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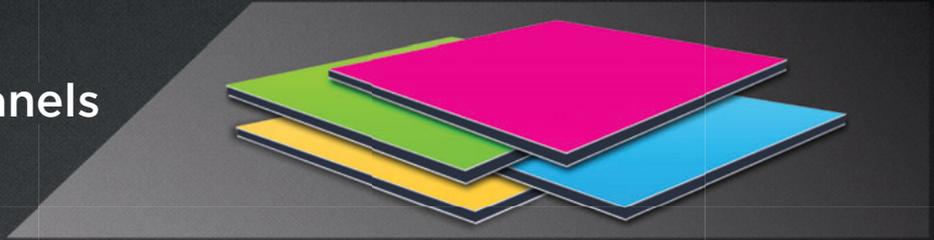
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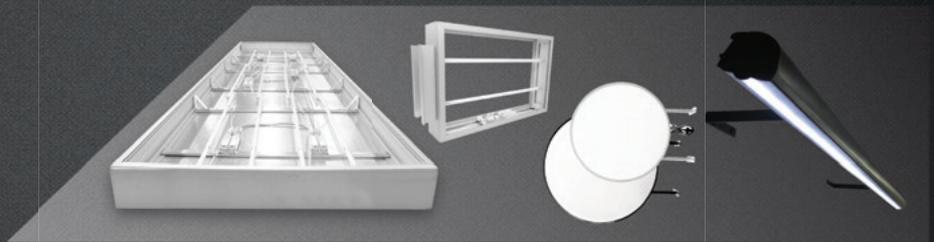
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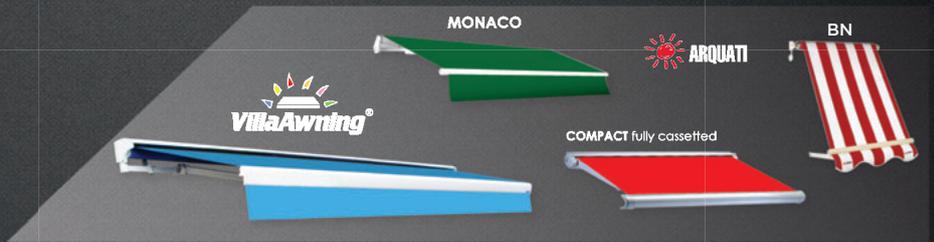
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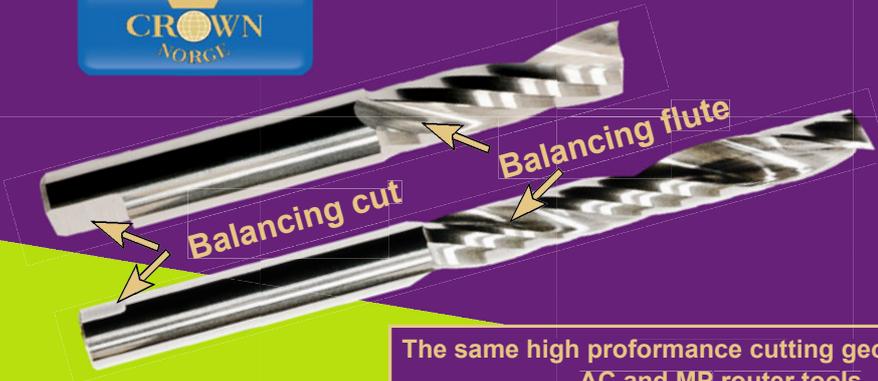
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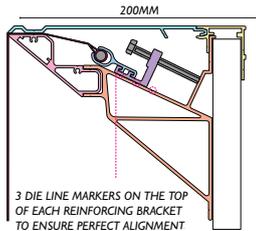
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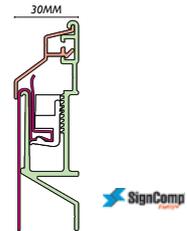
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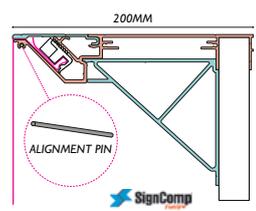
SIGNCOMP FRAME

Non-illuminated framing system for flex face signage which utilises the industry familiar black clip tensioning procedure. Perfect for low cost flex face signage and for use with the NovaTube overhead lighting system.



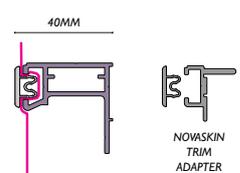
NOVACOMP

Incorporating the popular black clip tensioning system NovaComp is available at both 135mm and 200mm depths. Light boxes are competitively produced in all shapes and sizes and can be delivered to site or your premises.



NOVASKIN

An innovative framing system which brings flex face competitively to the High Street. The system also incorporates a bead adaptor for use with standard light boxes.



Techniques and technology

This bumper issue highlights the incredible diversity within the sign and display industry bolstered by advances in machinery and equipment resulting from technology developments. One area we consider is the importance of RIP and software to enhance print performance and thereby deliver high quality and value for money to customers.

Wayfinding signage continues to develop in terms of materials and finishing within the established offering of pole and plank, modular, slats and fingerposts; while lighting adds a whole new dimension to signs of all shapes and sizes with LED increasing in popularity as an energy efficient and cost-effective solution.

Why selecting quality products including the 'humble' cutting mat is so important is the topic of this month's Toolbox: the materials used in their manufacture can contribute to a healthy and productive working environment while self-healing properties greatly extend their usage.

In addition, our regular features include product and sign industry news, product applications and the latest projects.

September-October issue includes extensive features exploring Education & Training opportunities specific to the industry and CNC Routing & Engraving.

Sue Deane

Editor



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LED UV printer delivers higher speed and more functionality

Hybrid Services has launched the Mimaki JFX200-2513EX, an 8' x 4' flatbed LED UV printer that adds new features and increased productivity to the series.

"Mimaki's JFX200 range has always offered sign makers and print providers the perfect flatbed printing solution, hence its enduring popularity in the UK and Ireland" comments chief operations manager Brett Newman. "With the launch of the JFX200-2513EX, Mimaki has made substantial speed improvements as well as adding some highly useful functionality."

Thanks to a new print head configuration, the JFX200-2513EX doubles output speeds when printing with white ink in all print modes and with a new draft mode, a 280% speed increase, resulting in a maximum speed of 35m² per hour.

"Higher print speeds take the pressure off time-sensitive jobs and help our customers reduce lead times," says Brett. "With the majority of existing JFX200 printers being commissioned with white ink, the EX model will deliver a powerful solution that will make a difference right at the heart of the graphics printing industry."

Renowned for its high quality of output and the creative potential it offers, the JFX200 Series utilises a combination of white, clear and process inks to print to a wide range of rigid substrates using Mimaki's pioneering LED UV curing technology. Its 2.5m x 1.3m print area maximises the potential for printing to industry standard



Mimaki's JFX200-2513EX flatbed LED UV printer delivers increased speed and enhanced functionality.

8' x 4' boards and with a head gap of 50mm and maximum media weight of 250kg, it is capable of printing to a variety of materials.

New features incorporate several of Mimaki's Core Technologies – proprietary innovations designed to deliver optimum print quality and usability with the minimum user intervention. These include the integration of its NCU and NRS systems for automatically detecting and resolving nozzle firing issues and the company's MAPS system that through the use of an advanced algorithm, prints optimum gradation patterns on each pass, significantly reducing any 'banding' effects in the print. A foot pedal has been added to control the table vacuum while ethernet

connectivity allows remote job messaging and the simultaneous connection of multiple printers.

The JFX200-2513EX features a new 2.5D Emboss Print mode, enabling multiple layers of ink to be printed to add a three-dimensional effect to the print, adding creative, textured finishes that combine colour and smooth, raised surfaces.

"The Mimaki JFX200 is the flatbed of choice for many reasons," says Brett. "The new model is faster, even more reliable and easier to use and looks set to continue the range's dominance in the sector."

www.hybridservices.co.uk

Environmentally friendly sign board products



The Envirobox, an innovative range of environmentally friendly products.

Pyramid Display Materials has launched an innovative range of environmentally friendly products marketed under the Envirobox brand: the FibrousFamily and the POLYLINEFamily. The overriding message was: always try to use a fibrous product but if you have to use plastic, make sure it's an easily recyclable polypropylene. The box contains 27 printed and shaped samples of each of the products together with a printed brochure detailing all the main attributes of the range together with recycling information.

Head of sales & marketing Neil McCarthy explains: "We launched our first Environmental Choices range over 10

years ago but coinciding with the financial crisis meant the retailers soon lost interest in being greener and concentrated on keeping their shops open so 12 months ago we decided the market forces were right and public opinion was firmly focused on The War on Plastic mostly down to David Attenborough's The Blue Planet.

New products in the range include All Weather Board and DISPA hanging signage board from the fibrous family and POLYLINEFoam, POLYLINEBubble, POLYLINEWave and POLYLINEFab from the polypropylene family.

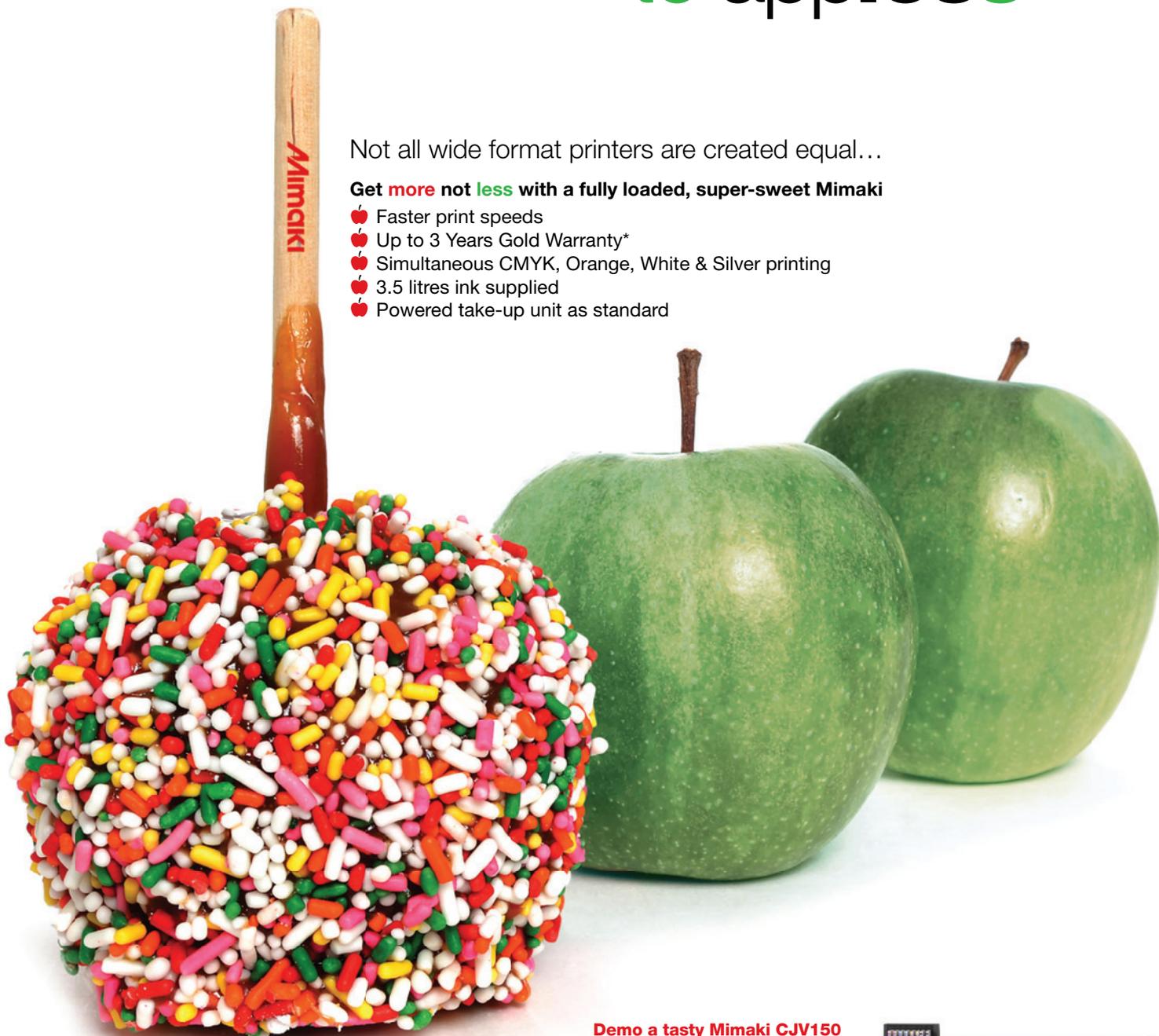
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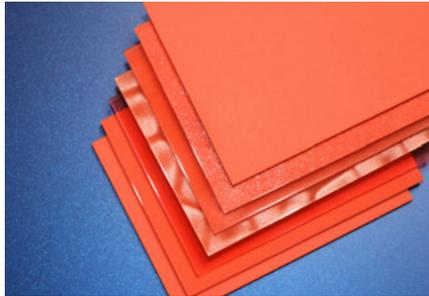
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Perspex now available in Coral Candy

After announcing Living Coral as the PANTONE Colour of the Year 2019, a supreme Coral Candy PERSPEX acrylic version has been colour matched and is now available under the PERSPEX Sweet Pastels portfolio of high performance sheets, with a satin finish, gloss on one side and matt on the other.

"We use PANTONE colour codes every week in our colour matching lab," says PERSPEX. "Many requests are for bespoke or one-off projects so we develop each new product directly with customers. This is the first time that we have produced a direct match and stocked the PERSPEX acrylic product for wider distribution".

Since the launch of the Sweet Pastels collection in 2016, the colours have been popular with designers and specifiers who have a taste for a trend-led, pastel palette. Coral Candy is the latest colour innovation



set up to boost customers' creative ideas and apply anywhere from luxury retail displays and advertising panels to interior designs, furniture and exhibitions. The new PERSPEX Colour Matched sheets display all the same characteristics as the existing eight PERSPEX Sweet Pastels colours, as well as all the physical properties of its standard cell cast acrylic sheets.

Strong, durable and hard wearing, they are easy to shape, style and install; lightweight; offer a 10-year guarantee against outdoor weathering and 100% recyclable and manufactured in the UK.

www.perspex.com

Added colours deliver photorealistic skin tone matching to digital printer

Inkcups has released the Helix Hi-Fi 7-color rotary digital printer said to deliver photorealistic skin tone matching with three new color pockets.

An evolution of the Inkcups Helix, in addition to Helix's standard CMYKWV, the Hi-Fi has light cyan, light magenta and light black, bringing output quality to "a new level". The benefits are most dramatic in printing skin tones where true photorealistic images are generated with smoother shade transitions, less graininess and higher resolution edge effects.

The Helix Hi-Fi's skin tone matching function is increasingly in demand for personalised printing which often requires one-off production of facial images. Helix Hi-Fi can import a series of image files and produce high resolution printed products of stunning quality.

Ideal for promotional and retail markets, the Helix Hi-Fi prints multi-color graphics on straight-walled cylinders, tapers and objects with limited wall curvatures. The system features a built-in programmable tilt to reduce change-over time and eliminate the need to optimise print recipes for each SKU change.

The Helix Hi-Fi uses UV LED ink and prints 360 degrees with a maximum resolution of 1200 dpi. The machine's printable area is 8.6 inches (218 mm); the system can print on items up to 12 inches (305 mm) in length with a diameter



The benefits are most dramatic in printing skin tones where true photorealistic images are generated with smoother shade transitions, less graininess and higher resolution edge effects.

ranging from 2-5 inches (51-127 mm). The Helix Hi-Fi is delivered as a turnkey package that includes software to integrate with web-based production solutions, as well as Inkcups InkcupCare warranty and service coverage.

Inkcups offers multiple pre-treatment options (including newly released MagiCoat), inks and other supplies, along with application testing and sample prints upon request. Metals, glass, plastics, and ceramics are all validated for image

durability from handling and washing. "The Helix Hi-Fi is unmatched in price and performance," says CEO Ben Adner. "The addition of these three inks is a game changer for customers looking to achieve high quality personalised results."

"Inkcups has always had a strong business with promotional printing, and we are pleased to lead the industry in the personalisation category."

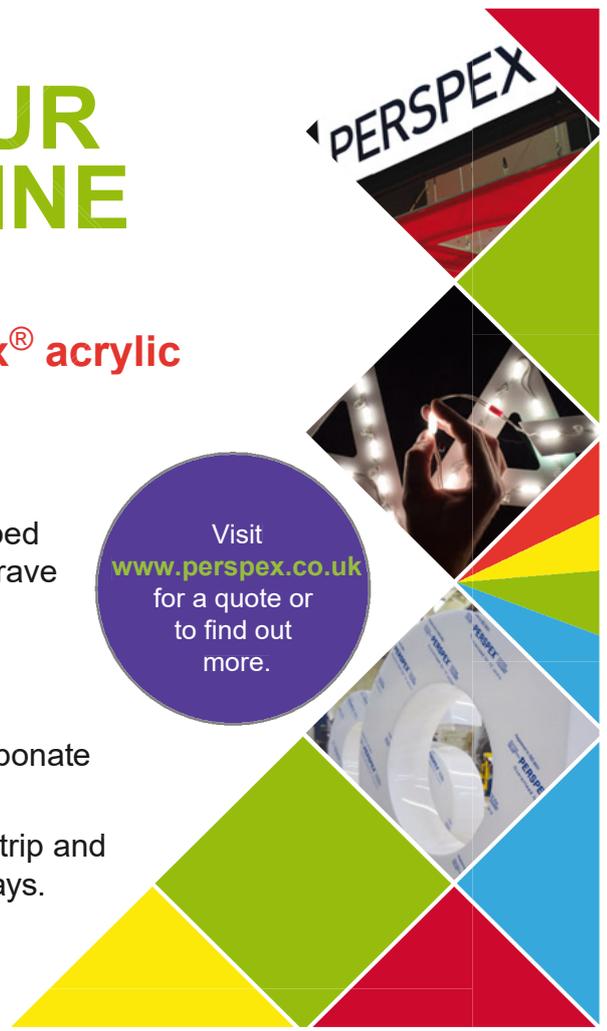
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Direct-to-garment printer for on demand personalisation

Roland DG Corporation has announced availability in the EMEA region of the VersaSTUDIO BT-12, its first direct-to-garment desktop printer for printing directly onto cotton-based products.

The easy-to-use, compact BT-12 is said to be ideal for businesses seeking innovative new revenue opportunities, printing full colour graphics, photos, logos and text onto a wide variety of products including t-shirts, tote bags and textile interior décor items, to produce high value customised items on demand.

Paul Willems, head of business development and product management comments: "The BT-12 is generating a huge buzz each time we preview it at shows across the region.

"Users are really excited by the incredible profit making potential and excellent ROI the solution offers as it's so affordably priced and economic to run. They're also impressed by how easy the BT-12 is to operate; as simple as using an office printer yet the output is incredibly high quality.

"It's the ideal out-of-the-box solution for anyone wanting to start an on-demand



The VersaSTUDIO BT-12, its first direct-to-garment desktop printer for printing directly onto cotton-based products.

custom graphics business from scratch or for businesses looking to diversify their portfolio with quick printed, high revenue customised products.'

Capable of producing a product from start to finish in just a few minutes, the compact

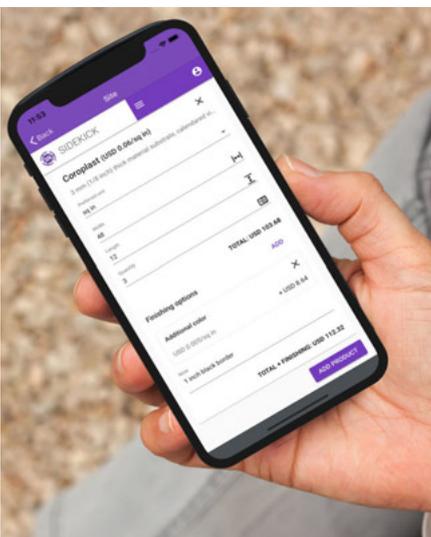
design and safe, enclosed operation of the BT-12 (and optional stackable HB-12 finishing unit) make it suitable for businesses to offer customer-facing personalisation services in locations where space is limited or home-based start-ups and established businesses looking for profitable new ways to cross-sell to their existing customer bases and to target new markets.

When combined with cotodesign, Roland's latest design and print management software, the BT-12 becomes a complete design-order-print solution for the in-store customisation of apparel and gift items using customers' data from their smartphone. Users have the peace of mind in knowing that the BT-12 is backed by Roland's reliability, service and support.

Paul concludes: 'I think everyone who sees the BT-12 in action recognises it's a great little device which packs a money-making punch well above its size and price-point- that's why this launch is so highly anticipated. We're really excited to bring the BT-12 to market and look forward to seeing the exciting ways in which it helps users transform their businesses.'

www.rolanddg.co.uk

Powerful signmaking software 30% faster



Sidekick lets sign and display businesses manage customer accounts, create quotes and implement a CRM workflow.

SAi has introduced a more powerful update of its flagship signmaking software, engineered to meet the demanding design to production challenges of sign and display and large format print providers.

Central to the Flexi 19 is a faster and more high performance 64-bit RIP engine. Thanks to an increase in speed of more than 30%, the solution delivers significantly more thrust to greatly improve the production capabilities for sign and display and large format print businesses.

Created as an all-in-one solution for design, print, print-and-cut and direct-to-vinyl production workflow, Flexi 19 comprises many easy-to-use features and tools, some of which will be available free-of-charge to SAi subscription-based customers. These include additions geared toward improving the design, production and business aspects of users' operations. Among the convenient tools introduced to ensure a more efficient and

hassle-free design workflow is Find my Font. This lets users open different photo files before automatically detecting the font or the best match of that used in the file. A further addition is a PANTONE fine-tune spot colour matching tool. Particularly useful for sign and display companies that regularly use PANTONE books, this allows users to measure charts and make manual adjustments to achieve precise color matching from ICC profiles, saving time while ensuring color accuracy.

A cut by layers or colors tool allows users to expand their ability to cut intricate designs based on the layer. An enhanced Profile Wizard designed to make it easier when setting ink limits and alleviating the process of splitting ink lets users obtain such information from measuring charts, taking away the manual guesswork required when creating profiles visually.

www.ThinkSAi.com

GRAPHTEC The professional range of cutters

FCX2000

The Graphtec FCX2000 is the ultimate solution for prototyping and small production runs of flexible or rigid materials without the use of a cutting die. Reduce media waste / processing time with Graphtec's precision cutting and dedicated software. Added offline (USB) operation enables users of all skill to easily process materials. Two cutting heads for maximum productivity allows for cutting and creasing or die cutting and kiss cutting in one action.



CE6000 plus

Graphtec's latest addition to the CE6000 range, the CE6000 Plus, is now available with new and enhanced features that enable higher levels of productivity. The new Plus series comes with 450g force and are supplied with Graphtec Pro Studio Software from SAI. Featuring an electronic design and a manufacturing process that minimises lifetime environmental impact, the 6000 series is also cleaner and greener.



FC8600

The FC8600 series features a maximum cutting speed of 1400mm/sec, 4.0G maximum acceleration, and 20g to 600g selectable cutting forces, allowing users to process diamond grade, high-intensity reflective film, sandblast resist rubber, automotive window & paint protection films, self-adhesive vinyl, Amberlith™ and Rubylith™, among other media types. A true production machine.



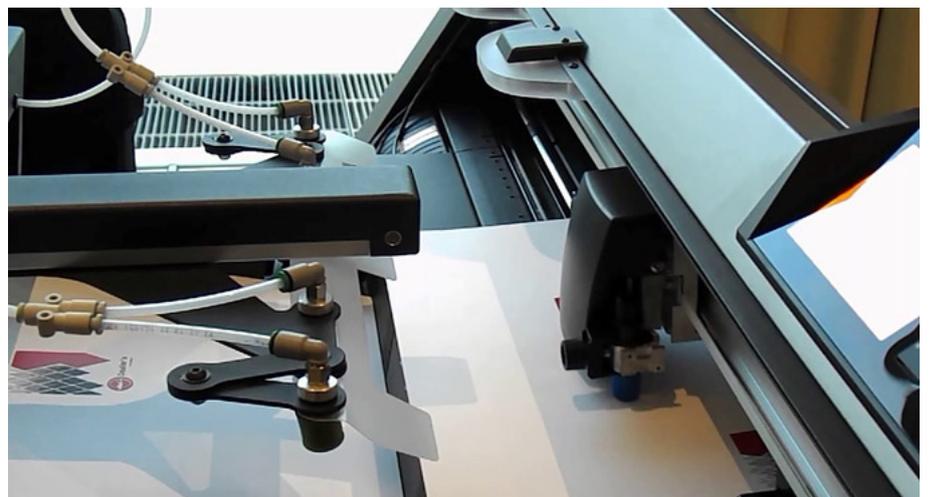
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Larger format automatic digital cutter

A larger version of the F-Mark automatic digital die-cutting machine has been introduced by Graphtec GB. It shares many of the design features of the original cutter but provides enhanced production capabilities including a dedicated creasing tool that will enable a wider range of applications. The F-Mark Plus will die- or kiss-cut sheets of printed material up to 700mm long x 500mm wide including thicker and heavier materials up to 400gsm via an increased 450gf cutting force. The machine can cut from the reverse of the sheet to ensure that the printed surface remains unaffected by the score/fold lines of the cutting process.

Because this process is automatic there is no need for expensive cutting dies. Up to 200 sheets of pre-printed material (including laminated formats) can be loaded into the integrated Graphtec CE6000-40 Plus cutting head simultaneously using the auto sheet feeder facility; further sheets can be added as required without interrupting the cutting cycle. A built-in CCD camera equipped with F-Mark technology detects the two-point registration marks for precise alignment of the contour and the printed image, in addition to compensating for any



Typical applications include digitally printed vinyl-based signs and graphics,

distortion of the material during printing. The cutter is equipped with an internal vacuum compressor, removing the need for an external air supply connection.

The cutting parameters set by the dedicated F-Mark software allow for the use of crop marks as small as four millimetres, enabling maximisation of the sheet size and minimal material wastage.

Contingent upon the kind of material being processed and complexity of the image outline, the cutting speed for each printed sheet is on average 30-40 seconds. Typical applications include digitally printed vinyl-based signs and graphics, print wear and promotional products customisation and markings and PoS.

www.graphtecgb.co.uk

Premium vehicle wrap overlaminates offers 220% elongation

Outstanding elongation properties offered by a new Avery Dennison film have set new standards for premium overlaminates. The highly conformable and ultra-transparent DOL 1400 Z Series can elongate up to 220% (a 20% improvement on typical industry standards) ensuring excellent installation performance and visually arresting printed designs.

Gloss DOL 1460Z, Matt DOL 1480Z and Lustre DOL 1470Z PVC film all bring “new levels of conformability and clarity to highly demanding graphics applications” and warranty on a very long durability to the printed graphics; up to six years vertical and three years horizontal.

Oliver Guenther, senior director, marketing and channel strategy says: “These new materials are the products of choice where high quality finishing and long term durability are required. They will protect graphics on partial or full wraps and have the clarity and straightforward installation needed for private vehicles, commercial fleets or any other high profile interior or exterior 3D applications.

“The MPI 1105 Wrapping Series delivers excellent printability and vibrant graphics across a wide range of digital inkjet printing platforms including latex, UV curable, solvent and eco-solvent inks.

“It gives installers both the ‘stop-and-look’ graphics performance and the 3D capabilities needed to make strong design



This highly conformable and ultra-transparent film can elongate up to 220%.

statements on personal vehicles and powerful brand statements on commercial fleets. MPI 1105 materials are an excellent option for interior and exterior signage needing an optimal combination of print quality and durability. Using the DOL

1400Z overlaminates not only increases durability of the graphics but allows various finishes that enhance the design. The three-year horizontal warranty is a valuable benefit, alongside the six-year vertical warranty.”



Easy Apply RS technology, with its inherent air-egress capability, means that installers will continue to benefit from rapid and bubble-free application.

Huber Rigon of HR Design, Italy comments: “I am very impressed with the new MPI 1105 Easy Apply RS. The material really stretches into deep corrugations and can be repositioned several times; the Easy Apply RS adhesive copes perfectly. Excellent whiteness gives the film super bright and vibrant colours. The print quality is great and confirms the MPI 1105 Series in its place at the highest level in digital media.”

Easy Apply RS technology with its inherent air-egress capability, means that installers will continue to benefit from rapid and bubble-free application when using the new film. Low initial tack allows sliding and repositioning into place for exact graphics alignment.

www.graphics.averydennison.eu



Smaller format waterjet cutting machine for wide range of media

A new smaller format waterjet cutting machine has been introduced by XYZ Automation Group. The WARDJet A-0612 forms part of the A-Series of machines and shares the same design and performance characteristics of the larger X-Series but at a lower cost. The A-0612 will process a wide range of materials that are unsuited to traditional CNC machines including stainless steel, cast and wrought iron, various alloys such as brass and bronze, marble, stone and glass that are frequently used for highly specialised and architecturally-sensitive signage projects.

With a comparatively small 213 x 124cm footprint, the A-0612 will fit perfectly into any workplace where space is at a premium yet offers the same cutting power and output capabilities of much larger waterjet machines.

A key benefit of the A-6012 is that while similarly configured small format waterjet machines operate at pressures ranging from 30,000 to 45,000psi, the A-6012 operates at 60,000psi. This enables the same production capabilities and cutting timeframe of a full size machine. The ability to operate at this much higher pressure radically reduces the amount of abrasive required for the cutting process, further enhancing the machine's cost effectiveness.

As with the larger-format WARDJet machines, the A-6012 is based on a lightweight and rigidly constructed modular



With a comparatively small footprint, the A-0612 offers the same cutting power and output capabilities of much larger waterjet machines.

solid steel frame gantry that will reliably support the most robust machine operation required for high density and heavier materials.

It incorporates multiple cutting tool heads, an industrial grade rack and pinion drive system for optimum cutting accuracy and the elimination of problems frequently encountered with belt-driven systems and an optional water level control system and

cutting table enclosure. These latter features help reduce flashback and thus preserve water, as well as lowering noise levels in the workplace to further enhance the A-6012's environmental credentials.

In common with all WARDJet machines, the A-6012 is supported by proprietary Move motion control software.

www.axyz.co.uk

Mirror effect self-adhesive film is easy to apply

ASLAN has launched a sister product to the MirrorEffect AntiScratch ASLAN SE 75 in silver and gold, the SimplyApply ASLAN SE 76 – a brilliant mirror effect film in silver that is, due to an adjusted adhesive formula, very simple to apply.

ASLAN's mirror effect films have to be perfectly applied. This is easy for a professional but the company decided to develop a mirror effect film that is foolproof to apply. The self-adhesive film combines the essential characteristics of ASLAN's mirror effect films: the surface is absolutely brilliant and mirrors very sharp. Furthermore, the 75 µm aluminised PET-



film is highly scratch-resistant and therefore suitable for many indoor applications. Very simple to apply dry, it is easy to correct, even repositioning does

not cause material cracking and the film remains completely removable from nearly every substrate.

As such, the silver-coloured film is particularly suitable to be applied on entire flat and smooth surfaces or for use as plotted selective highlights. The self-adhesive film is "ideal" for indoor applications in shop fitting, visual merchandising, exhibition stand design and interior design as it is easy to clean using conventional agents and the brilliant mirror effect retains in the long term.

www.ASLAN-Schwarz.com

Adhesive vinyl and printable laminate offer optimal outdoor durability

The rise in demand for indoor and outdoor signage, as for temporary and permanent digital decor wall graphics, is a growing opportunity for pressure sensitive films. Many media products on the market today do double-duty such as HP Vinyl Overlaminates which can be used for everything from signage to fleet graphics to stickers.

To fill this demand, HP has introduced in EMEA a new portfolio of adhesive vinyl and printable laminates developed for optimal performance and longevity (over 10 years outdoor durability when laminated with HP polymeric laminates). This polymeric calendared vinyl is engineered with the highest quality, double-sided PE liner to accept high heat and provide lay-flat properties for print and cut applications. The grey repositionable or permanent adhesive provides hiding power, regardless of the substrate.

"From what I've seen it prints beautifully on the HP Latex 500 series and the HP Latex 315 for print and cut," says latex expert Timothy Mitchell. "It's certainly something you would put at the top of the list for the print and cut application."

From outdoor and indoor signage to trade shows and fleet graphics, HP offers a



This polymeric calendared vinyl is engineered with the highest quality, double-sided PE liner to accept high heat and provide lay-flat properties for print and cut applications.

complete printing solution of ink, media and printer engineered to work together seamlessly, reducing set-up time and increasing productivity. HP says its adhesive vinyl is easy to handle and install, producing "superb print quality and

delivering consistency, performance and uncompromising image quality to any application." It is REACH and RoHs compliant and B1 fire-resistant certified.

www.hp.com

DLC-coated router bits improve efficiency

Zünd is bringing to market new DLC-coated router bits. The coating reduces friction and increases wear resistance, thereby delivering high quality results, better performance and cost efficiency.

The router bits are especially beneficial in applications involving aluminium, aluminium composites, wood and PVC. Thin film coatings are among the most effective ways to achieve significant

improvements in performance and productivity. DLC (diamond-like carbon) coating permits greater processing speeds and cutting depths.



The DLC-coated router bits are especially beneficial in routing applications involving aluminium, aluminium composites, wood and PVC.

The number of passes can be reduced, which significantly increases routing productivity. Up to 4 mm thick aluminium composites can be processed in a single pass, at speeds of up to 11 m/36 ft per min. In many cases, a finishing pass becomes unnecessary, which further reduces production time. The new bits are optimised for use with Zünd routing spindles and available in diameters from 2 to 6 mm and routing depths up to 22 mm/.87 in. They are available with a stop ring, which makes them suitable for use with the automatic tool changer ARC.

www.zund.com

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AwlTech extends range of diamond polishing machines

AwlTech has extended its range of diamond edge-polishing machines with the launch of the new AM2/AMI series. These machines share common as well as individual design and performance characteristics and are available in a choice of three sizes (AM2-I, AMI-C 2100 and AMI-C 3100). These machines will accommodate the varying requirements of a wide range of industries using acrylic and thermoplastic materials including the signage and display sector.

These machines use either a natural or synthetic (PCD) diamond-based cutter to provide a high gloss or matt finish to materials in multiple continuous passes, have variable feed rates of between 500 and 1500mm/min and can polish materials in a thickness of 120mm at an angle of up to 48 degrees.

Key design features include automatic material depth-setting and quick change tool systems, a material hold-down facility based on the use of either five or seven clamps contingent upon the chosen model and touchscreen operation.

The AM2-I edge-polishing machine will handle material in a length of 1400mm but due to the open architecture of this

The AM2/AMI series will accommodate the varying requirements of a wide range of industries using acrylic and thermoplastic materials.

particular model longer lengths can be accommodated if required. The AMI-C 2100 and AMI-C 3100 will handle material lengths of 2100 and 3100mm respectively, with the latter incorporating seven clamps rather than the standard five for enhanced material hold-down efficiency.

Optional features on the AMI-C 2100 and AMI-C 3100 include a facility that enables automatic inclination of the milling motor

and material hold-down clamps and a buffing system with integrated mop polisher. All of the machines are CE-rated and carry a one-year performance warranty. In addition, AwlTech can provide a plastics polishing service to companies which do not have or necessarily require a fully operational in-house machining/polishing facility.

www.awltech.co.uk



Faster processing speed and colour innovation for superwide format printers

EFI's latest Fiery proServer Premium with powerful GPU hardware acceleration combined with the latest Fiery DFE software, together deliver up to 2X faster performance on EFI superwide format printers. This software update supports more than 70 new third party printers and delivers new colour, productivity, usability and integration enhancements. Thanks to the GPU hardware acceleration implementation and tailored hardware configuration of the new Fiery proServer Premium platform, customers can do more work per shift and achieve continuous print production, even at their fastest print speeds to truly maximise their printer investments. This version can process single jobs at double the speed compared to previous Fiery proServers, making it the fastest option available for EFI superwide print producers.

"We continue to enhance Fiery DFE performance to enable our customers to be more productive, get the most out of their chosen printer and help increase their competitiveness with higher quality output and better colour management," says John Henze, vice president of sales and marketing. "Our latest Fiery Command WorkStation user interface makes it even easier for customers to take advantage of the Fiery DFEs' powerful features across



The fastest option for EFI superwide print producers.

their entire cutsheet and large format production platforms."

Users can now benefit from a host of new capabilities including a colour rendering intent innovation, Fiery Intensify that

boosts colour saturation and pop on EFI printers; enhanced control over tile positioning for optimal substrate consumption with the ability to enable rotation, positioning and alignment of split tiles for maximum flexibility; and improved finishing integration capabilities, including cutting barcodes for Colex cutters. The latest Fiery solutions for superwide format printing deliver better data capabilities, communicating advanced device information from EFI printers including ink type, dot size, print mode and halftoning.

Customers can further streamline their production workflows by directly importing that data into upcoming versions of the EFI Midmarket Print Suite ERP workflow and EFI MarketDirect StoreFront web-to-print/eCommerce software.

Print professionals can benefit from using the latest-version EFI Fiery Command WorkStation software to access all Fiery Driven printers from a single, user-friendly interface. The updated Fiery Command WorkStation is a native 64-bit application and features HiDPI monitor support, as well as support for Konica Minolta FD-9 and Barbieri Spectro LFB qb spectrophotometers.

www.efi.com

Digital imaging inks for Roland printers

Nazdar Ink Technologies has introduced its 204 Series digital imaging Inks designed specifically for use in Roland TrueVIS SG and VG Series digital printers using Roland TrueVIS ink. The Nazdar 204 Series inks offer a closely colour-matched and chemically compatible alternative for Roland TrueVIS SG and VG Series printers using TrueVIS TR inks. With plug-and-play capabilities and consistent high speed printing performance, users can simply replace the OEM ink as it runs out with the 204 Series ink, producing high impact, high intensity colours comparable to the original inkset.

These low odour inks have been formulated to achieve the same regulatory classification as the OEM inks, making them suitable for use in environments without the need for specialised

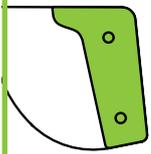
ventilation. Available in CMYK plus Light Cyan, Light Magenta and Light Black, the Nazdar 204 Series ink range is ideal for commonly used graphics substrates including banner material, flexible and pressure-sensitive vinyl, blue back paper and backed mesh, and delivers consistent and reliable print performance, even at high speed print modes.

Stephen Woodall, global market segment manager for aqueous & solvent digital at Nazdar, comments: "The 204 Series inks allow end users to reduce their ink costs without compromising on quality. With exceptional colour and chemistry compatibility, combined with a seamless conversion process, these inks enable users to switch one colour at a time without the need for flushing or custom profiles in most situations."



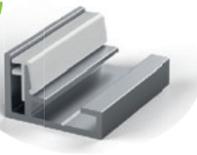
The 204 Series inks offer superior performance on outdoor graphics and are resistant to UV degradation and colour fade. Nazdar digital inks are backed by warranty covering the entire ink train.

www.nazdar.com



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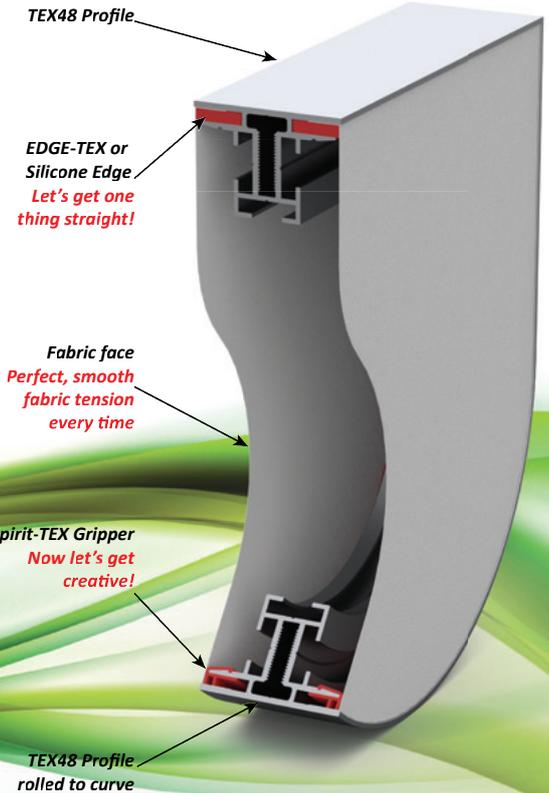


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Self-adhesive strip locks fabric into frame

Admiral Tapes has launched a new product that will "open up the visual communications market to any company that has the capability to print to fabric".

EDGE-Tex Tape is a single-sided self-adhesive strip that is used to lock printed fabric into the channel of aluminium frames (LED, back- and front-lit) to create a flat tensioned surface. It eliminates the need to use an industrial sewing machine because it can easily be applied by hand.

Application is simple: allow approximately 25mm of additional material to each side of the graphic, apply EDGE-Tex to the back of the outside edge of the textile, fold and insert into the aluminium channel.

It saves time and is so simple to use any member of the team can install printed graphics. The strip can be repositioned to enable a correct assessment of size and using a hand-held roller ensures Admiral's special adhesive system ingresses into the fabric to provide a strong bond.



Apply *EDGE-Tex* to the back of the outside edge of the textile, fold and insert into the aluminium channel.

EDGE-Tex has been tested on a range of fabrics from different manufacturer's that have been printed with UV or dye-sublimated inks; it even works on exterior grade textiles and PVC banner material.

EDGE-Tex is denser than the traditional silicone strip used for this application; this provides an additional benefit because the reduced stretch is more compatible with fabric. This means that the product is more robust for manual application.

Graphics can be inserted and exchanged into different frames; the product offers long-term performance. EDGE-Tex is designed to be used on its own to create a complete flexible media tension frame; installing graphics in a 2m x 3m frame takes only minutes and larger frames are just as easy.

It is useful to have a roll to hand when fitting graphics that have already been stitched with a silicone strip; any sizing adjustments can be made immediately on site. EDGE-Tex is available from Spirit Displays and The application video can be viewed on YouTube <https://youtu.be/Ci8ruBA2TEw>.

www.admiralpsp.co.uk

Glass clear 3D effect window graphics for visual merchandising

Kernow Coatings is offering the wide format industry creative solutions that facilitate printers' work, enhance visual merchandisers' results, all while saving time and money.

With an unprinted clear substrate, prints will look as if they are suspended in the air. However, the latest developments in printers offering white inks have enabled new and exciting prospects.

A clear substrate, depending on the chosen design, will often require a white layer underneath the coloured elements. This white understrike will bring a punch to the colours and a better opacity to the printed design.

Originally, clear substrates were reserved for screen-printing only and very few UV printers offered white ink. Today, most printer manufacturers provide this option with solvent, UV-cured and even latex inks; these machines have now become more affordable.

Kernow has researched the fastest and easiest ways to apply a glass clear message on a window. The company wanted to make the application as easy and user-friendly as possible and so



With an unprinted clear substrate, prints will look as if they are suspended in the air.

avoided self-adhesive substrates, which inevitably lead to complicated application or poor results when applied by people without sign hanging experience.

KlearView 142 is a 142µ/5.6mil substrate printable with eco-solvent, latex and UV-curable inks, while KlearView 125KBC

and KlearView 175KBC are UV-printable only with thickness of 125µ/4.9mil and 175µ/6.9mil, respectively. Smaller designs can be printed on 125µ/4.9mil while bigger pieces and hanging displays should be preferably printed on the thicker gauges. All three films offered are 100% PVC-free, being an extra benefit for all brands looking at their environmental footprint.



Kernow researched the fastest and easiest ways to apply a glass clear message on a window.

When professional application cannot be made to avoid air bubbles, simply apply the display with clear adhesive pads and it's done in seconds. This is "the perfect solution" to send your prints to all branches of a retail store to make sure it's applied properly and removed within seconds. As it's polyester it will not start curling, distort or shrink.

Simply hanging KlearView from the ceiling, multiple clear displays will add depth to a sales message and create amazing 3D effects. Depending on the design, you may not even need white inks to create a unique shop window decoration.

With the support of the Mutoh Europe team, Kernow Coatings has created a video showcasing KernowJet KlearView and its applications. This is available on the Kernow YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5YdrouSA9Ck>.

www.kernowcoatings.com



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GrafiPrint M116HT matt white 100 micron 3 year PVC grey adhesive film:

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Spandex adds new metallic colours to vehicle wrap portfolio

Spandex has introduced three metallic colours from Avery Dennison's Supreme Wrapping Film (SWF) range of colour change wrapping vinyls. The new colours in the SWF range include gloss metallic passion red, satin metallic energetic yellow and gloss metallic fun purple. All three are available now from Spandex at a 152.4cm width. These films include Avery Dennison's Easy Apply RS technology, which enable application time savings of up to 25%, easy repositionability and slide ability of the film.

General manager Leon Watson says: "Avery Dennison has made its already vast range of vehicle wrap films even more appealing with these three new additions. Customers now have a choice of over 110 colours and finishes from the SWF range confirming Avery Dennison's position as a leader of high quality wrap films."

www.spandex.co.uk



The new colours in the SWF range include gloss metallic passion red, satin metallic energetic yellow and gloss metallic fun purple

Signage printers offer lower cost of ownership

Epson has launched two SureColor SC-S signage printers, the SC-S60600L (pictured) and the SC-S80600L. An extension of the SureColor SC-S Series printer range, these 64-inch printers will offer high productivity customers a lower total cost of ownership (TCO). The SC-S Series printers continue to offer customers diverse applications with access to the Epson Edge Dashboard with over 250 EMX profile downloads for a wide range of media manufacturers and media types.

"At the heart of these new industrial printers is the introduction of high capacity 1.5 litre ink pouches," says Chris Davies, product manager, production LFP. "This means a longer running period, resulting in less user intervention and reduced downtime. The pouches are complemented by Epson's established UltraChrome GS3 eco-solvent inks which have key environmental certifications including GreenGuard Gold and AgBB. As with all signage printers in the SureColor

SC-S range, they are low maintenance, highly reliable and easy to set up."

The SC-S60600L and SC-S80600L feature Epson PrecisionCore TFP printheads and will be supplied with Epson Edge RIP software and the LFP Accounting Tool which will provide accurate job costing data. Epson Edge Print software is powerful and feature rich, easy-to-use and provides a simplified print-ready solution to get businesses up and running quickly. In addition, Epson is continuing to expand the range of available EMX files to optimise print quality on the most common, and speciality, media. Both SureColor SC-S L version models can print on a wide range of media from clear film and photographic paper to wallpaper, canvas and vinyl, so are suited to large scale signage and displays, point of purchase applications and billboards, back/front-lit signage and car wrapping.

"We envisage a strong take up from print service providers and sign makers who cover a wide range of business sectors and applications, providing customers with signage, point of sale, textiles, interior design and fine art products," says Chris.

www.epson.co.uk



Recycled core PVC product for print and display projects

Perspex Distribution has increased its print substrate range with the launch of Palboard, a multi-layered PVC sheet made with a recycled foam PVC core. This innovative sheet combines the extra-tough surface of solid PVC with the lightweight, easy to use characteristics of foam PVC. Palboard's ultra-smooth surface offers excellent ink adhesion for digital or traditional printing applications.

It is easy to fabricate and can be cold-bent with a v-groove cut offering versatile structures for retail displays, exhibition graphics and general printing. Palboard can be shipped flat, assembled on site and flattened again when dismantled, making it suitable for retail displays and exhibition stands.

In addition to the environmental benefits of its recycled foam PVC core, the product is a practical solution for visual communication applications. Its multi-layer composite structure has greater impact resistance than paper based products while being lighter than aluminium composite. The robust solid PVC surface is



Easy to fabricate, it can be cold-bent with a v-groove cut offering versatile structures for retail displays or exhibition graphics.

“ideal for heavy footfall areas in the retail environment”. Palboard manufacturer Palram has produced multiple CNC templates to inspire users to get creative with the material, all of which can be downloaded on Perspex.co.uk/palboard.

Perspex Distribution stocks a range of UK produced materials manufactured by Palram including Palsun Polycarbonate and Palight PVC foam.

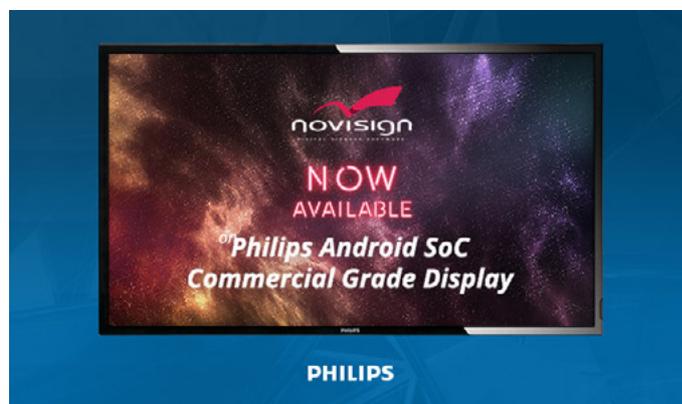
www.perspex.co.uk

Signage software now available on Philips Android AppStore

NoviSign's Digital Signage Android app is now available on Philips Q, D, P & T-Line Android SoC displays. Starting at 10" and going up to 86" Philips Android SoC displays, come in both 18/7 and 24/7 usage ratings. Available for direct download onto Philips SoC displays via the built-in AppStore. NoviSign's cloud-based digital signage software makes designing and managing digital signage content easy, effective and reliable.

“Because NoviSign is one of the world's few digital signage software vendors that offer a true Android app that is native and supports offline play, we've seen more and more applications embrace Philips SoC with NoviSign for digital signage deployments,” says director of sales and marketing Chad Bogun.

“The overall OS stability of Philips SoC is outstanding. From digital menu boards to



NoviSign's cloud-based digital signage software makes designing and managing digital signage content easy, effective and reliable.

corporate communications, the NoviSign and Philips SoC is a stable, high performing solution.”

With NoviSign's web-based free-form design Studio, users can remotely create,

edit and manage the kiosk's content. With over 20 drag-and-drop widgets to choose from, users can quickly design media rich content that is engaging and informative.

www.NoviSign.com

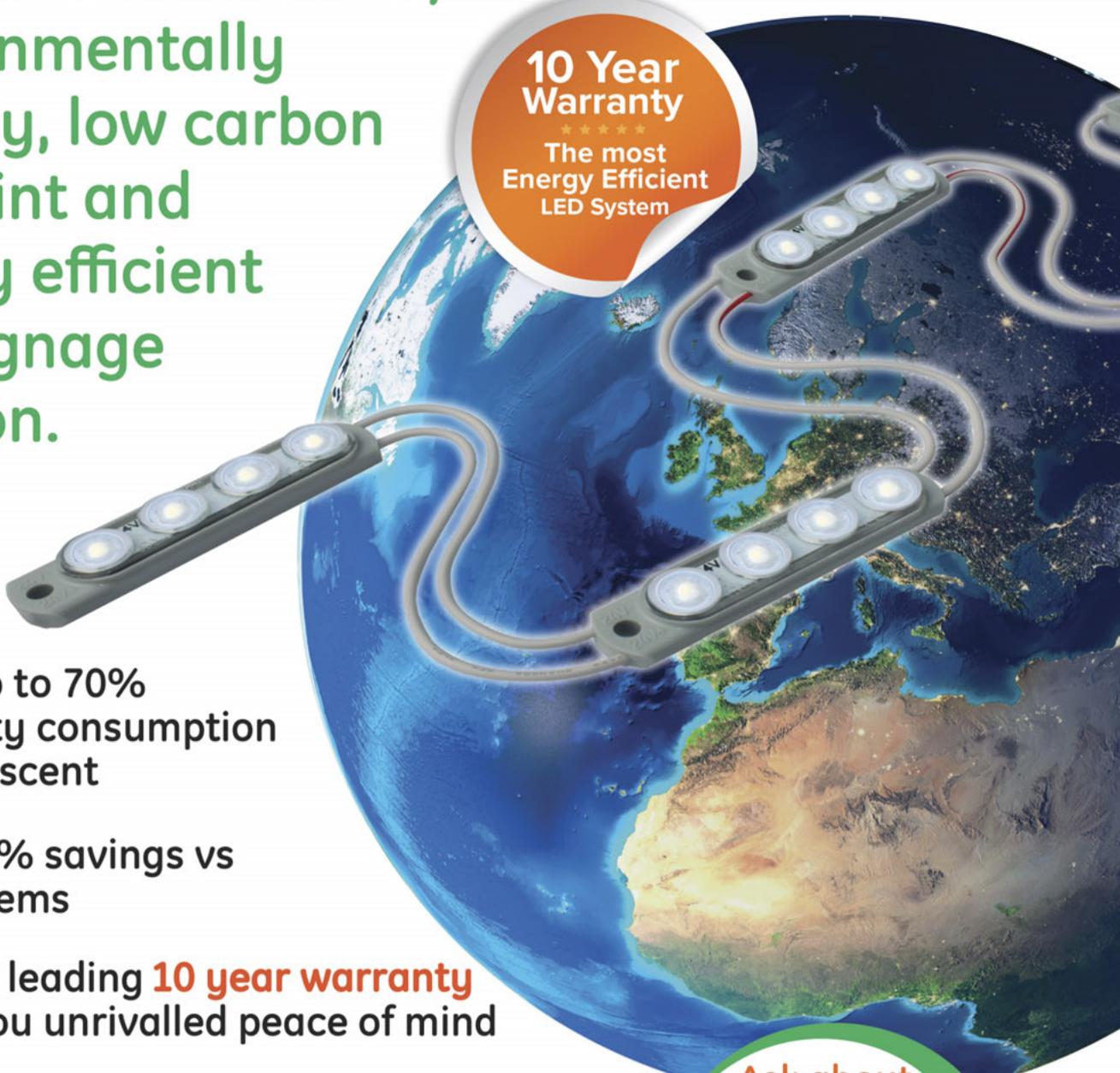
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LEDs provide energy efficient sign illumination

Gone are the days of traditional bulbs and fluorescent tubes, the constant maintenance and inconsistent lighting for signs. LED lighting has created a movement for more cost effective, energy efficient illumination.

Most signs are now powered by LEDs that last 3-6 years longer than fluorescent and neon lighting, while maintaining a better level of brightness throughout their lifespan of 50,000+ hours.

LEDs allow passers-by to see the signs more clearly during all hours of the day; they do not heat up as much as traditional lighting forms, use less energy and require less maintenance.

Companies and their customers are more environmentally conscious than ever. There are multiple ways to positively impact the environment; signage companies have a direct advantage with the materials they use.

While most have already made the switch to LED lighting, the new Tetra 24v lighting technology from Current, powered by GE, is an option to further reduce their carbon footprint. It offers a sustainable, environmentally friendly, low carbon footprint and energy efficient solution.



While most have made the switch to LED lighting, Tetra 24v lighting technology offers a sustainable, environmentally friendly, low carbon footprint and energy efficient solution.

Tetra 24v represents the latest in high performance LED modules, offering class leading reliability, increased light output and industry leading energy usage reductions. Not only does it offer a saving of up to 70% electricity consumption versus existing systems but the LED

modules are up to 50% more energy efficient than the popular 12v modules that are used in the majority of LED signs in the UK. The longer lifespan of the Tetra 24v system means that there is less wastage overall.

Not only impressive from an environmental angle, the Tetra 24v features OptiLens X technology, providing a 170 degree viewing angle which in turn, allows extra stroke spacing, contributing to fewer modules being required.

A 10-year warranty is offered for the LED modules in the Tetra 24v system, meaning that great savings can be made over the entire lifespan of a sign.

If a signage company wants to remain environmentally conscious, make long term savings for their customers and embrace the future of LED signage illumination, then the Tetra 24v system is an ideal solution.

Complete Sign Illumination is the sole UK distributor of the Current, powered by GE Tetra 24v LED module system.

www.CSI-Lighting.com



LEDs allow passers-by to see the signs more clearly during all hours of the day.

It's a RIP

Those of us working in the printing industry are familiar with the term 'RIP' (or Raster Image Processor) – a software tool that acts as a vehicle for converting files on a PC into a format for outputting onto a printer. You can't run a wide format printer without it.

Richard Williams, Showroom Manager for Mimaki distributor in the UK and Ireland – Hybrid Services, says that Mimaki's exclusive RIP software, RasterLink, has a number of benefits and great features that make it accessible and efficient, while enabling highly proficient, quality print output. "The biggest strength of Mimaki's RasterLink RIP software is the print performance, with the net result being outstanding print quality, which is what it's all about at the end of the day."

He continues, "Due to the strength of co-developing products with input from multiple departments, Mimaki has been able to develop RasterLink in conjunction with the engineers evolving the hardware and the chemists advancing ink technology, creating tailored software that is easy to use and equally up to the task. In fact, the strength of Mimaki's research and development equates to software that is continually being improved, with regular updates for added functions and bug fixes."

According to Williams: "Another great benefit of the RasterLink RIP is that it's easy to use and the RIP display is visual and intuitive, striking a balance between having all the performance of a high-end RIP but with straightforward usability. Navigating your way around the software is simple to do and for newcomers to wide format printing, they can easily find their feet with RasterLink, accessing great features without feeling overwhelmed! It's



Print sample created using metallic ink and managed through RIP software

all about ease of use. With a customisable user interface, you can create a bespoke RasterLink interface just for you! Work smarter and utilise drag and drop functions to enhance your print management. "

The latest version of the software is RasterLink6Plus delivers a number of handy features in addition to core components of the software. It can support twin roll printing onto two rolls of media at the same time, which is essential for users of the Mimaki UJV55-320. You can print special colour layers, which works beautifully with the Metallic Colour Library and there's a zero-margin crop mark function to help reduce media waste and reduce print and cut time. The list is extensive and what's also of interest is that RasterLink6Plus can open different file types including popular, competitor RIP files, meaning you can make a smooth transition to Mimaki without recreating all your pre-existing files.

With RIP software, 'profiles' are used to govern the amount of ink that goes onto the print which is dependent on the

material – a process which is vital for print quality and colour management. Anyone using the RasterLink RIP can access custom-made profiles via Mimaki Europe's website, saving you loads of time. However, should a RasterLink user wish to explore the world beyond off-the-shelf profiles and make their own decision, there is the capacity to self-determine the profile with the tools provided. You are able to fine-tune colour requirements and manage customer expectations and, once the parameters are determined, the profile can be saved for future use as you build your own custom environment in the RIP.

Williams concludes: "Last but by no means least, what many people don't realise is that RasterLink is included in the price of your Mimaki hardware, so is essentially free of charge. Couple that with the free updates available to download from Mimaki Europe and it's safe to say RasterLink delivers both fantastic results and great value for money."

www.hybrid-services.co.uk



RasterLink is included with Mimaki printers

The latest trends in colour management



GMG Color UK Managing Director, Karl Gessner

The mainstay of colour management has always been ensuring colour remains accurate and consistent. The best software on the market enables this no matter what the substrate, device or print process. But it also does much more.

GMG Color UK Managing Director, Karl Gessner, explains: "Standardisation drives the ethos behind GMG Color. We strive to make colours repeatable – processing a file or getting a device to behave the same way day in, day out, so that it meets standards including FOGRA, ISO, GRACoL for G7 and SWOP. Beyond this is GMG's understanding of the need to speed up the colour management process and reduce waste – be it in respect of time, materials or ink. We've found that this is an increasing requirement for those businesses involved in colour management, particularly in the signage industry."

He continues, "Our aim is to remove complexity and allow you to work smarter through automation, eliminating errors, increasing repeatability and reducing the time taken to achieve accurate colours. For example, our software integrates with in-built spectro devices, which allows for automatic calibration without the need for manual intervention and chart reading, so that machines run without interruptions."

GMG software complements existing RIP installations and sits one step in front of them to handle the document colour space prior to colour managing the output process. This adds an automated colour 'firewall' to your process, allowing operators to check colour accuracy in documents before the RIP, thereby saving time and also costs.

Load balancing across devices and making spot colours repeatable

The standard way to communicate colour in a RIP is through an ICC profile. However, this has a number of shortfalls and is why GMG developed a superior way of doing things using its proprietary MX technology. With ICC systems, problems occur when there is a mix of technology, such as when a litho printer diversifies by adding digital devices, and expects the same colour results across the devices.

However, if each print process has a different RIP you'll potentially get different results when printed. One effect can be a variation in grey balance as the print may come out with a dominant colour – if it's magenta the grey balance will appear warm, if it's cyan it will appear cooler. The devices will output what they think is correct, but they'll all look different.

With ICC-based software, the question of whether you can accurately match the colour

across more than one device is dependent on variations in the head technology, inks, RIP, screening, setup and profiles. Added to this, when a device prints it's constantly changing due to external factors like temperature and light. Even the preferences of the operator can change the output.

Gessner adds: "In contrast, GMG's unique MX calibration technology gives your business repeatable print across different devices, so that you can load balance and spread work across devices, no matter what the print process is. This also gives consistency over time, so a job will match if reprinted in the future."

The tools that enable this are GMG ColorServer, combined with a unique wizard within it called GMG SmartProfiler, which allows you to build your own profiles, and recalibrate profiles rather than rebuilding them. This option also brings spot colours back in target with any shift on the device.

"One of the unique abilities of GMG ColorServer software is to automatically convert RGB to CMYK, with almost no loss in colour data," says Gessner. "And it will automate spot colours on an inbound CMYK file to a known CMYK standard. This is done prior to ripping to see the expectation before wasting resources. ColorServer enables automation as it connects into workflows such as Enfocus SWITCH. The file is colour managed when it comes in, and again before it's stepped and sent to the machine."

Gessner concludes: "Another way in which GMG cuts waste and improves quality, is through GMG InkOptimizer, which works alongside GMG ColorServer. It allows you to use measurably less ink through the process of grey component replacement, whereby more expensive colour inks are replaced with black ink. It also stabilises and optimises the entire printing process by reducing the separation data and amount of ink required, which creates less head wear and promotes machine up time.

There's no visible difference in the printed image through InkOptimizer. In fact, it improves quality in a number of areas – harmonising the grey balance, making the image look sharper and reducing streaking and banding."



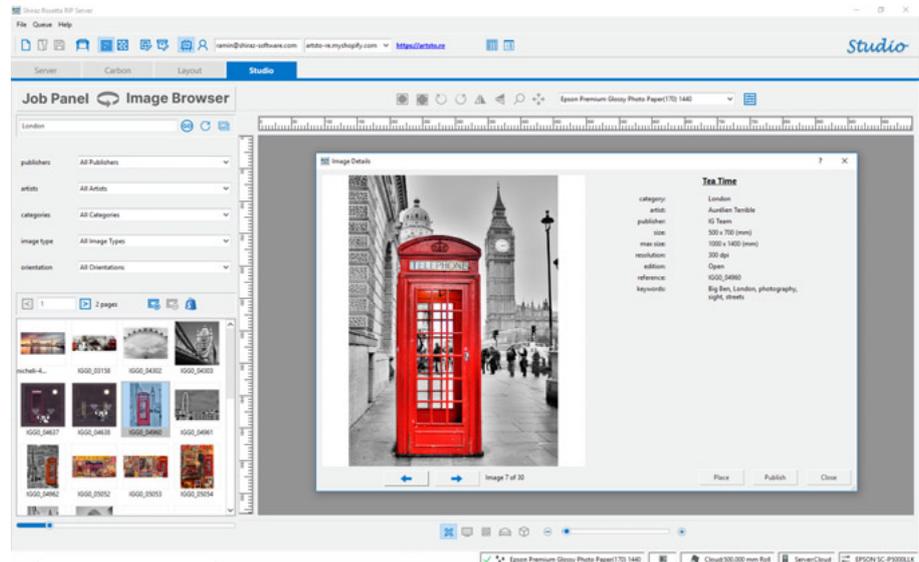
GMG SmartProfiler with ColorServer screenshot

www.gmgcolor.com

Game changing solution

Shiraz Software has established a reputation around the world for RIP technology innovation and industry leadership. Ramin Shahbazi, Director of Shiraz Software, says: "Our game-changing solutions have served to transform the digital printing industry over the last three decades. We have been pioneers in RIP technology throughout this time, working with hundreds of companies to maximise the quality, efficiency and profitability of their printing potential."

With over 3 years of intensive development the Shiraz Rosetta solution is now available for general release. Shahbazi adds: "This game changing product is not an evolutionary one but rather a completely new generation. It utilises the best of technologies and reflects over 25 years of continuous development."



Shiraz Rosetta seamlessly adds art-on-demand into any print workflow

With lease pricing from as little as £30/month we now have what we firmly believe is the best value professional RIP solution anywhere on the market

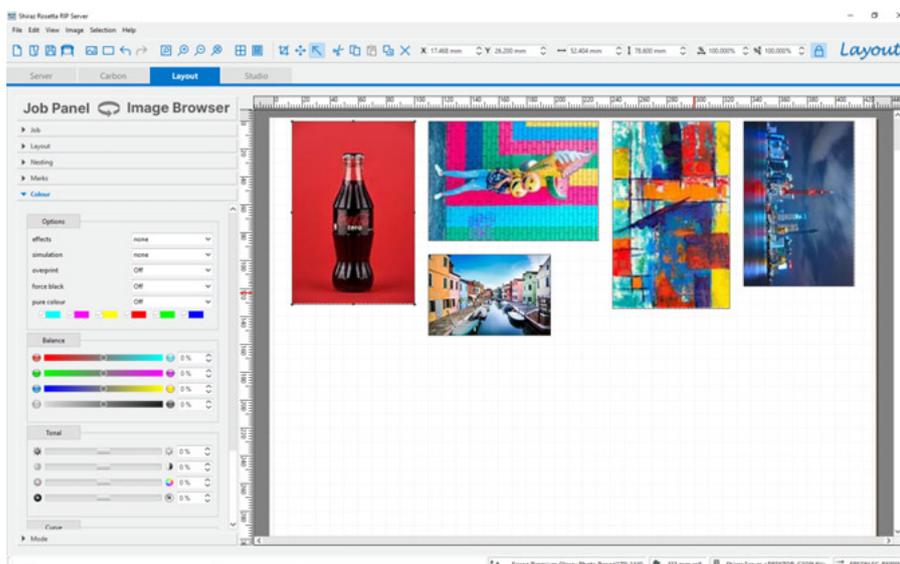
Running on the latest Windows and Mac OSX 64bit platforms, Shiraz Rosetta offers a comprehensive design and printing package that caters for all the vertical markets in the expanding LFP arena. These include point of sale, photo/fine art, signage, cad/gis, textile and many others.

The user is no longer required to select from the long list of features and options that can be added to their RIP package. Everything is now included as standard and the only decision to be made is how many printers and what sizes. He continues, "The first truly secure and seamless print streaming technology in the

world is fully integrated into the solution. It enables users around the world to access and print high value art and designs on their large format printers without having to be given the files. All print activities and their details are recorded in the cloud monitoring system and the correct charges and royalties paid to the appropriate parties."

Another first in Shiraz Rosetta is the complete end-to-end Web to Print (W2P) solution for the large format market. This means that it is now possible for any small and medium sized company to have their own online web shop with little effort. Products for sale can be easily added to the web pages through the RIP interface by publishing them and any order taken online is directly sent to the queues of the RIP Server ready for production with no additional work required. Through the published API available from the Shiraz web sites any 3rd party ecommerce platform can also now be integrated to the powerful Shiraz production servers.

Shahbazi concludes, "With lease pricing from as little as £30/month we now have what we firmly believe is the best value professional RIP solution anywhere on the market. All updates and level 1 support are included in the package. Shiraz Rosetta RIP will be available from 1st July on the new dedicated website and can be tested with a free trial for 15 days in fully working mode. We encourage all interested users to give it a go and let us know of their experience."



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www.shiraz-software.com



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STRUCTURE-FLEX Company Profile

New technology increases wide format printed signage quality

Limitations on digital signage continue to be lifted with the latest developments in wide format digital printing techniques as Paul Reeve, Managing Director at Structure-flex, explains.

With the latest marketing trends placing increasing emphasis on the visual element of the brand, it is little surprise that sign producers are exerting more and more pressure on printers in pursuit of the best possible reproduction quality.

Over the last 20 years, however, simultaneous developments in printers, inkjet printheads, fabrics and computing software have opened up new printing possibilities that have enabled the reproduction of graphics at exceptional high clarity on a range of fabrics up to 5m wide.

Applications have also shifted as new technologies have prompted a partial transfer from long-run analogue to short-run digital printing. Durable inkjet processes have taken over from screen printing for outdoor signs, electrostatic for indoor display materials, and dye sublimation for fine art and photographic applications.

To really do designs justice, manufacturers need to invest hundreds of thousands of

pounds in the latest digital technology so that graphics can be reproduced at the highest possible dpi. For example, Structure-flex, which has a history of constant progression with innovative technology, has recently invested an additional £450,000 in the latest large format printing press to further enhance our capabilities.

We have two 5 meter super wide format Vutex GS5000R printers, as well as a Mimaki JV300 solvent roll to roll solution and a Mimaki JFX200 rigid substrate primer to enable us to provide the complete spectrum.

Printing on all types of fabrics is now possible and graphics, designs and images can be reproduced on both rigid and fabric surfaces. PVC, vinyl laminated products, urethane coated fabrics, polypropylene, and polyethylene, all offer a flexible, durable surface for large format printing and are the perfect media on which to produce eye-catching outdoor advertising banners, event signage or even building wraps.

For many designs the colours are crucial and the use of a range of base colour fabrics is now common place alongside the traditional white used for full coverage.



Durable inkjet printing has taken over from screen printing



Digital printing is suitable for a broad range of substrates

For some applications, this process used to be done by hand, but modern printing innovations have now enabled this to be part of a one-stage process, thereby, reducing printing times considerably.

Developments in drop-on-demand printheads, especially piezo-electric types, have allowed the handling of a much wider range of printing fluids compared to thermal heads that previously confined printing to water-based inks.

This has fuelled huge technical developments in inks themselves from traditional water-based inks, which lacked outdoor durability without lamination, to more durable oil-based inks that use solvents to adhere the colorants into the top layer of the media, so forming a permanent, weatherproof and fade resistant bond.

The reproduction of eye-catching graphics is not the only consideration, however. The durability of the material used in the manufacture of the sign is an important element if it is to maintain its appearance in all weathers.

Consistency of the finished printing is critical for multiple runs. Complex printing projects need careful management and it is always wise to investigate the technical expertise of capable suppliers before placing an order. At Structure-flex, we offer a consultation service so that customers can receive the correct advice on design, print and manufacturing, to complete a bespoke service.

All these recent printing developments have paved the way for innovation and, with the rate of change increasing all the time, supporting the visual brand is becoming easier and easier.

www.structure-flex.co.uk

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www.vision-lighting.co.uk

PRODUCT Choice

XYZ announces first UK installation of Infinite CNC router

Leading developer and manufacturer of LED and solar lighting systems and controls to the sign industry, Zeta Specialist Lighting has become the first company in the UK to install the Infinite multi-purpose CNC router recently introduced by XYZ Automation Group. Part of the Zeta Group, the company has provided lighting solutions to many high profile signage projects and known for the quality and reliability of its products.

Zeta managing director Adrian Dennis says: "the decision to purchase the XYZ Infinite machine followed assessment of alternative machines and was based on the known reliability, flexibility and price-to-performance capabilities of XYZ machines recognised by other XYZ machine owners. The XYZ Infinite router

will more than treble our production capacity and the service and technical advice provided by XYZ has been outstanding and helped in the purchasing process."

The XYZ Infinite 6010 model to be installed at Zeta features a seven-station ATC (automatic tool change) system for work requiring multiple tools, a 10HP high performance routing spindle and the latest XYZ helical rack and pinion drive system. This latter feature helps spread the workload more efficiently to reduce machine wear and radically enhance machine performance

"The XYZ Infinite router will more than treble our production capacity and the service and technical advice provided has been outstanding and helped in the purchasing process"

and lifespan. The Infinite router is supported by VCarve Pro design and production software which was supplied as part of a package by XYZ Automation Group and which enables complex 2D and/or 3D work to be undertaken.

www.xyz.co.uk



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Superwide roll-to-roll printers chosen for lower heat/energy curing

Within the past six months Digital Sign Services has purchased two EFI VUTEK 5r+ LED superwide roll-to-roll printers from EFI. These purchases give the company important production firepower for high volume, high end graphics while saving costs and increasing sustainability thanks to the 5.2-metre-wide printers' green 'cool cure' LED technology.

Based in Guildford, the company installed its first VUTEK 5r+ printer earlier this year; the second will be installed in the coming weeks.

"Thanks to the success of the first VUTEK 5r+ and EFI's after sales service, help and support with bedding in the new machine, we are purchasing our second 5r+ and having it installed this summer," said managing director Tom Weaver.

Digital Sign Services works purely in trade services, specialising in large format printing for retail signage, windows and point of sale and purchased its first VUTEK printer a few years after it was founded in 2001. By 2005, the company added a second VUTEK to keep up with a growing workload. The continued growth and opportunities the company achieved with its superwide format digital print equipment are the basis of a reliable and long-lasting relationship with EFI.

"The big reasons why we choose EFI again and again is their after sales care and response to any issues or problems we may have," explains Tom. "We also think the 5r+ is a better machine in that it uses LED lamps for curing rather than mercury vapour lamps."

EFI's 'cool cure' LED technology on the printer requires up to 82% less energy

compared to traditional UV or latex printing, which provides a cost savings and allows Digital Sign Services to be much more mindful about sustainability.

"With the 5r+ we have the reliability of the LEDs in a less power-hungry machine that doesn't have mercury lamps damaging the environment or anything else," says Tom.

In addition, the lower heat/energy curing process means Digital Sign Services can successfully print on thin or delicate substrates that cannot withstand the heat required with latex and UV printers. Built on the foundation of EFI's VUTEK 5r printer, the 5r+ printers at Digital Sign Services offer improved media handling along with new white ink printing modes with faster speeds. In addition, the VUTEK 5r+ model features a re-engineered print head control algorithm that provides higher ink densities and an overall quality improvement. Printing resolution is up to 1200 dpi, with native EFI UltraDrop Technology 7-picolitre variable-drop printheads for outstanding visual quality.

The VUTEK 5r+ printers offer several new options including automated backlit and blackout printing.

"The auto blackout feature is really valuable here," says Tom. "We do a lot of print for retail outlets on the retail parks where, for example, there is a dark blue background with the centralised logo to be the only section that illuminates."

Signs printed with the company's current VUTEK 5r+ show "the perfect colour during the day, then, at night with the lights on, just the logo is visible with a colour density that looks the same as by day," says Tom. He anticipates future opportunities

"With the 5r+ we have the reliability of the LEDs in a less power hungry machine that doesn't have mercury lamps damaging the environment or anything else"

thanks to the printers' ability to easily handle five-layer printing; a digital printing technique often used for retail window graphics to ensure correct densities when viewed from inside or outside the store.

The printers offer Digital Sign Services more flexibility in handling customer demand. The company's current VUTEK 5r+ printer has a four-colour plus white configuration, while the second will have seven (CMYK, light cyan, magenta and black) as well as white.

Digital Sign Services has been a loyal EFI customer for 14 years, running their operations purely on EFI machinery. In addition to the two EFI VUTEK 5r+ printers, the company has an EFI VUTEK GS3250ix Pro hybrid roll-to-roll/Flatbed LED printer and an EFI VUTEK FabriVU 340 dye-sublimation printer.

"From 2005 we have remained with EFI due to their quality and reliability along with the exceptional after sales, care, support and response times," concludes Tom.

www.efi.com
www.digitalsignservices.co.uk



The printers offer Digital Sign Services more flexibility in handling customer demand

Hybrid UV-LED printers ensure increased orders are quickly satisfied

Solopress has invested in two new Agfa Anapurna hybrid UV LED printers to satisfy their rapidly growing wide format area of the business.

Installed in May, the H2500i LED systems have been running 24 hours a day, 6 days a week, helping to satisfy a healthy increase in orders during the month. The 2.5m wide hybrid engines print at twice the speed of the printers they replaced, while the cost of ink has halved due to Agfa's Thin Ink Layer Technology. They also enabled Solopress to offer rigid print products on their competitive next day delivery promise.

"We are in a strong growth phase on wide format where we are seeing 35-40% growth year on year," says managing director Simon Cooper, who joined the business at the beginning of 2019. "We were looking at the next step on our wide format journey and the Agfa Anapurna is uniquely positioned as a

quality hybrid at the right price point, enabling us to buy two machines for failover and massively increasing our capacity.

"It may be early days but the quality of the machines has surpassed our expectations and the sleek installation and training meant we were up and running in just a few days. We have been very impressed with both the service from Agfa and the product performance. It's been a positive experience so far from a new supplier to the business."

Solopress became part of Onlineprinters two years ago. A key turning point for the business was in 2005 when they started a serious online platform which has grown sales exponentially, now over £30 million a year, with a large proportion of orders coming via their online portal. They offer next day delivery on a wide variety of litho, digital and wide format products.

"It may be early days but the quality of the machines has surpassed our expectations and the sleek installation and training meant we were up and running in just a few days"



From left: Paul Fitch, Agfa, Simon Cooper and Jack Clifford, head of operations at Solopress

Their selling proposition is fairly unusual in the industry, promising that orders taken up to 5pm will be dispatched that evening for next day delivery anywhere in the mainland UK; orders before 12 noon on a Saturday will now be delivered the following Monday. To enable them to achieve this service Solopress rely on eight offset presses, nine digital presses and the two new Anapurna's taking them to a total of five wide format printing machines.

Simon concludes: "We have a loyal customer base. We service them well and they appear to be happy working with us so growth is now coming from new products. The Agfa printers are a great example of this growth plan and they couldn't have come at a better time, we certainly would not have coped with the influx of orders received in May without them."

www.agfagraphics.co.uk

Acrylics specialist discovers hidden dimensions of UV-LED printer

Acrylic display specialist Floreeda Fabrications chose a Roland DG VersaUV S-Series LEJ-640S for its new, larger premises for its print quality and generous head height but soon discovered this UV-LED printer could add a new dimension to its work – literally.

The specialist in manufacturing bespoke acrylic POS displays for retail and exhibitions uses a range of laser cutters and initially outsourced any printing work that was required. Around three years ago Floreeda opted to bring these jobs in-house, first choosing a Roland VersaUV LEF-20 UV flatbed printer.

"We looked at a printer from another manufacturer but liked that the Roland VersaUV was enclosed and were impressed by the print samples," says Paul Jones. "We were immediately really pleased with how well it was working."



Floreeda is able to print different textures and special effects directly to materials such as acrylic

"Because of the print quality, vacuum-assisted positioning and the high head height, we can print onto materials up to 200mm thick so are able to produce a big range of work including signage"

In July 2018 Floreeda invested in a larger printer from supplier Grafityp, the Roland VersaUV S-Series LEJ-640S, along with a large laser cutting system to create an overall more efficient production set-up. In the autumn the company relocated to a new 19,500ft² premises.

"We were very happy with the Roland LEF-20 so decided to stick with the brand," explains Paul. "We chose the new VersaUV S-Series flatbed because of the print quality, vacuum-assisted positioning and the high head height, we can print onto materials up to 200mm thick so can produce a big range of work including signage."

It was while experimenting with the S-Series that the Floreeda team discovered a further benefit: its ability to print incredible textures and special effects directly to materials such as acrylic. As a result, the company has recently completed a project for a fashion retailer, producing acrylic retail displays with a three-dimensional concrete-effect texture.

The Roland S-Series builds on the innovative UV-LED technology used in the established VersaUV printing systems, with a greater size and functionality. These heavy-duty printers can handle virtually any material or object, both flexible or rigid, up to 200mm in height and 100kg/m² in weight.

Running Roland ECO-UV or ECO-UV S inks including punchy CMYK, white and gloss, these systems can easily print vibrant colours, sharp monochromes and even intricate textures like embossing and Braille. From multiple small items such as phone cases to large bespoke pieces like surfboards, the VersaUV S-Series flatbed and roll-fed printers, available in a range of size options, offer the ultimate in versatility. Paul and the team are looking forward to attending a course at the Roland Academy.

"We want to learn how to get the most out of the new S-Series; we have plans to do much more with it."



www.floreeda.com
www.rolanddg.co.uk

Drytac Polar scores at Liverpool vs Barcelona match

While Barcelona may not have been the stars of the show in the UEFA Champions League competition, the team's bus, wrapped using materials from Drytac grabbed fans' attention.

Covering the entire team bus including the windows, the vehicle wrap - featuring FC Barcelona's colours and crest - was printed by Astra Signs onto an innovative PVC material from Drytac's Polar range, using an HP Latex 570 printer. Manchester-based Astra Signs creates, supplies and installs the highest quality signage for businesses all over the UK and internationally.

Steve Broad, European & Asia sales director for Drytac Europe, is a "big Liverpool fan" and was lucky enough to be in Liverpool on 7 May for the second-leg match, as well as in Barcelona for the semi-final first leg.

"The actual bus drove past us on Tuesday and we spotted it outside the hotel in Liverpool where the Barcelona players were staying," says Steve. "It's always great to see Drytac products used for world-class applications and even more so when it's at a spectacular event like this match."

"It was important to use a product that we could print quickly due to the nature of this application, with consistent strong spot colours to match the brand"



Covering the entire team bus including the windows, the vehicle wrap was printed onto an innovative PVC material from Drytac's Polar range

David Derbyshire, managing director at Astra Signs, explains why the company chose Drytac Polar:

"It was important to use a product that we could print quickly due to the nature of this application, with consistent strong spot colours to match the brand. Installation of this material worked really well within the time constraints provided and, equally, the material was easy to remove leaving no marks or residue. The client was very happy with the end result."

The Drytac Polar range comprises a series of printable media designed for eye-catching applications in even the most extreme conditions including window displays in low temperatures or the environmental conditions endured by vehicle graphics.

www.drytac.com

Horizon signs deal for third Durst system in major investment program

Horizon completed the signing of a third Durst production system at FESPA in May as part of a move to future-proof its fast-growing business in the final stages of a major investment program in Dublin, Ireland.

Durst has agreed terms to supply a Durst Rho 1312 fully automated with a Smart4 speed advancement tool that improves speed and productivity by 40%. Horizon already has Durst P10 250 HS and Rho 1312 print production systems, which are also automated systems.

Family-owned Horizon is only weeks away from opening an extension to its head office on Navan Road, Dublin, where it has been located for the last 26 years. Having a new facility nearby yet in a separate unit, ensures continuation of the company's disaster recovery planning. The company's expansion includes new finishing machinery.



From left: Peter Bray, Tony Gillen, Richard Bates and Declan Kelly from Durst

“The consistency of the printer ensures there are no colour variations in print runs from start to finish; the colour matches the Pantone spectrum more accurately than any other machine in its class”

With a design and print hub, Horizon specialises in retail, POS, outdoor advertising and interactive digital in Ireland and works for a cross-section of clients including blue chip companies.

Director Tony Gillen says: “Our decision to once again partner with Durst was an easy one. The Durst 1312 Automate is state of the art and will increase our capacity significantly. The consistency of the printer ensures there are no colour variations in print runs from start to finish. As for colour matching, it matches the Pantone spectrum more accurately than any other machine in its class.

“We pride ourselves on our ability to react to our customers’ needs without compromising on quality, the cornerstone of our business model. The team at

Durst give us the confidence to develop our business further, as partners they too provide second-to-none service and support. Durst provides us with the confidence to meet our clients’ needs.”

Peter Bray, managing director of Durst UK and Ireland, comments: “Horizon is another prime example of how forward-thinking companies are recognising the significant benefits of continuous investment in latest technologies. We’re delighted that the success it has already had with our technology made it an easy decision to invest again with Durst, which I’m sure will increase Horizon’s profitability and help the team to win more awards.”

www.durst-group.com

Changing the game for personalisation with a Roland Cutter

Sonality is committed to giving customers the freedom to brand baby and children's clothing according to their individual personality via its website where they can "add text, upload images and create unique designs on top quality organic clothing."

Aside from offering the ability to create custom designs, founder Dipe Rajani gives his customers the choice of different heat-transfer material. "One of the things I love about vinyl cutting is the range of different material available. If our customers want to add a little extra 'wow' factor, they can choose to have their designs cut from leopard print, flock or glitter."

After studying the market in detail Dipe decided that using heat transfer vinyl would fit his business. He approached Roland dealer Xpres to find out what his options were.

"Xpres is a brilliant company to work with and I found the team very helpful," says Dipe. "I took their advice and decided to buy a GS-24 cutter from Roland."

When investing in new equipment, Dipe purchased a direct-to-garment device. Since working with these new machines, he has had the chance to weigh up the pros and cons of each.

"The DTG process can be quite fiddly but the GS-24 is incredibly simple and easy to use by comparison; I was ready to go with

"Incredibly simple and easy to use, the cutter has been operating non-stop without a single problem; it just takes anything that's thrown at it"

only an hour of training," he says. "Since we launched Sonality in March, the cutter has been operating non-stop without a single problem; it just takes anything that's thrown at it".

Reliability and efficiency were major factors in Dipe's choice. Since his customers have an almost limitless choice of designs no two orders are alike and as such, it's impossible to prepare



The GS-24 cutter from Roland is being used on heat transfer vinyl

orders in advance. Once the customer submits an order, the website automatically produces a pdf containing their design.

"It's very efficient for me, once the order comes through, the cutter can start working within two minutes," concludes Dipe. "I want Sonality to become a big name in the kids clothing and gifting market and I'm already looking at expanding my capabilities. I'd like to have a few cutters preloaded with different vinyl so that I can prepare orders even faster and looking into purchasing a printer/cutter to give my customers even more options."

www.rolanddg.co.uk





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Compression tool increases cutting productivity

The Design Shop in Barnstaple is an established commercial signage, print and interior design company that offers an exceptionally varied range of services and products. From its manufacturing facility in North Devon, the company can make everything from banners, feather flags, vehicle graphics, PoS and PoP displays, roller banners, exhibition stands, internal and external signage thanks to its in-house digital printing, CNC machining and laser cutting. For the past 15 years the business has relied on the expert support of Industrial Tooling Corporation (ITC).

The Design Shop's Adam Paull says: "For years, we have been using routing tools from ITC on a wide variety of applications and materials. We have used its 3, 4, 6 and 8mm diameter multi-purpose tools down the years as they have always provided the best all round performance on materials from Foamex and Perspex through to aluminium, acrylic, Di-bond and just about anything else. However, as our company has evolved, so have our tooling requirements – and ITC has been there every step of the way.

"We were previously using a 6mm diameter tool for machining 18mm thick plywood sheets (8 by 4 ft) and were using a standard routing tool. However, we were cutting ply sheets more frequently for bars, restaurants and exhibition displays and we needed to improve our machining



For years the Design Shop has been using routing tools from ITC

performance. Sally at ITC recommended ITC's 2091 Series compression tool. We immediately went from almost 2m/min feed rate up to 10m/min, cutting sheets more than 5 times faster than before.

Furthermore, the previous tool could only process five 8 by 4 ft sheets before burn-out. The new 2091 Series will process 15 sheets before we need a tool change. This gives us three times the tool life and five times the productivity. Additionally, the edge finishes are vastly improved and we no longer have to spend 10-15 minutes hand-finishing the edges of each sheet."

Not only is ITC supplying industry leading tooling solutions to the Design Shop, the UK cutting tool experts are backing up the products with uncompromising service and technical support.

"The new tool can run at higher feeds and speeds to improve productivity while the coating technology dissipates the heat and prevents burrs from building-up and the waste material from welding to the tool and impacting tool life"



Secondary hand finishing of plywood has been reduced with ITC tools



“Whenever we have a new material to cut I am straight on the phone to Sally Hunt for advice,” says Adam. “She will always specify the right tool for the application. This technical support is invaluable. On numerous occasions, I have called or emailed Sally at 5pm and we have received tools the next day. For a busy business like ours, this customer service and technical support is critical to our success.”

This technical support was recently called upon when the Design Shop had a number of projects that had to be machined from 3mm thick grey aluminium with poor machine-ability attributes.

“We had a series of aluminium signs to produce for external shop and bar signs and were finding our existing tools could cut the soft aluminium but there were excessive burrs and the material was welding itself to the tools, generating poor tool life,” explains Adam. “Sally suggested the 180-2362-10K-STA with ITC’s new Iridis coating technology; the results were staggering.”

The proprietary coating technology prevents chips from welding to the cutting tool, even when undertaking dry machining where excessive heat can be generated. For the Design Shop, this has improved tool life by more than 50%. However, the key feature is the surface finishes.

“With the heat generation from the previous tool we were witnessing excessive burrs on the edges of the parts



ITC is backing the products with service and technical support

and this resulted in considerable secondary hand finishing,” concludes Adam. “The new tool can run at higher feeds and speeds to improve productivity and the coating technology dissipates the heat and prevents burrs from building-up and the waste material from welding to the tool and impacting tool life. We couldn’t be happier with the cutting tools we get from ITC but more important

to us is the service and technical expertise that supports us as we drive the business forward.”

www.itc-ltd.co.uk



ITC tools have always provided the best all round performance on materials from Foamex and Perspex through to aluminium, acrylic and Di-bond



Plywood project machined with ITC tools

Renault F1 relies on Roland for colour consistency

When you're one of the best car racing teams in the world, you need the very best graphics. That's why Renault F1 Team has chosen Roland DG's TrueVIS VG2 to produce its Grand Prix prints.



"It really makes our life easy when it comes to matching colours exactly for our corporate sponsors and for our own branding on cars, garages and everything we take to races with us"



Renault F1 Team has chosen Roland DG's TrueVIS VG2 to produce its Grand Prix prints.



Renault F1 Team has relied on Roland TrueVIS for many years, using the reliable and high quality systems at its Technical Centre in Enstone, Oxfordshire to produce stickers for its racing cars, livery for its support vehicles and displays for its hospitality areas. High end sponsors demand the highest precision in their brand colours and immediate replacement of any damaged advertising graphics; Renault F1 Team always travels with 30 identical versions of every sticker, totalling around 1,400 stickers for every race.

Roland has now upgraded the TrueVIS VG Series with over 40 incredible enhancements, allowing the team to push its boundaries for accuracy, reliability and turnaround speeds even further. Those who have seen the VG2 in action describe it as both 'best printer/cutter' and 'best print device in the industry today'.

Head of paint and graphics Joe McNamara says: "One of the first things we noticed was the improvement in the colour matching, because a lot of what we do covers an entire season. It gives us a good opportunity to have a consistent colour.

"It comes with the new orange swatch which has about a hundred colours in there: yellows and oranges. It really makes our life easy when it comes to matching colours exactly for our corporate sponsors and for our own branding on cars, garages and everything we take to races with us."

A video featuring Joe and his review of the new TrueVIS VG2 is available to watch now: www.youtube.com/watch?v=URjA-6sT6Wk where he notes that the new TR2 inks deliver brilliant bonding and stretching abilities for vehicle wrapping applications

and their fast-drying time allows his team to print, laminate and ship graphics to Renault F1 Team colleagues across the world on the same day. The VG2's perf-cut feature is making work "much easier" when producing multiples of the same sticker, while the new media clamp system is "a really clever piece of engineering".

"What's really impressive about this machine is what it can do for the price it's pitched at," he says. "To have that colour gamut for that price point is really amazing. I just don't know how Roland does it."

www.rolanddg.co.uk

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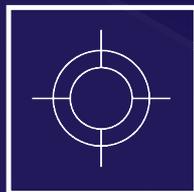
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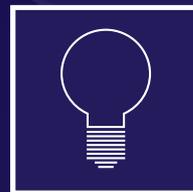
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Project management software provides smooth system for vinyl installations

In early 2019 Vinyl Graphics (VGL) implemented a project management software system specifically designed and built for the signage, graphics and installation industry. Vism was selected to save time and improve customer service and satisfaction for VGL's installation process, replacing the company's existing systems and embarking on a long term relationship to help further improve operational efficiency.

VGL specialises in cut vinyl display solutions for vehicles, buildings and is particularly strong in the retail market with many leading high street brands as customers. With large numbers of installations required across the UK, each of varying size and complexity, managing the process is very important.

Installation project manager Richard Brown explains: "We offer a full range of installation and fitting styles for projects both large and small. From site survey to completion, our nationwide network of highly skilled installers enables us to choose the most experienced team for each project. This is a key part of our business and we are always looking to improve efficiency and customer satisfaction.

"Until recently we used Dropbox to communicate install information to our installers. This system had become unwieldy and inefficient, particularly as folder trees built up quickly resulting in



VGL specialises in cut vinyl display solutions for vehicles, buildings and is particularly strong in the retail market

installers and VGL co-ordinators spending lots of time clicking through multiple folder layers until they found the right place."

VGL also used Dropbox to receive and store photos, documents and other information associated with the installation sites.

"There was no clear notification that completion photos had been uploaded, which meant we had to continually check the folders to see if pictures were in there

and then keep chasing the installers if they weren't. Similarly, there was nothing to let installers know when additional documents or other information had been uploaded by VGL."

Further restrictions created by using Dropbox were that documentation needed to be created on other software systems, meaning there was no central locations for job bags, proofs, purchase orders and other associated documents.

"There was no clear and simple way for customers to sign off installation work, thereby enabling us to close the job and invoice the customer," adds Richard. "We wanted to implement a system that would provide more thorough communication between co-ordinators and installers. This was particularly important for communications from installers to co-ordinators to ensure that we knew exactly when the job had been signed off by the customer and that completion pictures were taken and properly stored.

"We had a good look at Vism and felt that it was an easy to use system that could comfortably handle our key requirements," says Richard. "The implementation process went very smoothly. I drafted a few emails with basic instructions on how to use Vism while inviting installers to sign up. Most were able to figure out how to use it and were up and running almost immediately.



From site survey to completion, VGL's nationwide network of highly skilled installers enables the company to choose the most experienced team for each project.



“Vism has improved both the customer service aspect of our install department and improved the efficiency of how we communicate information to installers; this helps us to invoice jobs more quickly and reduce the cost of errors or delays due to lack of information”

The biggest battle was convincing them to use a different method of working but as soon as they saw the simplicity of Vism, most were much happier to get on board.

“We do not operate multiple systems so if an installer is not signed up for Vism we are not able to communicate install information to them. If they want to work with us they have to sign up which only takes a few minutes. By insisting on signing up, we can ensure that we have every install logged on the system, which gives us a complete view of all our current, completed and pending installations.

“We can clearly see from the colour coded calendar on Vism all of the jobs we are still waiting sign-off for and chase installers with accurate, up-to-date information to hand. This is something we simply couldn't do when we were running things on Dropbox.”

VGL's clients are now receiving completion photos and on-site sign-off confirmations the moment jobs are fully completed by the installers.

“This has dramatically improved the customer service level of the install department at VGL, making us much more responsive and able to give the customer the information they need,” continues Richard. “Written job information was previously communicated by us to the installer on the PO which meant that if any additional information was provided to us late we had to reproduce the entire PO and send it to the installer again, causing delays and adding the potential for errors.

“Vism has a Notes function that allows us to add notes at any time after the job has been created and the installers receive an immediate notification on their smartphones to let them know info has been added. This saves time in the installation process and ensures we complete the install to the customers' up-to-date specification, even if these requirements change late in the day. This is something that happens quite often in this business.”

Vism managing director Dan Tyler comments: “Vism is a specifically designed and comprehensive system for installations and we are in constant discussion with our clients to ensure we keep adding new functionality that is relevant and required. For example, our latest monthly release includes a sub-contract module that now makes it possible for two companies to collaborate on the same jobs simultaneously.

large retail customers has more than 500 stores and these have all been uploaded into Vism so all we have to do is type in the store name and it will show us the full address. The time this saves reduces the overall time for the install, which has a positive effect on our bottom line profitability.”

VGL's managing director David Gray says: “My main focus is to ensure that VGL offers a first class service to all customers. Vism is a welcome addition to our business and has already improved the quality of our communication with our installers and customers alike. What has been clearly demonstrated is that Vism are here to work with their customers, listen to how we work and the challenges we face and develop their software in a collaborative way. We have already had updates that have been a direct consequence of feedback we have given and this makes it feel like a true partnership between the two companies.”

Richard Brown is delighted with how the system has helped the company improve its installation process.

“Vism has improved both the customer service aspect of VGL's install department and improved the efficiency of how we communicate install information to installers. This helps us to invoice jobs more quickly and reduce the cost of errors or delayed installations due to lack of information. It is a great system that has had a hugely positive effect on our business and will continue to do so as our business and the software develops.”

www.vismapp.com

This provides an important saving in time by reducing the need to gather and enter information from other parties and reduces the potential for errors in the process.”

Vism runs an online chat function that is always available for any users that require help.

“They often respond within 5-10 minutes to all issues,” says Richard. “They welcome feedback on the software and are keen to make changes if they will benefit users across the board.”

Vism allows VGL to store and instantly access all of their client data including site contacts and addresses.

“This saves us a huge amount of time because before we had to manually track down this information each time installs were booked. For example, one of our



With large numbers of installations required across the UK, each of varying size and complexity, managing the process is very important.

PRODUCT Choice

Boosting production with smaller footprint

Quality Print Services (QPS) has installed two Roland Texart XT-640 printers at cycle jersey specialist EventureWorks. Both high speed dye sublimation devices are running Nazdar's NDT600 Series bulk ink systems.

Replacing five older models, the machines were installed in May 2019 and will enable EventureWorks to expand its product offerings and speed up turnaround while reducing its footprint. Ideal for businesses needing a robust solution for dye sublimation transfer printing including sportswear, fashion, soft signage, interior decoration and promotional merchandise, the Texart XT-640 has been designed to combine superb quality, productivity and value with ease-of-use.

EventureWorks specialises in custom-printed cycle jerseys made to its customers' own designs, as well as supplying limited edition jerseys created with the permission of the relevant company or artist.

Director Brian Gibb comments: "We moved to new premises in March 2019 and wanted to reduce the footprint of some of the older printing equipment we had in house and speed up our operations while retaining the quality our business is renowned for. The new Roland XT-640 high-speed dye sublimation printers perfectly fit the bill."

The new printers have been installed with Nazdar NDT600 Series high quality, alternative inks in bulk ink systems (BIS),



also supplied by QPS. Designed for use on any printer platform using Epson print head technology, these inks deliver an incredibly high print density, meaning customers can expect strong, vibrant prints using less ink. This in turn means less bleed when used for direct-to-substrate applications, while prints dry faster, allowing end users to use lower weight and therefore lower cost heat transfer paper. Quicker drying inks are also essential as printers get faster, helping to accelerate workflow.

"We moved to new premises in March 2019 and wanted to reduce the footprint of some of the older printing equipment we had in house and speed up our operations while retaining the quality our business is renowned for"



The Texart XT-640 has been designed to combine superb quality, productivity and value with ease-of-use

Moreover, Nazdar inks are typically up to 30% cheaper than those offered by the original equipment manufacturer. The Nazdar BIS enables moderate and heavy users of inks to lower their ink costs even more while streamlining their production process and reducing waste.

Brian continues: "The installation process for the printers was very straightforward and we've used Nazdar inks since 2005 so know they work well. Chris Bailey at QPS has advised us for many years now and we are fully confident in the recommendations he makes and the support QPS provides. Quite simply, QPS are knowledgeable and reliable people to work with."

www.eventureworks.com
www.qualityprintservices.com

TRAINING: Hands On

Learning the value of letters

Since August 2018, Make it Happen has been offering workshops and training that are available to all ISA-UK (formerly BSGA) full and affiliate members with up to £600 financial support towards the cost. Martin from Sign Update accepted a place on the Dress Down Hands On practical training day.

This CPD (continuing professional development) accredited training programme took place in the factory of SignFab (UK) Ltd, with most of the day spent in the factory environment. The course is aimed at supporting sales and project managers in their roles by providing them with a first-hand insight, allowing for a greater understanding of the products that are sold day to day in the industry.

When you appreciate the huge number of steps required in creating built up letters, you soon realise their value, which can really help from a sales point of view. I have had so many salespeople (non-signage related) quote a price but then not detail the work and costs involved. I don't always want the cheapest, I want quality; I want to know where the value is in the product. The salesman should be able to demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the product and this course enables that.

Bending by hand

I would have expected SignFab to have had at least one letter bending machine but no, it's all done by hand. SignFab have had three different automated fabricating machines in the past, all of which have been removed on the basis that they did not achieve the standards or volume of work that they required.



The quality of the tray and letter was very high and would have required many days of preparation before the course.

The curves in the number '1' were a little tricky but with the guidance from their four staff members assigned to supporting the training programme, we soon got the job done. After a demonstration we then soldered the returns to the face.

Next, we put on overalls to watch their state-of-the-art powder coating process



The curves in the number '1' were a little tricky but with guidance from SignFab's four staff members, we soon got the job done

'This course is intended to give Sales staff and Project Managers an appreciation of the craft, workmanship, complexity and timescales involved in producing a sign. This enables delegates to understand the true value of the products that are sold on a daily basis.'

and two huge brake presses (one is electric and the other is hydraulic) used to create the right angles required to make the aluminium trays. We practised a new tinted lacquer process in the wet spraying department, to try and achieve a smooth and even coat on a small sheet of stainless steel, easier said than done!

The final section in the workshop involved assembling all of the components we had worked on throughout the day: the sign tray with its backing panel; our fabricated number with an opal backtray; mounting the LEDS; and manufacturing a Lumaire light panel to be installed in the stencil cut section. This part was quite an eye opener: there are so many components involved in this one off 400mm square panel.

To finish our day, we fully wired up our sign and hoped that the lights came on, they did, in more ways than one!

www.makeih.co.uk
www.signfab.co.uk



The stainless-steel number '1' was wet-sprayed with 6 layers of rose gold tinted lacquer

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USE CODE '30YEARS' FOR AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER

Light years ahead

By Jack Gocher

To understand lighting solutions and which products fit the bill as a merchant, we must go back in time and see how and why it all began. Over the last twenty to thirty years lighting has become a necessity in retail, mainly because the world itself has changed. In the past, retail shops often closed by 5pm, with Saturday early closure and Sunday a ghost town. So, more often than not there wasn't much need for artificial lighting. Somewhere along the line we swapped the building of immense cathedrals and churches and turned instead to building skyscrapers and big financial office blocks. At that point industry changed and closing later gave people an edge over their competitors and biblical weekends turned into the biggest earners for high street retailers.

Before we completely derail let's move to how? It mainly started with the Swan Neck lights with big halogen bulbs. They were, and still are, a very graceful method of lighting a sign, but it wasn't cost effective. Retailers needed several going across and wiring them all together was taxing. In came the trough lights with fluorescent tubes. This was another elegant way of

lighting a sign and still popular to this day. Easy to install and wire, Trough lighting has become a long-term favourite with shop owners. They are also popular with local councils as they usually stay within the keeping of the area.

Next came the big, heavy, industrial lightboxes. Inside these you would find various sided fluorescent tubes and gear trays. Made popular by take away shops during the fast food revolution of the 90s. Fish and chips, kebab, Chinese and Indian take away were the main consumers. Staying open till early hours of the night to help energise the post pub graduates, they needed to be seen from a distance. Saying that the lightboxes are a very good method of signage but not the most ascetically pleasing. The fluorescent tubes were difficult to dispose of and not very reliable so it was an easy transfer to LEDs. Eventually all trough and lightboxes have moved to LED lights only, especially in the last couple of years.



Stylish trough lighting is the modern norm

In the mid-2000s the LED lighting came into play in the sign industry and into other domestic and commercial industries. This was due to the ever-increasing fears of global warming surfacing and the increase in utility bills. LEDs have a very low energy consumption and thus resulting to lower bills and off course greener.

"White Villa moved on to LED sign lighting in 2009," says James Kalel, Director of White Villa Ltd. "Our LED tubes have built in transformers making them very easy to install and our module lights are perfect for stencilled and 3D lettering."

The growth in demand for aluminium composite panels such as White Villa's VillaBond, also had an influence on the sign industry. VillaBond is more cost effective and makes it easier to stencil lettering than pure aluminium. As a result, LED modules using transformers started to make significant movement in the sign industry because it allows users to influence precisely where lighting can be beamed.

Kalel concludes: "In the last twelve months LED modules with built in transformer have started to hit the market. We are investigating into them, but as of yet the technology is so new and complex we are waiting until we are feel they will be of real benefit to our customers. But from what we have seen so far, I am fairly confident this is something that we will be investing into in the near future."

www.whitevilla.co.uk



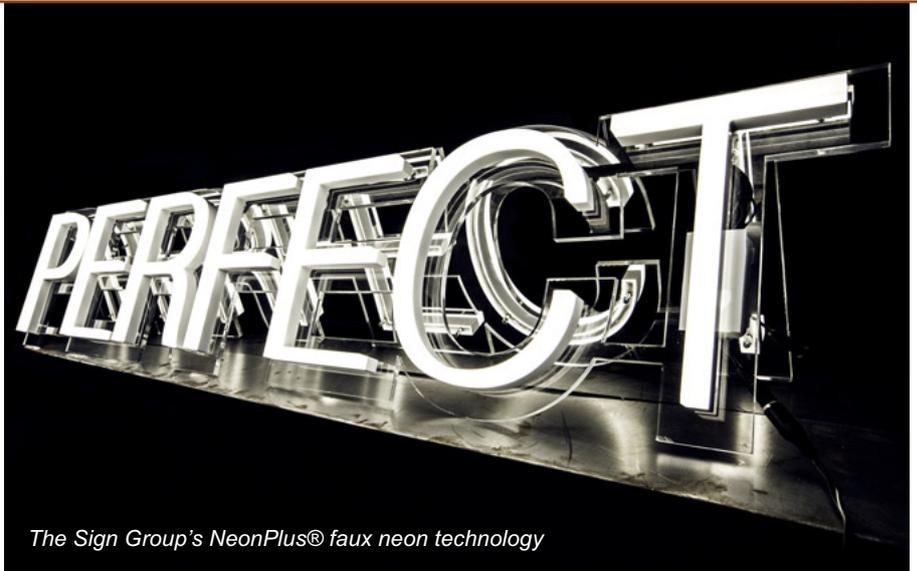
Light boxes provide bright, even lighting for specific requirements

Lighting up the future

Over the last few years, designers have become increasingly creative with how they use signage products for lighting. End users are looking for the next best thing and are no longer happy to settle for boring or ordinary and why should they?

Lydia Wrightson, Production & Marketing, The Sign Group, comments: "We're very lucky in that we work with such a broad range of clients, from sign fitters and shop fitters, to visual merchandisers, high end designers and architects. As a company, we like to have one foot in the present and one in the future. The people we work with help us achieve this by challenging us to create new and innovative products to incorporate into their design, whether for a retail space or for a night club event."

She continues; "It's thanks to this productive environment that The Sign Group created its NeonPlus range. We were tasked with creating a product to replicate neon, without using the traditional methods. It needed to be low voltage, easier to install and more robust. After much head scratching and prototyping, our lightbulb moment came, and we developed the first rigid faux neon product in the UK (possibly even the world!). It was the start of something totally awesome for us. We put everything we had in to developing the product range, taking feedback from our customers on how it could be improved and even having the range fully tested by BSI. We were



The Sign Group's NeonPlus® faux neon technology

amazed with the success of the range and the different ways in which our customers were using it. Not just for signage but for lighting, window and art installations and this opened up even more avenues for us."

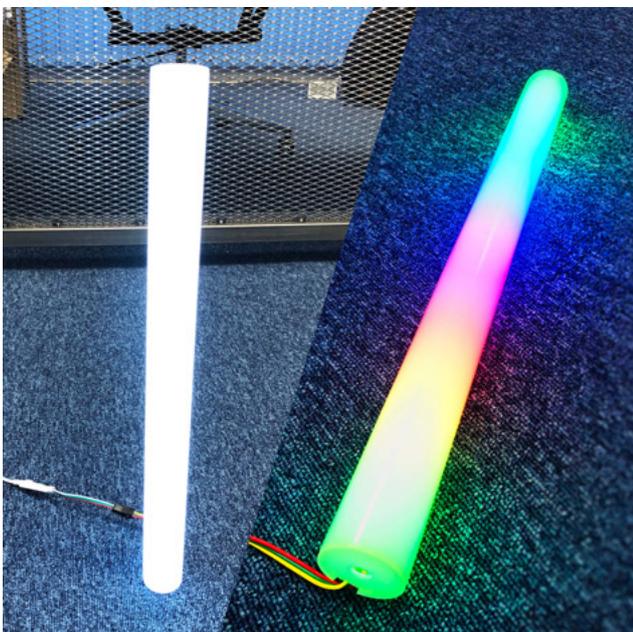
NeonPlus Digital was launched in 2017, with its faux neon embedded with fully addressable LED. With a few clicks users can programme the LED to illuminate any colour on the spectrum or even follow a complex pattern such as a crackling fire or city lights. The company's latest product, NP Tube, also uses this technology and allows animated effects to be programmed over numerous tubes as a collective, as well as along a single tube itself. Both products have proven to be very popular, especially with visual merchandisers.

Addressable LED has been at the forefront of lighting and display design throughout

2018 and 2019 as end-users strive to create a unique experience for their customers. Whether it is used in digital screens or in products such as LIGEO or NeonPlus. "The idea of a retailer having static lighting in their store or window displays these days seems almost barmy!" says Wrightson. "In a recent survey we carried out, the results showed that 64% of people think a bright and eye-catching sign using creative lighting effects would attract their attention more than something simply informative."

When it comes to choosing which innovative lighting product is right for you, there is no one size fits all. Each brand has a different tone of voice, each customer is looking to put their own personal stamp on the design world. Brands evolve all the time and trends and targets can alter daily. The thought of being able to change your signage, lighting and displays at the click of a button is very attractive to retailers and other end users; which is why Wrightson thinks addressable technology is now so sought after.

She concludes: "In this ever-changing market, companies like ours need to keep an ear to the ground. If you don't, you risk missing the next big thing and being left behind. Within a year or so of us launching NeonPlus, other companies had started to produce their own rigid faux neon products and although we knew we had years of research and development under our belts compared to them, we couldn't simply wait for them to catch up. Our NeonPlus range will never be finished, as we continually add new products as the trends and markets change and technologies advance. We're in the middle of an LED revolution and here at The Sign Group, we're excited to see where it takes us next."



The Sign Group's NeonPlus® faux neon technology

www.thesigngroup.co.uk

LIGHTING Feature

Let there be light

Perspex Distribution (PDL) has been providing illuminated sheet materials for signage, print and display industries for over 15 years. This offering was enhanced about 7 years ago when PDL started distributing the latest LED technology for signage and display bringing together the latest Perspex® acrylic innovation with LED technology.

Last year PDL announced a new partnership with European based LED manufacturers BaltLED to distribute its LED systems in the UK. The latest new product to be added the BaltLED range is PDL's smallest ever LED module, the BaltLED Crown Mini, offering illumination in channel letters only 20mm deep. With a module width of only 7.5mm, the Crown Mini is one of the smallest LED modules on the market. The module is particularly effective for sign makers seeking to illuminate hard to reach corners within small channel letters.

Luke Martyn, Marketing Manager for PDL, says: "BaltLED Crown Mini has been developed with customer ease in mind. The module is supplied with a special packaging card and rotating application ensuring the modules can be unrolled quickly and easily and without the risk of tangled wires. A memory wire is also connected to the modules enabling the installer to form the precise shape without fear of the wires bending out."

BaltLED's comprehensive module range for channel letters and lightboxes include the Crown OPTO S range with a 5 year warranty and Crown OPTO X range with a lengthy 7 year warranty, offering solutions



PDL's 7.5mm wide BaltLED Crown MINI module

for illuminating depths from 30mm up to 350mm. The product portfolio also includes solutions for double-sided illumination and an accompanying range of power supplies.



The BaltLED S0 module offers great levels of brightness

Explaining their decision to supply Perspex Distribution, Vilius Raulusevicius, UK Sales Director at BaltLED, said "We are delighted to be working alongside Perspex Distribution and believe that our BaltLED products offer the best range of brightness to complement their specialist LED substrates. Perspex Distribution has been the first choice substrate supplier for signage in the UK for many years and we have seen our LEDs compliment their specialist LED substrates with eye-catching illuminated signage. We look forward to the future and are excited to bring further new technology to the UK market with PDL soon"

The LED offering from PDL doesn't end there and includes an extensive range of flexible LED strips, which are also available for next day delivery. Alongside industry staples of 3528 mono colour and 5050 RGB grade LEDs, the product offering extends to new bendable S-LED modules designed to illuminate intricate curves within channel and block acrylic letters.

New side emitting strip LEDs are also now available for edge lighting and design led applications. Martyn concludes: "Perspex Distribution support sign-makers with a free comprehensive layout service ensuring the most cost effective modules are specified for the project."

www.perspex.co.uk/LED.



BaltLED X4 module signage includes 7 year warranty

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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.



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Portland lights up the Industry

Portland Lighting opened its doors in January 1994 in less than salubrious surroundings in Witton, Birmingham. Following the move to a brand new 15,000 square foot development in Walsall, West Midlands, which includes a brand new state of the art powder coating plant, the company's Managing Director, David Harrison says: "Starting with just 2 lanterns as a product range, our fortunes took off with the addition of the Signlux fluorescent trough light later that year. Over time, new sign lighting products were added until the evolution of LED came along to test us fluorescent dinosaurs."

Portland's LED trough sign lighting range is now in its 4th generation. It has been developed from 25 years of experience and by listening to the very specific wants and needs of sign-fitter's for easy installation and performance.

Introduced in December 2017, the Ecolux Mini incorporates many new features and improvements and Portland says it is the UK's No. 1 selling sign lighting system. Its



Ecolux Mini in action at the O2 store in New Street Birmingham



Stylish lighting solutions provided by Ecolux Super Lens

sleek 45mm casing is the smallest in the UK, with integral drivers and a 5-way adjustable Multi bracket with spring clip fixing, makes it a delight for sign-fitters offering rapid installation times.

Behind Ecolux Mini's 90° magnifying lens, the superb 1650 lumen 14.4W per metre LEDs deliver a punch to sign facias and an unrivalled performance of even illumination. For optimum lighting performance, full photometry compatible with RELUX and DIALUX lighting design programmes is available to download.

Harrison adds: "The new Multi bracket is double slotted and has a chamber allowing the fitter to orientate the back plate fixing position from horizontal to vertical overcoming any fixing problems in an instant. Multi bracket gives cold fingers a break from spanners with 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. This simple but innovative idea offers the fitter the fastest and most versatile fixing installation available over any trough light in the UK. Smart new cast end caps with rear entry cable glands tidy and conceal unsightly cables from view."

Longer runs of Ecolux Mini can be formed quickly and easily. An IP68 connector is concealed within a new cast aluminium chamber and sits comfortably in a step grommet, allowing cables to easily and freely pass through.

“As always with Portland Lighting products Ecolux Mini has been independently tested and certified by the Lighting Industry Association laboratories with all certificates readily available upon request,” says Harrison. “Portland Lighting are proud of their innovations in sign lighting. Ecolux Mini has added registered design protection to ensure the future as the leading LED sign lighting manufacturer.”

Portland’s LED sign lighting range includes Ecolux Super Lens, an LED trough lighting system for evenly illuminating bigger signage and larger format signs up to 5 metres deep. Ecolux Solar is the first UK

LED trough light with the capability to constantly illuminate signs from dusk to dawn all year round.

Harrison concludes: “Ecolux Solar, in conjunction with our solar trading partners Zeta Specialist lighting is the option for the environmentally friendly illumination of retail and billboard signage. Where any sign installation has no power Ecolux Solar LED eliminates the expense required for running cable and significantly reduces installation time and other associated costs. Our stylish sign lighting products also include the contemporary Bullet light, traditional swan neck/cowl lights, and flood lighting. As with all Portland Lighting products they are very competitively priced and available next day delivery in a range of RAL colours.”

www.portlandlighting.co.uk



Ecolux Solar provides an environmentally friendly lighting solution

Using trough lights to illuminate your signs

Vision Lighting are a manufacturer and supplier of sign lighting, located in Leeds, West Yorkshire. With over 30 years’ experience working in and alongside the signage industry, Vision Lighting say they are uniquely positioned to provide high-quality products with high-quality customer service.

There are many methods available for illuminating signage. Internal illumination,

external illumination, halo effect built up letters and more. Vision Lighting believes the most simple and cost-effective lighting solution for the end user is trough lighting. Dan Bagga, Director of Vision Lighting, says: “In today’s highly competitive marketplace it is more important than ever to get your business noticed. One of the key reasons businesses choose to illuminate their signs at night is to attract attention. A sign that is brightly illuminated is instantly more visible than those around

it that are not as bright, or not illuminated at all. It can help your business to stand out from local competitors. Business owners can experiment with lighting applications, both indoors and outdoors, to match their branding and add value through a consistent brand identity built in the customers mind.”

.....Continued on page 56



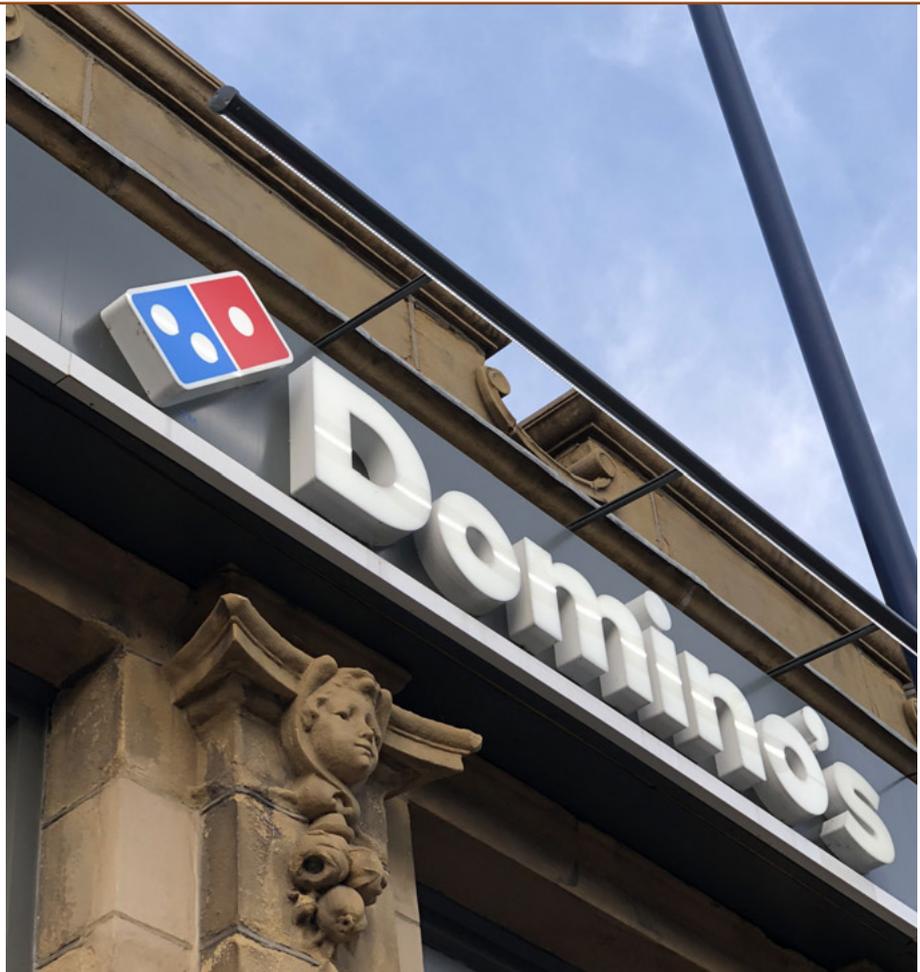
Vision Lighting’s elegant Nanolight trough lighting system



LIGHTING Feature

He continues: "It is only because of Vision Lightings' extensive knowledge and experience in sign lighting applications that we have been able to rectify the biggest problem facing the industry, water ingress. Until now, trough lights have often been problematic when used to illuminate signs. Business owners would have their signs installed and a trough light to illuminate it, expecting the unit to last for up to 5 years or beyond, only for it to become water damaged within one to two years. Exposed to the increasingly harsh climate and environmental conditions, water ingress is a wide spread issue, especially in coastal environments."

Vision Lighting strives to provide high quality, efficient and long-lasting lighting products so that business owners can have confidence when choosing to use a trough light to illuminate their signs. Nanolight is the latest sign lighting solution offered by the company. Nanolight is the first to market to achieve an IP66 rating. It is dust-tight and protected against powerful water jets. "Since its launch in April 2017, reports of water ingress



Vision's trough lighting in action



problems are a thing of the past," says Bagga. "With high quality, high-efficiency custom LED technology unique to Vision Lighting, premium Tridonic LED drivers, and a lighting profile sealed to IP66, Nanolight is truly a long-term, efficient lighting solution built to last."

Nanolight is up to 70% more energy-efficient (11.5 Watts per metre) and up to 80% brighter (140 Lumens per Watt) compared to fluorescent illumination methods that are 40 Watts per metre and 80 Lumens per Watt. Vision Lighting is set to increase this efficiency in 2019 with new LED strip technology. The company has maintained an 11.5 Watts per metre power consumption while increasing the brightness from 140 Lumens per Watt to 190 Lumens per Watt. That's an impressive 35% increase in brightness from its previous technology and a big improvement in efficiency compared to like for like competing units, making Nanolight the more economical choice for customers.

Vision Lighting is set to increase this efficiency in 2019 with new LED strip technology

Dan Bagga concludes, "Vision Lighting offers a choice of LED colour to customers. Available is 6000K Cool White and 3000K Warm White. RGB Colour changing LEDs are available for those who require coloured lighting to match their brand identity. Lighting when used correctly can increase your brand awareness."

www.vision-lighting.co.uk



Shedding some light on the sign trade

iSpi Trade is one of the premier suppliers to the UK sign industry well known for its extensive range of sign fixings and illuminating lighting products. These include Signalite, its LED sign fixings, LED window displays in a variety of sizes and LED strips.

Stephen Ferrie, Director of iSpi Trade, says: "Signalite LED sign standoffs are a cost-effective and high-quality trade product. They deliver a great low price sign fixing product fitted with a ring of LED lamps, perfect for use with an acrylic sign panel providing instant and intense illumination, which is ideal for pubs, clubs, low light hallways and modern retail stores."

Manufactured in satin finished aluminium, with a barrel length and diameter of 25mm, Signalite fixings are electrically powered and require each wired fixing to be connected to a junction box which is then powered with a supplied plug into the mains electrical system.

"These really do offer a unique way to illuminate signage and are proving very popular amongst sign installers and retail shopfitting customers," adds Ferrie. "They are also available in a range of four different colours of LEDs, blue, red, green and white/bright to provide greater flexibility."

He continues: "One of the top selling and trending products, which combines lighting and signage in one, are LED window display systems. While these have been a popular product with estate agents and letting agents for several years, iSpi Trade has seen many new business types taking advantage of these illuminating marketing solutions. The perfect solution for high



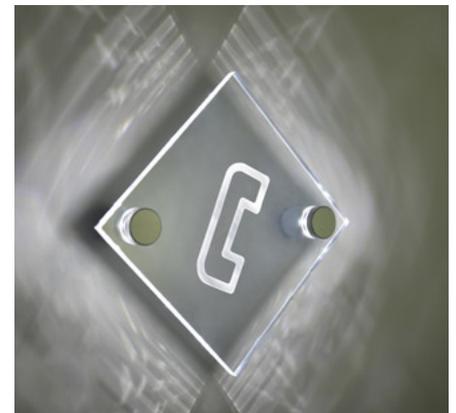
LED Window Display on the high street

street shops and street facing offices, one of the most significant new users of LED window display kits are recruitment companies. A great way to advertise vacancies and attract new clients they have followed estate agents by taking advantage of 24/7 advertising."

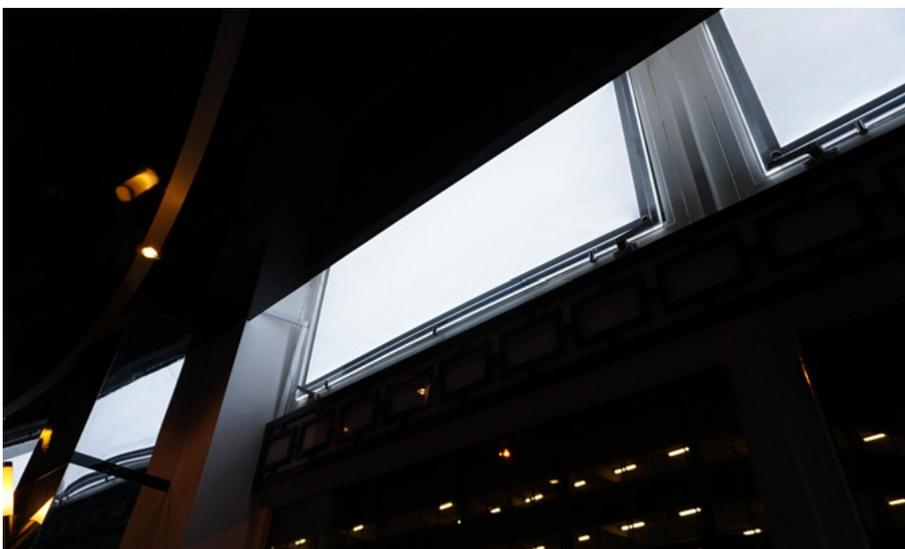
As the high street continues to face its challenges, any advantage a business can gain will go a long way to improve its chances of survival. Restaurants and hair salons have also seen the benefits of using LED displays to increase footfall. A well-illuminated window menu or price list could just offer an edge over competitors.

As a sign installer, you can take advantage of the race to illuminate the high street by supplying these simple to install kits, which offer good profit margins. LED window display kits are flexible when it comes to the configuration as you can mix and match sizes and orientations between A4, A3 and A2 in landscape and portrait options.

"Online and in-store at our new warehouse, iSpi Trade offers a range of LED lighting products including soft strip lighting. LED strips are a great way to add attractive accented lighting to almost any space. They are inexpensive, easy to install and can change the look and ambience of a space instantly," says Ferrie.



Signalite illuminated standoff's



He concludes, "LED Strips are ideal in a wide range of environments, from residential to retail and hospitality. These can be seen around bar areas, kitchens, and in retail stores to highlight products and displays. The range of light colour options includes RGB, which offer an interesting lighting effect to single colour choices. To complete the range of lighting products iSpi Trade offer LED modules, perfect for use in sign boxes they offer adjustable illumination thanks to the LED controller unit, allowing for changes in brightness and even the colour when using the RGB modules."

www.ispi trade.com

Super lighting from Nova

According to Nova Aluminium, lighting in the signage industry has changed dramatically in the last 15 years. In the early days of Nova, every lightbox we supplied was fitted with fluorescent tubes and HPF geartrays. As time went by, the technology evolved and electronic geartrays were the way forward. LED's soon followed behind but were not initially competitive, this however did not take long to change...

Now in the middle of 2019, fluorescent tubes are gathering dust at the back of the cupboard and LED's are taking the signage industry by storm! Lisa Sperring, Sales Manager, says: "Here at Nova, we have an LED solution for almost all applications, from 18mm deep frames to 175mm double sided applications. Every project we are tasked with has a different requirement for the LEDs. From colour temperature to IP rating to warranty and beam angle, the list of demands can be endless. Every LED module that we use has a minimum warranty of 5 years and each has been extensively tested in its relevant system."

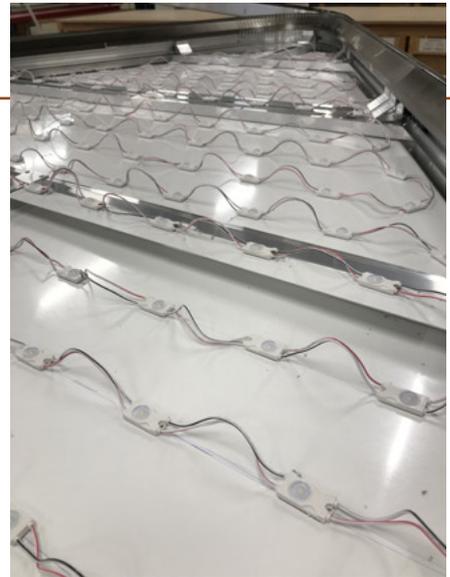
All of Nova's single sided systems use a backlit LED module, including the 40mm deep NovaTex frame, perfect for internal soft signage. The company also offers a pencil driver with this system so that it can be housed within the frame. Backlit LED's offer a perfectly even light for both acrylic and flex face signage every time. "Our double sided extrusions utilise an edge lit module that is fitted on the long side of the

box to evenly distribute the light. The standard colour temperature for LED lighting in signage is between 6000-6500K; with the increase in sales of internal signage, we are noticing an increase in the popularity of a warmer colour temperature 4500K. Nova is well placed to offer a variety of colour temperatures to suit each project," adds Sperring.

In 2005 Nova launched its overhead lighting system, NovaBeam. This was fitted with T8 fluorescent tubes and bespoke fabricated gear trays. Although still used, NovaBeam has been outshone by its sister system NovaTube. The 80mm diameter of NovaTube is not only easier on the eye, but it was also designed with a specific tape LED in mind. Mounted just 15mm from the diffuser, the LED tape is perfectly positioned to maximise the wash of light.

Sperring continues: "At an unrivalled 19.2 watts per metre, the LEDs in NovaTube will comfortably provide a wash of light in excess of 2500mm. Overhead lighting is becoming increasingly popular, not just because it helps to keep costs down when compared to backlit boxes, but also because of constraints with local planners. With this in mind, NovaTube is available with two options on fixing arms. The most popular is the telescopic fixing bracket, supplied as standard."

The wall-fixing bracket is supplied vertical to the main body section but can be



Nova fits LED's into NovaComp

rotated by 90° to the horizontal position if space is an issue or to overcome any obstacles. The body of the bracket is telescopic up to a projection of 320mm thus allowing the wash of light to be directly above the graphics. In addition to this, the bracket itself has five definite tilt positions, this makes installation simple by locating the desired cog in the main body section. The direction of light is especially important in areas where planning is not easily achieved; using NovaTube allows the light to be directed at the sign below, all the way down to the ground and anywhere in between.

If a more discrete option is required for overhead lighting, Nova suggests marrying NovaTube with the adjustable hood bracket. This allows for the unit to be fitted directly to the top of a frame or sign tray, the bracket has the same adjustment facility as the telescopic option.

"Unlike LED modules our LED tape does not have a built-in diffuser. With a beam angle of 120°, the diffuser we fit in NovaTube is crucial. A 3mm prismatic diffuser works perfectly with NovaTube; our fixed overhead light NovaHood uses a clear diffuser as the light needs to be in a more concentrated area. NovaHood is a fast fit overhead lighting system incorporating the same LED's as NovaTube. NovaHood will easily illuminate signs up to 650mm in depth," she says.

Lisa Sperring concludes: "Nova strives to keep up with the ever-changing LED lighting market and are constantly researching new innovative and more cost-effective methods of illuminating signage of all shapes and sizes. We hope we can help you with your next LED illuminated project."



www.nova-aluminium.com

Majert leads for LED

Quality LED lighting systems offer distinct advantages over traditional fluorescent and neon systems in terms of lower installation and maintenance costs and enhanced environmental and safety awareness. For example, LED modules operate at a much lower voltage (typically 12V), enabling a 70 per cent reduction in energy consumption whilst providing an individual module lifetime of 50,000 hours.

According to Marco Klan, Marketing Director, Majert: "LED lighting solutions from Majert under the popular Chiplite brand comprise a baseline of 12 different LED modules. These provide high-performance solutions for the backlighting of, for example, sign boxes as small as 40mm in depth, individual built-up letters of 30mm in depth upwards, side-illumination for down/uplighters and advanced multi-coloured animated displays."

He continues: "Chiplite LED systems also comprehensively resolve problems associated with cheaper alternative systems from an unreliable and unsupported source. These relate primarily to premature fading of the light source caused by 'yellowing' and 'spotting', leading to early product failure, costly replacement and reduced profitability."

All Chiplite LED modules carry RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous Substances) certification and a CE rating in accordance with BS/EN 55015. They are also IP65/IP67 rated to BS/EN 60529 covering sealing efficiency on electrical enclosures against the ingress of dirt, water and other contaminants. The modules also provide a wide choice of luminous flux, power consumption and optical efficiencies to accommodate virtually any lightbox, sign box or illuminated sign tray lettering requirement.



Closeup of LED lighting strip



Titel NeonFlex replicates the effects of more expensive neon lighting

The modules also provide a wide choice of luminous flux, power consumption and optical efficiencies to accommodate virtually any lightbox, sign box or illuminated sign tray lettering requirement



City centre signage installation featuring Chiplite LED modules

"Notable product innovations from Majert have included the introduction of the CL-FLEXO and CL NEON-FLEX modules. The former is an addition to the popular CL X series that radically improves the efficiency of lightboxes, while the latter faithfully replicates the effects of neon but at a fraction of the cost," adds Klan.

He concludes: "A key benefit of the latest CL-FLEXO module is that it enables shadow-free illumination of lightboxes up to a depth of 40mm via a special optical lens that provides 170 degrees of radiated light. In addition, the use of a flexible circuit board instead of traditional wires between the LED modules avoids problems frequently encountered with other LED lighting systems where the wiring is visible through the illuminated sign face."

www.chiplite.de



Architech Signage

The Architech curved insert system offers an attractive internal and external display solution. Various sizes and styles are available, all with invisible fixings allowing you to add permanent or interchangeable printed or vinyl graphics.

☎ 0118 981 5343 🕒 Weekdays 8am - 7pm

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Wall Mounted

- Suits plank sizes; 50, 100, 150, 215, 300, 420, 500, 600mm
- Portrait, Landscape, Directory, Slider
- Plastic or Metal caps
- Available on same day despatch



Totem

- Suits plank sizes; 300, 420, 500, 600mm
- Single Sided or Double Sided
- Available on next day despatch



Post Mounted

- Suits plank sizes; 300, 420, 500, 600mm
- Double Sided or Single Sided Lectern
- Available on next day despatch

Projecting

- Suits plank sizes; 100, 150, 210, 300mm
- Portrait & Landscape slim & wide, Totem
- Available on next day despatch



Suspended

- Suits plank sizes; 50, 100, 150, 215, 300mm
- Multiple levels can be achieved
- Available on next day despatch

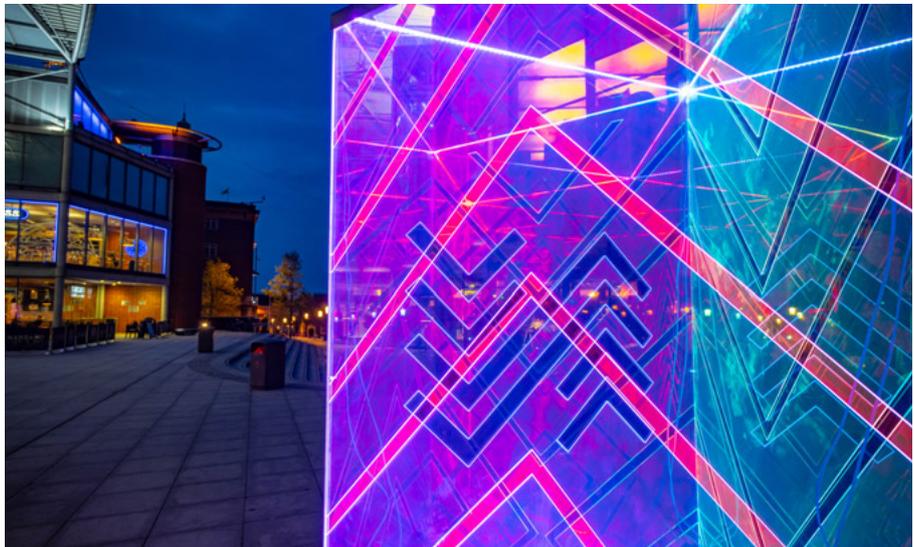


Triangular Prism centrepiece of Norwich rebrand

Norwich Business Improvement District (BID) and VisitNorwich have rebranded the Norwich, the City of Stories campaign as part of Norwich City Council's 2040 vision. It hopes to bring a contemporary and fresh new look across the city ahead of 2020, including new tourist signs around Norwich which are due to be unveiled in the summer and a new-look map featuring eight new districts pinpointing historic and interesting things to do and see.

As part of its rebrand, the City of Stories has been given a new logo which was revealed at its launch day on in May and a poem about the city by A&E nurse Piers Harrison-Reid, was written especially for the occasion.

Executive director of Norwich BID Stefan Gurney says: "As a progressive city we have created a fresh, confident and vibrant look which will help raise awareness of Norwich as a must-visit destination.



Triangular Prism was created from 10mm CNC routed clear acrylic panels, RGB LEDs, Vion Dichroic film, engraving, mirror acrylic top and base to the prism, all set in to a black acrylic and Dibond base

"Anyone can make a sign but it takes a sign maker to make a difference"

FSGsigns/Fitt signs has been a family business for 55 years. Starting from humble beginnings it has grown to a significant national signage and physical branding agency; working with many recognisable names on the high street and well know local clients. In more recent years the business has built on its traditional skills to offer a cutting edge design led service.

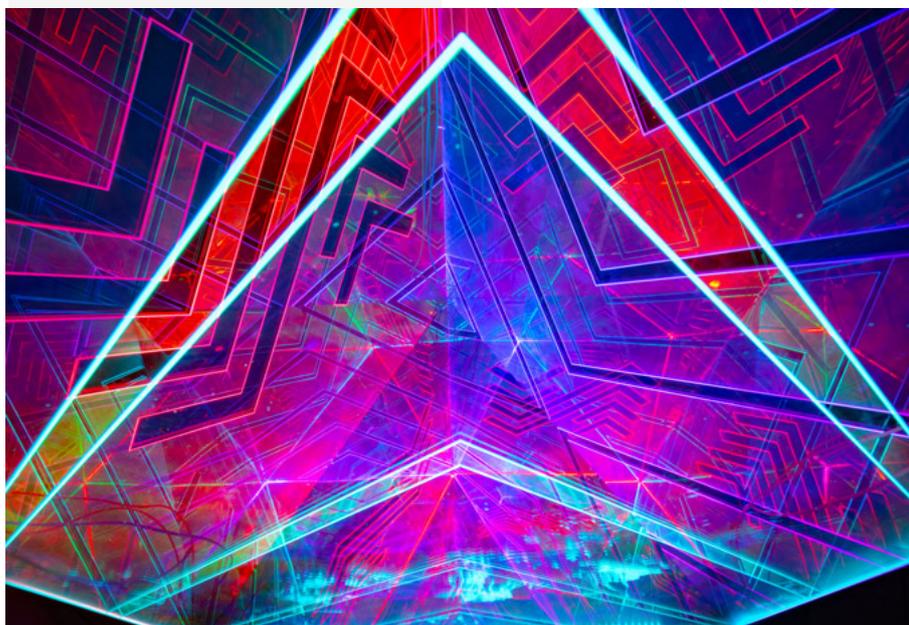
"Collaborating with forward thinking clients allows us to manufacture some amazing products," says managing director Steve Grint. "Norwich Bid approached us with a bold and exciting concept, it was our pleasure to bring that vision to life.

"Although some of our clients are now from much further afield our work force and factory is still very much Norwich based and proud of it. Anyone can make a sign but it takes a sign maker to make a difference.

"Our brief was to create, manufacture and install a piece of art that would promote the new brand identity and rebrand, reflect on the past, present and future of both Norwich Bid and Norwich as a city, become a focal and a talking point and generate social media interest – all in four working days."

Triangular Prism was created from 10mm CNC routed clear acrylic panels, RGB LEDs, Vion Dichroic film, engraving, mirror acrylic top and base to the prism, all set in to a black acrylic and Dibond base.

www.fsgsigns.co.uk





Signage and graphics create calming atmosphere for children's centre

Lustalux has designed and installed all the signs and graphics for the Caudwell International Children's Centre, a new specialist autism facility near Keele in Staffordshire. The Preston-based company were chosen to oversee and deliver the whole signage project.

Part funded personally by Phones4U entrepreneur and philanthropist John Caudwell, the stunning £18million building is a groundbreaking childhood neurodevelopmental research centre and the first of its kind in the UK.

Chief executive Trudi Beswick says: "Our aim is to revolutionise the way millions of people in the UK affected by the condition can be helped and this wouldn't have been possible without the support of Lustalux and all the other businesses who have helped build and launch our new centre."

"Lustalux is proud to have been involved with such a great project and delighted to be invited to attend the grand opening carried out by John Caudwell himself," comments managing director Richard Lancaster. "An auspicious day for a stunning building with a great purpose. Well done to everyone involved!"

Lustalux was initially contacted by the architects C4 Projects in 2015 with a simple requirement for advice regarding glass manifestation. Involvement increased over time to include various types of signage and graphics including



Creation of a 'Thank You' wall entailed the installation of brushed steel flat cut letters

external signage, glass manifestation, internal signage, wall graphics and murals.

When the brief expanded into a full signage requirement, Lustalux manufactured and installed two totem signs plus several freestanding wall signs. All these were produced in the distinctive Caudwell purple branding with butterfly logo providing an eye-catching feature on approaching the centre.

Internally the facility is designed sympathetically toward the autistic condition. This consideration is also applied to the signage and graphics around the interior of the building whereby

everything is designed to provide a calming atmosphere rather than over-stimulate. Images and text are subtle rather than vibrant to create a peaceful ambience.

One of the finishing touches with the project was to help create a 'Thank You Wall'. This entailed the installation of brushed steel flat cut letters spelling 'Thank You' with each letter containing small hooks. Lustalux then manufactured a number of fret cut acrylic butterflies to be attached to the hooks with small key rings. Each butterfly contains the name of someone who has made a valuable contribution to the building and the well-being of the centre. Needless to say John Caudwell's name is on the first butterfly attached.

www.lustalux.co.uk



Internally, signage and graphics is designed sympathetically toward the autistic condition

"Everything is designed to provide a calming atmosphere rather than over-stimulate; images and text are subtle rather than vibrant to create a peaceful ambience"

Giant good luck banner supports Watford FC's FA Cup bid

In the run up to its historic FA Cup title bid Watford FC was presented with a 2.5 x 6m banner containing more than 1,300 good luck messages from supporters spanning over 100 countries.

Talking Print's managing director David Hyams was instrumental in coordinating the project and designing the banner with support from Sotic, which managed the data and online forms to create the messages and Stylographics which printed the banner.

"The message for the print industry is this is a great example of web-to-print," explains David. "It also highlights our expertise with innovation in print. I presented the team with a memento video brochure and as I am a mad Watford fan, you can imagine what working with them on the project means to me.

"The idea started in 1999 when we did our first banner for the play-off final and we've repeated it a number of times since, however this one has exceeded anything we've done before in terms of size.

"We've had responses from all over the world including Portugal, South Africa, Zimbabwe, USA and Brazil, with messages of congratulations and some very personal messages from people who have followed the team for many years.

"A lot of the team involved in organising this have been supporting Watford for a very long time; the majority of us were there 35 years ago, so to see the team today and to see the look on their faces has been excellent."

"The idea started in 1999 when we did our first banner for the play-off final and we've repeated it a number of times since; this one has exceeded anything we've done before in terms of size"



Talking Print launched its new B2C service in June 2019. The innovative web-to-print banner and supporting video brochure are "perfect examples" of how Talking Print loves to innovate with print.

www.talkingprint.com



David Hyams was proud to work with Watford FC and fellow die-hard fans to produce the 1,300 fan messaged good luck banner as they make a bid to take home the FA Cup

How the right provider can improve business operations

When looking at your next software investment it's worth considering further added-value aspects your provider is offering. Sarit Tichon, senior VP, WW sales at SAi explains how keeping this in mind might help improve cost-management, business flexibility and all-round design to production efficiency.

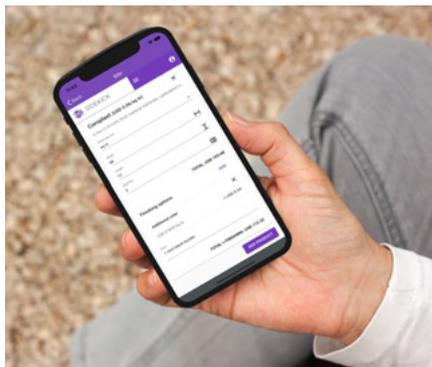
In today's competitive market it's often the extra things that reap the biggest reward. I believe this is true of the sign and display and large format sector, especially when it comes to investing in new solutions for your business. Speaking from a software perspective, I would encourage you to explore exactly what your solutions provider grants in terms of all-round benefits in addition to the speed or basic capabilities of the RIP itself.

Foremost suppliers are already injecting plenty of flexibility into their offering insofar as how you can access and pay for the software, the ever-increasing gamut of features, tools and bolt-on packages designed to improve the efficiency of your design-to-production workflow. After all, not one size fits all. Print providers have diverse needs and priorities and the leading suppliers will strive to ensure that there's something for everyone.

It's a matter of time

Even in a favorable market, running a print shop or a signmaking business is not without challenges. With traditional print shops competing with online platforms, the expectation from customers to have their job produced faster and cheaper continues to be a concern. If you are one of these time-strapped providers, the good news is that certain software suppliers have revolutionised their solutions to improve your efficiency and support you getting jobs out of the door quickly.

In a world where business owners have become reliant on accessing information 24/7, it's worth remembering that more and more work is undertaken remotely. This means it's crucial for managers to be able to track the progress of jobs while on the move. A cloud-enabled RIP software may be the answer. Some leading solutions are fully compatible with their own mobile apps, further supporting the need for conducting business on the road. These apps provide business owners with production updates, allowing them to stay in control of their business, virtually anywhere. While we're talking about productivity, it's fair to say that some sign shops are probably unaware of how their



Flexi Cloud mobile app offers business owners on-the-go access to valuable production information and job reports.

true production output is trending month-to-month. Hopefully you're not one of them but if so, certain mobile apps generate detailed production reports, allowing you to draw direct comparisons either weekly, monthly or annually and determine whether your throughput is increasing or decreasing. Our Flexi Cloud mobile app offers business owners on-the-go access to valuable production information and job reports. This ensures they can make informed decisions and pinpoint areas that could help them improve throughput, without being rooted to the print shop.

Print shop employees can also benefit from these time-saving tools. Often tasked with creating custom quotes while visiting customers, they traditionally need to check these with the print shop before informing the customer. However, there are mobile apps engineered to overcome this troublesome quoting process, while minimising overall job production time from set-up to completion. This ensures that print shops can maximise their throughput and improve efficiencies.

Financial flexibility

On the topic of finance, you can now buy software via alternative methods to the traditional purchasing model. Perhaps you're a small, family-owned business that lends itself to a monthly subscription payment plan; a cost-effective alternative to a major capital investment. Purchasing

software in this way is a huge benefit as it gives you instant access to the very latest features, ensuring that your business remains competitive.

In addition, this overcomes the uncertainty of the level and type of work that will come through the door. Aside from consulting a crystal ball, you can now manage seasonal demands or quieter periods more easily. During busy periods, you have the option to add extra licenses to mirror the demand. This ensures that you can keep their operational cost to a minimum while taking on last minute jobs and responding to new opportunities.

Efficiency-enhancing tools

As the design stage is often time-intensive it is difficult to pass the cost to customers which can erode your profit margin. Some software providers offer innovative design solutions that eliminate this costly burden. Check out those that might offer useful, time-saving stock libraries comprising images, graphics and logos.

There are further design efficiencies to be had using emerging technologies and the foremost providers are exploring how to harness these to improve traditional printing processes. One of these is artificial intelligence (AI). This has the potential to unleash new possibilities within the large format and sign and display sector. It could inspire designers with suggestions including best practice fonts, images and layouts; reducing the time spent at the design phase. This brings with it the ability to secure attractive profit margins along with widening the pool of applicants that you can recruit from. Our belief in the technology is such that we are undergoing a three-year research project with Oxford University to develop an AI-assisted software solution, the first of its kind for the sign industry.

So, whether it's hardware, software or consumables, next time you're looking to invest in a provider, check out companies who continue to collaborate with their customers to offer added value products that address these needs head on.

www.ThinkSAi.com

Flexible and transparent cutting mats ensure safe and healthy workplace

The transparent cutting mat has become a standard piece of kit for many sign makers. Ron Tempel, director of CuttingmatsXXL, has been in the business in for 27 years operating under the name SoftDirect which supplies graphic software and hardware (tools) to the sign and graphic industry. He explains why selecting a quality product really matters.

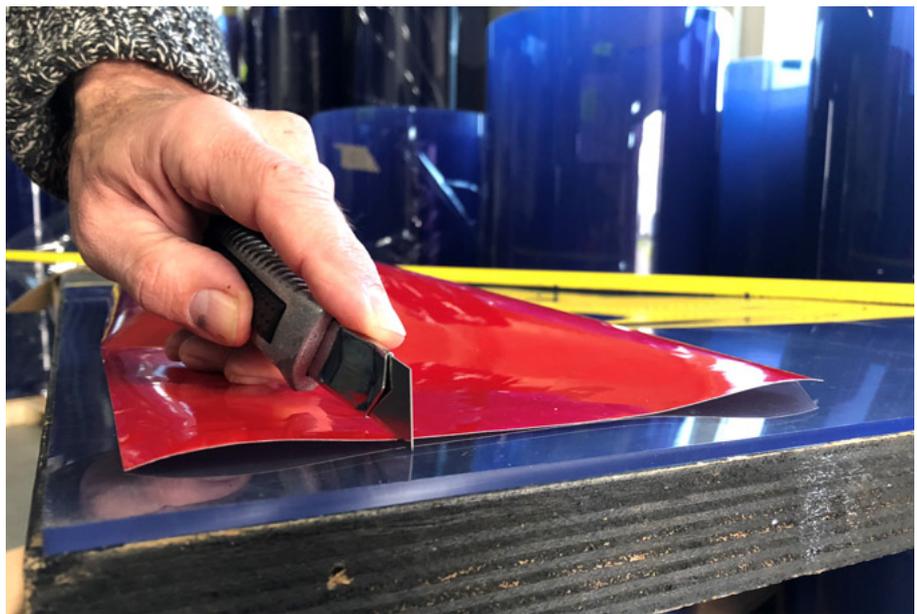
Name any brand application table: RollsRoller, Rollover, Bobis, Bubble-Free or another type and there is a cutting mat on it. The transparent cutting mat has become a standard tool for every signmaker to protect his application or other work table.

We offer flexible and transparent cutting mats in standard thicknesses of 3, 4 and 5 mm. Available in any format, in rolls of up to 23 meters in length and widths from 50 cm to 220 cm, we can produce any thickness between 2 and 12 mm.

As we produce them ourselves in Europe, delivery times are short and prices low (from €30 per square meter for a 3 mm mat) but perhaps more importantly, we have full control of the composition and production of the cutting mats.

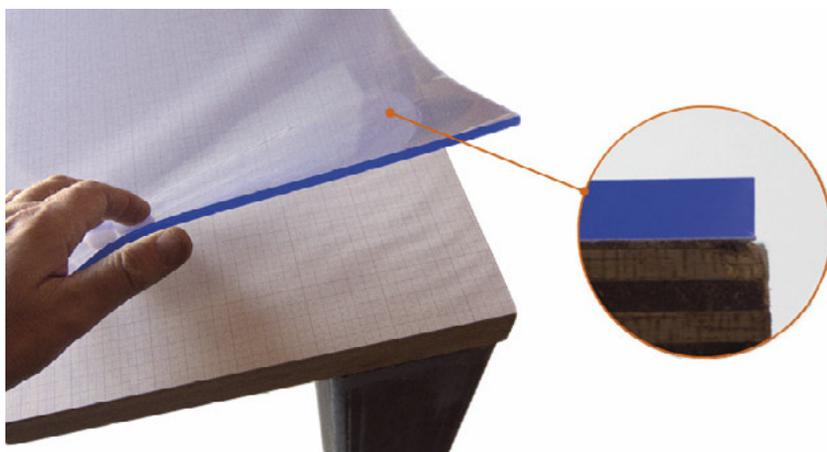
Phthalate-free

Before cutting mats as a transparent flexible layer from the heated press (extruder), raw materials must first be brought together to form a homogeneous mixture (compound). These comprise plastic polymers (PVC), plasticisers (phthalate-free) and additives providing UV protection, colour and possibly antistatic properties.



Antistatic additives in the compound are around 40% more expensive but results in reduced dust and electric shocks.

The most important raw material is the plasticiser, which gives the cutting mat its flexibility and self-healing properties. The best plasticisers available are all used in the EU and certified as safe; the use of



The transparent cutting mat has become a standard tool for every signmaker to protect his application and/or work table.

“Our cutting mats are phthalate-free and produced in accordance with the European Reach guidelines (protection of people and the environment) and thereby contribute to a safe and healthy working environment”



carcinogenic plasticisers including phthalates have been banned since 2008.

Unfortunately, there are products still imported into Europe which are not free of phthalates. So it is important to always request the datasheet of the cutting mat to confirm its origin. Our cutting mats are phthalate-free and produced in accordance with the European Reach guidelines (protection of people and the environment) and thereby contribute to a safe and healthy working environment.

Homogenic

Only manufacturers that process more than 3,000 tons each year are able to produce their own compound. The major advantage of managing our own compound production is that we have 100% control over the quality. We can also handle composition of the compound if customisation requirements change.

The standard cutting mat from CuttingmatsXXL offers exactly enough resistance to its surface (cutting depth) to prevent that the knife will 'wander'.

Every knife keeps exactly the line that you want to cut. Because of our special compound, the cutting mats become one warm mass, super tight and clear the extruder. It is impossible to work in different layers, let alone in layers with different hardnesses.

All cutting mats are completely homogeneous: the cutting mat has exactly the same surface hardness inside and outside (around 80-82 shore).

Extruded cutting mats with a hard 'inside' and soft 'outside' do not exist. A too high shore value jeopardises the self-healing effect of the cutting mat, leaving a cutting line 'open'. A following cutting action can make a knife leave an old 'trail' and that's what you absolutely want to avoid so when it wears out, turn it around and it gets a second 'life', giving you two to five years of intensive use.

Colorant

A further important component is the colorant. Default is a transparent 'yellow' that will become yellower over time, almost as dirty as the well-known nicotine colour. We add blue tinted dye which means that the cutting mat not only looks fresher but does not discolour.

Antistatic

We now have antistatic cutting mats included in the range. Antistatic additives in the compound are around 40% more expensive but results in reduced dust and electric shocks.



"A following cutting action can make a knife leave an old 'trail' and that's what you absolutely don't want so when it wears out, you can turn it around and use it again"

A cheaper alternative is a surface treatment with a spray but this is only a short-term solution. Three employees of CuttingmatsXXL are now ESD (electrostatic discharge) certified and able to advise because when it comes to static electricity, it's not just about the cutting mat but all kinds of environmental factors play a role.

Export

The cutting mats we produce in Europe are exported to 22 countries including the US and Canada. In Europe they are available directly from our website and through resellers.

www.cuttingmatsxxl.com



The standard cutting mat from CuttingmatsXXL offers exactly enough resistance to its surface (cutting depth) to prevent that the knife will 'wander'.

Clarity and simplicity to get from A to B with interlocking system

Wayfinding signage is about helping facilitate the movement of people to their destinations as efficiently as possible. RMC offers a comprehensive service involving a variety of different production methods. General manager Chris Potter explains how the company approaches each customer's projects.

We've noticed a significant increase in the demand for our Modular Signage Systems and we're one of only a few companies in the UK who supply this direct to the trade as a wayfinding solution.

We now use aluminium profiles for the majority of our wayfinding signage work because it's strong and durable and we can secure the profiles with an interlocking tongue and groove system with hidden locking strip; it gives our clients all the flexibility they need to customise their signage in the future.

We can offer facilities such as painting in our spray booth of up to 1000 colours, digital and screen printing, braille and tactile signage. While aluminium is our most popular material for the wayfinding signs, the fact we work with lots of other materials means we need to have a range of tools at our disposal including CNC, laser and Zund cutters. Our policy at RMC

"The golden rule of wayfinding signage is to keep it simple and so deliver a system that is clear and concise*

is to ask ourselves on a daily basis: "what is wayfinding to us and how can we help deliver this for our clients?"

Wayfinding is the efficient movement of people in places and spaces and RMC can help by listening to our clients' needs to create something special for end users.

We are committed to delivering high quality sign systems for any building project or wayfinding strategy.

RMC Modular has recently rebranded to RMC Wayfinding as we felt the connotations around the word 'modular' didn't give clients a clear picture of our business as a whole. RMC Wayfinding wants to move toward offering clients a one-stop shop to all their wayfinding signage needs.

Public sector buildings

RMC is a trade only supplier to the signage industry, our main area of the business being the supply of wide format digitally printed graphics to various media ranges with the capability to print up to 5 meters wide on one of our two roll-fed printers and up to 3 meters (flatbed printing). However, in 2013 we installed a modular sign system: MSS Classic which is predominately used as a wayfinding signage solution in an array of public sector buildings and we believe it is the best product on the market for internal wayfinding signage, based on the overall look and versatility of the product.

Modular sign systems have paved the way as the best modern solution for directing people as well as maintaining a premium brand resonance.

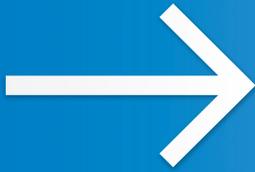
MSS is comprised of extruded 3mm aluminium, which is both lightweight and strong. The aluminium has dovetailed detail to the front and back, allowing the profiles to interlock to create a 6mm sign in overall thickness.

Currently, the MSS Classic is the main wayfinding product we supply in house, however as clients come to us with other solution requirements and needs, we draw on years of industry experience, in-house facilities and resources to offer solutions on such specialist projects: designing, reproducing fabrication drawings and manufacturing in house where possible.

For example, it is not uncommon for a project for a complete wayfinding package for our clients to include MSS, digital printed vinyl, direct to substrate print, stock



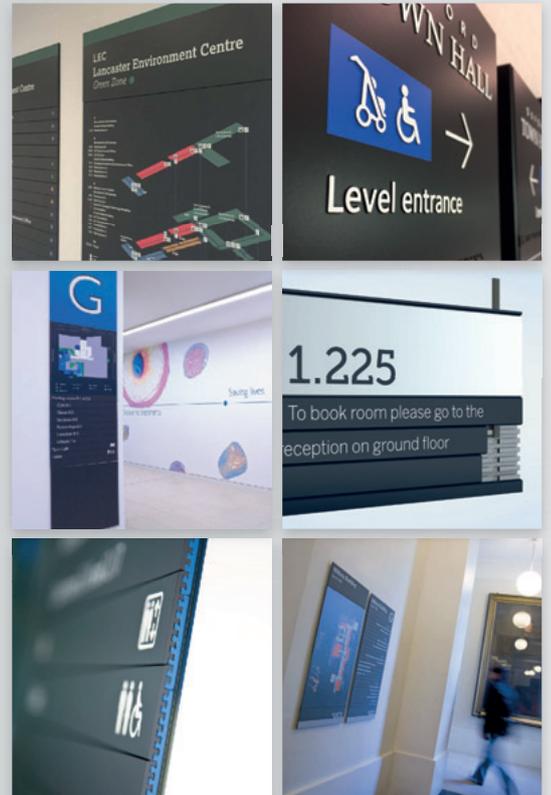
For a recent project, our client had been tasked to supply various braille and tactile signage for a leisure centre.



Finding your way with RMC

A complete wayfinding package for trade clients

- Modular Signage Systems (MSS)
- Braille and tactile signage
- Direct print to various media
- Fabricated acrylic signage
- Digital printed vinyl
- Special project team
- Expert advice & guidance on all things wayfinding!



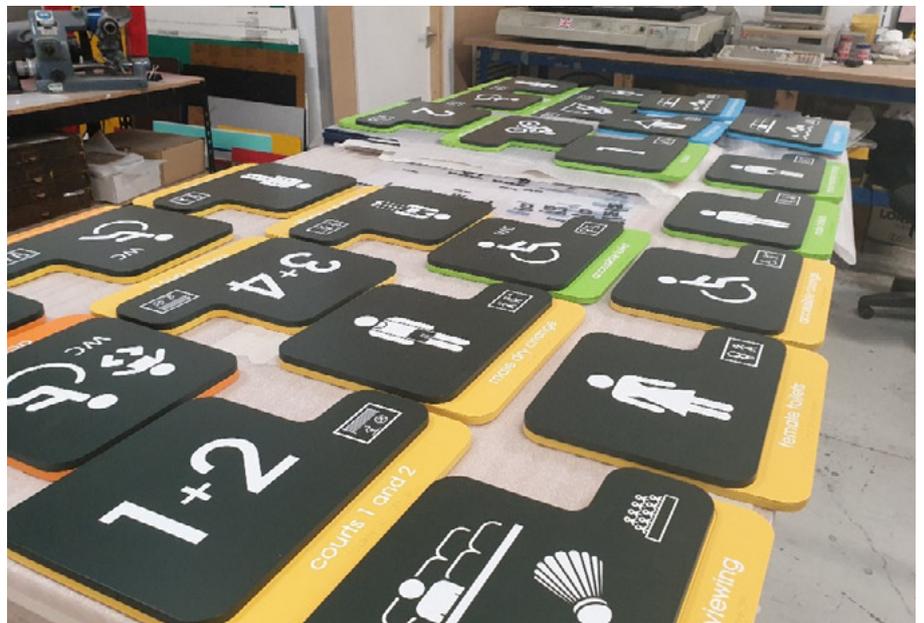
Enquiries 01482 325003 enquiries@rmclimited.co.uk rmcmodular.co.uk



fret cut vinyl, laser cut acrylic, braille and tactile signage - all produced in house and sent out as a complete job to be installed on site by our clients.

Most of our clients know they can come to us for all of the above solutions, making it easier for them, saving them having to shop around. However, some signage companies may be unaware this is something RMC can offer and we feel it's important to get the message out there.

For a recent project, our client had been tasked to supply various braille and tactile signage for a leisure centre. The spec was not MSS nor was it something we had previously supplied, however we worked together to take the designer's ideas and vision to turn this into reality to create a tangible signage product with a great look and feel. The sign was made up using machine cut acrylic, Foamex and photopolymer plate, all manufactured, sprayed and printed using a combination of paints, screen print and direct to media print, then bringing all the parts together to make a complete wayfinding sign package for our client.



We worked together to take the designer's ideas and vision and turn this into reality to create a tangible signage product with a great look and feel.

One of the best parts of my job is bringing ideas into a reality and getting to use my creativity and problem solving skills, going the extra mile for clients. We are looking at supplying more than the MSS going

forward to bolster our wayfinding offering so get in touch with any special projects and we will endeavour to assist.

www.rmcmodular.co.uk

Versatile directional signage works inside and out

Wayfinding signage is becoming increasingly popular in store as it is externally and Nova Aluminium is well placed to assist with any directional signs for retail and trade parks to schools and colleges. Lisa Sperring discusses some of the innovative solutions available.

Designed to make directional signage simple, the Pole and Plank system from Nova Aluminium is ideal for wayfinding signage of all kinds. There are 15 extrusions in the range; 78mm round and square posts and a D post at 100 x 78mm, all of which have internal support ribs that allow the posts to accept a 60 x 40mm steel reinforcing bar for signs that are more than 3000mm above the ground.

In addition to these standard posts is the quad post that is perfect for making V-shaped or triangular signs. This has internal support ribs for a steel reinforcing



For bespoke panels, just two extrusions are used to produce the double-sided panel.



All profiles in the Pole and Plank range are simply straight cut so in-house fabrication couldn't be more straightforward.

bar at 40 x 40mm while the wall quadrant post enables wall-mounted signage to be co-ordinated with any freestanding elements. All five posts accept the reversible infill, giving a neatly closed off post and perfect for keeping stock holding to a minimum when fabricators are using a variety of post shapes.

In-house fabrication

All profiles in the Pole and Plank range are simply straight cut so in-house fabrication couldn't be more straightforward. Aluminium end caps are available for all posts allowing for RAL colour matching caps to perfectly complement the posts and panels.

There are three standard planks in the range at depths of 100mm, 150mm and 200mm, all double sided as standard. Each has screw ports to accept a location pin, which when driven home allows the plank to engage with the relevant post perfectly every time. This same location technology is utilised on bespoke fabricated panels of all sizes to enable problem-free fitting. For bespoke panels, just two extrusions are used to produce the double-sided panel. The panel plank

section runs across the top and bottom while the bracing bar is positioned at either end and at 600mm centres throughout the panel. VHB double-sided tape is applied to the aluminium profiles, allowing a 2mm aluminium sheet to be bonded securely to either side; once powder coated this produces a strong and seamless panel.

Alternatively, the composite carrier section allows for cost effective single sided panels when using the round or quad posts. The system offers further possibilities when V-shaped and triangular arranged systems are required. The V carrier works with the round post to allow panels to be positioned at a variety of angles on the post.

Similarly, the quad post allows for right angles signs by inserting the panels into the relevant slots. The quad post can be used as a centre support for when larger signs are required.

Using either the square or the D post in conjunction with the Box 78 section allows for neat looking monolith signs. The Box 78 sections has recently been developed to accept a corner cleat allowing for a



more robust system and one that is quicker to fabricate. At 78mm, the section provides ample room for both edge lighting and back lighting should an illuminated option be required.

Pole and Plank can be illuminated from above using with NovaHood or NovaTube; the latter can be fitted on double sided brackets providing an ample wash of light to each side of the panel.

Wayfinding is not only used externally but is becoming more commonplace in store. NovaGuide is an innovative system ideal for hanging directional signage and promotional displays of all kinds.

With its 40mm deep screw free frame, NovaGuide accepts 5mm rigid panels that sit flush within the frame. Designed to be magnetically fixed, panels can be easily updated when required. When more permanent signage is desired, the magnetic tape can be substituted for a VHB tape. The systems incorporates a strengthening bar for larger signs and a dedicated channel in the frame for fitting hanging hooks or eyebolts.

www.nova-aluminium.com



Each plank has a screw port to take a shoulder location pin which when driven home, engages the relevant post.

Customisable slats and fingerposts

Smith Sign and Display, part of William Smith Group 1832, is a trade only manufacturer of sign and display products, with an experienced team servicing the industry using the latest equipment.

Manufacturing and supplying a range of wayfinding systems, the company's portfolio consists of Post & Panel, Slat Signage and the STYLOS Fingerpost, a system which has been exclusive to the company since its creation in 1989.

With a state-of-the-art fabrication factory, the company manufactures all its signage in-house and has recently invested heavily in new equipment to ensure it can meet the continuous demands of its customers.

Machinery includes a 6m x 4m powder coat unit with a 6m x4m batch over, XYZ CNC router with automatic tool changer, 4m press brake, auto-wash powder coating pre-treatment machine and a channel letter bender. It is this equipment their experienced team of signmakers use to create products to the highest of standards. Going strong for over 30 years, the STYLOS Fingerpost is probably the



With a slim line aluminium frame which protrudes only 20mm from the wall and six different profile sizes available, this sign system offers great variety.

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WAYFINDING Feature

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most recognisable and most customisable of all the wayfinding systems available. Robust in its design, it is manufactured out of a lightweight yet durable aluminium and can be custom made to order. It can be supplied to any standard BS/RAL paint colour. Posts can be cut to specific sizes with ease and arms cut on an XYZ CNC router to one of 12 different variations, with bespoke options available on request.

Furthermore, the STYLOS Fingerpost is available with three different column base types (standard, traditional and contemporary) while a range of 2D and 3D caps and collars can be added to finish off the system with a bespoke appearance.

Vandal resistance

The distinctive selling point of STYLOS over other systems in the market place is its vandal resistance, which means the unit is less likely to need repairing or replacing. The design uses a concealed fixing system comprising an inner post in which the pre-drilled aluminium arms are slotted and bolted into position. Precise fillets are then placed over the area to conceal fixings and ensure a smooth and attractive finish.

The second wayfinding system within the Smith Sign and Display portfolio, Post & Panel is extremely customisable, catering for bespoke requests. Comprising four post profiles, 80mm D-post, 80mm Square Post, 90mm round post, 90mm 2-way



Posts can be cut to specific sizes with ease and arms cut on an XYZ CNC router to one of 12 different variations, with bespoke options available on request.

round post; it is a well-engineered and highly adaptable. As with the STYLOS fingerpost, aluminium posts and panels can be made to measure and then powder coated to a RAL colour of choice to satisfy individual requirements. Panel depths available include 100mm, 150mm, 200mm, 250mm and 300mm.

An internal directory system, the slat system is modular, allowing for constant updates and changes and fabricated out of

a lightweight aluminium with a slimline design protruding only 20mm from the wall.

Depending on the desired outcome, these signs can be manufactured and supplied with either a powder coat or vinyl finish. With six slat profiles to choose from (15mm, 45mm, 60mm, 90mm, 120mm and 150mm), customisable options are endless.

www.smith-signdisplay.co.uk



Aluminium posts and panels can be made to measure and then powder coated to a RAL colour of choice to satisfy individual requirements.

“An internal directory system, the slat system is modular, allowing for constant updates and changes and fabricated out of a lightweight aluminium”

Heading in the right direction

Supplying parts for wayfinding signage for many years including clamps, fixings and LED products, iSpi Trade discusses ways for you to use them to help find new customers by building and maintaining good relations with facilities managers.

We often take directional signs for granted but let's be honest, without them we would all be wandering around lost. Wayfinding is a critical part of a new building or an exterior and interior revamp but as a building ages or there is a change of tenant, signage needs to be updated. This falls typically with the facilities management to source a supplier and fitter. Building a good relationship with FM companies and maintenance departments can offer regular work for sign installers.

Although maintenance and repair of signage may be seen as a small part of the services carried out by facilities managers, it is essential, not only for practical reasons but forms part of health and safety legislation.

Public safety

Health and safety legislation recognises 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, for



Health and safety legislation covers the use of illuminated signage.



Building a good relationship with FM companies and maintenance departments can offer regular work for sign installers.

example, those indicating fire exits and fire-fighting equipment points.

Keeping it legal

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. There are various categories of signage, which all have different legal requirements including prohibition commands, for instance, No Smoking.

These may be part of legal legislation but can also be used to help enforce building or company policy. Further types of signs include warning, mandatory, fire and supplementary. Safe condition signs indicate exit routes in the event of a fire or emergency and form part of the illuminated signage legislation.

The HSE website at www.hse.gov.uk offers a guide to Safety Sign and Signals, which can be useful when discussing signage with customers.

New customers

You may not think about it but we all interact with wayfinding signage every day.

You cannot enter an office block, hotel, campus, airport or gym without being signposted to areas or being bombarded with information.

As a sign installer, think about who would need to replace, maintain and upgrade signage regularly? Local authorities, university maintenance departments, hotels, shopping centres, NHS and facilities management companies.

Customer expectations

Most products in the iSpi Trade online shop are required regularly by maintenance departments and FMs, ranging from sign standoff fixings used for office, hotels and meeting room name plates, LED sign fixings for low light hallways to sign clamps which are used 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?" Well, you can.

www.isptrade.com

Modular wayfinding signage creates strong branding

Vista System has remained true to its original strategy: continuous development of modular sign systems for professionals. The focus of the company has always been on offering a wide range of designs and sizes as well as quick lead times. SignComp Europe is Vista System's exclusive distributor in the UK.

Services offered by Vista include planning and consulting to signage industry professionals involved with major projects, as well as the recently launched VSPEC - a complete sign schedule including location plan, BOQ and sign designs - provided to architects and signage companies. Experience and modularity prove beneficial especially when public projects are concerned.

The versatility of Vista's modular frames, range of styles and ability to adapt, ensures a reliable, cost effective outcome.

Materials for these modular frames consist of durable, strong and reliable aluminium extrusions, plastic or metal end caps and clear lenses - mainly polycarbonate, which is both recyclable and very strong.

A proper solution for a project can be found quite easily from the brand's multitude of existing product families. Durability, consistency and longevity play a



The architect ensured that all signage types can easily be identified as Gautrain brand signage with gold anodised aluminium extrusions and complementing blue, gold and white graphics.



Probably one of the most important qualities of a modular system is that it can easily be re-sourced.

crucial role in the choice of a wayfinding signage system. The desire for a singular design throughout the project and cost effectiveness in public projects such as transportation, education and healthcare, is matched with the ideal of a signage system that becomes a permanent part of the décor without a constant need in changing, replacing or updating the signs due to wear and tear. It is with great confidence that Vista can say that its signs would last for decades.

A case in point

Gautrain is an 80-kilometre commuter rail system in Gauteng, South Africa, which links Johannesburg, Pretoria, Ekurhuleni and O. R. Tambo International Airport.

Vista's R&D department was invited by the chief architect of the Gautrain Project to participate in the planning stage, to provide solutions and take the project from concept to reality. With a clear vision of a modular signage system that can be incorporated throughout the project, a strong graphic statement for both indoor

and outdoor signage, bold colours and amazing visual effect, Vista's curved frames were chosen and applied. It took 'only' three years from planning to fitting.

This project benefitted from just about every Vista System sign type in the range including pylons; light boxes; suspended, directory, post and projecting signs.

The architect ensured that all signage types can easily be identified as Gautrain brand signage with gold anodised aluminium extrusions and complementing blue, gold and white graphics.

Wayfinding signage forms an integral part of the Gautrain Project's marketing message to the public i.e. easy to identify and navigate, user friendly, safe experience and repeat use.

Probably one of the most important qualities of a modular system is that it can easily be re-sourced and the customer is guaranteed that the standard and specification remain identical.



“With a clear vision of a modular signage system that can be incorporated throughout the project, a strong graphic statement, bold colours and amazing visual effect - Vista’s curved frames were chosen and applied”



After nine years of Gautrain operations, it can be safely said that Vista System signage with its strong design features, complements the Gautrain’s corporate identity and speaks of a strong brand that will not age easily. This is any brand architect’s ideal situation.

www.signcompeurope.com

This project benefited from just about every Vista System sign type in the range including pylons; light boxes; suspended, directory, post and projecting signs.

Totem system quick and easy to install



Temporary displays and wayfinding solutions have become an increasingly important feature of the retail scene. With pop-up events and temporary installations, changing graphics regularly while still maintaining a slick and professional finish, is key to successful display solution.

Visually impressive and extremely versatile, the Voyager Magnetic Totem by specialist graphics wholesaler Innotech Digital, meets this need head on. A dynamic, attention grabbing display within a slimline profile, it is a quick and

Graphics are simply attached to the Voyager’s two-part aluminium frame using the magnetic strips on each side.

easy assembly making it an excellent choice for use in retail environments, especially where layouts are liable to change frequently.

Marketing director Kieran Dallow explains: “Graphics are simply attached to the Voyager’s two-part aluminium frame using the magnetic strips on each side, which makes assembling and changing the display quick and easy and a job that any staff member can do, thereby reducing the need to pay specialist signage installers.”

Voyager features a sturdy base with foam feet for maximum stability and each unit comes individually boxed. It is available in two sizes: 400mm x 1600mm and 800mm x 1800mm.

www.innotechdigital.com

Why digital textile printing offers an important business opportunity

Digital textile printing offers established print service providers including signmakers with an opportunity for expansion as the market continues to grow at a phenomenal rate. CMYUK discusses the exponential growth expected and how the company can help your business discover a new marketplace.

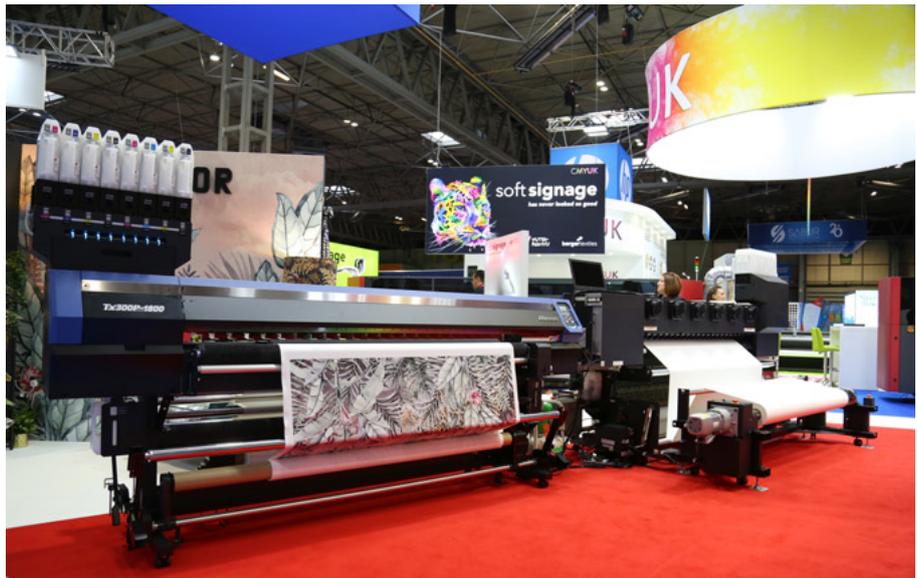
The reaction to CMYUK's Décor exhibit at the recent Sign and Digital UK exhibition was exceptional and points the way forward for new business opportunities for PSPs. A recent survey by Smithers Pira highlighted a predicted growth rate for digital textile printing at over 17.5% per annum over the next six years. In this period, the survey forecasts that the total available global market will more than double from \$1.73 billion in 2018 to \$3.94 billion in 2023.

To anyone heavily involved within the trade, this growth has been evident for quite some time, encouraging a plethora of small independent print houses to develop and focus on this sector alongside the serious mainstream established textile printers that have already started to convert their plants from rotary screen printing to digital.

Just as digital disruption within the events and signage industry digitised the graphics workspace to provide an efficient, speedy and sustainable solution for manufacturing, we are now about to witness the transformation of the printed textile market. The fashion, sportswear and interior décor sectors offer exceptional new business opportunities for the PSP.

For fashion, recognised designers have already started to set up their own print shops, enabling the supply of 'capsule' collections with a risk-free 'no stock' business model. This points the way forward for many micro brands and fashion entrepreneurs with web-to-print businesses. Within these varied business models, clients receive their chosen items within days, paid for in advance via an ecommerce gateway that delivers an excellent ROI to the designer or PSP.

Similarly in sportswear, state-of-the-art micro-factories and dye-sub printers are now combining customised pattern making software with laser cutting and automated sewing to enable the industry to keep up with the millennial generation's insatiable demand for customisation and personalisation. Within the Interior décor sector, where the path to customisation was first opened up by the extraordinary



Mimaki TX300P is an exceptional digital textile printer.

growth in demand for bespoke wallpaper murals for domestic and contract use, we now see exponential growth in customised contract fabric printing. As a result, interior

designers have made the move to customised fabric printing and are increasingly utilising the speed and creativity enabled by the facility of digital textile printing to give their schemes and product ranges the individuality and exclusivity so popular with their clients.

All this adds up to an extraordinarily vibrant eco-system, where as demand increases, machinery and systems are increasingly available across a wide range of prices and performances.

So, from the existing PSPs point of view, while looking for new business opportunities, the growth of digital textile printing presents an unrivalled opportunity to refocus and bolt on a profitable new dynamic to their businesses, leveraging many core production skills from prepress, colour management, digital printer operation and finishing.

Making the move now will re-invigorate their commercial offer and enable them to participate in the enormous growth that is forecast for digital textile printing over the next five years.

www.cmyuk.com

“All this adds up to an extraordinarily vibrant eco-system where as demand increases, machinery and systems are increasingly available across a wide range of prices and performances”

Best of UK signmaking: call for entries to British Sign Awards 2019

Entry to this year's British Sign Awards, organised under the auspices of ISA-UK (formerly the BSGA), is now open.

Now in its seventh year, the event is designed to highlight the best of British sign making, with awards being presented in 12 categories covering every aspect of the industry from traditional crafts through large scale architectural signs to the increasing range of wide format graphics produced by sign businesses for interior décor and vehicle liveries.

"The award categories reflect the diversity and creativity of British sign makers and their ability to combine traditional skills with engineering know-how and hi-tech materials and machinery," says director David Catanach.

"Winning one of the awards should give any business a major boost, both with customers and staff and we would encourage all UK sign businesses that have produced work of which they are genuinely proud, to enter. If you're not in it, you can't win it!"

The awards are open to all UK-based sign businesses (membership of ISA-UK is not a requirement) and entry is free. Judging

"The award categories reflect the diversity and creativity of British sign makers and their ability to combine traditional skills with engineering know-how and hi-tech materials and machinery"



At Sign Expo in Las Vegas from left: Mike Quigley (ISA chairman of the board); David Catanach (director ISA-UK); Christine Davison; Trevor Davison representing Blaze Signs, winner of the 2018 Sign of the Year award; Rob Lambie (President ISA-UK); Lori Anderson (ISA president & CEO); and Pat Catanach.

is by a panel of industry experts, completely independent of ISA-UK, to ensure a level playing field for all. Full details of all the awards, together with entry criteria and forms can be found on the awards website. Closing date for entries is Friday, 13 September.

There is a special prize for the company selected by the judges to receive the Sign of the Year accolade. A representative of the winning company will be invited to Sign Expo in Florida in 2020 (the prize will include flights and accommodation courtesy of ISA - International Sign Association).

The winners and shortlisted entries will be revealed at the gala awards ceremony at the Athena Centre in Leicester on Thursday, 14 November, hosted by actor and comedian Shaun Williamson.

Rated as the best industry networking event of the year, the awards ceremony has proved to be both inspirational and very entertaining.

"We've stuck with the daytime formula and the central location to give as many people

as possible the opportunity to attend," says David. "We offer a discount of over 10% to those who book early" (tickets can be booked via the website).

"We believe that the sponsorship package delivers a real return on investment but the fact is that without the sponsors the awards could not go ahead and we would like to thank them for their commitment to the industry and support for ISA-UK. We still have a couple of categories available for sponsorship if any businesses out there would like to be involved."

Corporate sponsors include Signfab UK, Make it Happen, FirstLite LED (who will present the Sign of the Year Award); Architectural Sign of the Year: Wrighton Blackburns; Wide Format Award: Epton; Sign Construction Award: Eurobond Adhesives; Craftsman Award: Trade Etching Direct; Young Sign Maker of the Year: Antalis; Roll-out Programme of the Year: VISM; Decor Award: Drytac; Leisure Sector Award: RCM Digital; Retail Sign of the Year: shopVOX; and Vehicle Livery/Wrap Awards: Pyramid Display.

www.britishsignawards.org

Color-Logic certifies swissQprint UV inkjet printers



swissQprint UV inkjet printers are now certified by Color-Logic.

Color-Logic has certified swissQprint UV inkjet printers with white for use with the Color-Logic metallic process. Director of sales and marketing Mark Geeves says: "The certification samples submitted by swissQprint accurately demonstrated all of

the Color-Logic decorative effects and embellishments. swissQprint printers have the ability to add a varnish to prints, thus greatly increasing the value to clients. The Color-Logic colour system for metallics takes the varnish capability into account,

providing swissQprint clients an accurate metallic colour system that virtually guarantees that desired colours are correctly produced on the initial print run. swissQprint customers can confidently accentuate the Color-Logic decorative effects and embellishments by using the varnish feature."

Color-Logic develops colour communication systems and software tool sets for a variety of special effect printing applications. The company provides brand owners, product managers, corporations and their advertising agencies the ability to differentiate themselves and their clients with a simple print production process that yields dramatic results. Color-Logic decorative effects utilise the existing workflows of printers and designers, yielding dynamic results without the use of special equipment. The company says it supports the value of print and works with designers and printers to enhance their printed media.

www.color-logic.com

'Planet-friendly' solutions for plastics recycling

J&G Environmental is stepping up its efforts to support even more ethical print service providers in the fight against plastic pollution. With companies under increasing scrutiny regarding their sustainability practices, the business is ready to help more print service providers to dispose of their plastic waste responsibly after investing in high tech recycling technologies.

In addition to helping the planet, adopting green techniques to keep plastics out of oceans and landfill sites will have crucial reputational benefits for print businesses.

"When printers are putting contracts together to get new work, more often than not they need to prove they are using a responsible waste management company and are recycling as much of their waste as they can," says recycling manager Jason Goddard. "You would be surprised how many companies still have 40-yard skips on site and are just throwing all of their waste in there but a lot of this material can be recycled and this is where

we can help. Print companies are looking at our services more and more because they have ticked all the main boxes and now need to take it a step further to see what else they can do. They need to dig deeper in their skip to see which materials they can recycle."

J&G Environmental recently acquired new kit to recycle plastics from print including an Avery Weigh-Tronix ZM510 weigh-bridge for logging weights of different materials and a Rapid 8045 granulator for



preparing waste plastic ready to be made into new products. Customers have their plastic waste collected and transported to the company's main facility in Dorset, where it is ground down into granules that are then packed up for re-use. One customer makes wall plugs or rawplugs, while another makes buckets and paint pots from processed ink cartridges.

"A printer has a duty of care to know what is happening with their waste. We are able to offer full traceability to show what is happening with it, ensuring it does not end up in the ocean," says Jason. "Most of our customers go for our service as they know it is going to be recycled rather than going to landfill. Even for existing customers there may be other new innovative waste management streams that we can offer.

"With new customers we can provide waste management and recycling advice and support, not just in relation to plastics, as part of our comprehensive service."

www.jg-environmental.com



Sign industry ‘trailblazer’ group achieves first apprenticeship success

The first hurdle has been cleared toward achieving a new NVQ Level 3 Signage Technician apprenticeship for the sign and graphics industry. Employers and managers within the sector are being asked to get involved and help shape the signage qualification of the future.

The Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education (IATE) was launched in April 2017 to ensure all apprenticeships are of the highest quality and deliver the skills that employers need. It called for ‘trailblazer’ working-groups, run by employers, to demonstrate the demand for a specific apprenticeship for their industry. Each industry group must prove that the occupational skill set required by apprentices within their sector is quite specific, requiring a dedicated apprenticeship programme.

Earlier this month the sign industry trailblazer group received confirmation

from IATE that its occupation proposal for an NVQ Level 3 Signage Technician has been agreed. This means work can begin on developing the detail of the training standard for a sign industry apprenticeship.

Jeff Bufton, head of operations at Signs Express UK, became chair of the sign industry trailblazer group which is backed by the industry’s trade body ISA-UK, in July 2018. He has worked in the sign industry for more than 30 years, across a range of specialisms and closely involved with local education. Training and professional standards within the sector have always been close to his heart.

“We are delighted to have reached this first, and critical, milestone in the apprenticeship framework process,” says Jeff. “We have demonstrated that the mix of skill sets required for a successful career in signs and graphics is unique.

The fact that the Institute’s Board have recognised Signage Technician as an occupation requiring a specific qualification is extremely positive for our whole industry and those who choose to work in it.

“However, to enable us to develop a standard that the IATE will endorse, it is vital that we now have input from more employers within the sign industry. This is an unprecedented opportunity for people who are passionate about their profession to influence the sign industry apprenticeship of the future.

“What are the essential skills for a signage technician to enable them to design, make and install signs? How do we devise a qualification that is robust, well-respected and fit for purpose not just today but years into the future?”

David Catanach, director of ISA-UK, powered by BSGA, comments: “education and continued professional development for people working in our industry is a priority for us as an organisation, hence we are part of the trailblazing group. We’re committed to ensuring that the NVQ Level 3 Signage Technician apprenticeship is a practical and aspirational training scheme; providing employers with highly skilled and professional team members.”

Current members of the sign industry apprenticeship trailblazer group are Jeff Bufton (chair), Fay Lea of BAM Nuttall (vice-chair), David Allen of Allen Signs, Linda Edwards of Sussex Signs, David Catanach of ISA-UK and Clive Mitchell of Walsall College. Support is provided by Cogent Skills, a not-for-profit organisation that works with sectors and employers to raise skills levels.

“While our core group has done really well to create the initial framework for the apprenticeship, we’re calling for more employers in the sign industry to join us and contribute their experience and knowledge to the development of the new Signage Technician training standard,” says Fay. “To ensure this qualification is valuable and future-proof we need input from as many businesses as possible so would urge anyone who is committed to the future of our industry to get in touch.”

www.uksigns.org



Signage technician in training (courtesy Signs Express).

Mutoh inks meet UL standards for VOC emissions

Mutoh has obtained Greenguard Gold Certification for its US-11 series flexible UV LED inks. With this certification, Mutoh US-11 series inks meet the UL 2818-2013 Gold Standard for chemical emissions for building materials, finishes and furnishings. The certification provides assurance that the US-11 series inks meet some of the world's most stringent and comprehensive standards for low emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) into indoor air.

As such, prints made with US-11 inks are suited for indoor applications.

Greenguard Gold Certification is a voluntary certification issued by UL Environment with worldwide recognition.

As opposed to Greenguard, it offers stricter certification criteria and considers safety factors to account for sensitive individuals including children and elderly. It requires lower total VOC emissions for indoor environments and helps print buyers to identify and integrate certified, healthier and more sustainable products into their buildings.

"This new Greenguard Gold certification

demonstrates Mutoh's continuous commitment in offering digital printers and inks which are safe and environmentally responsible and which contribute to healthier indoor environments, says Kenji Yasuhara, Mutoh Europe's managing director. "The certification will offer Mutoh printer owners using US-11 series inks full peace of mind and a competitive advantage being able to offer a certified solution for decorative wall applications".

The Mutoh US-11 C, M, Y, K, White and Varnish flexible UV LED inks were specifically developed for Mutoh's extensive range of UV LED printers for roll-to-roll, hybrid and flatbed applications (ValueJet 1638UR, ValueJet 1638UH, ValueJet 426UF and ValueJet 626UF). As the inks are 0 % VOC and non-HAP inks, no special ventilation nor air purification is required in the working environment.

Available in 220 ml cassettes, 800 ml (CMYK, VA) and 500 ml (WH) packs and offering an excellent adhesion, the inks enable printing on the widest range of media including heat sensitive, transparent and non-white substrates and allow multi-layer and spot varnish printing.

www.mutoh.eu



Pre-made vehicle wrap designs help inexperienced

Signelements has launched a new website redesign to give customers an upgraded user experience. A sleek, modern and clean feel to the site are what customers can look forward to as well as integrated web chat support at all times.

The website has a fresh colour scheme, new categories and a gallery section, showcasing the best content from their collection of over 7 million photos, vectors, fonts and vehicle templates, all broken down into easy-to-navigate categories.

In addition, Signelements has launched a new product offering in the form of Adobe Illustrator files, which allows you to download a pre-made wrap design which can then be edited and placed on to a vehicle. This takes the strain out of designing a wrap from scratch for users who may not be experienced designers. Simply choose your font, colour scheme

and graphics then place onto the vehicle. In addition, the company has launched an Instagram page alongside the website, allowing subscribers and followers to find the best content quickly and efficiently, as chosen by their content team. Here you can find updates on their latest

deals and special offers. Anyone wanting to try Signelements should visit the website and see the Free Testers page where you can try samples of different file types (excluding pre-made vehicle wraps) and see how best the products could work for you.

www.signelements.com



Pre-made vehicle wrap in the form of Adobe Illustrator files, allows you to download a design which can then be edited and placed on to a vehicle.



Signarama to put its brand 'back on the map' by getting back to basics

Signarama UK has been acquired by Anas Saltaji, master licensee for Signarama Canada who has pledged to put the brand back on the map by getting back to basics.

It's no secret that the signs and graphics franchise has had a slow few years in the UK. While the network of existing franchisees has continued to trade successfully, the brand has struggled to bring new members into its ranks.

Anas, who owns the Master Licence for co-working franchise Venture-X, is responsible for growing the Canadian Signarama network to 49 locations since 2012. He believes the UK holds massive potential and his plan to replicate his overseas success is simple: he's making existing franchisees his number one priority. The acquisition of the UK is a long-term commitment which involves a planned relocation of his young family.

"In the long run I plan to split my time between both countries. It's important to demonstrate my commitment to the UK franchise and all those who choose to join us. I'm not interested in quick fixes or making a quick buck. I want franchisees to know me, trust me and feel that I'm passionate about their success."



Anas Saltaji, Adrian Strong and president AJ Titus with York franchisee Matt Nicholson and his team.

With seven years' experience and two global brands under his belt, Anas aims to build the Signarama network to 100 units, restoring the brand to its former glory in the UK. He brings with him a seven-strong

team of support staff and a network of franchisees who are excited to work with and support their new colleagues:

www.signarama.co.uk

Win five-star trip with squeegee lottery



Spandex is offering its customers the chance to win a two-person trip to any European capital city with a 5-star hotel stay as part of Arlon's 'Squeegee Lottery'.

The opportunity is open to graphic producers and installers who buy any roll

of Arlon product that features its FLITE Technology between 1 May and 31 July 2019 including SLX Cast Wrap, Fusion Wrap and IllumiNITE Wrap.

To enter, customers simply register their contact details for each purchase at

go.arlon.com/squeegee-lottery-en. They will be sent a free squeegee, which will have a unique number on it corresponding to a possible prize.

Prizes available include vouchers, free rolls of vinyl and the grand prize for two people to fly to a European capital city of their choice. Customers are eligible to receive as many squeegees as qualified during the period. Arlon will announce two winners every Friday (between May and July 2019) via its social media channels.

General manager at Spandex UK Leon Watson comments: "Arlon has created a really fun lottery with some great prizes. Purchasing one of its outstanding products to become eligible is a fantastic way for existing and new customers to get involved."

www.spandex.co.uk

Phillips wins award for digital signage installation

Phillips Professional Display Solutions has won the Smart Buildings 2019 Best Commercial Installation Project of the Year award. This award recognises the exciting digital signage installation that brought the Museum of the National Bank of Belgium into the future from its rich heritage dating back to 1850, future-proofing it for tomorrow with displays that captivate and engage a new generation of audience. This was the “perfect project to showcase a best in class solution that exceeded the end-customer’s design brief.”

Partnering with Ocular, Phillips installed five 98” screens at the museum.

With an approach sympathetic to the historic surroundings, these mammoth screens now hang two metres above the ground between the building’s pillars, giving visitors of the museum a spectacular experience. The screens work in harmony with 20 x 10” Phillips T-Line touch screens and Ocular’s custom Audioguide system to bring the exhibits to life through an interactive visual display so that guests can connect with the exhibits as well as with each other through collaborative guidance.

Roeland Scholten, sales director Benelux



Mammoth screens hang two metres above the ground between the building’s pillars, giving visitors of the museum a spectacular experience.

says: “We were very excited to work on this project together with our partner Ocular. It provided us with a great opportunity to showcase how cutting edge technology can fit into historic surroundings to engage new generations

and bring a new lease of life. Now, to receive such great recognition for the installation is fantastic. The whole team is delighted.”

www.phillips.co.uk

RA Smart specialist reseller of HP Stitch printers



The S500 made its European debut at FESPA.

RA Smart (CAD & Machinery) has announced a partnership with HP as the exclusive UK and Ireland specialist reseller for its Stitch range of textile dye sublimation printers aimed at print professionals for every level of productivity. The new S300 and S500 solutions made their European debut at FESPA in May 2019

Established in 1972 as a screen supplier to the textile printing industry and specialist textile printer and supplier of bespoke textile printing systems, RA Smart has been supplying and supporting digital textile systems since 1999 covering all aspects of textile printing including fashion, customised goods, home furnishing, household textiles, sportswear, education and soft signage.

www.rasmart.co.uk



Roland TrueVIS VG2 wins Best Print and Cut Solution in EDP Awards

Launched in March this year, Roland DG's TrueVIS VG2 series eco-solvent printer/cutter has won Best Print & Cut Solution in the EDP (European Digital Press Association) Awards.

The winners of the EDP Awards are decided by an independent panel of judges from Europe's 21 leading trade publications who evaluate the most exciting technical launches from the past 12 months based on their "achievement, quality and cost efficiency".

According to the panel: "Roland DG has not adhered to existing concepts but has redefined product development".

The judges were particularly impressed by the system's breadth of colour gamut, optimised colour accuracy and colour reproduction capability plus a host of technological advancements to deliver high precision print and cut performance.

"We're absolutely thrilled to have won the EDP Award for Best Print & Cut Solution with the new TrueVIS VG2," comments Gillian Montanaro, head of marketing Roland DG EMEA. "When we launched the VG2 just a few months ago we were ready to show the



TrueVIS VG2 Wins EDP Award for Best Print & Cut Solution.

industry something special, a solution that could genuinely change print professionals' working lives in terms of colour quality, turnaround speeds, reliability, longevity of their output and much more. The EDP Awards are widely

regarded as the most prestigious awards for the digital print business in Europe so the title absolutely reflects how incredible this machine is."

www.rolanddg.co.uk

Leicester & Loughborough Signs Express opens

Signs Express continues with its expansion plan to grow its current franchise network of 65 centres with the opening of a centre in the Leicester & Loughborough territory. The latest addition is now operational under the ownership and guidance of husband and wife franchisees Martin and Val Duggan.

"We have always had the ambition of running our own business and working together," says Martin. "As we both have commercial backgrounds we believe that we have a good understanding of the needs of our local businesses".

Martin has over 20 years of sales and marketing experience working with premium consumer brands and is no stranger to developing and implementing business plan and will be an asset to the Signs Express network.



From left: Aaron Davis (Network Development Director), Val Duggan, Martin Duggan and Jonathan Bean.

Val has a wide range of complementary skills to bring to their Signs Express franchise from her years as a senior buyer for a national consumer goods company, where she was involved in both design and global sourcing.

"We are able to service almost any signage requirement, providing a fast, reliable and high quality comprehensive service," says Val. "Signs Express is such a well-known and respected brand, we are very positive about the future".

Jonathan Bean, managing director of Signs Express comments: "Both have an impressive mix of professional and personal experiences making them passionate about putting customers' needs first. We welcome them into our network and look forward to working closely with them over the coming months".

Since opening, Martin & Val and their highly skilled team have already completed several impressive projects and are able to assist with any signage requirement.

www.signsexpress.co.uk

Mimaki Tiger scoops two EDP Awards

Mimaki won two awards at the European Digital Press Association (EDP) Annual Awards ceremony held at FESPA 2019. Mimaki's Tiger-1800B MkII earned its first award in the category of 'textile printer roll-to-roll more than 100 sq m/h' and the second for its Rimslow TR Series complete solution in the category 'pre- and postpress-treatment solutions'.

As part of the Tiger Pro Series, the Tiger-1800B MkII is a high volume textile printer for direct printing or paper transfer with a print speed of up to 385sq m/h. This versatility and speed paired with the printer's ability to print at up to 1,200 x 1,200dpi enables users to produce extremely high quality products without the need to compromise on production and throughput. Capable of handling all kinds

of fabrics and papers, the printer can be used for a wide range of applications including interior decoration, fashion and apparel. Further important features include MAPS (Mimaki Advanced Pass System) and NRS (Nozzle Recovery System).

MAPS prevents banding and colour shifting during the printing process by spreading the edge of each pass to create a gradient. This feature alongside NRS, which enables the printer to replace nozzles without stopping production, enhances the printer's performance and boosts productivity and quality for the user.

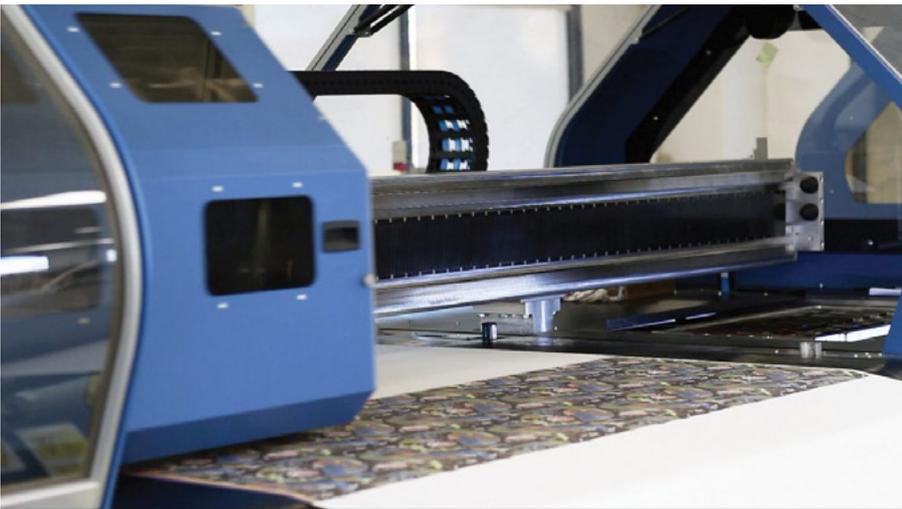
"We're delighted that our Tiger-1800B MkII came first in two categories during such a prestigious awards ceremony," says Bert Benckhuysen, product manager for Mimaki

Europe. "To be recognised for the fact that we listen closely to the needs of the market and constantly work to improve our products for customers, affirms our position as a strong force within digital textile printing."

Allowing textile printers to take full control of their workflow, the Tiger-1800B MkII and the TR Series is a complete solution for coating, printing, steaming and washing machines. Rather than purchasing technology from different manufacturers to handle the four processes, Mimaki ensures complete technology compatibility for improved efficiencies and quality.

"The Mimaki TR Series is all about increasing productivity and cutting costs throughout the whole digital textile printing process," says Bert. "Providing an entire workflow solution instead of a standalone product enables us to offer a much more stable and reliable production line. This enables increased uptime and allows our customers to focus on designing products that make them stand out in the crowd."

Exclusively distributed in the UK and Ireland by Hybrid Services, the company's chief operations manager Brett Newman comments: "To receive a pair of awards for the Tiger-1800B MkII confirms the printer's status in the textile sector. Offering unrivalled production opportunities, it's ideally suited to supporting the drive to manufacture printed textiles more locally and we're delighted with the response from the European Digital Press Association."



Mimaki's Tiger-1800B MkII can be used for both direct-to-textile and sublimation transfer.

www.hybridservices.co.uk

Make it Happen co-sponsors British Sign Awards

Make it Happen will be co-sponsor of this year's British Sign Awards along with SignFab (UK) and FirstLite LED Systems. The awards are being held at The Athena in the centre of Leicester on Thursday, 14 November 2019.

This year there will be an extra prize for 2019 Sign of the Year, the chance to send a member of staff to Orlando, Florida to attend the ISA Sign Expo courtesy of ISA.

You don't need to be a member of ISA to enter the awards. If you have a project you

make *it* happen
signage consultancy

want to enter and want some advice on putting the application together, the ladies at MIH will be happy to help and you can enter as many projects as you want across

the categories. Applications are open until September 2019.

www.makeih.co.uk



Soyang Europe UK distributor for DESARDI

Soyang Europe is to become the UK distributor for creative wallcoverings manufacturer DESARDI as it looks to expand its creative material portfolio to meet demand for high end, bespoke interior décor.

“The DESARDI wallcovering ranges bring tremendous creative potential in the form of a blank canvas,” comments managing director Mark Mashiter. “Bespoke interior décor is a growing industry and print plays a massive role in this for both the domestic and commercial sectors. We have seen a big increase in the number of printing companies looking for printable wallpaper options for high end hotels, restaurants and corporate environments, as well as for individuals looking to put their stamp on their home with a feature wall.”



Bespoke interior décor is a growing industry and print plays a massive role in this for both the domestic and commercial sectors.

“Bespoke interior décor is a growing industry and print plays a massive role in this for both the domestic and commercial sectors”

Soyang Europe has stock of DESARDI products available on a next day delivery service from its Lancashire distribution centre. DESARDI Classic paper-based wallpaper is a UV, latex and solvent compatible wallcovering and Soyang Europe will stock two finishes; DESARDI Fine has a matte, fine, gritty vinyl coated embossing for colourful and high resolution wall decorations while DESARDI Rough is a paper-backed

textured vinyl coated printable wallpaper with a classic bold stucco like texture.

“DESARDI paper backed wallcovering media are fire retardant making them a safe and economical choice for homes, retail and hospitality environments,” continues Mark.

“In addition to the paper-based wallcoverings, we will stock a selection of DESARDI’s Classic non-woven wallpaper range including DESARDI Tex Smooth, Fine, Linen, Rough and Brush. These creative textures give so many options and the entire Classic range is durable, washable, flame-retardant, has excellent image quality and is Bio-Pruf treated, giving long-lasting antimicrobial protection for applications in clinical settings.”

Also available is DESARDI Walltex. This luxurious range of wallcoverings with a textile backing is highly durable for environments such as those for the healthcare, leisure and hotel industries.

“WallTex is a dimensionally stable PVC-free printable textile wallpaper with a matte finish especially made for applications like seamless wall coverings, trade show graphics, backdrops, roll-up displays and front-lit framing systems,” explains Mark. “It complies with the Oeko-Tex 100 and B1 fire retardancy standards, which is crucial.”



DESARDI paper-backed wallcovering media are fire-retardant, making them a safe and economical choice for homes, retail and hospitality environments.

www.soyang.co.uk

UV direct printing guide for product personalisation

Roland DG is making it easy for businesses to enter the UV printing market with Digital Benchtop UV Printing: What Will You Print?, a free 40-page guide exploring this exciting technology.

UV printing is one of the most flexible and exciting print processes ever created and its uses are almost limitless. It has become an essential tool for sign makers, graphics producers, promotional gift businesses, packaging specialists, advertising agencies, designers, retailers and new start-ups.

The guide, which is free to download from the Roland website, focuses on Roland's VersaUV LEF range of benchtop UV printers and explores how they can be used to print directly onto a wide array of materials and objects. Thanks to the combination of innovative inks, low heat curing and variable data processing, it's possible to add customised print directly to all kinds of items.

This opens markets to businesses across a wide spectrum from creative minds to companies looking for significant ROI potential and allows print service providers to create products for many different sectors. The guide includes case studies which give an insight into how businesses



are already benefiting from UV printing. Businesses looking for a system can get an overview of Roland's VersaUV LEF benchtop printers and their respective specifications including the compact and affordable VersaUV LEF-12i, the VersaUV LEF-300 and the new LEF2-200, featuring a host of enhancements which improve usability and production times.

Every device in the LEF range includes

powerful features. For instance, the vibrant CMYK colours of Roland UV inks can be given extra punch by printing them on top of a base layer of white, perfect for dark substrates. Clear gloss can add highlights or when printed in layers, produce genuine textures, raised text and special effects; all of this can be achieved through direct printing onto the material or object.

www.rolanddg.co.uk

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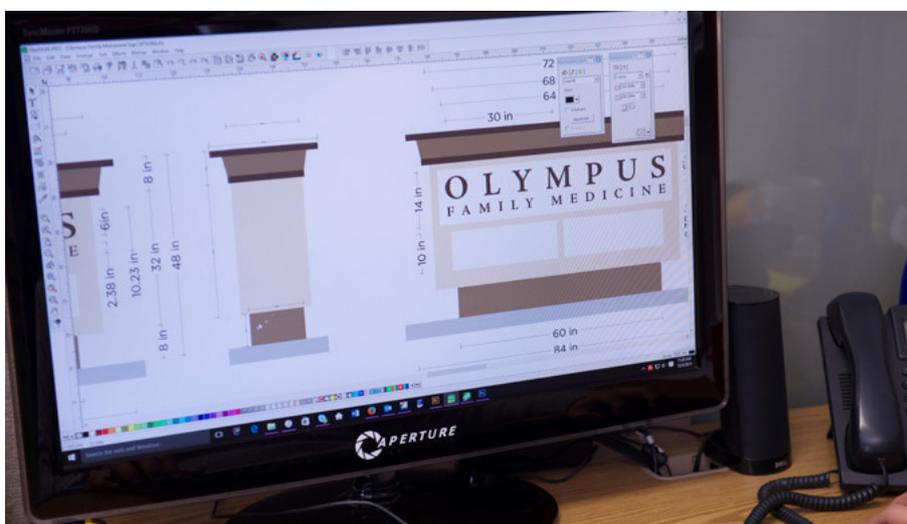
SAi initiates collaborative AI research project with Oxford University

SAi is partnering with Oxford University in the UK, to undertake a three-year research project that will explore the possibility of developing an artificial intelligence (AI)-assisted software solution.

If the project is successful, this would be the first AI-tool of its kind within the sign industry. During the initial stage researchers from the university's Department of Engineering Science will use aggregate data to determine the common trends and behavior of sign designers. If clear patterns emerge, a software which aids large format print providers and sign and display companies when designing signage, could be brought to market in the future.

In line with SAi's ethos of value-added solutions, the project follows an increased demand from large format print providers and signmakers to reduce the time spent at the design stage.

The software envisaged by the project could serve to inspire designers with suggestions including best practice fonts, images and layouts, that the AI tool is trained to provide. Beyond this, it could reduce the time and cost restraints currently faced by large format print providers and sign shops.



SAi's collaborative project with Oxford University will explore the possibility of developing an AI-assisted software solution to aid sign and display companies.

"We are very excited about the potential of this AI research as it represents another move to bring new technologies to the sign industry," says Gudrun Bonte, vice president of product management.

"After all, pushing the frontiers of innovation to develop tools that will make the lives of our customers easier is what SAi is all about. Businesses are often

compromised by the time-consuming design phase with very little of the costs transferred to their customers. With AI, print providers and sign shops may be able to recruit designers from a wider pool of applicants. This will secure more time and resources to dedicate to increasing their profit margins and revenue streams."

www.ThinkSAi.com

Bright Green Technology appointed UK distributor for wireless sign lighting system

Bright Green Technology has been appointed by Stogger BV as exclusive distributor of its award-winning wireless sign lighting system in the UK and Ireland.

A revolution in LED lighting for channel letters, LED lightboxes and LED signage, the Stogger wireless LED lighting system eliminates cables completely, as well as the costs and complexity of standard sign lighting modules. LED modules are simply fixed to a board which is powered by a low voltage supply. Using this system, sign makers can dramatically increase productivity by simplifying design and automating assembly. Bright Green Technology will be responsible for sales, marketing and technical support.

The initial agreement includes preferred partner status in the Middle East, where Bright Green Technology has built a substantial market presence. The Stogger wireless lighting system features



advanced custom lenses to distribute light from the LEDs, providing bright, diffuse lighting down to 60mm depth. The profiles are optimised for shallow channel letters with outstanding lighting performance that meets or exceeds conventional modules.

The wireless construction enables easy layout planning and trialling with no need for cables or adhesive tape or glue. At 48V operating voltage, the system offers high efficiency suitable for large and small areas and for internal or external use. The Stogger system includes a comprehensive range of wireless LED modules, a custom power distribution board and accessories.

www.brightgreentechnology.com

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To advertise on these pages call Martin on
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Classified advertising rates

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Job Vacancies and items for sale also go online at no extra cost.

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Mutoh Valuejet 1614 [4 colour CMYK] wide format, eco-solvent digital printer. Purchased in 2010.	£2,000
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Print-shop Equipment (Roland SP540V print and cut machine, Mutoh SC550 cutter, laminator, Keencut Edge 2 etc)	£19,000
Roland Versa Camm SP540-v Print Cutter & GMP Excellam Q1400 Cold Laminator	£4,995

www.signupdate.co.uk/fs

Mimaki JV33 Printers

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or lease from £118.34 per month Includes RIP, set of 8 inks, one year's on-site warranty and telephone support, UK delivery & installation.

ColorSolve 440ml inks £54.95 each.
Also available Mimaki CG-FX cutters

Short term printer rentals from
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See website for details.

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www.applied-image.com

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vendka.com

Job Vacancies

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The Media Collective is on a mission to help schools become the most exciting, vibrant places on the planet. We're looking for people who can join us to help us make that happen better. You will not only be expected to be skilled at installing a wide range of signs and graphics, you would also be expected to be a good on-site problem solver, be aligned to our values and deliver our customer service standards at all times.

www.signupdate.co.uk/licb

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Nationally throughout the UK

We require qualified and experienced installation engineers as full-time company employees throughout the UK.

Minimum 5 years' experience as a signage installer / Maintenance engineer, Petrol Forecourt experience would be an advantage.

Full UK driving license is essential

Applications should be by e-mail only with a full CV attached for the attention of the General Manager, Petrol Sign UK Ltd, and sent to paul.firth@petrol-sign.com

CV to include details of H&S Courses and equipment tickets, such as UKPIA, IPAF, PASMA etc.

Petrol Sign Ltd, Balby Carr Bank, Doncaster, DN4 8DH



Gatwick Vacancy

EXPERIENCED Vinyl graphics & Wrap installer.

We are looking for someone to join our team as soon as possible. Being specialists in vehicle graphics and wrapping we need an all-rounder experienced in preparing and installing vinyl graphics mostly for vehicles but also to a wide range of substrates to a high standard.

Requirements:
 General all round sign & graphics experience and ability.
 Weeding, mounting & installation of graphics to a wide range of substrates.
 Installation of vehicle graphics and wraps is essential.
 The ability to work on own initiative and as part of a team in workshop or on site.
 Work to deadlines whilst maintaining high standards.
 Understand of the importance of providing excellent customer service.
 Flexible and willing to travel, working overtime when necessary.
 Clean Driving Licence required. Excellent rates (subject to experience) + bonus + overtime.

If you think you're up for the challenge and want to work in a busy, enthusiastic, growing and awesome team please send your CV and details of experience to info@bluelizardsigns.com

Talented Signmaker North West England

Insignia Signs & Display Limited, headquartered in Dublin, Ireland, are currently on the lookout for a talented Signmaker for their new UK operation. Following a period of sustained growth and now established as one of Ireland's leading signage companies, we are seeking to hire an enthusiastic, organised and proactive team member for our UK office. The candidate should display the ability to co-ordinate a busy Signage company, specialising in the Temporary Signage market and the growing world of Vehicle Branding, through our sister company www.wrap.ie.

This is a full-time position and the candidate would be required to work at our North West of England location.

Working closely with the business's founder, the candidate would need to display a can do attitude and an ability to work in a fast paced, customer orientated environment. An ability to work with vinyl, rigid substrates and digital prints would be a distinct advantage.

A proven ability to determine work schedules, work with customers and managing a busy print room and factory floor, are all pre-requisites for this position.

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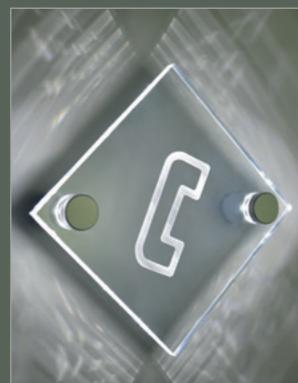
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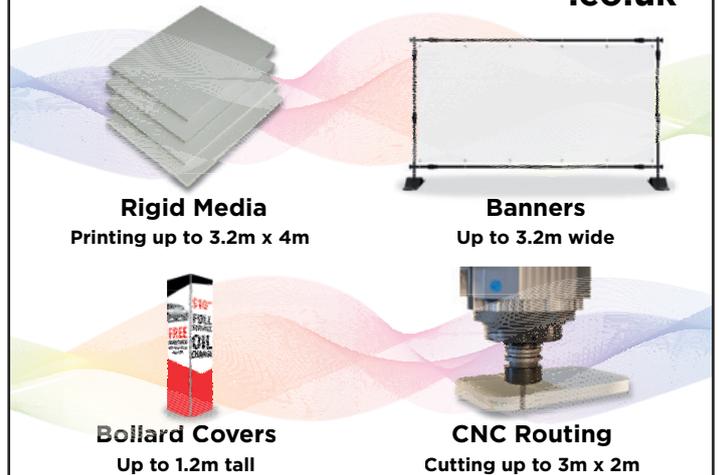
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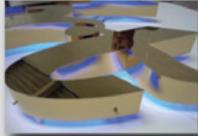
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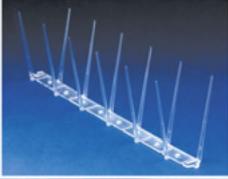
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Since 1974, Sygnet Signs has built-up a reputation for being the best in the business. A trade supplier of 3D Built-Up letters with a brushed, satin, mill or chemically-coloured finish, our aluminium is 1050 grade and we use 304 and 316 stainless steel. We also offer a wide variety of back trays and are LED illumination specialists. All work is undertaken in-house at our headquarters in Leicester.

WATERJET SIGNS LTD

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Margate, Kent CT9 4JG

Tel: 01843 225666

www.waterjetsigns.co.uk

Specialise in manufacturing signs to the trade with over 40 years' experience in the signage industry. 3D Built up letters, Flat cut letters, Projecting Signs, Facia Signs, and Illuminated Light Boxes. All work undertaken in house. Competitive prices and prompt service.

CABLE DISPLAY SYSTEMS

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

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Tel: 0141 764 1600

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www.ispitrade.com

Cable display systems are simple yet highly flexible. Available in high quality solid brass with a polished chrome finish or satin finish aluminium. Cable systems can be used for modern retail shelving, displaying signage and LED window displays which are highly effective for shop fronts. We supply all parts individually or as simple to use complete kits. Need help? Use our new online chat.

SHOPKIT GROUP LTD

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Tel: 01923 818282

sales@shopkit.com

www.shopkit.com/brochures/

Shopkit manufacture versatile cable & rod display systems to support signage & graphics in our UK FACTORY, offering quality products at COMPETITIVE PRICES in different sizes & metal finishes, with an ONLINE SHOP with next day delivery & quick lead times on CUSTOM ITEMS. Products include sign hanging systems, banner systems, graphic & poster displays, poster & brochure holders & cable fixing kits.

CAST SIGNS

SIGNS OF THE TIMES LTD

Wingfield Road Tebworth, Beds,
LU7 9QG

Tel: 01525 874 185

enquiries@sott.co.uk

www.sott.co.uk

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

WARD SIGNS

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info@ward-signs.co.uk

www.ward-signs.co.uk

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

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

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www.countyengravers-signs.co.uk

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

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Tel: 01322 340 194

mail@desp.co.uk

www.desp.co.uk

DESP has been trading for over 55 years. Chemical Etching, Screen Printing, CNC engraving, Laser Engraving, Heavy Duty Machine engraving (ALL CARRIED OUT INHOUSE), including artwork. So whether its a 1 off or 1,000s off, we can offer a quick competitive turnaround.

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Unit 2, Ashgrove Farm, Piltown,
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Tel: 020 8686 6649

sales@hallmarksigns.co.uk

www.hallmarksigns.co.uk

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

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Mob: 07957 870 756

andy@impactengraving.co.uk

www.impactengraving.co.uk

REAL Trade prices for chemical etching, brass and stainless steel a speciality. ULTRA FAST DELIVERY

MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS

51/59 Waterworks Road, Norwich
NR2 4DA

Tel: 01603 66 66 99

www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk

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

MULTITECHNIC LTD (EST. 1972)

Coopies Lane, Morpeth,
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Tel: 01670 512090
sales@multitechnic.co.uk
www.multitechnic.co.uk

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

SIGN INDUSTRIES

Unit 3, Roberts Street, Forfar,
Angus, DD8 3DG

Tel: 01307 463997
info@signindustries.com
www.signindustries.com

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

TRADE ETCHING DIRECT LTD

10 Pywell Court, Pywell Road,
Corby, Northants, NN17 5WA

Tel: 01536 203813
sales@tradeetching.com
www.tradeetching.com

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

CHROME PLATED LETTERS

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225 Long Lane, London N3 2RL

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sales@signtrade.co.uk
www.signtrade.co.uk

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

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sales@ataeng.com
www.ataeng.com

The Atacama range of CNC routers and Lasers offers a wide variety of options from 3 axis machines and 4 axis Routers and Metal and Non Metal Cutting CNC Lasers.

COAT OF ARMS

BRYAN RAWLINGS DESIGN

45 Nunney Close, Keynsham,
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Tel: 0117 986 7894 / 7291
bryan@bryanrawlings.com
www.bryanrawlings.com

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

SIGNS OF THE TIMES LTD

Wingfield Road Tebworth, Beds,
LU7 9QG

Tel: 01525 874 185
enquiries@sott.co.uk
www.sott.co.uk

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

WARD SIGNS

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

Tel: 0117 955 3385
info@ward-signs.co.uk
www.ward-signs.co.uk

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

COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES

MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS 51/59 Waterworks Rd. Norwich NR2 4DA

Tel: 01603 666699
sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk
www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk
Manufacturers of plaques in stainless steel, brass and aluminium, chemically or machine engraved, colour filled to your choice. Logos and text from artwork supplied.

SIGN INDUSTRIES

Unit 3, Roberts Street, Forfar,
Angus, DD8 3DG

Tel: 01307 463997
info@signindustries.com
www.signindustries.com

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

SIGNS OF THE TIMES LTD

Wingfield Road Tebworth, Beds,
LU7 9QG

Tel: 01525 874 185
enquiries@sott.co.uk
www.sott.co.uk

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

WARD SIGNS

Maze House, Maze Street, Barton
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Tel: 0117 955 3385
info@ward-signs.co.uk
www.ward-signs.co.uk

Wards of Bristol have produced countless cast metal commemorative blue plaques, but also specialise in traditional bronze plaques and custom 3D hand crafted plaques, which are hand painted to depict scenes of historical events, places and figures.

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APPLELEC

Unit 1, Wharfedale Business Park,
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Tel: 01274 774477
sales@applelec.co.uk
www.applelec.co.uk

Trade suppliers of flat cut out letters, logos and intricate laser work. We offer lettering in a variety of materials such as acrylic, foamex, dibond, stainless steel, aluminium and MDF in different finishes, with or without fixings. Please contact our friendly team for more information and to request a free and unbranded product brochure. (3D built up lettering is also available).

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Leeds LS12 3BL

Tel: 0113 224 2124
sales@icesigns.co.uk
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51-59 Waterworks Road, Norwich
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Tel: 01603 666699
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A fully comprehensive service to the trade in acrylic, foam PVC, MDF, brass and aluminium. Contact us for price list or quotation.

SIGN HERE

179 Fosse Road North, Leicester,
LE3 5EZ

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sales@sign-here.co.uk
www.sign-here.co.uk

Trade service for flat cut lettering & logos in Acrylic Foamex, Dibond, Aluminium, Stainless steel & MDF. We will give you a professional reliable & efficient service at a competitive price. From a single letter to a fully illuminated sign ready for installation. For a quote or just friendly advice contact us. We are here to help.

SIGNTRADE LETTERS LTD

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Tel: 08085 456700
sales@signtrade.co.uk
www.signtrade.co.uk

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

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Sygnnet 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, dibond, aluminium or stainless steel.

WATERJET SIGNS LTD

Continental Approach, Westwood
Industrial Estate, Ramsgate Road,
Margate, Kent CT9 4JG

Tel: 01843 225666
www.waterjetsigns.co.uk

Specialise in manufacturing signs to the trade with over 40 years' experience in the signage industry. 3D Built up letters, Flat cut letters, Projecting Signs, Facia Signs, and Illuminated Light Boxes. All work undertaken in house. Competitive prices and prompt service.

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info@cuttingmatsxxl.co.uk
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CuttingmatsXXL specialises in transparent and flexible cutting mats to protect your work table. Nr1 table protection for all signage companies. Your blade will cut smoothly through your foil and with the 'self-healing' characteristic the surface will stay smooth. Our mats are also widely used on top of all brands of flatbed applicators like RollsRoller, Roll-X, Lamidesk, CWT and Rollover.

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

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

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

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Mactac is a global manufacturer of self-adhesive materials for wide-format digital printing (solvent, eco-solvent, latex & UV), with ICC profiles for the highest printed quality. Our innovative products help you to express your talents, across applications that include interior decoration, commercial architecture and visual communications – on buildings, windows, points of sale, vehicles & boats.

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Manufacturing and stocking clear acrylic domes and dishes in over 25 sizes and all produced on site at our factory in Colchester. We also stock over 170 different size blowing rings for other shapes and weird and wonderful diameters. Pans, dishes, squares, oblong and ovals are our speciality.

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With 70 years of making Domes & Dishes, our Teedy Domes have set the standard. With our vast range of tooling we can make almost any size – so just ask. We are now the first to offer unbreakable Polycarbonate Domes.

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

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MegaLED are pioneers in edge lighting. Providing a professional LED illumination service and the most impressive range of 'designer' edge lit signs available anywhere. Specialist led lighting and display designs. Manufacturers of quality contemporary edge lit signs in both glass and acrylic. For award-winning led lighting, wayfinding, retail and architectural projects, call us on: 0208 432 0995

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

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

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DESP has been trading for over 55 years. CNC engraving, Laser engraving, Heavy Duty machine engraving, Chemical etching, Screen Printing, (ALL CARRIED OUT INHOUSE), including artwork. So whether its a 1 off or 1,000 off, we can offer a quick competitive turnaround.

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

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

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

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www.gofaso.com

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SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

Pear Tree Works, Bath Road, Upper
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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 Fingerpost sign systems. Our high quality Fingerpost systems combines aluminium or steel posts, with double skin finger-arms, making it highly durable, and ideal for public locations. We have two systems available; Our Traditional fingerpost system and our "New" Waypoint fingerpost system.

FLAT CUT LETTERS

ACCENT SIGNS LTD

Units 4, Broadcott Ind. Est., Station
Rd., Cradley Heath B64 6NT

Tel: 0121 561 4600

accsign1@aol.com

www.accent-signs.co.uk

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

APPLELEC

Unit 1, Wharfedale Business Park,
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Tel: 01274 774477

sales@applelec.co.uk

www.applelec.co.uk

Trade suppliers of flat cut out letters, logos and intricate laser work. We offer lettering in a variety of materials such as acrylic, foamex, dibond, stainless steel, aluminium and MDF in different finishes, with or without fixings. Please contact our friendly team for more information and to request a free and unbranded product brochure. (3D built up lettering is also available).

CENTRE SIGNS (UK) LTD

Alexander House, Liffie Avenue,
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Tel: 0116 271 4247

graphics@centresigns.co.uk

www.centresigns.co.uk

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

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Tel: 020 8751 7250

mailus@fabricut.co.uk

www.fabricut.co.uk

Trade suppliers of flat cut letters and logos etc with a 24 hr next day service available. Lots of materials to choose from: Foamex, Perspex, Composites, MDF, Ply, Aluminium, Polished/Brushed Stainless. Aluminium Composite trays signs folded, glued ready for you to hang. Plastic, brass & nickel locators, various studs & sleeves, 3M VHB tape, drilling templates also available.

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LE3 5EZ

Tel: 08085 428021

sales@sign-here.co.uk

www.sign-here.co.uk

Trade service for flat cut lettering & logos in Acrylic Foamex, Dibond, Aluminium, Stainless steel & MDF. We will give you a professional reliable & efficient service at a competitive price. From a single letter to a fully illuminated sign ready for installation. For a quote or just friendly advice contact us. We are here to help.

SIGNATURE SIGNS LTD

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Dundee. DD2 4US

Tel: 01382 610 016

info@signaturesigns.net

www.signaturesigns.net

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

SYGNET SIGNS LTD

129 Humberstone Rd, Leicester,
LE5 3AP

Tel: 0116 262 6288

sales@sygnetsigns.com

www.sygnetsigns.com

Supplier to the trade since 1974, Sygnet Signs has a huge selection of over 5000 styles to choose from. You're very welcome to supply your own artwork, and we'll be happy to work with you to create the perfect Flat-Cut Lettered sign. Whether it's acrylic, foamex, mdf, polycarb, dibond, stainless steel or aluminium signage you require, we'll do you proud at our factory in city-centre Leicester!

WATERJET SIGNS LTD

Continental Approach, Westwood
Industrial Estate, Ramsgate Road,
Margate, Kent CT9 4JG

Tel: 01843 225666

www.waterjetsigns.co.uk

Specialise in manufacturing signs to the trade with over 40 years' experience in the signage industry. 3D Built up letters, Flat cut letters, Projecting Signs, Facia Signs, and Illuminated Light Boxes. All work undertaken in house. Competitive prices and prompt service.

FLEXIBLE FACE SIGNAGE

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sales@browningsltd.co.uk

www.browningsltd.co.uk

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

MIDA SIGN SERVICES UK LTD

Welbeck Street South, Ashton-
Under-Lyne OL6 7QZ

Tel: 0161 8 300 600

info@midasignservices.co.uk

www.midasignservices.co.uk

Specialised installers of all flexible faced systems. Nationwide service. Illuminated or non-illuminated. We can supply and install. Call for details.

GENERAL SIGN SUPPLIERS

BROWNING'S 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. We supply in any size or quantity, from 1 offs to multiple rollouts either as lengths of extrusion, in kit form or as made-up signs.

KINGS PLASTICS LTD

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

Tel: 0117 9411 411

www.kingsplastics.co.uk

For all types of sign. Individual flatcut & built up lettering, illuminated with LED's. Edgelit signs, Illuminated signs, Tray signs, Modular sign systems, Frames & panels, acrylic fabrication. LED's, LED Flexi neon & converters etc. Also material supplies cut to size & laser cutting. A complete service to the trade. For further information, check out our website & online shop.

WHITE VILLA LTD

London (SE14) and Chichester
(PO20)

Tel: 020 7237 8000

sales@whitevilla.co.uk

www.whitevilla.co.uk

Here at Whitevilla we have been supplying the sign trade with quality Acrylic, ACM, Foam PVC and other substrates for over 20 years. We stock over 30 different colours and finishes in our Villabond/ACM range. We fabricate trays using Lasers/CNC routers and we supply fully illuminated fascias to our clients. All work is undertaken in-house by our specialist team and can offer a next day service.

GOLD LEAF SUPPLIERS

GOLD LEAF SUPPLIES

Unit C, Ogmor Court, Abergarw
Ind. Est. Brynmenyn, CF32 9LW

Tel: 01656 720 566

info@goldleafsupplies.co.uk

www.goldleafsupplies.co.uk

Highest quality products and a prompt reliable service. For all your Gold leaf, Gilding and Traditional Signwriting materials. All qualities of Gold leaf from 6ct to 24ct. Extensive range of products and full product support.

INSTALLATION CONTRACTORS

ANDY MAC SIGN SERVICES (EST. 1992)

4 Central Close, Hadleigh, Essex
SS7 2NU

Mob: 07850 060 840

Our highly experienced sign installation crews based in Essex offer you the quality of service you deserve. All aspects of signage covered across the U.K. including neon, flex face and vinyl. CSCS, IPAF, PASMA certificated.

BIRCH SIGN SERVICES

Unit 3, Wickham Business Park,
Honywood Road, Basildon, Essex,
SS14 3EQ

Tel: 01268 284 400
Mob: 07967 190089
lou@birchsigns.com
www.birchsigns.com

"The largest independent sign installation and maintenance company in the UK." Specialists in all sign work, large or small, neon, LED, all Flexface systems, illuminated, non illuminated and vinyl. Corporate change over specialists.

CHANNEL ISLANDS

BluePrint Signs & Garments, 20
Apsley Road, St Helier, Jersey,
Channel Islands, JE2 4LR

Tel: 01534 857633
Mob: 07700 800 999
paul@blueprintsigs.co.uk
www.blueprintsigs.co.uk

Blueprint Signs & Garments offers a professional signage production and installation service throughout the Channel Islands, fully qualified crews based in Jersey completely cover all of the Channel Islands inclusive of Guernsey, Sark, Herm and Alderney.

GLOBAL ERECTING SIGN SERVICES LTD (EST. 1996)

Ascension House, Phoenix
Business Park, St Neots,
Cambridgeshire, PE19 8EP

Tel: 01480 211948
info@gessltd.co.uk
www.gess.uk.com

The complete package. We offer an exemplary installation service for all types of signage, from street level to extreme high level, specialising in abseiling. We have full Public and Company Liability Insurance. For each installation we provide a full project management service, from site survey to sign off and provide a full Risk and Method Statement prior to any works being undertaken.

MEDIA ABSEILING

69 Soulbury Road, Leighton
Buzzard, Beds, LU7 2RW

Tel: 0845 345 7712
Mob: 07702 950 218
info@mediaabseiling.com
www.mediaabseiling.com

Rope access company specialising in the installation and maintenance of all types of signage, banners and lighting. We operate nationwide and throughout Europe and provide advice, site visits, fast turnaround and most importantly award-winning results.

MIDA SIGN SERVICES UK LTD

Welbeck Street South, Ashton-
Under-Lyne OL6 7QZ

Tel: 0161 8 300 600
info@midasignservices.co.uk
www.midasignservices.co.uk

Professional installation and maintenance of all types of signage, graphics and banners. Including, Site surveys, illuminated signs, Flexface signage, LED etc. Nationwide service. Established 1984.

SIGN INSTALLATIONS (EST. 1995)

2-4 Foredown Drive, Portslade,
East Sussex BN41 2BB

Tel: 01273 424900
sales@sussexsigns.com
www.sign-installations.co.uk

Let us be your professional sign installation team, in London, Sussex, Hampshire, Surrey and Kent. With 25 years of sign installation experience, our neatly presented fitting crews will work for you to increase your profits. Customer service and client confidentiality are paramount, so you can be sure your hard earned reputation is in safe hands.

LAMINATING/ENCAPSULATING

VIVID LAMINATING TECHNOLOGIES

Matrix House, Norman Court,
Ivanhoe Business Park, Ashby de
la Zouch, Leicestershire, LE65 2UZ

Tel: 0345 1 30 40 50
sales@vivid-online.com
www.vivid-online.com

Vivid supply a wide range of laminating products including the award-winning Easymount range of wide format laminators, available in cold, heat assist and hot models. Vivid also supply the Boss range Pressure Sensitive Over Laminates, Self Wound Mount Films & Printable Vinyl Roll fed and the Trimfast range of wide format Board Cutters and Multi Substrate Cutters.

LASER CUTTING/ENGRAVING

CENTRE SIGNS (UK) LTD

Alexander House, Iliffe Avenue,
Oadby, Leicester LE2 5LH

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

Trade only service for quality Acrylic Laser Cutting, 3mm, 5mm -10mm. Our 10mm clear laser cut acrylic is ideal for POS and specialist projects. Professional cutting bed area 1400 x 900mm. Cutting services for MDF and Ply is also available.

SIGN HERE

179 Fosse Road North, Leicester,
LE3 5EZ

Tel: 08085 428021
sales@sign-here.co.uk
www.sign-here.co.uk

Trade service for Laser flat cut & built up lettering & logos in Acrylic, Aluminum & Stainless steel. We will give you a professional reliable & efficient service at a competitive price. From a single letter to a fully illuminated sign ready for installation. For a quote or just friendly advice contact us. We are here to help. Work with us.... work with experience

SYGNET SIGNS LTD

129 Humberstone Rd, Leicester,
LE5 3AP

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

Sygnetsigns offers a laser-cutting service and stocks a wide variety of materials in various thicknesses to suit you. We can also fabricate signage from free issue materials, using our lasers to cut stainless steel up to 4mm and mild steel up to 12mm in thickness. We can also cut very small acrylic detail with pre-applied double-sided tape, and all work is carried out on-site at our Leicester HQ.

LASER CUTTING/ENGRAVING MACHINES

BOXFORD

Dewsbury Road, Elland, West
Yorkshire, HX5 9BG

Tel: 01422 324 810
www.boxford.co.uk

Our range of cost effect Laser Co2 Cutters and Engravers have bed sizes from 500 x 300mm to 1300 x 900mm and feature integrated chiller cooling systems, auto focus system, air assist c/w integrated compressor, red dot pointers and honeycomb cutting tables. Metal Cutting and Marking Lasers also available including fibre based systems. Supplying lasers since 2003, we have a wealth of expertise.

HPC LASER LTD

Castle Mills, Saddleworth Road,
Elland, West Yorkshire, HX5 0RY

Tel: 01422 310 800
sales@hpclaser.co.uk
www.hpclaser.co.uk

Specialist suppliers of LASERSCRIPT CO2 laser engravers and cutters. Our lasers are capable of cutting, engraving and marking a wide range of materials including laminate, metal, glass, acrylic, textiles, wood, paper, card and leather. Optional 1 to 3 year ONSITE warranty available and unlimited technical support. Established in 2006, over 4500 machines supplied!

TROTEC LASER

Unit 3 Faraday Close, Washington,
Tyne & Wear NE38 8QJ

Tel: 0191 580 1184
www.troteclaser.co.uk

Manufacturers and suppliers of leading laser cutting, marking and engraving technology, Trotec offers a range of lasers with desktop, flatbed, large format and galvo options. With 6 showrooms in the UK and Ireland, hands-on workshops, training and demos show the high quality engraving and productivity of Trotec's laser machines. Trotec also supplies its own range of rotary & laser materials.

LED ILLUMINATED LETTERS

ACCENT SIGNS LTD

Units 4, Broadcott Ind. Est., Station
Rd., Cradley Heath B64 6NT

Tel: 0121 561 4600
accsign1@aol.com

www.accentssignsLtd.co.uk
Accent signs "SLIMLITE" flat cut letters & logos made from 6mm opal acrylic with imbedded super bright white Led's to create a unique edge and halo illumination. Available with ACM, Acrylic or vinyl faces. Suitable for internal & external use. Supplied with standard locator fixings for ease of fitting.

LED ILLUMINATION

3D SIGN SYSTEMS LTD T/A CITI LED

Unit 1, 411 Pollokshaws Rd,
Glasgow, G41 1QZ

Tel: 0141 422 2500
sales@citi-led.co.uk
www.citi-led.co.uk

We are a trade only supplier of LED Modules for all types of channel letters, light boxes and solid acrylic "Neon" effect type letters. We have some very unique specialist LEDs, visit our website for product information and installation tutorials. We offer premium grade reliable products at highly competitive prices. Our unrivalled pre-sales guidance and after sales support will ensure your projects are executed with maximum effect.

APPLELEC

Unit 1, Wharfedale Business Park,
Shetcliffe Lane, Bradford BD4 9RW

Tel: 01274 774477
sales@applelec.co.uk
www.applelec.co.uk

Sole UK distributor of SloanLED LED systems. Trade suppliers of LED lighting solutions and manufacturers of the flat light unit, LED Light Sheet. We supply energy efficient, award winning LED modules in a variety of colours including RGB (colour changing). We'll support you in choosing the right LEDs for your project whilst our after-sale technical support ensures you receive continued assistance.

ARTILLUS - WAYS 2 DISPLAY LTD

Britannia House, 29 Station Road,
Kettering, Northants NN15 7HJ

Tel: 0333 123 0345
sales@ways2display.com
www.artillus.com

DIAMOND 24V LED light boxes and GARNET light panels can be produced in any size up to 3000 x 1500mm. Diamond light boxes have a 20mm deep frame and 25mm snap frame front. Standard sizes in A4 up to A0 for next day delivery. Custom boxes & GARNET 8mm deep light panels can be made in single colour LED or RGB with controllers, can be dimmable or have built-in phasing. No minimum order quantity.

FOCUS LED UK LTD.

Unit 38 Cariocca Business Park, 2
Hellidon Close, Arkwick,
Manchester, M12 4AH

Tel: 0161 27 27 778
sales@focusedltd.co.uk
www.focusedltd.co.uk

Specialise in LED Lighting for Signs & Shop fitting, Kitchens, Restaurants, Commercial & Domestic Lighting. Quality & Professional Lighting to get your job done by giving you our best advice, 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.

KINGS PLASTICS LTD

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

Tel: 0117 9411 411
www.kingsplastics.co.uk

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!

LED SOLUTIONS

129 Humberstone Road, Leicester
LE5 3AP

Tel: 0116 262 5933
sales@ledsolutions.co.uk
www.ledsolutions.co.uk

Since 2005, LED Solutions has supplied energy-efficient LED products, power supplies and control gear for use in the sign trade. We're UK distributors for Hitechled, specialising in ultra-reliable modules for signage illumination and offering a 5-year warranty on all products. We supply RGB modules, DMX systems, Flexible LED and IP-Rated Power Supplies and Enclosures from our HQ in Leicester city.

SIGNTRADE LETTERS LTD

225 Long Lane, London N3 2RL

Tel: 08085 456700
sales@signtrade.co.uk
www.signtrade.co.uk

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

LED WINDOW DISPLAYS

ISPI TRADE LTD

47 Mansionhouse Road, Mount
Vernon, Glasgow G32 0RP

Tel: 0141 764 1600
sales@ispitrade.com
www.ispitrade.com

iSpi Trade is the UK's premier supplier of LED window display solutions. With A4, A3 and A2 size options in portrait or landscape, we can supply fully configured kits which are designed to match your window specifications, plus we provide single panels, accessories and replacement parts, all at low trade prices.

LIGHT BOXES & LIGHTING

APPLELEC

Unit 1, Wharfedale Business Park,
Shetcliffe Lane, Bradford BD4 9RW

Tel: 01274 774477
sales@applelec.co.uk
www.applelec.co.uk

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

ARTILLUS - WAYS 2 DISPLAY LTD

Britannia House, 29 Station Road,
Kettering, Northants NN15 7HJ

Tel: 0333 123 0345
www.artillus.com

DIAMOND 24V LED light boxes and GARNET light panels can be produced in any size up to 2500 x 1500mm. Diamond light boxes have a 20mm deep frame and 25mm snap frame front. Standard sizes in A4 up to A0 for next day delivery. Custom boxes & GARNET 8mm deep light panels can be made in single colour LED or RGB with controllers, can be dimmable or have built-in phasing. No minimum order quantity.

BROWNING'S 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. 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.

MAGNETIC MATERIAL

ANCHOR MAGNETS LTD

Bankside Works, Darnall Road,
Sheffield S9 5AH

Tel: 0114 244 1171
www.anchor magnets.com

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.

BISBELL MAGNETIC PRODUCTS LTD.

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

Tel: 01283 531000
sales@bisbellmagnets.com
www.bisbellmagnets.com

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

MAGNETIC SOLUTIONS LTD

Brooklands Business Park, Leigh
Street, Sheffield S9 2PR

Tel: 0114 2422211
sales@magnetic-solutions-ltd.co.uk
www.magnetic-solutions-ltd.co.uk

Part of the Sanders Group, Europe's largest combined supplier of magnetic & ferro sheet materials including wide format, PVC FREE magnetic (1370mm) and ferrous media (1600mm). Also available, retail POS graphic materials, magnetic flooring, neo magnets, sign grippers and magnetic tape with a range of adhesive finishes to suit your requirements. We can provide the solutions.

MODULAR PANEL SIGN SYSTEMS

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

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

Tel: 01934 852 888
sales@signscape.co.uk
www.signscape.co.uk

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

MOULDED & FABRICATED PLASTICS

MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS 51-59 Waterworks Road, Norwich NR2 4DA

Tel: 01603 666699
sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk
www.mercuryphillipsigns.co.uk
Suppliers of moulded acrylic pans and logos up to 2800mm x 1500mm and other types of press and vacuum forming in PVC and HIPS. Specialists in fabricated plastics for POS displays with full screen print, graphics and CNC routing capabilities.

PROJECT PLASTICS LTD

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

Tel: 01206 868696
project.plastics@btinternet.com
www.projectplastics.co.uk

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

MOULDED LETTERS

ACCENT SIGNS LTD

Units 4, Broadcote Ind. Est., Station
Rd., Cradley Heath B64 6NT

Tel: 0121 561 4600
accsign1@aol.com

www.accent signs ltd.co.uk
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.

MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS

51/59 Waterworks Rd. Norwich NR2
4DA

Tel: 01603 666699
sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk
www.mercuryphillipsigns.co.uk
Moulded letters and logos in all standard Perspex colours and UV stabilised gold and silver acrylics, in 8 standard sizes, bespoke sizes available on application. Press, vacuum and blow moulded pans, in acrylic and petg also available.

SIGNTRADE LETTERS LTD

225 Long Lane, Finchley London
N3 2RL

Tel: 08085 456700
sales@signtrade.co.uk
www.signtrade.co.uk
Moulded letters are our speciality with stock of 20 fonts 8 letter heights in coloured Perspex and 1000's of flat cut letters as well. Your own font or logo is made by our own toolmakers. With over 60 years of experience to call on.

WARD SIGNS

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

Tel: 0117 955 3385
info@ward-signs.co.uk
www.ward-signs.co.uk

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

NEON MANUFACTURERS (TRADE)

A1DESIGNS

4 Sandy Lane North, Wallington,
Surrey SM6 8JX

Tel: 020 8646 9886
enquiry@a1designs.co.uk
www.a1designs.co.uk

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

AVENUE SIGNS LTD

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

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

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

LOGOTECH DISPLAY SOLUTIONS LTD

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

Tel: 01670 737 225
sales@logotech-ltd.co.uk
www.logo-tech.co.uk

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

NEON REPLACEMENT LETTERS

ACCENT SIGNS LTD

Units 4, Broadcott Ind. Est., Station
Rd., Cradley Heath B64 6NT

Tel: 0121 561 4600
accsign1@aol.com
www.accent-signs-ltd.co.uk

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

APPLELEC

Unit 1, Wharfedale Business Park,
Shetcliffe Lane, Bradford BD4 9RW

Tel: 01274 774477
sales@applelec.co.uk
www.applelec.co.uk

Trade suppliers of NeonLux, a faux neon letter system suitable for interior and exterior applications according to specification. Available in a range of colours and embedded with high quality LEDs to deliver bright, clear illumination. Don't forget, any shape or logo can be created, not just letters! Contact our friendly team for more information and request a free and unbranded product brochure.

NOTICE BOARDS - LOCKABLE/EXTERIOR

NOTICE ME

2 Glenister House, Avondale Drive,
Hayes, Middx UB3 3PP

Tel: 0208 581 1067
sales@noticeme.org.uk
www.noticeme.org.uk

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.

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

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

Tel: 01934 852 888
sales@signscape.co.uk
www.signscape.co.uk

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

PLASTIC SHEETS

BRETT MARTIN PLASTIC SHEETS

24 Roughfort Road, Mallusk, Co
Antrim BT36 4RB

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

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

RIGHTON BLACKBURNS

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

Tel: 0121 356 1141
sales@rblimited.co.uk
www.rightonblackburns.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 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 also manufacture VYNALAST™ engraving laminate. A comprehensive range of photoluminescent boards and self adhesive vinyl is available in PSPA class B and Class C to order.

POINT OF SALE FITTINGS

DISPLAY DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED

Unit 4 Fordgate Business Park,
Crabtree Manorway, North
Belvedere, Kent DA17 6AS

Tel: 01322 444 400
sales@displaydevelopments.co.uk
www.displaydevelopments.co.uk

Display Developments began in 1956 and we have always strived to lead the field in providing first class service and consistently adding new and better products. We manufacture a wide range of display and Point of Sale products including snap frames, leaflet holders notice boards and menu displays etc.

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.

POSTER HOLDERS / CASES

BROWNING'S LTD

157 English Street, Hull, HU3 2BT

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

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

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 notice boards, modular sign systems & information displays. Our Avenue poster case provides high quality yet affordable, external poster display in a variety of sizes.

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.

PRINT/POSTER FRAMES

BROWNING'S 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.

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.

PROJECTING SIGNS

IRON DESIGN

37A Douglas Rd., Poole, BH12 2AU

Tel: 01202 463573
enquiries@ironsigns.com
www.ironsigns.com

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

REFLECTIVE VINYL/TAPES

ATC LTD

Unit 3C Buckley Road Industrial Estate, 2 Buckley Road, Rochdale, Lancashire OL12 9EF
Tel: 01706 633043
sales@apptape.co.uk
www.apptape.co.uk

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

SIGN TRADE SUPPLIES LTD

Britannia House, Granville Road, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2BJ
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.

ROUTER CUTTERS/ PLOTTER BLADES

ATA ENGINEERING PROCESSES

ATA House, Unit B, Boundry Way, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 7SS
Tel: 01442 264411
sales@ataeng.com
www.ataeng.com

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

EDWARD MATHIAS & CO

PO BOX 121, Frodsham, Cheshire, WA6 1AA
Tel: 01928 739 799

info@edwardmathias.com
www.edwardmathias.com

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

SCREEN PRINTING

DARTFORD ENGRAVING & SCREENPRINTING LTD

Unit 4 Power Works Industrial Estate, Slade green Road, Erith, Kent DA8 2HY
Tel: 01322 340 194
mail@desp.co.uk
www.desp.co.uk

DESP has been trading for over 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 turnaround.

FIRST SIGNS & LABELS LTD

Unit 1, Raynham Close, Raynham Rd Ind Estate, Raynham Road, Bishops Stortford, Herts, CM23 5JP
Tel: 01279 467999
sales@firstsignsandlabels.co.uk
www.firstsignsandlabels.co.uk

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

HT SCREEN PRINT

15 Ridge Way, Hillend Industrial Estate, Dalgety Bay, Fife, KY11 9JH
Tel: 01383 824522
info@htscreenprint.co.uk
www.htscreenprint.co.uk

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

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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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45 Nunney Close, Keynsham, Bristol BS31 1XG
Tel: 0117 986 7894 / 7291
bryan@bryanrawlings.com
www.bryanrawlings.com

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

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Tel: 0121 356 1141
sales@rblimited.co.uk

www.rightonblackburns.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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sales@teleganpressedproducts.com

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

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sales@visionsinplastics.co.uk

www.visionsinplastics.co.uk
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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 LTD

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

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

VERY DISPLAYS LTD

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Tel: 0116 232 3156
Sales@VeryDisplays.com
www.VeryDisplays.com

Our aim is to set the benchmark for trade display solutions by providing innovative, high-quality products at the most competitive prices. Trust Very Displays to enhance your brand and exceed expectations, from a personalised service through to same day dispatch. Get in touch today to find out more about our comprehensive range of products.

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Tel: 01843 593 440
enquiries@fkmoore.com
www.fkmoore.com

British manufacturers of screw type Brass Locator Nuts, Wall Fixings and stockists of Nylon Locators for the Sign and Shopfitting Industries. As well as other 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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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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Tel: 0121 608 4431

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www.e-signfittings.co.uk

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

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Tel: 0141 764 1600

sales@ispitrade.com

www.ispitrade.com

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

SHOPKIT GROUP LTD

Unit B, 100 Cecil Street, Watford,
Hertfordshire WD24 5AD

Tel: 01923 818282

sales@shopkit.com

www.shopkit.com/brochures/

Shopkit manufactures a wide range of sign support systems in our UK FACTORY, offering COMPETITIVE PRICES on quality products, working in different metal finishes with an ONLINE SHOP with next day delivery and quick lead times on CUSTOM ITEMS. Products include project fixings & sign standoffs, banner systems, rod signage supports & cable signage systems all for both interior & exterior use.

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Tel: 0161 431 4400/4411

www.ukpos.com

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

SIGN SURVEYOR

PB WILLIAMS SIGN SURVEYOR

48 Durlay Rd, Aintree L9 9AW

Tel: 07885 486 182

achromesigns@yahoo.co.uk

We specialise in sign surveying to the trade, with 30 years of experience as a sign fitter/manufacturer. I was contracted to large companies in the north west, and country wide. I am based in Merseyside and have PASMA, IPAF/PAL & CSCS qualifications and will travel UK and Europe. For further details please contact the above number or email.

SIGN TRADE SUPPLIERS

APPLELEC

Unit 1, Wharfedale Business Park,
Shetcliffe Lane, Bradford BD4 9RW

Tel: 01274 774477

sales@applelec.co.uk

www.applelec.co.uk

Highly confidential, trade only supplier to the sign industry. From metal flat cuts and built up letters to fascia, projecting and totem signs along with leading components such as our stocked SloanLED modules. Operating for over 20 years, our manufacturing facilities are constantly advancing to ensure we're always ready to help with your next project. Ask for our free unbranded product brochures.

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sales@browningsltd.co.uk

www.browningsltd.co.uk

Brownings is one of the largest, TRADE ONLY suppliers of signage products in the UK. We manufacture poster frames, menu cases, slimlocks, signtrim, troughlights, acrylic-faced light boxes, flexfaced signage and now our new Texsign frames for internal use. Any size or quantity, from 1 off to multiple rollouts. We are happy to supply as lengths of extrusion, in kit form or as made-up signs.

SIGN TRADE SUPPLIES LTD

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Maidstone, Kent ME14 2BJ

Tel: 01622 689 410

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www.signtradesupplies.co.uk

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SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

Pear Tree Works, Bath Road, Upper
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Tel: 01934 852888

sales@signscape.co.uk

www.signscape.co.uk

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

SYGNET SIGNS LTD

129 Humberstone Rd, Leicester,
LE5 3AP

Tel: 0116 262 6288

sales@sygnetsigns.com

www.sygnetsigns.com

At Sygnet Signs, we've been creating bespoke and off-the-shelf signage for the trade since 1974. Whether you require Fascias, Built-Up or Flat-Cut Letters & Logos, Custom LED Illuminated Signs, our specialists will cut them using a laser or CNC router. We use the latest 3D/CAD development in the design and manufacturing processes, and all this happens on-site at our HQ in Leicester city centre.

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Tel: 01462 682 210

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Tel: 01934 852 888

sales@signscape.co.uk

www.signscape.co.uk

An eco-friendly and long term cost effective solution, our Eco-Vision Solar Display System provides solar powered illuminated noticeboards, monoliths and stencil cut backlit signage. Powered purely by daylight, it is an ideal solution for remote and highly urban locations where illuminated information is required and where routing a mains power supply is undesirable, unpractical or costly.

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Lancashire OL12 9EF

Tel: 01706 633043

sales@apptape.co.uk

www.apptape.co.uk

Suppliers of various speciality films including Etch glass, Reflective, Fluorescent, Reflexite daybrite, Reflexite prismatic reflective, Hi intensity reflective, Photoluminescent, Cast metallics, 2yr Fluorescent, Gemstone metallics, Multi lens, Transparent colours, Checker plate, Mirror colours, Prismatic colours, Glitter colours, Brushed aluminium silver and gold.

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Pavilion Drive, Northampton
Business Park, Northampton NN4
7PA

Tel: 01604 644697

www.mactacgraphics.eu

Mactac is a global manufacturer of many different PVC, PET, PP and PE self-adhesive films. Specialities include etched films, fluorescents, phosphorescents, mirror films, rear projection films, erasable films and textured laminates – all designed to complement and enhance your creative talent.

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enquiries@sott.co.uk

www.sott.co.uk

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Tel: 01482 380900

sales@browningsltd.co.uk

www.browningsltd.co.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. Frames range from a 17mm "retro" extrusion to a 180mm deep double-sided application. The profiles can accept a digitally-printed image by way of a rubber keder attached to the edges of the print and can be changed in seconds.

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Southern England

Tel: 01865 863 669

Mob: 07906 177 276

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www.baileysysigns.co.uk

Bailey's signs is a specialist in the more traditional techniques of sign making such as Traditional Sign-writing & pictorial signs / Honours boards, Gold & silver leaf gilding on signs or glass / Restoration & Conservation area signs / Heraldic shield signs / Coach lining sign-work / Decorative Artwork / Mural / Fresco / Fine art / Portraiture / Picture & Mirror frame gilt work / Pub signs.

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Unit 4, Apex Business Centre,
Boscombe Road, Dunstable LU5
4SB

Tel: 01582 671 444

sales@themagictouch.co.uk

www.themagictouch.co.uk

Manufacturers of Transfer Papers and Materials used in conjunction with Laser Printers and Copiers (toner based) for full colour image transfer onto T-Shirts, Caps, Polo's, Mugs, Mousemats etc. Plus Magiccut® film for use with Plotter/Cutter for heat transfer.

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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 troughlight comes complete with a high impact, hinged polycarbonate face. We supply in any size, colour or quantity.

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Woodside Chapel, Tabbits Hill

Lane, Corfe Castle, Wareham,

Dorset BH20 5HY

Mob: 07833 087 686

james@drawuk.com

www.drawuk.com

At DrawUK, we specialise in artwork reproduction or vectorizing as it's commonly known. Taking your JPEG/BMP images & turning them into high quality vector images. We have been producing vector images and artwork since 2003 making us highly experienced in this field. So if you have any images that you need converting or you just require a better quality one, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

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Tel: 01706 633043

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www.apptape.co.uk

Distributors of Ritrama UK's full range of signmaking vinyls including their complete portfolio of Digital Films. We also have available a full range of signmaking vinyls manufactured in the UK by KPMF. We stock a range of application tapes from R Tape USA and various Digital Media manufactured by LG Hausys. Discounts available on credit card payments.

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Nelson Way, Cramlington, NE23

1JR

Tel: 01670 59 2095

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Suppliers of Ritrama vinyl & application tape, Poli-Tape HTV and digital media, R-Tape vinyl EFX digital printable media. Trade conversion available on state of the art machinery – we can convert your vinyl & digital materials to any size required. No account needed

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www.mactacgraphics.eu

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Tel: 0151 272 1234

info@mdpsupplies.co.uk

www.mdpsupplies.co.uk

Distributor to sign makers and garment printers. Stocking Ritrama, KPMF, DeTape and many other leading brands. Order online at www.mdpsupplies.co.uk, by phone or at any of our 9 branches across the UK. No account needed. Last order time - 6pm for next day delivery.

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Tel: 0161 872 5666

sales@pyramid-display.co.uk

www.pyramid-display.co.uk

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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.

WAYFINDING SIGNS

APPLELEC

Unit 1, Wharfedale Business Park, Shetcliffe Lane, Bradford BD4 9RW

Tel: 01274 774477

sales@applelec.co.uk

www.applelec.co.uk

Trade suppliers of curved or flat-faced wayfinding and aluminium display systems with directories incorporating wall mounted, projecting and totem signs. Poster display frames with a snap side profile to allow for easy interchange of inserts and an exterior light box series is available. Please contact our friendly team for more information and to request our free and unbranded product brochures.

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Tel: 0113 2242124

sales@icesigns.co.uk

www.icesigns.co.uk

Suppliers of internal and external wayfinding and directory systems to DDA (1995) guidelines if required.

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX LTD

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

Tel: 01934 852 888

sales@signscape.co.uk

www.signscape.co.uk

Serving the Sign Trade for over 40 years, we are a leading manufacturer of modular sign systems & information displays. We have 4 major systems for creating interior and exterior wayfinding sign solutions including; post and panel, flush panel and curved panel signs; desk, door and wall signs, wall directories, monolith and fingerpost signs. We have also offer a full graphics service if required.

WIDE FORMAT SOLUTIONS PROVIDER

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Colourgen is the UK's leading specialist distributor of large format digital colour printing solutions, consumables, bespoke software, engineering and technical support services. The Company is the exclusive UK distributor for the Mutoh Sign & Display, Speciality/Industrial, Dye Sublimation and Direct to Textile printers.

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