the more eco-friendly visual communication media alternatives available to recommend to their customers and the role they can play in improving environmental performance and reducing costs.

Antalis head of channel for visual communications Chris Green said: "Amid government pressures and an increasingly green-conscious consumer profile, the reality is that the plastic waste issue is only going to become more and more pertinent for UK retailers and businesses. That's why we are investing in product ranges that can help our customers meet their environmental requirements, specifically those with high volume requirements.'

Key solutions from Antalis include Priplak, aimed at retailers with a high turnover of signage. A strong yet flexible plastic polypropylene sheet, it offers high performance while being environmentally sound; it is a constructed from a plastic free from halogens, chlorine and plastifiers such as phthalates. It can be recycled many times without any significant change in its physical properties and the Priplak R100 range is actually made from 100% recycled post-industrial polypropylene. Once finished, it can be recycled, burned or added to landfill without any risk of toxic substances harming the environment or people's health. DISPA is a sign and display board for short-term, indoor displays. A 100% cellulose fibre product, it is made by 3A composites with embossed internal layers which ensure maximum stability and flatness while being 100% recyclable FSCcertified paper. Its smooth, bright-white printable surface is a quality robust alternative to plastic products, allowing retailers to maximise both the environmental and financial benefits of recycling.

"While we fully encourage a transition toward sustainable visual communication solutions, the reality is that there is still a huge job to do in a promoting the cultural shift needed for mainstream adoption." said Chris. "Investment in innovation is kev in order to ensure a comprehensive suite of true green alternatives. While the Government recently pledged to eradicate all avoidable plastic by 2042, this needs to be supported through greater investment in recycling facilities and infrastructure

"In the meantime, signmakers can recommend the ecologically-friendly, recyclable products that are now available in order to help their customers to decrease their sign and display landfill waste, save money and optimise their green credentials.'

www.antalis.co.uk



A 100% cellulose fibre product, DISPA is made by 3A composites with embossed internal layers which ensure maximum stability and flatness while being 100% recyclable FSC-certified paper

Eurobond sponsors BSGA Awards

Eurobond Adhesives is a key sponsor of this year's BSGA's British Sign Awards to be held at the Athena Centre in Leicester on 8 November. In particular the company will sponsor the Sign Construction category.



Eurobond products been used to construct signs on some of the most important and iconic buildings

Managing director Simon Dearing explained: "We have built an enviable reputation for supplying the very best, high performance adhesives and acrylic tapes to literally thousands of sign makers throughout Europe for over 34 years.

"Our Penloc structural adhesives and range of high performance acrylic tapes are trusted by sign makers to do the job first time, every time. Our products have been used to construct signs on some of the most important and iconic buildings including office blocks, airports, hotels, museums, theme parks, casinos, businesses, banks and shops in virtually every town and city throughout the EU.

"Our technical team have worked in partnership with some of the very best UK designers and sign makers offering expert advice and the best bonding solutions for very specific sign applications. We are very privileged to work with so many skilled craftsmen and women and we get an extraordinary buzz when we see signs which we have had a hand in making.

"By sponsoring the Construction category we are recognising these highly skilled craftspeople and helping them to push the boundaries of design and take sign making to the next level".

www.eurobond-adhesives.co.uk



Floor media gets safety rating

Drytac's SpotOn Floor 200 media has achieved a global Class B1 Fire Rating, meaning this removable film for floor graphics can be used in public areas and other locations that must adhere to tight fire regulations.

"The film doesn't require overlamination and can be installed and removed with ease, making it ideal for numerous indoor floor graphic applications"



This removable film for floor graphics can be used in public areas and other locations that must adhere to tight fire regulations

Global product manager Shaun Holdom said: "This fire rating is great news for our customers. Having this fire rating opens up a host of new markets and applications for SpotOn Floor 200. Ensuring products used in public areas and buildings are properly certified is at the forefront of people's minds and we are delighted that our flexible, high quality printable vinyl for floor graphics has the appropriate fire rating.

"In addition, Drytac's SpotOn Floor 200 has global slip-resistance certification. The film doesn't require overlamination and can be installed and removed with ease.

making it ideal for numerous indoor floor graphic applications."

SpotOn Floor 200 is an 8ml printable PVC film with a Drytac-created removable adhesive featuring a dot pattern that allows for easy, bubble-free application of graphics to most flat surfaces without the need for tools.

Compatible with (eco) solvent, latex and UV printing technologies, SpotOn Floor 200 is available in roll widths of 54" (1370mm).

www.drytac.com.

Durst unveils technology developments

Durst has unveiled the latest technology developments in large format print, service and software at the company's Tech Days held in May. Sales of its new awardwinning P5 platform are building so fast that delivery times are now up to 10 weeks. First results from the successful P5 field test at Panorama in Spain revealed that around 24,000m2 was printed in the

first month alone and everything is progressing well.

The Rho roll-to-roll wide-format portfolio of 3 and 5 meter printing systems with UV LED curing technology and the newly issued UV LED ink were introduced; the new model will be the Durst Rho 512R LED. The latest Durst Analytics software

offering preventive service and maintenance via remote monitoring of the most important machine parameters was presented along with important updates in Durst Water Technology - with the awardwinning Durst WT 250 now achieving industrial production in flatbed printing.

In addition, first plans were unveiled whereby print service providers can benefit from Durst's world-class technology without making a large initial capital outlay. The idea involves Durst investing in print businesses through a rent-first concept for up to four years. Those who qualify for the scheme will be offered a top-maintained pre-owned machine through a "full service contract".

"The Durst Tech Days were created to give our customers an exclusive preview to our latest technologies and thinking," said CEO Christoph Gamper. "Designed to address everyday production needs and meet ever-changing market demands, the innovations promote efficient, cost effective and optimum operation."

Durst unveiled the latest technology developments in large format print, service and software

www.durst-group.com



FASTSIGNS Manchester appoints sales and

customer service manager

FASTSIGNS Manchester has appointed Allison Bingham as the company's first inside sales and customer service manager, to ensure that new and existing clients continue to get what they need. With a background in education, retail and publishing Allison will play a key role in directing the company's commercial strategy, as well as fine-tuning the support of and contact with the branch's customers.

Director Richard Wedgwood said: "We are delighted to welcome Allison to the team. Continual improvement of our customer service levels is a key component to our core offering. Allison will provide support to the sales team while

being a key point of liaison between them and our marketing and production departments."

Allison will take charge of account management, handling inbound enquiries and overseeing projects to ensure customers' needs are met. She will be drawing from her expertise to support the branch's sales and marketing plan.

"I am really looking forward to working with the team at FASTSIGNS Manchester and the new challenges ahead, as well as learning the role and using my past experience to succeed," said Allison.

www.fastsigns.com



Allison will play a key role in directing the company's commercial strategy

Stocksigns points the way to site safety

Stocksigns Group provides key signage to the construction industry. Placing the appropriate signage in the right locations can be a vital factor in eliminating serious accidents and injuries to staff members. Implementing the appropriate signage is not only a core principal of a safe workforce but helps employers to encourage personal safety within the workplace.



Stocksigns supplies large site safety boards, temporary and digital signs

In addition to a full range of standard health and safety signs, Stocksigns can supply large site safety boards, temporary and digital signs including those that report real time information of accidents and incidents and traffic speed indictors to control vehicle movements across large developments. Signs can be customised and personalised to include companies' names and logos, ensuring the brand is prominent to workers, visitors and the public.

Managing director Danny Adamson said: "As a signage provider for the construction industry we understand the importance of workers' safety and the ability to maintain this is paramount to us.

"Promoting safety through the appropriate signage is key for employers and workers within the field while highlighting the importance of personal safety in an environment where risks must be managed carefully. It is our duty to provide high quality signage with key messages to prevent serious accidents so that people can come to work with a sense of security.'

"It is our duty to provide high quality signage with key messages to prevent serious accidents so that people can come to work with a sense of security"

For the past eight years Stocksigns Group has been working in partnership with The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) in aiding the prevention of accidents and keeping people safe.

www.stocksigns.co.uk



HNS Signs takes gold at global print and signage awards

HNS Signs, took the top spot at the FESPA Awards in Berlin for the second year running for their highly skilled approach to Ted Baker's boutique store environments.

Managing director Michelle Henry said: "Working with Ted Baker was an award win in itself but to enter the project we delivered against world-class signage experts and take gold for the second year running really is something else. We were very excited to put our creativity and craftsmanship to the test for Ted Baker to enhance their retail store experience.

"Accepting gold in Berlin on behalf of the team really highlights our dedication to our trade and creating something different for our customers. To think just a few years back we started in a small co-space in Birmingham servicing one client to landing big brand names and global awards really is the icing on the cake to our growth. Even though we walked away with gold last year, fighting off Harley Davidson for our innovative work with The Arcadian, we really didn't think we would be walking away with gold again."

The global award highlights the hard work the Birmingham-based signage team delivered in collaboration with the interior



Initially contracted to deliver a hand painted chalkboard sign and pub-style design for the Ted Baker village in Bicester, HNS Signs were commissioned to complete more signage work.

design team at Ted Baker and their approach to signage design. Initially contracted to deliver a hand painted chalk board sign and pub-style design for the Ted Baker village in Bicester, HNS Signs excitable energy, passion and skill soon won over the design team at Ted Baker who then commissioned HNS Signs to complete more signage work in Bicester and Oxford Store. "Why haven't we found you sooner" were the exact words by 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."

FESPA representative Suzi Wilkinson commented: "What caught the judges' eyes was superb old-fashioned style adapted to modern customers' needs. HNS Signs skills to translate PDF drawings to handpainted graphics exude personality. The range of sign making methods used result in a really engaging in-store experience."

www.hnssigns.co.uk

Textile solutions draw the crowds

Mimaki's exclusive distributor Hybrid Services presented a range of textile manufacturing solutions at the Make it British Live! exhibition held in London. Formerly known as Meet the Manufacturer, the show prides itself on being the only

sourcing event that exclusively showcases British manufacturers and producers.

Through its specialist textile reseller network, Hybrid has supplied printing systems to and worked closely with a substantial number of British textile

printing businesses for more than 20 years. The company has witnessed firsthand the continued growth in UK manufacturing with advancements in digital printing, helping productivity expand and volumes rise thanks to increased consumer demand for Britishmanufactured products.

Textile products manager Brett Platt said: "We showed how simple and effective short run production and sampling can be with Mimaki's dye sublimation and direct to textile printers and how a relatively small investment in technology can really benefit production processes."

Hybrid's stand featured numerous application examples along with a Mimaki TS30-1300 dye sublimation printer, heat press and software.

www.hybridservices.co.uk





Marketing concept for wide format

Kernow Coatings has launched a new way to help their distributors show end users applications and benefits, not just products.

The company decided to give it's partners a booth no bigger than A4 and only 2cm thick that will fit in a briefcase: the KernowJet DecoBox - an innovative

marketing tool created and developed to not only showcase and explain products but display possible applications in 3D.

While a sales rep explains for example, the KernowJet MetaliK film, they will be able to show lettering and designs applied to a clear surface, just like a real shop

window or a print applied to a board like rigid substrates for signs and decoration.

The DecoBox includes several solutions for interior decoration: KernowJet FloorSharK PVC-free R10 certified floor graphic film that does not need to be laminated; a printed wall of KernowJet Interiors non-woven wallcoverings in 13 different finishes; mini displays of KernowJet Supreme and Ultimate roll-up and pop-up display solutions; and KernowJet Opaline for backlight which can be illuminated with the mobile phone light to show the real colour gamut of the product.

"It's the perfect tool for printing companies, marketing agencies and brands to see where and how to use the latest KernowJet products," said the company. The swatchbooks of all available wide format products are included in the DecoBox; to see it in action visit the Kernow Coatings Youtube Channel to view a presentation video.

www.kernowcoatings.com

An innovative marketing tool created to not only showcase and explain products but display possible applications in 3D, the KernowJet DecoBox will fit in a briefcase

Exclusive promotion for 3M print wrap film

Spandex has introduced an exclusive promotion for two popular 3M wrap films, running until 30 July 2018.

The offer provides companies with the opportunity to purchase high quality materials at an attractive price. "Regarded as one of the best digital wrap films on the market", the IJ180mC and matching laminate bundle is available at £349 for a 25 m kit and £699 for the 50 m option (white gloss media and clear gloss laminate).

To further enhance the promotion, Spandex is offering the 3M 1080 vehicle wrapping film in black and white gloss at £15.90/m with the black and white satin and matt finishes available at £17.90/m.

"The IJ180mC and 1080 series are industry leading films in the vehicle wrap market due to the ease of application and removal combined with 3M's micro Comply technology". The promotion is a combined effort between Spandex and 3M to showcase the quality of the 3M range to new and existing customers.

Spandex general manager Leon Watson commented: "We're really excited about this latest promotion we've put together for our customers. 3M is an industry leader within the vehicle wrapping market and this is shown in the reliability, performance and aesthetics of their products. It's a great opportunity for graphics installers to get the product at a fantastic price and we're confident customers won't want to miss out."

www.spandex.com.

"It's a great opportunity for graphics installers to get the product at a fantastic price and we're confident customers won't want to miss out"



These vehicle wrap films are easy to apply and remove and offer reliability, performance and aesthetics



Emerging designer wins Bright Young Things Take Hackney design competition

Linea Matei, a student at Konstfack University College of Arts Crafts and Design, has been chosen as the winner of Mactac's Bright Young Things Take Hackney graphic design competition, beating a field of more than 200 global entrants.

The decision follows Linea's recent Mactac-sponsored visit to London, where she and seven competition finalists were given the opportunity to further develop their initial creative ideas with the support of creative and technical teams from Mactac and Hackney Walk, a retail destination in East London.

Linea's work will be installed on a twostorey wall at Hackney Walk, to be seen by millions of people who visit the retail centre and online. She will collaborate with Mactac's design and large format print partner Onward Display and with installation partner GESS to complete the setting up. The design, along with the other finalists work, will be featured on social media and took centre stage at FESPA in May.

Douglas Spencer, sales manager UK for Mactac, highlighted the quality of entries from the students: "We launched this competition in collaboration with Arts Thread because we wanted to see how design students would respond to this large and iconic display area and learn how our products can play a role in their design. Giant, colourful graphics of this kind can make a very pronounced impact and we were certainly expecting some good ideas, however the sheer breadth of creativity that was shown by these students was genuinely surprising and inspiring."

The original competition panel of judges was joined by representatives from the Hackney Walk initiative for the final selection including architect Rafael Vinoly.

"It goes without saying that our job as iudges was difficult but Linea Matei's design is a very worthy winner," said competition judge and chairman of Hackney Walk Jack Basrawy. "She has embraced the scale of the two-storey



Linea Matei has embraced the scale of the two-storey canvas available to her. creating an image that will stop people in their tracks

canvas available to her, creating an image that will stop people in their tracks. We are very much looking forward to seeing the final installation at Hackney Walk."

www.mactacgraphics.eu

Massivit 3D expands dealer network

Massivit 3D has expanded its dealer network and made key appointments to its sales team to support the growing adoption of its technology worldwide.

Since the launch of the flagship Massivit 1800 3D Printing Solution in 2016, the company has seen a 100% increase in sales of its solutions per annum.

VP of sales Erez Zimerman explained: "To meet this growth we have recently appointed a dozen dealers globally. As print industry veterans they will ensure that our solutions continue to innovate and facilitate premium,

attention-grabbing visual communications across multiple sectors. Our aim is to allow print providers to forge new revenue streams from their existing customers by offering a diverse gamut of applications with greater brand impact compared to traditional large format projects.

"The expansion of our partners and sales team is an exciting indication of our business forecast for H2 2018 and beyond. We look forward to working closely with our expanding team to ensure that print providers stay ahead of the curve when it comes to their business performance."

The expansion of the company's dealer network in key regions such as Asia, Europe and the Americas will give print providers increased accessibility to large format 3D printing. This will provide them with the opportunity to stay at the forefront of a highly competitive market by extending their business portfolio and entering new markets previously unattainable. These include the retail, entertainment, events and interior design sectors as well as offer their customers with a service bureau remit.

One dealer recently appointed is CMYUK, sole distributor in the UK and Ireland.

Group director Robin East said: "Our customers span many visual markets such as retail, POS, corporate décor and exhibitions and are constantly looking for new innovations to raise the bar for high impact applications. The sheer size and capability of Massivit 3D's solutions allow our hundreds of customers who are specialists in large graphic displays, the opportunity to further develop unique, head-turning models. The company's intellectual property and knowledge-based heritage places Massivit 3D at the top of their game."

Massivit 3D has expanded its worldwide dealer network and increased its sales team to support the growing adoption of its pioneering solutions

www.massivit3d.com



Timeline graphic celebrates long-standing partnership

To celebrate its long-standing partnership with Soyang Technologies, the team at Soyang Europe has created a timeline graphic, which has been installed at its Lancashire headquarters.

The graphic, which portrays key moments in Soyang's history, starts with the original Hangzhou Daya PVC Tarpaulin Trading Company being founded in 1999; the company that established Soyang Technologies five years later.

"The timeline is a great way of demonstrating the Soyang story that started almost 20 years ago," explained Soyang Europe's managing director Mark Mashiter. "Having it installed at our headquarters gives visitors the opportunity to understand and be part of Soyang's history. It was printed and installed by Image Co in Leeds and they did a smashing job."

Measuring over 9.5m in length, the timeline graphic was printed onto Polycril GW; a printable, seamless wall covering distributed by the company, which is ideal for large areas.

Images of the Soyang, UK and Chinese flags flying together are featured, along with a significant moment captured in 2004 as Mashiter signed contracts with Lily Li, founder of Soyang Technologies. Premises past and present are depicted, including the company's relocation to Bury in 2005 due to rapid expansion and Calder House in Altham, which has been the company's distribution centre since 2014, housing over 1.5 million metres of material.

The design pays tribute to the significant investment Soyang Technologies has made in its manufacturing facilities over the past 20 years, highlighting new coating lines and the factory that opened in Haining, China in 2013.

"We've come a long way since 1999 followed by the founding of Soyang Europe in 2005 and the more recent

"Measuring over 9.5m in length, the timeline graphic was printed onto Polycril GW, a printable, seamless wall covering which is ideal for large areas"

images on the timeline show the investment that's being made in the new factory in China to develop the next generation of printable textiles," concluded Mashiter.

www.soyang.co.uk



The timeline graphic visualises key moments in Soyang's history



Mimaki Europe forms strategic partnership with 3M

Mimaki Europe has announced that its UCJV Series with LUS-200 inks will carry the 3M MCS Warranty from mid-summer

The warranty provides full, non-prorated protection for the intended life of each graphic including fading, cracking, peeling and other performance aspects. 3M offers this level of assurance based on its expertise in weathering technology and rigorous testing of ink and printer combinations. The 3M MCS Warranty covers up to eight years on some interior finished graphics and up to six years on some outdoor applications including vehicle wraps when using 3M media and installed using 3M guidelines.

"3M is proud to offer graphic manufacturers a wide selection of guaranteed premier printing solutions," said Steve Meinz, global portfolio manager for 3M Commercial Solutions Division. "Working with Mimaki, we are excited to provide our customers with an expanded portfolio of 3M MCS Warranty printing solutions."

The UCJV300 Series printers offer in-line cutting capabilities and feature layered print technology such as four-layer and five-layer for transitional or double facing images. Prints are instantly cured at even the highest production speeds, allowing customers to quickly print and immediately move to the finished product. LUS-200 inks are environmentally friendly, energy



The UCJV300 Series printers offer in-line cutting capabilities and feature layered print technology such as four-layer and five-layer for transitional or double facing images

efficient and ideal for a wide range of applications including those featuring curved surfaces such as vehicle wraps and fleet graphics.

"We are excited that this collaboration with 3M will elevate the performance capabilities of the products and solutions supported by our systems," said Bert Benckhuysen, product manager EMEA at Mimaki Europe. "The ability to offer

a warranty of eight years on some interior graphics and up to six years on outdoor solutions expands our clients' portfolio flexibility and ensures peace of mind."

Mimaki is exclusively distributed in the UK and Ireland by Hybrid Services.

www.hybridservices.co.uk www.3Mgraphics.com/warranties

Price increase on energy curable inks

Sun Chemical has increased the prices of all ultraviolet (UV) and electron beam (EB) inks in Europe by 4-6% effective 1 July

Governmental initiatives and regulations geared toward environmental protection have caused many suppliers to either cease or reduce production for limited periods of time. Additionally, supply has been impacted by major incidents including a factory fire, unforeseeable events, low stocks, unplanned maintenance and production outages; increases in key oligomers and monomers have impacted pricing for all energy cure systems.

"While Sun Chemical is working hard to safeguard supply and mitigate the shortage of photoinitiators by qualifying new grades and developing new sources, the unprecedented high levels of raw material costs have been passed on to ink manufacturers," said chief marketing officer Felipe Mellado.

"It has been difficult to offset the rising raw material costs on our energy curable inks and unfortunately this has forced us to pass some of these costs on to our customers."

www.sunchemical.com





Software brings new colour experience to soft signage

At FESPA Global Print Expo in Berlin Onyx Graphics officially launched ONYX 18 software which won the 2018 EDP Award for Best Colour Management software.

The awards are judged by an expert technical panel which investigates the features and qualities of products and grants awards for the best products of the year.

ONYX software was also recognised as 2018 finalist for best Workflow Technology, Workflow Solutions and best MIS solution.

"Onyx Graphics raises the bar once again with ONYX 18," said industry expert Jared Yoder of Spectrum Graphics. "It sets the standard for the next evolution in colour management tools and software. With ONYX 18's newest colour engine, the impact in printing output is significant, yielding similarly to the impact HDR has had on the photography and television segments."

ONYX 18 introduces new colour technologies for colour accuracy, consistency and conformance to standards

such as G7 and Fogra that print service providers can prove to their customers and is the first solution compatible with iccMAX, the new standard recommended by the ICC for all wide- and grand-format print applications including textile and soft signage. This brings next level power and reliability to the entire portfolio of ONYX products with the latest Adobe PDF Print Engine (APPE 4.8), a high speed, high fidelity print platform for increased consistency and reliability across proofing cycles. Combined with new dynamic tools for print production and optimised out-ofthe-box pre-sets, ONYX 18 delivers fast, superior output for all wide-format printing applications.

"With the release of ONYX 18, Onyx Graphics has raised the bar on colour reproduction and performance once again," said Mark Lewiecki, senior product manager at Adobe. "Onyx Graphics' contributions to industry colour science have enabled printers to take full advantage of the ongoing innovations in inkjet technology. With the Adobe PDF print engine now available in all ONYX

"It sets the standard for the next evolution in colour management tools and software"

solutions, customers can expect even greater reliability and consistency across their workflows, especially when jobs are built using Adobe Creative Cloud applications such as Illustrator CC. Photoshop CC and InDesign CC."

"ONYX 18 disrupts the status quo of existing print solutions," said Bryan Manwaring, director of product marketing at Onyx Graphics. "This version puts the power of ONYX into the hands of print service providers to go after that big account and distinguish themselves against their competition with stunning output quality they can literally prove to their customers."

ONYX software certified for HP Latex R Series

ONYX software was recently certified for the HP Latex R Series printer line, the first hybrid flatbed/roll-to-roll printer for rigid and flexible printing in one device using white latex ink. HP chose the software last month during FESPA to showcase the capabilities of the newly-unveiled HP Latex R2000 Plus printer with white ink technology.

HP's RIP certification programme defines a comprehensive set of compatibility criteria aligned to the highest performance standards and the capabilities of HP Latex printing technologies. The HP RIP Certification is a process to differentiate HP RIP partners who reach a specific and superior level of integration, compatibility and performance with the specific device. Only companies that have demonstrated conformance with these criteria are awarded HP Latex certified status.

For the new HP Latex R Series printers, Onyx Graphics designed the driver to include new custom ONYX Quick Sets to make it even easier to print with white ink. The included Quick Sets feature uses the ONYX Spot Layer tool to generate white under- or over-layers, resulting in spectacular white output for sign and display applications.

"ONYX software certification by HP and its integrated compatibility with latex printers recreates the definition of quality and colour for white ink applications on transparent or coloured media,' said director of product marketing Bryan Manwaring. "HP Latex R Series customers utilising ONYX software can feel confident in delivering consistent quality output with efficient printer operation, right out of the box."



For the new HP Latex R Series printers Onyx Graphics designed the driver to include custom ONYX Quick Sets to make it even easier to print with white ink

The software is now available to all ONYX Advantage customers by requesting a key update and to all other customers for immediate purchase.

www.onyxgfx.com



SIGN News

Signs Express comes to Bath

Signs Express has welcomed a new franchisee to the Bath area, the second centre to open this year joining a network of over 65 throughout the UK and Ireland.

Somerset resident and owner of Signs Express (Bath) Mark Collins comes from a financial management and commercial background that has already helped him get off to a flying start having recently completed work for an array of local businesses.

"I'm thrilled to be a part of the awardwinning Signs Express franchise, offering tailored solutions to our customers, whatever the size of the business," said Mark. "This is a thriving industry and I am looking forward to being able to deliver creative, eye-catching signs and graphics from shop signs to wayfinding, vehicle graphics to printed wallpaper, while working to a client's budget".

Signs Express managing director Jonathan Bean commented: "Mark's professional background makes him passionate about putting his customers' needs first and I know he is excited at the



Mark Collins with Jon Bean

prospect of getting submerged into local businesses in and around Bath. We are thrilled to welcome him into our network and are looking forward to working closely with him over the coming months".

Based in Calne, Signs Express (Bath) is a

newly furbished unit complete with a purpose built vehicle bay which is perfectly placed to service Bath, Kingswood, Chippenham, Malmesbury, Devizes and Melksham.

www.signsexpress/bath

New owner for Signs Express Bedford

Signs Express has welcomed Rob Weall as the new owner of its long-standing Bedford centre, following the purchase of the business which has been established since 2006.



Signs Express Bedford has welcomed a new owner

Based on Woburn Road Industrial Estate in Bedford, Rob will work alongside the highly skilled team already in place and continue to produce first class, innovative signage solutions while expanding the business' existing customer base.

The business purchase has seen the immediate strengthening of the team with the recruitment of Steve Coleman as centre manager and further sign making staff support being appointed to cope with increasing demand.

"The signs and graphics market is a thriving industry as signage is such an important part of marketing a business," said Rob. "There are so many materials and finishes available, we're able to supply solutions for every budget and need from a sole trader wanting to advertise their business on the road with van graphics to multiple signs across a large production site. No two days are the same for us, which makes it a very interesting business to be involved in. We've got some exciting plans for the future and I cannot wait.

One of the first major projects the new management team was involved in was the successful delivery of complete new signage ready for the spring season for Woburn Safari Park. New entrance signs and attractive pictorial wayfinding signage help direct visitors to the popular attraction and attractive window graphic displays featuring some of the species in the park adorn various buildings in the park. The graphics even included a 'tiger skin' wrap on the refreshments stand.

"We are really excited that Rob has joined us by becoming the franchisee for our Bedford centre and continuing the great work of the previous owners," said managing director Jonathan Bean. "With a strong commercial background, having previously run his own company, as well as working for some of the largest transportation and logistics companies in the world, Rob is well equipped to make a success of Signs Express. We wish him all the best and extend a warm welcome to him from our network."

www.signsexpress.co.uk/bedford



Realisaprint.com sets Roll-Up World **Record with Innotech Roller Banners**

Innotech Digital's products were recently in the spotlight when customer Realisaprint.com set the world record for mounting the most roller banner graphics in 60 minutes, using their Origin Roller Banner.

The world record attempt started in January this year when all 22 members of the Realisaprint team held heats to find the fastest among them, whittling down to the top four. Participants had to take the roll-up display out of the box, unroll the graphic, fit it professionally and repack it in its carry bag and box, taped and ready to be shipped complete.

Step one involved the head of production teaching participants the secrets of mounting a roll-up, keeping the tension just right and making sure the graphics are correctly loaded.

At the end of three intense qualifying days, the best four times were achieved by Maxence in 8m 44s, Mark in 8m 54s,

Sylvain in 9m 18s and Cédric in 9min 28s. The four colleagues from Realisaprint production team went on to the final with overall winner Maxence winning the ultimate chance to compete for the World Record.

His final goal was to see how many Origin Roller Banners he could complete in 60 minutes: Maxence achieved 43 in one hour and claimed the World Record Title.

The Origin Roller Banner from Innotech Digital used in this World Record Attempt is made from high grade aluminium, is 850mm wide and is one of the top 50 products available for next day delivery from Innotech's central UK warehouse. Individually boxed and delivered with its own transport bag, it comes with a oneyear warranty, is available in snap clip or self-adhesive rail options and is available up to 1m wide.

www.innotechdigital.com www.realisaprint.com



Participants learn the secrets of mounting a roll-up, keeping the tension just right and making sure the graphics are correctly loaded

Colourgen exclusive UK distributor of 3D wallpaper printing solution

Colourgen has announced its exclusive UK distribution of the new 3D wallpaper printing solution Dimense. Said to be the first printer to simultaneously print and create structure for bespoke, creative graphic designs, it is especially suited to the production of bespoke wallpaper. The innovative nature of Dimense whereby the ink creates the structure, recently won it the European Digital Press Association Award for Best Wallpaper Solution 2018 at FESPA 2018.



Dimense offers output with high light-fastness, scrub resistance and is C1 fire rated, making it suitable for high traffic areas

Dimense offers output with high lightfastness, scrub resistance and is C1 fire rated, making it suitable for high traffic areas including hotels, retail and corporate environments. Speeds of up to 20m²/hr can be achieved with a print width of 1.6m. Dimense is an environmentally friendly technology based on latex eco-friendly inks and PVC-free structure-forming Ecodeco media.

Director Mark Lambert said: "These are really exciting times for Colourgen. Dimense is a unique and innovative product that is set to be a game changer in the digitally printed wallpaper market. We are looking forward to promoting this product to a broad audience across print, design, retail and interior decoration. Dimense really is a revolution in the creation of custom graphics with structure".

Colourgen has appointed Dean Keenan, formerly of Landor UK and Sihl Direct, to head business development and sales for the Dimense 3D printer range.

"We are looking forward to promoting this product to a broad audience across print, design, retail and interior decoration"

"We are delighted to welcome Dean Keenan back to Colourgen," said Mark. "Dean has excellent knowledge of the bespoke wallpaper market and extensive experience in digital media. His expertise will place us in the perfect position to maximise the potential of Dimense and the creative opportunities it presents to end

The Dimense printer will be shipping in the UK exclusively from Colourgen in September 2018

www.dimense.co.uk www.colourgen.com



UK material supplier launches training academy to inspire customers

The Training Academy, part of the William Smith Group 1832, will train and inspire those in the sign, graphics and interiors industries, which it has worked with for over a century.

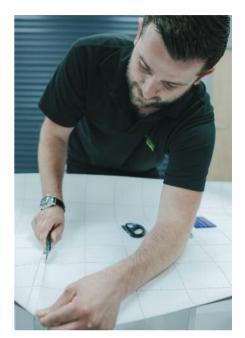
Underlining the company's commitment to develop skills, introduce new services and boost businesses in the industries it works with, The Academy offers 10 courses ranging from application and wrap training to sales.

Based within the firm's Inspiration Centre, The Academy hopes to support those who are looking to become trained installers, learn how to sell the products or just seek an insight into the architectural and vehicle wrap markets.

The group's architectural and buildingrelated films division Architextural delivers most of the courses. Delegates have the option to become part of the firm's Installer Network, which provides business opportunities in the UK and ongoing support through sales and marketing materials to help increase sales.

Architects, designers and specifiers who attend Architextural's courses, which cover training in the use of 3M DI-NOC, Cover Styl' and Avery Dennison Facade Film, will benefit from the company's memberships of trade groups, giving them the chance to form partnerships with the likes of the National Association of Shopfitters and Interior Contractors and Finishes & Interiors Sector.

"We are thoroughly committed to the industries we work with and to show our passion and dedication we've invested in The Academy and Inspiration Centre"



Architextural's courses include training in the use of 3M DI-NOC, Cover Styl' and Avery Dennison Facade Film

Vehicle wrappers looking to develop their skills could benefit from a comprehensive two-day Vehicle Wrap Training Course, which covers basic techniques using a range of branded digital print and coloured wrap films including Avery Dennison, 3M and Arlon.

Architextural marketing manager Lindsay Appleton said: "We are incredibly excited to have launched The Training Academy. We predict the architectural market will continue to flourish as we are seeing surface finish products become specified more and more. Wrapping is no longer just for vehicles.

"We are thoroughly committed to the industries we work with and to show our passion and dedication we've invested in The Academy and Inspiration Centre.

"We know that every surface brings the possibility to redesign and reinvigorate space and we want to share our knowledge to help firms realise these opportunities as well as help open up lucrative opportunities for businesses."

Vehicle wrappers looking to develop their skills could benefit from a comprehensive twoday Vehicle Wrap Training Course, which covers basic techniques

www.williamsmith.co.uk/training

COMMENT



Stepping it up: are you getting the most from your large format printer?

It is often said that fortune favours the brave. From a business perspective, this would suggest that a sense of optimism and general willingness to explore new things and try an approach different to the norm can improve prosperity, writes Marc Hermans, director of EMEA sales at SAi.

I tend to agree and often see the evidence among SAi's customers, in particular with large format print providers and sign shops which have ventured beyond one or two mainstay application areas to offer their customers much more. Granted, when the going is good and your business is doing just fine from offering a unique service or application, you might be tempted to stick with what you know.

"I suspect that a good majority of large format print providers and sign shops are only harnessing a limited level of capability from their large format devices"

SAi partners some of the industry's foremost large format print manufacturers and with our efficiency-enhancing software representing the 'brains' I'm constantly amazed at the increasing functionality of these devices and the ever-expanding gamut of graphic arts applications achievable.

However, I suspect that a good majority of large format print providers and sign shops (invariably our own customers) are only harnessing a limited level of capability from their large format devices. Maybe you are nodding in agreement?

Pushing the envelope

The fact is, if you really push the envelope and explore new print substrates, techniques and applications that may currently fall outside your area of focus, then you stand a far greater chance of securing repeat business from existing customers, while attracting new ones.

If you're ready to take your operations to the next level, going from roll-fed into flatbed production (or vice versa) is a sound move that won't take you too far into the unknown. If you're not ready for

that, ask yourself if you can get more out of your existing device(s)?

For example, if you already have that flatbed it's worth experimenting with more 'unusual' substrates like wood, metal or glass (and even not so unusual substrates like textiles) to access new opportunities. More 'off the wall' applications could lead to more lucrative business, especially if you develop a 'niche' offering to customers.

Indeed, when it comes to your own customers - some of who might be brand or marketing managers - it's logical that they will be seeking to maximise the value of their promotional budgets. Who wouldn't want to liven up the visual appeal of their campaigns with creative, eye-catching results that better grab the attention of their audiences?

Just as with life, isn't business about seizing new opportunities? Sharpening your competitive edge and injecting a level of versatility into your customer offering that ensures a more extensive and attractive proposition to both existing and would-be customers?

www.ThinkSAI.com



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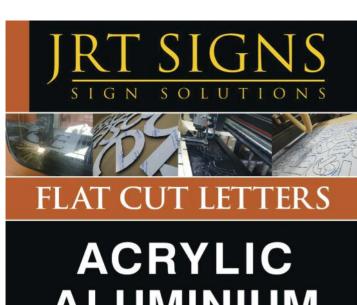
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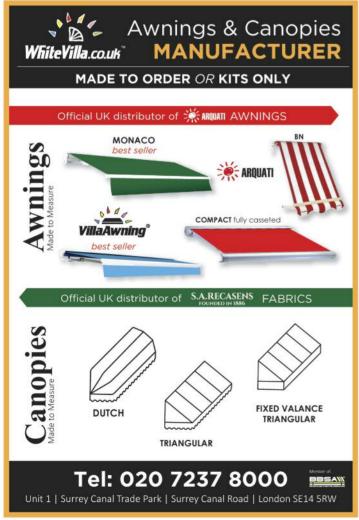
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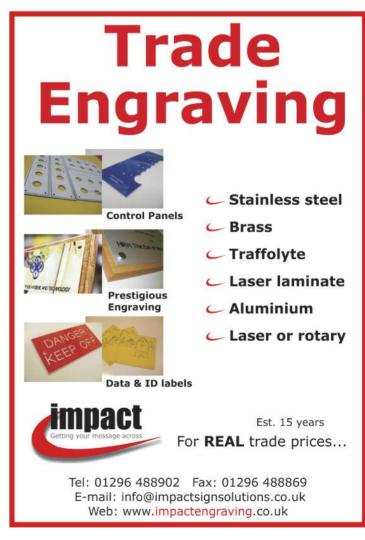






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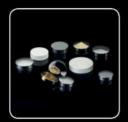
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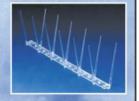


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hardware designers and manufacturers of Display, Café Barrier and Signage systems. We offer the trade highly competitive pricing, unrivalled stock levels and same day despatch, all backed by first class customer service and technical support. So whether you are in the exhibition, display, signage or large format printing industries we have products to suit you

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

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

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

Sygnet Signs is the sign-maker's sign-maker, having serviced the UK sign trade since 1974. We'll manufacture any type of sign and have a range of over 5000 styles to choose from. We'll also work closely with you if you'd like to supply your own plans or artwork. At our Leicester HQ, we manufacture router or laser-cut signs from acrylic, mdf. foamex, polycarb, dihand aluminium or stainless steel

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Specialise in LED Lighting for Signs & Shop fitting, Kitchens, Restaurants, Commerical & Domestic Lighting, Quality & Professional Lighting to get your job done by giving you our best advises, there is no job too small. You only pay for quality products at Focus LED. Check out our gallery to see how we helped others to achieve their projects

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White, warm white & coloured LED modules in 4 sizes and LED ribbon – Flexi ribbon & RGB ribbon. New to 2018 LED Flexi Neon & LED Cabochon bulbs. 12v power convertors, RGB controllers, together with a range of connectors. LEDS ideal for lettering & lightboxes. For full details on our range, prices and for images, check out our website & online shop. Competitive prices guaranteed!

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

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

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

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UK's largest stockist of magnetic & ferro material including universally printable & wide format digifilm® ferrous media (1600mm) supaferro® ferro sheet (1260mm) & supamag® magnetic sheet (1270mm) with the UK's highest pull force & anti-mark UV coating, in white, plain, self-adhesive & dry-wipe. For graphics, retail POS, signage, holding & hanging products use the UK's leading magnetic innovators.

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

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SIMPLEX LTD

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

Tel: 01903 750333 sales@simplexltd.com www.simplexltd.com

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

MODULAR PANEL SIGN **SYSTEMS**

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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. menu cases, and letter boards

SIMPLEX LTD

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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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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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Tel: 01206 868696

project.plastics@btinternet.com

www.projectplastics.co.uk

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

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Largest range of moulded acrylic letters in the UK. Mirror effect moulded letters. LED illumination, logos, panels, complete fascia panels, blow moulding, aluminium, composite trays and more! Samples on request

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sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk Moulded letters and logos in all standard Perspex colours and UV stabilised gold and

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Tel: 0117 955 3385

info@ward-signs.co.uk www.ward-signs.co.uk

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

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

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

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

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www.accentsignsltd.co.uk

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Sign companies come to us for a truly extensive range of standard and made to measure, indoor & outdoor notice boards and whiteboards. Standard internal pin boards are available in over 100 felt colours and our cut to size service is available on many products. We supply some extremely competitive outdoor notice boards to compliment your sign work. See our complete range of display products.

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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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Tel: 028 9084 9999 semifinished@brettmartin.com

www.brettmartin.com

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

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marketing@righton.co.uk www.righton.co.uk

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

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South Strand, Lawford, Manningtree, Essex CO11 1UP

Tel: 01206 803 580

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

POINT OF SALE FITTINGS

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Tel: 01493 419300 enquiries@signwaves.co.uk www.signwaves.co.uk

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

UK POS

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

Tel: 0161 431 4400/4411 www.ukpos.com

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

POLYSTYRENE SIGN SERVICE

FONTEYNE SIGNS & DISPLAYS Unit 3, 181 Verulam Road, St

Albans, Herts AL3 4DR
Tel: 01727 832146

studio@fonteynesigns.co.uk www.fonteynesigns.co.uk

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157 English Street, Hull, HU3 2BT

Tel: 01482 380900

sales@browningsltd.co.uk www.browningsltd.co.uk

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

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

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

Tel: 01934 852 888

sales@signscape.co.uk

www.signscape.co.uk

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

SIGNWAVES

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

Tel: 01493 419300 enquiries@signwaves.co.uk www.signwaves.co.uk

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

UK POS

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PRINT/POSTER FRAMES

BROWNINGS LTD

157 English Street, Hull, HU3 2BT

Tel: 01482 380900 sales@browningsltd.co.uk www.browningsltd.co.uk

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

SIGNWAVES

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

Tel: 01493 419300

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

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

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enquiries@ironsigns.com

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

SIGNWAVES

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

Tel: 01493 419300

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

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

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Supplying a variety of sign making supplies nationwide including aluminium signs posts, post clips, fixings, vinyl and tools. We have a large UK stock of Image Perfect vinyl, sign fixings and aluminium extrusions ready for same day despatch. We also provide trade manufacturing service including diamond edge polished acrylic, flat cut acrylic lettering, sign travs and more

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

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DESP has been trading for over 55 years. Screenprinting, anodic printing, correx boards, stickers, overlays, signs, chemical etching, engraving processes also covered (ALL CARRIED OUT INHOUSE), including artwork.So whether its a 1 off or 1,000s off, we can offer a quick competitive turnround

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Tel: 01279 467999

sales@firstsignsandlabels.co.uk www.firstsignsandlabels.co.uk

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

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

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Tel: 01603 666699 sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk High quality screen printing to all types of rigid and flexible base materials ie. self-adhesive vinyl, paper, plastic and metal. From single to full colour and small or large runs.

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Tel: 0117 986 7894 / 7291 bryan@bryanrawlings.com www.bryanrawlings.com

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

SHEET MATERIALS

RIGHTON LTD

Righton House, Brookvale Road, Witton, Birmingham B6 7EY

Tel: 0121 356 1141 marketing@righton.co.uk www.righton.co.uk

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

TELEGAN PRESSED PRODUCTS LTD

South Strand, Lawford, Manningtree, Essex CO11 1UP

Tel: 01206 803580

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

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Tel: 01905 798 123 sales@plexdisplay.com www.plexdisplay.com

Established in 1994, Plex Display are hardware designers and manufacturers of Display, Café Barrier and Signage systems We offer the trade highly competitive pricing, unrivalled stock levels and same day despatch, all backed by first class customer service and technical support. So whether you are in the exhibition, display, signage or large format printing industries we have products to suit you

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX

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

Tel: 01934 852 888

sales@signscape.co.uk

www.signscape.co.uk

Serving the Sign Trade for over 40 years, we are a leading manufacturer of modular sign and display systems, notice boards & other information displays. Our 6 major sign systems are used and combined, to create a wide range of sign display solutions, including full signage schemes. With all products made to order, we specialise in tailoring solutions to suit each client, location and application.

SIGNWAVES

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

Tel: 01493 419300

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

Signwaves offers sign and display systems suitable for both internal and external use. The Adfresco Café Barrier system has stylish framework components and banner material available to mix and match. Alternatively, freestanding Modular Pole Systems with a choice of poster frames, brochure shelves and banner sets for 2 channel or 4 channel poles can create informative internal displays

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enquiries@fkmoore.com

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British manufacturers of screw type Brass Locator Nuts, Wall Fixings and stockists of Nylon Locators for the Sign and Shopfitting Industries. As well as other shopfittings, we also manufacture Coverhead Screws, either Flat, Dome, Conical or Mushroom shape in various finishes, in addition to the famous "Moore's Super Clips" mirror fixings.

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Tel: 01622 689 410

orders@signtradesupplies.co.uk www.signtradesupplies.co.uk

Supplying a variety of sign making supplies nationwide including aluminium signs posts, post clips, fixings, vinyl and tools. We have a large UK stock of Image Perfect vinyl, sign fixings and aluminium extrusions ready for same day despatch. We also provide trade manufacturing service including diamond edge polished acrylic, flat cut acrylic lettering, sign trays and more.

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E-SIGNFITTINGS HOBDAY LTD

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Tel: 0121 608 4431

sales@e-signfittings.co.uk www.e-signfittings.co.uk

E-Signfittings are one of the largest suppliers of Sign Standoffs, Cable & Rod Display Systems in the UK. We have large stocks available on next day delivery for orders received before 3pm and are equipped to supply orders from a few pounds up to thousands of pounds. Products in our range include Screw Head Covers, Poster Hanging Systems, Sign Hanging Systems, Leaflet Holders and Poster Displays.

I-SPI LTD

47 Mansionhouse Road, Mount Vernon, Glasgow G32 0RP

Tel: 0141 764 1600 sales@ispitrade.com

www.ispitrade.com

I-SPI Trade supplier of sign support systems. Our range includes wall mounts, cable & rod display systems, screw covers, LED lighting and much more all at THE REAL TRADE PRICE. Massive stocks and next day delivery. See our products on our web site or given Stephen or Sean a call for a brochure.

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sales@browningsltd.co.uk

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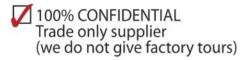


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