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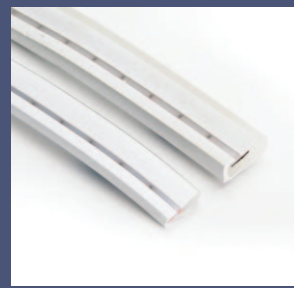
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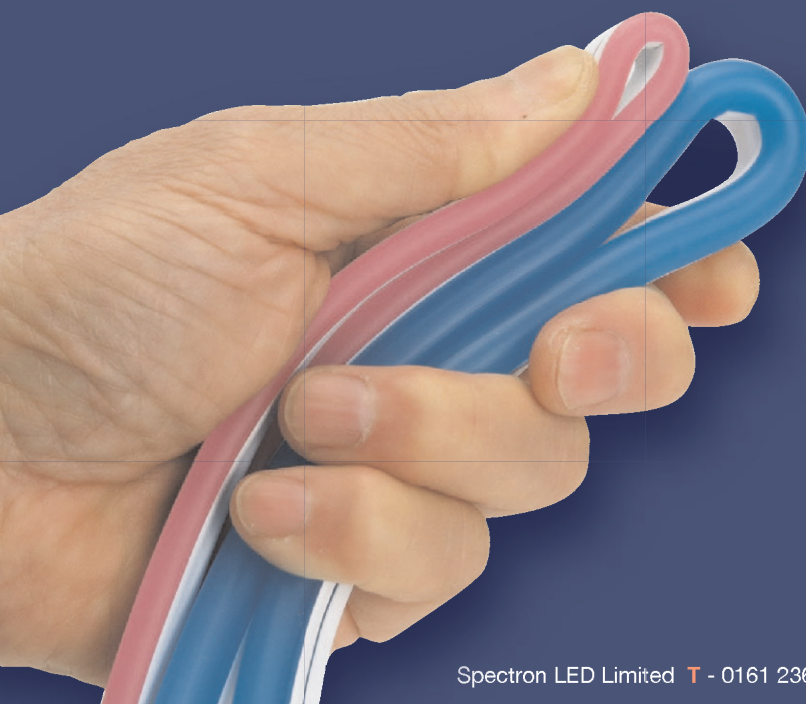
Close up of joins



Complete sign



Remove vinyl



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Lighting your way

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Innovation and application

This issue brings welcome news: green shoots of recovery emerging from lockdown as the Industry moves forward with plans now for Sign & Digital UK next March. It promises to be a memorable occasion after two years' absence for exhibitors and visitors alike.

Unfortunately, I will not be there to soak up the atmosphere as I am retiring from the fray. As this is my last issue, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your news and views which is the lifeblood of a trade magazine. It has been a pleasure to meet many of you and I am sure that with the evident drive and determination demonstrated, particularly through the past year, the industry will go from strength.

In this issue we focus on developments and innovations in textiles and sheet materials with additional features on education and training and sustainability. Again we have some good news stories of businesses moving forward despite lockdown and even new ones formed, grasping opportunities and finding a niche for their expertise. May it long continue.

Martin at Sign Update had the pleasure of testing CorelDraw 2021 and can say that he loved the new per 'Draw in Perspective' functionality: "I created the backdrop for the cartoon below with a 2-point perspective (you can see the 2 vanishing points on the left and right horizons. It was very quick and easy to learn and use. There were a few niggling problems but generally I was very pleased with it. I could see how relevant it is to the sign-making industry." You can read more about CorelDraw 2021 on page 16.

Susan Deane

Editor



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Final instalment of plug-and-play alternatives for Mimaki UV-LED inkjet inks

Quality Print Services (QPS) has announced the immediate UK availability of Nazdar Ink Technologies' newly announced 707 Series, a UV-LED ink series that is plug-and-play for Mimaki JFX and UJF printers using LUS150 Series.

The 707 Series is the final instalment of a three-ink collection of Nazdar plug-and-play offerings for Mimaki LUS Inks. The first launch was the 708 Series, an alternative ink series to Mimaki LUS170 inks, followed by 706 Series, an alternative ink series to Mimaki LUS120 inks.

Nazdar's ink selections offer "exceptional compatibility, quality and cost effectiveness combined with a seamless conversion process". Closely colour-matched and chemically compatible with the original inks, users can save both time and money by switching one colour at a time, says the company.

Flushing, purging or re-profiling is not necessary when transitioning due to the accurate colour reproduction capabilities of the ink set.



The 707 Series is the final instalment of a three-ink collection of Nazdar plug-and-play offerings for Mimaki LUS Inks.

The 706, 707 and 708 Series offer UV-LED inkjet ink users high quality alternatives while providing significant savings, both of which are more important than ever as businesses navigate these difficult times," says Josh Lutz, market segment manager, UV Inkjet Inks at

Nazdar Ink Technologies. "These products" field-tested quality, backed by our industry leading warranty, means that businesses worldwide can boost their efficiency with confidence."

www.nazdar.com

Color-Logic Pattern-FX adds 30,000 options



Since Pattern-FX patterns are seamless and may be gradated within each metallic color, the options are said to be infinite.

Volume 5 of the Color-Logic Pattern-FX Illustrator palette is now available for purchase by licensed Color-Logic printers and graphic designers.

Richard Ainge, Color-Logic CTO and cofounder, comments: "Volume 5 of our Pattern-FX suite is complete with 20 seamless patterns, each with six prebuilt embellishments. When used with any of the 250 Color-Logic metallic colors, that means licensed Color-Logic graphic designers and printers can offer clients 30,000 different options for print embellishments.

"Since Pattern-FX patterns are seamless and may be gradated within each Color-Logic metallic color, the options are literally infinite.

"In today's conventional and digital print markets, print embellishment is very popular. The market response to Pattern-FX volumes 1 through 4 has been

incredible. The speed and predictability of the Color-Logic patterns provide prepress personnel and graphic designers with a huge benefit, particularly for digital print where time-to-market is often critical.□

"We believe that All Print Starts with Design and empowering designers with software tools and education provides them with a distinct competitive edge."

□□
Color-Logi develops color communication systems and software tool sets for a variety of special effect printing. It provides brand owners, product managers, corporations and their advertising agencies with the ability to differentiate themselves and their clients with a simple print production process that yields dramatic results. Color-Logic supports the value of print and works with designers and printers to enhance their printed media.□

www.color-logic.com

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Our STA range of 180 single flute routers have had an upgrade! Designed for use on Aluminium and Dibond/ACM, they now come with material-specific coatings to give exceptional surface finish and prolong tool life even further. Want to try it for yourself? **Give us a call today to arrange your trial.**



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Laser cutter makes high quality technology more affordable

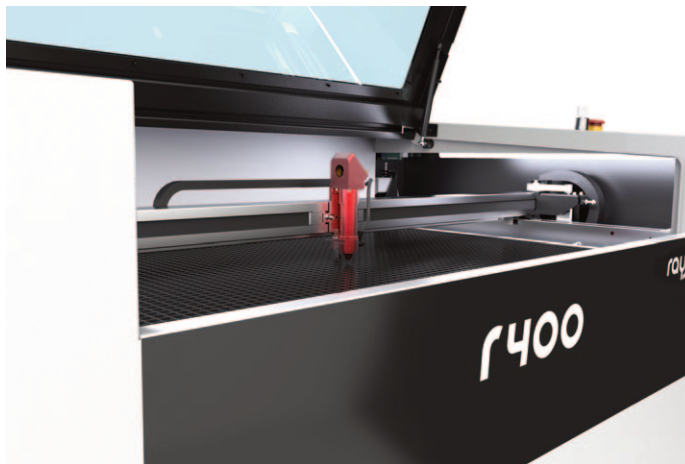
Trotec says its R400 laser cutter will enable small businesses to benefit from high quality cutting technology at an affordable price.

Featuring a 1030 x 630mm working area and CO2 laser power from 60W-100W, it retails from £6,995 (excluding VAT), making it an affordable option for small businesses looking for a productive and reliable laser cutter.

Sales director Bryan Jater says: "Too often we see businesses buy into cheap laser cutters because the lower initial outlay is attractive to them.

"Unfortunately, many soon realise that the laser doesn't live up to expectations or the frequent costs and downtime for its upkeep are holding the business back.

"The R-series is designed and engineered with the dependability and ease-of-use which is synonymous with Trotec but the DC laser source enables us to sell it at a lower price point. This means it is accessible for businesses who have a



The R-series is accessible for businesses who have a limited budget to start with but don't want to compromise on quality and reliability.

limited budget to start with but don't want to compromise on quality and reliability."

The R400 is the latest addition to the R-series of CO2 glass tube laser cutters which already includes the R500 with a 1300x900 mm working area.

Trotec has six laser showrooms across the UK and Ireland and offers online demonstrations for the R-series as well its range of large format cutters, Speedy series engravers and galvo laser markers.

www.rayjetlaser.co.uk

Certified drivers for versatile HP latex printers

SA International (SAi) is now offering certified drivers for HP Latex 700 and 800 Latex printers. Its Flexi RIP design and print software enables full utilisation of the advanced new features of the HP printers including multi-layer printing.

SAi Flexi will separate layered PDF files into separate pages for printing. With an integrated HP online media library, users can view and download the latest media and print modes directly to their printer which auto-synchronises with Flexi, creating a seamless workflow.

In addition to advanced workflow features, SAi Flexi supports white ink layered printing, a versatile and powerful tool, says the company. Flexi can generate white ink on the fly or from the white layer from the predefined design.

Users can control how white ink is printed in both the Flexi Design and Flexi RIP Production Manager functions. With the



Flexi RIP design and print software enables full utilisation of the advanced new features of the HP printers.

ability to preview the white channel beforehand, users save RIP and print time and avoid wasted materials. With a low monthly operating cost,

SAi Flexi subscription includes free

software upgrades, e-mail and phone support and all of the design and production features SAi Flexi has always been known for.

www.thinksai.com

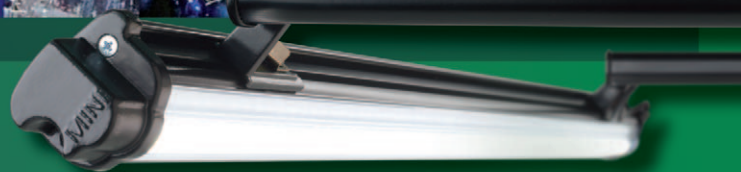
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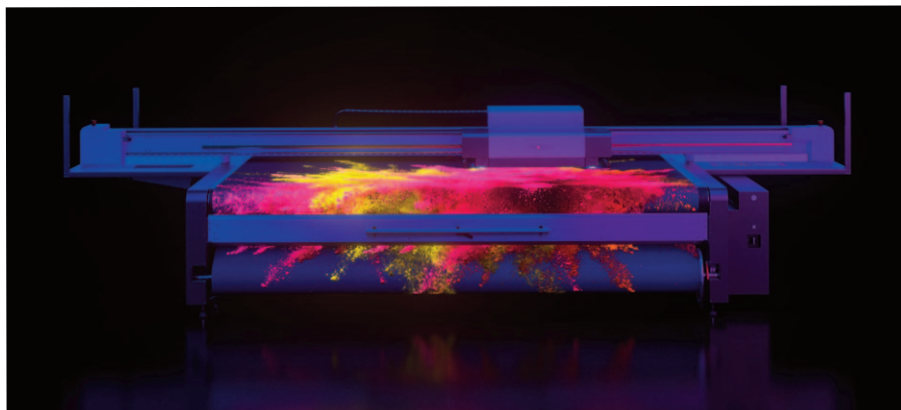
Neon colours now available for UV printing

swissQprint now offers neon colours for UV printing. These inks are suitable for all swissQprint LED models.

Neon colours give a special glow to advertising and signage and swissQprint users can start printing these eye-catching media right now on rigid substrates in any format and also on roll materials. Neon yellow and neon pink are available.

Print service providers can add neon to their offering of special applications: the possibilities range from indoor applications including campaign signage, POS displays, signposts, backlights and information signs to posters and wristbands for events.

In addition, neon printing is fluorescent in black light, making it ideal for advertising and signage in trade fair settings and themed environments as well as club and party scenarios.



Neon printing is fluorescent in black light, making it ideal for advertising and signage in trade fair settings and themed environments as well as club and party scenarios.

Every swissQprint large format printer with LED technology can now be equipped with one or more neon channels. Flatbed and roll to roll printers feature nine individually configurable colour channels.

Users are free to modify or expand their configuration at any time so neon can be retrofitted.

www.swissqprint.com

Roll to roll printers feature double-sided operation

swissQprint is launching Karibu S, the speed version of its Karibu UV roll to roll printer, offering increased productivity combined with "astonishingly good print quality". Created for print service providers who run multiple shifts to produce large volumes of items such as banners, non-durable poster prints and XL billboards. Karibu S combines an output of up to 330 square metres per hour with "impressively sharp" images and edges.

This printer features a defined print head configuration: four print heads are in

operation for each process colour which explains the high throughput rate. All swissQprint large format printers have nine dual-configurable colour channels so one channel is left free and configured with white to print items such as transparent films.

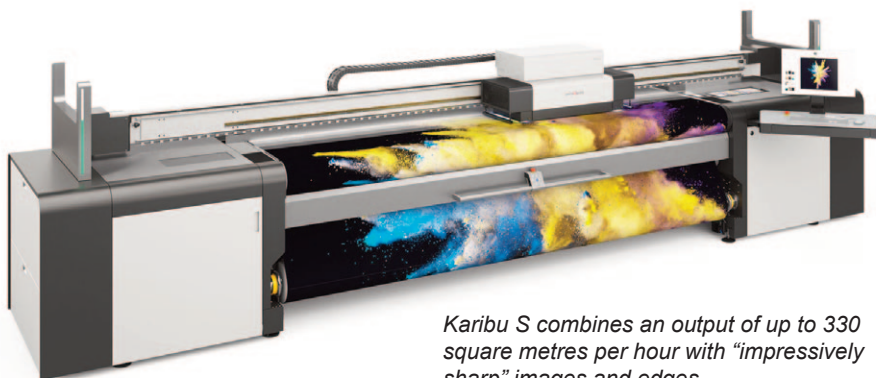
swissQprint's portfolio includes an optimised ink for its dedicated roll to roll printers, features a broad adhesion profile and is very flexible, says the company. This means that print service providers can use almost every conceivable type of

roll media and the ink can stand up to everything that the material has to take including cutting, folding and stretching.

Both Karibu and Karibu S can handle automatic double-sided printing for media printed on both sides including blackout banners, ceiling hangers, stretch banners and posters. Thanks to a camera system and QR codes, the process takes place automatically with high efficiency and reliability. This ensures that subjects printed on the reverse side are positioned exactly so that both sides line up even if the material is not inserted accurately before printing on the reverse side or if the roll is inserted in the opposite running direction. Supported by the Lory output software developed in-house, managing print jobs is made very simple thanks to intuitive graphic user guidance, minimising the risk of errors.

With their low operating costs, the versatile UV roll to roll printers offer the promise of high added value throughout their long lifetimes and the high standard of quality that is typical of swissQprint.

www.swissqprint.com



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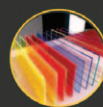
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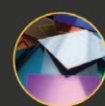
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EnRoute 7 CAD/CAM software 'faster and more productive'

SAi says the latest EnRoute 7 CAD/CAM software is packed with all the features of the previous version of the software but now with a 64-bit engine, making the software faster and more productive than ever before, keeping business moving at optimum efficiency.

EnRoute 7 has a modern user interface geared to make workflows easier. The interface includes right click how-to videos providing instant access to SAi training videos. A Cloud window allows customers to easily manage their account, access support and connect them to the new EnRoute knowledge base.

Further efficiency-enhancing tools available to users are improved fill logistics with a no-lift option to help Z travel time as well as advanced editing tools. EnRoute 7 now includes the flatbed distortion tool that cuts based on the location of printed fiducials, so no camera systems are



needed. SAi is currently offering EnRoute 7 as a subscription or traditional purchase.

Current SAi EnRoute subscription users will be automatically upgraded to the new

version free of charge. SAi subscriptions include phone and e-mail support as well as included software upgrades.

www.thinksai.com

Full range of Cover Styl architectural finishes

As part of an ongoing investment programme to provide installers with the widest possible choice for design projects, William Smith 1832 Group's Architextural division now offers the full range of Cover Styl architectural finishes.

Combined with the largest stock collection of 3M DI-NOC in the UK, this puts over 1000 patterns at the disposal of installers, including colour, glitter, fabric, wood, stone, marble and metallic - all available off-the-shelf and with next day delivery.

Marketing manager Lindsay Appleton comments: "This latest stock investment mirrors demand from the industry. It provides an even greater choice of finishes and means that samples can be accessed quickly and easily. Cover Styl is the fastest growing brand of architectural film in the UK right now. The incredible choice of high end finishes and competitive prices means they are a great value engineering option for projects where budgets are tight."

Offering an easy way to upcycle and refresh surfaces, Cover Styl polymeric calendered films are robust and durable



Combined with the largest stock collection of 3M DI-NOC in the UK, this puts over 1000 patterns at the disposal of installers.

for wrapping existing surfaces and come with a durability of up to 10 years for indoor applications. In addition, Architextural offers full support and guidance to installers, with advice on the appropriate choice of finish for a particular substrate, conformability and durability for each application.

"We also have a fully trained professional team of installation partners that covers

every inch of the UK, meaning that we can connect you with someone appropriate, no matter where your next refurbishment may be," adds Lindsay.

Architextural says it is leading the market and is now the largest UK stockist of architectural films from the two leading brands, 3M DI-NOC and Cover Styl.

www.architextural.co.uk

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Dual head dye sublimation printer with Tracker technology

Mutoh Europe has released a 64" (162 cm) wide, high quality 8 channel piezo drop-on-demand roll fed dye sublimation inkjet printer to succeed the award winning ValueJet 1638WX dye sub printer

The XpertJet 1682WR printer has been developed for high quality graphics for transfer onto all possible types of polyester coated or polyester based rigids, gadgets and flexible materials. Applications include in-store textile displays, personalised interior décor, custom apparel, soft signage, sportswear, customised promotional products and giftware.

Featuring a high level of print production efficiency, the XPJ-1682WR accommodates two gold plated piezo variable drop print heads producing "stunning results" in 4, 6, 7 or 8 colour ink setups. The piezo print heads are capable of firing drops from 2.8 up to 3.9 pl.

A multi-stage pressure roller system will enhance media feed stability for a wide range of sublimation papers. Rolls can be easily installed thanks to a new enhanced roll off system and newly developed media



The XpertJet 1682WR has been developed for high quality graphics for transfer onto polyester coated or polyester based rigids, gadgets and flexible materials.

flanges. Continuous printing is made possible with the different motorised take-up systems, for rolls weights up to 30, 40 or 100 kg and roll diameters from 150 to 250 mm. The XPJ-1682WR integrates Mutoh's new Media Tracker technology which allows the user to print a barcode on

the roll of media in use before it is removed from the printer. When reloading the same roll of printerXPJ-1682WR will read the barcode and automatically detect how much media is left on the roll.

www.mutoh.eu/en

Coloured self-adhesive vinyls for inside and out

Spandex is increasing its self-adhesive coloured vinyls with a comprehensive range of ImagePerfect products optimised for indoor and outdoor promotional applications. This includes IP 3200 Promotional Gloss vinyls with permanent adhesive and IP 3300 Promotional Matt vinyls with removable adhesive. These are suitable for flat-surface applications including short-term signage; window, retail, fleet, exhibition and wall graphics; information boards and menus.

Each product is available in 50 popular colours. The IP 3200 Promotional Gloss range offers an extended choice of the bright primary colours popular for signage. In contrast, the IP 3300 Promotional Matt palette incorporates additional grey and brown shades and more pastel options for applications such as removable wall graphics. A colour match service is available.

All IP 3200 and IP 3300 coloured products are durable for three years. The black and white films in the range are available in



IP 3200 Promotional Gloss vinyls with permanent adhesive and IP 3300 Promotional Matt vinyls with removable adhesive are suitable for flat surfaces.

both Gloss and Matt, with a choice of either permanent or removable adhesive and offer extended five-year durability.

ImagePerfect 3200 and ImagePerfect 3300 products incorporate the same high quality film layer as the intermediate IP 3500 series, while using an advanced water-based adhesive system and a high quality liner. Together, these deliver "an affordable product with excellent cutting and weeding properties and all the performance qualities needed for promotional or decorative applications with a shorter lifespan". The water-based adhesive has been formulated specifically for these new products. It enables wet application without the milky residue often experienced when working with films that use conventional water-based adhesives.

Director Stefano Nigrone comments: "We're ready to support customers with over 100 new ImagePerfect coloured films that really hit the spot in terms of value and choice and can outperform many alternatives in this category when it comes to application."

www.spandex.co.uk



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CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2021 powers collaboration and productivity

Responding to the demands of remote professional graphics suite 2021 enables designers to deliver flawless results faster and remain connected, even as teams work apart. Available for Windows and Mac, the suite enhances collaboration with access to tools that streamline the design and review process and boost productivity with a flexible design space that allows users to take control of projects and assets. Advanced illustration and photo editing capabilities make it faster than ever for designers to achieve their creative vision, says the company.

With remote working on the increase, CorelDRAW.app is now touch-optimised and available as an all-new iPad app, giving graphics pros options to be creative anywhere from virtually any device. Offering vector illustration, layout and typography and photo editing, CorelDRAW Graphics Suite 2021 simplifies complex workflows and gives designers total control. The dashboard in both CorelDRAW 2021 and CorelDRAW.app acts as a collaboration hub containing all design files in the cloud and in a click, displays a preview, the number of



Graphics Suite 2021 simplifies complex workflows and gives designers total control.

comments and team members and project status. Designs can be shared directly from CorelDRAW 2021 without opening each file. Reviewers and approvers are able to comment on and annotate a document in CorelDRAW.app, with instant feedback appearing in the designer's working file in the CorelDRAW 2021 application on their system.

"By re-examining users' workflows and making enhancements across the suite, we're helping designers take their projects from ideation to final output, faster," says John Falsetto, senior director of products, graphics and productivity. "Our tools enable teams to share in real time."

www.coreldraw.com

Stub-length, coated single flute routers

Industrial Tooling Corporation's (ITC) 180-10-A Series of single flute routers from has been extended with two stub-length routers: one is Iridis coated for machining aluminium and the other is Vitreo coated variant for machining aluminium composite materials (ACM).

These high quality solid carbide routers from ITC have long been the 'go-to' cutting tool for the sign making sector with performance that is the benchmark of the industry, says the company. As the industry has evolved so has the materials being processed and therefore the cutting tools for machining the ever-increasing range of materials. As a brand that has been at the forefront of cutting tool technology in the sign-making industry for more than 30 years, the new coated tools from ITC are developed and manufactured in the UK.

The stub-length 180-10-A Series single flute router with the new Iridis coating is a solid carbide tool with an upward spiral geometry that incorporates a 30° helix with a reinforced shank. Manufactured from wear-resistant micro-grain carbide, the stub-length Iridis coated range is perfect for reducing the number of collet changes and prolonging to life when machining aluminium.

Furthermore, the combination of efficient tool geometry, the rigid stub-length that reduces vibration plus an extremely hard-wearing coating provides unsurpassed finishes that significantly reduce



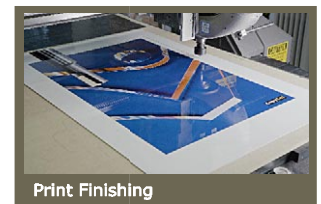
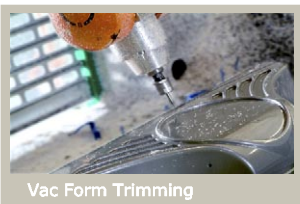
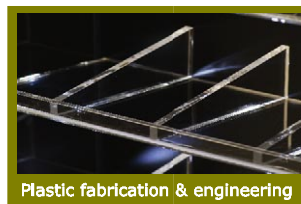
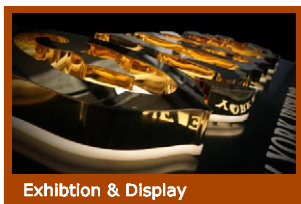
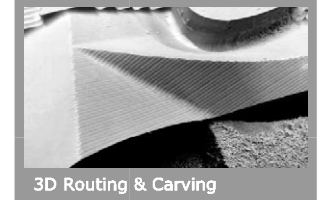
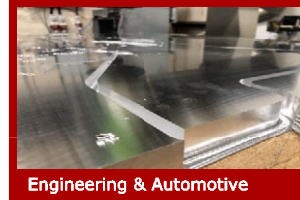
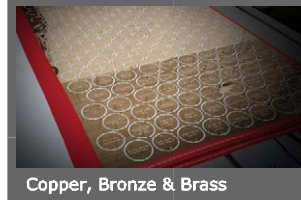
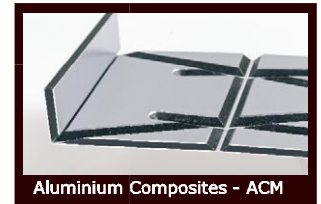
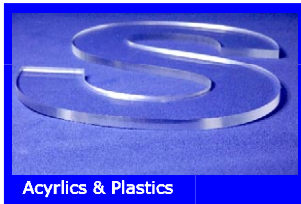
secondary finishing operations. The stub length Iridis coated 180-10-A Series is available with 2, 3, 4 and 6mm cutting diameters with respective 3, 3, 4 and 6mm reinforced shanks and an overall length of 30, 30, 40 and 50mm. The length of cut is 7, 8, 10 and 14mm on the respective 2, 3, 4 and 6mm diameter tools. This geometry further enhances the rigidity, stability and strength of the tool, which subsequently results in the end-user making fewer tool changes and reducing tooling costs.

The 180-10-A Series is available with the same tool dimensions and geometry but with a Vitreo coating specifically developed for the machining of the more challenging ACM.

ITC's coating technology "guarantees exceptional surface finishes that is complemented by a tool geometry that minimises burrs". The combination of the Vitreo coating and the tool geometry makes this new stub-length arrival a very robust tool for most applications.

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£18 + VAT minimum charge + carriage

Height	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	700mm	800mm	900mm	1200mm
3mm	1.00	1.25	1.39	1.65	1.96	2.61	3.28	3.49	4.07	4.91	7.44	8.07	9.07	10.21	12.48	14.45	19.28	34.03	41.86	50.88
5mm	1.39	1.77	2.09	2.57	3.23	3.93	4.80	6.25	7.31	8.51	9.92	11.34	13.61	16.45	18.98	20.42	26.66	34.03	51.04	65.72
10mm	2.58	3.09	4.08	5.07	6.33	8.10	9.70	13.61	14.74	17.86	20.46	24.39	27.79	32.33	36.29	40.83	56.71	82.80	106.61	137.80

FOAM PVC (all available colours - 10mm & 19mm available in white only)

£18 + VAT minimum charge + carriage

Height	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	700mm	800mm	900mm	1200mm
3mm	0.75	1.10	1.16	1.25	1.35	1.57	1.98	2.39	2.70	3.02	3.88	4.78	5.41	5.82	6.97	8.22	10.92	17.16	19.76	22.50
5mm	0.95	1.30	1.61	1.98	2.39	2.81	3.22	3.54	4.11	4.68	5.84	6.86	7.80	8.32	9.67	11.02	17.16	23.40	26.00	28.50
10mm	1.70	1.98	2.70	3.74	4.37	5.04	6.19	7.20	8.22	9.15	11.02	13.10	15.60	17.16	19.24	22.36	27.04	31.20	47.32	56.00
19mm	2.80	3.95	4.58	4.99	6.66	7.80	9.36	10.92	13.21	15.50	16.64	19.44	22.36	24.75	26.83	30.16	38.48	41.60	55.64	84.50

3mm ALUMINIUM COMPOSITE (Dibond, Alupanel)

£18 + VAT minimum charge + carriage

Height	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	700mm	800mm	900mm	1200mm
Coloured	1.75	2.25	2.81	3.32	3.93	5.06	6.18	7.41	8.54	9.48	11.53	12.92	15.73	17.98	19.10	23.03	27.53	39.33	51.69	70.79
Mirror (silver)	2.58	3.24	4.49	5.62	7.30	8.99	10.11	12.36	15.17	17.98	19.66	22.47	26.40	29.78	31.46	36.52	42.70	53.37	57.30	108.43
Mirror (gold)	2.84	3.56	4.94	6.18	8.03	9.89	11.12	13.60	16.69	19.78	21.63	24.72	29.04	32.76	34.61	40.17	46.97	58.71	63.03	119.27
Brushed	1.96	2.47	3.21	4.01	4.66	5.71	6.88	8.16	9.91	11.66	13.41	15.16	18.66	20.41	22.74	25.65	33.81	45.47	57.13	78.71

MILL FINISH ALUMINIUM (Comes in its raw form ready for coating)

£18 + VAT minimum charge + carriage

Height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	700mm
2mm	2.88	4.03	4.56	6.10	6.89	7.69	8.69	10.02	11.13	12.24	13.52	16.80	19.93	28.51	38.16	49.50
3mm	3.20	4.45	5.09	6.25	7.21	8.06	9.01	10.28	11.50	13.25	14.79	18.97	22.68	31.69	44.52	66.00
5mm	3.50	4.88	5.83	7.00	7.84	9.01	10.18	11.87	13.67	15.74	17.76	22.95	26.50	36.84	51.94	71.60

EXTERIOR MDF

£18 + VAT minimum charge + carriage

Height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	700mm
6mm	0.58	1.10	1.72	1.92	2.84	2.99	3.47	4.15	4.78	5.67	7.25	10.24	11.81	13.39	15.70	47.78
12mm		1.90	2.23	3.11	4.46	5.15	5.99	6.74	8.03	10.08	11.03	12.81	15.23	18.48	20.74	62.95
18mm		2.70	3.42	4.46	5.57	6.77	8.35	9.35	11.60	13.39	15.96	18.27	22.31	24.05	31.45	94.11

MOULDED ACRYLIC LETTERING (includes locators and paper template)

Height	152mm	203mm	254mm	305mm	380mm	457mm	610mm
Colours*	6.14	9.22	14.50	15.85	21.50	25.48	44.75

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The future for digital textile printing *By Jack Gocher*

The UK dye sublimation print market – Covid, signage and diversification

In recent years inkjet dye sublimation has become an increasingly important print technology for fabric materials and signage. In 2021 however users in the UK and around the world are having to adjust to the new realities of markets recovering from Covid, where there is less short term demand.

John Nelson, Editor at Smithers, says "Data from Smithers shows that the world value for such work rose from €6.99 billion in 2017, to a projected €8.41 million in 2019, with annual increases of over 10% seen for most of the 2010s. Overall volume reached a projected 1.72 billion square metres in 2019. The majority of this is for apparel, especially sports and swimwear."

For both interior and exterior display applications the UK printed 9.85 million metres square of dye sublimation material in 2018, making it the second largest market in Europe, after Germany. The most important dye sub display media are interior banners and soft signage, scenery and backdrops, outdoor soft signage, and flags and banners.

Nelson continues, "Overall graphic arts have seen a big fall in demand over 2020. Closing of non-essential retail, cancellation of sports and other live events, and the suspension of corporate events and trade

shows have all had a direct impact; while lockdown orders have forced diminished advertising budgets towards online media. Smithers latest scenario modelling finds that across all print processes, global signage and point of sale works fell by 12.8% in 2020, relative to 2019."

While public events have been closed, DIY has become a more popular pastime across Covid-19 lockdowns. Household dye sublimation printing – including wallcoverings, upholstery, carpets, bed linen, window and shower curtains – provide a diversification opportunity, as consumers prioritise home decoration while hospitality venues remain shut, normal office working is suspended, and public events are postponed. With non-essential retail only now starting to reopen, the pandemic has placed a premium on e-commerce sales channel, and also given scope to implement web-to-print design platforms for shoppers to personalise designs for their own interior décor. This also supports the further transition from analogue to inkjet print systems in large format installations.

John Nelson adds, "A second area that has seen elevated demand is bespoke novelty items, such as mugs, smartphone covers, T-shirts and tote bags; which also can use dye sub presses. A pre-Christmas



Inkjet dye sublimation has become an increasingly important print technology for fabric materials and signage

survey estimated that UK shoppers would spend £750 million on personalised gifts over the 2020-2021 festive period."

A third direct diversification market has been created by the surging demand for facemasks, and in particular corporate branded designs – where the dye sub print process gives enduring graphics that can resist repeat washing and treatment with harsh cleaning chemicals.

The challenge during Covid has been to produce these quickly enough to keep up, as demand has far outstripped installed capacity. In one example, Roland DG dye sub equipment owned by the La Cocina Gráfica was used to set up a print production line that was able to manufacture 200 masks per hour in the north western Spanish city of Vigo.

"The route out of Covid-19 is still unclear, although efforts across Europe are benefiting from vaccinations, and the prospect of warmer weather to minimise virus spread. Despite having the highest death toll in Europe, the UK has managed vaccine deployment well and plans for relaxation of restrictions will potentially boost demand for dye sublimation signage, including more social distancing decals; but also more facemasks, and other personal protective equipment," concludes John Nelson.



The dye sub print process gives enduring graphics

www.smithers.com



What are the key reasons for digital textile printing's increasing popularity?

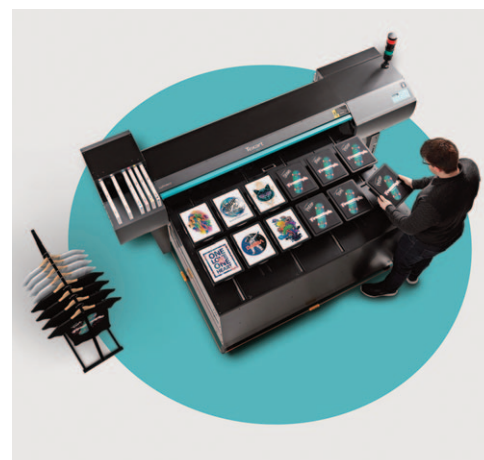
According to , the digital textile printing market is estimated to reach \$392.3 million by 2025, a substantial leap from the market value of \$175.4 million in 2017. So, what has contributed to this strong confidence in growth in the sector? Encarna Luque, Senior Product Manager for Inks and Business Development in Textile and Decoration for Roland DG EMEA, says, "I believe it's three things: the increased focus on sustainability, the need for versatility in product offerings and the rise in consumer demand for personalised goods."

She continues, "Firstly, both consumers and businesses are making big strides towards a more sustainable future. There is still a long way to go, but consumers are becoming increasingly more conscious of their environmental choices and are aware of how their goods are produced. This has led to a bigger pressure on businesses to act in offering sustainable manufacturing and supply chain choices. One of which is digital textile printing, that provides a clean, efficient, and profitable manufacturing alternative to traditional offerings. In fact, researchers have said that digital textile printing alone saved over 40 billion litres of water worldwide in 2018. Digital printing technology is a clean future offering that most businesses have jumped on over the past few years, to take the step forward in replacing previous inefficient and unsustainable manufacturing processes. This strive for a sustainable future is

eased with the fact that digital textile printing requires less investment than traditional equipment. With a shorter and cheaper workflow, print professionals can produce short, customised runs to meet the high demands from society, with less economic and environmental impact."

As well as having its environmental benefits, Luque says that digital textile printing enables a wide variety of product offerings, from soft-signage to clothing apparel, accessories and interior décor such as home furnishings and wall coverings. "Roland DG's Texart Series is ideal for print professionals who are looking to move away from traditional screen printers, with the Texart RT-640 dye-sublimation printer as a great entry point for those entering the textile print industry and the XT-640S-DTG for more experienced textile producers. The Texart Series is designed to be extremely versatile, delivering the widest range of application options. One benefit that we regularly hear from our customers is that the move to a digital printing option has helped their business be a lot more cost-effective, thanks to the ink's performance and high reliability of Roland products. This has ultimately helped businesses expand their product offerings, without a burden of large additional costs."

She adds, "Over the past year we have seen a particular increase and demand for personalised products, which has been a



The Roland XT-640S-DTG can print directly onto a variety of cotton, cotton-rich and white polyester fabrics on-demand

large contributor to the rising popularity in digital textile printing. With the pandemic creating a shift to digitalisation, consumers have been forced to buy goods online, and when searching for gifts, are looking for items with an element of personalisation such as a name, personal message or image. A recent Roland DG study showed that the average UK shopper is prepared to spend an additional 7% on personalised gifts, with the most popular categories being clothing and babywear. As well as this, the personalisation market is set to grow even further reaching an estimated market value of £1billion over the next 12 months. Roland DG's award-winning XT-640S-DTG printer supports this growth as the most versatile DTG multi-station printer in its category, with the ability to print directly onto a variety of cotton, cotton-rich and white polyester fabrics on-demand."

Encarna Luque concludes, "The versatility that digital textile printing provides, as well as the opportunities for business expansion, and most importantly its contribution to a sustainable future, are all major factors in the continued growth of the digital textile printing market. With the demand in sustainable offerings and personalisation of goods only set to increase, it is imperative that textile print professionals utilise their potential product offering to ensure maximum ROI and build customer loyalty."

www.rolanddg.co.uk



The past year has seen an increased demand for personalised products

What makes digital print the right tool for on-demand production and profitability?

As consumers increasingly expect versatility, sustainability, and instant gratification, producers must rise to meet that demand. Phil Oakley, UK&I Country Manager, Kornit Digital, says “Digital direct-to-garment (DTG) printing is best suited for meeting those expectations, as well as unforeseen challenges and shifts in consumer sentiment. We saw this with the sudden onset of a pandemic economy—hammering producers from the perspective of both customer demand and supply chain disruption or vulnerability.”

Dye sublimation has been a mainstay of textile decorators providing many different applications, delivering bold, brilliant colours and graphic detail to match digital print technologies. However, its versatility is limited to white polyesters, and the process generates a considerable assortment of undesired byproducts, including wastepaper.

Conversely, DTG extends these image benefits to a broader range of materials, including dark polyester and poly blends, cotton, wool, and others, using eco-friendly, water-based pigment inks that produce virtually no waste. Handfeel is similar to dye sublimation prints, and the product offers durability for superior wash, rub, and light fastness.

Oakley adds, “Dye sublimation is an established standard for soft signage, flags, and banners; digital print handles those applications, as well, while



With a Kornit Avalanche HD6, Screenworks gains the full benefits of garment customisation/personalisation

expanding opportunity across what is arguably the most fertile ground for textiles: apparel and fashion. Being both eco-friendly and safe for all ages, digital pigment-based printing represents a win for both responsible branding and consumer appeal—and speed to market is the kicker.”

He continues, “That the digital DTG production cycle can be completed, from order receipt to finished, retail-ready piece in mere minutes is perhaps its greatest asset in the age of e-commerce.

Kornit’s Phil Oakley says digital pigment-based printing represents a win for both responsible branding and consumer appeal



This means the print business need never produce inventory that may go unsold; one can simply wait for an order to be placed, and then fulfil it on demand, for an optimized allocation of resources. Cost per print is low and consistent, ensuring profitability every time, whether the buyer needs one or 100 pieces. More pieces are produced per hour of labour, and on-demand means the entirety of that effort is producing revenue for the business. Print, dry, ship, and repeat: Produce at the speed of e-commerce."

Suffolk-based Screenworks, which provides specialised screen printing, embroidery, digital and DTG printing, demonstrates the value of going digital to meet the speed and versatility needs of today's web-based consumer. While they employ dye sublimation where it works best, investing in DTG has expanded their capabilities for reacting the market demand quickly and profitably, which included designing and developing a line of protective, antiviral, promotional workwear products and accessories. Demand for such products had not been

anticipated, but agile production technologies empowered them to shift priorities in short order, with little pain.

"This investment will truly help to support our move to more on-demand printing, enabling shorter runs, and therefore lower MOQs," says Alan Porter, operations director at Screenworks.

"Investing in the Avalanche HD6 from Kornit Digital, the Screenworks team is excited to be able to leverage the full benefits of garment customisation/personalisation," adds Duncan Gilmour, their managing director. "This can be either one-offs, or at scale, on demand, whilst continuing to offer customers high-quality printed products at speed."

Phil Oakley concludes, "Ultimately, dye sublimation is an excellent tool for its established purpose, but the possibilities presented by e-commerce have drastically heightened the expectations of consumers—designers, do-it-yourselfers, people expressing their values, or simply people accustomed to getting exactly what



Garments produced on Kornit machine ensures cost per print is low and consistent

they want right now—demand many tools for many jobs. Adding digital print-on-demand ensures you can fulfil that demand, adapt to entirely new demands tomorrow, and remain profitable and agile throughout."

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What are the key reasons for digital textile printing's increasing popularity?

According to Duncan Jefferies, Head of Marketing & Business Development at Hybrid Services, Mimaki's exclusive distributor for the UK and Ireland, the rise in digital textile printing should be no surprise to anyone. "With the global market worth billions of dollars and the vast majority of the output still created using 'traditional' methods, the opportunity for digital printing technology to flourish is vast. Offering workflow, inventory, creative, environmental and financial benefits, the move to digital has been taking place for nearly 25 years, with Mimaki at the forefront of change since the mid 1990's."

At a more local level, the opportunities for sign makers and print companies to incorporate textile printing into their business are substantial. Demand from customers for new products, a significant emphasis on developing textile printing technology from hardware manufacturers like Mimaki and the replacement of traditional substrates with textile alternatives are all driving



Mimaki latest TX300-1800MkII combines direct to fabric and transfer printing on one wide format device

change. Add in personalisation opportunities – be they for giftware, décor or corporate purposes and the only realistic way to achieve them is via the digital route.

Opportunities with manmade and natural fabrics – "Mimaki's range of textile printing solutions is unparalleled, with a choice of inks to suit practically any fabric; manmade or natural," says Jefferies, adding, "With different printing and fixation processes required dependent upon the base cloth, it's important to determine what material the bulk of a business's products will be produced with from the off. A company with one printer producing silk ties, scarves and other clothing will not typically be able to quickly pivot to sportswear or display graphics – the ink and fixation process required for one being quite different to the other, however Mimaki's recently launched TX300-1800MkII hybrid printer presents a solution with its impressive flexibility."

Capable of loading two different ink sets, as well as offering direct to fabric and dye sublimation transfer printing on the one machine, the TX300-1800 MkII is an incredibly adaptable printer that, when coupled with appropriate fixation equipment, avoids companies being constrained to one type of material and with it, broadens their product offering. With a 1.8m print width and impressive output speeds the TX300 MkII is a popular production solution employed by furnishings companies, design houses, apparel and sportswear printers as well as universities and colleges, thanks to its adaptability and low running costs.



Mimaki's range of textile printers are capable of printing to almost any fabric



The new Mimaki UJV100-160 LED UV printer offers significant variety of applications, including textile lightboxes

The concept of personalisation – and the value add that it brings – is a key driver in the increase in digital textile printing. From a cushion that's decorated with a sentimental photograph or personal message to a team's worth of football jerseys, each with a different name and number on the reverse, it's easy to see the benefits and opportunities. Taking personalised apparel or sportswear as an example, digital printing removes the start-up costs attached to traditional methods such as screen printing, and with the advances in high tech polyesters over the last 20 years, the end product can offer more creative and practical opportunities; such as printing, rather than applying sponsor logos and badges, resulting in a lighter and more comfortable garment.

Mimaki UV printers offer flexible solution. "Considering other ink types, and those already prevalent within the display graphics market, digital textile printing continues to deliver plentiful new products and print opportunities to allow retailers to promote and update their instore experience. Lightboxes, window graphics and expansive seamless wallcoverings produced with textiles are easier to ship, quicker to install and more resistant to damage than alternatives. With Mimaki's latest LED UV roll-to-roll printers, including the recently launched UJV100-160 wide format model being perfect for the job, they're an easy add-on for businesses more used to delivering vinyl, board and paper-based prints," says Jefferies.

He continues, "Requiring only basic finishing, such as hemming or affixing a silicone edge strip; retail graphics produced using Mimaki LED UV printers can be shipped directly to the customer

and in many cases, installed or replaced without the need for specialist tools or skills. Switching out lightboxes and lightweight suspended graphics on a regular basis can therefore be a great revenue opportunity for printers, as they help retailers retain a fresh, localised and campaign-based look to their instore environment."

Creative and technical gains. The environmental forces driving change to digital are well documented, but with the greatly reduced water usage required by digital, as well as the ability to print short runs and reduce inventory wastage it's another important factor that's motivating traditional print companies to effect change in their production capabilities. "Products like Mimaki's recently announce Tiger MkIII offer massive production capacity for both dye sub and direct to fabric applications, aiding the quest for sportswear and fashion producers to truly make the leap to digital," he says.

Duncan Jefferies concludes, "Whilst not every business needs volumes measured in kilometres of print per day, the concept scales down to smaller print providers: offer something different, that's creatively and technically improved over previous options, that can be personalised or produced from a zero inventory model and that disrupts the established system, drives revenue and retains, as well as attracts customers."

www.hybridservices.co.uk



What do print service providers need to evolve and grow in the textile market?

Many PSPs already offer sublimation for their signage work, printing onto polyesters for soft signage, Interior/Exterior and POS applications. However, advances in materials and inks for sublimation have now made it possible for these businesses to service new market areas such as décor, fashion and apparel, all underpinned by voracious demand for fast-turnaround, short-run and personalised printing.

CMYUK materials collections

Brett Platt, Textile Business Manager, CMYUK, says, "CMYUK has launched a 4-part samples almanac that showcases the widest range of sign and display materials, textiles and digital-ready fabrics currently available to digital wide format print producers. The sheer variety of materials available make it easy and affordable for PSPs to offer new services, products and applications in both traditional and non-traditional markets."

He continues, "Binder 3 is a testament to advancements in digital textile printing. Suitable for dye sublimation paper transfer printing, it showcases a stunning collection of recyclable polyester-based materials, representing a broad range of textures/finishes for fashion, apparel and decorative interiors. These fabrics emulate the look and handle of natural fabrics – including linen, cotton, silk, satin and velvet. Some have inherent flame-retardant properties – essential requirements for upholstery and décor."

Binder 3 fabrics are suitable for use with dye dispersal inks, and perfect for printing polyesters. Wash-fast and fade resistant, the high durability of these inks is down to the fact that when heated to temperatures between 180° and 200°C they transform into a gas, bypassing any liquid stage. This then infiltrates the substrata of the fabric, which as it cools and condenses, becomes part of its very fibre.

Dispersal inks are either referred to as low energy or high energy. Low energy sublimation means that an image or pattern is firstly printed to a transfer paper, which is then taken off the printer and transferred to the polyester fabric by means of a heat press. High-energy sublimation means that the ink is directly printed onto a polyester textile after which, it will need to go through a heat press for final fixation.

Platt adds, "CMYUK's Binder 4 showcases its natural fabrics, a comprehensive range that come in a wide range of different weights of cotton and linen blends suited for both décor and fashion. These natural materials have a specific coating that improves colour strength and fixation, allowing pigment inks to be directly printed onto the fabric. Post printing, pigment inks need to be fixed with heat at temperatures of around 165°C. Pigment printed natural fabrics is the fastest growing print method, representing an affordable and easy route for PSPs wanting to expand their offerings. This is because only a heat press is required to turn a printed textile into a viable product. Printing reactive inks onto natural materials on the other hand involves a far longer and involved process, as finishing also requires steam washing and drying."

The calender press

A heat press is vital to the dye-sublimation process as it ensures permanency – resulting in high quality durable prints that display vibrant colour, crock and wash-fastness. "CMYUK has recently launched the VERTEX, a new hybrid transfer printing calender from Klieverik. This is a highly affordable heat press with a compact footprint, specifically designed to cater for these new market sectors. Optimised for ease of use, VERTEX is able to cope with the widest range of Polyester (PES) fabrics," says Platt.

He continues, "VERTEX is also a perfect companion for heat fixing natural fabrics printed with pigment inks and the DuraVibe® range of soft furnishing textiles from CMYUK, which have been specifically developed for use with HP Latex ink technology, affording all HP Latex owners the potential to enter the soft furnishings, homewares and interior markets by providing printed items that are fit for purpose – durable, high rub-fastness and the ability to withstand frequent washing."

Brett Platt concludes, "In addition to its Mimaki paper sublimation printers, CMYUK has been appointed a direct channel partner for Epson's newly expanded SC-F Series of paper dye sublimation printers. These include the SureColor SC-F100, Epson's first A4 dye sublimation printer, SureColor SC-F500, a 24-inch tabletop dye sublimation printer, SureColor SCF-6300 44-inch roll-to-roll printer, SureColor SC-F7200, designed for single-operator material loading with automatic tensioning, SureColor SC-F9400 for fast, high-volume textile, and the SureColor SC-F9400H, giving Epson its first genuine fluorescent ink, paper dye-sublimation solution.

www.cmyuk.co.uk



The dye sublimation process - material is printed on a Mimaki and is then heat pressed onto the fabric.

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What level of expertise is required for dye-sub printing?

“If you are a start up or a new adopter, the simple answer is very little,” says Paul Restarick Pre Sales Technical Specialist Epson (UK) Ltd. “With plug in and play entry level systems all newcomers can achieve great results, easily and affordably.”

He continues, “Anyone with a Mac or PC, eye for design and passion for marketing their business can set themselves up and, judging by social media and pop up online shops, many people have. Using time freed up by the pandemic they have invested in dye sublimation and turned their creativity into a new venture or side hustle.”

Driving this interest is user confidence. Knowing they can consistently reproduce the quality required quickly and easily with little set up allows customers to invest in the technology worry free.

According to Restarick, with Epson’s plug in and play solutions they can enjoy ease of use. “Systems that are ready in seconds and allow jobs to be set up quickly and smoothly make all the difference to optimising efficiency and reducing errors. Simple interfaces and built-in user guides enable faster set up times and reduce print problems – all of which supports operator confidence and greater productivity.”

They can also enjoy a supported set up. “Smooth, reliable, set up is paramount - particularly for those looking to offer the service for the first time. Genuine dedicated print drivers for Windows and OSX support this, allowing the job to be set to print to the dye sublimation printer. For all our systems our specialist partners are on hand and to offer advice and



The A4 Epson SureColor SC-F100 is ideal for dye-sublimation printing at home

guidance on application times and substrate choices as well as recommending the most suitable flat presses or mug presses.”

Reliability and quality

Being able to rely on a system that delivers valuable peace of mind is a key factor in any buying decision. This is something that can be delivered by manufacturers who offer a complete solution. Customers can choose to partner a supplier that designs, develops and manufactures every part of their product. They should also check that the ink chemistry works in harmony with the printheads and the hardware is specifically designed for dye sublimation applications – it is not as simple as just putting a different ink set in a printer. There are internal changes for the efficient use of dye sublimation ink and features that improve reliability and media handling. “Customers want to know they can consistently achieve high quality results,” he says, adding, “They should look for ink sets that ensures crisp, vibrant output.

One with a choice of colours that delivers accurate and consistent colour performance on both soft and rigid manmade substrates. Another thing to consider is if the inks are part of a complete solution, which includes hardware, printhead, sublimation papers, service, and support. Offering further peace of mind is Oeko-Tex Standard 100 certification assuring approved use for a number of applications.”

Paul Restarick concludes, “These features are integral to all our plug in and play dye sublimation solutions in our growing portfolio. The latest addition is Epson’s first A4 dye sublimation printer, the SureColor SC-F100. It was developed for small businesses and start-ups looking to expand their product offering into the promotional goods sector when space is at premium. There is also the SureColor SC-F500 and the SureColor SC-F501 and the latter enables greater creativity with fluorescent yellow and pink ink.”

www.epson.co.uk



Examples of garments and textiles produced using Epson SureColor printers



What is available to help creative designers succeed in digital textile printing?

With the introduction of desktop dye sublimation printers from printer brands such as Epson, it has never been easier or more affordable to explore digital textile printing. The opportunity to enter the digital textile market is no longer confined to needing wide format production printers and presses or outsourcing to print companies with limited control over quality and colour.

With extra time at home due to the pandemic, there has been an opportunity to learn new skills. New businesses and entrepreneurs have emerged eager to develop their own creative business.

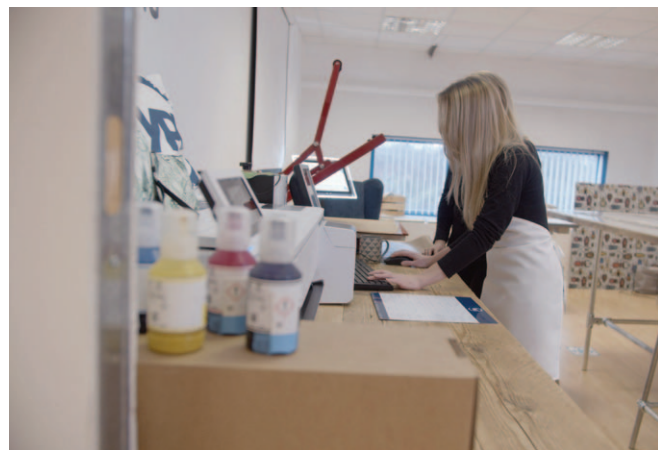
A popular choice for those entering the digital textile print industry have been the recently released Epson SureColor SC-F500 A3 and Epson SureColor SC-F100 A4 dye sublimation printers. These printers offer low cost of ownership in a familiar desktop format. Each printer is easy to set up meaning the user can quickly begin creating their bespoke fabrics.

Georgia Brown, Managing Director of Your Print Specialists (YPS), says, "We have taken the difficulty of choosing equipment away by offering a series of bundles featuring these new Epson printers at their core. The Business in a Box specifically is aimed at the creative industries and includes everything needed to get started with the Epson SureColor SC-F500, heatpress and sewing machine. These bundles offer everything you need to get started with dye sublimation print,

alongside the service and support you would expect from the YPS team. A business can be easily run at home with no need for outsourcing, it offers the ability to create sample swatches quickly and easily and at an affordable set up cost. Once a business is established and ready to take the next step in digital textile print equipment, YPS are on hand to offer advice and support to help guide the user with their production printer needs."

To further help creatives enter the world of print, Your Print Specialists have established Your Print Institute (YPI), a learning space designed to help creatives as well as those already in the print industry gain new skills in digital print including digital textile print.

Georgia Brown, adds, "As a team, we think it is vitally important to help creatives coming into our industry to have access to the best information and resources to help them make the best choices and have the right skills to succeed. We are bringing together the leading players in many areas of digital printing technology, including textiles and upholstery, giftware, crafters, signage, fine art reproductions and high-end photography to inspire our students and help them embark on digital printmaking projects with confidence."



Two students taking part in a Your Print Institute dye sublimation course

Your Print Institute is headed by a line-up of print ambassadors who all use digital print in their day to day business. From technical and application experts to creatives such as Anthony Devine of Ministry of Upholstery and Beth Travers of BOBO1325, both of whom create bespoke designs for textile decor. YPI will bring together end users, home workers and students with industry insiders to share knowledge, experience and expertise.

"This unique opportunity will give creatives and small businesses looking to get involved in digital print the ability to accelerate ideas, connect with key personnel, and share resources and knowledge to help them get their creative businesses up and running," she adds.

This support is the helping hand creatives need to use digital print to their advantage with upholstery and sewing courses available too. YPI is currently based online to ensure Covid safety but will be running in-person courses again very soon. An Introduction to Dye Sublimation course is currently available online free of charge making it ideal for those starting out with an Epson dye sublimation printer.

Georgia Brown concludes, "The combination of desktop dye-sublimation printing by Epson and Your Print Institute closing the skills gap creates an ideal environment for creatives and designers to succeed in digital textile printing."

www.yourprintspecialists.co.uk
www.yourprintinstitute.co.uk



Epson SureColor SC-F500 features in YPI courses to help budding creatives get started with Dye Sublimation

What are the key reasons for digital textile printing's increasing popularity?

When looking at the Garment Decoration market, screen printing has been the most commonly used production technology for many years. Things are changing though. Screen printing typically comes with high set-up costs, complex workflow, and environmental concerns. The rise of e-commerce and on-demand print are other factors that mean analogue technology is unlikely to continue to dominate the market.

The promotional goods market and its associated print requirement have run under the radar of the print industry due to the high fragmentation of product, print technology, and distribution channels. However, the demand is starting to shift from mass market, low value promotional products to higher-value personalised products. Since 2013, the promotional goods market has grown only 2% per year

on average. By contrast, the personalised goods segment has been growing rapidly by 10% annually since 2013. Taken together the worldwide value is an extraordinary €57 billion. (Fespa census 2017)

Stewart Cobby, Inkjet Sales Manager (UK) for Ricoh's Commercial & Industrial Print Group, says, "Changing consumer demand drives print service providers to continually improve efficiency in hardware as well as workflow. Direct to Garment is believed to be the most flexible digital solution to meet today's needs. We believe screen printing will remain an important technology. Screen printing won't disappear, however, for certain jobs Direct to Garment printing is more profitable and adds more value. It's a high quality alternative that allows Commercial Printers to print vibrant soft touch graphics on a wide range of garments and textiles."



For certain jobs Direct to Garment printing is more profitable and adds more value

Case study - Ricoh DTG helps Identity Printing launch urban fashion brand

Together with a design duo from Liverpool, personalised print specialist, Identity Printing, has launched a new luxury streetwear line using Ricoh direct-to-garment (DTG) technology. Manchester-based Identity Printing, led by Managing Director Leo Stanley, is an innovator of exciting printing techniques and applications with an extensive range of customisable clothing, giftware and corporate gifts. The company was an early adopter of DTG garment printing, which enables unique designs to be printed directly to T-shirts, sweatshirts and other products at high speeds and low set-up costs.

However, competition from start-ups was squeezing prices and Identity Printing considered leaving the fashion market - until it was approached by high-end brand MisRep. Instead of simply taking on the printing contract, Identity Printing invested in the fashion brand and now owns a 50 per cent share.

"When MisRep came to us we were initially sceptical," says Zahid Ali, Production Manager, Identity Printing. "What we didn't realise was that one of the guys is a design genius and the other a social media expert. Together

we've created a high-end fashion brand that has achieved an amazing turnover and a social media buzz, including 43,000 followers on Instagram."

Identity Printing's continual pursuit of better, more innovative technology is a large part of that success. Around twelve months ago the business updated its print room to include a Ricoh Ri 6000 and, six months ago, two Ricoh Ri 1000 DTG printers from supplier Resolute DTG. These professional, high-speed printing solutions are easy to use and to maintain, with reliably outstanding colour quality. The eco-friendly inks include white, perfect for printing a base layer on dark fabrics to ensure vibrant colours.

"Other DTG printers we've used in the past have been prone to problems but our Ricoh printers work trouble-free with minimum maintenance," he says. "It only takes five or ten minutes to clean parts like the print heads to prevent any issues. It's a nice feeling to come into work in the mornings and know it will just work." Identity Printing can also rely on Ricoh supplier Resolute DTG, says Zahid. "In some ways service is just as important as the technology. Resolute has supplied our equipment for many years and the service is always personal, always helpful, nothing is too much trouble."



Ricoh's eco-friendly inks include white, perfect for printing a base layer on dark fabrics

products.ricoh.co.uk/direct-to-garment

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How can use of fabric sign materials help the environment?

Innotech leads the way in recycled textile media

One of the many claims made by suppliers of textile media is that the product is better for the environment. This is certainly true in comparison with PVC films and media, but there are some textile products that go even further and are themselves made from recycled plastic. This revolutionary process is helping to keep the ocean clear of plastic waste and is a very real, practical and commercially viable way of restoring some balance to the global ecosystem.

Innotech Digital is a supplier of wide and grand format print media to printers and sign makers and they were the first to announce such a product last year. Marketing Manager, Kieran Dallow, explains, "We have an entire range of PVC-free textile media under our Vertex brand, but we are particularly proud of Vertex Marine, which is made from 100% recycled bottles. The material is manufactured using the most efficient, green methods possible and maintains the high levels of quality, durability and versatility that our customers expect."



Textile products made from recycled plastic can help keep the ocean clear of plastic waste



Soft signage and fabrics

Generally speaking, printed soft signage and fabric is a cost effective and environmentally friendly way to create eye-catching displays that are impactful yet lightweight. They are much easier to package and transport and there are a broad range of options when it comes to installation. Innotech's printable textiles under its Vertex brand name are suitable for dye sublimation and direct printing with UV-C or Latex technology up to 3.2m. The Vertex range can be used for many applications including flag displays, tension frames, tents, illuminated lightbox displays, backdrops and more.

"Printed soft signage and fabrics are definitely one of the fastest growing areas of our business and all evidence would suggest this is likely to continue," says Dallow, adding, "Textiles are, quite literally, so much more flexible than traditional printed signage. They can be applied in many more ways, which can be more practical than standard signage, such as barriers, dividers and vertical covers. They also can be designed to look great, fitting into an environment with great versatility and in a visually pleasing and natural way."

Signs saving the sea

The burden of single use plastic has created huge pressure on the world's natural environment and this has been highlighted by the horrific scenes of plastic waste causing untold damage to marine wildlife and beaches across the planet. There is something very pleasing to be part of an industry that is doing something very real about this awful situation and if more industries do the same, we have a real chance of turning the tide on the climate catastrophe.

How is it done?

Preventing single use plastic bottles from going into the ocean by turning it into Vertex Marine is a 7-part process, which is itself adopting green and efficient production techniques.

It starts with baling - empty plastic bottles are sorted, crushed and baled at a recycling centre and moved to the manufacturing plant where the bales are separated by a superfast vibration machine and labels are removed by friction. The separated bottles are ground down into flakes and are washed and cleaned to remove any excess fluid, labels or caps, which are then turned into small plastic pellets through the use of a vented extruder.

These pellets are transported to the yarn manufacturing facility, where they are melted down and spun into a polyester yarn. This yarn is woven into the finished Vertex Marine product. A display fabric at heart, Vertex Marine is designed to be used as promotional tablecloths, tube display backdrops, like Innotech's TEXstyle Straight system, or other frontlit applications.

Kieran Dallow concludes, "To put this in perspective, one roll of 3.2m x 100m Vertex Marine material uses just under 4,000 plastic bottles, which otherwise could have made their way into the ocean. This is all done, without losing any of the qualities of a virgin polyester yarn giving you just as good quality print finish when you use dye-sublimation, UV-C or Latex printers."

Innotechdigital.com

Soyang adds to range of environmentally-friendly media products

We are living in a time of many global challenges. Perhaps most significant of all is the amount of plastic waste ending up in landfill, rivers and oceans across the world. As a race, we need to work together positively and effectively to ensure the planet is protected for future generations and there is much to be done. At both personal and business levels, we all must do more and this includes the wide format printing community, which has not been generally covered itself in glory for its green credentials. However, times are certainly changing and a lot more companies in our industry are taking responsibility and putting words into action to help protect our planet.

Soyang is one company leading the way in terms of encouraging the availability and use of recycled media. They sell the Sotex R-line range of products, which are made entirely from recycled products. R-line uses 100% recycled yarns from ocean wastes and is produced using energy-saving and reduced emissions operations.

Mark Mashiter, Managing Director of Soyang Europe, told us, "The world of print is changing at a rapid rate and Soyang is constantly looking for ways to develop its solutions to meet the demands of the industry, including those seeking a more environmentally friendly future."

Recycled R-line range from Soyang

There are currently four products available from Soyang in the R-line range. These include Recycled Popular Flag ST-110R, a texturized, semi-matte fabric that is ideal for flags. It offers excellent quality imaging through double penetration after dye-sub printing and very high durability.

Recycled Prime Display Fabric ST-117R is a recycled fabric with good wrinkle-resistance and high opacity, which provides very stable images after printing and is suitable for pop-ups and backdrops. It is workable with dye-sub printing and latex inks.



Soyang Europe's extensive warehousing facility

Recycled Starlight Coated Backlit Fabric ST-601R is ideally suited for backlit applications with a good texture and bright white quality. It offers ideal light transmittance and works perfectly as a light box. It is also available for frames, pop-ups, tents and is compatible with UV and dye-sub transfer inks.

Finally the Recycled Night Star W/B Backdrops Fabric ST-216R has full opacity and excellent wrinkle-resistance. It has a slight stretch so it is suitable for roll-to-roll printers as well as digital textile printers with a sticky belt. The fabric is ideal for high quality backdrops, prop-ups and frame applications.

New Solar PVC-Free banner material

Following continued investment in new coating lines and technology, the company is also introducing the Solar PVC-Free range to add to their already impressive portfolio of eco-friendly materials.

Mashiter adds, "Having created the UK's first PVC banner recycling scheme, we've now got things covered from a different angle with the introduction of the Solar PVC-Free range. With an extensive array of non-PVC materials to select from, you can choose the right material for your print set-up and application – and remain confident you are meeting your clients' particular requirements." □

www.soyang.co.uk



Soyang is encouraging the availability and use of recycled media

UV flatbed keeps up with surge in demand for safety signage

Its pre-pandemic purchase of a Ricoh PRO-TF6250 Series UV flatbed printer has allowed Inprint Colour to keep up with a huge spike in demand for its sign production in 2020 and will serve as a platform for continued success in 2021.

Installed in 2019, the PRO-TF6250 has become a hugely important part of the company's production setup, with the flexible printer having been put to work on a wide range of new jobs.

Previously, Inprint had been limited as to the types of substrates it could print on but the Ricoh PRO-TF6250's ability to handle a wide gamut of materials has opened up a host of markets to the company.

Director Lee Coulson explains that this expanded service offering was particularly useful over the past 12 months, when the company saw a massive increase in demand for its signage work, partly due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

"We invested in the Ricoh flatbed large format machine as we needed a device that could print on varied media types," says Lee. "Thanks to its flexibility in terms of substrates, we've opened up new business, including the supply of more and more Covid-19 signage."



The Ricoh PRO-TF6250 has allowed Inprint to increase its pace of production to speeds it has never experienced before.

"We have used Ricoh digital machines for the past eight years. We've always been impressed with the quality of the printers and the service back up provided by Ricoh so it was a natural choice to stick with Ricoh when we needed a new machine."

Aside from the core benefit of being able

to offer a wider range of services to customers, Coulson said the Ricoh PRO-TF6250 has allowed Inprint to increase its pace of production to speeds it has never experienced before.

Reliability is also a key factor, says Lee: "For us, using a Ricoh printer of any kind always means you can guarantee reliability; we are a long-term user of Ricoh's printers for this exact reason."

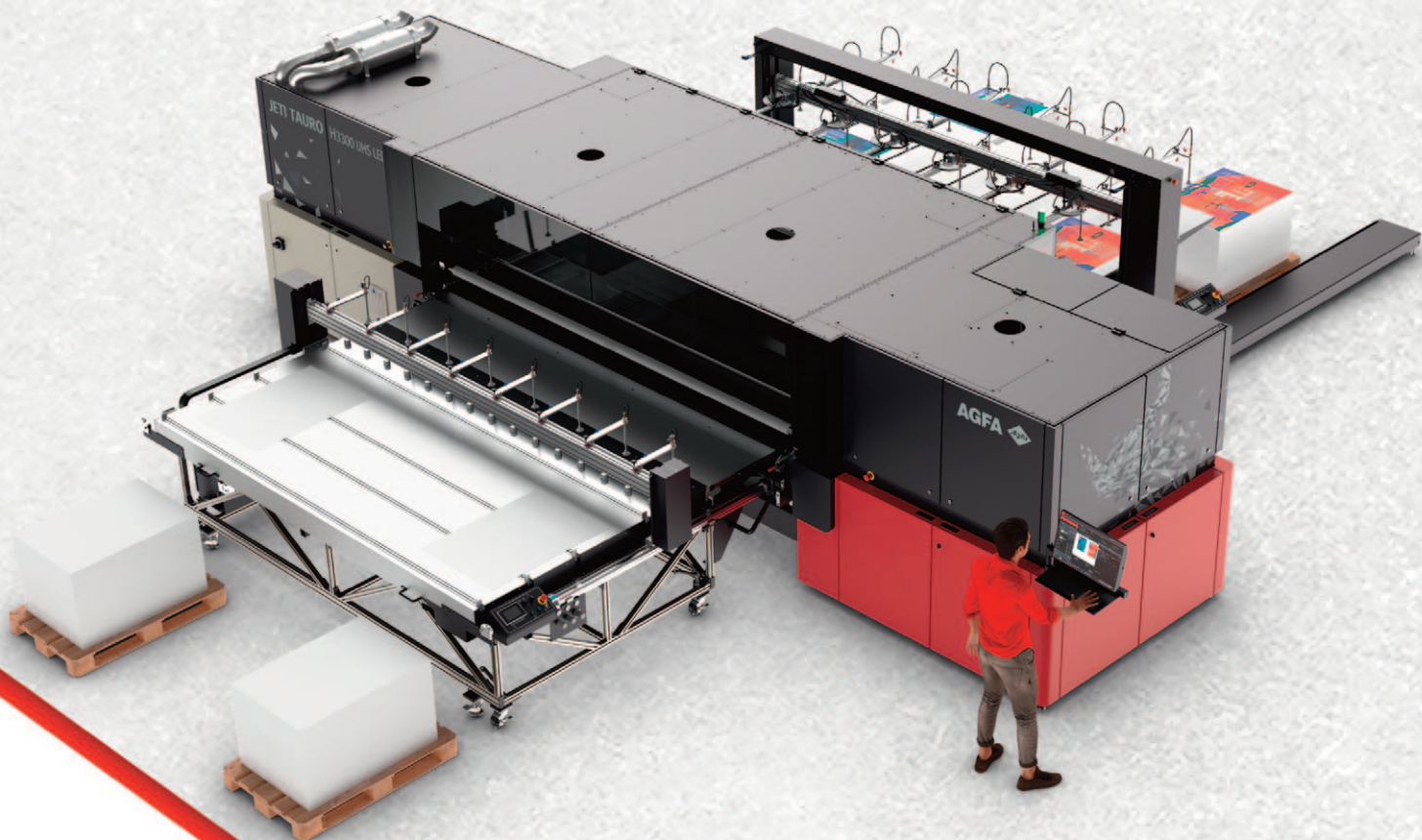
Inprint Colour is aiming to build on the success it has enjoyed with the Ricoh PRO-TF6250 by making the printer the driving force behind its expansion plans for 2021, which include an extension to its production building to house a new die-cutting machine.

"The goal for 2021 is to build on what we achieved in 2020; with the Ricoh machine having already proved its incredible speed and reliability, we're excited to see just how far we can progress," concludes Lee.

www.ricoh.co.uk



Thanks to its flexibility in terms of substrates, Inprint has opened up new business, including the supply of more and more Covid-19 signage.



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LED UV printer installation sparks new sign business start up

Parking management solutions provider PCM has installed a JETRIX LXi7 LED UV flatbed printer. It has proved so proficient that through the pandemic the company has identified further signage opportunities and set up a new business called UK Signs. The level of printing and signage requirements involved in PCM's significant operation initially led to the company seeking a large format printer that could easily meet the variety of their demands and achieve their exacting needs.

However, they since found that it could easily manage this work and more. So, the senior team took the decision to invest and set up a sister business called UK Signs dedicated to producing indoor and outdoor signage using the JETRIX printer.

As the LXi7 is a direct to substrates flatbed printer, it easily stands up to their heavy production requirements. The size of the 2.5m x 3.0m flatbed means that significant pieces of print and signage can be produced. When researching the options, specific areas of interest were exploring the ease of its use, particularly elements like the powerful zonal vacuum system on the flatbed which enables quick and accurate media placement. The JETRIX has been developed to deliver rapid production of speeds of up to 78sqm/hr alongside abilities such as automated



PCM decided to invest and set up a sister business called UK Signs dedicated to producing indoor and outdoor signage using the JETRIX printer.

functions and safety systems, all designed to increase productivity.

PCM director Ian Cordingley says: "This is a new era for us, welcoming the JETRIX LXi7 into our business. After reviewing what was available in the market, this just felt like the best fit for us both in terms of

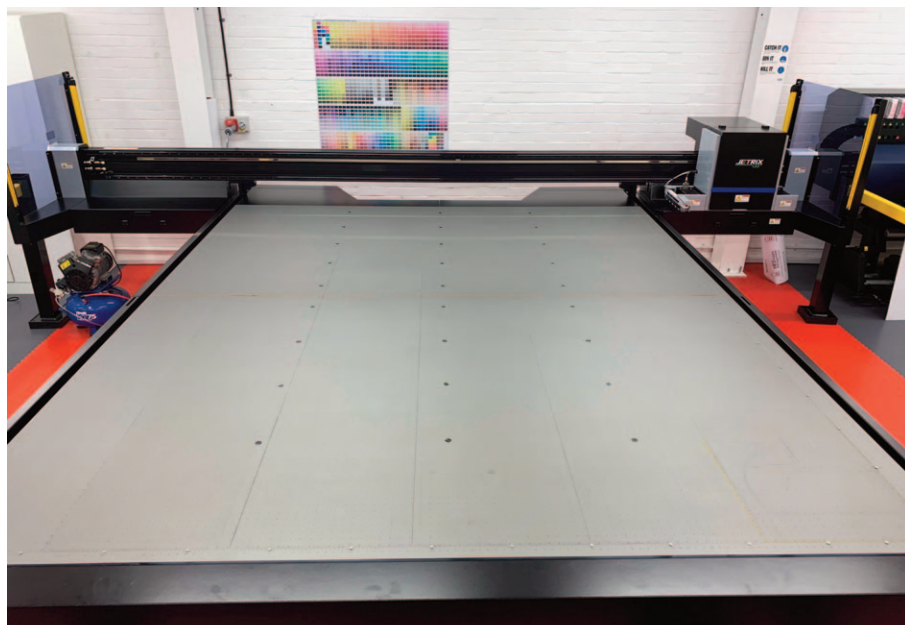
what it can achieve and it's competitive price. It is now being used right the way through our business, doing everything from small scale information boards to large format signs. In fact, the JETRIX capabilities surprised us so much.

"That is why we took the decision to set up UK Signs and increase significantly what we were producing on it. Since then we have produced several major jobs and are frequently tendering for more.

"It's speed and abilities mean we have been able to be both extremely competitive on prices and also go for jobs that we would never have been able to look at before. We're looking forward to continuing to put it through its paces."

Ben Woodruff, head of JETRIX UK sales, InkTec Europe says: "Interestingly, we're installing more and more JETRIX printers directly into businesses as many of the larger corporations are choosing to have an in-house creative and printing resource. In particular, the JETRIX LXi7 is perfect for fulfilling the requirements of these kind of environments as it is relatively simple to use, delivers great printing results, is competitively priced and engineered to last."

www.inktec-europe.com



Significant pieces of print and signage can be produced due to its 2.5m x 3.0m size..

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How important is UK manufacture in the current economic climate?

A recent research report by business group Made in Britain, stated that three-quarters of businesses are more likely to buy British to boost the economy post pandemic. Companies like Perspex Distribution (PDL) have continued to expand their range of UK produced solutions in support of this trend.

Perspex Distribution (PDL) has seen a recent growth in demand for UK produced substrates and has praised its UK manufacturing supply chain for its continued product innovation, growing the availability of locally sourced rigid-substrate solutions for its UK sign and display customers.

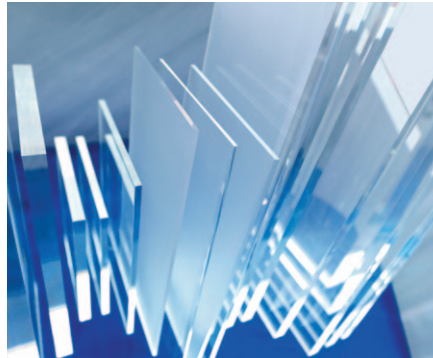
Luke Martyn, PDL's Marketing Manager, says, "Boasting a unique portfolio of UK made materials, PDL are continuing to fly the flag for UK manufacturing sheet. We are well known for supplying over 150 different variants of Perspex® Cast Acrylic, which have been made in Lancashire for over 85 years. Our ever expanding range of substrates is helping increase the choice and options for customers searching for UK produced materials."

He adds, "Distributing sheet products for the UK's only manufacturers of materials such as Perspex® cast acrylic and Alupanel aluminium composite, PDL are the go-to specialist suppliers for businesses sourcing UK made substrates. Over 80% of PDL's materials are manufactured in the UK."

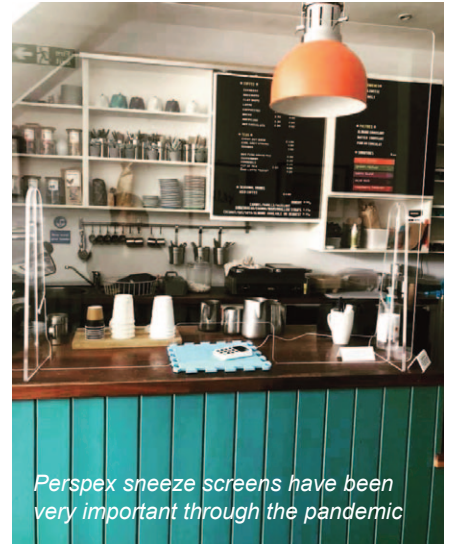
A clear choice

The impact of Covid-19 and subsequent drop in demand for 'normal' business had seen many sign and display companies realign their expertise and production to produce Covid protection products. Covid 19 has seen an evolving requirement for protective products, including clear plastic protective screens made from materials such as Perspex® acrylic and Palsun polycarbonate, to help protect key workers within the retail and commercial interior environment. Perspex quickly managed to increase production by 300% to support this demand surge.

"As the pandemic has evolved, material from PDL has been required for new applications, including Alupanel aluminium composite used when building Covid testing centre portable buildings, PVC foam partition screening within vaccination



Perspex® Clear Acrylic is manufactured in different thicknesses



Perspex sneeze screens have been very important through the pandemic

centres and clear plastic social distancing screens to enable pubs and restaurants to open safely. With protection screens and social distancing tools expected to be required for some time to come, it is being predicted that sign and display companies will see these applications as an ongoing addition to the products and services offered by them," says Martyn.

An example of this came early in the pandemic when Morrisons installed Perspex® acrylic screens at its supermarkets to protect checkout workers from the Covid-19 outbreak. The measure was introduced at stores across the country as customers continue to shop for essential items during the pandemic.

At the time, Morrisons tweeted: 'We're installing new protective screens at all our store checkouts this week, to help keep our customers and our colleagues safe.' The company's Chief Executive David Potts added: 'We want to do our bit to help customers and colleagues from being affected and to help everyone observe social distancing at our checkouts. This will help us to continue to play our full part in feeding the nation – it's more than our job.'

The protective screens were one and a half metres wide and nearly one metre high. The clear screens featured messages to explain the social distancing measure and direct customers to small waist-height windows for transactions.

To support growing demand, PDL recently invested in 3 new Schelling FK6 330



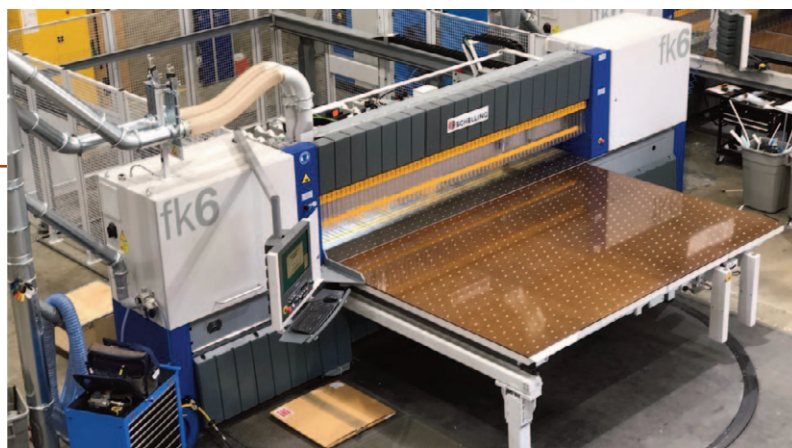
Perspex Distribution warehouse stocking Perspex® clear acrylic used for protective screens

industrial beam saws following substantial investment upgrading cutting capabilities across their UK branches. PDL specialises in a next day cut to size service and spent much of 2020 supplying substrates to UK fabrication businesses manufacturing Covid-19 protective goods including critical worker sneeze screens, medical centre partitioning, medical equipment and hand sanitisation units.

The advanced Schelling saws are optimised to work with PDL's unique UK manufactured substrate range. "Our long relationship with Schelling UK has supported our ability to process record volumes of materials over the last year, with our dedicated teams ensuring supply to our customer base, many of whom have been providing an invaluable manufacturing service in the effort to protect keyworkers and the general public this year," said Keith Piggott, PDL Managing Director.

He added, "This significant investment in the latest industrial machinery across our group maintains an optimum cutting service to our customers. Our portfolio of 10 industrial saws, across all 5 PDL branches, means we can allocate a huge 240 hours' worth of substrate cutting each day."

All machinery was safely installed over a 3 month period by engineers from Schelling UK at PDL branches in Blackburn, Chelmsford and Tamworth.



Perspex Distribution invests in 3 new Schelling industrial saws to supply their range of UK manufactured substrates

The only UK produced aluminium composite

Alupanel® is the only aluminium composite product manufactured in the UK. Produced in an ever expanding range of colours and effects, Alupanel® is ideal for wide format printers, signs and graphics and it is easily fabricated into unique shapes. "PDL customers have benefited with a continual evolution of new products within the Alupanel range. These include the recent launch of a fire retardant AlupanelFR, a new Signal White paint finish for print substrates and traffic grade panels, which meet industry demands for niche display solutions," he adds.

Alupanel producers, Multipanel UK, have demonstrated solid investment in sector-leading technology to enhance their capabilities with a second production line added to greatly increase production capacity. A multi-million pound in-house recycling plant has also been built onsite in their Dover facility taking LDPE plastic waste away from landfill and producing pellets used as a raw material into the core of their Aluminium composite sheets.

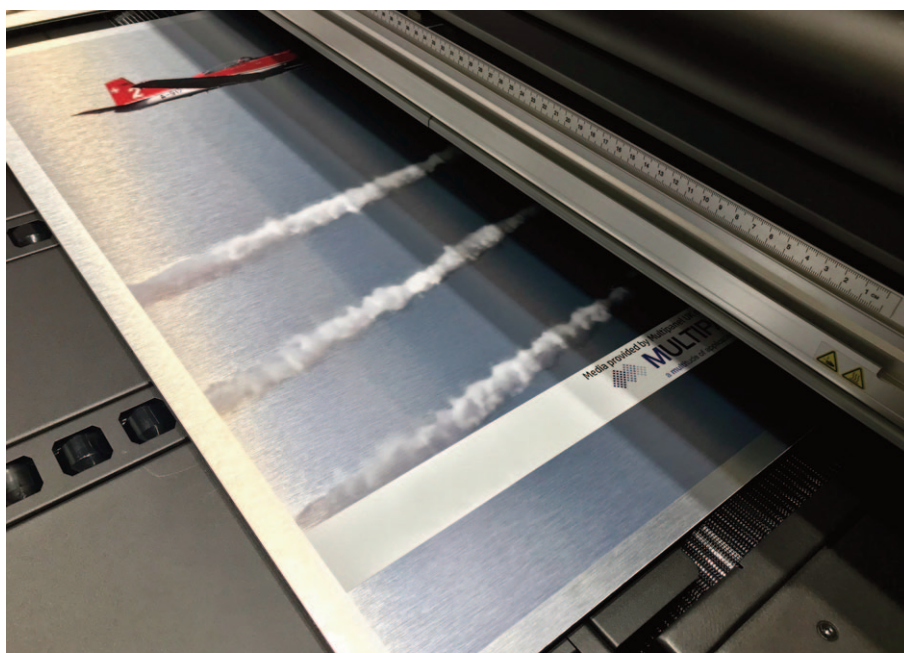
This game-changing investment is ultimately capable of producing up to 80% of their LDPE requirements and is already having a huge impact on the green credentials of Alupanel sheets being produced at their Kent site.

Substrates for all store requirements

For short term print and display needs, Palight® PVC foam also comes with a 'Made in the UK' stamp of approval and is ideal for hanging signs and graphics and POS display structures. Palight Print Plus is their premium brand for digital printers seeking a visibly brighter solution that is developed specifically for wide format print and producing noticeably brighter colour imaging.

A recently launched range, Palight Print Plus LW, is also produced in the north of England and offers sign and display companies a more economical option for print or vinyl applications. PDL's local supply chain ensures optimum quality control from raw material to end products as well as fast availability for special requirements, which is key in today's fast moving market and supports customer strategies for reliable stock availability from distribution partners.

Luke Martyn concludes, "Being UK manufacturers themselves, our customer base understands the benefits of sourcing products that originate locally and are made with the same rigorous standards as themselves. Using a UK supply chain wherever possible ensures optimum quality control from raw material to end products as well as fast availability for special requirements – a key benefit when customers are specifying bespoke projects. In a competitive sign and print supply market it is important for companies to offer something different – at PDL, we have always been proud of our focus on UK manufacturing and we are excited about bringing even more UK products to market very soon."



Alupanel® is the only aluminium composite product manufactured in the UK

www.perspex.co.uk

What sheet products will be most important in the coming year?

Steve Jones, National Thermoplastics Manager of Premier Paper told us that 2021 will be another important year for transparent thermoplastic products. "Because of the increased concerns regarding improved hygiene and social distancing, the global requirement for protective screens, dividers and surfaces has reached levels that have never been experienced before. Furthermore, direct-to-substrate printing is still evolving at a healthy rate and transparent, opal and white materials such as Plexiglas®, Marpet GFS PETg, Marlon FSX Polycarbonate and eTEC PET & Polycarbonate are all perfect substrates for printing."

He continues, "As the retail and hospitality industries begin their long-awaited return to normality, there will be an increase in demand for improved signage, in addition to thermoplastics, products such as Intercoat, Adex Self Cling and Ultraboard or the more durable, longer lasting products such as Foamalux and Etalbond; will prove to be popular as companies seek to capitalise on branding opportunities, improve their messaging and increase their customer engagement and awareness."

Steve also explains how has the pandemic changed peoples' requirements for sheet materials, "Understandably, the increased demand for safe and hygienic solutions caused by the pandemic has led to an incredibly high demand for clear and cleanable protective screens. There are a



Sign & Digital was chosen to help raise the profile of Premier's Display Graphics division

number of other different criteria to take into account based on customer requirements, for example clarity, high impact strength, fire performance or economics. Protection screens may be around for a long time, particularly in areas such as retail that see a generally large footfall of customers, as such, organisations may need to refurbish their old or existing systems with newer, more robust versions."

Increasing demand for more environmentally friendly solutions Steve Jones adds, "Premier takes its commitment to the environment very seriously, in fact all of the thermoplastic products within the portfolio are PVC-free and fully recyclable. Premier are also providing their customers with the opportunity to mitigate the CO2 emissions from their product purchases through the Carbon Capture programme, a market leading environmental initiative that directly supports the Woodland Trust and develops new native woodland right here in the UK."

Within Premier's plastic conversion department based in Dartford, there is an existing arrangement with a recycling company; the plastic offcuts are segregated into separate stillages (acrylic, polyester, polycarbonate etc), which are then removed to a recycling plant where they can be granulised and reused.

Premier is a fresh and exciting player in this market, as has been shown by their inventive display at the last Sign & Digital exhibition before lockdown. The show was chosen for raising the profile of Premier's Display Graphics division and to capture the imagination of the sign and display

industry. A movie theme was used for this exhibition and this has been carried on with the launch of the eTEC range, a "star studded cast" of "show stopping" wide format roll media for creative and imaginative printed communications. Many products from Premier's portfolio were used in the construction of the stand including FloorShark, Etalbond and many more.

Earlier in 2021, Premier took the opportunity to commission its exhibition contractors to brighten up meeting rooms and refit the head office reception area. Not only has this given some much needed support to a valued supplier at a difficult time but it has given Premier the opportunity to showcase the versatility of some of its display products. The main reception boards were produced using 10mm Foamalux with a background design of the Premier logo carved out of the board by a CNC router. The main graphics were printed on eTEC WV300 high tack matt white film, then mounted on the board with hidden LED lighting.

Steve Jones concludes, "Premier offers a choice of over 5,500 products, totalling some 40,000 tonnes of product available through its national branch network. In 2019 Premier became part of OVOL Japan Pulp and Paper; the World's largest paper merchant group but Premier's focus is very much on providing a local service and customers can be assured that their orders will be delivered by a trained delivery team who care about customer service. We are very much looking forward to the market picking up again in 2021 and to supporting our customers and suppliers as we all get back to business."

www.paper.co.uk



Premier's head office in Minworth reception area has had a colourful refit

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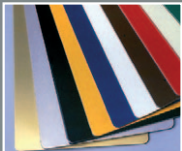
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A game of four halves for carbon neutral installation for EFL

MacroArt has completed an installation of more than 3000 m2 of graphics and signage at the EFL Papa John's Trophy Finals Wembley Weekender held at Wembley Stadium in March.

As part of MacroArt's drive for carbon neutrality across its business, the seat kills (which represented over 2500 m2 of the whole project) were produced from the PVC-free material Kavalan from CMYUK. This immediately reduced the project's overall carbon footprint by more than 30% when compared with traditional banners, says the company.

Following the completion of the event, all graphics and signage were recovered by the MacroArt team and returned for recycling in the relevant waste streams.

In addition, the carbon footprint of the materials used for the event was calculated and offset by MacroArt's investment in UK Woodland Carbon Units to deliver a net zero carbon impact.

"Sustainability is key to many of our clients and providing graphics that have a minimal impact on the environment while maintaining performance is a game changer for today's events," says sales director Matt Guise.

Held on the weekend of 13-14 March, two finals in two days presented the



Two finals in two days presented the installation team with the challenge of rebranding sections of the stadium overnight to ensure the team-specific branding was in place.

installation team with the extra challenge of rebranding sections of the stadium overnight to ensure the team-specific branding was in place. Walls around the holding area, team dugouts and Spot the Ball seat kills were removed and updated after the first game by the MacroArt installation team.

Despite this, the huge project was delivered on time for each of the finals which saw Salford City and Sunderland AFC crowned winners for the 19/20 and 20/21 trophies.

"It was very rewarding to work with an organisation as committed as we are to carbon neutrality and the team at EFL supported our efforts at every stage," concludes Matt.

"We look forward to continuing our work with them and it is clear that reducing our carbon footprint will remain at the very top of the league table for both our organisations."

www.macroart.co.uk



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Roll-to-roll LED UV printer wins on all points on boxing graphics production

Graphics printed on a JETRIX LXiR320 by Ringcraft Boxing Facilities had ringside seats while Briton Anthony Joshua knocked out Kubrat Pulev in the fight in December. The win saw the world heavyweight champion boxer potentially now facing Tyson Fury in 2021. While this was a significant event in the boxing calendar, it was just one of many events that Ringcraft produced graphics for using their JETRIX at the end of 2020.

Ringcraft has been manufacturing and hiring boxing rings for over 25 years, supplying companies such as Sky, BBC, ITV and all of the major boxing promoters in the UK and abroad. They have had a JETRIX printer for several years now and frequently use it to produce the graphics for many of the national, international fights and other events.

Managing director Mike Goodall says: "This is the core of our business. We are known across the industry for producing the graphics for many of the boxing events across the country. In fact, during December we produced the banners for five shows that were going on at Wembley Arena.

"Due to the pandemic and restrictions on



The customer produced 50-60 banners over the course of a month, some of which were 6½ by 2m in order to fill the spaces.

audiences attending the venue needed to be properly 'dressed' with graphics to compensate for the lack of audience numbers. As a result, we probably produced 50-60 banners over the course

of the month, some of which were 6½ by 2m in order to fill the spaces. What was great was the JETRIX LXiR320 just got on with it. It's awesome! It kept churning through the jobs, consistently producing fabulous quality and perfect colour vibrancy. Then when it was done, it was ready and waiting for the next project."

Ben Woodruff, head of JETRIX UK sales at InkTec Europe comments: "What an honour to be part of not just an iconic event in the boxing calendar but one of the only sporting events to have an actual live audience in 2020.

"While we know JETRIX printers are used for all sorts of indoor and outdoor signage and feature in a multitude of different environments, it was great to celebrate it being used for such an exciting event.

"The 3.2m wide roll-to-roll printer is ideal for the large scale production of PVC, flex, fabric banner and backlit banner for signage. So seeing the scale and volume of graphics that Ringcraft produces, it is no wonder the JETRIX LXiR320 is perfect for them."

www.inktec-europe.com



The scale and volume of graphics produced by Ringcraft is handled with ease by the JETRIX LXiR320.



Sign & Digital UK moves to March 2022

Faversham House has announced that Sign & Digital UK (SDUK), due to take place at Birmingham's NEC from 16-18 May 2021, has been moved to 22-24 March 2022

Event director Jenny Matthew says: "We are delighted to announce the next SDUK will take place on 22-24 March 2022. Due to on-going Government restrictions the proposed May 2021 show date was not feasible. As always, our aim is to deliver the best exhibitor and visitor experience.

"We've consulted widely with our SDUK community who want to see us stay in our early Spring date in line with their buying and innovation cycles. We will therefore host the industry's biggest reunion next March at a time when we are confident we can deliver an exceptional trade-show experience for our exhibitors, sponsors and visitors.

22-24 March 2022, Hall 2, NEC, Birmingham

sign&digital UK

SIGNAGE | PRINT | DISPLAY | DÉCOR | DESIGN

"We have reviewed all aspects of exhibiting from driving down on-site costs to creating multiple lead generation points for year-round promotion and enhanced return on investment. SDUK22 offers the full 365 exhibiting package.

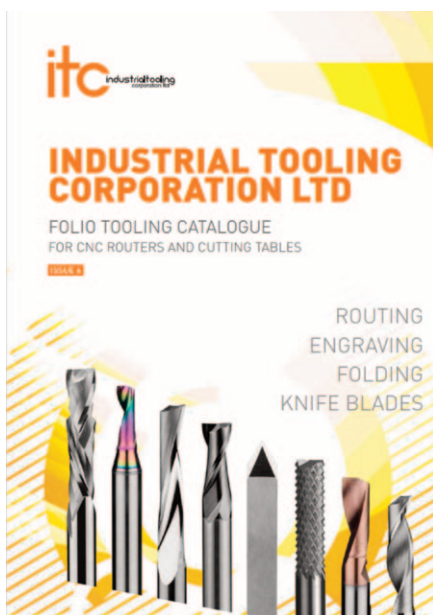
"With an already packed floorplan we look forward to bringing more exhibitors on board

over the coming months and welcoming the industry bac, in March 2022."

To enquire about exhibiting or sponsorship opportunities please contact the show team on 01342 332041 or email signanddigitaluk@fav-house.com.

www.signuk.com

Latest ITC catalogue with router selection chart



This latest edition includes additions to the A-series and STA series of tools for the machining of both aluminium and ACM.

Industrial Tooling Corporation (ITC) has published the latest edition of its Folio product catalogue, introducing "a host of innovations that demonstrating the company's expertise and passion for precision."

Simplifying tool selection for customers, Issue 6 of the Folio catalogue includes a router series selection chart that shows the suitability of each tool for various materials; an introduction to ACM (aluminium composite material) machining; and an introduction to acrylic cutting with a guide on selecting the right speeds and feeds for successfully machining your materials.

Further simplifying the process of selecting the right tool for your business, customers can now download the new ITC App from the company website.

The App and the guides within Issue 6 of the comprehensive catalogue have been developed by experts with more than 30 years of experience in delivering the most technically advanced products that set the performance benchmark in the sign-making sector.

From a product perspective, the catalogue

includes the next generation of cutting tools, routers, folding tools, grooving and V-grooving tools, blades and much more.

This latest edition includes new additions to the A-series and STA series of tools for the machining of both aluminium and ACM, new folding tools for mineral core ACM, new helical folding tools, new multi-fluted routers for customers machining carbon fibre material and much more.

All of the new product lines in the catalogue are backed by expert service and support, with product lines developed and manufactured at ITC's UK headquarters. With UK manufacturing and expert service and support, the development team at ITC are inviting customers to send material samples to itsr Tamworth facility where the company can perform cutting trials with the latest products in the Folio catalogue to deliver "unparalleled productivity and surface finish results for your company".

If you would like to receive a copy of the Folio catalogue, please contact your local ITC representative or download it from the company website.

www.itc-ltd.co.uk

Future Focus winners help plant 5,100 trees

Antalis has thanked customers for their support by rewarding benefits for customers' businesses, which also help reach sustainability objectives.

Working in partnership with their customers, Antalis launched its Future Focus initiative in September 2020 which was designed to reward customers and support their businesses and environmental goals.

This initiative allocated customers with points on all Antalis purchases and additional points were achieved by carbon offsetting materials.

The winners were named in December 2020 and Antalis has announced that as a result of the initiative, winners have chosen to plant over 5,100 UK trees and over £15,000 has been donated to various charities. In addition, 226 boxes of



recycled paper have been delivered to customers and over 72 tonnes of paper

carbon balanced via Antalis' partnership with the World Land Trust, as part of Antalis' carbon balancing scheme.

Bruce Munro, commercial director – papers & visual communication says: "The Future Focus initiative rewarded our customers as valued partners of Antalis.

"We are very proud to have been able to work alongside our customers in creating and protecting forests, as well as supporting all their deserving charities with their generous donations.

"We look forward to innovating, collaborating and further working in partnership with our clients to continue to achieve a successful and sustainable future together."

www.antalis.com

New brand identity and online shop for Astra Signs

Astra Signs has launched a new brand identity and online shop as it further expands its products and services with reach to new audiences. Founded in 1984, the Trafford Park business is responsible for branding and sign posting some of the UK's "most iconic" venues, transport networks, retailers, hospitality outlets, developments and events.

Now, as the business embarks on the next phase of growth, Astra Signs has unveiled a new-look brand identity to reassert its best-in-class design and communications credentials. This design includes a logo, website, fleet of branded vehicles, building wrap, uniforms and marketing assets.

The introduction of an online shop is designed to provide customers with an even faster and more efficient service. It's a development the business had been looking to introduce prior to the pandemic but as managing director David Derbyshire says: "it has even greater relevance in today's environment."

Bespoke client portals further enhance the Astra Signs experience for repeat customers, providing increased control and a simplified order process with the ability to choose from a range of eco-



Managing director David Derbyshire believes that Astra Signs' online shop will provide an even faster and more efficient service.

friendly products. The shops are just one of a wide range of products and services available from the sign maker, with Astra Signs providing specialist expertise in bespoke architectural signage, wayfinding products, digital print, digital signage and signage installation and maintenance.

"As we fast-approach our 40th anniversary the time was right for us to invest in our own identity," says David. "We've been

proud to be at forefront of industry developments at every stage of our business journey and with the launch of our new-look brand and online shop, are proud to retain our front position.

"The new products and services reflect our ongoing commercial vision and position us well for continued future growth."

www.astrasigns.com



FASTSIGNS Hammersmith scoops London business award

FASTSIGNS Hammersmith has been crowned West London Business Awards' Retail/Wholesale Business of the Year 2021. This award follows a string of accolades recently awarded to the team. Last December it was shortlisted for Best Business for Marketing and Social media, Best Business Support & Advice/Service Company and Employer of the Year in the Hounslow Business Awards. In January they were recognised as an expert recommended Top Three Signage Company in London by Three Best Rated.

Owner Simon Slee comments: "It's an honour to be recognised for our efforts among our London business peers, especially after what has been such a challenging year. This wonderful achievement was only possible because of all the hard work our whole team put into the business last year.

"Throughout the pandemic and lockdowns our centre was able to remain operational, even though we were not able to receive visitors' and the team were quick to adapt, ensuring they worked together even



The achievement was only possible because of all the hard work put in by the whole team last year.

though working remotely in some cases, adhered to government safety guidance and continued to deliver high quality signage solutions for all our customers.

"Over the coming months, we look forward to continuing to help even more

businesses with all their visual communication needs across Hammersmith and beyond while continuing to bring them the best products and signage solutions around."

John Davies, UK managing director for FASTSIGNS, adds: "This award is a real testament to the efforts of each member of the Hammersmith team.

"It goes without saying that last year marked a particularly turbulent year for the world of signage and visual communications, with the whole industry challenged to adapt and evolve quickly.

"Whether that was switching to providing support for business with their safety and wayfinding messaging in the wake of COVID-19 or giving businesses the best chance of survival by supporting them on rebrand projects. A big congratulations to Simon and the rest of the FASTSIGNS Hammersmith team."

www.fastsigns.co.uk

SDEA launches Design & Display app

The Shop & Display Equipment Association (SDEA) has launched a new App for both Apple and Google devices. The SDEA official App will keep you updated and informed about retail, hospitality and leisure interiors and allow you to view all SDEA members, read news and projects in retail, hospitality and leisure and keep up-to-date with events such as the Creative Retail Awards, Creative Design & Display Connections and all other SDEA events.

Features include SDEA Members: easily access our members' contact details with links to all websites which will run within the App itself; the latest revamped Design & Display Directory with all members' contact details and information; Shoptalk featuring the latest members' news, projects and industry insight; the latest SDEA and members' news; all the latest SDEA and Industry events; plus the latest retail, hospitality and leisure projects from around the world.

App Features



Meet our members

➤ Easily access shopfittings and display systems, props, accessories, POS, signage, vm and other equipment and services for commercial interiors.



Get inspiration

➤ The Directory and Shoptalk are full of creative and innovative ideas to help you design commercial interiors full of theatre and sophistication.



Latest news and projects

➤ The latest news from the Shop and Display Equipment Association alongside inspirational design projects from around the world.



Industry events

➤ Stay one step ahead. Find out key information on the Creative Retail Awards and other trade events taking place in the UK and abroad.



The App is available through www.shopdisplay.org or through the following direct links:

Link for Apple Devices:

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/sdea-design-display/id1553454244>

Link for Android Devices:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.AppInstitute.z7162>

www.shopdisplay.org

Perspex Colour Selector brochure available in print or pdf download

Leading supplier of UK made rigid substrates for signage and display, Perspex Distribution has produced a new Colour Selector brochure providing inspiration for designers and fabricators.

Available in print or as a PDF download, the brochure features hundreds of available coloured materials in Perspex Acrylic, Alupanel Aluminium Composite, Palight PVC Foam and acrylic mirror.

The beauty of Perspex cast acrylic is the flexibility to enjoy a multitude of colours, effects and thicknesses, says the company. Manufactured in the UK for over 85 years, Perspex Colours are constantly evolving and follow "technical innovation and colour trends".

Perspex acrylic is "synonymous with creativity and eye-catching designs" from retail signage to promotional displays.

As part of the manufacturing group of Perspex cast acrylic, Perspex Distribution says it offers unrivalled access to the UK's largest range of cast acrylic and this new



The brochure features hundreds of available coloured materials in Perspex Acrylic, Alupanel Aluminium Composite, Palight PVC Foam and acrylic mirror.

brochure enables buyers and specifiers to pick any colour from their range.

www.perspex.co.uk/colour-selector-brochure

Signs Express host first virtual convention

Signs Express hosted its annual convention via Zoom on 18 March 2021. Managing director Jonathan Bean highlighted the achievements of the network in 2020, specifically, the continual support of local businesses and key sectors with essential signage solutions. Network director Aaron Davis presented a 'look forward to 2021' by sharing plans for the year ahead.

Alongside franchise owners, suppliers were invited to attend and for the fourth year in a row Metamark was named Supplier of the Year, voted for by the Signs Express Network.

Voted for by the Signs Express network, the 2020 Sign Award winners were: Signs Express (Glasgow) for Best Interior Sign (Mary's Meals); Signs Express (Basildon) for Best Exterior Sign (Aston Barclay); Signs Express (Salisbury) for Best Vehicle Graphics (Oreca Le Mans Racing Car); Signs Express (Scarborough) for Best Sign Project (Moving Wall); and Signs

Express (Glasgow) for Most Striking Design (Dark Skies Visitor Centre).

Winner of Employee of the Year category was Judith Cropera at Signs Express (Belfast). The coveted Franchise Awards were also announced on the night while Newcomer of the Year was awarded to the Kay family, owners of Signs Express (Bath).

Franchisee of the Year was awarded to Signs Express (Harlow) who are "focused, driven and strive for excellence in everything they do. They are relationship builders and brand ambassadors who focus on team empowerment to ensure the future success of the business".

"Our annual convention allows us to get together and celebrate our network and although this year we had to hold it virtually, I knew how important it was to reflect on 2020 and highlight our achievements in what was a challenging year for all," comments Jonathan. "I am continually impressed with the



commitment and passion from the network and we all look forward to a better 2021."

www.signsexpress.co.uk



HP launches subscription based full service plan for UK customers

UK customers of HP products can access new HP DesignJet large format plotters on a subscription-based, fixed price, full service offering. The DesignJet Print at Your Service plan has been designed to enable small to medium sized companies to access HP's DesignJet technology in an affordable and cost-effective way.

The service runs as a contracting plan, with customers paying a low fee once a month to access not only HP's market leading DesignJet print technology but a host of other benefits. Monthly plans start from £34.99 with no upfront hardware cost. This covers the cost of the machine, as well as installation, maintenance, printheads and ink cartridges.

One customer that has already taken advantage of the plan is Daniel Powell Studios. When looking into purchasing a replacement large format printer they were told about the plan by the team at Plot-IT. Company director Daniel Powell explains: "We were asked if we would be interested in joining the Print At Your Service pilot scheme. It looked great value without the upfront costs so we went ahead. The plan is working really well for us. The HP ink always arrives in plenty of time and the scheme delivers a cost-effective printing service, without the upkeep and maintenance costs." Print At Your Service customers can



The monthly Print At Your Service payment covers the cost of the machine, as well as installation, maintenance, printheads and ink cartridges.

choose from the latest in HP's large format portfolio including the HP DesignJet T250 and T650 models.

The HP Smart App enables users to print on the devices from virtually anywhere with a smartphone or tablet. Customers benefit from an automatic discount of up to 25% on all HP original inks; usage is remotely monitored via an internet connection with the HP DesignJet printer

and new cartridges automatically delivered by HP when levels run low. Also included in the plan is HP's Next Business Day Onsite Service: expert assistance or support from HP will be delivered within 24 hours of contact. Print at your service is available from approved HP partners PlotIT, DPSB, eBuyer and the HP Store.

www.hp.com

AAG celebrates 30th anniversary with discounts

This year marks the 30th anniversary of AAG. Established as AXYZ International by Canada-based Alf Zeuner and Gary Harvey, AAG has experienced significant exponential growth to become recognised not only as a pioneering global influence on the advancement of CNC routing cutting technology but also one of the world's leading manufacturers of high performance CNC machining solutions. These are supplied via a network of strategically located machine assembly and distribution centres including Telford, Shropshire in the UK.

To mark this anniversary, until 15 May AAG is running a series of special promotions (including discounted pricing) for its AXYZ and WARDJet machines, together with new customer support



Until 15 May AAG is running special promotions (including discounted pricing) for its AXYZ and WARDJet machines,

initiatives for the radically upgraded CNCShop e-commerce spare parts, accessories and consumables 24/7 online

resource. Of particular appeal to AAG customers will be the compelling price discounts available on AXYZ and WARDjet machines. These represent savings of 20% and 10% respectively, with every machine supplied packed with a raft of both standard and optional machine enhancements to enable increased productivity levels.

There are now over 10,000 AAG machine installations worldwide supplied to a diverse range of industries including signage and graphics manufacturing, founded on long-running and successful business partnerships forged between AAG and its customers.

www.axyz.co.uk
www.wardjet.com

Signs 24-7 earns top safety accreditation for third consecutive year

Cheshire based Signs 24-7 has once again earned a top accreditation for the company's dedication toward excellence in workplace health and safety from Alcumus SafeContractor. It demonstrates the company's commitment to meeting industry standards and means that they have held this nationally-recognised kite mark for three consecutive years.

Alcumus SafeContractor is a leading third party accreditation scheme which recognises extremely rigorous standards in health and safety management among contractors and plays a critical role in Signs 24-7 delivering nationwide projects and marketing campaigns for clients such as Moto, M&S and Costa.

The accreditation also helps to show prospective clients that the business is fully compliant with Construction Design and Management Regulations which must be adhered to at all times to ensure projects are planned safely and sensibly with all risks managed accordingly.

The process to ensure that Signs 24-7 maintained its SafeContractor status was overseen by health and safety manager Emilie Davies, who comments: "To be SafeContractor approved for the third year in a row is fantastic news for Signs 24-7 and highlights just how seriously we take compliance with the necessary health and



The process to ensure that Signs 24-7 maintained its SafeContractor status was overseen by health and safety manager Emilie Davies.

safety requirements and standards. It also means that when we infrequently contract work out we are ensuring that other firms are working to the same standards as us.

"This involves sending pre-qualifying questionnaires to ascertain skill levels and qualifications, as well as carrying out random site inspections to confirm that the right procedures are being followed.

"The outcome is that our clients receive the highest levels of service whenever Signs 24-7 is working on a project for them."

Director of Alcumus SafeContractor Gemma Archibald says: "Major organisations simply cannot afford to run the risk of employing contractors who are not able to prove that they have sound health and safety policies in place. More companies need to understand the importance of adopting good risk management in the way that Signs 24-7 has done. The firm's high standard has set an example which hopefully will be followed by other companies in the sector."

www.solutions24-7.co.uk

Agfa offers coaching to wide format printers

Agfa has formally partnered with Profitable Print Relationships (PPR) to offer new customers added value business coaching support for 2021. Agfa hosted a webinar last December with print buyer Matthew Parker from PPR. It was designed to offer advice to printers who had diversified into the wide format market on how to engage more powerfully with prospects and customers and maximise their investment in a new field. It was so well received that Agfa has now formalised its partnership with Matthew to go one step further.

All new customers hitting certain criteria and spend with Agfa will receive in addition to the usual high level of service support from the company following installation of a new machine sales and marketing coaching and mentoring support from PPR, paid for by Agfa.



Agfa hosted a webinar with Matthew Parker to advise wide format printers.

This agreement with Agfa offers both one to one confidential business mentoring from Matthew or full day workshop master classes which cover topical issues

including: How to stop buyers choosing on price; Realistic sales planning; and How to sell print using social media.

Bobby Grauf, inkjet sales manager UK & Ireland at Agfa comments: "This initiative from Agfa is designed to help our customers during what has been a very unpredictable year. Matthew is a knowledgeable print expert who can offer valuable insight and his advice is packed with actions that can be implemented by customers to help their business. Agfa already offer unrivalled support for new customers from the quality of our engines to the experience and knowledge of our service engineers and this completes the circle. It keeps Agfa a step-in front of the pack in terms of customer service."

www.agfa.com



William Smith revives exclusive UK distribution for ROLLSROLLER

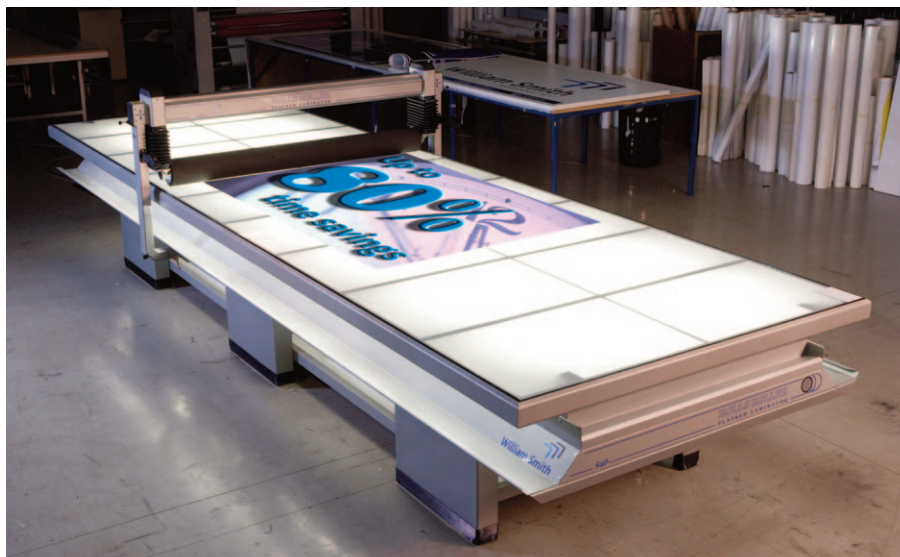
William Smith has revived its exclusive UK distribution status on the ROLLSROLLER flatbed applicator. The partnership is founded on this company's 30 years of experience in print finishing technology and William Smith's role in bringing the ROLLSROLLER to the UK market in 2005.

This resulted in hundreds of new machine installations at many of the UK's leading sign manufacturers, large format graphics producers, digital printers and print service providers. The ROLLSROLLER is said to be widely acknowledged as the most cost-effective and precise method of applying self-adhesive materials, application tapes and digital prints to a wide range of commonly used rigid, semi-rigid and flexible substrates.

Typically, these include acrylic and plastics and their derivatives, aluminium and other non-ferrous metals, glass, foamed and corrugated board, laminates and banner-grade materials.

Applications that were carried out manually with all the attendant variables in terms of quality and turnaround times, can now be completed in a fraction of the time (typically up to 80% faster) by a single machine operator. This has enabled companies to increase production capacity while reducing costs and resulted in greater profitability and exponential business growth.

William Smith will distribute the four main models in the ROLLSROLLER range. With the Entry, Regular and Premium models, different sizes of machine are available in order to fully accommodate most workspaces and materials of varying lengths and widths. The Entry model is ideal for small or start-up companies where available workspace might be at a



William Smith has revived its exclusive UK distribution status on the ROLLSROLLER flatbed applicator which it first brought to the UK market in 2005.

premium and production levels smaller, while Regular represents the standard model in the range.

Premium is the most popular model designed for industrial-grade high volume production requirements. Developed specifically for the manufacture of road traffic signs Traffic incorporates a specially profiled processing bed to accommodate any standard extruded sign panel.

All of the machines share the same superbly engineered and ergonomically enhanced design and build characteristics, says the company.

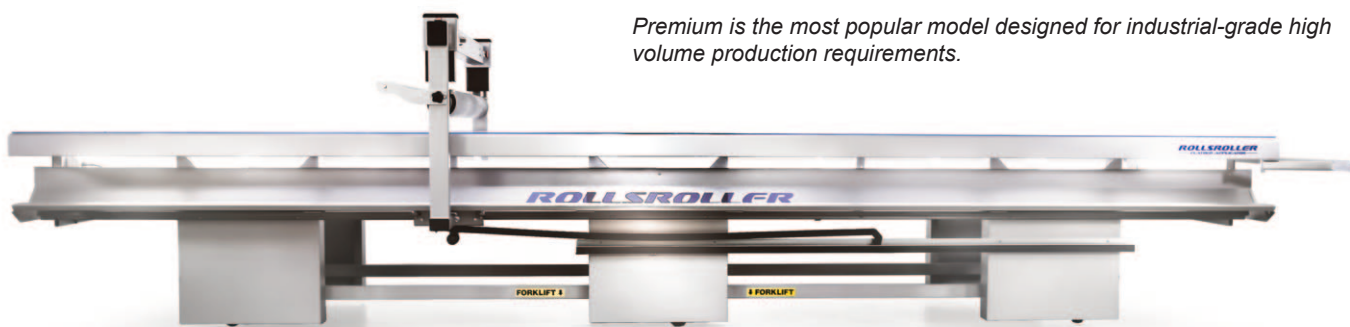
These are founded on a solid steel frame construction and aluminium processing bed (a LED-illuminated single-piece glass top version is available for more efficient

processing of multi-coloured and/or translucent graphics), specially designed pneumatically-controlled durable rubber automatic height-adjustable rollers, glide beams and self-healing cutting mats.

These are supplemented with a raft of optional machine enhancements, including for example additional side trays to accommodate extra-large banners and outdoor advertising hoardings and an anti-static system to neutralise static electricity.

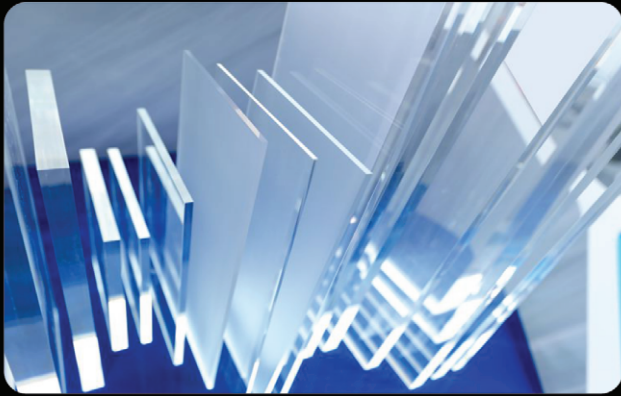
All ROLLSROLLER machines are supported with comprehensive product training by William Smith specialist engineers and backed with performance warranties of up to five years, contingent upon machine type.

www.williamsmith.co.uk



Premium is the most popular model designed for industrial-grade high volume production requirements.

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Sam Armstrong appointed ISA-UK president

ISA-UK, the leading independent trade association for the UK sign industry, has appointed Sam Armstrong as its new president, effective 31 March 2021. She replaces Robert Lambie who has been president of the organisation since April 2019. Sam has served as its vice president for the past two years.

Fiercely committed to helping sign businesses succeed, in her new role she will focus on working with ISA-UK members to establish future growth strategies allowing them to flourish.

Sam has an incredible depth of knowledge of the sign industry, having worked in the business for more than 20 years. She is also founder and managing director of the successful Make it Happen signage consultancy which provides impartial and independent advice, knowledge and direction to support people at all levels and any stage of their career in the signage business.

Director of ISA-UK David Catanach says: "During her term as vice president, Sam clearly demonstrated to ISA-UK members as well as its council and committees, her passion for making the association a 'must



Sam Armstrong has been appointed president of the ISA-UK.

have' for those who are serious about making their businesses the best in the industry. I have no doubt she will continue to inspire sign businesses during her term as president of this fast evolving and

relevant trade association in today's ever changing and challenging marketplace. Those not part of the ISA-UK journey will definitely be missing out. I would also like to thank outgoing president Rob Lambie for his input and insights that have played a huge part towards the path the association now takes."

ISA president Lori Anderson adds: "We are delighted to welcome Sam Armstrong to the helm of ISA-UK.

"Together, we maximise our strengths, increase the success of our member companies and stay ahead of trends shaping our industry worldwide. With Sam as president, we are excited to continue to help grow businesses within the industry and tackle the most pressing issues facing our members."

"We would also like to thank Robert for his incredible work over the past two years. He has played a hugely important role in not only helping to form the affiliation but also ensuring its tremendous success in supporting UK sign-makers through what has been a difficult period for the industry."

www.uksigns.org



ArtSystems and HP bring innovative wide format media to UK

Specialist HP 3D print and technical imaging distributor ArtSystems has been chosen by HP to bring their growing range of wide format media with ColorPRO Technology into the UK and Ireland.

Media with ColorPRO Technology is renowned for delivering outstanding colour excellence on HP Latex printers. This new range will be promoted within ArtSystems' long established and popular Xativa wide format media brand.

These new products harness advanced developments specifically designed to optimise colour saturation, sharpness and durability. They are also a PVC-free alternative which is easier to dispose of than PVC-based substrates, while being odourless and mould- and mildew-resistant.

The first range to be launched will be the Xativa Wallpaper with ColorPRO Technology featuring three new products. A PVC-free durable wallpaper, it uses third generation latex inks to give fade resistance up to 20 years. It meets the flame retardant standard Class A and is available in smooth and suede finishes. The second is a PVC-free wallpaper pre-pasted for easy application and giving up to 20 years of indoor lightfastness with HP Latex ink. It's available in a smooth finish and is flame retardant with Class A EN13051-1 certification. The third is



ColorPRO technology is designed to optimise colour saturation.

a PVC-free durable wallpaper with a non-woven base that's more stable than a paper base for long-term applications. It's easy to install, washable and has good scratch and abrasion resistance.

It offers up to 20 years of indoor lightfastness with HP Latex inks and complies with flame retardant standards Class A EN13051-1.

Consumable division manager Paul Tarry comments: "We're really happy to be chosen by HP to act as their route into the UK market. There has been a growing

demand for designers and print service providers for wall covering media that can take full advantage of HP Latex Ink technology. We now have that solution for them with the Xativa Wallpaper with ColorPRO Technology range of products."

ArtSystems will be showcasing the new Xativa Wallpaper with HP ColorPRO Technology range at virtual trade events and running a swatch and sample roll programme for both resellers and users to check out the new media.

www.artsystems.co.uk

MacroArt launches commitment to sustainability

MacroArt has launched a major sustainability initiative to identify opportunities and drive improvements to help reduce the environmental impact across all areas of its business. As part of the Macro Eco programme, the company has commissioned a formal 'top to bottom' review of its green credentials from environmental consultancy Green Circle Solutions to ensure that the process can achieve meaningful change.

The business granted full access to its operations from sourcing to production and installation to establish a truly accurate picture of the environmental impact of the business, from which the Macro Eco initiative could drive improvements. This includes the setting of

quantifiable targets. While projects involving the use of more environmentally friendly materials are becoming more commonplace throughout the industry, MacroArt was determined to instil true, measurable and transparent sustainability at the core of its commitment rather than rely on piecemeal, difficult to substantiate claims of green credentials.

"It's only by using third-party objectivity that you can be clear on your real starting point and therefore your destination," says managing director Michael Green. "So many businesses have misconceptions of just how green they are but we wanted to know the truth so we could plan for effective change and know the impact each implementation would have."

Taking 2019 as its baseline, the business impact assessment report showed that 2.00kg of CO₂e footprint per m² of printed media was generated across all media streams. Data such as this has been used as a springboard for developing a strong programme of sustainability initiatives ranging from responsible and environmentally friendly material sourcing and closed-loop recycling to greener production and installation methods. As a result, the Macro Eco initiative has defined a roadmap that commits the business to reach peak emissions by end of 2022 and then to reduce its overall CO₂e footprint year on year from this point onwards by targeted percentage.

www.macroart.co.uk



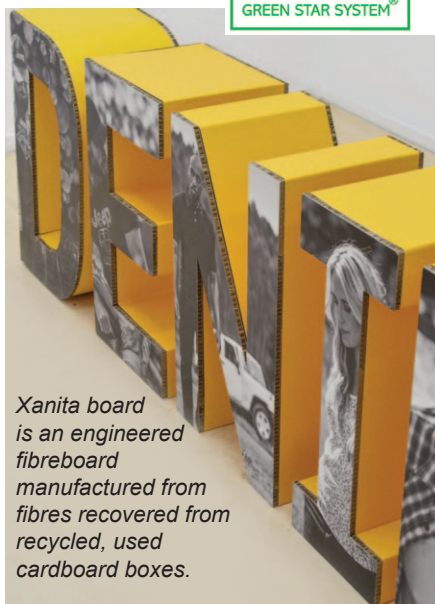
All the signs warn us to act now

The growing demand for more environmentally friendly display and sign materials is fuelled by specification and legislation. It has never been more urgent to understand and take action in order to make the visual communication sector more sustainable, writes Mike Collins, visual communication product manager Antalis.

There is a good deal of confusion about recommended best practice when it comes to PVC, for example. While you can use more eco-friendly materials such as paper and recyclable polyester and polypropylene plastics, it is not a complete solution until you fully understand how the materials are being used and how the wastage is being handled.

Currently, most waste management relies on locality and volume. Even when parameters are met, products must be properly separated and often may end up in landfill regardless. At Antalis we are working in partnership with waste management and carbon offsetting companies to provide several solutions to our customers, with advice on how they can meet their environmental objectives.

In cooperation with an industry leading specialist in waste management, we can visit customers to carry out a comprehensive waste audit and make suitable recommendations. Our partner is a specialist in the print waste industry with a network of recyclers across the UK, so customers can be assured they are dealing with their waste in the most efficient and sustainable way.



Xanita board is an engineered fibreboard manufactured from fibres recovered from recycled, used cardboard boxes.



With pressure mounting to become more sustainable, substrate manufacturers are responding with an ever-growing range of materials to meet requirement, from recycled and recyclable materials for signage to more structural purposes.

Taking action

Antalis has two carbon offsetting schemes to ensure that we can address the needs of customers who wish to offset the carbon emissions of the products they purchase. Through these schemes we are able to carbon offset all material purchased from across our visual communications ranges.

Building on the success of the Green Star System of Antalis' Paper Division, Antalis is now adopting this efficient and objective rating system for its visual communication solutions. The new Visual Communication Green Star System considers key factors such as the type of raw material used and the recyclability at end-of-life for each product and attributes a grade from zero to five stars. This measurement system will allow Antalis' clients to navigate and make the right product choice from the different types of materials and the multitude of eco-responsible labels.

Sustainable products

With pressure mounting to become more sustainable, substrate manufacturers are

responding with an ever-growing range of materials to meet requirements, from recycled and recyclable materials for signage to more structural purposes.

For example, Xanita board (available in the UK from Antalis) is an engineered fibreboard manufactured from fibres recovered from recycled, used cardboard boxes. Katz Display Board is an excellent, environmentally friendly alternative to the use of PVC and PUR foam boards.

Both provide an environmentally friendly alternative for a wide range of sign and structural applications including POS, display and shop-fittings.

Antalis will continue to expand its range of environmental and sustainable products and services. We are committed to offering support and assistance to our customers and invest in new products, working with our suppliers and industry partners to help address the environmental challenges we all face.

www.antalis.co.uk

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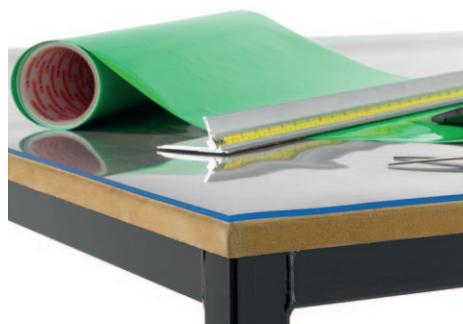
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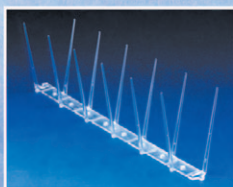


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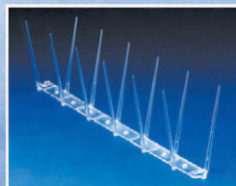
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Tel: 01278 793 800
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Bespoke Manufacturing specialise in a wide range of Braille and Tactile signage. We've been trading for over 18 years and have built up an impeccable reputation in the braille and tactile sector. We use substrates such as acrylics, brass, copper, stainless steel and aluminium including slats style systems providing single signs, to complete directories. All our work is carried out in house.

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Tel: 0191 469 1199
acrylics3d@hotmail.com
www.3dacrylics.co.uk

In house manufacturers of high quality built up and flat cut lettering and logos, we can offer back trays and fixings along with face and/or halo LED illumination. Our prices are very competitive and offer a prompt service.

ICE SIGNS

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LS12 3BL

Tel: 0113 2242124
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Manufacturers of built up acrylic letters and logos. We can offer face or halo illumination with the installation of LEDs if required. Please call our staff on the number below if you have any questions.

SIGN HERE

179 Fosse Road North, Leicester,
LE3 5EZ

Tel: 08085 428021
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Trade service for 3D built up lettering & logos in a variety of materials. We will give you a professional reliable & efficient service at a competitive price. From a single letter to a fully illuminated sign ready for installation. For a quote or just friendly advice contact us. We are here to help.

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www.incognito-tradesigns.com

We are a trade supplier of 3D letters, logos, crests & stage props using alternative materials such as XPS Foam & Signblock which is a more cost effective way of creating a 3D effect than traditional acrylic or metal. We can produce almost any shape in numerous finishes, giving the appearance of other materials such as wood, steel or plastic but without the associated limitations.

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

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

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Tel: 0117 951 0234
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Specialist manufacturers of built-up/flat cut letters, logos in stainless steel, brass, aluminium etc. Very competitive prices, excellent delivery, highest quality, full design service. Prompt response to all enquiries.

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Tel: 01274 774477
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www.centresigns.co.uk

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

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sales@logotech-ltd.co.uk
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Tel: 0116 262 6288
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FALON NAMEPLATES LTD

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Northumberland NE22 7DN
Tel: 01670 530136

quotes@falon-nameplates.co.uk
www.falon-nameplates.co.uk

Falon Nameplates are a family run business, we have been in the manufacturing business since 1952 and are the largest cast signage company within the UK. We specialize in many areas, these are some we think you would be the most interested in: Finger Poles, Memorial Plaques, Town Trails, Blue Plaques, House signs, Pet memorials and Trophies. We hope we can help with all your casting needs.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES LTD

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9QG

Tel: 01525 874 185
enquiries@sott.co.uk
www.sott.co.uk

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WARD SIGNS

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Tel: 0117 955 3385
info@ward-signs.co.uk
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Tel: 01670 512 090
sales@multitechnic.co.uk
www.multitechnic.co.uk

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SIGN INDUSTRIES

Unit 3, Roberts Street, Forfar, Angus,
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Tel: 01307 463997
info@signindustries.com
www.signindustries.com

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Tel: 01536 203813
sales@tradeetching.com
www.tradeetching.com

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enquiries@sott.co.uk
www.sott.co.uk

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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.

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Wingfield Road Tebworth, Beds, LU7 9QG

Tel: 01525 874 185
enquiries@sott.co.uk
www.sott.co.uk

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

WARD SIGNS

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

Tel: 0117 955 3385
info@ward-signs.co.uk
www.ward-signs.co.uk

Wards of Bristol have produced countless cast metal commemorative blue plaques, but also specialise in traditional bronze plaques and custom 3D hand crafted plaques, which are hand painted to depict scenes of historical events, places and figures.

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sales@applelec.co.uk
www.applelec.co.uk

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Tel: 0113 224 2124
sales@icesigns.co.uk
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Manufacturers of flat cut letters in ALL materials. Incl. Acrylic, Foamex, MDF, Stainless Steel, Brass, Copper, Corian. Many finishes available- Gilding, painting, powdercoating, lacquering. A special service at a competitive price.

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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 Fosze Road North, Leicester, 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, Aluminum, 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.

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225 Long Lane, London N3 2RL

Tel: 08085 456700
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129 Humberstone Rd, Leicester, LE5 3AP

Tel: 0116 262 6288
sales@sygnetgroup.co.uk
www.sygnetgroup.co.uk

Sygnal Group 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 laser or router-cut signs from acrylic, mdf, foamex, polycarb, Dibond, aluminium and stainless steel.

WATERJET SIGNS LTD

Continental Approach, Westwood Industrial Estate, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4JG

Tel: 01843 225666
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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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Tel: 020 3936 1106
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www.rhinocuttingmat.co.uk

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Tel: 01932 769 962

hello@screenspace.live

www.screenspace.live

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DIGITAL PRINTED SIGNS

AVENUE SIGNS LTD

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

Tel: 01634 841300

info@avenuesigns.co.uk

www.avenuesigns.co.uk

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

SIGNOMATIC.CO.UK

Box 21, 433 21 Partille, Sweden

Tel: 01489 326 052

info@signomatic.co.uk

www.signomatic.co.uk

Custom signs online. Design your own signs, banners, roll ups, stickers, name badges and much more using the Design Tool. Engraved and printed products of high quality. Top service.

VISUAL GROUP

Hunt Lane, Doncaster, South

Yorkshire DN5 9SH

Tel: 01302 800 250

sales@visual-group.co.uk

visual-group.co.uk

Visual Group is committed to continuous improvement and it is our intention to provide the highest levels of quality in production and customer service. It is our philosophy of continuous investment in the latest technology which enables us to bring the benefits to you. We currently have over 10 machines from yag lazer, flat bed digital printers and roll to roll digital printers plus much more.

DIGITAL PRINTER SUPPLIES

ARTSYSTEMS

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

Tel: 0115 9380 380

marketing@artsystems.co.uk

www.artsystems.co.uk

UK&I Trade imaging and print distributor for Epson, HP, Kala, Neschen, Onyx, ShiL and Xativa media. UK's leading print and imaging distributor in the Sign & Display sector. Exclusive UK&I distributor of HP Latex and HP Stitch printers. We are also the exclusive distributor for Summa cutters and ONYX Rips and provide the Authorised warranty service for HP Latex, HP Stitch and Summa Cutters.

MACTAC UK LTD

Room 232, Victory House, 400 Pavilion Drive, Northampton Business Park, Northampton NN4 7PA

Tel: 01604 644697

www.mactacgraphics.eu

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.

DIGITAL SIGNAGE

SCREENSPACE DIGITAL SIGNAGE

107 Brighton Junction, 1a Isetta Square, 35 New England Street Brighton BN1 4GQ

Tel: 01932 769 962

hello@screenspace.live

www.screenspace.live

Screenspace is built around a small low-cost device that when plugged into any screen or TV, can in 5 minutes, turn that screen into a smart digital sign, capable of displaying your customers own adverts that can contain text, images or videos. When the device is connected to Wi-Fi these adverts can be scheduled, edited or updated instantly and sent to a screen, anywhere in the world.

DOMES & DISHES

PROJECT PLASTICS LTD

Unit 7 Grange Way Business Park, Whitehill Industrial Estate, Colchester, Essex CO2 8HF

Tel: 01206 868 696

project.plastics@btinternet.com

www.projectplastics.co.uk

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.

TALBOT DESIGNS LTD

225 Long Lane, Finchley London N3 2RL

Tel: 020 8346 8515

sales@talbotdesigns.co.uk

www.talbotdesigns.co.uk

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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Britannia House, Granville Road, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2BJ

Tel: 01622 689 410

www.signtradesupplies.co.uk

Sign Trade Supplies has a wide range of double sided tapes and adhesives designed specifically for the sign making industry. The Stykra branded products provide unrivalled performance at an excellent price point. Our range of tapes include Structural bonding tapes, Toffee Tape, Banner Hemming Tape, Single Sided Banner Tape, 1mm Foam Tape, POS tape, Hook & Loop Tape and many more.

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

Tel: 0117 9411 411

www.kingsplastics.co.uk

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

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AES SIGNS LTD (EST. 1972)

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sales@aessigns.co.uk

www.aessigns.co.uk

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

ALAN ROBERTS ENGRAVERS

27 Thingwall Drive, Irby Village, Wirral, CH61 3XN

Tel: 07739 800 501

mail@alanrobertsengravers.co.uk

www.alanrobertsengravers.co.uk

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

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

Tel: 01322 340 194

mail@desp.co.uk

www.desp.co.uk

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

HALLMARK ENGRAVING ETCHING & SIGNS LTD (EST. 1899)

Unit 2, Ashgrove Farm, Piltown, Uckfield, East Sussex TN22 3XN

Tel: 020 8686 6649

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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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www.impactengraving.co.uk

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

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sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk

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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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Alblasserdam, The Netherlands

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info@salesred.com

www.salesred.com

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FLAT CUT LETTERS

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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,
Shetcliffe Lane, Bradford BD4 9RW

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,
Oadby, Leicester LE2 5LH

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.

FABRICUT

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

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.

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 flat cut lettering & logos in Acrylic Foamex, Dibond, Aluminum, Stainless steel & MDF. We will give you a professional reliable & efficient service at a competitive price. From a single letter to a fully illuminated sign ready for installation. For a quote or just friendly advice contact us. We are here to help.

SYGNET GROUP LTD

129 Humberstone Rd, Leicester, LE5
3AP

Tel: 0116 262 6288

sales@sygnetgroup.co.uk

www.sygnetgroup.co.uk

Supplier to the trade since 1974, Sygnet Group 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

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Industrial Estate, Ramsgate Road,
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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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MASS DESIGN

Tel: 0161 320 6588

Mob: 07968 169 618

info@massdesigncompany.co.uk

www.massdesigncompany.co.uk

Specialising in design for the sign industry. With vast knowledge and experience of materials and manufacturing processes we provide artwork & design services to sign companies. Including superimposed mockups, creative design of signage, vehicle graphics, wall art & exhibition graphics, design for digital screens.

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The Signbuild Centre, Kelso House,
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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 & convertors etc. Also material supplies cut to size & laser cutting. A complete service to the trade. For further information, check out our website & online shop.

SIGN SUPPLIER

Unit 15 Dale Industrial Estate,
Radcliffe, Manchester, M26 1AD

Tel: 0800 133 7555

info@signsupplier.co.uk

www.signsupplier.co.uk

Sign Supplier is a leading designer, manufacturer and installation specialist of business signage including signage boards, projecting, illuminated and neon signs, sign trays, sign posts, sign lettering, sign lighting and digital signage.

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.

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GOLD LEAF SUPPLIES

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(EST. 1992)

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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.

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Mob: 07967 190089
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"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.

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BluePrint Signs & Garments, 20
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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.

LAMINATING/ENCAPSULATING

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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.

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Alexander House, Iliffe Avenue,
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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.

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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 GROUP LTD

129 Humberstone Rd, Leicester, LE5
3AP

Tel: 0116 262 6288
sales@sygnetgroup.co.uk
www.sygnetgroup.co.uk

At Sygnet Group, we offer a laser-cutting service and stock a wide variety of materials in various thicknesses. We can also fabricate signage from free-issue materials, utilising our lasers to cut stainless steel up to 4mm and mild steel up to 12mm in thickness, and cut minute acrylic detail with pre-applied double-sided tape. What's more, all work is carried out on-site, here at our Leicester HQ.

LASER CUTTING/ENGRAVING MACHINES

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Tel: 01422 324 810
info@boxford.co.uk
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.

GRAFITYP UK LTD

Grafitack House, 103 Mariner,
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Tel: 01827 300500
www.grafityp.co.uk

Grafityp UK Ltd is a leading UK supplier of high-performance laser engravers and laser cutters from GCC Laserpro. Our Lasers are perfect for a wide range of industries and education sectors, the range includes Co2, fibre and galvo laser machines with a varied range of power options to suit your budget and manufacturing requirements..

GRAVOGRAPH

Unit 3 Trojan Business Centre,
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Spa, Warwickshire CV34 6RH

Tel: 01926 884 433
info@gravograph.co.uk

Gravograph have continued to pioneer engraving technologies since 1938. Our mechanical and laser systems are manufactured in Europe. Engrave and cut any material including acrylic, wood, metal and more. Our team of inhouse trouble-shooters and field engineers ensure all our customers benefit from our expert advice. Meet us at one of our regionals showrooms across the UK for a free demonstration.

HPC LASER LTD

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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!

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Leading manufacturers of laser cutters and laser engravers, Trotec's broad range of flatbed, large format and galvo laser machines are available for demonstration in six dedicated showrooms across the UK and Ireland. In addition, Trotec's UK warehouse holds stock of thousands of rotary and engraving materials and accessories, available with next day delivery as standard.

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.accent-signs.co.uk

Accent signs "SLIMLITE" flat cut letters & logos made from 6mm opal acrylic with imbedded super bright white Led's to create a unique edge and halo illumination. Available with ACM, Acrylic or vinyl faces. Suitable for internal & external use. Supplied with standard locator fixings for ease of fitting.

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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

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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 LTD

Britannia House, 29 Station Road,
Kettering, Northants NN15 7HJ
Tel: 0333 123 0345
artillusltd@gmail.com
www.artillus.com

Our 12v or 24v Garnet super bright edge lit LED boards produce balanced lighting, shadow and hotspot free and will backlight any type of translucent material you care to imagine, such as thin cut stone, marble sheets, fabrics, vinyl etc. providing pure, unadulterated freedom for your creative mind to produce stunning wow factor lighting features for hotels, leisure centres, restaurants and homes.

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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 advises, there is no job too small. You only pay for quality products at Focus LED. Check out our gallery to see how we helped others to achieve their projects.

KINGS PLASTICS LTD

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White, warm white & coloured LED modules in 4 sizes and LED ribbon – Flexi ribbon & RGB ribbon. New our LED Flexi Neon in two different sizes & LED Cabochoon bulbs. 12v power converters, 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 MONKEY

129 Humberstone Road, Leicester
LE5 3AP
Tel: 0800 999 7797
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www.ledmonkey.com

LED Monkey supplies energy-efficient LED products, PSUs and control gear to the sign trade. UK distributors for Hitechled, specialising in RGB modules for signage illumination, we offer a 5-year warranty on trade products. We also supply DMX systems, neon flex and IP-rated power supplies, as well as a wide variety of top quality LED bulbs, light fittings and LED strip lights to the domestic market

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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.

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Unit 3.3 Strathclyde Business Park,
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sales@ispitrade.com
www.isptrade.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 windows specifications, plus we provide single panels, accessories and replacement parts, all at low trade prices.

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APPLELEC

Unit 1, Wharfedale Business Park,
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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 LTD

Britannia House, 29 Station Road,
Kettering, Northants NN15 7HJ
Tel: 0333 123 0345
artillusltd@gmail.com
www.artillus.com

DIAMOND 12v and 24v edge lit LED light boxes can be produced in any size up to 3000 x 1500mm. These ultra slim light boxes at 20mm or 16mm deep have a 25mm snap frame front and rounded corners for added safety. Custom sizes in single or multiple units can be made in single colour white LED, Dynamic White or RGB. Frame colours include Polished Silver, Gloss or Matt Black and Silver anodised.

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

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sales@bisbellmagnets.com
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The UK's widest range of digitally printable wide format magnetic and ferro sheet (up to 1524mm wide). Maxmag vehicle grade magnetic materials available in white, plain or adhesive backed - by roll or cut to your specific requirements. Also available dry-wipe sheets, magnetic chalk boards, window graphics, neo magnets, vehicle roof magnets and a full range of magnetic and steel tape.

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.

MOULDED & FABRICATED PLASTICS

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51-59 Waterworks Road, Norwich
NR2 4DA
Tel: 01603 666699
sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk
www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk

Suppliers of moulded acrylic pans and logos up to 2800mm x 1500mm and other types of press and vacuum forming in PVC and HIPS. Specialists in fabricated plastics for POS displays with full screen print, graphics and CNC routing capabilities.

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 oven forming, vacuum forming and screen printing. Plastic cut to size service.

MOULDED LETTERS

ACCENT SIGNS LTD

Units 4, Broadcott Ind. Est., Station
Rd., Cradley Heath B64 6NT
Tel: 0121 561 4600
accsign1@aol.com
www.accent signsltd.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.mercuryphillipssigns.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
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

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

We're a leading sign trade manufacturer providing services in notice boards and information display products since 1973. All products are made to order as we specialise in tailoring solutions to suit each client, location, and application. Our exterior notice board options include 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 LTD

Building 38, Second Avenue, The
Pensnett Estate, Kingswinford, West
Midlands DY6 7UE
Tel: 01384 276400
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.

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
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.

LKH PRECISION TOOLS

Unit 15a, Cowlairst, Nottingham, NG5 9RA

Tel: 0115 666 060
enquiry@lkhtools.co.uk
www.lkhtools.co.uk

UK distributors of Crown Norge, offering the highest quality CNC routing and engraving tooling. Tooling specialist for aluminium, plastics, acrylics, PVC, foams, ACM/Dibond brass, MDF, plywood, and woods. Maximise production, quality and optimisation with our range of training and consultancy services. Authorised UK reseller for Vectric software with training available upon request.

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!

MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS

51/59 Waterworks Rd. Norwich NR2 4DA

Tel: 01603 666699
sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk
www.mercuryphillipsigns.co.uk

High quality screen printing to all types of rigid and flexible base materials ie. self-adhesive vinyl, paper, plastic and metal. From single to full colour and small or large runs.

SCULPTORS

BRYAN RAWLINGS DESIGN

45 Nunney Close, Keynsham, Bristol BS31 1XG

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

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

SHEET MATERIALS

RIGHTON BLACKBURNS LTD

Building 38, Second Avenue, The Pensnett Estate, Kingswinford, West Midlands DY6 7UE

Tel: 01384 276400
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 803580
sales@teleganpressedproducts.com
www.teleganpressedproducts.com

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

TROTEC

9 Didcot Way, Boldon Business Park, Boldon Colliery, NE35 9PD

Tel: 0191 580 1184
materials@troteclaser.co.uk
www.troteclaser.co.uk

Trotec's UK warehouse is fully stocked with engraving materials available with cut-to-size and next day delivery. As well as a range of laminate, acrylic, metal and wood sheets, we also supply a range of engraving consumables such as marking pastes and accessories including mounting devices and braille beads.

VISIONS IN PLASTICS

Unit 3, Delta Court (Robin Hood Airport), Auckley, Doncaster, DN9 3GN

Tel: 01302 775920
sales@visionsinplastics.co.uk
www.visionsinplastics.co.uk

Stocks of Mirrored Extruded Acrylic in clear, 19 colours, See-Thru, Two sided, Anti Scratch, Anti Fog. Mirrored Polycarbonate, Petg and Polystyrene. Non mirrored sheet in Acrylic, ABS, Polycarbonate, Polystyrene and PVC Foam.

SIGN & DISPLAY SYSTEMS

VERY DISPLAYS LTD

17 Boston Road, Gorse Hill Industrial Estate, Leicester LE4 1AW

Tel: 0116 232 3156

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.

SIGN LOCATORS

F. K. MOORE LTD

5 Wilton Road, Haine Industrial Park, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 5HD.

Tel: 01843 593 440
enquiries@fkmoore.com
www.fkmoore.com

British manufacturers of screw type Brass Locator Nuts, Wall Fixings and stockists of Nylon Locators for the Sign and Shopfitting Industries. As well as other 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.

SIGN POSTS & FIXINGS

SIGN TRADE SUPPLIES LTD

Britannia House, Granville Road, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2BJ

Tel: 01622 689 410
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.

SIGN SUPPORT SYSTEMS

ISPI TRADE LTD

Unit 3.3 Strathclyde Business Park, 19 Starling Way, Bellshill ML4 3PU

Tel: 0141 764 1600
sales@ispitrade.com
www.isptrade.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
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.

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.

DISCOUNT DISPLAYS

31-35 Wortley Road, Croydon CR0 3EB

Tel: 0844 800 1020
sales@discountdisplays.co.uk
www.discountdisplays.co.uk

Discount Displays are UK based experts in all things display and signage. As well as a huge range of hardware for exhibitions, events and retail, we also specialise in large format print solutions. We are able to offer super low trade prices on a variety of printed signage, all produced in-house using high quality inks and materials. Visit our website for more information and to view our full range.

SIGN TRADE SUPPLIES LTD

Britannia House, Granville Road,
Maidstone, Kent ME14 2BJ
Tel: 01622 689 410
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.

SIGNSCAPE AND SIGNCONEX

Pear Tree Works, Bath Road, Upper
Langford, Bristol BS40 5DJ
Tel: 01934 852888
sales@signscape.co.uk
www.sasl.co.uk

We're a leading sign trade manufacturer providing services in letter boards since 1973. Our products are made to order and are tailored to suit your specific branding and display location requirements. We offer a wide choice of design styles, frames, colours, and branding options, to ensure your message communicated is consistent and engaging. Contact us for a free consult.

SYGNET GROUP LTD

129 Humberstone Rd, Leicester, LE5 3AP

Tel: 0116 262 6288
sales@sygnetgroup.co.uk
www.sygnetgroup.co.uk

At Sygnet Group, we've been supplying bespoke and off-the-shelf signage to the trade since 1974. Whether you require fascias, built-up or flat-cut letters & logos or custom LED illuminated signs, our specialists will cut them using our lasers or CNC routers. We use the latest 3D/CAD development in the design and manufacturing processes, and all this happens on-site at our Leicester city centre HQ.

SPECIALITY FILMS

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 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.

MACTAC UK LTD

Room 232, Victory House, 400
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.

STREET SIGNS

SIGNS OF THE TIMES LTD

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

Street signs in a variety of materials. Cast polyurethane, aluminium and bronze. Die pressed street signs for council specification. For a quotation send us the text required on your signs and specify what material is required.

TRADITIONAL SIGNWRITERS/GILDERS

ART DESIGN SIGN

Swindon, Wiltshire
Tel: 07495 778 631
sarahlouise0405@gmail.com
www.artdesignsign.co.uk

Sarah at Art Design Sign is a Traditional Signwriter and Artist. Services include: Traditional hand painted lettering and artwork, Pub and Restaurant Signage, Chalk boards, Gilded lettering, Menus, Vehicle Livery, Wall Art and Lettering, Logo Recreation, Restoration Projects, Original Artwork and Event Signage. Free Quotes available, please contact to discuss your needs.

BAILEY'S FREEHAND SIGNS & GRAPHICS

Southern England
Tel: 01865 863 669
Mob: 07906 177 276
signs@baileysigns.co.uk
www.baileysigns.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.

TRANSFER PAPERS/HEAT PRESSES

THE MAGIC TOUCH

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 Magicut® film for use with Plotter/Cutter for heat transfer.

TRAY SIGNS

ILLUMEX

Wigan, WN1 3AB
Tel: 01942 243 341
Hello@illumex.co.uk
www.illumex.co.uk

Producing bespoke tray signs for the trade in both solid aluminium and alupanel composite, trays can be supplied as blanks or complete with an array of lettering and illumination options. We offer national delivery along with project services such as installation and graphic design. Always ensuring exceptional levels of service along with quality of products to match.

VINYL & GRAPHIC INSTALLATIONS

FREELANCE GRAPHICS INSTALLER

London area / M25 / Kent / Surrey
Mob: 0756 4057 343
graphicsfitters@gmail.com

With 28 years experience in the industry, specialising in the installation of office manifestations, window films, office graphics, general signage, vehicle graphics, I can work as an additional member of your team on larger projects, or where there is a tight deadline, can also work on my own initiative. Available by the day or the by the job, flexible approach to work hours.

VISUAL GROUP

Hunt Lane, Doncaster, South
Yorkshire DN5 9SH
Tel: 01302 800 250
sales@visual-group.co.uk
visual-group.co.uk

Our highly skilled craftsmen with over 30 years' experience within the industry, use traditional and modern manufacturing techniques with the latest technologies on hand. Visual Group can offer a variety of materials for creative office wall graphics to informative branded interior signage. We can create anything from vinyl window graphics to flat cut letters with LED illumination plus much more.

VINYL SUPPLIES

APA (UK) LTD

Unit 10 Capital Ind. Est., Crabtree
Manorway South, Belvedere, Kent,
DA17 6BJ
Tel: 020 8311 4400
apauk@apaspa.com
www.apaspa.com

One of Europe's main vinyl manufacturing companies supplying own brand self-adhesive plotter vinyl and Digital Print media. Plotter vinyls from short-term up to 10 years including Truck, Cast, Vehicle Wrapping, Frost-effect, Solar, Reflective and an extensive range of Print material for UV, Solvent and Dye/Pigment inks, all application aids are available.

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

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.

AVERY DENNISON

Nelson Way, Cramlington, NE23 1JR
Tel: 01670 59 2095
graphics.averydennison.eu

Avery Dennison is a leading manufacturer of high-performance self-adhesive materials, for vehicle and building graphics – including digital, cut and screen applications. We innovate constantly to make graphics exciting and easy to install. Decades of know-how and the latest technologies (e.g. Easy Apply Technology and Supreme Wrapping Film) help you to transform your ideas into impactful messages.

CREATIVE FILMS

3 Acorn Enterprise Centre, Hoo Farm Industrial Estate, Kidderminster DY11 7RA
Tel: 01562 747 000
sales@creativefilms.co.uk
www.creativefilms.co.uk

We stock an unusual range of sign vinyl rolls. Specializing in unusual and striking special effect films, including: Glitter Film, Many textured metal effect films such as coarse brush and diamond plate, Sequins and various holographic effects, Mirror (chrome) film, Mozaic films and more. Available in our standard 20 colours. Ask for samples.

GRAFITYP UK LTD

Grafitack House, 103 Mariner, Tamworth, Staffordshire B79 7UL
Tel: 01827 300500
www.grafityp.co.uk

Grafityp is a leading manufacturer and supplier of self-adhesive sign making vinyl, wrapping/decorating vinyl, digital printing vinyl/films and overlaminates. We manufacture films for a vast array of applications, which include interior decor, signage, etched window, fluorescent to vehicle graphics. Grafityp is leading the way with an excellent range of PVC FREE Films.

GREENSTIK MATERIALS LTD

Unit 9 Lancaster Road, Carnaby Industrial Estate, Carnaby, Bridlington, East Yorkshire, YO15 3QY
Tel: 01262 602 222
www.greenstikmaterials.co.uk

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

MACTAC UK LTD

Room 232, Victory House, 400 Pavilion Drive, Northampton Business Park, Northampton NN4 7PA
Tel: 01604 644697
www.mactacgraphics.eu

Mactac is a global manufacturer of self-adhesive films designed to bring out your talent. Our highly innovative printing and marking products transform interior decoration, commercial architecture, signage and visual communications – for applications that include buildings, windows, point of sale, vehicles and boats. Mactac solutions are used by some of the world's most prestigious brands.

MDP SUPPLIES

Unit 3 Lumina Park, Bromborough, Wirral CH62 3PT
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.

PYRAMID DISPLAY MATERIALS LTD

Head Office, Unit 5 Westpoint Enterprise Park, Clarence Avenue, Trafford Park, Manchester M17 1QS
Tel: 0161 872 5666
www.pyramid-display.co.uk

We supply a huge array of different sign vinyl products with options suitable for virtually any sign vinyl application you may need. Choose from monomeric vinyl, polymeric vinyl, premium cast vinyl, reflective vinyl translucent vinyl, fluorescent vinyl and etched vinyl, produced by leading manufacturers such as MACtac, Avery Dennison, LG and Aslan.

SIGN TRADE SUPPLIES LTD

Britannia House, Granville Road, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2BJ
Tel: 01622 689 410
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.

SPANDEX UK

1600 Park Avenue, Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4UA
Tel: 0800 77 26 33
info@spandex.com
www.spandex.co.uk

Spandex distributes products from leading material and equipment brands for sign making, graphic production, digital printing, vehicle wrapping, interior décor and textile printing. We offer products from 3M, Avery Dennison, Arlon, ORAFOL, ImagePerfect, STEK, Cover Styl', HP, Epson, Roland and many others.

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.

ICE SIGNS

Tannery Works, 12 Whingate, Leeds LS12 3BL
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

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

We're a leading sign trade manufacturer providing services in wayfinding sign systems since 1973. Our products remain the system of choice for many sign makers and wayfinding specialists; including post and panel, flush panel and curved panel signs, office signage, indoor/outdoor wall directories, paper insert, directional, and projecting signs, lectern and suspended signs, totems, fingerposts.

VISUAL GROUP

Hunt Lane, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN5 9SH
Tel: 01302 800 250
sales@visual-group.co.uk
visual-group.co.uk

At Visual Group we understand visual representation and the importance of a stylish, high quality, well-made product which cannot be underestimated. We aim to manufacture to the highest level enabling complete satisfaction. Our highly skilled craftsmen with over 30 years' experience within the industry, use traditional and modern manufacturing techniques and have the latest technologies on hand.

WIDE FORMAT PRINTING

VISUAL GROUP

Hunt Lane, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN5 9SH
Tel: 01302 800 250
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31-35 Wortley Road, Croydon CR0 3EB
Tel: 0844 800 1020
sales@discountdisplays.co.uk
www.discountdisplays.co.uk

Discount Displays are UK based experts in all things display and signage. As well as a huge range of hardware for exhibitions, events and retail, we also specialise in large format print solutions. We're able to offer super low trade prices on a variety of printed signage, all produced in-house using high quality inks and materials. Visit our website for more information and to view our full range.

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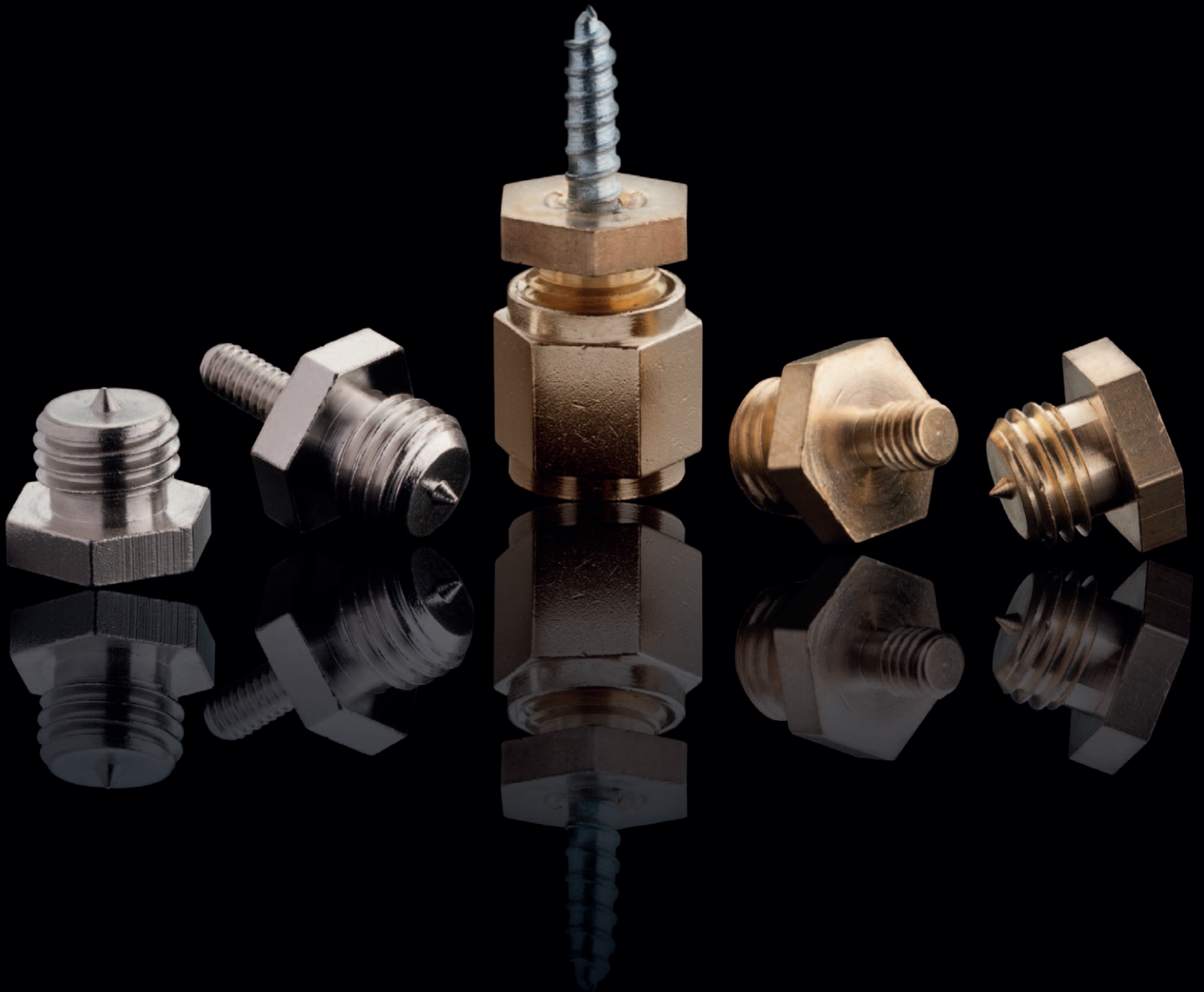
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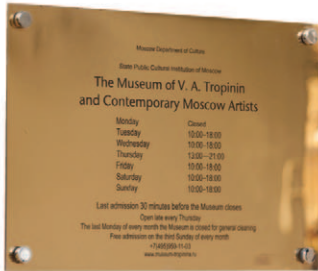
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