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JUNE/JULY 2021 ISSUE 197 £4.00

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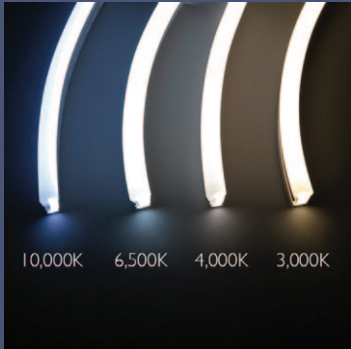
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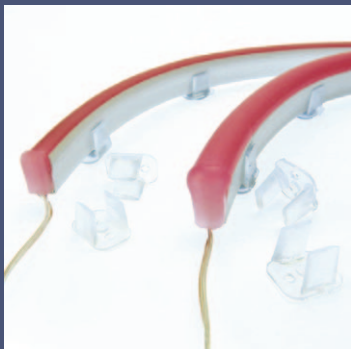
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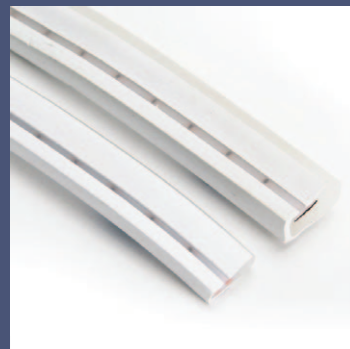
With wings for push fit



Push fit end caps



End caps



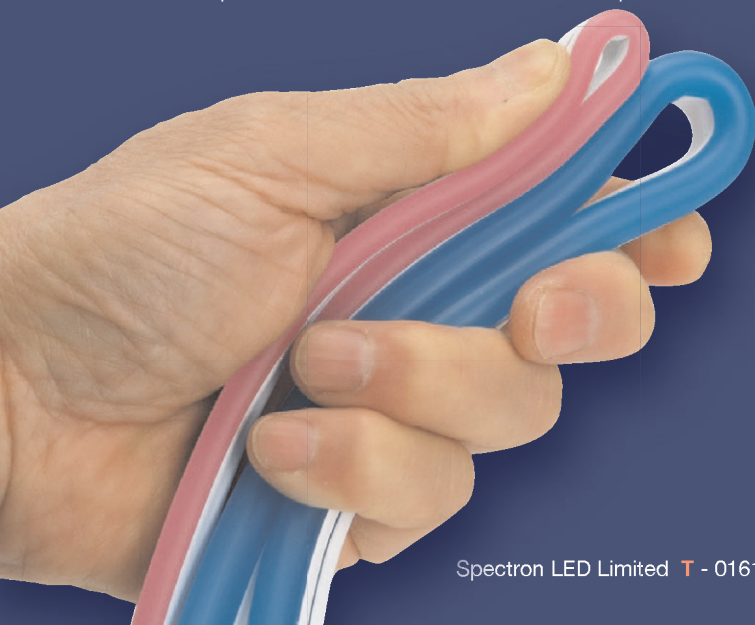
10mm cut point



Pre soldered cables



Cutter for push fit



DC cable & drivers



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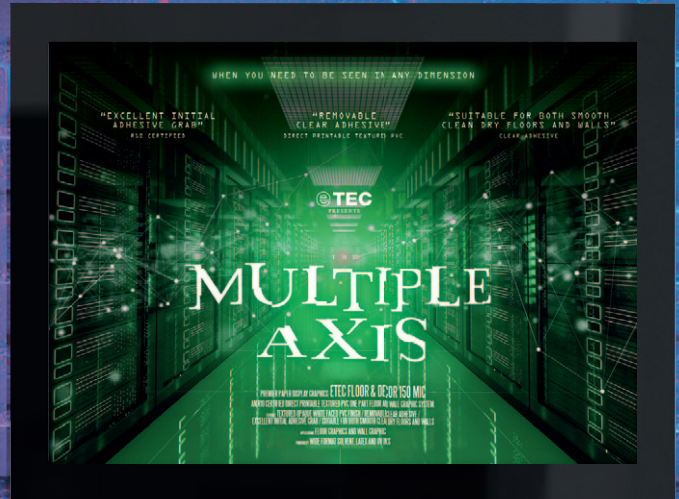
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## Green Screen

In the last issue I had the 'clever idea' for the cartoon on page 5 - it's always difficult to get a cartoon to tie into something in the sign trade – so I suggested to Roger Hinchliffe (retired founder of the magazine and my dad) that I do a backdrop using the great new Draw In Perspective functionality of CorelDraw 2021, and then have 2 guys in the foreground talking about why they're standing in front of a *green screen*<sup>1</sup>. Someone like me who has an interest in technology, gadgets and films will know what a green screen is. My dad however, who always gets straight to the point, said that is the crappiest idea for a cartoon ever as he couldn't see a green screen, so it made no sense. So I checked with my graphic designer, who also had no idea of what a green screen is either. I'd be interested to hear if everyone else understood what I was going on about (martin@signupdate.co.uk)? If anyone has some ideas for a cartoon that incorporates signage, then please let share and hopefully we'll use the idea. It could be to do with some weird experience you had with installing signage or an unusual response from a customer for example.

On page 32 there's an interesting article on a 15 year old lad who's living the dream and racing in the Junior Ginetta Championships - it's all about his car being wrapped in a new kind of vinyl that's extra thin, lightweight, aerodynamic and durable. It intrigued me, so I read a little more into it, on the manufacturers website, they give the example of coating a 747 jetliner requiring 2,500 fewer pounds of paint than using traditional sprayed applications, and because graphics are embedded within the AERO™ paint film, there's less drag. That's quite a saving through efficiency for every flight. I am curious as to how much more we'll see of this product coming to vehicle wrapping of performance cars.

Martin Hinchliffe

<sup>1</sup>Green screen is the use of a single color as a backdrop in filming to make it simpler and easier to add backgrounds, characters or other images.



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## Mimaki announce 2 new powerful and creative LED-UV flatbed inkjet printers

Mimaki has announced the release of two new LED-UV large-format flatbed inkjet printers, the JFX600-2513 and the JFX550-2513. Available after summer 2021, the new models are engineered for high speeds and high productivity, and offer print service providers a broader range of applications thanks to a wider range of ink types and increased media flexibility.

The JFX600-2513 and the JFX550-2513 build on the success of the popular JFX500-2131 large-format UV inkjet printer. With the aim of tackling the high-end UV flatbed market, the new models bear a substantially higher number of print heads, allowing for the JFX600-2513 to reach speeds of more than 300 percent faster than its predecessor, and the JFX550-2513 over 150 percent faster. Available in a six colour configuration, the wide variety of ink sets facilitates vibrant, intense colours perfect for striking indoor and outdoor signage and display graphics.

Thanks to Mimaki's seventh-generation UV print technology, the range of media these new models support opens the door

for a myriad of applications including large-scale decoration, sign displays, and interior materials. With a maximum printing area of 2.5m x 1.3m and a thickness of 6cm, both the JFX600-2513 and the JFX550-2513 are compatible with standard size signboard production, and their direct-to-substrate capabilities also allow for printing on resin, wood, glass, and metal. Both printers are also capable of '2.5D' multi-layered printing, creating raised texture effects for high-value, tactile applications.

Bert Benckhuysen, Senior Product Manager at Mimaki Europe, comments, "With more speed, colours, and media options, there is a whole world of opportunities with the new JFX600-2513 and JFX550-2513. As the market leader in large format UV flatbed printing, Mimaki is driven by the creativity and resilience of our customers to keep innovating and improving what we do. The predecessor to these latest models, the JFX500-2131, gave us a strong foundation to build on, and we have pushed the boundaries of productivity and versatility to bring two more world-class LED-UV large-format flatbed inkjet printers to market."

Mimaki is exclusively distributed in the UK and Ireland by Hybrid Services Ltd and the company's Managing Director, Brett Newman anticipates strong uptake of the new models. "Mimaki's continual drive to respond to market demand for increased productivity, quality and innovation has shaped the development of these two new JFX models. Providing a hugely capable solution for companies looking to boost their capacity and introduce new levels of creativity, we very much look forward to bringing them to market later this year."

The UV inks developed in-house for the JFX600-2513 and JFX550-2513 have been certified as "GREENGUARD Gold" for meeting exacting chemical substance standards and environmental safety requirements, as defined by independent safety organization UL. In addition, the new models support Mimaki's "MDL command", allowing operators to control machines from external devices resulting in both JFX machines complying with Industry 4.0 requirements, making it possible to integrate them into an automated workflow.

[www.hybridservices.co.uk](http://www.hybridservices.co.uk)



*The new Mimaki JFX600-2513 is a large-format LED-UV flatbed inkjet printer featuring high speeds and high productivity, as well as a wider colour gamut and increased media flexibility for a broader range of applications.*



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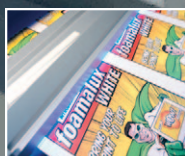
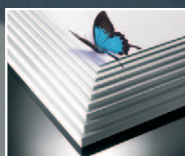
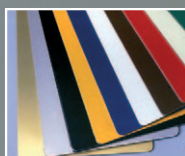
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## HP Introduces New Edition Stitch S1000 Printer for Soft Signage

HP Inc. has announced the latest addition to its HP Stitch portfolio to help print service providers (PSPs) diversify their soft signage and interior décor offerings, as well as meet more challenging customer needs. The updated 126-inch HP Stitch S1000 is designed to offer high quality with greater versatility and smooth operation.

"The new HP Stitch S1000 will allow PSPs to expand their dye-sub production versatility even further and say yes to ambitious projects, as well as demanding and innovative applications," said Oscar Vidal, Large Format Global Business Strategy Director, HP. "With the large format industry set for a progressive year, HP's latest Stitch device ensures soft signage and interior decoration professionals are able to handle a diverse range of customer needs, safe in the knowledge they have the technology to deliver."

### Take on more

The highly versatile new HP Stitch S1000 gives users the option to print directly to fabric or onto transfer paper, simplifying workflows without compromising on results - while 1200 native dpi printheads and HP's Drop & Dry system ensure deep blacks, vivid colors and extreme resolution to deliver work of the highest-quality.

A newly incorporated contact heater offers enhanced backlit saturation performance on direct-to-fabric jobs, meaning colors appear brighter and more vivid than ever before.

### Work faster

HP Stitch S1000 is designed to provide rapid turnaround production start-up times and speeds of up to 2,370 ft<sup>2</sup>/hr (220 m<sup>2</sup>/hr). Additionally, it also offers the possibility to double the throughput on substrates of up to 63 inches (1.6m) with dual roll accessory.

The Smart Nozzle Compensation system and Optical Media Advance Sensor Plus work together to ensure reliable image quality while operating at pace. With an additional integrated aerosol and vapor extraction system, meeting tight deadlines has never been easier.

User-replaceable printheads and HP preventative maintenance support helps increase uptime, while spreader rollers, 10-liter ink supplies and rolls up to 600lb (300kg) allow print professionals to confidently leave the device to print unattended.

### Take control

Combined with the HP PrintOS app, print operations are easily controlled anywhere, anytime - while also allowing PSPs to make data-driven decisions. If working with a fleet, the HP Configuration Center ensures jobs are distributed efficiently for maximum productivity, with a built-in spectrophotometer providing color consistency across fleet.

Tests show that in 40% less time, a single operator can easily load both transfer and textile rolls - enabled by features including

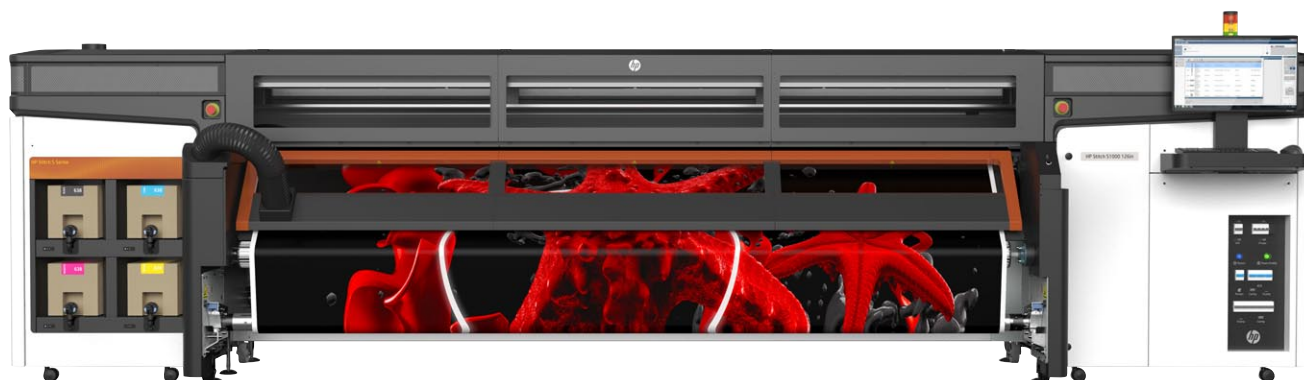


*The HP Stitch S1000 is designed to provide rapid turnaround production start-up times and speeds of up to 2,370 ft<sup>2</sup>/hr (220 m<sup>2</sup>/hr)*

automatic media tension adjustment, simple media path, automatic and optimized printhead cleaning, and a device warm-up process that occurs in parallel with loading.

### Gain a sustainability edge

The updated HP Stitch S1000 uses ECO PASSPORT certified dye sublimation inks, a standard that verifies the safety of chemical products used in the textile and leather industry. The device also benefits from HP's free and convenient printhead recycling scheme, via the HP Planet Partners initiative. Meanwhile, the outer carton of a S1000 ink cartridge is made from cardboard and can be recycled locally - part of HP's goal of creating a more circular, low-carbon economy.



A first-look at the HP Stitch S1000 can be found via a YouTube video at: [www.signupdate.co.uk/S1000](http://www.signupdate.co.uk/S1000)



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/ SETTING NEW STANDARDS

## ITC Introduces New ACM Folding Tools

For sign makers that process Di-Bond, Industrial Tooling Corporation (ITC) has now expanded its range of Di-Bond folding tools with a new arrival. Adding to the existing folding tool series, the Tamworth manufacturer has introduced a helical flute Di-Bond folding tool.

The new helical flute design complements the existing Di-Bond folding tool that is capable of folding Di-Bond and similar aluminium composite materials typically up to 5mm thick. The new helical flute tool has been developed with an extremely rigid tool body that allows the user to increase cutting speeds and feeds considerably. Adding to this, the helical flute design removes material from the component more efficiently with a smooth cutting action. The increased stability and rigidity of the helical flute tool combines with the cutting geometry to maximise material removal.

This new Di-Bond folding tool has a 10mm diameter with a precision shank diameter of 6mm with a 3mm wide flat. Naturally, the folding tool has an inclusive angle of 90° that is precision ground to ensure perfect folding of all your components. The tool has an overall length of 76mm and

this incorporates a significant shank length that provides sufficient clamping area for your collets and chucks. Manufactured from a micro-grain solid carbide composition, the new helical flute tool demonstrates performance characteristics and tool life that are beyond compare.

For manufacturers that require standard or special Di-Bond folding tools, the existing range of straight flute tools is available with either a 90° or 135° inclusive angle with a 3mm flat. The existing product line of straight flute folding tools is available in metric and imperial dimensions. With a team of engineering experts that are supported by a UK manufacturing facility, ITC can manufacture folding tools to your exact specifications. This service offers customers a choice of alternative angles, varying flat sizes and a choice of shank diameters and lengths to suit your routing application and machine type. For further details on how ITC can improve the performance of your folding processes, whether it is Di-Bond, ACM or any other type of material - please contact your local representative for more information.

[www.itc-ltd.co.uk](http://www.itc-ltd.co.uk)



*The new helical flute Di-Bond folding tool, for ACM up to 5mm thick*

## Nazdar adds Orange and Light Black options to 130 Series solvent inkjet inks

Nazdar Ink Technologies has expanded its 130 Series of solvent inkjet inks with two new colours: Orange and Light Black. By enhancing the existing range of CMYK plus Light Cyan, and Light Magenta to include Orange and Light Black, Nazdar will enable end-users to deliver an enhanced range of colours and more accurate greyscale printing on graphics output.

Designed specifically for use in Mimaki™ Digital Printers using Mimaki SS21 Ink, the Nazdar 130 Series inks are closely colour-matched and chemically compatible with the original inks, saving users both time and money by switching one colour at a time. Flushing, purging, or re-profiling is not necessary when transitioning, due to the accurate colour reproduction capabilities of the ink set.

Suitable for multiple substrates including

vinyl, banner material, blue back paper and backed mesh, the high impact, high intensity Nazdar 130 Series inks also have enhanced drying characteristics to accommodate faster print speeds.

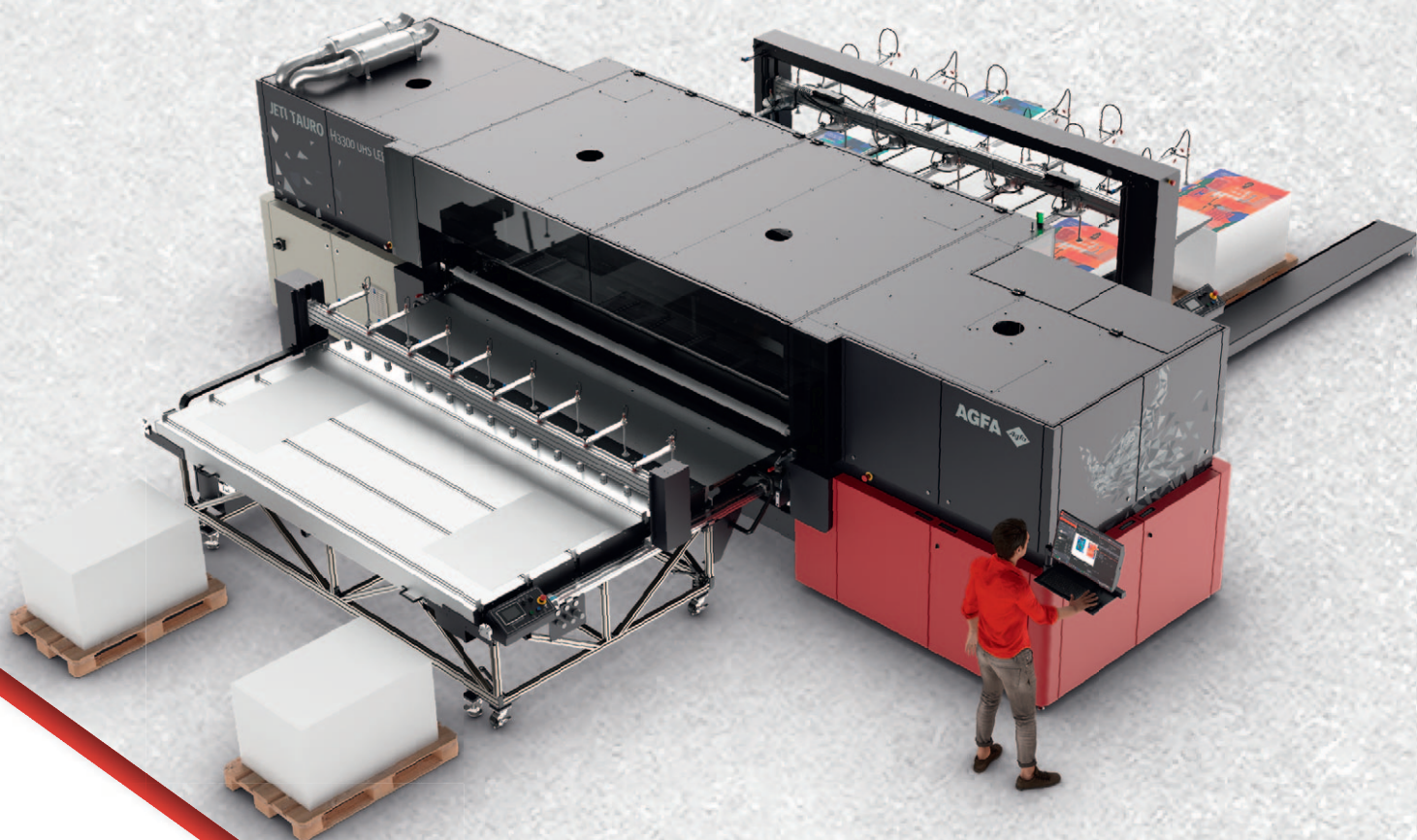
On the new ink colour introductions, Stephen Woodall, Market Segment Manager - Aqueous & Solvent Digital at Nazdar, comments: "The Orange ink has been added to the range to ensure our end-user customers can achieve a wider, more vibrant colour gamut, while the new Light Black option will help deliver stunning monochrome images.

"All our inks are covered by one of the most comprehensive warranties in the market - covering the entire ink train - enabling businesses to confidently take advantage of the increased efficiency and cost-effectiveness of our fully field-tested solutions."

Nazdar 130 Series Inks are designed for maximum outdoor resistance to colour fade and chemical attack caused by the combined effects of UV degradation and environmental pollution. Each colour is formulated with durable long-term outdoor pigments and - when used with proper colour management - colour variance of the original print density will be minimal over a period of 24 months for vertical outdoor exposure.







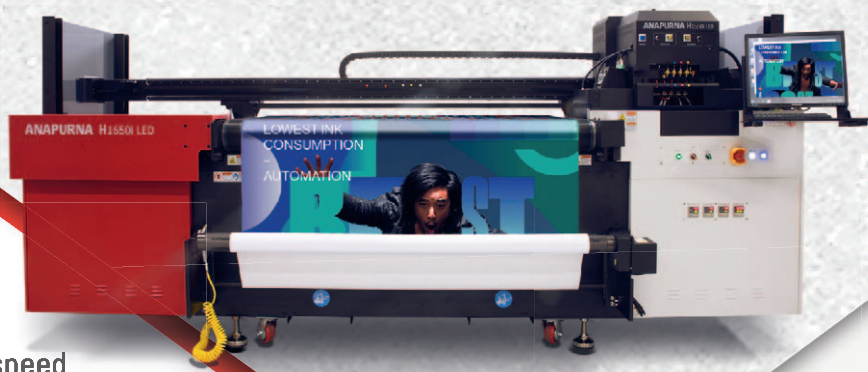
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## ImagePerfect™ boosts décor range with affordable new glass films

Spandex, the one-stop supplier of innovative solutions to the sign, graphics and display industries, has expanded its growing portfolio of films with a new collection of ImagePerfect™ decorative and privacy glass films for application on interior and exterior windows, doors and partitions.

The new range of self-adhesive PVC and polyester films has been created to give customers a wider choice of colours and textures, helping them to push the creative boundaries of glass decoration, whether for interior styling or to improve privacy.

In total the range offers 77 individual products, including diverse effects and colours. Choices include opalescent and frosted films, a palette of bright transparent colours, blackout films as well as some technical films.

The four product families are as follows:

**ImagePerfect 7500 Glass and Window Specialities** are technical films for applications in corporate offices, government buildings and other areas requiring high levels of privacy. The range includes a blackout view effect for LCD or plasma screens, a projection surface film for presentations or videos, a full blackout for windows, and a film that activates/deactivates the opacity of glazed surfaces.

**ImagePerfect 7600 Coloured Window Films** combine 22 single-colours with two dichroic options for colourful tints on glass, backlit and illuminated windows. They are the perfect solution to add a touch of colour to any interior glazing. The Fire & Ice film uses natural light to maximum effect, bringing windows and glass partitions to life with its warm dichroic tint.

**ImagePerfect 7700 Styling Window Films** stimulate creativity with 34 stylish decorative patterns for interior glass surfaces, offering beautiful choices for increased privacy and enhanced interior decor.

**ImagePerfect 7800 Decorative Window Films** are five high-quality calendered PVC films for decorative interior and exterior applications, featuring ImagePerfect PerfectApply technology for faster, easier, bubble-free installations. Three additional natural fabric choices extend the range beyond traditional window coverings.

All the new ImagePerfect decorative glass films are engineered for ease of application to interior flat glass surfaces by anyone with experience of working with self-adhesive films. This makes them ideal for sign-makers and graphics installers looking for ways to diversify and tap into new revenue streams in décor, without the need for specialist training

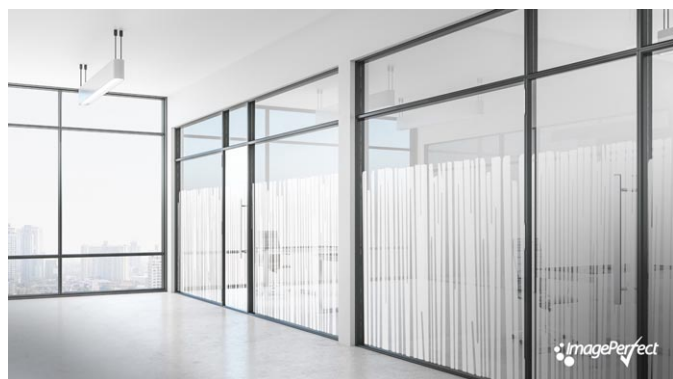
Michael Kist, ImagePerfect Category Director explains: "Demand for glass decoration and privacy films is blossoming, as our customers discover new opportunities to use these products in creative projects for commercial and private clients. They want stylish, fashion-forward products that are easy to apply and perform well in situ, without breaking the bank.

With these new ImagePerfect décor films, cost is no barrier to creativity and experimentation. They open the door to stunning results at an affordable price."

[www.spandex.co.uk](http://www.spandex.co.uk)



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## Graphtec GB 'makes the cut' with WID laser engraving/cutting machines

As the recently appointed exclusive UK and Ireland distributor of WID laser engraving/cutting machines, Graphtec GB is now offering the latest C Series in a choice of four different-sized models (the 500, 700, 900 and 1000). These have been developed to accommodate the total requirements of digital engraving/cutting specialist companies. All of the machines are robustly constructed and of a compact design to facilitate installation in small work shops where space is invariably at a premium.

The C Series provides respective processing areas of 700 x 500, 1000 x 700, 1300 x 900 and 1600 x 1000mm, with variable cutting speeds of up to 90,000 mm/min on the 500 model and 72,000mm/min on the 700, 900 and 1000 models. The machines incorporate CO2 tube and on selective models RF (Radio Frequency) lasers, sourced through partnerships forged with leading specialist laser manufacturers, with power ratings ranging from 60W on the 500 and 700 models and incrementally up to 120W on

the 900 and 1000 models. All of the machines are supplied with dedicated user-friendly multi-tool software compatible with AI, DST, PLT, BMP and DXF graphic file formats and provide USB and Network connectivity.

Key design features include a 150mm adjustable machine height facility, automatic temperature and air control systems and smoke/dust extraction and waste retrieval units. These are supplemented with an optional autofocus-empowered CCD camera that ensures precise material/object recognition, adjustment and alignment to accommodate even the most complex applications likely to be encountered. Collectively, these contribute to much higher productivity levels and processing speeds said to be five times faster than any other similarly positioned engraving/cutting machine currently available.

Developed to complement the varying skill levels of both entry-level and seasoned

professional operatives and for use in applications not suited to conventional CNC routing/cutting/engraving systems, the WID C Series of machines will laser cut and/or engrave a wide range of disparate materials.



*Suitable for acrylic and various plastics, hard surfaces such as marble, glass and slate, solid woods and laminates, stainless steel and other non-ferrous metals and various alloys like brass and copper.*

[graphtecgb.co.uk/laser-cutting-engraving-systems](http://graphtecgb.co.uk/laser-cutting-engraving-systems)

## William Smith expand their wrap portfolio with Flite Technology®



William Smith are proud to be a UK leading distributor of vehicle wrap films and are pleased to announce the further expansion of their portfolio with the full range of Premium Colour Change (PCC).

This new conformable cast wrap film has been developed over the past three years, with ease of application and customer satisfaction at the forefront of design.

Premium Colour Change features Flite Technology®, ultra-gloss levels, innovative self-healing adhesive, an engineered liner with invisible air channels for bubble-free application, a protective film on gloss

colours and is guaranteed to stay down in deep channels, curves, recesses and the most difficult shapes.

Arlon's innovative Flite Technology®, already well received in their premium SLX and SLX+ digital-print range, uses a lite contact system which allows vinyl to float over a substrate without bonding until firm pressure is applied. This feature means it is cleanly removable and allows for unrivalled repositionability, providing a smooth and reliable application process every single time.

Furthermore, its specially engineered liner with invisible air channels allows for a fast, bubble-free application, that will guarantee an ultra-smooth finish.

The introduction of the brand-new self-healing adhesive is also certain to cause excitement within the market. The adhesive is innovatively designed to stay in motion for up to ten days after application, meaning it flows and fills any minor imperfections. This is especially

effective in gloss films and helps to produce that highly desired, ultra-glossy, mirror effect.

"We have great confidence that our customers will love this product," says Chris Bradley, Head of Marketing at William Smith. "Introducing a brand-new vehicle wrap film that uses Arlon's Flite Technology® onto the market is certainly something we're all very excited about."

The new range features 20 essential colours for vehicle and fleet application in gloss, matt and satin finishes and will be launching more custom colours later in 2021.

To protect the ultra-gloss finish, all gloss colours are manufactured with a recyclable, PET protective film which is designed to be removed prior to application.

Arlon Premium Colour Change is rated for ten years outdoor durability.

[www.williamsmith.co.uk](http://www.williamsmith.co.uk)





# ITC Puts High-Speed Cutting in the Groove

High-frequency spindles incorporated into CNC cutting tables are an increasingly commonplace installation in the production areas of sign-making, digital printing and graphics. With manufacturers such as Zund, Esko, Summa and DYSS being prominent in this area, Industrial Tooling Corporation (ITC) has an extensive range of balanced tools that are ideal for users of these machines.

Operating at extremely high spindle speeds often beyond 30,000rpm, these high-frequency spindles require precision, balanced cutting tools to operate at their full potential. ITC has a complete range of cutting tools and routing tools for these machines and the latest addition to the range is the new balanced Vee Groove tool.

Without balanced tools, the quality of surface and edge finish of components will diminish rapidly. In addition, the cutting

process will induce vibration and generate excessive heat, noise and stress in the spindle. As a result, tool and spindle life will be significantly reduced. The new balanced Vee Groove tool from Tamworth manufacturer ITC eradicates these concerns to deliver performance that exceeds anything else in the industry.

The new solid carbide Vee Groove tool is perfect for use on a complete range of material types such as di-bond, delivering tool life, performance and surface finishes that are the benchmark of the industry. The new Vee Groove tool is a 2-flute cutter with a ½ inch head diameter and a 90 degree inclusive angle. Balanced for application on machines that exceed spindle speeds of 30,000rpm, the Vee Groove tool has a 6mm diameter shank with an overall length of 63mm.

[www.itc-ltd.co.uk](http://www.itc-ltd.co.uk)



## PUT US TO THE TEST

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## New transfer technology for garment printing

TheMagicTouch and Resolute DTG in the UK announce their collaboration with the joint introduction of the latest in digital image transfer innovation. Both companies for the past 6 months have conducted an extensive evaluation of all things relating to the new DTF (Direct to Film) transfer technology.

Having the ability to produce short and long-run full colour transfers for garments and textiles, regardless of colour or composition and being compatible with cotton, polyester, leather, softshell, performance fabrics, pique blends, canvas, denim and much more, is a must for all garment decorators to consider.

The new process is simple; firstly print the roll-fed 60cm wide coated PET film using a special pigment based textile ink and then lightly coat the printed transfer with a unique hot-melt adhesive powder. The transfer is then cured using either the automatic "Shake&Bake" roll fed unit, heat press or traditional dryer. The cured transfer can then be applied immediately to the garment/product using a traditional heat press. Please note there is no pre-treatment required to the garments.

The flagship printer for DTF is the new R-Jet Pro DTF printer featuring the latest in dual print head technology 2 x 8 channel industrial print heads (2 x CMYK) & (8 x W) and powered using the latest version of

Resolute RIP PRO software to ensure control and colour management. Amongst its many features the printer includes the "Ink mixing" function to ensure the perfect circulation of the white ink resulting in minimal maintenance or production issues. The wet cap system allows the printer to be switched off for periods of up to one month without the need to flush out the white ink.

For those looking for an affordable and reliable alternative to DTG, but prefer the look and feel of textile inks, then the DTF technology is exactly what you are looking for. This new technology "Bridges the Gap" between DTG, screen printing and the traditional transfer printing methods.



The finished transfers offer outstanding durability, stretchable and incredible feel and vibrant colours.

Jim Nicol Managing Director of TheMagicTouch commented, "We have



Jim Nicol from TheMagicTouch (left) and Colin Marsh from Resolute DTG (right)

previously opted away from DTG for various reasons and indeed passed any enquiry directly to Colin and his team at Resolute, but the DTF process is simply the best new transfer solution for many, many years. With our transfer experience combined with Resolute's knowledge and experience with DTG we believe we have the perfect combination to market and more importantly support this product beyond customer expectations. This really is a game changer for this industry".

DTF offers more flexibility with the transfers. Printed transfers can be forwarded elsewhere to be applied at a later date with a shelf-life of over 2 years, thus creating another potential revenue stream for the user.

Both TheMagicTouch and Resolute supply the printers and powder units together with the inks, PET film, and consumables, all supported with the highest standard of technical and marketing support.

[www.themagictouch.co.uk](http://www.themagictouch.co.uk)  
[www.resoluteink.co.uk](http://www.resoluteink.co.uk)

## Stock & Roll arrives in the UK

Once out of their packaging, the storage of rolls is often problematic.

In addition, the weight, the clutter and the lack of protection of the rolls complicate their handling.

The observation of working methods in digital print workshops led the French company Stock & Roll to think of a solution with no constraints. Key words of this optimal solution are "Ergonomics and Productivity".

Unlike many others roll systems which are too voluminous, heavy to move, impractical and not ergonomic, the Stock and Roll support is a complete solution to solve storing and transporting large-format

rolls problems. The Stock & Roll is both compact and very mobile. Thanks to its patented reel holding system, it ensures a safe movement in your workshop.

With Stock & Roll, your rolls are clean and protected, better stored, and easier to handle.

[stock-and-roll.com/en](http://stock-and-roll.com/en)

### Main characteristics:

- **Versatile:** Designed for 2" and 3" cores.
- **Identification:** Designated location on it
- **Mobile:** 6 High-performance wheels
- **Compact:** The Stock & Roll has a small 60cm base.
- **Reliability:** Excellent weight/ resistance ratio.
- **Simple:** One hand blocking system
- **Safety:** Patented holding system for 6 rolls





# Do you Pik or Craft?



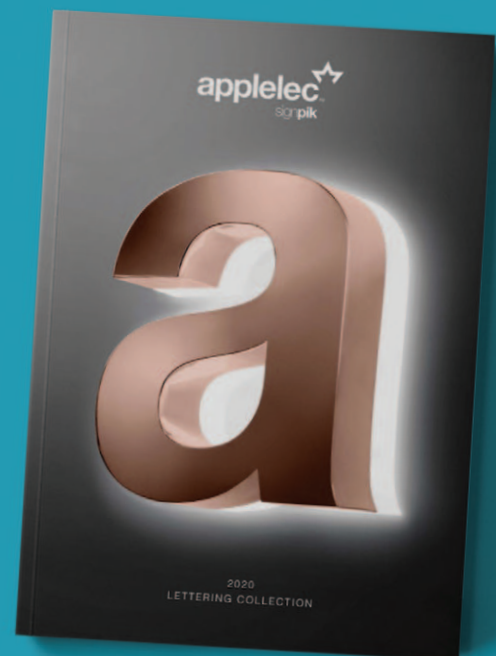
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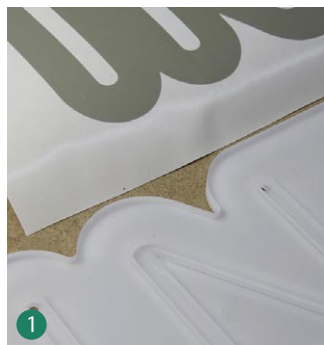
# TUTORIAL Neon Flex

## A step by step Neon Flex tutorial

Spectron LED have updated their Neon Flex range, so you now have the option to have cut points of 10mm as well as still

25mm, which means that the length of Neon Flex needed can be more accurately tailored to the length required to the

nearest 10mm. Ivan Lew, Managing Director of Spectron LED goes into detail of how to install this.



Prepare your artwork to scale and either use a CNC machine to router out your back panel, or cut the letters out of self-adhesive paper and apply as a stencil to the panel (this will also protect the panel from glue marks). If using a CNC, we recommend using a 5mm thick acrylic back panel with a 3mm deep channel.



Cut the neon into pieces as per your design. The 10mm cut marks are visible on the side. Aim to make as few connections as possible as this will speed up the process and give a neater finish. For tight bends mitre cut the Neon Flex, take care to avoid damage to the LED.



Each piece of neon must be connected to make a circuit. Drill holes in the panel where you want to join one length of neon to another so that you can feed the wires through the back. Using the clear ready tinned fine cable it will not be noticeable when illuminated.



When you're ready to start joining pieces of neon together, you will need to expose the solder points on the PCB. Add some solder to the soldering points, then place the tinning cable on top. Heat with the solder iron gently until the tinning cable connects and sticks.



Tinning cable has a gold and silver conductor with a clear outer sleeve. If the gold is connected to the positive solder point and the silver to negative solder point, keep this consistent through out your project.



Use a 12v driver fitted with crocodile clips to test the soldering. If the neon doesn't illuminate, check the wire has been soldered securely and that the positive and negative wire aren't touching.



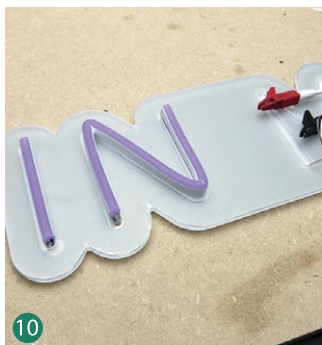
Using Mitre Bond glue, run the activator pen along the bottom surface of the Neon Flex (and one side of the join) and apply small drops of glue to the panel, approximately 20mm apart.



Feed the cable through the hole that is to be joined to the next length and position the Neon Flex. It will bond almost instantly so take extra care.



Measure the next length and solder on the ready tinned cables on one end.



Solder the new length to the previous length and test with the LED driver. Continue this process until all pieces are in place.



When complete, use the same glue for cable management.



Always keep the run of the Neon Flex as short as possible. For extra long letters use multiple power points or connect in the middle with power to left and right.



## Magna Signs invest in an Agfa Anapurna

"We've quadrupled, if not more, the amount of material we can print for one contract."

Ben Ashdown, Managing Director at Magna Signs in Nuneaton, sums up the extraordinary impact of the wide-format hybrid 3.2-metre Agfa Anapurna H3200i LED, purchased through Josero. The main challenge facing Magna Signs was volume; there was too much demand for the business to meet in-house, particularly as the volume from a large contract with one of their key clients was increasing.

However, allowing the business to boost capacity wasn't the only advantage of this new addition to Magna's inventory. Ben adds: "It opens up a few different avenues of what we can print, things we couldn't do in house before because this is the first UV hybrid machine that we've had. So, it just allows us to do a little bit more."

The Anapurna H3200i LED permits Magna to work with a wider range of media,

potentially opening up new doors to different projects. Ben continues: "Having a hybrid with built-in roll-to-roll UV machine enables us to print media that we couldn't print with solvent. We couldn't meet that demand before, but now we can do it all in house."

The majority of that work involves printed Correx boards as part of the contract with their key client, although other projects such as construction hoardings and property signage go through the machine.



*The production team at Magna Signs Ltd, Nuneaton, with their new Agfa Anapurna print engine*

When on the hunt for the right piece of kit to meet their needs, Magna turned immediately to Josero due to a longstanding relationship with Managing Director Sarah Winterbottom. Although they explored other options, the Agfa Anapurna fitted Magna's needs perfectly, with Ben describing the model as 'a level up in terms of size, volume and speed'.

Despite COVID restrictions hampering the usual face-to-face process, the acquisition went off without a hitch. "It was here within two weeks, and I couldn't fault the experience of the build and support from Josero," adds Ben. "The support with service and build from Agfa was really good, too." Ben and Magna will also be able to take advantage of Agfa's partnership with Profitable Print Relationships, which is providing added value business coaching to new Agfa customers.

[www.josero.com](http://www.josero.com)

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## Designs heads back into sports sector with HP Latex R2000 Plus

Designs Signage Solutions says it expanded with new customers throughout 2020 - in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic - and completed a number of colourful graphics projects using its HP Latex R2000 Plus printer.

Known for its signage and branding expertise in the sports sector, in particular for sports venues, Designs Signage Solutions was affected by the abrupt pause in business and government restrictions as a result of coronavirus. Reacting quickly, it adapted its factory in Hull to produce social distancing signage and PPE equipment such as counter protector screens and sanitiser stations.

However, the team was soon back working on sports stadium branding, chalking up high quality graphics on its HP Latex R2000 Plus. Installed by Papergraphics in 2019, the printer is a hybrid solution designed to deliver exceptional printing on an extensive range of substrates, both rigid and flexible, while offering sustainability benefits.

"The water-based inks used on HP Latex printers are better for the environment, better for people, and better for disposal, which are all big ticks for us," said Rob Daysley, Managing Director of Designs Signage Solutions, following its installation. The ecological benefits of HP Latex "do not in any way compromise performance, quality or price," he added.

These advantages have been demonstrated with a host of new graphics projects, including preparing AFC Wimbledon's new home ground with 26 5,000 x 900mm temporary banners, turned

around in two working days, and re-branding the mid-tier sections of the Leeds United stadium, Elland Road. Designs Signage Solutions printed the graphics directly onto flat aluminium composite boards, spanning the full length of the stands, using the HP Latex R2000 Plus.

Designs Signage Solutions also worked day and night to produce and install promotional branding for the Championship League Snooker Tournament in Milton Keynes. The printroom team created LED lightboxes, combining an opal acrylic and printed vinyl, along with complementary printed

signage and media backdrops with a tensioned fabric system. Closer to home, Designs has printed and installed hoarding graphics at the Beverley Road Baths Development in Hull, ahead of people getting back into the pool. These bold and outdoor-durable hoardings were also printed directly on the HP Latex.

The Yorkshire business, founded 27 years ago, is a specialist in vehicle graphics, commercial, retail and education signage, and high-end interior displays besides its extensive work in the sports branding market. It uses a total of four HP Latex printers to meet the demands of its wide variety of customers.



*Following a period concentrating on COVID-focused applications, Designs Signage Solutions has been running its HP Latex R2000 Plus printing solution day and night to produce sports-related graphics.*



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# PressOn engage with bold projects printed on HP Latex.

PressOn says it has secured several innovative graphics jobs during the uncertain pandemic period - following some spectacular pre-COVID projects - using its . Installed in April 2019 and updated to the 2020 edition a few months later, the HP Latex printer has enabled PressOn to meet demands for fast turnaround, exceptional quality and sustainability.

Founded by Andy Wilson in 2000, Kent-based PressOn has grown steadily thanks to its approach of pursuing new opportunities, investing in the latest technology and maintaining accountability throughout the customer journey. Like many large format digital printing businesses, PressOn has felt the impact of COVID-related restrictions, but a look back over the past year has revealed some creative and innovative projects for well-known brands.

Andy highlights Transport for London (TfL)'s Endeavour Square office, saying it was 'A large project which was great for us to secure in a very uncertain time.' Part of a larger project producing and installing graphics at various large TFL offices across London, this involved producing

signage for walls, floors and tables encouraging social distancing, hand washing and one-way routes. Printed in TfL's classic dark blue and white branding on the HP Latex R Series device, these graphics ensured the organisation's employees returned to the office safely.

Andy also notes the impact of wallpaper graphics at the offices of HBD Systems - a producer of double-glazing solutions - and PMP Recruitment respectively. HBD Systems' campaign saw the HP Latex machine produce vibrant photographic reproductions of stunning views, while the PMP job involved branding the office space with a bold geometric design inspired by beehives.

"These were two different jobs on one-piece wallpaper," he explains. "For HBD Systems, the print was vibrant and the end result was exactly what the client was looking to achieve."

With regards to the PMP Recruitment work, Andy adds: "The print transformed the newly built office walls and showed the key values of the company."

Both before and during the pandemic,

PressOn worked with historic department store Harrods on a number of projects. These included preparing the Knightsbridge landmark for its reopening in June 2020, which required the removal of 549 linear metres of vinyl window graphics and the installation of new borders, logos and graphics - and all in under six hours.

As to the future, PressOn Managing Director Andy Wilson is looking ahead to more exciting projects as the business continues to recover from the pandemic.

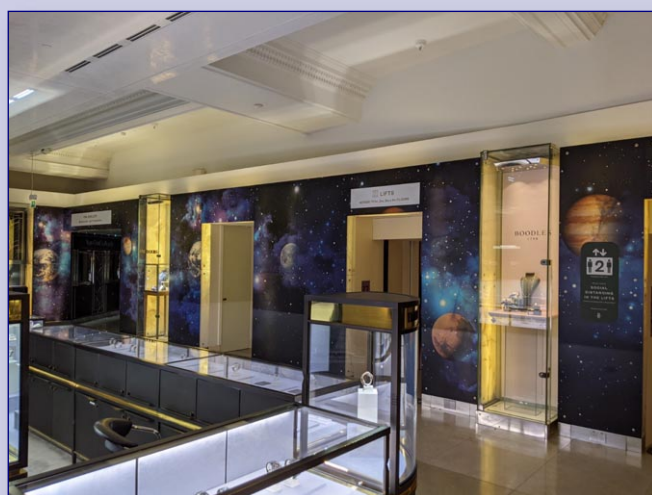
"Much of the work that had been postponed has begun to return," he says. "Working with HP Latex printers for the past twelve years has meant we are able to respond to customer demands for short-turnaround, high-spec work on so many different materials. We expect to do many more of these jobs in the coming months with our range of HP Latex machines."

"As an added benefit, the HP Latex R Series printer has environmental benefits, such as water-based inks and media recyclability, that the market is increasingly expecting."

[www.presson.co.uk](http://www.presson.co.uk)



Andy Wilson also recalls a job for the Harrods fine jewellery department ahead of Christmas 2019: "We're pretty proud of the project; it really stood out. The idea with the campaign was that it would be a midnight sky design and areas were purposely left with minimal or no ink coverage to allow the light from the illuminated onyx it was installed onto to show through, adding to the effect."



The PressOn team installed a new graphic in the same area in 2020, using artwork developed in a joint collaboration between PressOn's artwork team and Harrods' designers.

## Unattended overnight printing – Durst's printing revolution for Digipress

Innovative and forward-thinking company Digipress has revolutionized its business after an investment in an expanded technology P5 350 hybrid platform from Durst, manufacturer of innovative digital printing systems and software solutions. The all-in-one hybrid solution for flexible roll and board printing has been a godsend, according to partner Steve Jackson who says they are now 'making money while they sleep' thanks to unattended overnight printing.

"Since the machine arrived, we have an unbelievable amount of orders that we would not have been able to fulfil without the Durst P5," said Steve. "It's a machine that is extremely versatile and we are

running it at very high speed with great quality and productivity. The opportunities have come in thick and fast because everybody wants fast turnarounds.

"Quite frankly, I didn't think there was a better machine out there than what we had before, but that meant 4-pass printing to achieve the required quality. However, the Durst has proved me wrong and does the jobs in a single pass at even better quality at super-fast speeds. We have known Durst for a long time and thought it may be out of our price range, but when we saw what it could produce we just said, 'we've got to have one, no questions'. We're glad we made the investment."

As an example of one of the many orders won on the strength of having the Durst P5 350, Steve says that they won a significant contract to print on to clear roofing sheets for use as table dividers in restaurants. When upwards of 1,000 sheets may be needed in a matter of days, only the Durst P5 can deliver the volumes required, particularly when some jobs can be printed overnight. "Unattended printing has been a huge thing for our business," said Steve. "We can leave the machine printing overnight. It's making us money while we sleep! This machine has been a godsend and a revolution for our business. It just eats up the materials."

The software and high levels of automation has also been an important additional benefit, particularly while some of Digipress's 23-strong staff were furloughed during the pandemic. "We can set it up and somebody who is not a trained print operator can run the P5," said Steve. "I could teach somebody to run this machine within around 20 minutes."

Based in Didcot, Oxfordshire, Digipress is run by Steve and Ian, who set it up 15 years ago offering a complete range of print and design services. They say the versatility and flexibility of the hybrid digital production machine opens doors to new opportunities.

Peter Bray, Managing Director of Durst UK and Ireland, said: "It's great to hear that innovative and forward-thinking companies like Digipress have transformed their business and seen a surge in work after investing in our technology. And this is despite these troubled times when we know it's been hard for so many people. Driven by the mantra of innovation, we offer complete solutions from pixel to output. Durst continue its transformation into a highly integrated process service provider, which includes continuously expanding our software solutions."

[www.durst-group.com](http://www.durst-group.com)



Steve Jackson (left) and business partner Ian Fitzgerald with the Durst P5 at the Digipress premises

## Improved appearance, durability and speed

The thick bond lines and slow curing speed of a high-viscosity silicone rubber adhesive (RTV) used to bond aluminium letters to PVC sign boards was causing aesthetic issues and slowing production for a retail sign manufacturer. The problem was also compounded by the low bond strength of the adhesive which often resulted in letters falling off the boards in transit or after installation.

For this manufacturer, LOCTITE® 401 proved an instant fix for all the problems. Also known as a cyanoacrylate, this type of adhesive is ideal for bonding small to medium-sized parts. It provides fast cure speeds and excellent bond strengths on a wide variety of substrates.

LOCTITE 401 proved successful for this application because it is formulated for the assembly of difficult-to-bond materials requiring uniform stress distribution and high tensile and/or shear strength. The product provides for the rapid bonding of a wide range of materials, including metals,

plastics and elastomers.

Fixture speed is just five seconds and a full cure is achieved in 24 hours. For sign manufacturers, this means assembly is clean, quick and efficient and its strength rating of 19,995 kPa (2,900 psi) means the durability of the bond is assured.

LOCTITE 401 not only cures considerably quicker than the RTV it also only requires a few small drops on each sign letter and light hand pressure to apply. And as it is suitable for bonding to porous materials such as wood, the sign manufacturer's scope of substrate choice is also extended.

By changing to this instant adhesive, the signs are now more aesthetically pleasing as bond lines are thinner. Fast cure speed has maximised production output, lowered overall manufacturing costs and boosted throughput so finished products now have a shorter lead time.

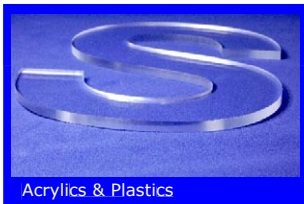
[www.henkel-adhesives.co.uk](http://www.henkel-adhesives.co.uk)



LOCTITE® 401 is a fast curing instant adhesive designed for the assembly of difficult-to-bond materials requiring uniform stress distribution and high tensile and/or shear strength.



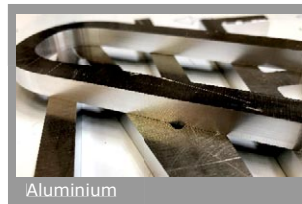
# Taking the guesswork out of CNC routing



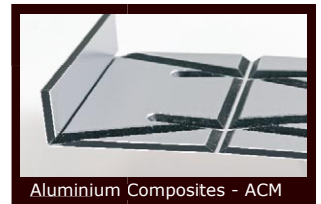
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Woods & Composites



Aluminium



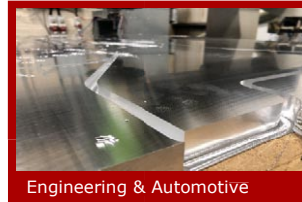
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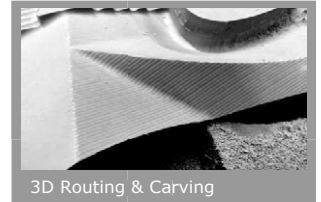
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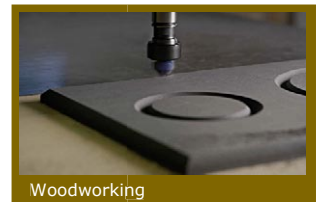
Engineering & Automotive



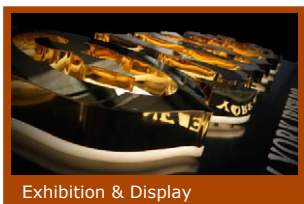
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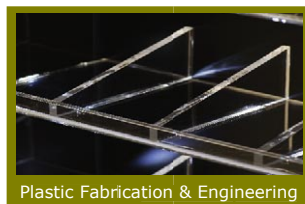
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## Prodigi invests in a swissQprint Impala 3 UV LED flatbed printer

Print-on-demand technology specialist Prodigi Group has invested in a swissQprint Impala 3 UV LED flatbed printer as part of a £1m expansion project.

The swissQprint Impala has been installed at the company's Alton production facility – which has recently been extended by over 30,000 square feet – as part of a project to meet rising customer demand and to open doors to new markets.

Prodigi Group is a leading print-on-demand technology provider servicing global markets, and specialises in the creation and fulfilment of custom products. Its mission is to help companies selling a wide range of personalised products online such as fine art prints, canvas prints, framed prints, photo gifts, phone cases, clothing and apparel, stationery and more. This is achieved through a combination of API software (a software intermediary that allows two applications to talk to each other) and a hybrid production model which coordinates in-house manufacturing with outsourcing.

As e-commerce continues to boom – with online sales rising by 45% in 2020 – Prodigi has also seen significant growth in-line with this, receiving a Sunday Times Fastest Growing Companies' accolade in 2019.

### Attractive decentralised and standardised process

According to Karen Ogden, Head of Marketing at Prodigi, personalised print on demand turns any image into any product that can be printed anywhere in the world. "Our print-on-demand model allows our B2C seller community to advertise a 'virtual' inventory of products – with no minimum order – utilising either their own store, or online marketplaces such as Etsy and Wayfair. When the end-customer purchases a product, the order is either handled by one of our production centres directly, or by one of our print-on-demand fulfilment partners who will manage the entire supply-chain from print production to drop-shipping and final delivery."

"It's an attractive proposition for many because we don't charge for the use of our software. Therefore, the model has very low start-up costs, since you don't need to invest any money in printing machines, product stocks or manufacturing labour," she says. Premium partners include Disney, Natural History Museum, Royal Shakespeare Company, Wildlife Photographer of the Year, Red Bubble, and the Royal Botanical Gardens to name a few.

### Print perfection

Highlighting its dedication to print perfection, the swissQprint Impala 3 flatbed printer has taken centre-stage in a purpose-built climate-controlled room at the Alton production facility, where it is currently being put through its paces. "We are in the process of creating an entirely new range of products based around the swissQprint technology, which we will be announcing soon," continues Karen Ogden. "The samples thus far have been stunning, especially those printed using swissQprint's droptix 3D technology. The ability to print optical 3D effects directly onto regular plastic will certainly enable our user base to explore the creativity of their images and designs."

### Stunning 3D effects

swissQprint's droptix technology creates a 3D effect and movement on a clear printed panel without the need for lenticular substrates, pitch calculation or optical alignment. The system works by printing lenses on the front of the clear panel and the design is printed on the rear of the panel. This is ideal for high-end interior decor pieces, posters, packaging, lightboxes, POS items, and bespoke signage. The effect requires the utmost precision – which is why swissQprint machines are employed the world over in the production of museum-quality fine art printing.

### New capabilities for strategic growth

Prodigi Chief Operating Officer, Steve Levin, is confident that the swissQprint Impala is a proven technology in the commercial supply of ultra-high quality photographic prints to the B2B and B2C marketplace. "While we're already a global leader in what we do, staying ahead of the competition means continually investing in the newest print technologies," he says. "We want to continue to create even better products for our customers, and bring new capabilities into the business. We'll be using our Impala flatbed to expand our large format wall art capability, develop some niche products and pursue commercial contracts as part of our strategic growth plans."

[www.swissqprint.com](http://www.swissqprint.com)



*The swissQprint Impala 3 does great work within a small floor space and is extremely efficiently.*



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# ELECTRONIC SIGNAGE Feature

## An Electronic View

**Electronic Signage has increased massively over recent years and is now very much part of the fixtures and fittings of many public spaces. However, in spite of this proliferation, the design, specification, installation and running of these systems still requires technical know-how and a broad range of specific skills and experience.**

For electronic signage, the installation is only the beginning. The images, information and displays that run on them and how these are created and managed is a vital component. These are usually provided by a Custom Management System (CMS) and these are created and delivered by an increasing number of organisations globally. In this feature we talk to provider of these systems as well as independent consultants to investigate what sign-makers need to know and who they can speak to in order to deliver these solutions to their customers.

One company that specialises in consulting and supporting businesses seeking to implement electronic signage solutions is Kapow Network. Managing Director Chris Rushton says, "My business partner and I started Kapow Network with the lofty aspiration of launching a unique digital signage network. One that didn't

just show revolving short-form adverts, but actually helped local communities with its content and truly helped businesses on the high street. And I'm proud to say we did it with the SavviVille Community App, which covers Streatham. Although it took longer than we expected, it's something that, as far as I'm aware, doesn't exist elsewhere. Our network is currently dormant due to the pandemic, but we're planning to switch it back on very soon."

He continues, "We began our digital signage journey with the content we believe the local community wanted delivering, and this is where I would suggest that everyone starts. With their customers. It may be that you don't actually need a full CMS. A simple USB stick that uploads to the existing built-in media player every professional monitor has today might just as easily do the job. Trust me, if you can keep it simple then do."

Of course, it's not always appropriate to take this route. When a client requires a number of screens over multiple sites or even multiple screens at the same site then a cloud-based CMS will be required to manage this effectively. To control the scheduling, playlists, many different types of content and the ability to immediately update and refresh is something a USB-based solution simply can't do.



*Dynamic images, information and displays are vital and are usually provided by a Custom Management System (CMS)*

According to Rushton a cloud-based CMS is the only way to go. "It is important to note that in order to deliver these solutions you don't need to have the slightest bit of knowledge about Java-Script or what a full stack programmer does. Here at Kapow, we rely on our staff and expert suppliers. So, the first thing to do when looking at the CMS software that you're planning to sell on is to look at the level of expertise in your business. You then need think about whether your CMS provider has the infrastructure and reputation to support you through demanding times as well as the good."

He adds, "A 24-48 hour turnaround on a support ticket system simply does not cut the mustard in this world. Once a digital sign isn't working correctly, the effects are instantly seen by everyone, including your customer and theirs. You will be expected to react quicker than many CMS support teams are reacting to you. If you have the set up to handle at least 50% of issues in-house, then you are in a much better place to protect your business relationships and secure your own future."



*Electronic Signage has increased massively over recent years*



According to Chris Rushton, if your customer requires access to the CMS then make sure the system you propose is simple for them to understand and use, unless they want to commit to days and weeks of training. "Of course you can charge for this training, which brings us to the important question of money. Will you earn a decent profit from providing a CMS to your customers? If you look at it from the point of view of simply selling on licenses then you're going to have to be selling a lot if you're considering retiring early."

It is interesting to look at this from a printing perspective, explains Chris, "If you're sold a printer, that company will be hoping to increase their own sales by supplying you with inks and media. The CMS is like the consumables for electronic signage. It allows you to sell additional items, like new template design ideas, from stills to basic animation and video, which would help keep your studio busy."

You could even be charging a fee to manage the whole thing or simply providing holiday cover. Most clients won't have more than one person running the show for them."

Chris Rushton concludes, "If it all sounds like a big jump that's too scary to make, then of course you could talk to a company like mine, Kapow Network. We own and run our network of screens and help businesses like yours migrate to

selling digital signage to your customers. We understand the mindset of printers and signmakers, so speak a language you'll understand. We don't have any alliances with any hardware or software providers, and simply source the best for each project and budget. We work with our clients until they are confident enough to take the keys and drive their own networks for themselves."

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## Can you afford to ignore the next big opportunity in signage any longer?

As with any emerging technology, electronic signage has been a complicated and confusing landscape for the uninitiated with too many choices and too much complexity. However, this is changing as the market settles down and practical, simpler, value for money solutions have emerged.

Mark Easterbrook, Sales Director at Bitvu, creator of Screenspace, tells us how digital signage can help sign-makers retain existing customers and even acquire more. He says that simple digital signage that can be up and running in just 5 minutes. "Do you have sales going down 15 or 20% every year in your traditional sectors? Do you have existing customers approaching you to discuss and explore digital signage, but you not being able to help them, or knowing where to turn to help yourself? If this sounds familiar, that's because it's a real-life scenario that we have seen so often over the last few years from many sign-makers."

He continues, "Even before the Covid-19 pandemic, the market for digital signs was growing, but the events of the last 15 months have changed the signage, print and display landscape forever. The

flexibility and speed that digital offers, means demand has never been higher and the reality is you cannot afford to wait any longer."

It's easy to dismiss digital signage as "not what we do" or "it's too complicated" or "we don't have time or the resources" but you really need to think again. Traditional signage may always be at the heart of what you do, but digital is next generation of display, just like A Boards and illuminated signs once were too.

"As the technology costs have plummeted, for customers, it's gone from a novelty to a compelling technology that's a 'must have'", says Easterbrook. "Imagine how effective a marketing is when the message can be changed several times a day without even visiting the location?"

So how do you, as a signage business capitalise on the digital opportunity in a way that continues the lasting, profitable relationships with your customers that you have today, and wins new ones too?

According to Mark Easterbrook, firstly, it's vital to dispel a few incorrect assumptions and misconceptions, "Don't think of electronic

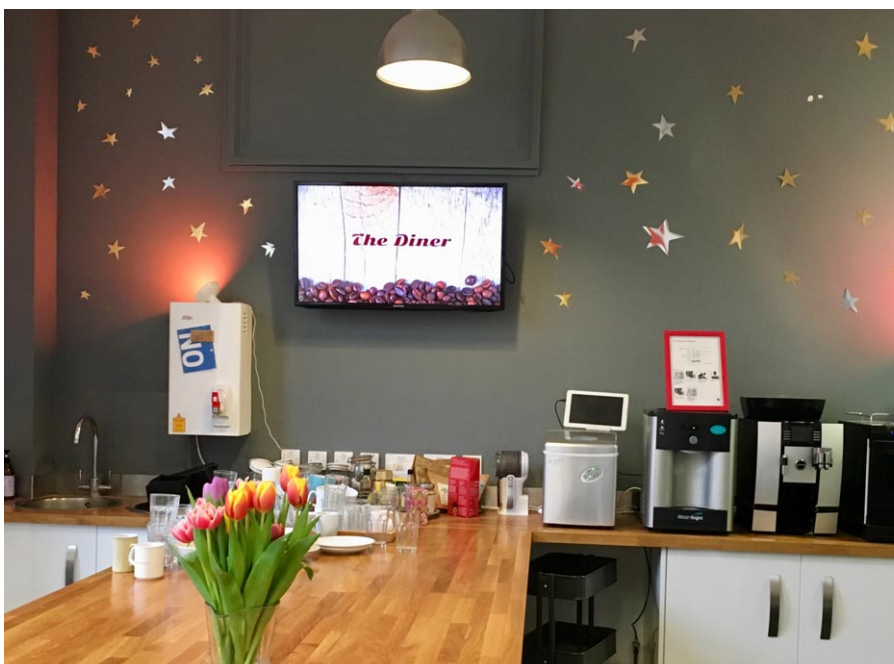


*POS system in a Cash and Carry powered by Screenspace Digital Signage*

signage as something you simply don't do. If you are in the Display and Signage industry, then by default, you must offer digital signage as part of your portfolio. It's the logical extension of what you as a business, have done successfully for years; think of it as evolution, not revolution!

"You might think you don't have time or the resources. But the latest solutions can get a digital signage screen up and running for you in 5 minutes. Costs of ownership are at an all-time low, plus all the resources you employ for your existing signage business (designers, existing artwork etc.) can be utilised digitally.

"You might also say it is all too complicated. Of all the reasons that are put forward, this is the one that is easiest to overcome, particularly coming from Signage companies, given the amazing and creative work they install every day. If you know how to log onto a computer, read a Wi-Fi password and install a TV screen, you can do digital signage! Solutions today have simplified the User Experience, so that creating and managing content is intuitive and can be self-taught and managed."



*Screenspace Digital Signage providing information in the workplace*



Dispel the myth that digital is bad for existing sign and print businesses

"Digital signage is an opportunity, not a threat," he says, adding, "As well as providing hardware and installation services, you can enjoy a share of ongoing subscription income as well as added-value design and screen management services-all whilst complementing your traditional services. In addition, you need the right partner to start you off on your digital signage journey and guide and help you along the way, whilst delivering futureproof technology, simply and reliably."

Easterbrook concludes, "At Screenspace, our mission from day one was to make digital signage technology accessible to the mass market through innovation, simplification, and the elimination of unnecessary cost. By investing in our own Hardware and Software and making use of technology such as Amazon AWS to run our service in the cloud, we today offer an end-to-end solution that deliver a fantastic digital signage experience at a remarkable price. So don't wait a moment longer to join the Digital Evolution. The next time one of your customers asks about using screens for signage, make sure you have an answer ready – or someone else will beat you to it!"



Mark Easterbrook Sales & Marketing Director Bitvu Ltd

## Case study - Lodge Brothers

Lodge Brothers is a 7th generation family-owned funeral directors with over 40 stores in and around West London and Surrey. With over 230 years serving the local community, trust is at the heart of everything they do. Recently, they wanted to install digital signage to increase footfall and broaden awareness of services.

As a business, Lodge Brothers were keen to attract more people into their network of 40 stores and build awareness of the broad range of other services that they can offer, outside of the times when customers traditionally would use a funeral director.

The specific goal for the project was to increase the awareness and uptake of the company's growing pre-paid funeral plans

and legal services department. They talked to Screenspace, who proposed a package of high brightness professional displays for use in store windows, along with its Freedom digital signage players. The cloud-based Screenspace CMS enables Lodge's marketing department to remotely control the content that plays out on their entire network of displays, thus maintaining the very high standards of presentation that the business prides itself on.

The use of the Wi-Fi enabled Freedom player meant that there was virtually no disruption during installation. The ability to easily create and publish engaging content using both video and static images was felt to be a key factor in helping the



Lodge Brothers reported an increase in footfall from walk-past customers



Lodge Brothers installed digital signage to increase footfall and broaden awareness of services

company to engage more readily with potential customers and persuade them to come through the door for a conversation.

Lodge Brothers has reported an increase in footfall from walk-past customers which has helped them to build awareness of their range of services. The digital signage has also built a perception of the brand as a modern business, albeit one that is steeped in tradition and family values. Following the initial trial in 15 stores, the company now plans to roll out digital signage to the entire estate.

Robert Lodge, Chairman of Lodge Brothers, says, "Screenspace has enabled us to supplement our more traditional advertising campaigns and effectively target a new generation of customers with our expanding range of services."

[www.screenspace.live](http://www.screenspace.live)

## MacroArt continues longstanding relationship with Paultons Park

Yee Ha! MacroArt has all signs covered ready for the opening of Paultons Park's brand-new ride experience.

Leading signage and wide format graphics printer MacroArt, has continued its longstanding relationship with Paultons Park, supplying the latest signage for its newest attraction – Tornado Springs – which opened on 12th April.

Working with the client's design team, MacroArt researched and responsibly sourced ethically verified specialist wood materials, able to withstand the rigours of a UK theme park environment.

Extensive testing work was required to ensure the printing processes used had the visibility, durability and longevity needed to ensure a high safety, low maintenance result for the dozens of signs on the site.



*MacroArt researched and responsibly sourced ethically verified specialist wood materials, able to withstand the rigours of a UK theme park environment.*



*MacroArt say they have the capacity to produce 50,000 m2 of print per week*

Working with our materials suppliers, our design and production team devised a solution using a combination of our direct-to-media printers and the latest wooden materials to ensure we complemented the 1950's style and tone of the new Tornado Springs experience," said Mike Hamling, MacroArt's Key Account Manager.

MacroArt combined a printed white layer to make the text pop and a four-colour layer without white to allow natural wood grain to show through. The back of each sign was also printed with a pattern to maintain the brand experience, and all the panels were cut out using one of MacroArt's three CNC cutters before receiving two layers of clear UV lacquer.

The new Tornado Springs themed land is set in a Midwest desert resort town in the American heyday of the 1950s and is sited within Paultons Park's 140-acre site in the New Forest National Park.

Head of Marketing and Communications, Rob Griffiths has worked with Mike Hamling for over 15 years and was confident that whatever the challenge, the team at MacroArt could deliver.

Its extensive plant list has meant that MacroArt has been ideally suited to the

task of producing the wide variety of internal and external shaped signage needed for Paultons Park over the years, and Paultons were pleased to continue using MacroArt to supply signage for this latest project.

"It was a real advantage to be able to leave these signage elements in Mike's capable hands and our relationship built over the past years reassured us that MacroArt would continue to produce high quality and reliable signage that would really complement our incredible new land," continued Rob.

Mike concluded; "Our longstanding customers are key to MacroArt and by ensuring we are able to provide printed graphics and signage across a wide variety of project sizes, we make sure that we can deliver the results they need.

"This job was the perfect example of our ability to deliver tailor-made signage solutions of any size for our clients and I am delighted that they provide the impact and sustainability that Paultons Park demanded for their brand-new experience."

[www.macroart.co.uk](http://www.macroart.co.uk)



# N3 Display Graphics stays one step ahead with Drytac Polar Street FX

Large-format graphics production and installation company recently used Drytac Polar Street FX aluminium print media to produce a range of eye-catching outdoor floor graphics to promote social distancing across the city of Bristol.

Bristol City Council designed a series of 2m x 1.1m (6.6ft x 3.6ft) footprint-style graphics for use in high traffic areas of the city ahead of non-essential shops reopening in mid-April.

The printed graphics had to be safe for use underfoot. The Council specified they should have a proper slip rating, meaning they were safe for use in busy areas that could be exposed to wet weather, including high streets and other retail settings.

To meet these challenges, the Council turned to N3 Display Graphics in Bristol. As a long-time user of Drytac materials, N3 Display Graphics quickly identified as the ideal solution for the project.

Polar Street FX is a PVC-free, aluminium print media suitable for both outdoor floor and wall graphics, without the need for lamination. The slip-resistant printable film can be applied to ground or wall surfaces



such as brick, concrete, asphalt or any other low energy surfaces. Polar Street FX holds a 'Low Slip Potential' 72 PTV according to the EN 13036-4 Pendulum Test. In the UK, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) only recognises slip ratings based on the Pendulum Test Method.

N3 Display Graphics Director Nigel Walker explains: "The Council specified that we

use aluminium-backed slip rated material so Polar Street FX was the ideal choice for the job."

Polar Street FX is printable with eco-solvent, latex or UV technology, making it a flexible choice. For this project, the giant footprint graphics were printed on two HP Latex 360 printers, resulting in a series of creative graphics that have proved a huge hit with shoppers since being installed at the end of March 2021.

N3 Display Graphics cut the graphics into the curved footprint shape with its Zünd cutter with double edged tungsten blades, which was easily able to handle the strong-wearing nature and toughness of the Polar Street FX aluminium backing.

In terms of working with Drytac, N3's Nigel Walker adds: "We have a long history of mutual respect with Drytac, and they always have the right products at the right price."

The Bristol footprint graphics have been a great success. Nigel continues: "After a month out on the streets, the graphics are all standing up well and are helping people to return to shopping safely."

## Innovative talking Covid-19 Signage comes to Doncaster

Doncaster Council investigated innovative ways to deliver social distancing rules in the town centre and regional shopping and hospitality locations. Talking Signs were chosen as part of their strategy as the solution had the potential to be impactful alongside traditional methods.

They chose to purchase the solar powered model which meant the long-term maintenance costs would be minimal and they required the option to change the recording from time to time so the message remains fresh and impactful and giving them the option to reuse the signs if they are needed for future Covid-19 public health and safety messages.

The signs are installed on lampposts and the messages are motion activated by passing pedestrians.

We installed 10 units in Doncaster town

centre, Askern, Armthorpe, Bawtry, Mexborough and Thorne with the messages 'Keep your distance. Remember Hands, Face, Space' and 'Shop local, Shop safe. Let's Do it for Doncaster'.

Talking Signs are part of a range of measures Doncaster Council have taken to promote social distancing, hand washing and the use of face coverings, printed signage, social and traditional media, along with the national initiatives. These measures have been funded by the European Regional Development Fund as part of the Reopening High Streets Safely campaign.

The manufacturer is a Doncaster based business that specialises in Signage and Display products.

[www.signshapes.com/public-safety/](http://www.signshapes.com/public-safety/)



*A remote message change system allows messages to be changed quickly without visiting the sign location*

## Young motorsport star finds AERO gains with wrapped Ginetta

A racing driver since the age of four, Max Dodds at the age of 15, is preparing for his first season in the highly competitive Ginetta Junior Championship – a proven feeder series for GT, Touring Cars, Formula One and other higher echelons of the sport – in a car that's been wrapped to maximise its aerodynamic performance.

AERO Sustainable Paint Technology is an American manufactured vehicle wrap product that incorporates the advantages of both paint and self-adhesive film. Originally developed for use in the aerospace industry, its adoption by the automotive sector brings significant advantages to alternatives for wrapping and decorating vehicles. A film-based paint, AERO is highly durable, 50% lighter than traditional sprayed paint, and easy to apply. The Ginetta was prepared for the 2021 season by Cheshire print service provider, , whose capabilities range from screen printing, through web design and business stationery, to wide format printing and high-end vehicle graphics.

Offering the aesthetic advantages of paint but with the benefits of a colour change film, Nettle Crewe & Nantwich used its to add further value by incorporating printed elements into the design, to reproduce sponsor logos and branding directly onto the material.

"AERO is finding real traction in the motorsport sector," says Mark Jones, Nettle

Crewe & Nantwich managing director. "From a local motocross outfit, to Max as an up-and-coming racing driver, right through to Le Mans and F1 teams, we're seeing multiple advantages of choosing Aero as the means of applying colour, branding and livery. With its strong eco-credentials, we're also experiencing good take-up from environment-first businesses with large fleets of liveried vehicles who want a long-lasting, PVC-free wrapping solution."

Expertly balancing his motorsport career with the demands of schoolwork, Dodds' involvement in the preparation of his car extends beyond the task of piloting it around a track at speeds of up to 170kph. Having started out racing karts at the age of 4, he's graduated through various motorsport classes and during this time, become more engaged with the valuable task of reporting back to his engineers on his car's performance. "Being able to let my engineers know the improvements to the handling and feel of the car is important for them in how they set it up," says Dodds. "I like to be involved with the team and have an input, and the new AERO film has made a difference not just to how the car looks, but in how it drives."

Nettle's Mimaki UCJV300 uses LED UV cured ink to print to a wide range of materials and with its dense, bright white ink, overprinting onto a coloured material such as the black AERO product used on

Dodds' car ensures vibrant results for sponsor logos and branding. The ability to reprint individual panels means that in the event of a bump or scrape the whole car doesn't need painting and with wheel-to-wheel action expected at the season's 25 races, its scuff resistance will be appreciated too. "AERO is an incredible 17,000 times tougher than regular paint," says Jones. "Combine this with the excellent rub resistance of the Mimaki ink and we hope to not have to make too many changes to the wrap during the season."

The UCJV300 sits alongside a raft of other Mimaki technology at the company's recently acquired premises in Crewe. Already a 15-strong team, Nettle Crewe & Nantwich was established in 2017, and invested in its Mimaki hardware through authorised Mimaki partner, . It's no surprise to the company's general manager, Kirsty Reader that it's being put to such creative use.

"The breadth of the Mimaki UCJV300's capabilities is one of the reasons it's such a popular solution and we're pleased to see it become an important part of Nettle's print capabilities," states Reader. "We wish Max and his team well with the coming season and eagerly await seeing the livery on our TV screens this summer."

Races from the nine weekends of the Ginetta Junior Championship will be shown live on ITV4 so the pressure to get the car looking its best was on for Jones' team of wrapping experts at Nettle. "Our launch event gave us the chance to show off the new graphics to the team's sponsors and we look forward to it appearing just as polished when Max lines up on the grid at Brands Hatch, Silverstone, Donnington and other legendary circuits around the UK this season," confirms Jones.

The opportunity to race at such prestigious venues is just part of the appeal for Dodds. "I'm excited about the 2021 season, racing across the UK and getting behind the wheel of the new car," he concludes, and his calm approach ensures he's not getting too carried away. "I've learnt over the years to take it one race at a time, and having such a great looking car that's already performing so well is a big confidence boost to the whole team."



Max Dodds' Mimaki printed, Aero-wrapped Ginetta is ready for the 2021 Junior Championship.



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## Riot of colour with translucent vinyl and transparent films

Sheffield based signage and digital print specialist Insign recently helped Sheffield Children's Hospital add a WOW factor to their main entrance.

Artfelt, The Children's Hospital Charity's arts programme, worked with leading artist and place maker Morag Myerscough to create a riot of colour for the Main Entrance of Sheffield Children's Hospital. They commissioned Morag to enhance the status of the entrance and provide a welcoming, playful experience for patients visiting their Western Bank site. It looks glorious in the sun!

Insign used two different products to deliver the final result. Hexis's Cristal 4000 transparent range, combined with Metamark's MT translucent range, were selected to achieve the variety of colour and light transmission required to achieve the impact that the artist wanted to create.

The job presented a few challenges as each unique colour piece of the design had to be individually cut and applied in position as perfectly as possible so not to compromise the overall artwork.

The project has been a huge success. It's proven a real hit with the visitors, staff and most importantly the children. Insign were honoured to have had the opportunity to be part of it and all the people involved are absolutely over the moon with the response.

[www.insign.co.uk](http://www.insign.co.uk)

Photography by Andy Brown.



### Products used:

#### Metamark T Series:

A premium grade polymeric calendered translucent signmaking vinyl, for use with light boxes where the film is to be backlit. The satin 80 micron film features a crystal clear adhesive and a lay-flat release liner.

#### Hexis Cristal C4000:

A gloss polymeric PVC film specially designed for trendy markings on shop windows, in bars or restaurants. The polyester liner provides very high transparency and avoids visual distortion of objects.



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antalis TEAM

## Raising the Ink bar with resin

Epson has recently launched a new range of water-based resin inks for its SureColor range of large format printers. Phil McMullin, Sales Manager, ProGraphics, Epson (UK) Ltd, explains, "Outstandingly vibrant, consistent colour, even on the new breed of heat sensitive medias, is delivered by Epson's UltraChrome RS resin ink, now available for the SureColor SC-R Series of wide format printers. The ink was developed in tandem with Epson's renowned print head expertise to deliver elevated levels of print performance, colour reliability and an expanded choice of applications, all from a water-based ink."

Created as a complementary ink technology to Epson's range of commercial inks, Epson Ultrachrome RS ink supports high performance on a wide range of sign, display & decor medias, particularly uncoated stocks. The latter is important as it enables fully recycling of printed product once the media is no longer required. The 6-colour ink set comprises of CMYK plus light cyan and light magenta to reduce graininess. In addition, an ink optimiser provides enhancement to the already vibrant inks, delivering image quality well beyond that seen in other brands of resin ink.

McMullin adds, "Epson spends close to \$1.5 million per day on R&D across all its businesses. The bulk of this innovation is



*Epson's new SureColor SC-R Series of wide format printers*

carried out at the company's HQ in central Japan. Epson's ink chemists sit next to the team developing the print heads so that communication is clear and rapid. By working closely together they co-develop proprietary intellectual property in both arenas that can be combined to achieve next level technology solutions, exclusively in Epson printers. The product is brought to market following many years of research and testing."

**The new ink offers a number of attractions for print service providers:**

### Productivity

Quick-drying, with impressive levels of scratch resistance, it enables users to laminate instantly for fast turnaround and same-day delivery on high priority jobs such as vehicle graphics. Uptime is kept to a maximum and running costs reduced with a bulk ink solution and a hot swap function.

### Sustainability

Completely water based and with a significantly lower curing temperatures, the ink offers sustainable solutions to customers and brands. Their eco-friendly and odourless prints can be used in sensitive environments such as schools and hospitals. In addition, printed output on non-PVC media can be fully recycled.

### Image Quality

The ink supports high image quality and repeatable colour. Both are achieved by Epson's unique three-stage curing process, long-life printhead, repeat accuracy of dot placements and consistent droplet size, job after job. Reduced graininess and banding is made possible by halftoning, fully optimized look up table and Micro Weave - known collectively as Precision dot technology, which has been developed over many years



*Epson Ultrachrome RS ink offers stable colour performance and environmentally friendly output*



## Application Variety

Resin ink is suitable for printing both traditional signage applications including vinyl and banner, as well as a broader range of substrates like uncoated papers, wallpapers and textiles. The wide substrate possibilities support signage and pro-graphics printers, design agencies and wallpaper, canvas and photo production plants. Instant lamination and high scratch resistance, for example, lends itself to both the vehicle livery market for fast turnaround and application, and the POS market where users may want to avoid laminating to reduce costs.

McMullin says, "With the resin ink it is now possible to meet the demand for quality, productivity, reliability, stable colour

performance and environmentally friendly output. Epson partners and customers see this new ink set as a key component in the industry move to more sustainable solutions."

He concludes, "Epson believes that the customer should be able to choose which type of ink they wish to use depending on their specific application. That is why the company has developed inks across the whole spectrum – aqueous, eco-solvent, dye sub, DTG, DTF, UV and now also resin. Amongst the main OEMs this is a unique proposition. Epson is the one-stop-shop for all wide format print requirements."

[www.epson.co.uk](http://www.epson.co.uk)



*Curing can be carried out at significantly lower temperatures*

## New generation inks for new generation printers from HP

In February 2021 HP introduced a new range of 1.6m printers using HP's new 4<sup>th</sup> generation Latex inks, which included two models with white ink. This extends the white ink from the HP Hybrid R-Series printer to the HP Latex Roll to Roll printers for the first time.

Bruce Van Greunen, HP UK&I Pre-Sales Technical Consultant, says, "The 4<sup>th</sup> Generation of HP latex inks reduces the curing temperatures even further allowing the machines to print onto even more media for unrivalled versatility when printing everything from wallpaper to vehicle wraps, window blinds to floor graphics. The introduction of a new fluid to the 4th Generation ink set, (the Overcoat) provides scratch resistance to the print, which in the previous generations, was inside the coloured inks, commonly known as the 'anti-scratch agent'. The benefit is if you are going to laminate your plots, you do not need to use the Overcoat, which improves the laminate adhesion and reduces cost."

Van Greunen continues, "The new HP Latex Inks also have an improved Colour gamut, delivering striking reds and blacks due to a higher pigment load. The integrity of substrate touch and feel is still

maintained of course and vivid colours are now achieved even in the higher speed print modes. The 4<sup>th</sup> generation inks include the addition of the whitest white ink in the industry. This is a truly opaque white that will not turn yellow over time. The HP Latex White ink extends Latex Printing into new applications including more options for backlit printing, and Multi-layer prints a on Clear Substrates for window graphics, dark and coloured substrates. Automatic

recirculation, printhead cleaning as well as the addition of the offline rotation chamber, make for the most consciously low waste white solution in the market."

The inks include an Optimizer, which enables high image quality at speed, by controlling the ink on the print surface. This produces up to 4-point text and image detail by overcoming feathering and colour bleed.



*New HP Latex 700 and 800 series wide format printers*

# LARGE FORMAT Inks and media

## Meeting environmental concerns

"4<sup>th</sup> Generation HP Latex Inks have maintained or improved the environmental profile to both print service providers and customers, by carrying a broad set of credentials addressing the full spectrum of environmental concerns; from ink chemistry and indoor air quality—for both print production and display—to lifecycle considerations. This is making it possible for customers to reach sensitive indoor spaces like healthcare or restaurants, because water-based HP Latex Ink prints are odourless and low-emitting meeting UL GREENGUARD GOLD\* and meet stringent health and environmental criteria that comply with toy safety requirements," he adds.

"This also makes it safer for the print operator (which is hugely important for any reputable company), as there are no hazard warning labels, reactive monomer chemistry, or HAPs," says Van Greunen, adding, "The HP Latex technology is also better for the environment, printing on a wide variety of eco-conscious media choices, and delivering prints that are recyclable, returnable, or non-hazardous and safe for disposal."



*HP Latex White ink extends Latex Printing into new applications*

In conclusion, Bruce Van Greunen says, "The New HP Latex 700 and 800 series replaces the Plastic ink cartridges with HP Eco-Carton ink cartridges reduces plastic usage by 80% and CO<sup>2</sup> by 66%, and landfill to Zero as the outer carton is locally recyclable, and HP offers a free take-back service for the inner ink bag and used

printheads via HP Planet Partners. The new printers contain at least 10Kg of recycled plastics designed consisting of consumer electronics, soda bottles, UL-validated ocean bound plastics, coat hangers and empty Original HP ink cartridges."

[www.hp.com](http://www.hp.com)



*New HP printers deliver prints that are recyclable, returnable, or non-hazardous and safe for disposal*



# How Mimaki's vast choice of LED UV ink types can help shape your business

With investment in both roll-to-roll and flatbed LED UV printers on the increase, we talked to Hybrid Services, Mimaki's UK and Ireland distributor about the latest inks options available from Mimaki's UV printer line-up.

When the time comes to invest in your next LED UV printer, having the opportunity to choose from a broad range of ink types is a critical part of the buying process. Consideration of what you're really looking to achieve from your hardware investment will help better understand how alternative and additional revenue can be added to your business.

## Hard or flexible? □

Hybrid Services' Martin Southworth says, "Mimaki's unrivalled range of LED UV ink consists of a number of options, each with distinct properties and suited to different hardware, either flatbed or roll-to-roll. Benefiting different applications through their varying ranges of flexibility, Mimaki's LED UV inks suit an almost endless array of end user applications. The first decision to make is whether you'll need Mimaki's hard or flexible ink."

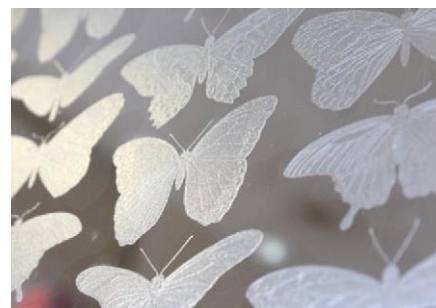
Hard UV inks are tough and ultra-durable. They benefit from great adhesion and are suited to rigid applications such as printing on acrylic, wood, glass and metal. Flexible inks are stretchable to allow for the expansion and contraction of movement and while these will still provide scuff resistance and durability, they're surprisingly malleable on bendy surfaces

like banner, vinyl and flexible phone cases.

Southworth continues, "For applications such as printing rigid signage, promotional pens, decorative acrylic photo blocks and awards, Mimaki's LH100 hard inks are ideally suited. Available for all Mimaki's flatbed LED UV printers, from the A3 UJF-3042FX right up to the 10' x 5' JFX500-2131 they provide a long lasting finish on metal, board and other rigid substrates."

He adds, "In addition to its hard LED UV inks, Mimaki has an expanding number of flexible options too. These range from inks that offer small amounts of stretch, to assist with applications such as packaging proofing – where creasing, scoring and folding could, with a hard digital ink or traditional screen ink, potentially lead to the print lifting, flaking or shattering – right up to inks that can stretch to over three times their original proportions, making them perfect for prints that can be vacuum formed. This involves printing onto a substrate such as a thermoplastic, which when heated and pressed over a mould, can be shaped into a 3D object."

The brightest of whites □ Mimaki's LED UV ink sets include bright and opaque white options – something that's been a staple within the line-up since the early 2000's, enabling sign-makers to achieve vibrant prints on coloured substrates, impressive creative effects on metal and wood and opaque graphics on clear substrates. With printers incorporating Mimaki Circulation



*This image shows a matte finish on transparent film to give the appearance of frosted glass*

Technology (MCT) – one of a number of Mimaki's onboard Core Technologies designed to deliver high quality output with minimum user intervention – consistent and reliable ink delivery is also ensured.

"For printing to the most challenging of substrates, adhesion can be increased in materials that possess low surface energies by pre-treatment technologies such as primers. Mimaki GM1 for glass and metal is a hand-applied primer that gives an extra boost of adhesion, and to automate the process, Mimaki has also developed two printable primers: PR100 for rigid applications, and PR200 for use with flexible inks, opening up an even greater choice of new materials and objects that can be printed to," he says.

A clear choice □ "By incorporating Mimaki's clear varnish, it's possible to highlight areas with spot or flood coating, as well as to deliver embossing opportunities with multiple passes," says Southworth, adding, "Available for Mimaki's LED UV flatbed technology since 2016, and now useable in the UCJV300 series roll-to-roll printer/cutter and new UJV100 roll-to-roll printer, the development of clear UV cure ink has created a wealth of design possibilities and expands business opportunities by creating compelling displays using gloss, matte or textured finish."

Martin Southworth concludes, "Evidently, the ink options available with a Mimaki UV printer are substantial, so for sign-makers considering their next investment, Hybrid and its reseller partners are ideally placed to impart their experience and technical know-how, to assist and advise on the most appropriate solution, provide sample prints and offer product demonstrations around the UK and Ireland."



*This image shows a range of techniques printing to a clear media, including white ink, surface / sub-surface and 2.5D effects*

[www.hybridservices.co.uk](http://www.hybridservices.co.uk)

## What are the latest trends in large format Inks and Media?

InkTec is a global manufacturer of inkjet ink, JETRIX printers and media for the indoor and outdoor advertisement market. Peter Davidson, Sales Director, says, "At InkTec Europe we are experiencing a resurgence in the demand for aqueous inks which is being driven by businesses focussing on more ecological print solutions for many indoor and outdoor applications. This has been particularly noticeable by the significant growth in sales of dye sublimation and pigmented aqueous inks."

During the pandemic InkTec's priority has been to keep supporting customers through-out this challenging time. This has proved particularly important for those needing a consistent ink supply. Davidson continues, "With everything going on, InkTec Europe has obviously been impacted by raw material costs just like other manufacturers. However, by being able to consolidate our production approach, we have decided to absorb these additional costs to support our customers and help them recover as everyone emerges from the pandemic. The feeling was that it was important to try to limit price increases on essential materials like inks, when many are struggling to move forwards."

"So, during the last 12-18 months we have put a number of new efficiency measures in place at the production stage, which has enabled us to streamline our manufacturing processes, resulting in their being no need for us to increase ink prices in 2021. This may be a surprise to the

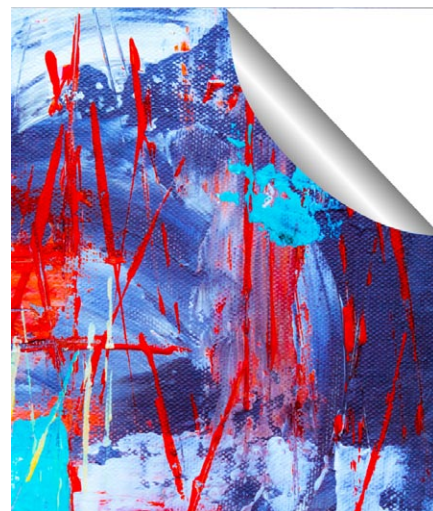
market; however, it has been warmly welcomed by our customers who are already under immense business pressures," adds Davidson.

### The media message

Peter Davidson says that InkTec have long been focused on reducing the volume of media being produced using unrecyclable materials. "In fact, we have eliminated PVC from our display portfolio which means that 100% of media produced by InkTec is now made from polyester and polypropylene materials which can be recycled. While as a business, we continue to be focused on ensuring that the raw materials are as 'green' as they can be the challenge is how 'green' they become once they are used."

Good examples of this are InkTec's new anti-scratch textured roll up media, which does not require lamination after printing, and the recently introduced TEX-RA fire rated self-adhesive polyester fabric wall covering. Both are first class products made from recyclable materials.

InkTec's belief is that striving to be greener should just be the norm. This philosophy and approach has long been talked about, but the issue now is how the printing industry creates a circular economy. The question is: once the product has been used, how can the cost of de-inking and recycling it, in order to create an effective re-purposed product,



*InkTec's Tex-RA fire rated self-adhesive polyester fabric wall covering*

be easily and cost effectively achieved?

Davidson concludes, "Sadly, the current situation means the resulting recycled product ends up being of a much lower value than the cost of processing it to reach that state. So, while here at InkTec Europe we are committed to providing quality products that can be recycled in their raw form, the majority of our industry, from the supplier to the end user, have yet to find an acceptable financial and practical means of how they can be effectively recycled."

[www.inktec.com](http://www.inktec.com)



*The need for green is driving a growth in water based inks*





# What makes a good digitally printed wall covering?

Digitally printed wallpapers and displays have removed all the traditional barriers when it comes to designing and specifying graphic displays, point of sale areas and room interiors. It enables an explosion of creativity where full colour graphics and imagery can be applied to any surface or object. Derric Landor of Landor UK, the exclusive European distributor of Phototex, says "There are no boundaries to this technology and, when you add Landor Phototex to the equation, the opportunities for creativity go through the roof (as well as on the ceiling!)."

Launched in 2011, Phototex has revolutionised the wallpaper, surface design and graphics market, particularly adhesives, vinyls, wraps and the more conventional methods of paste and stick wallcoverings. Landor adds, "Landor Phototex was the first invention of its kind and is still the world's best-selling self-adhesive fabric. This unique product transforms the way we think about digital wallcoverings, art and photographic installations and other graphic displays. Its beauty is in its time saving, labour saving and even skill saving. You can print anything you like to it, apply it in seconds, remove it and reapply it again and again. It never leaves a sticky residue and the stable and highly dependable adhesive

Because it can be applied  
and reapplied easily,  
if your Phototex  
wallcovering isn't quite  
straight or in the right  
place, then you can simply  
peel it off and reapply it

means it will not lose its stickiness and will not damage your surfaces. It also removes the need for extra work and effort when you need to change your wall or surface decoration for branding or other requirements. It is also incredibly durable and virtually tear-proof."

It sounds so simple. And in many ways it is. As Landor explains, "Peel and stick is not particularly new, but there is no other product that does it quite like Phototex. Firstly, it is ridiculously easy to apply. Even if you are handling a large sheet that has been folded and has creases in it – within seconds you can apply it to a flat surface and it will be bubble free, crease free and looking great."



*Phototex enables dramatic displays that are simple to create and look great*



*Phototex is very easy to apply, even awkward places like ceilings are a breeze*

## Save in installation costs

Derric Landor explains how Phototex can help save costs in many areas, "You can save on the cost of traditional materials, such as plastic, metal, wood, panelling and the like. You can also save on the replacement, renewal and other changes in decoration, branding and promotion, which Phototex allows you to do in a jiffy. This saves hours when you think of all the usual repairs, renewals and disruption that comes with other more permanent or temporary installations."

Because it can be applied and reapplied easily, if your Phototex wallcovering isn't quite straight or in the right place, then you can simply peel it off and reapply it. "Sounds almost too simple to be true," says Landor, adding, "Which is why we encourage you to try it for yourself. When you peel it off there is no stickiness or residue left behind and the fabric itself doesn't lose any of its stickiness. That's because of Phototex's unique, patented adhesive – there is nothing like it on any other product, whatever they might claim."

Derric Landor concludes, "We have seen Landor Phototex left up for months and even years - and it still peels off with no residue and it's ready to stick again. We have seen it removed and reapplied more than 100 times. This material really works and has to be seen to be believed."

[www.phototex.co.uk](http://www.phototex.co.uk)

## APA Media for anti-viral protection

APA SpA is an Italian company that has specialised in the manufacture and sale of self-adhesive film in rolls, for plotters and digital printers for over 40 years. Mr. Emanuele Candio, Sales Export Manager, explains "Films for the decoration of signs and shop windows, labels, clothing, wrapping and interior design are just a part of the wide range of APA products. We have over 30 different product lines and more than 1000 colours. We have direct relationships with our customer through a fast and tested channel and can ensure direct deliveries from our factory all over the world."

He adds "Professionalism, competence, quality of materials and a constant technological research make APA a leader in the decoration sector. As we are all trying to safely resume activities and business during the pandemic, we believe these values as well as our certifications are very important."

APA is a UNI EN ISO 9001, 14001 and 45001 certified company system. "This demonstrates the company's commitment to environmental protection as well as to its customers. It shows we are constantly evolving with top-level quality standards."

### Case study

Many companies have already applied self-sanitising transparent films in different environments. One APA customer, Double A from Trento, carried out a remarkable job in a chain of supermarkets in large-scale distribution. In order to contain the spread of Coronavirus, the owner, Mr. Alessandro Andreatta, together with his team, applied the AV/991-FT film on more than 300 trolleys and shopping baskets, where a large amount of viruses and bacteria usually settle.

Similarly, in the fruit and vegetable department, the AV/991-R was applied on food selection keyboards of scales.



APA Anti-viral protects touchpoints in supermarkets



APA Anti-viral protects touchpoints in supermarkets

### Self-sanitising film

APA has designed a range of transparent adhesive films that helps in environments with a large influx of people and where hygiene and constant sanitation are essential. The range includes a standard version, an Air-Free FTX System and a removable product. "Applying our self-sanitising film allows companies to concentrate more on their business than constant cleaning. It also allows them to save on the use of detergents and adds a great layer of environmental protection" says Mr. Candio.

He adds "Our self-sanitising materials are ideal for restaurants and other commercial and hospitality settings. Other high traffic areas include on transport and at stations. Other areas where there are lots of people and good hygiene is essential includes hospitals, surgeries and other medical centres. This product is even suitable for offices and other commonly used places where people can gather and often touch".

APA's antiviral film has been tested against SARS-CoV-2 and is applicable on



APA has designed a range of transparent adhesive films for anti-viral protection

a wide range of surfaces. Mr. Candio concludes, "The anti-viral remains active for the entire life of the film, which provides great peace of mind for our customers. It is prepared and self-sanitised with in an hour and, like most of our products they are made in Italy. This transparent self-adhesive cast film is certified and designed against the transmission of human Coronavirus and the proliferation of the most frequent bacteria".

[www.apaspa.com](http://www.apaspa.com)



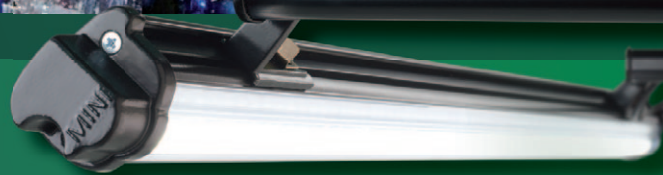


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## Soyang developing media solutions to benefit the environment

As the world becomes much more conscious of the way climate change is affecting us, it is important that we as a digital print media industry play our part. Mark Mashiter, Managing Director of Soyang Europe, says, "By creating and developing PVC free and environmentally friendly options we can offer customers a very important choice. As a company, along with our partners, Soyang Europe have been producing and supplying PVC free and eco-friendly materials for a long time, however as they become more popular we have been able to grow with demand and produce new materials."

He continues, "We offer a range of textiles made from recycled yarns, as well as PVC free banner and eco-friendly self-adhesives. It's not only the materials themselves that help make positive changes to the environment but it's the way they are made and the fact that they are able to be recycled once they are no longer needed."

*"the main benefit of using these materials is the positive impact they have on the environment"*  
Mark Mashiter



*Soyang's water recycling plant helps conserve valuable water in the media manufacturing process*

For applications where clients demand the highest environmental credentials and integrity, Soyang's range of eco-friendly media includes fully recyclable banner materials for both internal and external applications. The range includes PET-based materials, PVC-free, 100% recyclable and phthalate-free, available in several standard widths up to 5 meters wide and 300gm in weight, covering light box, banner, blockouts (double side printing), mesh and even self-adhesive applications.

The eco-friendly banner materials are compatible with UV, Solvent, Eco-Solvent and Latex print technology, are fully REACH compliant and available for next day delivery from UK stock.

### Investment in greener solutions

"Our factory has invested heavily in creating a much greener way to produce our eco-friendly materials," says Mashiter, adding, "Because of this we are able to tell our customers exactly how they are able to recycle their materials which makes the process of purchasing a PVC free material much easier, especially for those who are still a little dubious to transition to a greener way of working."

He concludes, "As well as the PVC free and eco-friendly products we offer being of an excellent quality the main benefit of using these materials is the positive impact they have on the environment. It is important that businesses consider these types of materials, it's also a good opportunity to grow a customer base and reach a wider audience as more and more companies become much more conscious of the environment. Soyang Europe are a leading provider of PVC free and eco-friendly materials and we have the opportunity to constantly grow and develop as the world moves."



*Soyang Technologies factory encourages greener manufacturing and development*

[www.soyang.co.uk](http://www.soyang.co.uk)



# Why is the industry moving away from PVC media?

It does seem that the large format print industry is really taking the environmental challenge seriously. Innotech Digital is leading the way in increasing its range of PVC-free media to their product portfolio in a bid to make our industry greener and safer for future generations. PVC is difficult to recycle due to the complexities of the product construction, base materials, face films and the chemicals and additives which are crucial to ensure the product performs as it needs to.

Derek Shedden, UK Sales Manager for Innotech, explains, "PVC does not readily degrade, indeed it can take many decades to degrade, releasing toxic substances such as dioxins and furans as it does so. This in turn makes up leachate contaminating groundwater, rivers, impacting water sources, the food chain and the ecosystem. Because of this, PVC is usually incinerated, although this still releases dioxins and furans into the atmosphere which contribute to known health issues such as cancer, immunity and reproductive and developmental problems."

Another effect of incineration is the release of hydrogen chloride which is corrosive to skin and increases soil acidity affecting both land and water ecosystems.

## So what's the solution?

The need for PVC-free materials is increasing because, while soft signage textile products are on the rise, they aren't appropriate for all uses. For external applications and short-term promotions, printers have struggled to find an environmentally friendly alternative to traditional PVC banners. As demand increases, particularly from environmentally-conscious large retailers and brands, the absence of a solution has been an obstacle to securing business for many sign-makers.

Shedden adds, "Some materials have been trialled over the years, but none were suited to the retail market. For example, polyethylene banner materials are lightweight, strong and low-cost. However, whilst the heavily pronounced weave isn't an issue on roadside skins, the retail market requires a more even material that supports a better quality print finish and greater longevity."

For the last 5 years, Innotech has been supplying the ever growing base of environmentally conscious customers with their Envirotech® series. This is a 100% PVC-free print media range, which is free



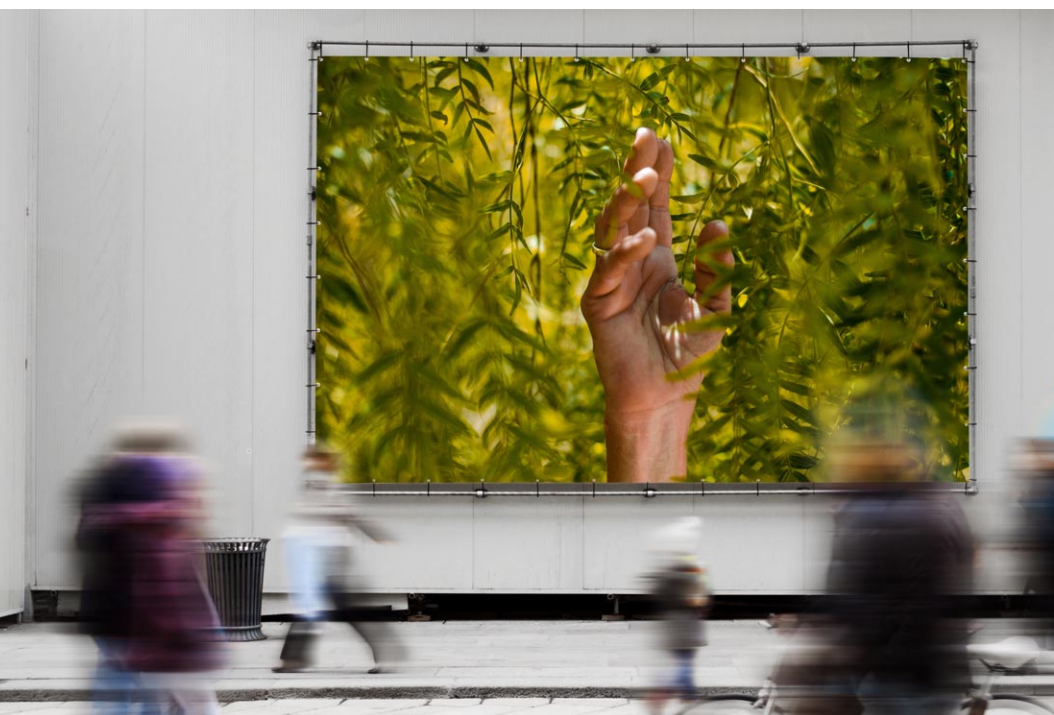
*Innotech's Envirotech series is a 100% PVC-free print media range*

from heavy metals, phthalates, plasticisers and isocyanate-containing compounds. It has the same appearance, feel and quality as conventional PVC products together with the advantage of being lighter weight without compromising on strength or longevity. Weight reductions of up to 50% allow for significant reductions in CO<sub>2</sub>, transport, storage etc and the material can be easily transported, even folded, without visual deterioration unlike PVC products.

Envirotech's® texture, weight, printability and welding capabilities are similar to traditional PVC banners. However, because it conforms to government legislations for PVC-free specifications, it helps you reduce your carbon footprint. Envirotech 130 is made from recycled yarns, which further reduces environmental impact. The products are available for a range of applications, including frontlit, backlit, blackout and mesh from stock up to 5m wide.

Derek Shedden concludes, "The benefit of using PVC-free materials such as Envirotech® is that chemicals which are harmful to humans and nature are kept out of our eco-systems by offering a simpler recycling and re-use process. In addition, if they are incinerated, this can be done so safely without the release of toxins. The necessity of large amounts of additives and plasticisers is eliminated and the fundamental components used are well below strict European recommended guidelines. Choosing Envirotech® allows us to responsibly safeguard our environment ensuring it remains unspoilt for future generations to enjoy."

[www.innotechdigital.com](http://www.innotechdigital.com)



*The retail market requires a more even material that supports a better quality print finish and greater longevity*

## AAG marks 30 years of growth, innovation and diversification

This year marks the 30th Anniversary of AAG, a leading pioneer, developer and global supplier of technically advanced CNC routing, cutting and print finishing solutions. Many of these have achieved benchmark status in the industries served, with the sign manufacturing sector proving the most significant in terms of the percentage of the 10,000+ machine installations that have taken place over this period.

Founded in Canada in 1991 as XYZ Automation, the rebranded AAG (a more powerful and readily identifiable acronym for XYZ Automation Group) now has 13 owned and operated companies throughout the world. All of these member companies are imbued with the same ethos, culture and best business practices established by the parent company. This recently led to AAG being designated 'one of Canada's best managed companies', based on the group's achievement in the primary areas of business management

that included leadership, innovation, commitment and financial acumen.

The UK is home to AAG's most successful company outside of Canada, with exponential growth and a new state-of-the-art machine assembly and supply facility set up in 2015 in Telford, Shropshire to engender further development. This represented a 100 per cent increase in the size of the original facility in Wolverhampton, thus underpinning AAG's rapid expansion and success in the UK and Ireland and Continental Europe market place. This was further augmented by the acquisition by the parent company in 2019 of the North America-based waterjet cutting technology specialist company, WARDJet, which enabled AAG to diversify into new markets and in particular those processing materials for which traditional XYZ CNC routing/cutting machines are not suitable.

### Notable Product Innovations

Notable product innovations include the earlier introduction of the XYZ PANELBuilder, the more recent XYZ Infinite and Innovator combined CNC routing/cutting systems, the latest XYZ Trident hybrid print finishing system and the WARDJet waterjet cutting series of machines. All of the machines are supplied with dedicated design and production software and a raft of both standard and optional production-enhancing machine tools.

The XYZ PANELBuilder system was optimised specifically for the processing of aluminium composite material (ACM) used primarily in the production of large outdoor signs and building envelope systems. The PANELBuilder will simultaneously groove, drill and profile-cut single and multiple sheets of ACM.

With the multi-purpose large-format XYZ Infinite and the smaller-format Innovator routing/cutting systems, AAG has comprehensively addressed the requirements of two distinct but complementary sections of the market in terms of size availability and price-to-performance ratio. Both machines are based on the same rigid solid steel frame construction and lightweight aluminium processing bed and supplied with a wide range of standard and optional machine enhancements. These include a variable-station ATC (Automatic Tool Change) system, the XYZ Auto Zone Management facility for optimum material hold-down efficiency and the latest A2MC controller with integrated AVS (XYZ Vision System) for precise material alignment and routing/cutting accuracy.

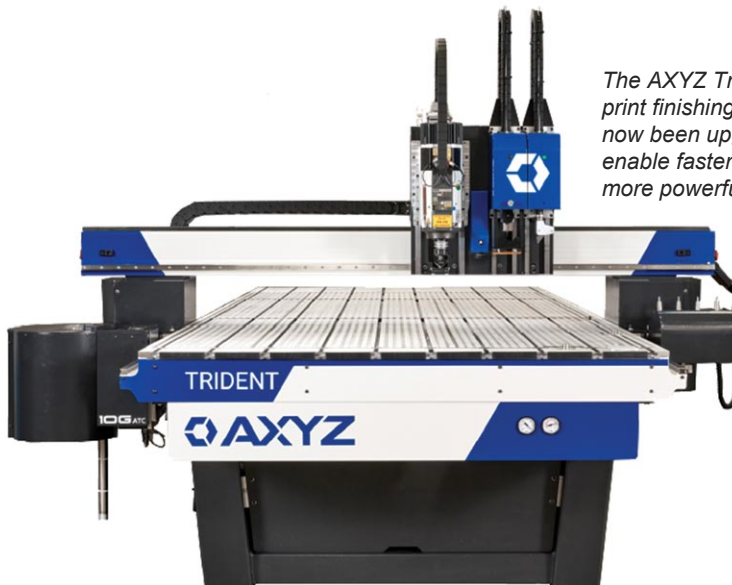
A further machine enhancement is the latest helical rack and pinion drive system. This incorporates a multiple gear teeth configuration that helps spread the workload more evenly, leading to faster material feed rates, quieter machine operation, reduced material wastage and ultimately a longer than normal machine life.



*Compact in size, the XYZ Innovator shares the same design and production features of the larger-format XYZ Infinite but at a commensurately lower price point. It will process materials as diverse as aluminium, acrylic and plastics and various hardwoods.*



*With the XYZ Infinite, AAG claims to have developed the most versatile and customisable CNC router/cutter currently available.*



*The XYZ Trident hybrid print finishing system has now been upgraded to enable faster, quieter and more powerful operation.*





In common with the AXYZ Infinite and Innovator machines, the upgraded version of the AXYZ Trident print finishing system incorporates a number of new design and construction features. It incorporates an expanded (up to 21 stations) ATC (Automatic Tool Change) system and a triple processing head comprising a powerful 10HP routing spindle and tangential and oscillating knife-cutting units, with the former enabling the attachment of a creasing wheel to extend the machine's production capabilities. Additional machine enhancements include improved dust extraction and spray mist units for more efficient machine lubrication and cooling, an increased gantry height to enable the processing of materials up to 125mm thick and a narrower carriage design that contributes to a 12 per cent smaller footprint.



#### AAG CNCShop Division

This 24/7 online e-commerce resource has now been redesigned and radically upgraded to enable owners of AXYZ and WARDJet machines to have easier and faster access to a wider range of essential spare parts, accessories and consumables. The site also allows live interaction with specially trained AAG application engineers to ensure that only the most appropriate products are specified for a given application.

The CNCShop Division is supplemented with AAG's bespoke product training courses and online product demonstration videos, in addition to a financially compelling machine trade-in discount initiative, to complete the range of services available to all AAG customers.

[www.axyz.co.uk](http://www.axyz.co.uk)  
[www.wardjet.com](http://www.wardjet.com)



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# Expert printing made easy with the new Mimaki JV100 series

Our cover story this month is the launch of a new range of eco solvent inkjet printers from Mimaki. The state-of-the-art Mimaki JV100 Series printers offer a great value entry level solution with excellent operational performance, image quality and speed. We spoke to Duncan Jefferies, Head of Marketing & Business Development for Hybrid Services, Mimaki's exclusive UK and Ireland distributor, to find out more.



## Business

### What sort of sign-maker are these printers designed for?

Since 2003, a huge number of sign-makers have successfully grown their business with a Mimaki JV solvent printer. From the original JV3 or JV5, the timeless JV33, the grand format JV34 and the current, high production JV300 – the pedigree of the JV Series is outstanding, and the latest addition to the line-up is ready to carry that forwards.

The new Mimaki JV100-160 is a production solvent printer that is designed to fit into practically any sign and graphics printing business. With its low cost of entry (the new model is available for just £12,995, which includes RIP software and a 2 year warranty) it's within reach of start-ups as well as companies looking to refresh or expand their print capabilities.

Sign-makers taking their first steps into wide format printing will find its intuitive operation quick to pick up and with Mimaki's latest RasterLink 7 RIP software included with the printer, only a PC is required to get up and running. Utilising the highly regarded Mimaki SS21 inkset, and with its 1,600mm print width, the new JV100-160 also offers a broad choice of materials to print to.

### What are the key applications and why are these printers suited to them?

A key strength of the new JV100 is its ability to handle a real variety of applications, opening up new opportunities for businesses to offer additional products to their customers. The JV100 is more than capable of ploughing through

'everyday' digital print jobs such as outdoor and indoor graphics on vinyl, banner, canvas and paper, backlit material for menus and display advertising, garment marking film, vehicle graphics, wallcoverings... the list goes on! It's a great allrounder that can turn its hand to almost anything you need it to.

### How will sign-makers really benefit from these printers?

The new JV100 incorporates a number of Mimaki's Core Technologies, all designed to assist the user and deliver high quality output with minimal operator intervention. These technologies include auto media setup, nozzle detection and cleaning, and when combined with the latest Mimaki cutting plotters' ID Cut feature, all contribute to faster production, minimised potential for error and wastage, and improved print quality. Automations like these all serve to assist the person running the printer and with features like Event Mail notifying the operator when a job has completed, empower staff to work on other tasks, benefiting productivity and reducing labour costs.

### What additional equipment and products will sign-makers need with the JV100 Series?

Mimaki is unique in offering not just the printer, but vinyl cutters and laminators too, providing core sign-making equipment from a single supplier. This trilogy of hardware will enable a print company to handle every aspect of even the most complex wide format jobs, with powerful productivity from separate print and cut machines allowing different jobs to be completed simultaneously. This unified approach has other benefits as well – training and ongoing support are easily accomplished, and with powerful software included with both the printer and cutter, the workflow is intuitive too.







## Product/technical

### How does the JV100 fit into the new Mimaki 100 Series?

Mimaki's new 100 Series incorporates the solvent JV100-160, LED UV UJV100-160 and the dye sublimation TS100-1600. All share a similar chassis, 1.6m print width and Core Technologies, with specific ink delivery and fixation unique to each model. All are designed to deliver powerful and productive yet low-cost solutions and they've been very well received by the industry since their announcement.

In terms of Mimaki's solvent printer line-up, the higher production JV300-160Plus model offers greater print speeds with similar ink and print width. Companies looking for a grand format option, the SWJ-320EA is a 3.2m solvent printer that's ideal for large banners, wraps and outdoor graphics. Mimaki also has a very popular range of CJV integrated printer/cutters, which offer a choice of print widths from 75cm up to 1.6m and differing production capacities for businesses looking for all-in-one print and cut solutions.

### What are the key features about these printers that your customers will really appreciate?

The Mimaki JV100-160 is packed with technology – much of which has cascaded down from bigger, faster and understandably higher priced industrial solutions, so users really benefit from Mimaki's continuous innovation drive. Mimaki's 'Core Technologies' are geared around aiding users with features that either benefit output quality or ease of operation – a great example being the new DAS feature that automates the process of adjusting the printer for the specific media

to be printed to. With different materials having different attributes, ensuring the printer feeds correctly is a key element in print quality.

For example, a gloss vinyl will feed through the printer differently to a canvas or matte banner, and by using the new DAS auto-calibration feature, this can be quickly and accurately determined by the printer, rather than relying solely on the operator.

Mimaki has also innovated various printhead, nozzle and ink feeding technologies, that reduce, detect and automatically repair any elements that will impact upon print quality. The powerful MAPS function delivers high speed output with passes that are subtly interlaced to seamlessly lay down ink.

### Can you tell us about the inks for these machines and what they offer?

The Mimaki JV100-160 is optimised to run Mimaki's popular SS21 solvent ink set. This vibrant, long lasting and Greenguard GOLD certified ink is capable of achieving almost 95% Pantone coverage onto a huge range of materials. With high scratch resistance and long-lasting outdoor durability, it's a proven solution for print companies producing graphics that could range from vehicle wraps to signage, decals and external banners.

Incorporating standard CMYK (and light versions of the cyan, magenta and black), the ink set also includes a spot orange that allows print providers to hit even the most challenging corporate colours. Available in new 600cc cartridges which help lower ink



*Duncan Jefferies, Head of Marketing & Business Development for Hybrid Services*

costs, these can be reduced even further by using the Mimaki Bulk Ink System with 2 litre ink sacks.

### What sort of speeds and productivity can users expect from the JV100?

In four colour mode, the JV100-160 can achieve speeds of almost 63sq m/h, and with production speeds around 20sq m/h (4 colour, 720x600dpi, 6 pass mode) it's capable of delivering significant volumes of print per day.

For customers looking for optimum productivity, we recommend pairing the JV100 with a Mimaki vinyl cutter and benefiting from the seamless software workflow provided through the combination of the new Mimaki RasterLink 7, and FineCut plugin for either Adobe Illustrator or CorelDRAW. File preparation is simplified by using industry standard artwork creation software and the ability to, for example, print a banner whilst previously printed and laminated stickers are being cut, doubles output capacity and enables a wider variety of work to be produced.

Mimaki's solvent printers have been reliable and trusted business partners for sign-makers for almost 20 years and the JV100-160 is the latest model in this long lineage of technology. With demonstration machines available across the UK and Ireland at our reseller partners, we're looking forward to introducing new sign-makers to the brand, and helping those that are looking to refresh their printer line-up choose the latest model for their business.

For more details on the new Mimaki JV100-160 visit [www.hybridservices.co.uk/partner](http://www.hybridservices.co.uk/partner)



## Avery Dennison sets ambition to be Net-Zero on Carbon Emissions by 2050

Avery Dennison has announced its ambition to be net-zero on greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. This commitment comes as the company raises the bar on its sustainability goals with new targets for 2030.

As part of these new targets, the Label and Graphic Materials (LGM) business commits to 100% of its core film and paper product categories globally containing recycled or renewable content. And all of its regions will also have labels that enable the circularity of plastics. This will ensure that Avery Dennison is well-positioned to satisfy current or future recycling, composting or reuse requirements for single-use consumer plastic packaging. The company is also expanding its portfolio to include more intelligent labeling to advance the communication of data, reduce costs and waste, and create better recycling processes.

The specific 2030 targets fall under three broad sustainability goals:

- Deliver innovations that advance the circular economy;
- Reduce environmental impact in operations and supply chain; and
- Make a positive social impact by improving the livelihoods of people and communities.

In addition, the company's 2030 ambitions include procuring paper exclusively from responsibly-managed forests to help ensure a deforestation-free future. LGM will continue to invest in industry collaborations like to promote and deliver matrix and liner recycling globally, and the company will engage with the majority of its direct suppliers on their environmental and social practices affecting water, human rights, fair business, forestry, and similar important interests.

"Meeting our 2030 ambitions will be the greatest test yet of our capacity to innovate, as well as an invaluable opportunity to position our business for lasting success," said Renae Kezar, senior

director, global sustainability, Label and Graphic Materials, Avery Dennison. "We are proud to have exceeded our 2025 goal for reducing absolute GHG emissions, and we are making steady progress on our other sustainability commitments."

The company has also pledged to reduce emissions by 70% against its 2015 baseline, and to work with its supply chain to reduce Scope 3 emissions by 30% against its 2018 baseline. The company's overall ambition is to produce net-zero emissions by 2050 and enable a future of regeneration. The 2030 goals also include targets for gender diversity, employee engagement and inclusion, safety, and more.

[esg.averydennison.com](https://esg.averydennison.com)



## Doro Tape embraces change of ownership

The deal at the Midlands based self-adhesive film supplier is a planned succession arrangement that sees James Carpenter (pictured left) officially retire and Michael Ingram (pictured right) take over full ownership of the company.

The two have worked together to turn the company in to one of the UK's leading suppliers of self-adhesive films for the creative sector as well as supplying technical films to various industries for well over 20 years. It is testament to their hard work that the next stage is embarked upon with a secure financial footing and one of the best independent portfolios of products available.

With over 30 years of service, a big proportion of which as Managing Director, James Carpenter will now be enjoying his retirement whilst still contributing to the business on a consultancy basis.

Michael said "We have worked towards this end for the past couple of years before Covid got in the way of proceedings last year. I am pleased that the time is now right, and I am excited to be able to take it into the next phase". He said that he was upbeat about the future "Innovation is a

key part of our future thinking and we have some really exciting product developments in place that should see us benefit greatly in various sectors. I am especially excited by our new offering of PVC Free films and materials made from post-consumer recycled plastic".

The company formed in 1988 are distributors of many top European manufacturing brands including as ASLAN, Poli-Tape, R-Tape & Ritrama as well as having a range of specialist sign, window and digital print materials under their own name.

Paying tribute to James, Michael said "I am very lucky to have had James as a friend and colleague over this time. Together, we share the same passion for meeting people and building relationships with customers and suppliers alike and we have bounced ideas off each other along the way".

Michael added "We are a small company with a simple philosophy: To offer a wide range of quality products at a fair price backed by the best customer service in the industry". He also praised the work done by his colleagues saying "I'm lucky enough

to have a superb team of wonderful hard-working people around me to help maintain our high standards. This has been the backbone of our success and that will never change".

The company will launch a brand-new logo that embodies the company's specialist approach to both the technical and creative sides of the business. This will soon be seen on their website and at many exhibitions in 2022.

[www.dorotape.co.uk](https://www.dorotape.co.uk)



*James Carpenter (left) will officially retire and Michael Ingram (right) will take over full ownership of the company*





## The new era of Applelec

Applelec Sign Components, the Bradford-based architectural lighting and trade signage manufacturer, has announced that it has become an employee-owned business. Founded by Ian Drinkwater and Paul Stothers, Applelec has grown to become one of the UK's leading providers of bespoke Signage and Architectural Lighting solutions.

Applelec's employees are now indirect owners of the business, through a newly formed Employee Ownership Trust. Employee ownership is an increasingly popular option for exiting business owners who are looking to leave a legacy. Employee-owned businesses often benefit from higher levels of employee engagement, motivation and wellbeing, and increased productivity.

Jonathan Bradley and Carl Eastwood take over the Signage and Lighting business units and are appointed as Managing Directors for their respective divisions. Founders Ian and Paul will play reduced roles in the business; however, they retain ownership of the premises from which the business operates and are now expanding the site as part of an ambitious property development. This exciting investment will enable Applelec to continue its recent growth trajectory as they expand business operations into the new on-site facilities.



Paul Stothers commented "We are so proud of what everyone has built over the years and we are excited by the fact that we can continue to provide a developing infrastructure to allow for the business to move into its next stage of growth." Ian Drinkwater added, "The employees have made Applelec the success that it is today. It is a great privilege to leave the company in their capable hands, whilst providing security for their future with the company".

Established in 1998, Applelec was once a team of 4, working out of a small office on the outskirts of Bradford. Now Applelec is a 65 strong workforce operating out of a 6.3 acre vertically integrated factory and suite of offices. The successful team comprises of a mix of product designers, technical engineers, manufacturing experts and industry specialist sales consultants.

[www.applelec.co.uk](http://www.applelec.co.uk)

## Experience and Expertise Key as YPS Appoints New Management Team

Since its formation in 2009 by Garry Brown, Your Print Specialists (YPS) has shown continuous growth and is now one of the UK's leading suppliers to the sign, print and graphics display market. The company has announced that it has established a new management team that is committed to the future success of YPS by strengthening its product portfolio and building on its operational excellence and customer service.

Georgia Brown has been appointed Managing Director, Paul Shorton as Technical Director, Wayne Jobling as Operations Director and Lisa Brown as HR Director. Garry Brown remains a Director and takes on the role of Chairman of the Board, focusing on the strategy and development of the overall business.

Georgia explains, "The new management team has full responsibility for business operations and the day-to-day running of



The YPS management team from left to right: Paul Shorton, Lisa Brown, Garry Brown, Georgia Brown and Wayne Jobling

YPS. We will work alongside Garry to continue to shape, develop and grow his vision for the company. As we come out of the pandemic there are many challenges to be faced and we have put together a strong management team that we know works well together and is focused on the long term success of the business and our customers."

Garry Brown adds, "Each member of the board has been a valued member of the YPS family for many years and their experience, knowledge and expertise has helped make YPS the successful and well-respected company that it is."

[www.yourprintspecialists.co.uk](http://www.yourprintspecialists.co.uk)

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Salary: Up to £22,000.00 per year depending on experience + overtime

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8.00am until 4.30pm Monday to Friday

#### Sign Maker / Installer

The ideal applicant must be a team player and take pride in their work as attention to detail is paramount. This is a varied role of sign manufacturing and Installation.

The candidate for this position would ideally have a minimum of 2 years sign making and installation experience and proficient in the following: use of power tools, vinyl applications, LED experience, able to work with various material substrates, operation of workshop machinery such as a laser cutter, panel saw, mitre saw and diamond polisher.

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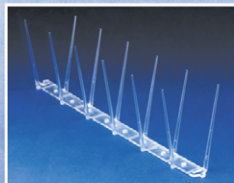
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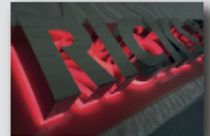
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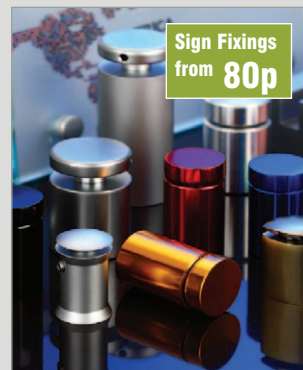
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SIGN INDUSTRIES are specialist TRADE MANUFACTURERS of etched Stainless Steel, Brass, and Bronze. We also Laser Engrave Plastics and Wood as stand alone products as well as moulds for castings. SIGN INDUSTRIES normally work with 3 mm thick material,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

## TRADE ETCHING DIRECT LTD

Unit M Edison Courtyard, Brunel Road, Earlstrees Ind Estate, Corby NN17 4LS

Tel: 01536 203813

sales@tradeetching.com

www.tradeetching.com

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

## CHEVRON KITS

### ATC LTD

Unit 3C Buckley Road Industrial Estate, 2 Buckley Road, Rochdale OL12 9EF

Tel: 01706 633 043

sales@apptape.co.uk

www.apptape.co.uk

We supply Chapter 8 chevron kits for the rear of numerous vehicles using the best quality products while offering the most competitive prices. All our kits are fully flooded using air release fluorescent yellow making fitting so much easier. Please contact us for a quotation on the above.

## CHROME PLATED LETTERS

### SIGNTRADE LETTERS LTD

225 Long Lane, London N3 2RL

Tel: 08085 456700

sales@signtrade.co.uk

www.signtrade.co.uk

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

## CNC ROUTING & ENGRAVING MACHINES

### ATA ENGINEERING PROCESSES

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

Tel: 01442 264411

sales@ataeng.com

www.ataeng.com

The Atacama range of CNC routers and Lasers offers a wide variety of options from 3 axis machines and 4 axis Routers and Metal and Non Metal Cutting CNC Lasers.

## COAT OF ARMS

### BRYAN RAWLINGS DESIGN

45 Nunney Close, Keynsham, 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.

### SIGNS OF THE TIMES LTD

Wingfield Road Tebworth, Beds, LU7 9QG

Tel: 01525 874 185

enquiries@sott.co.uk

www.sott.co.uk

Cast in polyurethane with detail in relief and hand painted full colours. May be cast on their own or as part of an entrance sign, blue plaque or street sign etc. We also cast coats of arms in aluminium, grp or bronze. Please send details for a quotation.

### WARD SIGNS

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

Tel: 0117 955 3385

info@ward-signs.co.uk

www.ward-signs.co.uk

Wards of Bristol Specialise in manufacture, restoration and accurate reproduction of historic and modern coats of arms. We are able to produce from originals, information from heraldic associations, or even from a photograph. Check our website for recent projects.

## COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES

### MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS

51/59 Waterworks Rd. Norwich NR2 4DA

Tel: 01603 666699

sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk

www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk

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

### SIGN INDUSTRIES

Unit 3, Roberts Street, Forfar, Angus, DD8 3DG

Tel: 01307 463997

info@signindustries.com

www.signindustries.com

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

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES LTD

Wingfield Road Tebworth, Beds, LU7 9QG

Tel: 01525 874 185

enquiries@sott.co.uk

www.sott.co.uk

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

### WARD SIGNS

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

Tel: 0117 955 3385

info@ward-signs.co.uk

www.ward-signs.co.uk

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

## CUT-OUT LETTERS

### APPLELEC

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).

### ICE SIGNS

Tannery Works, 12 Whingate, Leeds LS12 3BL

Tel: 0113 224 2124

sales@icesigns.co.uk

www.icesigns.co.uk

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

### MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS

51-59 Waterworks Road, Norwich NR2 4DA.

Tel: 01603 666699

sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk

www.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk

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

## SIGN HERE

179 Fosse Road North, Leicester, LE3 5EZ

Tel: 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.

### SIGNTRADE LETTERS LTD

225 Long Lane, London N3 2RL

Tel: 08085 456700

sales@signtrade.co.uk

www.signtrade.co.uk

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

### SYGNET GROUP LTD

129 Humberstone Rd, Leicester, LE5 3AP

Tel: 0116 262 6288

sales@sygnetgroup.co.uk

www.sygnetgroup.co.uk

Sygnnet 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

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.

## CUTTING MATS

### CUTTINGMATS XXL

Tel: 020 3936 1106

info@cuttingmatsxxl.co.uk

www.cuttingmatsxxl.co.uk

CuttingmatsXXL specialises in transparent and flexible cutting mats to protect your work table. Nr1 table protection for all signage companies. Your blade will cut smoothly through your foil and with the 'self-healing' characteristic the surface will stay smooth. Our mats are also widely used on top of all brands of flatbed applicators like RollsRoller, Roll-X, Lamidesk, CWT and Rollover.



## RHINO CUTTING MATS

Brackley, Oxfordshire

Tel: 01280 840 493

sales@rhinocuttingmat.co.uk

www.rhinocuttingmat.co.uk

The UK's No.1 trusted brand and original Rhino Cutting Mats. The Rhino Heavy Duty is a perfect heard wearing choice for cutting and workbench protection. Sizes up to 4880 x 1220mm and 3657 x 1828mm. The Rhino SupaSeal is the ultimate self-healing choice for finer knives and scalpels, and designed to work on all brands of flat-bed applicators. Sizes from 1000-2200mm wide up to 20m long.

## DIGITAL POSTERS

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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.

## DIGITAL PRINTED SIGNS

### AVENUE SIGNS LTD

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

Tel: 01634 841300

info@avenuesigns.co.uk

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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.

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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.

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Units 13 & 15 Meridian, Anderson Road, Swavesey, Cambs CB24 4AE

Tel: 01954 232 564

www.josero.com

Josero offer a complete portfolio of products from machinery, inks, software solutions and spare parts for wide format and super wide printers as well as technical support, distribution and service contracts. Josero is an authorised partner for Agfa, Mimaki and Ricoh large format printers along with exclusivity for Triangle inks, the Bubblefree applicator tables and Comagrav Digi cutting tables.

### MACTAC UK LTD

Room 232, Victory House, 400

Pavilion Drive, Northampton

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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.

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### PROJECT PLASTICS LTD

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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.

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With 70 years of making Domes & Dishes, our Teedy Domes have set the standard. With our vast range of tooling we can make almost any size – so just ask. We are now the first to offer unbreakable Polycarbonate Domes.

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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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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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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

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mail@alanrobertsengravers.co.uk

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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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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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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.

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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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Mob: 07957 870 756

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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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4DA

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

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Rd., Cradley Heath B64 6NT

Tel: 0121 561 4600

accsign1@aol.com

www.accent-signs-ltd.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

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Tel: 01274 774477

sales@applelec.co.uk

www.applelec.co.uk

Trade suppliers of flat cut out letters, logos and intricate laser work. We offer lettering in a variety of materials such as acrylic, foamex, dibond, stainless steel, aluminium and MDF in different finishes, with or without fixings. Please contact our friendly team for more information and to request a free and unbranded product brochure. (3D built up lettering is also available).

### 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

Continental Approach, Westwood  
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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

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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.

## GENERAL SIGN SUPPLIERS

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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.

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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  
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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. Brynmenyn, CF32 9LW

Tel: 01656 720 566

info@goldleafsupplies.co.uk

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Highest quality products and a prompt reliable service. For all your Gold leaf, Gilding and Traditional Signwriting materials. All qualities of Gold leaf from 6ct to 24ct. Extensive range of products and full product support.



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Mob: 07967 190089  
lou@birchsigns.com  
www.birchsigns.com

"The largest independent sign installation and maintenance company in the UK."  
Specialists in all sign work, large or small, neon, LED, all Flexface systems, illuminated, non illuminated and vinyl. Corporate change over specialists.

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Mob: 07700 800 999  
paul@blueprintsins.co.uk  
www.blueprintsins.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.

## GRAVITY INSTALLATIONS LTD

**Unit 1, 184 Camford Way, Luton LU3 3AN**

Tel: 01582 562207  
info@gravityinstallations.com  
www.gravityinstallations.com

We are installations professionals. We have over 15 years experience installing all types of signage and graphics. From flex face banners to totems, frosted windows to full car wraps. We are a fully accredited electrical company and can install all types of lighting, internal and external. Our insurance covers both signage installation and electrical work for a complete professional installation.

## MEDIA ABSEILING

**69 Soulbury Road, Leighton Buzzard, Beds, LU7 2RW**  
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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.

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sales@vivid-online.com  
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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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## SIGN HERE

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sales@sign-here.co.uk  
www.sign-here.co.uk

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

## SYGNET 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

## BOXFORD

**New Works, Burnley Road, Sowerby Bridge, Halifax, HX6 2TF**  
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, Tamworth, Staffordshire B79 7UL**  
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, Tachbrook Park Drive, Leamington 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

**Castle Mills, Saddleworth Road, Elland, West Yorkshire, HX5 0RY**  
Tel: 01422 310 800  
www.hpclaser.co.uk

Specialist suppliers of LASERSCRIPT CO2 laser engravers and cutters. Our lasers are capable of cutting, engraving and marking a wide range of materials including laminate, metal, glass, acrylic, textiles, wood, paper, card and leather. Optional 1 to 3 year ONSITE warranty available and unlimited technical support. Established in 2006, over 4500 machines supplied!

## TROTEC

**9 Didcot Way, Boldon Business Park, Boldon Colliery, NE35 9PD**  
Tel: 0191 580 1184  
sales@troteclaser.co.uk  
www.troteclaser.co.uk

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.accentssignsLtd.co.uk

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

## LED ILLUMINATION

## 3D SIGN SYSTEMS LTD T/A CITI LED

**Unit 1, 411 Pollokshaws Rd, Glasgow, G41 1QZ**  
Tel: 0141 422 2500  
sales@citi-led.co.uk  
www.citi-led.co.uk

We are a trade only supplier of LED Modules for all types of channel letters, light boxes and solid acrylic "Neon" effect type letters. We have some very unique specialist LEDs, visit our website for product information and installation tutorials. We offer premium grade reliable products at highly competitive prices. Our unrivalled pre-sales guidance and after sales support will ensure your projects are executed with maximum effect.

## APPLELEC

Unit 1, Wharfedale Business Park,  
Shetcliffe Lane, Bradford BD4 9RW

Tel: 01274 774477

sales@applelec.co.uk

www.applelec.co.uk

Sole UK distributor of SloanLED LED systems. Trade suppliers of LED lighting solutions and manufacturers of the flat light unit, LED Light Sheet. We supply energy efficient, award winning LED modules in a variety of colours including RGB (colour changing). We'll support you in choosing the right LEDs for your project whilst our after-sale technical support ensures you receive continued assistance.

## ARTILLUS 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.

## FOCUS LED UK LTD.

Unit 38 Cariocca Business Park, 2  
Hellidon Close, Ardwick,  
Manchester, M12 4AH

Tel: 0161 27 27 778

www.focusledltd.co.uk

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

## KINGS PLASTICS LTD

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

Tel: 0117 9411 411

www.kingsplastics.co.uk

White, warm white & coloured LED modules in 4 sizes and LED ribbon – Flexi ribbon & RGB ribbon. New our LED Flexi Neon in two different sizes & LED Cabochon 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

sales@ledmonkey.com

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

## SIGNTRADE LETTERS LTD

225 Long Lane, London N3 2RL

Tel: 08085 456700

sales@signtrade.co.uk

www.signtrade.co.uk

Chromasign launched at Sign UK. We offer a complete range of ChromaForm Letters with Halo Lighting not available anywhere else. Ring Susan or Lesley for details and samples.

## LED WINDOW DISPLAYS

### ISPI TRADE LTD

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

Tel: 0141 764 1600

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.

## LIGHT BOXES & LIGHTING

### APPLELEC

Unit 1, Wharfedale Business Park,  
Shetcliffe Lane, Bradford BD4 9RW

Tel: 01274 774477

sales@applelec.co.uk

www.applelec.co.uk

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

## ARTILLUS 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.

## MAGNETIC MATERIAL

### ANCHOR MAGNETS LTD

Bankside Works, Darnall Road,  
Sheffield S9 5AH

Tel: 0114 244 1171

www.anchor magnets.com

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

### BISBELL MAGNETIC PRODUCTS LTD.

Hillfield Lane, Stretton, Burton on  
Trent, Staffs DE13 0BN

Tel: 01283 531000

sales@bisbellmagnets.com

www.bisbellmagnets.com

The UK's widest range of digitally printable wide format magnetic and ferro sheet (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

### MERCURY & PHILLIPS SIGNS

51-59 Waterworks Road, Norwich  
NR2 4DA

Tel: 01603 666699

sales@mercuryphillips.co.uk

www.mercuryphillipsigns.co.uk

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

### PROJECT PLASTICS LTD

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

Tel: 01206 868696

project.plastics@btinternet.com

www.projectplastics.co.uk

Manufacturers of acrylic domes and shapes, tubes, point of sale displays and showcases. Bespoke plastic fabrication. CNC routing, diamond edge polishing, 3m x 2m moulding oven for 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.mercuryphillipsigns.co.uk

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



## SIGNTRADE LETTERS LTD

225 Long Lane, Finchley London N3 2RL

Tel: 08085 456700  
sales@signtrade.co.uk  
www.signtrade.co.uk

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

## WARD SIGNS

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

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

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

## NEON MANUFACTURERS (TRADE)

### A1DESIGNS

4 Sandy Lane North, Wallington, Surrey SM6 8JX

Tel: 020 8646 9886  
enquiry@a1designs.co.uk  
www.a1designs.co.uk

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

### AVENUE SIGNS LTD

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

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

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

### LOGOTECH DISPLAY SOLUTIONS LTD

Unit 6, Atley Business Pk, North Nelson Ind Est, Cramlington, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE23 1WP

Tel: 01670 737 225  
sales@logotech-ltd.co.uk  
www.logo-tech.co.uk

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

## NEON REPLACEMENT LETTERS

### ACCENT SIGNS LTD

Units 4, Broadcott Ind. Est., Station Rd., Cradley Heath B64 6NT

Tel: 0121 561 4600  
accsign1@aol.com  
www.accent-signs.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, Cowlares, 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.mercuryphillipssigns.co.uk

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

## SCULPTORS

### BRYAN RAWLINGS DESIGN

45 Nunney Close, Keynsham, Bristol BS31 1XG

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

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

## SHEET MATERIALS

### 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.ispitrade.com

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

## SHOPKIT GROUP LTD

Unit B, 100 Cecil Street, Watford, Hertfordshire WD24 5AD

Tel: 01923 818282  
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

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## 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  
sales@visual-group.co.uk  
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## WIDE FORMAT SOLUTIONS PROVIDER

### 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'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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