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The UK's best selling trough-light system

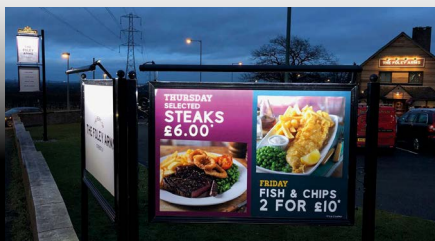


ECOLUX

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The Ecolux Mini is ideal for retail, brewery and restaurant signage programmes. The best things are always simple, and our best-selling LED sign light is jam packed full of fresh ideas and innovative design. Ecolux Mini offers the fitter the fastest and most versatile fixing installation available over any trough light in the UK. As always with Portland Lighting products, the Ecolux Mini has been independently tested and certified by the Lighting Industry Association.

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Find out more at www.portlandlighting.co.uk/ecolux-mini

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- Power to illuminate up to 3.0m in depth

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Finally!

It makes me extremely happy to introduce this special Sign & Digital UK issue of Sign Update. It's hard to believe this is the first one for THREE years. This fantastic exhibition has been a fixture for the sign industry for more than 30 years and I can honestly say we have really missed it.

I attend lots of exhibitions in lots of sectors, but there isn't anything quite like SDUK. It manages to create a truly marketplace feel where actual business gets done. It's also a great place to catch up with old friends and colleagues. It helps that the organisers have always tried to do a bit more than simply provide a space. Whether its galleries, TV shows, educational presentation or public personalities on the main seminar stage, there is always a buzz around the show.

As you can probably tell from our cartoon below, SDUK is also bringing back the much-loved UK Wrap Battle Contest. It's three years since the last master wrapper was crowned Best UK Installer and the competition is sure to be red hot.

Printwear and Promotion is another show due to return soon with the postponed February event now taking place in April. With virtually no restrictions remaining, this should be a great year for getting back out there and doing business face-to-face again.

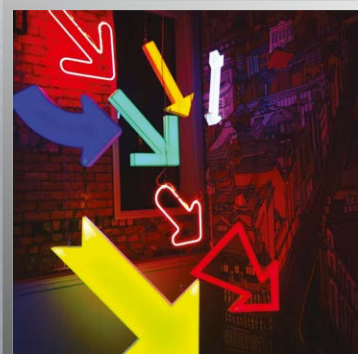
As well as our SDUK preview, we have as usual all the latest news from the industry. Our special features this issue are large format inks and sign trays, monoliths and totems.

The Sign Update team will be at SDUK, so please head over to our booth and say hi. It is always lovely to chat with our readers and after three years, we have plenty to say!

Many thanks

Jack Gocher

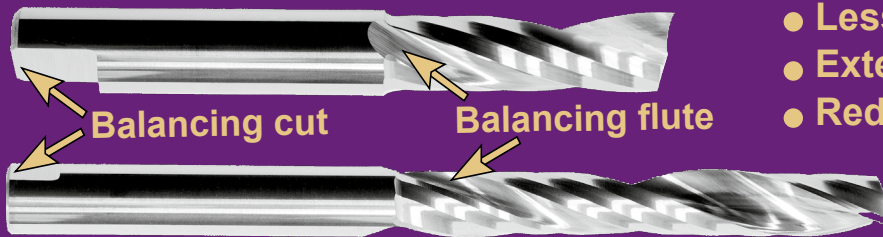
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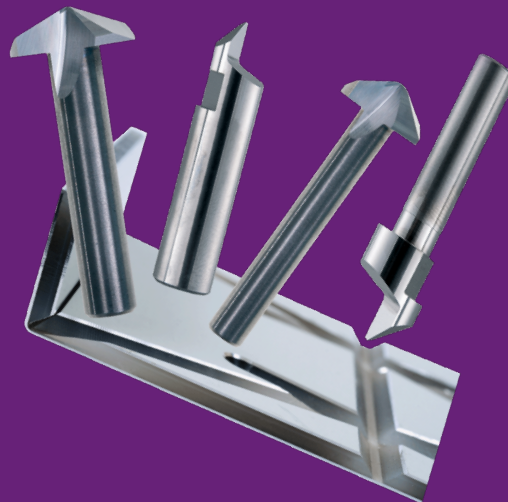
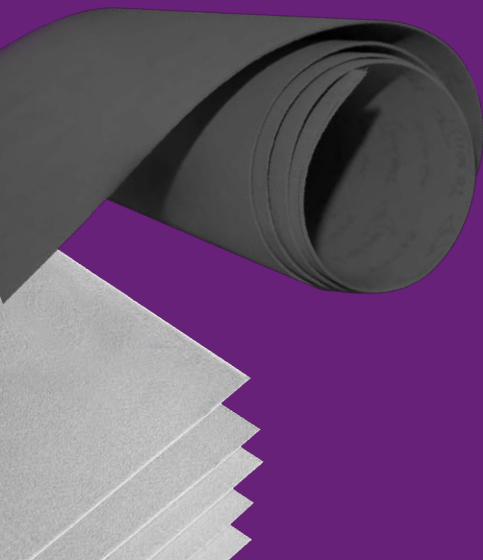
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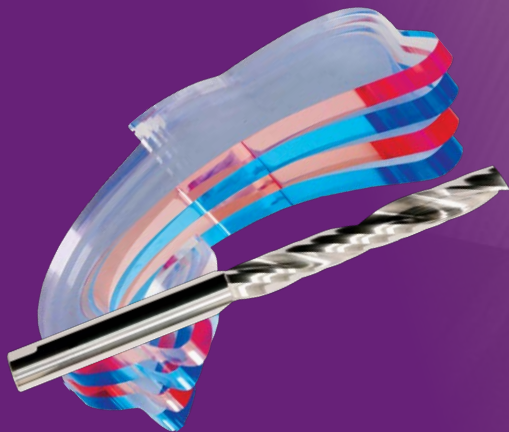
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Mutoh EMEA Release XpertJet Pro Series Sign & Display Printers

Mutoh Europe nv, EMEA business unit of Mutoh Industries Co. Ltd., Japan, in January unveiled its XPJ-1341SR Pro (54" – 137 cm) and XPJ-1641SR Pro (64" – 162 cm) new generation of digital inkjet printers. Both single head CMYK printers feature brand new head technology, a new weaving algorithm and Mutoh's genuine VerteLith RIP software to deliver a significant improvement in both print quality and print speed. The XpertJet Pro series printers also integrate automatic alignments to ensure uninterrupted production and consistent quality.

Mutoh XpertJet Pro printers are targeted at high quality volume production of sign & display graphics for long-term outdoor applications and durable prints for indoor use. Thanks to the GREENGUARD Gold certified Mutoh MS31/MS41 inks, the output can be used at full room coverage, even in sensitive environments such as schools and hospitals. This widens the scope of applications for this type of printer.

Engineered and manufactured in Japan, both models bring together the very best of Mutoh proprietary technologies for drop accuracy and therefore print quality:

- Mutoh's new AccuFine extra-wide 1600 nozzles print head
- i-screen weaving, Mutoh's fourth generation Intelligent Interweaving technology
- Mutoh's genuine VerteLith RIP software

These technologies have been designed to work seamlessly together to give users the most accurate drop-placement in the industry and they are all on-board the new XpertJet Pro range. The new print head guarantees improved droplet quality, along with more accurate drop positioning. The i-screen weaving algorithms as implemented in the firmware of the Pro class engines put the increased droplet quality to use by suppressing banding even more. The VerteLith proprietary Mutoh screening, called Clear Tone, employs the improvements to the printer and print head to deliver even better gradients and skin tones, even in 4-color setup, free of any noise.



The XpertJet 1341SR Pro is the successor to the ValueJet 1324X. The XpertJet 1641SR Pro is the successor to the XpertJet 1641SR.

Key is the fact that users gain significant quality and speed advantages over previous generations, in all production print modes. Comparing corresponding print modes, the XPJ-1341SR Pro is up to 212 % faster versus the VJ-1324X. The XPJ-1641SR Pro is up to 201 % faster versus the XPJ-1641SR. All achieved by the Mutoh proprietary technologies working together.

The XPJ-1341SR Pro and XPJ-1641SR Pro printers will be marketed by Mutoh Europe throughout the EMEA business area through its existing network of certified distributors.

Mutoh XpertJet 1341SR Pro and 1641SR Pro – Product Highlights

- Brand new AccuFine print head technology on board.
- New generation i-screen weaving technology suppresses banding even further.
- New VerteLith Clear Tone Screening to deliver the best gradients and skin tones.
- GREENGUARD Gold certified MS31/MS41 inks:
 - Output can be used at full room coverage, even in sensitive environments such as schools and hospitals.
 - UV durability without lamination up to 3 years outdoor. For heavy duty applications where mechanical stress or environmental impact is involved

(floor, vehicle and marine graphics), lamination is required. Stabilisation is required prior to lamination.

- Mutoh's genuine VerteLith RIP Software:
 - Built around Harlequin® RIP Core
 - Straightforward & powerful user interface
 - Simple workflow
 - ICC substrate profiling included
 - Powerful preview functions to reduce errors and waste :
 - Soft proof before printing
 - What-you-see-is-what-you-get RIP preview
 - Workflow efficiency & finishing tools (trim marks, grommets, automated and manual tiling, step & repeat functionality, accurate multi page PDF processing, ...)
- Motorised take-up systems: 20 & 30 kg (XPJ-1341SR-P); 30, 40 and 100 kg (XPJ-1641SR-P)
- Unrivalled user assistance to save time and waste :
 - Automated bi-dir alignment.
 - Automated media feed adjust.
 - Automated media roll length management through bar code print/scan.
 - Nozzle Area Select allows disabling of nozzle areas on the head to continue printing.
 - The 1641SR-P can be equipped with an optional automated nozzle check unit : printer will automatically detect missing nozzles, attempt recovery via cleaning and, if needed, automatically activate the Nozzle Area Select feature to continue production, without the need of an operator intervention.



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New Addition to DTFMagic Printer Range

TheMagicTouch in the UK and Ireland, under their DTFMagic brand, confirm the arrival of an additional printer option to their DTF (Direct to Film) transfer portfolio with the introduction of the new Mutoh/STS VJ-628D printer.

The 630mm wide compact desktop printer, manufactured by Mutoh in Japan, is based on Mutoh's proven Valuejet 628 8-channel printer chassis and Epson industrial print head. The solution offered is a global collaboration with leading ink manufacturers STS who have configured the best entry-level option for those looking to investigate the many opportunities DTF transfer technology offers.

Jim Nicol, Managing Director commented "Having considered over the past 12 months the great response and uptake of DTF technology, combined with the success of those now using the process in production environments, we must ensure we are able to offer the right solution for specific customer needs. The existing DTF600 printer is truly fantastic and offers real transfer production capabilities up to 15 sqm per hour but we strongly feel the size and space requirement is restrictive for many potential users. This new desktop option is perfect despite the slower production speed".

The VJ-628D printer easily fits onto an office table or rolling stand option and prints directly to the coated PET film. The printed image then has a powder adhesive applied using an automatic "Shake and Bake" unit or alternatively, for auto cut-sheet or roll-to-sheet prints, the film can be cured at up to 95°C in a unique desktop curing oven.



Additionally, DTF works equally well on white or dark textiles and allows users to choose a matt or gloss finish, whilst requiring no pre-treatment, no cutting or weeding, creates crisp and defined edges and images, does not require advanced technical printing knowledge, and produces less waste. STS based in Florida, USA, have manufactured inks for over 20 years and offer DTF inks with superb elasticity and durability onto most garments and textiles regardless of composition or colour. The CMYK and White inks are supplied in bulk bag options and are all fully certified.

The printer is driven by bespoke RIP software to ensure fast processing speeds, enhanced printing-while-ripping and user defined custom cut-line names

and colours. The "pre-production cost per transfer" feature is also very useful as the user is able to price each transfer to an exact cost. A good example being where 24 x 60mm transfers are produced in just over 6 minutes at a cost of less than 4p each and applied in this case to a black pique polo shirt.

The system can be demonstrated via Zoom or in person at the Dunstable showroom. Printed samples and transfers are also available for evaluation. All pricing is inclusive of delivery, installation and training combined with a one year warranty.

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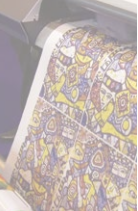


THE INNOVATIVE LINE THAT FACILITATES WRAPPING



The adhesive of the new “Ultra-Jet System” technology is specially designed to allow a single applicator to work independently to decorate an entire vehicle, reducing costs and processing times and increasing productivity.


www.apaspa.com



PRODUCT News

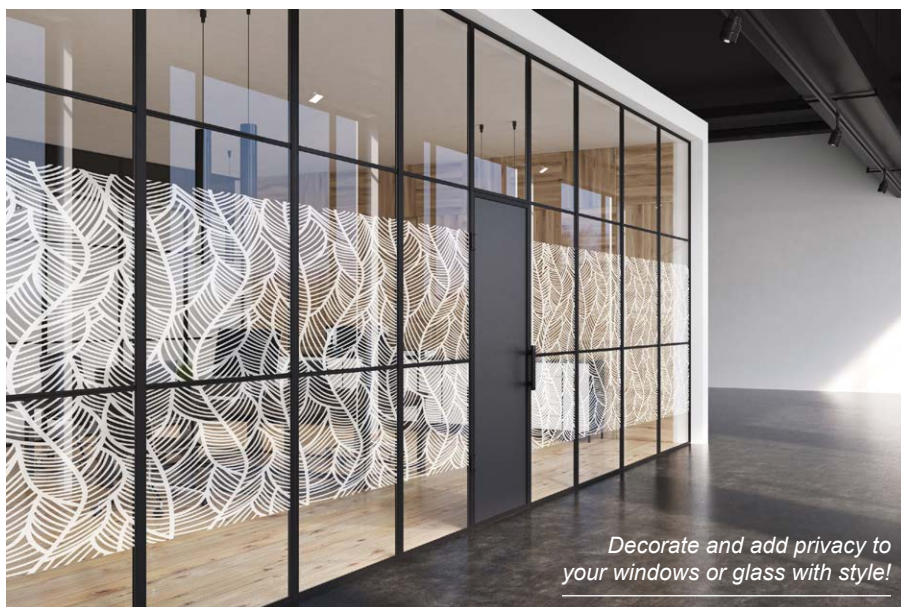
Antalis adds decorative window films to its interior décor portfolio

Antalis has introduced a new range of Coala films to add style and privacy to any window or glass partitioning. Coala Windows Décor is a new range of self-adhesive decorative films offered in a wide choice of original designs, harmonious colour palettes and finishes. Coala Windows Décor can be applied to all types of internal glass surface, windows and glass partitions.

It can act as a privacy screen, but at the same time has the power to add creativity to a space. The films are suitable for indoor use only where they will enhance and personalise interior design due to the many aesthetic options available.

Mike Collins, Product Manager at Antalis comments; "Coala Windows Décor is a highly cost-effective solution for providing new perspectives on privacy, whether for a business space, an office, a shop window, retail premises, hotels or for domestic use, a shower cubicle or conservatory etc.

The collection includes, Coala Windows Décor Colours, Coala Windows Décor Pattern, Coala Windows Décor Gradation, Coala Windows Décor Etched and Coala Windows Décor Opaque. The ranges include matt or gloss finishes and colours



Decorate and add privacy to your windows or glass with style!

including Dichroic rainbow in warm and cool versions.

The majority of the range is made of 100% PET, for a more environmentally friendly solution to traditional films, and is flame retardant, easy to apply and easy to maintain. The range can be carbon offset via Antalis' schemes and their

collaboration with leading and trusted carbon capture partners.

To help choose and inspire, Antalis has created a sales brochure, in both a digital and printed version, as well as a comprehensive swatch book.

www.antalis.co.uk

27 new UltraJet colours - the innovative line for wrapping

After the incredible success of the UltraJet line launched in September, APA presents 27 new colours for the Wrapping range with the coolest finishes.

Ultra-glossy, opaque, metallic, sparkle, carbon and super candy colours enrich the UltraJet range, the high-quality cast film extremely easy to apply thanks to the innovative adhesive that facilitates the positioning of the film extremely quickly and adheres with the simple pressure of the squeegee.

The new generation adhesive of UltraJet products has been specially

designed to allow a single applicator to work independently to decorate an entire vehicle, reducing costs and processing times and increasing productivity.

In the Ultra Gloss finishes, the transparent protective PET, which must be removed before application, keeps the material extra shiny and protects from scratches and abrasions.

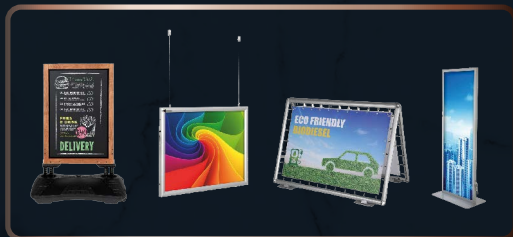
Discover the entire UltraJet series, designed and developed in Italy:

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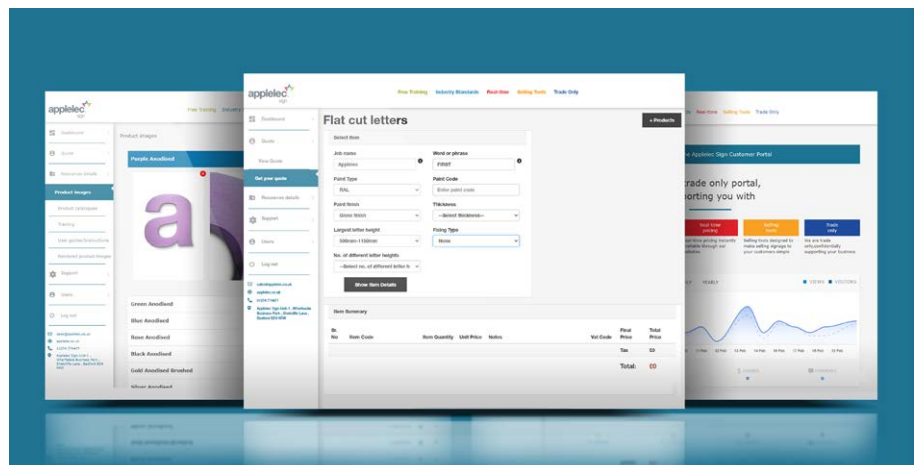
'FIRST' – Imagine a trade pricing portal, at your fingertips

Quoting signage is a complex and challenging process due to its fast-paced nature from start to finish. To stay ahead of the competition, you need to be able to provide proactive quotations and supply products that are engineered to high standards, all whilst delivering the aspirational bespoke design expectations of your customers. No pressure!

FIRST from Applelec, relieves this pressure by providing you with a strictly trade only portal, which offers you real-time quoting. This enables you to get instant prices and to make quotation amendments as many times as you need, giving you the flexibility to meet your customers' needs and budget, fast!

Alongside this, you will have access to a variety of resources to support you through the intricacies involved in quoting signage, from selling resources to expert advice and industry standard drawings.

As an experienced signage trade supplier, Applelec understands the complexities of being a signage provider and after careful consultation with customers, developed



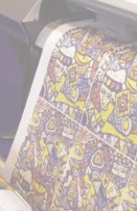
the innovative FIRST portal.

"We understand that the new norm is that customers expect prices fast and many jobs are won by being the first to quote, as well as providing bespoke solutions to your customers' specifications. This raises several challenges for signage suppliers and the aim behind our FIRST trade portal is to support our customers with the resources and tools they need to be

their customers first choice," said Head of Signage, Michael Crotch. "We are excited to finally be able to share this unique offering with the signage industry and we are proud of our continued commitment to supporting our customers with valuable resources and quality products."

Book your FIRST demo today.

www.applelec.co.uk



PRODUCT News

The new EngravaLab G+ module for Engravelab Plus & Pro

EngraveLab software packages are recognised world-wide for their all-inclusive feature sets providing engravers with all the tools required in a single, easy to use software package. The software also includes a large library of engraving-specific fonts and supports third-party fonts. Versatility at its best with complete design and production tools for laser as well as spindle-based engravers. EngraveLab Pro enables engraving business and other users to address the widest variety of production workflow requirements all in a single software package.

EngraveLab 10's versatility means that it supports most popular makes of engraving machine and now with the latest release into the engraving market, the G+ module, enables direct output to Gravotech devices from its industry-leading line of engraving software, EngraveLab v10. Feature packed with text composition, design and automation production tools that provide engraving businesses with the ability to produce a wide variety of products efficiently and easily. EngraveLab Expert also includes complete Braille layout and design tools featuring the latest braille translation libraries.

The EngraveLab G+ module supports virtually all Gravotech / Gravograph (including their cup and tankard machines) USB as well as serial devices and when added to EngraveLab Pro or EngraveLab Expert software packages provides a complete design and production solution to users.

EngraveLab has supported Gravograph serial machines for over 10 years and now with the addition of the G+ module supports Gravotech / Gravotech USB binary machines as well.

The implementation of the new G+ module means that machine users can use the one familiar software package on all their machines, eliminating the need for extra training on software that can often be over complicated and very expensive. The G+ module enables the user to leverage the advanced design and production features included in EngraveLab software by adding the EngraveLab G+ module to the EngraveLab Pro or Expert packages.

Quick Glance Features:

- Regular software upgrades available at reasonable prices.
- Ability to use third-party software.



- Immediate access to 1000+ fonts including single line engraving-specific fonts.
- USB as well as Serial devices supported.
- User-friendly intuitive interface reduces learning curve and reduces possible errors.
- Onboard device laser pointer supported.

www.ronamachines.co.uk

Viking announces new 3M product launches

Leading tapes, adhesives and sealants specialist Viking Industrial Products has unveiled two new key 3M product launches - LSE 110WF VHB and GPT020 Double Coated Polyester.

Craig Smith, Viking's Technical manager, explained: "The versatility of these two new 3M products means we will be able to replace a number of higher priced alternatives and offer some real savings to our customers. They are purpose-designed to be cost-effective 'go to' products suitable for both LSE and HSE surfaces."

Viking has partnered with long-standing customer, sign and display fabricator Exhibit House, to successfully trial the two new products. Based in Leeds, the company helps customers enhance their brand image using large graphics and displays. Its clients include Leeds City Council, hospitals and schools.

Exhibit House MD Lee Horner said: "GPT020 is now our number one choice for use on Foamex, on which I have always had variable results. However, this new 3M product has a great initial grab, holds well and is competitively priced. It now becomes my go to product."

"Tests on the LSE110WF are ongoing, but again its high initial grab, ease of use and comparative low cost suggest it will be our staple High Bond tape moving forward. These two new 3M products, allied to Viking's excellent technical back-up, will continue to give peace of mind." Exhibit House also taps into Viking's technical expertise on different substrates.

Based in West Yorkshire, Viking continues to cement its Preferred Distributor status partnership with global technology giant 3M, one of only ten within the UK, and remains its number one online partner in this country.

www.vikingtapes.co.uk



Exhibit House MD Lee Horner working with the new Viking Industrial 3M products.

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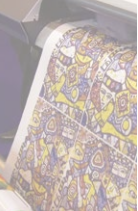
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/ SETTING NEW STANDARDS



Exhibition Update

P&P LIVE! 2022 rescheduled to April

The organisers of Printwear & Promotion LIVE! have announced the postponement of the exhibition from February 2022 to April 2022.

The UK's only exhibition for the garment decoration industry will now take place from Sunday, April 24 to Tuesday, April 26. The change in dates also means a change in hall at the NEC to Hall 12.

Tony Gardner, event director, explains the decision behind the postponement: "Although, no further restrictions have come into place that affect the show taking place in February, following conversations with a large number of exhibitors, regarding the ongoing uncertainties in the UK, particularly the potential logistical issues caused by Omicron, we have looked at the options of postponing the show. Consequently, with the support of the NEC, we have been able to push the show back by two months.

"For the successful and safer running of the show, we felt that it was the more sensible and prudent decision to take up the option of moving to April, in view of the current climate. All being well, the situation will be a lot better by then, with exhibitors and visitors being able to attend confident of a safer and better experience for all parties."



Visitors can touch and feel the latest styles from key printwear brands at P&P LIVE! 2022

At this time, we remain confident of a high visitor turnout. Pre-registrations stand at approximately 400 more than the usual numbers seen this far out from the exhibition, demonstrating a strong desire for the return of P&P LIVE!

The rescheduled exhibition will still

feature over 100 stands for visitors to explore, including the vast majority of the major equipment suppliers, clothing distributors and brands, and promises to be the unmissable reunion for the garment decoration industry.

www.printwearandpromotionlive.co.uk



More than 6,000 visitors attended Printwear & Promotion LIVE! 2020

Printwear *LIVE!*
&promotion

NOTE:
RESCHEDULED
TO APRIL!

THE UNMISSABLE REUNION!

HALL 12, NEC, BIRMINGHAM, 24-26 APRIL 2022



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Proven solutions from Mimaki

Any feature about inks for wide format printers needs to feature Mimaki. Brett Newman, Managing Director of Hybrid Services, Mimaki's exclusive distributor for UK and Ireland, says, "One of Mimaki's great strengths is its wide choice of ink chemistries, that in turn, provide the widest line-up of machine technologies for customers investing in wide format hardware."

The Japanese manufacturer's latest product launches include the 100 Series – three new models built on a common platform that deliver competitively priced, feature rich solvent, LED UV and dye sublimation solutions. The new Mimaki 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.

Newman says, "All three machines are designed to deliver powerful and productive, yet low cost solutions and they've been very well received by the industry since their announcement."

Tried and tested solvent inks

"Mimaki has long been renowned for its SS21 solvent ink; a brilliant all-rounder that has stood the test of time thanks to its vibrant colour reproduction and lasting durability," says Newman. Over the years, the SS21 ink range has expanded from CMYK to include light black, white, orange and metallic to offer a full spectrum of colours across a broad variety of applications. "With excellent



outdoor durability, unlaminated prints will last up to 3 years and even up to 5 years if laminated. These popular inks are available in cartridges, with the Mimaki MBIS bulk ink system available to provide huge capacity for volume production output."

The new Mimaki JV100-160 is optimised to run this ink set. The vibrant, long lasting and Greenguard GOLD certified ink delivers high quality results onto a huge range of materials. With high scratch resistance and long-lasting outdoor durability, it's a tried and tested solution for

print companies producing graphics that can range from vehicle wraps to signage, decals and external banners. Thanks to its quick drying capabilities, 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.

A bright future with Mimaki orange ink

The ability to accurately hit a powerful and vibrant orange is of great importance to the sign and graphics industry, with orange branding being notoriously difficult to reproduce. Mimaki's dedicated orange ink within the SS21 solvent range significantly expands the gamut, allowing corporate colours to be accurately achieved, as well as providing a dedicated pure orange for safety signage.

The much wider colour gamut available when using orange ink results in punchy and vivid colours for posters and PoS materials, especially in the food retail market where warm and rich, red and orange tones are often used. Orange ink also ensures faithful colour representation and, when used as a process colour, can match 94.8% of the PANTONE colour chart with approximate colours, making it ideal for creating impact with corporate branding, along with improved spot colour reproduction.



UV, solvent and dye sub opportunities

Opportunities with UV

"Mimaki's range of UV inks incorporates options for printing to almost any material," he says, adding, "Its hard UV inks are tough and durable and adhere well to acrylic, glass, metal and wood. The flexible options stretch to enable the item they're printed onto to expand and contract with movement and work well on sign and display materials like banner and vinyl as well as promotional items such as flexible phone cases."

On top of simply printing in four colours, Mimaki's bright and dense white UV ink makes the process of printing to coloured and clear materials, whilst still achieving vibrant results, a simple task. Available on Mimaki's range of small and large format flatbeds, as well as roll-to-roll printers like the new UJV100, it's the ideal way to achieve creative and on-brand results for applications such as window films and retail graphics where jobs are colour critical.

Newman adds, "For the ultimate in creativity, Mimaki has offered a clear UV ink for a number of years, and this is also available for the new UJV100. When combined with the pattern maker software incorporated into the Mimaki RasterLink RIP package it produces beautiful effects that catch the eye, as well as providing a full gloss or matte coverage to enhance point of sale and packaging prints."

Garment printing for signmakers

Mimaki has a long-established digital textile printing heritage, introducing its first fabric printer in the mid-1990s and continuing to develop direct to textile and dye sublimation solutions ever since. For signmakers looking to branch out into garment printing, Mimaki offers a choice of routes:



Dye sublimation is a great option for decorating polyester garments

Dye sublimation is a great option for decorating polyester garments. Vibrant, photo quality designs can be printed using a printer such as the new Mimaki TS100-1600 onto transfer paper using Mimaki's water based dye sublimation inks and then heat pressed onto the garment, creating a wash-fast print that won't affect the feel (or 'handle') of the fabric. Coupled with recent developments in garment technology, a polyester t-shirt with sublimated graphic is a popular option for short run, promotional and custom garment design.

An alternative to dye sub, and suitable for applying to almost all fabrics, both natural and man-made, is to print to a film with solvent ink before cutting it out and heat applying to the garment. With Mimaki's core sign and graphics products like the popular CJV150 range of integrated printer/cutters, capable of producing not only the garment decoration but numerous other display graphics applications, it's a great way to utilise existing hardware to



As part of a print and cut solution you can create stunning label applications

investigate potential new products and markets.

"The UJV100 can also be paired with a standalone Mimaki cutting plotter, delivering the ultimate print and cut combination, with high productivity and an integrated workflow, thanks to Mimaki's FineCut plugin software for popular graphics applications," says Newman.

The widest choice in wide format

Brett Newman concludes, "The new 100 Series from Mimaki perfectly encapsulates the company's continued drive to deliver accessible and easy to use, yet highly productive printing solutions, where an innovative and committed focus on ink technology offers new business opportunities in many different ways."

www.hybridservices.co.uk



Clear UV ink produces beautiful effects that catch the eye

Experience counts at Josero

In more than 20 years in the industry, Josero has seen many changes within the market. Josero is a leading UK supplier of large and wide format printers, sign and print finishing equipment and printing supplies. The company supplies, installs and supports printers from industry-leading manufacturers.

Sarah Winterbottom, Managing Director of Josero, says, "One of the most exciting areas of our industry right now is the depth and range of inks that are now available. This is across the board with aqueous, eco-solvents and UV-curable all supporting speciality and versatile inksets. The quality and innovation being shown by most of the major manufacturers is changing the landscape for signage and display applications, which is now only limited by the creativity of the market."

She continues, "Customers are very much looking for something out of the ordinary. Anyone can print onto foamboard, but profit can only really be made if they can add real value to it. This is where innovative features using advanced technologies like white and clear inks can create the tactile textures that can help you really meet customers' needs and help to increase margin and profitability."

The Josero range

Josero is an authorised reseller for Mimaki, AGFA and Ricoh printers. For print finishing and sign making equipment, they are approved distributors and resellers for major, well-respected brands such as Bubble Free Applicator, Comagrav, Graphtec, Summa, Keencut, Kala, Vivid and many more.

"For many of our suppliers and customers, ink is always a hot topic. We have seen the quality and range of UV inks develop a huge amount over recent years. Some manufacturers now have a wide range

of flexible UV inks available, which also include clear inks, primers and other specialist inks," says Winterbottom.

She adds, "Mimaki have this market covered with machines like the JFX200 range and desktop UJF range. They can print 2.5D, spot varnish, braille, textures and more. It is this breadth and versatility that customers love and inspires the imaginative applications that really make a difference to our industry."

"Agfa also have white ink as standard. The white ink function creates possibilities for printing on transparent material for backlit



Sara Winterbottom, Managing Director at Josero says ink is a hot topic for many customers and suppliers



Manufacturers like Mimaki now have a wide range of flexible UV inks available, which also include clear inks, primers and other specialist inks

applications or for printing white as a spot colour. This allows people to go beyond printing on white Correx by offering multi-layer printing on acrylic and creating stunning special effects. Agfa manages the white ink by using a fully separate system with the tank containing equipped with a stirring mechanism to keep the ink properly mixed. This is essential for maintaining the quality of the print and the reliability of the printer," she says.

Josero is also a distributor for Ricoh. Winterbottom explains, "The new Ricoh Pro range includes orange and green or white alongside CMYK. This gives a much wider colour gamut for stunning, vibrant visuals, as well as greater flexibility. The extended orange and green ink colour range gives super high details in your prints at much faster speeds, which helps increase productivity and profitability. The Ricoh also has a clever auto cleaning function, which means you can maximise printing uptime to meet tight deadlines."



Josero's purpose-built showroom contains all the latest printing and finishing equipment

Sarah Winterbottom concludes, "For all of these solutions, Josero's fully qualified technical experts can offer essential advice. Our inhouse engineering team offers technical support and repairs for wide format printers and other equipment. We also have a fantastic purpose-built showroom containing all the latest printing and finishing equipment and we are happy to provide informative and tailored demonstrations."

www.josero.com

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antalis TEAM

Analysing HP's advances in white ink technology

White ink technology has become an extremely powerful tool for print companies, opening up a whole range of markets and allowing them to create all sorts of eye-catching applications and add a host of innovative effects to their printed work.

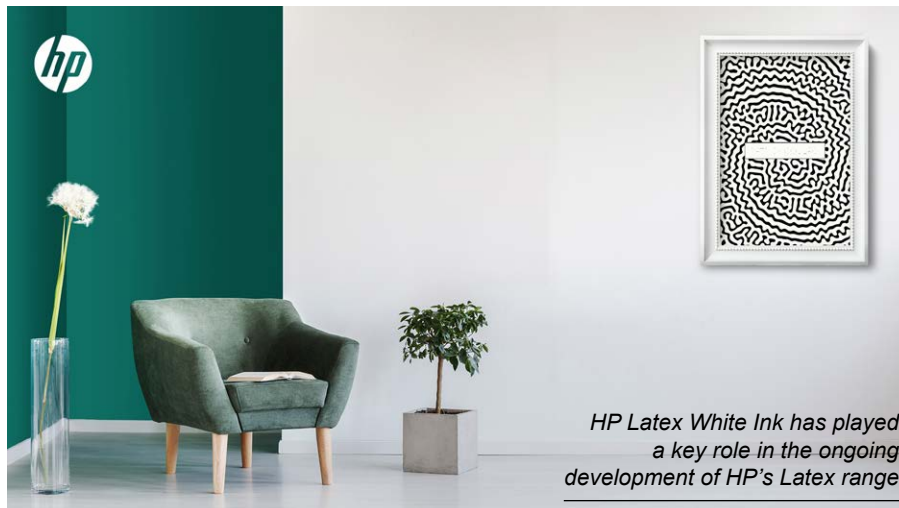
According to Bruce Van Greunen, Pre-Sales Technical Consultant HP UK&I, "While white ink has been adopted by several major manufacturers in the industry, HP has made significant steps in this area, bringing to market many technological developments in recent years which have in turn helped their customers grow and move into new areas."

He continues, "Since its launch in 2008, HP Latex has grown to become a critical part of HP's business, with its own line of inks and printers, and HP Latex White Ink has played a key role in this ongoing development, as it comes increasingly popular among customers around the world. As to why the product has become so widely used, we need to first look at how the technology works."

White ink is naturally denser than other inks. But – just like blood is pumped around the human body, HP Latex White Ink is pumped around the printer to keep it in print-ready condition.

The HP Latex White Ink printhead is also no ordinary printhead; when the ink arrives at the head it keeps moving to stop the white ink pigment from settling. HP Latex White Ink is always ready for printing on demand as the printhead is stored in an offline rotation chamber where the ink is constantly rotated, kept ready for the next white ink job.

When not in use, the HP Latex White Ink system requires no daily purging, so the ink wastage typical in some other white ink



HP Latex White Ink has played a key role in the ongoing development of HP's Latex range

systems is eliminated when you use an HP Latex White Ink printer.

"Not only is HP Latex White Ink low maintenance and practically waste-free, it is much whiter and glossier than any other white ink on the market. It also offers a host of sustainably benefits – something that is critical in today's eco-conscious world," says Van Greunen.

He adds, "As is the case with all products within the HP Latex Ink range, HP Latex White Ink is water-based, meaning up to 70% of the ink formula is water, with the latest HP Latex inks designed to avoid the hazards associated with other inks. This ink formula is combined with wetting agents and humectants needed for printhead reliability to produce a liquid ink vehicle that carries latex polymer and pigment particles to and through the printer's printheads onto the substrate. Radiant heat and forced airflow evaporate the liquid and set the latex, binding the pigments and substrate together to leave a durable image on the print media surface. Prints are ready to use – and laminate – immediately."

Bruce Van Greunen concludes, "Everything about the HP Latex White Ink system has been designed to remove the limitations of the past and make printing with white easy. White ink can be used in applications such as under flood, over flood, three and five-layer and spot modes, all delivering HP's renowned Latex quality."

White Ink Webinar

HP recently hosted a dedicated webinar focused on how integrating white ink as part of a print service offering can offer businesses a significant advantage over their competitors.

The 'Discover How White Ink Can Give Your Business a Competitive Edge' webinar featured a series of testimonials from a number of HP users, offering an insight into how to use white ink across a range of applications.

UK print service provider PressOn, Russian print business Zeytz and Spanish graphic design, marketing and advertising studio Print Zone showcased how the use of white ink from HP has helped them to move ahead of the competition in their respective markets.

The session also included a live demonstration on the HP Latex R series and HP Latex 800W printers, as well as a walkthrough of how to print and install window graphics, signage and décor applications.

To see this webinar again, please contact HP by emailing isabella.jelinek@hp.com



HP Latex R2000 incorporates cutting edge ink technology

hp.com

UV versus solvent: The best ink technologies for 2022

No two printed products are created equal. Just as our screens have evolved from the black and white era, printing innovation has followed a similar trajectory, with the inks and printers of today capable of delivering comprehensive, colour-accurate perfection.

We talked to Paul Willems, Director of Business Development and Product Management, EMEA at Roland DG, to discuss the latest developments in inks for large format, focusing on the cutting-edge capabilities of UV and solvent variants. "Currently, two core ink technologies are leading the charge in the large format market – eco-solvent inks and UV-cured inks. Both deliver outstanding print quality, yet several differences between the two are worth considering before opting for one or the other. On average, 77% of the outdoor durable graphics market is made up from Solvent and UV *, with most flatbed printers operating with UV ink."

Eco-solvent inks

Eco-solvent inks are renowned for being reliable, durable, consistent, and high quality. They make an ideal choice for sign



UV-cured inks offer superior scratch and chemical resistance and easily adheres onto a virtually limitless range of materials and substrates



Current generations of eco-solvent inks are much more capable than their predecessors, featuring fast drying characteristics and being offered in large cartridges with a lower price per millilitre

and graphic professionals looking to create premium banners, signage, and vehicle graphics or other products due to these inks' vibrant colours. Current generations of eco-solvent inks are much more capable products than their predecessors, with some featuring fast drying characteristics and being offered in large cartridges with a lower price per millilitre

Willems explains, "Typically, they are always available in the standard CMYK colour set, with the opportunity for a variation on top. At Roland DG, for example, we offer the addition of light cyan, light magenta, light black, white and metallic inks. Certain devices are also configured to allow for Orange, Green, Red and White inks, allowing for an extended colour gamut."

He continues, "It is this extensive colour gamut that makes eco-solvent inks particularly attractive. Between rich colours and fine details, from crisp, contrasting text with sharply defined edges to smooth gradations, eco-solvent inks are known for their striking outcomes."

The ability to create metallic finishes is particularly novel, creating stunning colours and effects that catch the eye in even the most crowded locations. Equally, certain inks can print on clear and reflective media, unlocking the ability to create high-impact labels, packaging prototypes and window graphics.

UV-cured inks

Like eco-solvent inks, those that are UV-cured promise a high print quality, but some differentiating factors may make one more suitable than the other, depending on the application. Typically, UV-cured inks offer superior scratch and chemical resistance and easily adheres onto a virtually limitless range of materials and

substrates. UV inks also dries immediately under low temperature LED lamps, making print jobs instantly ready for post-production.

Again, they are generally offered in CMYK, white and gloss, and printable primer, enabling a range of ink configurations. Each of these will deliver a different effect.

High-opacity white ink enables highlights, and rich, dense colours on clear materials; gloss ink creates special effects, realistic textures and enables enhanced durability; and decal-release primer provides an easy way to customise solid 3D objects and uneven surfaces.

Willems adds, "At Roland DG, we've also newly incorporated EUV5 orange and red UV inks into our portfolio to further enhance the colour gamut. This expanded ink gamut offers the perfect solution for print service providers seeking to add impact to their printed graphics – including backlit, canvas and decorative applications – or help achieve corporate colour matching."

Certifications

Paul Willems concludes, "Indeed, choosing which ink, be it UV, solvent or other, is merely part of the challenge. When selecting between brands and products, it is worth looking for key certifications that indicate product quality. GREENGUARD certification, for example, provides assurance that inks meet some of the world's most rigorous and comprehensive standards for low emissions of volatile organic compounds into indoor air. Indeed, those products that have achieved GREENGUARD Gold UL2818 certification are the most desirable."

www.rolanddg.eu/en-gb

Quality without compromise

Atlantic Tech Services supplies the NUTec range of inks alongside its ColourSURE Solvent and LX Latex range of inks. Keith Pratt, Managing Director of Atlantic Tech Services, says, "NUTec inks produce vibrant colours with excellent adhesion properties, making it the perfect match specifically for all Mimaki Printers."

He continues, "We offer nationwide next day delivery anywhere in the UK at competitive prices for Amethyst A20-RTR UV inks in 1 Litre Bottles & Chips, or the impressive degassed Diamond D10-MS21 & EKA Solvent inks which come packaged in 500ml Cartridge, 1 Litre Bottle or 2 Litre Bag/Pouch. NUTec inks are targeted to reduce costs and improve print quality and printer performance for all Mimaki printer users. This added to our national next day on-site Service & Support services for all Mimaki printers gives us a unique combined level of products and services to give users a complete peace of mind when selecting your next ink supplier."

NUTec manufactures OEM quality digital UV & Solvent printing inks which offer batch-to-batch consistency, long-run print reliability and exceptional image quality and adhesion performance. Inks are produced through proprietary, state of the art manufacturing processes and offered in a wide variety of packaging solutions including 2 Litre MBIS Bulk System Pouches/Bags, 500ml Cartridges and 1 Litre Bottles.

Keith says, "NUTec's unique 4-stage quality control system ensures the highest quality of products from raw material to finished ink. Pigment dispersions are created at the very beginning of the manufacturing process, ensuring



Diamond D10-GF-MS21 inks are supplied in 500ml Cartridges and 2 Litre Bags for us with the Mimaki MBIS Bulk Ink Systems

particle size consistency and milling at the nano level. Proprietary equipment and procedures allow complete control over the entire manufacturing process, ensuring only the highest quality ink before final packaging.

The NUTec packaging and labelling department packages inks to industry specifications, while the regulatory department ensures that all international chemical safety regulations are followed."

"Once the product leaves the factory, our dedicated Atlantic logistics and customer care team handles and monitors the shipping and distribution of NUTec inks to our customers at all times," he adds.

A broad range of inks

The product range includes Amethyst A20RTR & A20RIG UV Inks, a premium quality, roll-to-roll UV ink, designed

for a wide range of flexible and rigid applications. It is a high density colour ink that cures with LED as well as Mercury Vapour UV lamps. Suitable for the Ricoh® Gen 5, Gen 5s as well as the Kyocera® KJ4A print heads. Amethyst A20RTR and A20RIG inks are supplied in 1 Litre Bottles, is particularly successful when installed to all leading Mimaki UV printers, such as the UJF, JFX and UCJV printers.

Diamond D10-GF-MS21 Eco-Solvent Inks are designed as a back-to-back replacement for Mimaki® SS21™ inks for all Mimaki JV and CJV printers only. The Diamond D10-GF-MS21 formulation is GBL-Free and offers superior abrasion and chemical resistance. High quality, low odour with a performance to match and outperform OEM inks. Diamond D10-GF-MS21 inks are supplied in 500ml Cartridges and 2 Litre Bags for us with the Mimaki MBIS Bulk Ink Systems.

Diamond D10-EKA Eco-Solvent Inks is a general purpose, fast drying, low odour eco-solvent ink. The Diamond D10-EKA offers superior abrasion and chemical resistance and provides excellent media compatibility across a broad range of self-adhesive and flexible substrates. Supplied specifically in 1 Litre Bottles for all standard Solvent Bulk Ink Systems.

Keith Pratt concludes, "Customers looking for value, quality and reliability from their inks are taking a very close look at our range of products. The simple fact is that ink ranges like NUTec and ColourSURE offer fantastic solutions for achieving great quality output at great value. It just makes sense."

www.atlantic-tech.co.uk



Diamond D10-GF-MS21 eco-solvent inks are chemically & colour matched to Mimaki® SS21™ inks

NUtec ink solutions for Mimaki

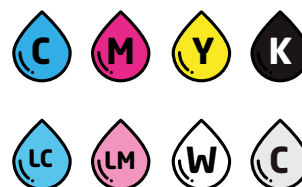
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- ✓ Solvent resistance on media
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The Reason for Resin

One of the newest inks to market has been Epson's range of resin ink. Tom Owers, Product Manager, ProGraphics, Epson (UK) Ltd, explains, "Epson's UltraChrome RS resin ink works with the SureColor SC-R Series of wide format printers. 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 and decor medias, particularly uncoated stocks. The latter is important as it enables full recycling of printed products once the media is no longer required. The 6-colour ink set comprises of CMYK plus light cyan and light magenta to reduce graininess and Epson Precision Dot technology delivers image quality well beyond that seen in other brands of resin ink."



The Epson SureColor R5000 6-colour ink set comprises CMYK plus light cyan and light magenta



UltraChrome Resin offers sustainable solutions to customers and brands

It was developed in tandem with Epson's renowned print head expertise to deliver elevated levels of print performance and an expanded choice of applications, all from a water-based ink. "It delivers outstandingly vibrant, consistent colour, even on heat sensitive media," says Owers, adding, "UltraChrome Resin ink also offers a number of performance benefits for print service providers."

Key benefits of resin ink

Epson's resin ink is 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.

"Our new inks deliver 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," he says.

The ink supports application flexibility as it is suitable for printing traditional signage applications including vinyl and banner, decor medias, as well as a broader range of substrates like uncoated papers, wallpapers, and textiles.

Instant lamination and high scratch resistance 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.

"UltraChrome Resin offers sustainable solutions to customers and brands, as it is completely water based and has significantly lower curing temperatures. The 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," he explains.

Tom Owers concludes, "With Epson's UltraChrome RS resin ink it is possible to meet the demand for quality, productivity, reliability, stable colour performance and environmentally friendly output."

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RMC Digital Print hits sustainability targets with Soyang's PVC-free solutions

Hull-based wide-format trade print company RMC Digital Print has opened up about how its long-term use of PVC-free materials from Soyang Europe has helped it win a host of new customers and expand its service offering.

Specialising in graphics for the signage, exhibition, set and stage markets, RMC Digital Print will this year celebrate its 10th year in business and recently underwent a management buyout, in a move it said has enabled it to make decisions quicker.

This shrewd approach to business has helped RMC Digital Print establish itself as not only one of the leading providers of trade wide-format print to the UK market, but also as a business that is highly committed to the environment and to offering its customers planet-friendly products.

RMC Digital Print's long-term relationship with Soyang Europe has played a key role in the business hitting its sustainability targets. The two companies began working together in 2014 when RMC Digital Print approached Soyang Europe to learn more about its PVC flex face skin material, as it was experiencing issues with the previous product from a different manufacturer that it had been using.

Having been able to identify a high-quality replacement that fits all its criteria in the form of Soyang's PVC flex face skin material, RMC Digital Print went on to use a wide range of substrates from the company, printing on its Durst Rho 512R and EFI VUTEK GS5000r printers.

"One of the main reasons we like working with Soyang is their knowledge about the substrates they provide," RMC Digital Print Commercial Director Alex Wood said. "Their customer service is also exceptionally good, and we feel like we can rely on them."

"The products we use are excellent quality; Soyang has a number of different ranges of materials to choose from. We've also found that their stock levels are good, and we very rarely have difficulty in getting a substrate in from them. You can give them a call with an application in mind and they will be able to suggest a suitable material to use."

Alex Wood in particular noted the impact of working with PVC-free materials from



The five-metre roll-to-roll EFI VUTEK GS5000r UV printer allows you to produce everything from premium-margin jobs to long-term outdoor signage.

Soyang Europe – including Solar Frontlit Standard, Solar Frontlit Premium, Solar Greyback Frontlit and Solar Mesh – all of which have played a major role in the company securing new work from like-minded and green-minded clients.

"Soyang Europe have offered us a number of PVC-free alternatives that have helped us to expand into new markets due to the demand for sustainable products increasing in almost every market in which we work," says Alex. "Additionally, both RMC and Soyang have partnered with FESPA UK and Prismm on their initiative to recycle PVC products, further expanding our green credentials."

FESPA UK and recycling specialist Prismm Environmental launched this impartial waste management scheme for its members which allow FESPA UK members from across the wide-format, textile, corrugated and screen-printing markets to safely dispose of their print waste and significantly decrease the amount of waste materials being sent from the industry to UK landfill sites.

In terms of other solutions, one Soyang Europe product that has proved extremely useful for RMC Digital Print over the years is Polycril, a seamless wallcovering product that is available in white back, blackout and recycled options, all in widths of up to 5m. Alex said the use of this materials has significantly helped the company gain more work in the wallpaper market.

"Many of our clients prefer the material as you don't need a join in it; at first they were worried that it would be difficult to install but now a lot of them find it much easier than traditional wallpaper," Alex said.

"Since working with Soyang we've been able to offer a variety of products to our clients which has helped them secure more work."

Alex added that such has been the success of the partnership with Soyang Europe that RMC Digital Print plans to continue working with the supplier for many years to come as it pursues further growth and environmental goals.

"As a company we pride ourselves on giving good customer service and collaborating with our clients to provide a resolution to any issues that may crop up," Alex said. "Soyang are very similar to us in this regard, and we feel like we have a partnership with them rather than them just offering us a service."

Soyang Europe's green goals are also very much in line with those at RMC Digital Print. This strategy stretches outside of the workplace and into the car park; Soyang Europe currently has four electric Tesla cars across its fleet, with this set to increase to five in the coming months as the supplier looks to further enhance its already-excellent green credentials.

www.soyang.co.uk

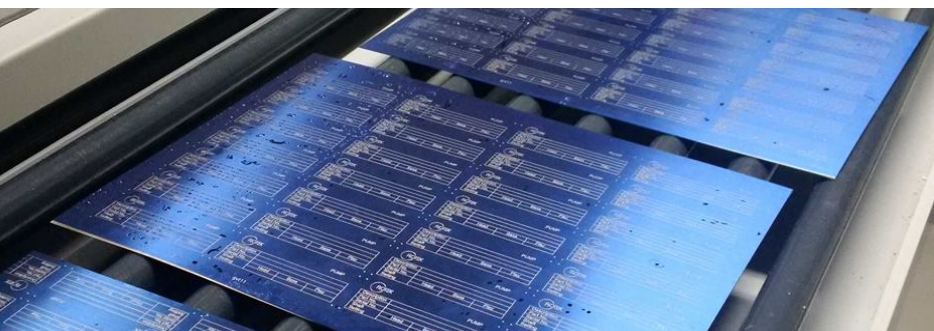
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FASTSIGNS Gloucester installs Kongsberg X20 Edge

FASTSIGNS Gloucester has installed a Kongsberg X20 Edge from CMYUK. This new digital cutting table will enable the company to bring most of its work in-house as well as offering access to new markets and revenue streams.

Set up 14 years ago, this FASTSIGNS franchise based in Gloucester is a family-run business. The team includes Dave, Carolyn and Laura Riddell, Jamie Douglas and George Mason. It offers a vast range of signage and printed display solutions for the construction, manufacturing, education, healthcare, housing, retail, events and exhibitions sectors.

The company's requirement to acquire a digital cutting table was brought about by the demand for greater speed and efficiency. FASTSIGNS had looked at a variety of cutting options from several manufacturers but a timely e-shot from CMYUK regarding a Kongsberg X20 Edge digital cutting table made enough of an impression for Dave and Carolyn to press pause on another cutter that they had been seriously considering.

CMYUK recognises that often for smaller businesses taking time out of the working week for an equipment demonstration can be difficult, which is why CMYUK offers Saturday appointments. Taking advantage of this unique service, Dave and Carolyn were both able to visit the CMYUK demonstration and training facility in Shrewsbury to evaluate the X20 Edge.

Dave says, "We were both impressed by the X20 demonstration and could see the productivity gains the Kongsberg table offered and the added value it could bring to the business due to its capabilities and versatility."

The X series of Kongsberg cutters offers futureproofing to business owners as its capabilities can be upgraded, adding tools as and when, underpinning the continued growth of companies that invest in this type of technology.

FASTSIGNS Gloucester's X20 purchase included a Router, Rigid Material blade, Kiss Cut blade and Diamond Polishing bit. The equipment was also configured with a camera registration system ensuring the most accurate cutting, folding and engraving even on the most complex of jobs.

The X20 Edge is ideal for businesses that are relatively tight on space. It has a working area of 1680mm by 1270mm and a conveyerized belt option allows for the cutting of panels/materials larger than the physical bed.

One of the reasons for purchasing the X20 Edge is the ability for FASTSIGNS Gloucester to bring much of its work in-house. For example, popular products such as acrylic letters and panels have traditionally been supplied by a third party. These can not only be done in-house now but FASTSIGNS Gloucester can really push forward and become more ambitious offering innovative products to its customers.

Dave explains "We've got many customers who have requirements we weren't aware of and we hope that by talking to them about the Kongsberg this will open up more opportunities to supply different products. We want to service our loyal customers much more comprehensively. The Kongsberg is not only about making things faster – it's allowed us to do things such as contour cutting shapes and letters that we couldn't do before. We're undergoing training on-site and this is igniting so many ideas and additional possibilities for the business.

"Going forward, we're aiming to increase our overall sales and profit on products that we used to subcontract out and items that we used to fabricate by hand, further improve on quality and shorten lead times.

"Working with CMYUK has been a positive experience. We know if we need support or advice they are only a phone call away."

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Left to right: Jamie Douglas, Laura Riddell, Dave Riddell, Carolyn Riddell and George Mason.



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PRODUCT Choice

The Solution House increase their cutting capacity with a second Zund Cutter



The Solution House is a leading global business specialising in display and branding. Working from their production facility in Yorkshire, they have over 15 years of experience within the print industry. They are now an international success story with large corporate clients including Google, Mira, Jet2.com and McLaren. The company takes great pride in offering world-class services whilst staying true to their family-run spirit.

Debbie Day, Director at The Solution House said "Our reactions are quick and as an expert UK manufacturer you can expect more than just an idea. We can overcome any challenge; we offer innovative advice and compelling solutions enabling businesses to communicate their key messages with maximum impact. We feel it's our duty to provide a seamless and hassle-free service, but above all a personable one. We pride ourselves on the relationships we've built with our clients

over the years and the honourable feedback we continue to receive from them".

Last year, during the global pandemic, The Solution House put its sophisticated factory to good use by carefully developing a range of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) for the health sector and workplace shields to help businesses return to work in-line with social distancing guidelines.

As everyone began to return to normality, The Solution House were keen to ensure it remained well placed to deliver the needs of their clients in the new world of display. This meant new cutting capacity was required to deliver the increasing number of orders for social distancing signage required by retailers and large corporates. Debbie explained: "To meet the demand of our growing orderbook, we had our existing Zund machinery running very successfully 24/7. More recently, the pandemic landscape meant deadlines and

lead-times became much shorter, so we needed more cutting capacity quickly.

Trust is a key factor for The Solution House when investing in any new equipment and having purchased their first Zund a few years ago, they were familiar with the level of service and product quality they would receive. Debbie said: "We purchased our first Zund back in 2018, we believe they are the best in the business and trust the reliability they offer. Our Zund Cutter has seen us through several vast periods of growth and looking ahead, it made sense for us to consider another Zund Cutter".

Having spoken to Zund UK and specifying their requirements, The Solution House opted for a Zund Cutter 3XL-2500 with optional extras. Debbie said, "Our investment in the Zund equipment has future-proofed our business for its next period of growth. From the initial financing conversations through to purchase and the remote virtual support, we have remained impressed with the high level of service provided."

Reflecting on their recent purchase Kevin Supple, Director at The Solution House said "Having the new equipment in place enables us to realise some basic efficiencies. With an additional Zund Cutter we can move faster without compromising on quality. Commercially, Zund's efficiency can also create savings on our production costs, for example by dropping a shift of manpower. However, with the current high volume demands on production, having an additional Zund means that we can keep those colleagues working, and simply produce more."

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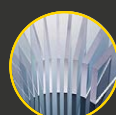
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Hampshire Flag invests in a Mimaki JFX 200-2513 EX UV LED flatbed printer

40 years in business and looking to ensure its future growth and profitability, Hampshire Flag is now set to expand into the signage and personalised gift market.

Hampshire Flag has invested in a Mimaki JFX 200-2513 EX UV LED flatbed printer from CMYUK. The investment coincides with the company's 40th anniversary and marks a new chapter in its history.

Traditionally a large format fabric printer, producing flags, exhibition and event equipment products, it has also always printed vinyl which it mounted onto substrates such as Foamex and Corex for a small number of clients.

"Increasingly customers were asking for more of this type of work," says Sales Manager, Rod Sessions, "and it was becoming more time consuming. We felt the need to go faster but also open ourselves up to more opportunities within the signage market. We are known as a flag and fabric manufacturer but felt we could easily become a signage manufacturer. We just needed the right equipment to help us do this efficiently and quickly."

Historically signage has accounted for

5 – 10% of the business. "We've always looked at the huge market potential of signage and thought we'd like a piece of it. It's nothing too different from what we're doing but because of the machinery we have at the moment, our price point for this type of work isn't competitive enough. There was no point us doing a signage tender because with our existing kit, we'd be priced out of the market, hence the motivation to purchase the new flatbed," says Rod.

The onward diversification doesn't stop here. Thanks to COVID, the company which has an established web presence started to look at opportunities within personalised gifting. "We felt that with the Pandemic there would be a trend towards personalised and customised gifting so we've positioned ourselves favourably here to meet the additional revenue streams bought about by market demand. Again, the JFX 200- 2513 EX will help us with this and we've got the expertise in-house to do it," says Rod.

The CMYUK factor

After researching in-house and considering a number of printer manufacturers, the company identified Mimaki as the main

contender. Hampshire Flag visited the CMYUK demonstration facility in Shrewsbury and was greatly impressed with not only the Mimaki portfolio but the whole CMYUK experience.

"We were really comfortable with the JFX 200 – 2513 EX but beyond that with the CMYUK levels of service and how it would respond to our demands going forward. We felt we'd get a great deal of value from CMYUK in the longer term through its support," he says.

The JFX 200 -2513 EX is the industry's best-selling UV-LED curing flatbed printer that combines high-value-printing with high productivity. Features include Embossed Printing that makes a surface look bumpy due to the ability to lay down multiple ink layers. Offering White and Colour, this 8ft x 4ft flatbed automatically detects any missing print nozzles and performs recovery. In addition, the printer uses advanced algorithm to print optimum gradation patterns on each pass, significantly eliminating banding effect on the print.

Into the next 40 years

Waterloooville-based Hampshire Flag was founded by Roy Carr who started out producing PVC banners in his loft. Forty years on, it's still a family affair with daughter Angela Saunders now MD and her son Robert also working for the firm.

Today it has a turnover exceeding £3m and 32 staff, many of which have been with the business for over 20 years. "We're not just a print company. We have a finishing department for our flags which consists of a bank of 12- 15 sewing machine operatives, who are literally in there sewing flags and many other textile products all day, every day. They have been with us a very long time and are highly skilled producing amongst other things, complicated Royal flags that take 2-3 days to hand sew," says Rod.

While flags will remain the core business, the company is preparing for reinvention. Three new members of staff are earmarked to join the company this year and the new Mimaki technology will help usher in the next 40 years.

www.cmyuk.com



Left to Right: Karl Price, Print Room supervisor; Riky Butcher; Mark Allibone, Print Room Manager; Emmeline Petersen; Tony Corben; Neil Lockton, Production Manager; Sue Strydom; Rod Sessions, Sales & Marketing Manager.

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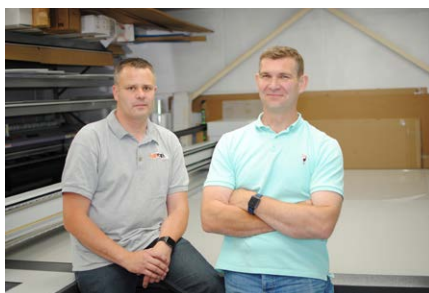
Twocan take the lead with Nyala

In a bid to extend its reach into the retail, exhibition and live events sector, Twocan Graphics has stepped-up to its first flatbed printer with a swissQprint Nyala.

"Anybody can buy a flatbed and use it to produce average quality work, and this is what most of our competitors are doing," says Twocan Graphics co-founder Mark Wheatley. "Having the Nyala sets us apart from the rest of the pack."

Achieving the impossible

"When we told our clients about getting the machine, they were really excited for us," Mark continues. Most of their work comes from other graphics companies that have contracts with the end clients, and they were very impressed by Twocan Graphic's investment. "As soon as they heard it was a swissQprint machine they immediately started asking us to quote for jobs we had never been able to produce before. Now they are sending all of their work our way," Mark says. "We never thought for a moment that our first flatbed printer would be a swissQprint, but now we're producing work we never imagined possible."



Roy Farmer and Mark Wheatley of Twocan Graphics feel that they have gained an elite position by investing in a swissQprint Nyala.

Outfoxing the competition

Business partners Mark Wheatley and Roy Farmer are already considering a move to larger premises amid plans to invest in a digital cutting system to sit alongside the Nyala. "Roy and I like to be cautious about our approach to growing the business and tend to take small steps, but with the Nyala we have taken leaps and bounds," states Mark. "We are now one of the big fish in the small pond because our competitors don't have the same advantage we

have with the swissQprint machine." He concludes: "It's a small club to be in, but it's an elite position, and for clients to give us all their work tells us we made the right decision."

From schoolroom to boardroom

The partners started out as school friends, growing up together and later working in Mark's father's family run sign & graphics company. When the family business closed its doors in 2009, the friends founded Twocan Graphics with a view to becoming an established name in the graphic installation sector. During the intervening years the pair graduated from installing other people's graphics to producing them.

Today Twocan supplies a broad range of clients with graphics products from advertising hoardings, giant banners, corporate signs and building wraps to printed backdrops across the retail, live event and commercial sectors in the UK and overseas.

www.swissqprint.co.uk

No more worries, as Coloursonic invest in a swissQprint Nyala

As part of a long-term strategy to put quality at the heart of its business, Coloursonic has invested in a swissQprint Nyala large format printer. This move has made a significant difference to the business.

Coloursonic took delivery of their new swissQprint Nyala, with the roll-to-roll option, in the autumn of 2021 where it was put immediately to work. The London-based large format creative production company was founded by husband-and-wife team Michaela and Paul Chandler who, for more than two decades, have produced large format graphics for a wide range of clients in London's creative and cultural industries.

The Nyala has since replaced both a latex flatbed and a 3.2 m UV roll to roll printer. "The team love using it," says Michaela. She explains that switching from flatbed mode to roll to roll printing is quick and easy, with zero wastage, and the energy consumption is significantly lower, too. "We love the Swiss precision," she continues. "Everything about these machines is built to last. We no longer have to worry about expensive maintenance contracts or the machine breaking down."

Agility in a world of rapid change

The entrepreneurs are known for their agility, and this was also true during the early stages of the global pandemic when the Chandler's engaged a business mentor to assist with strategic planning. "We wanted to make bespoke fine art printing more accessible," continues Michaela. One of the first things they did was set up a web-to-print portal for the fine art side of the business. "It opened the door for us to work with many more digital artists", she explains.

The couple also revisited a 2019 project to upgrade its latex flatbed printer, only this time with something significantly better. "The research had already been done," says Michaela. It would have been easy to stick with the original plan and replace the flatbed with a newer model, but there was no long-term benefit to this way of thinking. "That's the sort of thinking our competitors would do. We wanted something that they didn't have. We just didn't know what that was", she remembers.



The swissQprint Nyala

Limitless creative possibilities

During this period the Chandler's contacted swissQprint to request some samples. What they saw was enough to convince them to request a demonstration. They took the usual 'challenging' client files with them, Paul explains. "The results produced on the Nyala were stunning – even without calibration. The quality was amazing, and the creative possibilities seemed limitless." Michaela adds: "We didn't need to be convinced that we wanted one!"

Creative capital

Located in upscale Maida Vale, just five minutes from the city centre, the area is home to a host of world-renowned artists, photographers, authors, poets, playwrights, actors, and musicians. Singers Björk, Noel Gallagher and Jarvis Cocker have all lived there. It is also home to the world-famous Abbey Road recording studios where the Beatles recorded their eponymous album.

"This part of London is like a magnet for creative people," says Michaela. "We never know who is going to come through the door. It could be anybody from the world of art & design, fashion, music, film, theatre, TV, cinema, and live events. No two days are the same."

Look forward with confidence

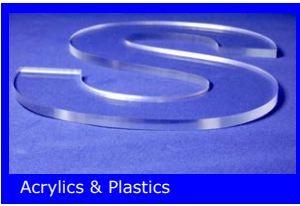
"It's a nice feeling when you have a clear vision of what your future looks like. Having the Nyala has made an incredible difference to the business, even in the short time we have been using it," concludes Michaela.

www.swissqprint.co.uk



The London-based large format creative production company was founded by husband-and-wife team Michaela and Paul Chandler

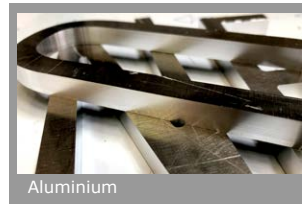
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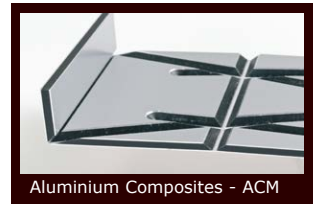
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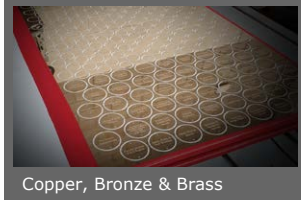
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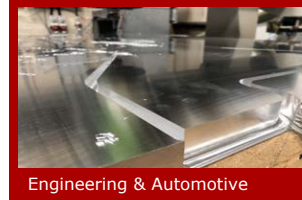
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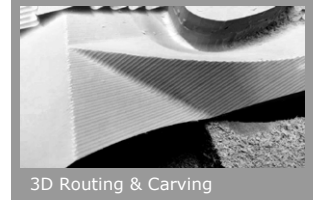
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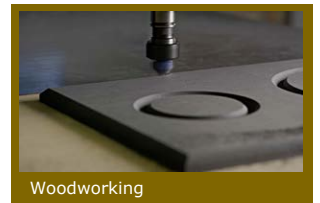
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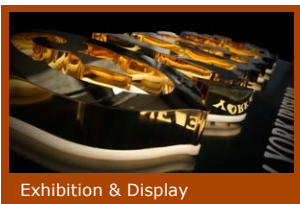
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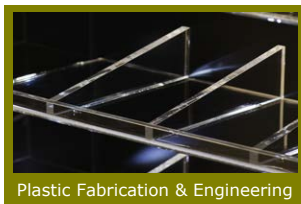
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Bürkle LFC 2100 liquid laminator enhances Studio One's in-house finishing capabilities

The Bürkle LFC 2100 UV liquid laminator coats almost any substrate with a range of premium protective finishes at speeds of up to 25 metres per minute, making it an ideal choice for large format print companies demanding a show stopping top-quality finish.

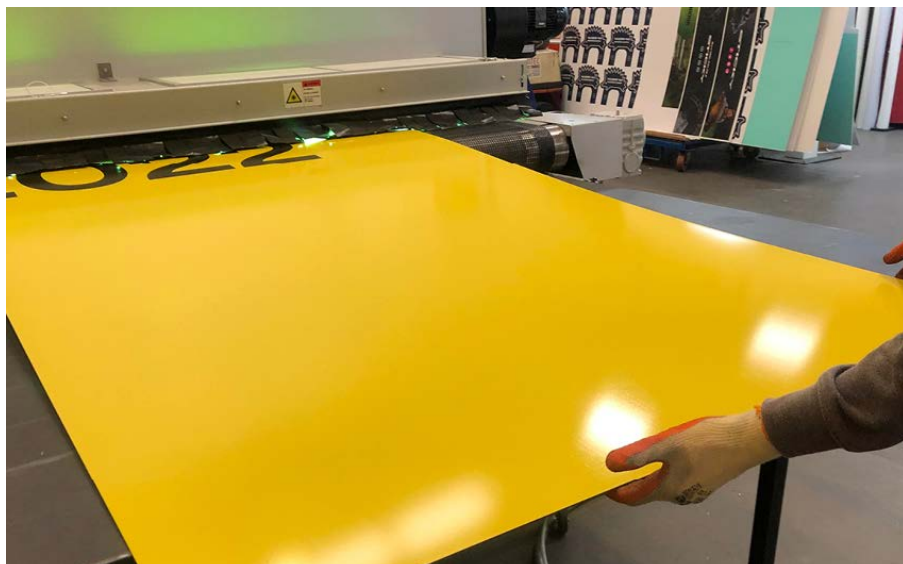
Studio One took delivery of the Bürkle LFC 2100 UV liquid laminator in August 2021 and haven't looked back. They have found the benefits of using the high-performance Bürkle LFC laminator over traditional film laminating methods are many.

Jon Sayers, managing director says: "We've found the speed of using the Bürkle liquid laminator to be a game-changer in terms of efficiency in liquid laminate finishing high volumes of hoarding and signage."

Not only is it the fastest in its field, working at speeds of up to 25 metres per minute, it has the ability to add high volume gloss and matt laminate coatings which enhance and add protection to large format digital prints on flexible and rigid materials up to 80 mm. The variety of base substrates is extensive; composite panels, cardboard, corrugated cardboard, foils, timber, correx, foam PVC and so on. The Bürkle LFC 2100 can apply primers to difficult to coat substrates like glass correx or melamine creating a high ink adhesion level that doesn't fail.

Studio One design and manufacture eye-catching printed graphic hoardings and signage for many industries including the construction, housing and property, industrial and retail sectors.

Depending on the graphics application and budget, their team of experts can now



advise on the best laminate finish for their client's project.

The Bürkle LFC 2100 has enabled them to offer a variety of finishes as standard: RESIST UV GLOSS (economy anti-graffiti) – a matt finish is also available, MARASHIELD UV RG X (branded anti-graffiti), POP GLOSS RC CLEAR (economy gloss) and ANTI-SLIP.

Jon Sayers says clients are benefiting from the superior finish the Bürkle coatings provide which prevents water ingress and remove failure points that are regularly found with film laminates. "The gloss appearance is noticeably more premium, and the durability and level of protection is already being observed by customers, particularly clients in the property and construction sector who want to be able to easily clean i.e., hose down graphics during winter months to maintain a high standard of brand aesthetics on site"

After only 6 months it is already clear to say that the investment in the Bürkle has been an all-round success. The laminator was supplied and installed by Atech and after a short training session the machine operator quickly became confident and extremely busy in producing many metres of very impressive, protected graphics for signage and hoarding customers.

In a competitive market, the efficient and economic technology of the Bürkle has led to reduced costs which can be passed on to customers. Quality has improved and production is faster. It's fair to say it's been a win-win success story.

According to Jon, "Working with Atech has been a positive experience. We know if we need support or advice they are only a phone call away."

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Ebbsfleet installs UK's first Fujifilm Acuity Prime printer

Gravesend-based sign shop and digital print company Ebbsfleet Printing Solutions has praised the Fujifilm Acuity Prime flatbed printer as the best machine of its kind, saying it is a level above any other printer at the same price point.

The Acuity Prime printer was purchased from RA Smart – which was appointed as the first UK partner for the Acuity Prime by Fujifilm late last year – and installed in January 2022.

After an initial consultation and careful consideration of Ebbsfleet's requirements, Adam Booth, Director at RA Smart, had no hesitation in recommending the Acuity Prime from Fujifilm as the optimal solution to Ebbsfleet's needs.

Ebbsfleet Printing Solutions initially booked a video demonstration of the Acuity Prime with RA Smart. With a pedigree in print technology stretching back some 50 years, and a long-standing relationship with Ebbsfleet during which time there have been multiple production equipment installs, RA Smart was the logical choice to find the Kent-based company a solution for their growing wide format graphic business.

After being impressed by the printer's capabilities, the company booked in for a live demonstration at Fujifilm's facility in Broadstairs, Kent. On site, staff from Ebbsfleet Printing Solutions were able to view the machine up close and witness first-hand the quality of print it produces. At the end of the demonstration, Ebbsfleet Printing Solutions placed its order for an Acuity Prime.

Ebbsfleet Printing Solutions Director Sam Cherry, said such was the quality of print produced during both the video and live demos, that he is more than comfortable saying that the Acuity Prime is by far the best printer of its kind.

"We almost didn't believe what we were seeing," Sam says. "The printer performed beyond our expectations, but as it's a new printer to the market we felt it was necessary to go and take a closer look. We liked what we saw, and we placed our order whilst there at Fujifilm's facility in Broadstairs.

"It's our belief that the Acuity Prime flatbed performs at a level above any other printer within its price point. In fact, the other

machines we considered that offered this level of print productivity were typically double the price.

"I don't believe there is any better way we could have spent this amount of money in terms of the overall quality, print capability and production capacity we've just added to our business with the Acuity Prime."

The printer has already had a big impact on operations. "Securing the printer means that we can provide a better service to our customers, being able to meet their deadlines in a world where time is of the essence," Sam says. "We can provide a more streamlined approach along with a great end product.

"We were looking for a more efficient solution; something that could reduce the time it takes to print whilst saving money. We've only been using the printer for a week or two and are really impressed with the output; we've already used it to print on Acrylic, Foamex and Dibond."

Since its launch, the Fujifilm Acuity Prime printer has become the benchmark platform for cost-effective, versatile print production. A true flatbed with a unique, exceptional design, it offers high quality printing on a range of media.

It offers incredibly reliable speeds of up to 150m²/hr on almost any flexible and rigid media, with an LED curing system that is immediately ready for use in standby mode. This level of flexibility makes the printer the ideal choice for use in a wide

range of applications for both distant and close viewing.

The printer can be configured with either four, five, six, or seven colour channels, each of which is populated with ink sets that best suit the user's application needs, including CMYK, white, clear and a jettable primer for excellent adhesion to more industrial media types.

The Fujifilm Acuity Prime printer has become the benchmark platform for cost-effective, versatile print production.

On the partnership of Fujifilm and RA Smart, Colm Garvey, the newly appointed EMEA WFIJ Dealer Manager at Fujifilm, adds: "To capitalise on the strengths of our exciting new wide format portfolio Fujifilm is keen to work with leading dealers in wide format digital print. In the UK, RA Smart stood out as an excellent potential partner for us.

"They have a great reputation in selling solutions for fabric printing and their superb customer support ethos fits in very well with Fujifilm's own approach. Once RA Smart made the decision to branch out from fabric printing into the more general Sign & Display market, the potential benefits to both companies became clear."

www.rasmar machinery.co.uk



The Acuity Prime printer was purchased from RA Smart – which was appointed as the first UK part-ner for the Acuity Prime by Fujifilm late last year – and installed in January 2022.

Signs 24-7 help brighten up Cheshire high streets through window vinyl project

Signage specialists Signs 24-7 have completed a comprehensive window vinyl project to brighten up a number of high streets across Cheshire.

The company, who are based in Hartford, were awarded the work in September by Cheshire West and Chester Council following a competitive tender process.

As part of the scheme, Signs 24-7 have designed, manufactured and installed a range of graphics that now feature in empty commercial units across Chester, Ellesmere Port, Northwich and Winsford to help high streets, towns and the city centre look great.

Facilitated by the Government's 'Welcome Back Fund', the window vinyl project forms one part of an entire re-opening programme which is taking place right across the borough to aid economic recovery and increase footfall and dwell time on Cheshire West's high streets.

Director at Signs 24-7, Wendy Batey-Gray, hopes visitors to Chester, Ellesmere Port, Northwich and Winsford enjoy the feel-good nature of the graphics and continue to support the borough's high streets over the winter and beyond.

"It's been a pleasure to work with the council as they aim to help the region bounce back from the pandemic and get on the road to recovery," said Wendy.



"We feel as though the graphics inject vibrancy across the high streets where they have been installed and hope people take some time to check them out on their visits at each location. It's so important for people to shop local to support the businesses on their doorstep."

Councillor Louise Gittins, Leader of Cheshire West and Chester Council, said: "The eye-catching murals link in with each location's heritage and community spirit



while also adding colourful and vibrant tones for passers-by to enjoy. I hope these graphics help to connect residents and visitors with the places they live, work and spend leisure time."

The Welcome Back Fund is funded through the European Regional Development Fund and is managed by HM Government.

www.signs24-7.co.uk



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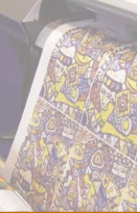
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“Green” large format printing pays dividends

Purchasers of LFP systems focus mainly on aspects such as productivity, possible applications or investment and profitability levels. However, sustainability is gaining ground as a criterion – not only due to corporate values, but also because it is increasingly seen as a social and political requirement. The good news: anyone who makes careful use of resources will also save money.

Here are five approaches and concepts based on sustainability that can be applied when assessing a large format printer:

Use energy efficiently

Large format printers are operated with electricity. And electricity should be used as efficiently as possible. ISO 20690:2018 sets standards here. The energy balance of systems that use heat for curing is relatively poor. The example of UV printing shows that LED systems also perform very well here as their power demand is low and they give off almost no heat. Room air conditioning and heat-sensitive media are the keywords. Another factor is that – unlike mercury vapour lamps – LED lamps do not have a warm-up phase and they are only switched on when they are used for curing.

As well as drive systems, computers and monitors, significant power consumers also include vacuum pumps. They are used to hold the media down securely in flatbed and hybrid printing. Their consumption is high when they are running continuously at high speed. Underpressure-controlled vacuum systems reduce their speed as soon as the required underpressure has been reached. As well as saving energy, this feature minimises noise pollution.

Avoid pollutants

The ink and curing system determines whether more or less emissions occur. When selecting the inks, it pays to avoid solvent-based systems. This eliminates the need for ventilation systems that entail additional investment and operating costs. Emissions can be kept to defined limits by using low-pollutant or certified inks – such as Greenguard. In return, this opens up a wide range of applications because the print products can also be used in sensitive environments.

Systems with LED lamps offer more advantages for UV printing than mercury vapour lamps, which have to be disposed of as hazardous waste because of their composition. They also have shorter service lives than LED lamps, so operating costs are higher.

Use machines with long service lives

Manufacturing a printer leaves an ecological footprint behind due to the materials built into the machine and the energy used for transport and production. All these activities generate emissions. The longer the machine is operated, the more this impact will be offset. And the same applies to the investment costs.

Opt for low-maintenance equipment

CO₂ emissions are also influenced by the frequency of service calls and consumable parts that need replacing. Reliable, low-maintenance machines keep emissions down because travel, transport and the consumption of resources are minimised. And this has a side effect in terms of business management as users can plan and calculate downtimes and costs.

Claim subsidies

The examples given above show that a sustainable strategy boosts profitability. Moreover, many governments now subsidise environment-friendly solutions. There are several local government initiatives in the UK to support energy efficiency measures and the ISO certification of energy efficiency of our printing systems supports the application process. Examples include the Coventry and Warwickshire Green Business Programme, Low Carbon Dorset, and more can be found by contacting your local council.

When purchasing a new large format printer, it therefore pays to give consideration to the sustainability aspect – at multiple levels. Last but not least, an active contribution to environmental protection is also an image factor that can then be marketed.

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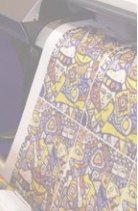
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Sustainability

Green Star System™ helps identification of sustainable products

As a winner of the IPIA award, Sustainability Advocate, Antalis is on a mission - to provide guidance to empower companies across the sign and display industries to make the transition to more sustainable options through understanding and education.

There is a growing demand for more environmentally friendly display and sign materials, and this is being fuelled by both specification and legislation. In 2021, Antalis published a 'manifesto' outlining its commitment, alongside a support framework of products and services to guide customers through the transition towards a more eco-responsible future.

The sustainable framework includes:

Responsible Sourcing - engaging in developing responsible end to end supply chain management. Antalis' ANTRAK online platform is designed to collate, centralise and analyse supplier information relating to regulation, product traceability and CSR commitments.

Green Star System™ - makes it easy to identify sustainable products and helps businesses and their end clients, to move towards easier-to-recycle and ultimately recycled materials. The system considers two key factors – raw materials used, and recyclability at end of life, attributing a rating from zero to five stars.

Carbon Offsetting in action: Antalis can support businesses wanting to carbon offset the unavoidable carbon dioxide emissions produced in material manufacture. ALL Antalis' products purchased from across its papers, packaging and visual communications ranges can be carbon offset. Carbon credits purchased help to fund projects with partners Forest Carbon and the World Land Trust in the UK and worldwide.

Sustainable Products – There is an urgency to move from fossil-heavy materials to recycled, recyclable and fibre-based solutions. Antalis can help and offers a wide eco-portfolio of responsible



Triaprint® is ideal for screen and UV digital printing

alternatives for applications with the same high level of performance:

Catering for large format requirements, is the Heytex European range of polyester-based printable textiles as an alternative to traditional PVC materials, featuring products made from 100% post-consumer waste.

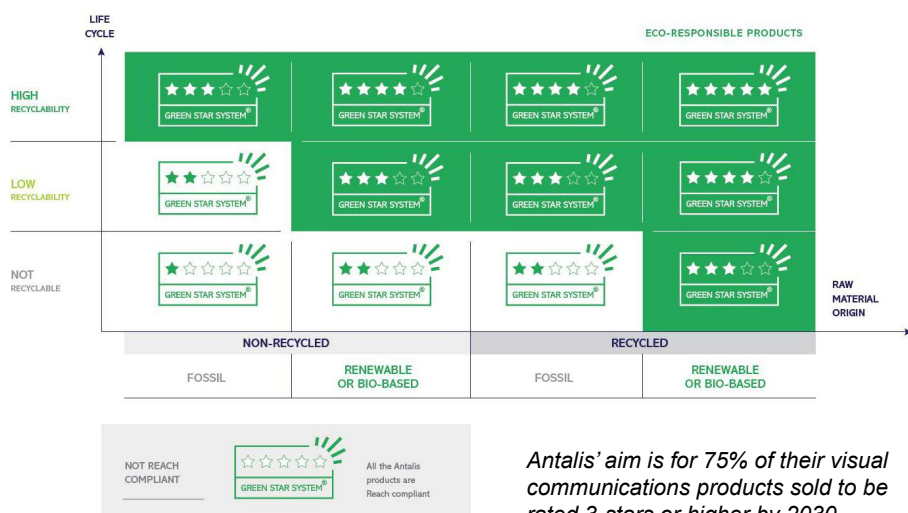


Xanita board is manufactured from fibres recovered from recycled cardboard boxes.

Xanita board is manufactured from fibres recovered from recycled cardboard boxes. Katz board is 100% fibre based, made from natural ground wood pulp and high-quality coated paper liners. Both options are environmentally friendly alternatives to the use of PVC and PUR foamboards and are 100% recyclable, providing solutions for a wide range of sign and structural applications including POS, POP and display. Triaprint® is an extruded polypropylene sheet consisting of three layers with a cell structured core and a smooth top and bottom surface, both corona treated, making it ideal for screen and UV digital printing. It is an environmentally friendly alternative to the use of foam PVC, foam board and other rigid plastics, as its construction is 100% polypropylene, in turn making it 100% recyclable.

Waste management is one of the biggest challenges at the 'end of life'. Antalis is keen to support companies interested in improving their waste hierarchy practices. They work alongside a leading waste management services provider, to help businesses understand and work through some of the challenges around recycling volumes and segregation of materials.

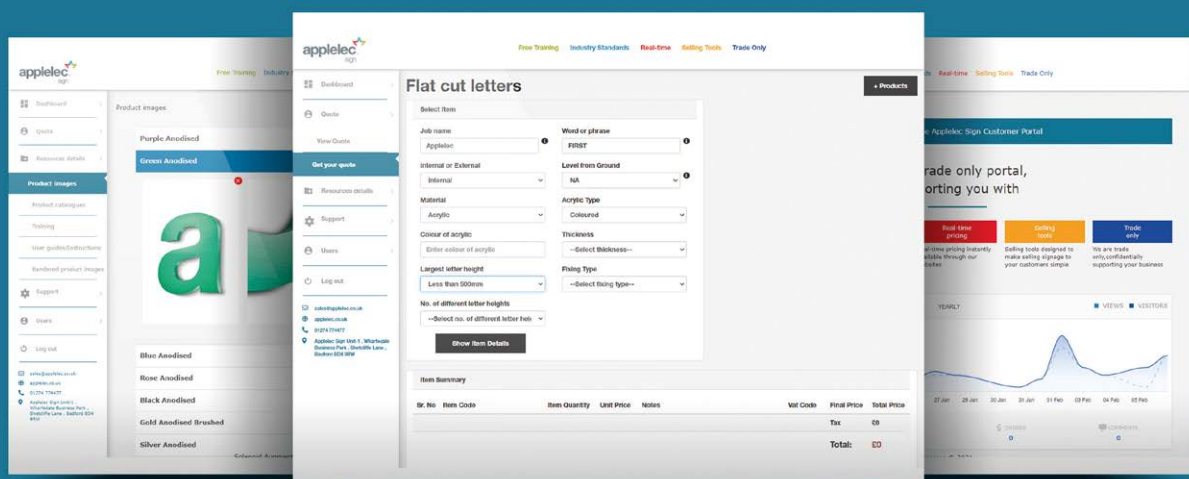
www.antalis.co.uk



Antalis' aim is for 75% of their visual communications products sold to be rated 3-stars or higher by 2030.

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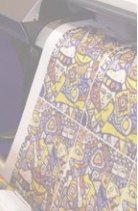
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Monoliths & Totems

Ashby's totem / monolith signs - a highly versatile system

Ashby Trade Sign Supplies started life in 1996 supplying cut to size aluminium products to the UK Sign Trade. Since then, the product range has expanded to include extruded and plastics-based products. The company has continued to grow over 26 years and there are now 50 employees at Ashby.

Steve Nicholas, General Manager of Ashby, says, "Based in a 30,000 sq. foot factory just off the M3 in Hampshire, we have built up a highly extensive range of machinery, skills and knowledge, enabling us to supply attractive, durable and relevant systems within the UK. We pride ourselves on our 'over the phone' pricing, rapid turn-around times and high-quality products."

He continues, "The most popular products that we manufacture, produce and deliver are cut to size aluminium sign blanks,

fabricated sign trays, aluminium posts, digital print and cut vinyls, composite and acrylic products and a whole manner of sign fixings. We manufacture our products faster than anyone else in the industry."

Ashby offers a range of services that it says benefits their customers. "Customers choose Ashby over other suppliers for a number of reasons," says Nicholas. He adds, "We offer next day delivery on made to order sign blanks, stocked posts and sign fixings. This is unmatched by other suppliers."



Ashby Trade's totems are all welded and dressed before coating, ensuring the highest of standards



Ashby can help you spec the perfect totem sign for your client's needs

Ashby also does all its extrusion and sheet based manufacture in house, as well as its bespoke and illuminated signage. The company can provide solutions for customers of all sizes, from single units to corporate rollouts.

Nicholas continues, "We have designed an online portal that allows customers to check quotes, raise and track the progress of orders. We also always ensure competitive pricing, lead times and delivery options with no minimum order quantities and are exclusively trade only."

Mighty signs

Constructed from sheet aluminium and extruded aluminium profiles, Ashby Trade's totems are all welded and dressed before coating, ensuring the highest of standards. All are supplied ready to assemble with relevant fixings included.

"As with all Ashby products, our totems can be enhanced with add-on trays, cut vinyl graphics, digital prints or LED illumination. Within the tolerances of manufacture you are open to endless possibilities," he says.

Steve Nicholas concludes, "Our friendly and knowledgeable sales team can help you spec the perfect totem sign for your client's needs. We can offer advice on safety, structural support, finishes, tolerances, fitting and installation, then produce the quotes needed for you to review and process. They will be able to help you with updates to the quotes, order statuses or deliveries."

www.ashbytrade.co.uk

The sky's the limit with monolith signs

Andy Barker, from full-service signage business Sign Supplier, gives us the low down (or should that be high up) on monolith signs.

Monolith signs (also known as totem signs) are the signage version of a loudspeaker – if you make them big enough and position them correctly there's really no ignoring them. Our customers order monolith signs for two main purposes, to grab the attention of passing traffic and passers-by, or as wayfinding signage used to direct their staff, customers, or other visitors to where they need to be.



Monolith signs are designed to grab the attention of passing traffic and passers-by

Although we stock a wide range of standard sizes and finishes, many of our customers opt for customised monolith signage that gives them the opportunity to make the most of their brand assets. In terms of custom sizes, it's amazing how much difference even a relatively small increase or decrease in height can make to a sign's visibility, and we always advise our customers to think about the angle their sign needs to be seen from. If it's a wayfinding sign and will mostly be seen from a car, bigger isn't always better, but if you're using it to catch eyes from passing traffic, you might want to go for it size-wise.

Mighty monoliths

Monolith signs are made up of freestanding aluminium panels that are mounted back-to-back. We're able to powder coat the signage in an exact match to brand colours, and we can add super-sharp digitally printed graphics that include logos, brand fonts, straplines – basically whatever our customers want. Monolith signs are also a great opportunity to employ some literal 360° marketing with signage that is printed on both sides. This means that you get double the visibility from a single sign, or double the information for wayfinding signs.

In their most basic form monolith signs are made by welding two folded panels back-to-back and then attaching this structure to a sturdy post that has been sunk into the ground. This method is suitable for monolith signs up to 3 metres in height (but we always advise a site visit to determine the best installation method). A standard monolith sign of this height would start at around £600-£700 with a relatively inexpensive installation cost on top of that.

Limitless customisation

If something more substantial is required to create a unique design or to customise signage to fit specific customer requirements, bespoke panels can be attached

to the framework to give the particular effect requested. This can be anything from wood or stone effect paint finishes to installing LED lighting to ensure night time visibility. We've even created monolith signs that incorporate solar powered panels where access to a traditional power source isn't possible. Bespoke monolith signs are priced on request, and our customer feedback tells us that extra outlay for higher spec monolith signage more than pays for

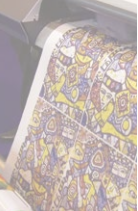
itself. In high footfall or high passing traffic areas, a blinged up and fully branded monolith sign grabs attention and turns attention into customers.

We have lots of experience creating largescale monolith signs for clients such as retail parks or very large organisations that need signs to match their building size and high profile. We offer the same range of specialist paint finishes, bespoke panels, and electrical add-ons no matter how large our clients go, and we'll always organise a site visit to ensure that we choose the best installation method for the site. We have a great installation team who are happy to give advice, and have lots of experience installing concrete bases and ground cages, and using hydraulic machinery – a must when working with largescale free standing signage like monoliths. Part of the beauty of being a full-service signage business is the peace of mind our customers get from knowing we have a trusted team that work together to design, manufacture, and install their signage – especially when that signage is as tall as a tree and needs expert installation!

www.signsupplier.co.uk



Monolith signs are made up of freestanding aluminium panels that are mounted back-to-back



Monoliths & Totems

Signs Express answers some of your questions

Are Totems and Monoliths becoming more popular?

The trend seems to be moving away from simple post and panel signs to monoliths and totems as customers realise the benefits over more traditional sign types.

External monoliths and totems are designed to catch the eye and project company branding to further distances. Strong, vertical signage is especially effective on industrial estates and building parks for this very reason. Monolith and totem sign systems are used as prominent brand markers and directional signage that can emphasise an entranceway or identify a building from the roadside.

Monolith and totem signs can be single-sided, double-sided, flat, curved, triangle or completely bespoke. They can also be manufactured to very large sizes, although planning permission may be needed for the installation of them. This type of signage can also be very complex with multiple brands and logos with sections that can be updated when tenants change. These benefits are some of the key reasons this type of signage is becoming more popular.

There are ways to make monoliths and totems stand out even further. Illuminated signs have extra impact and the added benefit of being visible both day and night - perfect for hotels, leisure centres and shopping precincts.



Monoliths are hugely durable and last well and look good in extreme weather



External monoliths and totems are designed to catch the eye

What's the process of designing and delivering this type of signage?

Signs Express centres work with clients to survey the site to establish an ideal location and appropriate size. We will then work with the customer to put a design together and produce a cost for the work based on the brief and requirements for the sign. For us, this is a key part of the process. Being able to really understand what the customer wants to achieve and working together to create the vision.

Once the client gives the go-ahead and has obtained any permissions required, Signs Express will get the sign manufactured and arrange a suitable installation date. For larger signs a groundworks contractor may be employed to build foundations to the specification required.

Is there a bespoke element or is there a pre-existing system in place?

For small to medium monoliths and totems there are a number of systems available. These can be particularly useful on large sites where multiple signs are required as they come in a range of sizes, both width and height, to suit each location. In addition, they often have a matching range of wall mounted signs which makes wayfinding easy as well as forming a cohesive signage solution right across a site. These wayfinding solutions are often used for large establishments such as schools, colleges and universities, hospitals, business parks and businesses with multiple buildings across a site.

For other customers it might just be one totally bespoke sign that is required and could involve a brick or stone monolith onto which lettering is mounted to give

a unique look to the sign. These custom solutions are particularly popular for when the customer wants to create a real stand-out and unique sign for their brand.



Monolith and totem signs can be single-sided, double-sided, flat, curved, triangular or completely bespoke

What are the safety considerations - particularly around foundations etc. during install?

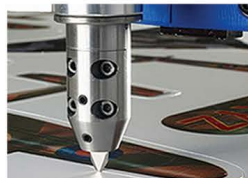
Clearly safety is of paramount importance. For all our signs, wind-loading calculations will be made to establish the right materials and construction for the sign, the correct foundation depth as well as the specification for concrete foundations on larger signs. Monoliths and totems can be large and very heavy so will often be craned into position with the area cordoned off to ensure a safe installation. This is why we believe thorough site surveys are essential for projects and allows us to identify any challenges early on in the process so we can find the perfect solution.

www.signs-express.co.uk

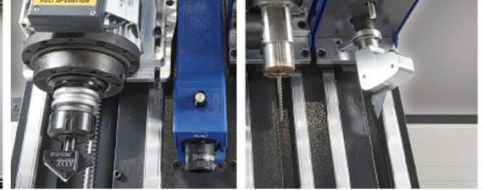
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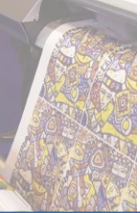
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Trade Service



Monoliths, Totems & Sign Trays

The sign of the times for Applelec

Applelec says they have seen an increasing number of designs inspired not just by the brand image, but by the desire to embrace the eco evolution in our manufacturing. Designers and sign companies alike, are stepping to push trade manufacturers to realise their concepts, incorporate sustainability, whilst keeping to their brand guidelines, all posing unique challenges for trade manufacturers.

Michael Crotch, Head of Signage for Applelec, says, "Over the pandemic Applelec invested time and money into researching the eco needs of the industry and developing solutions to improve our products, materials, and manufacturing processes without compromising on design. The solutions we've devised, not only provide environmentally friendly alternatives to the industry but in some cases have expanded the possibilities of signage fabrication."

Going green

Green Applelec LED Light Sheet is the industry's first, environmentally friendly light panel made with recycled and recyclable materials and utilises highly energy efficient LEDs achieving 175 lumens per watt or power. This versatile backlighting unit delivers bright, even illumination at slimline depths, eliminating the need for built-up metal back trays that would usually house fluorescent tubes or LED modules.

"Manufactured in our Yorkshire factory, this innovative patented matrix design, evenly distributes the light across a maximum sheet size of 3000mm x 1500mm and can

be cut to bespoke shapes and sizes. This slimline solution reduces fabrication depths of trays from 100mm to 30mm, saving space, costs, and the raw material environmental draw. What's more, our recent partnership with JUST ONE Tree, means for every order that includes products from our growing eco-friendly range, from Green Applelec LED Light Sheet to our eco-letters and slimline eco-lightboxes, we will plant a tree, expanding the tangible, positive impact we can have on the environment," says Michael.



Side illuminated letters mounted to sign tray provides a stand-out effect



Illuminated sign tray designed by isGroup

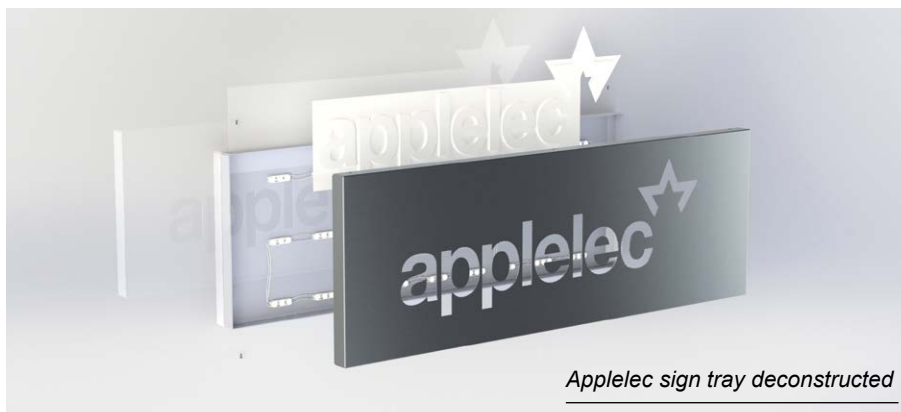
Closing the loop

He continues, "Used frequently in the manufacture of our sign trays, totems and many signage products, acrylic is a material we're eager to divert from landfill or incineration, where it has a detrimental effect on the environment. Although, Applelec have always recycled acrylic offcuts, the carbon footprint involved in manufacturing acrylic to begin with, is something we wanted to improve upon for our customers. By offering an environmentally friendly alternative, made from recycled and recyclable acrylic, it greatly reduces the energy, water and CO2 normally created in virgin acrylic production."

What's more, at the end of its life, this acrylic is recycled back into its raw form to be used again, reducing its carbon footprint, and contributing to a circular economy. "This eco-friendly alternative still retains its premium quality and is available in a variety of colours and thicknesses from 3mm to 20mm, making it suitable for many of our signage products without compromising your design. Our inhouse designers can eco-engineer many of our signage products to make eco-friendly material and component swaps to your bespoke specification. We're also developing an end-of-life customer recycling scheme, to support our customer in recycling our products responsibly," he says.



Applelec's LED light sheet



Applelec sign tray deconstructed

Lighting the way



Cabochon bulbs create a fairground look. Image shows the bulbs in action and also deconstructed

As sole UK distributors of SloanLED, Applelec can offer highly energy efficient LEDs that are the industry leaders on lumens per watt and the voltage 24v for system efficacy. Vibrancy is key to visibility especially when your fabrication is installed high up or at a distance. SloanLEDs high output capabilities create luminance levels far brighter than anything possible with typical LEDs or LED Ribbon tape. Their lightweight construction contributes little to your signs overall weight, beneficial when installing at height and SloanLED's 10-year warranty provides additional assurance of product quality. Applelec can couple this with exciting solar power technology which will provide even more eco credentials to your fabrication, really increasing the possibilities when it comes to external sign trays, totems, and monoliths where it would be too costly to dig up the earth to lay a mains cable for power.

Meeting demand

Increasing demand and tighter timescales saw Applelec invest in a second laser machine and a third router, newly installed in our 6-acre manufacturing facilities. "This enables us to achieve desired depths whilst keeping up with demand, especially as we see a wave of 2020/21 orders now dropping into 2022 due to the worldwide pandemic. The consequence of this demand drove the need to find illumination solutions that work at slimline depths and are quicker to install than conventional led module runs on fabricated back-trays. Alongside the slimline Applelec LED Light Sheet and its eco-friendly equivalent, our partners, SloanLED, have worked tirelessly to provide new lens technologies to ensure we can achieve bright even illumination at challenging depths. The LED Sloan Prism Mini and Nano range, offer a slimline solution without compromising on output, widening design possibilities as well as install capabilities," adds Michael.

Staying on brand

He continues, "Investment in the environment is something we are really committed to at Applelec; however, we are acutely aware that brand guidelines are key, and your customer relies upon you to deliver their brand the way they envisioned it. With key trends such as shallower signs and lettering, to colour changing lights and specific colour palettes, these all pose unique challenges that need to be met."

Brand guidelines require colours to be on point and Applelec's inhouse paintshop facilities allow them to work with customers to get this right. Their range of illumination options helps them to find solutions to realise your design. For instance, dark colours pose unique illumination challenges when used on the face of your fabrication as it absorbs the light. Having options such as face illuminated lettering allows you to achieve vibrancy, without it being absorbed by the colour of the tray and adding matt white vinyl behind the letters enhances the illumination.

"For lighter, brighter colours our halo illuminated letters are a great choice. Its internally mounted LEDs, diffuses the light through an acrylic base to cast a consistent, sophisticated halo of light around each letter, especially effective when mounted to your sign tray or totem. Metal returns and faces can be customised to your desired colour and finish to match your base tray or in a contrast finish to create impact. Side and partial illumination can be achieved utilising block acrylic inlays with vinyl applied to the non-illuminated areas, distributing the LED light through the uncovered area," he says.

It's all about retro

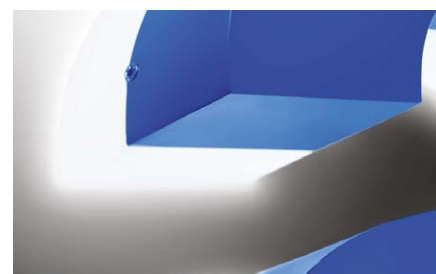
Nostalgia, a key trend for 2022, will see increased demand for retro style signage, however, traditional methods, such as neon, just aren't as viable now from a

safety, function and eco standpoint. By modernising these, Applelec can offer you that sought-after vintage look but with all the advantages of modern signage. Their LED Neon range offers a robust, easy to install, low voltage and safe to touch option that removes all the risks associated with traditional neon signs without compromising on style.

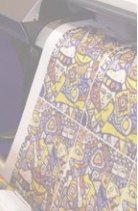
Cabochon bulbs, on the other hand, provides the fairground look, with the advantages of long life and low energy LEDs. Available in 12 lens colours, these are a stylish, eye-catching option especially when paired with Applelec's lighting controllers, which allow you to create flashing, chasing, and dimming effects.

Michael Crotch concludes, "Whatever your customer's needs, our team of experts, engineers, and craftsman, coupled with our growing and capable inhouse manufacturing facilities has enabled us to create a synergy between engineering, bespoke fabrication, lighting, and the environment, to not just meet growing trends and demands but to allow us to lead the way to a brighter and more sustainable future."

www.applelec.co.uk



Applelec's Halo technology is especially effective when mounted to your sign tray or totem



Sign Trays

An inside guide to the fabrication processes of tray signs

Smith Trade Signage, the manufacturing division of William Smith Group 1832, is a leading fabricator of Tray Signage, supplying sign and graphics companies with every conceivable variant of the product.

Kyle Giles, Marketing Executive at William Smith Group 1832, says, "At its core, the key strength of tray signs is the vast customisable options that the product lends itself to. It's a fantastic way to produce an eye-catching display that carries a strong presence. They're a staple within the industry and demand is always growing. Because of the illumination options available, there really are no limits to what can be achieved."

Manufactured onsite in Barnard Castle, Smith has invested in state-of-the-art facilities in recent years.

Giles continues, "The signage industry is constantly evolving. With new technology and processes developing all the time, it's non-negotiable that we stay up to date with these advancements."

Smith's dedicated fabrication workshop boasts a whole host of the latest premium equipment. Most notably, the new addition of the AXYZ Infinite 6014 7G CNC Router, with its 4m by 2m bed, allows for tray signs to be fabricated in a single piece.

The recently upgraded welding workshop has been fitted with screens and an extraction system throughout to create a much safer, cleaner, and healthier working environment for their expert team of fabricators.

Other fundamental equipment includes the press brake, used to bend the sides of a flat sheet at a perfect 90-degree angle, DA Sanders, used for polishing off the metal

and removing particles, defects, and other contaminants, and a VertEx Cross-draught System, manufactured by AirBench, that helps to eliminate dust and fumes from the air through high-velocity suction.

Smith's powder coating system was installed to replace the old wet spray workshop. Powder coating provides a much more efficient and effective way of finishing off signs. Using wet paint meant having to wait several days for signs to dry, and even then, they were still vulnerable to damage in the packaging stage. With powder coating, these issues don't exist. Signs are sprayed with an even coat in the 5m Powder Coat Spray Booth before being left to bake in the batch oven.

The final stage of any job is always the finishing touches, and that's where the customisation options available to tray signs really starts to shine. Some common types of finish include, non-illuminated tray signs, fret-cut backed with acrylic, fret-cut with push-through lettering, standoff lettering, and any mixture of the above. Standard processes include the installation and wiring of LEDs, as well as applying acrylics, faces, and locators. Testing is always carried out prior to packaging.

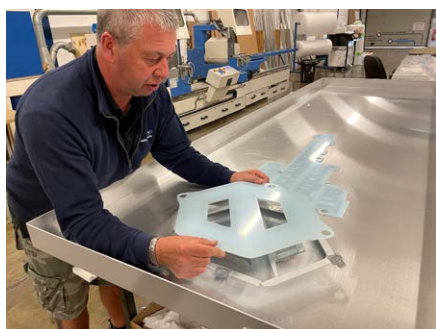
"We're very proud of the facilities we have at Smith, but our greatest asset still remains the experience and expertise of our staff, which translates to all avenues of the customer journey," states Giles. "When a customer first reaches out to us,



"The key strength of tray signs is the vast customisable options that the product lends itself to"

the specification can often vary from one extreme to another. Some know exactly what they want, and others are looking for our help and guidance. Our sales estimators and artwork team work closely together in order to create the visuals and measurements based on the given brief, and once signed off, it's over to our team of fabricators for project completion. Fantastic customer service is always our main focus and priority."

www.smith-signdisplay.co.uk



"Our greatest asset still remains the experience and expertise of our staff, which translates to all avenues of the customer journey"

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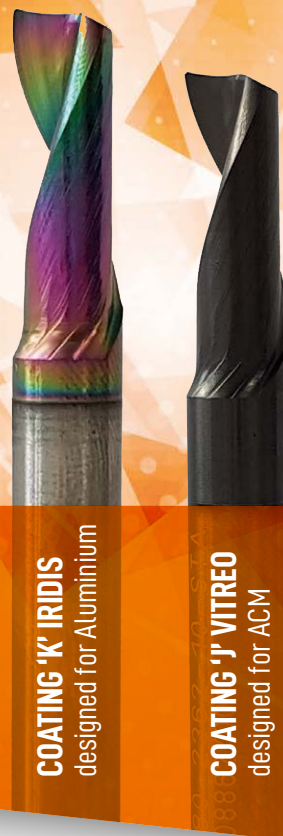
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PUT US TO THE TEST



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

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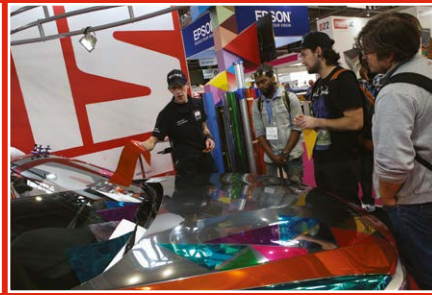
Sign & Digital UK Exhibition preview



2022 Floorplan

This floor plan was correct at the time of going to print, but may have changed slightly.







Sign & Digital UK Exhibition preview



Sign & Digital UK 2022 exhibitor list

P14	ACG Fyrtal AB	P19	Oshino lamps
L22	Adivin Beach Flag S.L.	G20	Perspex Distribution / Multipanel
H40	AG/CAD Ltd	P76	Pixelution
K52	All Things Decor Ltd (Sequin Walls UK)	P74	PPG
P96	Amaya Sales UK Ltd	G32	Premier Bond Distribution
L20	Arken (arken P-O-P Ltd.)	F30	Premier Paper Group
L40	Automatic Latter Bender UK Ltd	K70	printIQ EMEA
P36	Award Crafters Ltd	H26	PrintMAX
P15	AXYZ Automation Group	H60	Protek srl
F80	AXYZRA	P86	Quality Print Services Ltd
L14	Bloon	H12	RA Smart
K42	Bonwyke Ltd.	H30	Roland DG
P70	Boxford Holdings Limited	L56	S&S Home Supplies (OLFA UK)
F62	Brand-It Technologies	P22	SDUK Explains Lounge
J71	Brunel Engraving Company	P78	Section 8 Contracting Ltd.
K54	Clip Limited	L30	Signet Sign System
F40	D&K Europe Ltd	P13	Signmaking tools
F24	DNX Design	F12	Signs Express
P88	Dorotape	L74	Sign Studio
J73	Elson Led S.L./Signs Plaza	P34	Sign Update
G22	EMO neon	J30	Signwaves Ltd
J82	Eprod Software UK Ltd	G12	Signzworld
J40	Epson (UK) LTD	P40	Softdirect Nederland BV
G42	Eurobond Adhesives Ltd	P12	Soyang
K68	EX-Cel PLastics	P91	Space Tailor
L10	FH Union UK Ltd	P87	SSE worldwide
P3	Fleet Design	F20	Stanford marsh
P24	FTC/Signgeer	J10	SwissQprint
P2	GESS	P95	Tecna
K66	Gildo Profilati srl	J50	The Battle - Hexis vehicle wrapping competition
G10	Grafityp	P64	The Magic Touch
J84	Hanolex Eyelets	J18	The Nicoman Ltd.
J60	Hexis	L62	The Sign Group
K34	Hoi Yue Advert (Hong Kong)	K32	Touch Systems/Clarity
L12	HPC Laser Ltd	P39	Trade Etching Direct Ltd
H10	Hybrid Services / Mimaki	J44	Trotec Laser Ltd
J74	Impact Graphics	K50	Unify Office Group
F10	Inktec Europe	K40	Very Displays
P4	IPIA	G50	Vivid Laminating Technologies Ltd
P21	ISA UK	K20	William Smith Group 1832
L32	ITC Limited	J22	William Smith Group 1832
K10	Josero Ltd	F50	Witpac gmbh
H42	LION Picture Framing Supplies Ltd	K30	WorksThing
L60	Merlin Tools Ltd	G26	Your Embroidery Services Ltd
J20	MH+P Technology GmbH	F64	YPS
J80	Mr Clipart	J16	YPS Ltd
K12	One Vision Software AG	G30	ZUND Plotting Systems (UK) Ltd



Sign & Digital UK Exhibition preview

Focussing on sign and display applications and production

The buzz is mounting throughout the print, display, décor and sign industries for the industry's most eagerly awaited reunion as Sign & Digital UK returns to the NEC Birmingham from 22-24 March 2022.

The stage is set as the place to be inspired by new product launches and creative applications, and from live demonstrations taking place across the three-day show.



Exhibitor highlights

After an almost three-year hiatus many highly anticipated big names are returning and with more than 100 suppliers set to exhibit, names not to be missed include:

Roland DG, Epson, Premier Paper, Hybrid Services/Mimaki, Hexis, The Magic Touch, Trotec Laser, PrintMAX, William Smith Group 1832, Grafityt, Zund Plotting Systems, Signwaves, Inktec Europe, Perspex Distribution, Your Print Specialists, Eurobond Adhesives, Sign Making Tools, Award Crafters, R A Smart, Soyang Europe, Very Displays, Trade Etching Direct, Arken POP, Doro Tape, and many more.

New exhibitors for 2022 include: SwissQPrint, Brunel Engraving, Adivin Beach Flag, Mr Clipart, DNX Design, OneVision Software, IQ Australia, and Unify Office Group.

Sign & Digital UK event director Jenny

Matthew comments: "During the disruption caused by the pandemic, many companies operating in the visual communications sector were faced with multiple challenges to the continued operation of their businesses. Some closed their doors and waited for the market to pick up, while others turned to new markets. With this in mind we undertook an extensive research campaign in-conjunction with our visitors in preparation for the 2022 show. Our findings revealed that many would be more likely to be interested in how they can reimagine their business models to make them more efficient, effective and, ultimately, insulate themselves from similar disruptions in the future."

As print, sign and graphics companies continue to reimagine their business models, the trend for add-on products and services looks set to continue apace. The rapid development in UV LED print technology now puts a wealth of new revenue add-on's at your fingertips. For example, UV LED printing can be used on a huge variety of materials and substrates including Perspex, plastics, wood, glass, tiles, metals, textiles, paper, cardboard, Dibond and Correx.

Small footprint UV flatbed printers can be used to produce items such as personalised water bottles, mobile phone cases, golf balls, pens, pencils and key rings. A roll-to-roll UV printer will open the door to soft signage and other textile based applications for the live events sector. Soft signage has fast become an alternative to using vinyl as it is lightweight, easy to transport, vibrant, and highly sustainable.

Look out for more exhibitors showcasing the latest entry level flatbed UV LED systems, or those that feature a roll-to-roll option. These hybrid systems enable users to print direct-to-substrate onto a broad range of rigid materials while utilising the roll-to-roll unit for soft signage or wall coverings.

For those looking to add a degree of automation in a bid to simplify production workflow, SDUK offers visitors a chance to see all the latest technologies in CNC machinery, laser cutting, engraving, and print finishing.

Print & Cut machines remain popular among small start-up businesses because these machines eliminate the need for a separate stand-alone cutter. If productivity

is paramount, you might consider combining an offline (stand alone) roll-to-roll cutting plotter and pairing it with a high speed printer. All of the leading brands at the show now offer an entry level print & cut solution.

Flatbed cutters are in a league of their own when it comes to high speed precision cutting, especially when printing on rigid or materials or soft signage. Look out for scalable entry level machines where users can add a range of cutting tools to suit specific purposes, or they can be supplied fully loaded with feature rich speciality tools and offer a high degree of automation.

Another way to employ add-on's is with a 3D printer. When 3D printing was first unveiled at Sign & Digital 2019, the focus was on large scale opportunities for the retail market; opening the door to creative design, marketing and promotional applications. Now with the arrival of small footprint full colour machines, 3D printing has grown in popularity with visual communication production companies, to manufacture bespoke items such as fixing mounts, hinges and other small components that add to, and enhance, the overall visual appeal of a much larger display.

Full colour 3D printing also enables users to combine aspects of traditional sign fabrication with 3D printing to create a range of add-on's for the leisure, retail and hospitality sectors.

Investment in a 3D printer is also a strong indicator of Research & Development tax credit eligibility. Users typically purchase 3D printers to either create a new or improved product or self manufacture a previously supplied component by a third party. Both the creation of these new and improved products and the conversion of these component purchases are typical R&D tax credit eligible activities.

When planning for business growth, it's crucial that you have a way of reviewing your business performance. Accountancy software will show financial performance, but not where you can turn the dial up on profit and down on loss. This is where the MIS, or management information system comes in. You can use it to analyse exactly which customers, products, months, and even employees generate the most and least income. With this visibility it's easy to

see where growth opportunities lie. Look out for stand alone server-based systems or cloud-based software-as-a-service models.

Workshops, trails and seminars highlights

Sign, print, and visual communications professionals can learn from industry and business experts through an informal advice exchange, where visitors can ask an expert, share experiences, and get involved with a range of topical discussions.

New for 2022 is the SDUK Explains Lounge. This is a rolling programme of business and technical advice sessions in partnership with the industry's trade association ISA UK. Its aim is to inform and enable visual communications professionals to keep up with the changing market, gain insight into issues concerning the sector, and identify new revenue opportunities to strengthen and grow their businesses.

The SDUK Explains Lounge programme has been developed to include real-world case studies and interactive presentations in an informal space where advice and information can be exchanged.

Two new 'trails' have been added to the show to provide more focus on the world of textile applications and environmental solutions. Textile Tech is a trail focussing on the wide range of textile applications where visitors will be exposed to application demonstrations, skills workshops, industry speakers, and specialist exhibitors.

The Sustainability Trail will enable the visitor to uncover useful and practical information on environmentally positive products and solutions such as production systems that use far less power, alternatives to PVC substrates, FSC graded banner materials, and environmentally friendly inks.

Vehicle wrappers will enjoy the return of the hugely popular HEXIS UK Wrap Battle Contest. With two heats and a semi-final taking place on the show floor each day, participants will compete in timed, 10-minute heats. The winners from each day will go head-to-head in the grand final, on SDUK's closing day - Thursday 24 March.

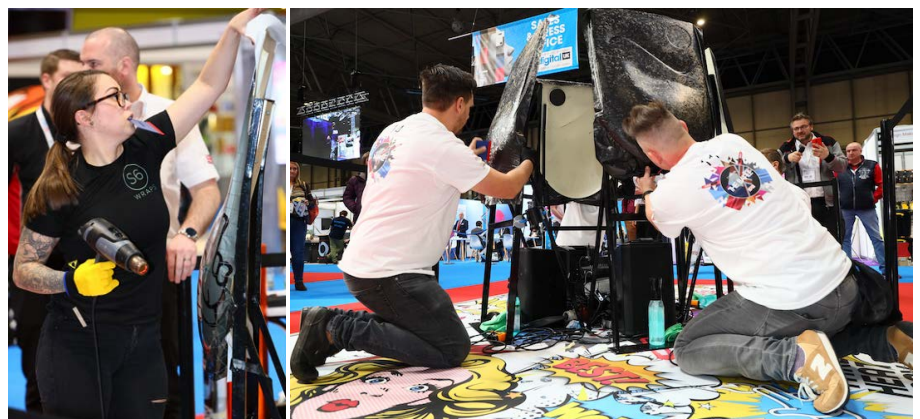
Free to attend and with a host of new features designed to drive the industry forward, you'll discover everything needed to grow your business, at Sign & Digital UK, the industry's most eagerly awaited reunion, 22-24 March 2022, NEC, Birmingham



Anthony Devine from Ministry of Upholstering, a UK modern upholstery school, demoing upholstery as a guest on the YPS stand in 2019



Paul Hughes will be returning yet again to do the Signmakers' Studio



The popular HEXIS UK Wrap Battle Contest has been a hugely popular event over many years and will return in 2022, with the opportunity to win over £5,500 of prizes.



Sign & Digital UK Exhibition preview

The new SDUK Explains Lounge programme

Sign & Digital UK (SDUK) announce the programme for the SDUK Explains Lounge at the 2022 show. The country's leading trade exhibition for the sign making, display and digital printing industry returns to the NEC Birmingham from 22-24 March 2022.

The SDUK Explains Lounge, in partnership with the ISA, will feature a rolling programme of business and technical advice sessions designed to help visitors keep up with the changing market, gain insight to strengthen and grow their businesses, and identify new revenue opportunities.

The programme has been developed to include real-world case studies and interactive presentations in an informal space where advice and information can be exchanged.

All of the sessions are free to attend and there's no need to book. Visitors can find a full line-up on signuk.co.uk ahead of the show. Sessions include:



Is recruiting and retaining staff causing you pain?

Join this session to get fresh ideas on how to find, keep and motivate staff. Recruitment and staff retention remains a topic that impacts much of our industry both in time and money. We will touch on



traditional and non-traditional methods of attracting the right people along with training and support to help them develop themselves and grow your business.

Craig Brown – CEO - ISA-UK,
Dan Tyler – CEO - Vism Ltd,
Jeff Bufton - Head of Operations
– Signs Express Ltd.

Is your business in the best shape today and for what the future holds?

This open forum session is designed to help people get their business in shape, share experiences, both good and bad and learn about best practices adopted by successful businesses in our industry. We'll touch on financing options, growth and exit strategies, and look at best practices adopted by successful and forward-thinking business owners. With a focus on small businesses, come and find out how you can get your company into better shape for 2022.

Sam Armstrong - Managing Director - Make it Happen Signage Consultancy Ltd,
David Allen – Managing Director
– Allen Signs Ltd,
Craig Brown – CEO - ISA-UK

Social media and effective marketing

The noise created by social media can be a fantastic vehicle for engaging with your customer base and potential customers. Do you know what really works and what type of return you are getting on the time and money you invest in that process?

Here we look at real-life examples from our industry with feedback and experiences of the subtle changes taking place across the media platforms. **Gary Bagstaff** – Director - Print Sauce Associates Ltd

Diversifying and thriving in a changing marketplace

Successful businesses adapt and react to a changing market place and with such rapid change driven by the pandemic, join this session to get pointers and advice on lessons learned from business owners who have thrived in the last 18 months.

We'll take a look at how the sign and graphics market is evolving, what's influencing that change, and how you can capitalise on the opportunities presented.

Gary Richardson - Managing Director and owner - Ash Signs & Engraving Ltd,
Carlo Matarazzo - Director
- Signs Now UK Ltd,
Sam Armstrong - Managing Director
- Make it Happen Signage Consultancy Ltd

Save time and money: How to choose the correct adhesive or tape for your Sign Project.

Eurobond Adhesives will be in the lounge to explain how to select the correct adhesive or tape for your specific sign project. Join the session to learn how to employ the correct surface preparation techniques, the benefits and disadvantages of different adhesive types, how bonded joint designs can improve or degrade adhesive performance and how



temperature the environment and weather affect bonded materials. Getting it right first time will save you time and money on your Sign Projects.

Kevin Henry - Technical Manager

- Eurobond Adhesives.

Andy Sabine - Technical Manager

- Eurobond Adhesives.

Women in Signs & Graphics

The Sign industry has traditionally been a male-dominated sector but with more

females joining, running, and influencing the sector what can be done to encourage more women into our trade and support those already working in it?

The Women in Signs and Graphics group is working to do just that. Founded in December 2020 and with over 200 members, the group will be officially launching 'in person' at SDUK. Its vision is to inspire, encourage and promote women in the industry. If you want to be part of a group of like-minded women and fast-track

your career, or want to hear how women can be better supported in your workplace, come along to this session and meet the founders.

Sarah Winterbottom, Izabella Ivanovici and other inspirational women will be in the Lounge and look forward to hearing your ideas and experiences.

Essential Tools for Garment Decoration

Get inspired! Join our workshop and discover useful technical tips on how to how to make your garment decoration faster, easier, and more beautiful. Our expert presenter will show you how to:

- Create fast conversion of bitmaps to vectors
- Speed up your workflow
- Work with templates, layers, colour, colour styles and models... and much more!

In addition, you will be one of the first to discover CorelDRAW's latest features. Suzanne Smith, Corel Product Trainer and Specialist

Sign & Digital UK will take place at the NEC, Birmingham from 22-24 March 2022.

Free to attend for visitors: Register at www.signuk.com

The SDUK Explains Lounge timetable

Tuesday 22nd March

10.30am – 11.30am

Is recruiting and retaining staff causing you pain?

11.45am – 12.45pm

Essential Tools for Garment Decoration, Corel

1.00pm – 2.00pm

Is your business in the best shape today and for what the future holds?

2.15pm – 3.15pm

Social media and effective marketing

3.30pm – 4.30pm

Diversifying and thriving in a changing marketplace.

Wednesday 23rd March

10.30am – 11.30am

Diversifying and thriving in a changing marketplace (focus on electronic digital signage as a revenue stream)

11.45am – 12.45pm

Essential Tools for Garment Decoration, Corel

1.00pm – 2.00pm

ISA UK AGM

2.15pm – 3.15pm

Women in Signs & Graphics

3.30pm – 4.30pm

Is recruiting and retaining staff causing you pain?

Thursday 24th March

10.30am – 11.30am

Is recruiting and retaining staff causing you pain?

11.45am – 12.45pm

Essential Tools for Garment Decoration, Corel

1.00pm – 2.00pm

Is your business in the best shape today and for what the future holds?

2.15pm – 3.15pm

Save time and money: How to choose the correct adhesive or tape for your Sign Project

3.30pm – 4.30pm

Diversifying and thriving in a changing marketplace (focus on engraving as a revenue stream)



PRICE LIST

FLAT CUT LETTERING

ACRYLIC PERSPEX Colours – add 10% for Gold & Silver

Height	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	700mm	800mm	900mm	1200mm
3mm	1.11	1.39	1.54	1.82	2.17	2.89	3.63	3.87	4.50	5.43	8.24	8.93	10.04	11.30	13.81	15.99	21.34	37.09	46.33	56.32
5mm	1.48	1.88	2.22	2.74	3.44	4.18	5.11	6.65	7.78	9.05	10.55	12.07	14.48	17.50	20.20	21.73	28.37	28.60	54.30	69.93
10mm	2.70	3.23	4.27	5.30	6.61	8.46	10.14	14.22	15.40	18.67	21.38	25.49	29.04	33.78	37.92	42.66	59.26	86.53	111.41	144.00

3mm ALUMINIUM COMPOSITE Alupanel

Height	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	700mm	800mm	900mm	1200mm
Coloured	1.83	2.36	2.94	3.47	4.10	5.29	6.46	7.74	8.92	9.91	12.05	13.50	16.44	18.79	19.96	24.06	28.77	41.10	54.02	73.98
Mirror (silver)	2.45	3.08	4.27	5.34	6.94	8.54	9.60	11.74	14.41	17.08	18.68	21.35	25.08	28.29	29.89	34.69	40.57	50.70	54.44	103.01
Mirror (gold)	2.70	3.38	4.69	5.87	7.63	9.40	10.56	12.92	15.86	18.79	20.55	23.48	27.59	31.12	32.88	38.16	44.62	55.77	59.88	113.31
Brushed	2.03	2.56	3.33	4.15	4.83	5.91	7.13	8.45	10.26	12.07	13.89	15.69	19.32	21.13	23.55	26.56	34.25	47.08	59.16	81.50

FOAM PVC 10mm & 19mm available in white only

Height	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	700mm	800mm	900mm	1200mm
3mm	1.22	1.78	1.87	2.02	2.19	2.54	3.20	3.86	4.36	4.87	6.27	7.72	8.74	9.40	11.26	13.27	17.63	27.71	31.91	36.34
5mm	1.28	1.76	2.18	2.67	3.22	3.79	4.34	4.78	5.55	6.32	7.88	9.25	10.53	11.22	13.04	14.87	23.15	31.57	35.07	38.45
10mm	1.62	1.88	2.57	3.55	4.15	4.79	5.88	6.84	7.81	8.69	10.47	12.45	14.82	16.30	18.28	21.24	25.69	29.64	44.95	53.20
19mm	2.66	3.75	4.35	4.74	6.33	7.41	8.89	10.37	12.55	14.73	15.81	18.47	21.24	23.51	25.49	28.65	36.56	39.52	52.86	80.28

EXTERIOR MDF

Height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	700mm
6mm	0.55	1.05	1.63	1.82	2.70	2.84	3.30	3.94	4.54	5.39	6.89	9.73	11.22	12.72	14.92	45.39
12mm		1.81	2.12	2.95	4.24	4.89	5.89	6.40	7.63	9.58	10.48	12.17	14.47	17.56	19.70	59.80
18mm		2.57	3.25	4.24	5.29	6.43	7.93	8.88	11.02	12.72	15.16	17.36	21.19	22.85	29.88	89.40

MILL FINISH ALUMINIUM

Height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	700mm
2mm	3.12	4.36	4.94	6.60	7.46	8.33	9.41	10.85	12.06	13.25	14.64	18.19	21.58	30.88	41.33	53.61
3mm	3.65	5.07	5.80	7.13	8.22	9.19	10.27	11.72	13.11	15.11	16.86	21.62	25.86	36.13	50.75	75.24
5mm	3.99	5.57	6.65	7.98	8.94	10.27	11.61	13.53	15.58	17.95	20.24	26.19	30.21	42.00	59.21	81.62

Add 20% for locators and paper template
Add 30% for double sided tape
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Our reputation precedes us at 3D Sign Fabrication, we are renowned for manufacturing quality products and offering quality services, every sign we produce is to the highest standard always carried out in a speedy and efficient manner.

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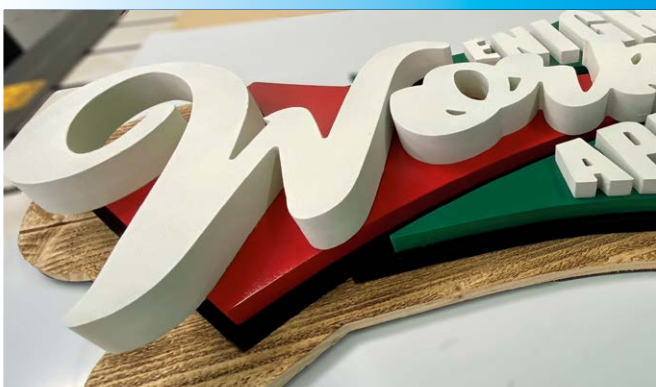
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FLAT CUT LETTERS



SIGN FABRICATION



Sign & Digital UK Exhibition preview

Ádivin:

We are the most affordable banner factory in Europe because we are 100% online and work exclusively for sign makers and advertisers. By reducing costs we lower the price, and by reducing the variety of products on offer we gain speed. That's why we always offer free shipping and can manufacture and deliver within 24 hours. All catalogues, packaging and products we deliver are unbranded. We are the perfect fit for anyone who wants to distribute flags in Europe.

AG/CAD

Trading for over 35 years, AG/CAD Limited supplies the renowned DYSS range of high-quality flatbed knife and router cutting machines (Digital Cutters), the most versatile solution for cutting/finishing of printed and unprinted sign materials in both sheet and roll format.

AG/CAD also writes and supplies KASEMAKE software which gives users access to hundreds of built-in resizable 2D CAD display and packaging templates for a variety of different materials. KASEMAKE can also render lifelike virtual 3D environments, enabling sign companies to show end clients walkthrough mock-ups of proposed products in situ, such as store fit outs and exhibition stands.

Amaya

Amaya Sales UK offer the widest range of garment and product decoration equipment. See Melco embroidery machines, Texjet DTG printers, Roland Print and Cut, Roland Versa UF printers, OKI white toner printers and Forever transfer paper, Stahls Heat presses and SEF garment film and flock.

Showrooms in Nottinghamshire and Hampshire.

Arken POP Ltd

Arken supply a full range of customised Lightboxes, Poster Frames, Freestanding Forecourt Units & Pavement Signs for retailers, media companies and trade houses.

We also design, develop & manufacture bespoke retail displays for brands and retailers, all at our purpose built premises at Newmarket. Accredited quality standards ISO 9001 and 14001

Automatic Letter Bender

We provide channel letter bending machines of the best technology that are reliable, economical, easy to use and meet all your needs

Award Crafters Limited

We are the sign makers sign maker. Most of our business is working for other sign companies who need the highest quality most durable aluminium signage of every type. Come see our unique product and ask for a quote - what have you got to lose?

AXYZ Routers

AXYZ is a leading global manufacturer of CNC routers and waterjet cutting solutions. With more than 30 years of experience, we've built and installed thousands of CNC machines.

Visit the AXYZ on stand P15 and speak to a technical sales specialist to configure a CNC machine to best suit your needs.



AXZYRA

AXZYRA has the solutions to enable digital print to materials you never thought possible. Providing specialist machinery, expertise, advice, support & training.

Axzyra brings niche products & services to businesses who are looking for innovative new technology to grow their business with profits.

We are small and agile enough to react with focus on customer support coupled with honest impartial advice, to help grow your business with ideas from Axzyra.

Visit us for the launch of the new AXZYRA DTF300 Direct to Film transfer printer.

Bloon

Bloon are the UK's leading agency for all things inflatable marketing. We have decades of experience in creating stunning inflatables for all kinds of campaigns. Our inflatables are made to the highest standards and with full digital printing available you can be assured that your advertising inflatable with catch the eye of both public and media!

Bonwyke

Bonwyke is proud to be the UK's only Premium Reseller of Cover Styl'. Highly cost-effective, low maintenance and straightforward to apply/install renovations have never been easier.

Cover Styl' is a thermoformable architectural vinyl which is able to cover a wide range of surfaces including wood, aluminium and PVC. With a range of over 470 designs you are sure to find the style you desire for every project.

Come and visit Bonwyke to view the range and find out how Cover Styl' can work for you.

Boxford Holdings Ltd

Boxford will show their latest range of cost effect Laser Cutting & Engraving Machines, as well as their fully enclosed bench-top Fibre Marking Laser.

New features added to their BGL range of CO₂ Laser Cutters, include Lightburn laser software and an integrated 4K camera for artwork positioning, image tracing and live monitoring. These features, in addition to the already integrated chiller cooling system, air compressor, auto-focus, honeycomb table and red light pointer, make Boxford laser systems unbeatable in terms of price, functionality and reliability.



Brand-It Technologies

Manufacturers and suppliers of Fabexx™, an aluminium profile system for both illuminated and non-illuminated tension fabrics for walls, ceilings, suspended and free-standing light boxes.

Fabexx™ ZERØ is the next generation of free-standing illuminated modular ABS and PVC profiles for fabric graphics. Perfect for events, exhibitions, signage, back drops, retail window displays, privacy screens and promotions which can be configured with many accessories.

We are also suppliers of Corelight™ a self-adhesive film for DIY Light Guide Panels and have specialist LED lighting, LED Drivers, Dye Sub Inks and Keder amongst many other accessories for all your light box and fabric graphic needs.

Brunel Engraving

Brunel Engraving are a specialist engraving company providing traditional & laser engraving services alongside laser cutting, chemical etching and print operations to support the trade for all their bespoke requirements.



Clarity Software

Clarity Software is the most powerful quoting and estimating tool on the market for the sign, print and display industry. Clarity will revolutionise your business by improving accuracy, profitability and enabling scalability due to the complete visibility the software provides to make more accurate business decisions.

Our price list structures enable fast, accurate quoting for all types of enquiries, even the most bespoke, allowing you to win more business time and time again. You can take confidence from leading companies such as GES, Voodoo Signs, Hollywood Monster, and Raccoon who rely on Clarity daily to manage their entire business process.

Clip Ltd

Our exhibition services team provide everything from exhibition stand management and consultancy through to stand design, build and storage as well as training and other value-added services. We also supply a number of multi-event and display solutions ranging from

bespoke exhibition stands to self-build exhibition systems.

CuttingmatsXXL

Since the start in 2016 CuttingmatsXXL.com rapidly became a key player in the production and worldwide distribution of custom size cutting mats. Clear blue, antistatic and exclusive frosted product variants combined with innovative IT and a fully automated cutting process define their high standards.



D & K Europe

D & K Europe has long been in the forefront of both narrow and wide format business graphic presentation, with a range of innovative products for mounting, laminating and encapsulating.

For the first time at Sign & Digital we will be demonstrating our B2 Europa PB laminator. Fitted with two identical laminating heads it gives an identical finish to each side of the sheet - ideal for photobook producers.

Also on the stand will be the Neptune B3 laminator fitted with the optional foiling capability and an entry level fully automated encapsulation line.

Dorotape

We supply self-adhesive coloured films to help signage, display and graphics specialists achieve the perfect finish each and every time. Our vast range of films, sourced from leading manufacturers ASLAN, R-Tape, Poli-Tape, Neschen, Ritrama and Cover Styl, includes metallised and dichroic films, eco-friendlier non-PVC, recycled products and graffiti repellent laminate, suitable for both indoor and outdoor displays. Years of experience and expertise gained working across a spectrum of sectors has made Dorotape a go-to display specialist.

dSign 3sixty:

Our 3sixty UV-LED printer is extremely fast and completely built for direct printing on cylindrical and cone-formed objects such as bottles, thermoses or cans.

eProductivity Software

eProductivity Software is a world leader in transformational technology and dynamic workflow software for print and packaging industries.

Our purpose-built Management Information Systems (MIS) and Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) technology and productivity software suites are designed to enable organizations across multiple industries and of every size to think beyond automation and transform their business.

Epson

Visit the Epson stand and experience its full range of creative and versatile printing solutions for graphics, signage, hard substrates, home décor and textile. Here you will be given demonstrations of Epson's market leading large-format printers including the newly announced 64" resin printer - the SureColor SC-R5000 - that uses odourless water-based ink from large, high yield ink pouches, and the SureColor SC-V7000, Epson's first UV LED flatbed printer. In addition, Epson's renowned SC-S80600 eco-solvent signage printer and 24" desktop dye-sublimation printer, the SureColor SC-F500 will be on display.

Visit the Epson stand to speak with the Epson experts and discover how you can expand your range of printed products to fulfil your customer's ever-changing demands using Epson printers.



Eurobond Adhesives Ltd

One of Europe's leading suppliers of high performance adhesives and adhesive tapes to the sign making industry. We are trusted by thousands of sign makers throughout the UK and Europe to get it right first time, every time. Our range includes our famous Penloc 2-part structural adhesives, acrylic tapes, flexible adhesives and UV adhesives. We will be demonstrating the benefits of UV bonding on our stand and running two workshops in the 'SDUK Explains' lounge and also in the 'Sign Studio' workshop. Talk to Eurobond Adhesives on stand G42 about



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how we can help you with your next Sign project.



Ex-cel Plastics Limited

Excel Plastics Limited (A Jain Irrigation company) is a leading manufacturer of PVC Sheets. For over 25 years Jains have been manufacturing PVC Foam, PVC Integral Foam and PVC Solid Sheets in India.

In 2014, Jains set up a state-of-the-art Manufacturing Plant in Ireland to service the European & UK Market. PVC Foam Sheets are an ideal product in Visual Communication as Display material, Exhibition Stands, Photo Mounting, Digital Printing, Shop Fitting, and Interior Design.

We are passionate in what we do-ensuring we offer a High-Quality Product backed with a Reliable and Consistent Service.

FH-Union UK Limited

FH-Union UK not only just supply a wide variety of print heads and spare parts, we have recently expanded into small and large format UV flatbed printers.

Come and visit our stand to see the latest technology printers we have to offer plus inks!

Gildo Profilati SRL

Gildo Profilati is a leading Italian company, with over 50 years of trim caps manufacturing experience.

GildoTrims caps are flexible & durable extruded profiles, made of top quality raw materials as prime aluminium foil and a special polymeric resin.

They meet all requirements for preventing delamination, shrinkage, scratches and fading over time. Easy to form and bend especially round the corner.

Global Erecting Sign Services Ltd

We are a well-established sign installation company which has been installing various signs and banners worldwide for the past

20 years. We install all types of signage from street level through to extreme high level including complete building wraps and various other creative works and considered the industry leader.

Grafityp

Visit the Grafityp UK Ltd stand G10 where you can see the latest developments in a wide range of digital print solutions including a vast array of PVC free eco-friendly options.

Grafityp will also be showcasing demos on the exciting new Omega Skinz vehicle wrapping series with over 56 colours now available to order.

We will also have demos on Siser heat transfer materials for application on to fabrics. Most of these films conform to OEKO-TEX Class 1 or Class 2 plus VEGANOK.

Grafityp will be displaying a range of digital printing hardware from leading worldwide manufacturers such as Roland, Mutoh and GCC.

Hanolex Eyelets

Manufacturer and supplier of eyelets, eyeletting equipment, and vinyl storage solutions.

HPC Laser

HPC Laser is the UK's leading supplier of CNC routers and laser cutting and engraving machines. Established in 2006, our skilled engineers have delivered, installed and supported over 5500 Laserscript machines across the UK into a multitude of industrial applications.

Many of our models are available with laser upgrade options depending upon the material and thicknesses to be processed and our clever modular design allows many of our larger machines to be split to fit through narrow access.

All our PRO machines are covered by a 1 year ONSITE warranty and options are available to extend up to 3 years.

Hybrid Services / Mimaki

Hybrid is Mimaki's exclusive distributor for the UK & Ireland and will be showing a selection of cutting-edge print technology from the market-leading manufacturer. Ranging from grand format flatbeds to textile and the latest sign making hardware, the Hybrid team will be on hand to welcome visitors to the stand.



Impact Vehicle Library

The Impact Vehicle Outline Library is a collection of thousands of vehicle outlines that offer you a unique way to present and design vehicles for your customers.

Industrial Tooling Corporation Ltd

ITC is a specialist tooling supplier. Our objective is to supply our customers with the best possible products, at the same time making them more efficient by introducing productivity and method improvements. To achieve this we continue to invest in our team of capable and enthusiastic engineers and technical sales people, backed up by an in-house team which we believe is second to none. From solid carbide and PCD tooling, through to indexable milling, turning and boring, plus top quality tool holders, ITC has an unbeatable product range.



InkTec Europe

InkTec Europe is a leading manufacturer of printers, inks and media for the indoor and outdoor printing market. All JETRIX printers are developed in our dedicated production plant, fulfilling stringent quality controls, to ensure our products are the best in class, supported by a manufacturer's warranty. The LXi8 Flatbed and LXiR320 Roll-to-Roll printers will be showcased at Sign and Digital alongside our new Direct to Film ink.

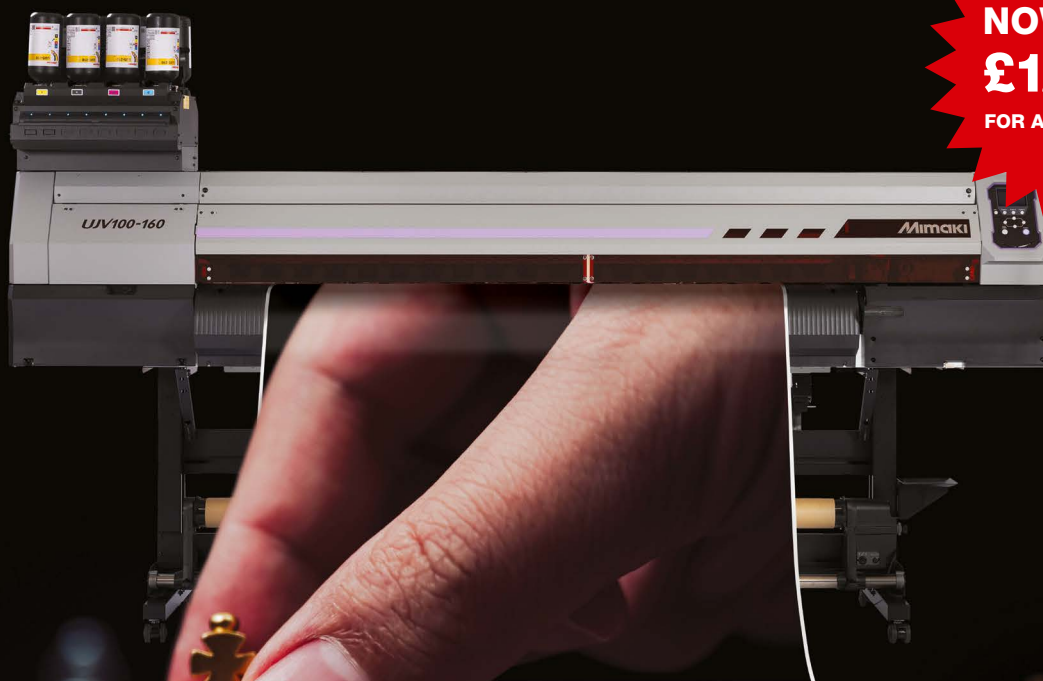
Join us on stand F10, where we will be celebrating our South Korean culture and inviting you to TAKE THE CHALLENGE! Will you survive?



MAKE THE RIGHT BUSINESS MOVE

Investing in your next wide format printer
shouldn't be a game of chance.

NOW ONLY
£12,995
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The New UJV100-160

The new Mimaki UJV100-160 challenges convention, outperforms the competition and wins business with its unrivalled capabilities, ease of use and award-winning LED UV technology.

£15,995 including RIP software and a 2-year warranty.

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*Limited time offer - See website for T&Cs



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IPIA

The IPIA assumes a crucial role as an industry ambassador championing print, both at Government level and also to major print buying sectors such as marketing.

We are deeply committed to supporting our members and our industry. We pursue this commitment by helping businesses expand their horizons, grow using targeted member collaboration, adapt to ever evolving market forces, and thrive through mutual support.

ISA-UK

ISA-UK is the only trade association for the signage industry within the United Kingdom.

We seek to raise industry specific standards, communicate best practices, increase and support the development of a diverse and inclusive signage community, whilst creating a portal for connecting some of the leading Sign Companies, makers, installers, designers and suppliers throughout our industry.



International Sign Association UK

Josero Ltd

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 comprises of a team of highly skilled inkjet specialists who, combined, have many years of experience and knowledge within the digital inkjet market. Originally formed in 2003, Josero are an authorised partner for Agfa, Mimaki and Ricoh large format printers along with exclusivity for Triangle inks, the Bubblefree applicator tables in the UK and Ireland and a complete range of laminators and cutters from popular brands like Kala, Mimaki, Vivid Easymount and Graphtec.



LION Picture Framing Supplies Ltd

We supply professional hanging & display products specifically developed for printed panels. Our products are used by major photogift retailers. We are based in the UK and ship to end-users worldwide. Founded over 40 years ago, we are world leaders in wall art display.

Merlin Tools

Merlin Tools is a market leader in the supply of premier quality Solid Carbide Tooling and associated Cutting Tools within the UK and Europe.

We have been established for over 20 years and continue to develop and expand our range to bring the latest cutting tool technology to the market.

Mr Clipart

For 31 years, MR Clipart is the number 1 provider of accurate, to-scale vehicle templates - worldwide. Additional products: vehicle graphics, wrap backgrounds, sign templates and elements, fonts and much more. Since 2009 we also organize and host vehicle wrap competitions and infotainment events on trade and consumer shows.

Multipanel UK Ltd

Multipanel UK Ltd is only Aluminium Composite Panel Manufacturer in the UK.

Established in 2004, Multipanel UK brought aluminium composite panel (ACP) manufacturing home to Britain in 2014. Our factory on the South Coast of England uses the most advanced manufacturing and logistics technology in the industry. With an initial capacity to produce 6,500,000 m² per year of the highest quality rigid composite sheet materials, continued investment including a second production line has increased our annual capacity to 10,000,000m².

Nicomán LOGO Matting

Nicomán manufacturing Indoor and Outdoor Entrance LOGO mats, enhances brand awareness at your front door whilst reduce cleaning cost, suitable for most entrances including shops and public buildings which are subject to heavy foot traffic.

The Birmingham based manufacturer offers 2-5 working days lead time.

OneVision Software (UK) Limited

OneVision Software develops powerful and highly flexible software solutions for an automated workflow and file preparation from order entry through to finishing. The aim is to help print service providers worldwide to achieve a more economical printing process when creating their print products. Thanks to the high degree of automation of the software, printing businesses benefit from very fast processing times, higher job margins, and high print data quality.

Oshino Lamps UK

Since 1931 Oshino Lamps has been illuminating the world with innovative lighting products.

Oshino's comprehensive range of LED products cover the vast majority of applications where LED lighting is needed. The UK signage industry is supported with specially designed LED modules for flex faced and acrylic faced sign boxes, built-up letters, edge lighting for single and double-sided boxes and flexible LED tape suitable for a multitude of applications.

Backed by a comprehensive stockholding of modules and power supplies plus an unbeatable service Oshino is your ideal lighting solutions partner.

Someone you know is using Oshino!

Perspex Distribution

We are the leading supplier of UK manufactured rigid substrates to the Sign & Display industry with a unique range of UK material brands to choose from.

Introducing a number of new products to the market, our stand will be a must visit location for visitors keen to view the latest recycled products available and to speak direct to manufacturers to learn more.

Products on display will be made with at least 50% recycled content and demonstrate the huge range of environmentally friendly options soon to be available to PDL customers.



Pixelution Limited

Pixelution, established in 1990, is a reseller and installer of digital signs for retail, corporate, transport and many other sectors. We offer all sizes of screens for both indoor and outdoor use.

We have particular experience in high bright displays for sunny shop windows, LCD and LED video walls of all shapes and sizes and outdoor IP rated screens for advertising and information displays.

On our stand we will have a selection of our most popular screens, do drop by for a chat.

PixlipGo & StandON Flooring by Clip

Introducing PixlipGo! Stand out from your competition with the easy-to-build portable lightbox display system that will get you noticed, generating more leads and more sales.

If events are in your marketing plan why not let us come and show you how PixlipGo and Stand-on flooring can make all the difference to your next show - with a free demonstration, no obligation.

Premier Bond

Premier Bond are recognised industry leaders in Aluminium Composite Sheets, Acrylic Sheets, Projection Boxes, LED Modules and much more. Established in 2013, our unwavering vision was to become the major supplier of signage materials, a One-Stop-Shop for all sign makers.

Premier Paper

Premier is one of the UK's leading merchants of paper and printable substrates. Through Premier's specialist business divisions and nationwide network of 14 branches, a great choice of branded products and services are supplied throughout the UK.

Display Graphics is the division of Premier servicing the sign, display and plastics market; offering a wide choice of products suitable for POS/POP displays and graphics, intended for both short and long term use. This portfolio of sign and display products has been put together with the printer and end user in mind, the products will help to make some of the most eye catching, memorable and innovative retail displays.

**Printmax**

With the growing popularity in direct-to-substrate LED UV printing, printMAX will be demonstrating the flagship Mimaki JFX flatbed printer, along with the newest iteration of the small Mimaki flatbed, the UJF MK II e series.

From Roland, printMAX will be showing the new VersaUV LEC2 roll-to-roll print and cut device, opening the world of UV printing for packaging mock-ups, labels, banners and more. Plus, the ever-popular LEF2 desktop flatbed printer and from the eco-solvent range, the TruVIS print and cut devices.

Protek SRL

Protek CNC manufacture CNC cutting and milling machines.

Protek developed a very advanced technology in order to produce the best machines for cutting and milling materials for signage and materials from large format printing.

Protek CNC solutions are flexible and user friendly, able to cut every material.

Pyramid Display Materials Ltd

Pyramid Display Materials constantly develop and refine their product portfolio to grow in tandem with the huge evolutions we see in the sign and display industry. On October 1st 2021 Pyramid became part of the Grimco family of companies.

Exhibiting on stand K14 Pyramid will be showcasing the following:

- The Latest HP Latex Print Solution - The 800W
- Simply Non PVC Self Adhesives
- The Envirobox V.2
- The Largest Range of Sheet & Roll Print Substrates Available in the U.K.

**Quality Print Services Ltd**

QPS have been supporting the British signage industry for over 25 years.

Main UK distributor for Nazdar Digital Inks and DuPont Artistri Textile Inks.

Authorised Dealers for Roland DG wide format eco-solvent and UV printers.

UK distributor for ColorJet India for LED UV Flatbed and Roll to Roll Printers and Roll to Roll direct to textile dye sublimation printers.

Full nationwide technical support on wide format and UV technology using our own field support team.

R A Smart

R A Smart have been at the forefront of digital textile printing technology since the early pioneering days of the late 1990's and are this year celebrating 50 years in the textile industry. They can rightly claim to be experts in the supply and support of dedicated wide format print solutions, partnering with the leading machine manufacturers and installing the latest in print technology throughout the UK & Ireland.

We'll be showcasing the latest in digital dye sublimation solutions, as well as our new and exciting line of Direct To Film printers.

Roland DG

Roland DG Corporation is the world's leading provider of digital printing solutions. The company's inkjet printers, printer/cutters and cutting machines are widely used to create a broad range of promotional items including banners, signs, vehicle graphics, stickers and labels, and to provide customisation services for apparel and personal items like smartphone cases. Recently, Roland DG has embarked on a promising new retail frontier by capitalising on individuals' increasing desire to create their own, uniquely designed and decorated items. The company has developed proprietary



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design and print management software which enables customers to design their own gifts, apparel and treasured mementos, and to enjoy an unforgettable creative experience.

Section 8

With over 100 years shared experience in all areas of the graphic and signage industries, no job is too big!

We provide installation of all types of signage and graphics from window vinyls to a full exhibition stand, from a car park totem to bespoke wallpaper and anything in between and beyond.

We also assist with site surveys, material specification and project management and our qualified carpenters and electricians hold in-depth knowledge of the exhibition, signage and graphics industry.

Come and visit us for an informal chat about any projects which you may have coming up.

Sign Making Tools

Sign Making Tools was created by sign makers for sign makers. Paul and Julia hold over 30 years' experience in the sign industry; they make signs every day, so know it's frustrating when all you need are tools for vehicle wrapping, knives, cleaning and preparation (the job everyone hates), squeegees and advice. Ask any question, Paul and Julia like to share information and knowledge. They offer support from a quick telephone call to on-site training for your staff. We want to make your job easier. So come and have a look and a chat; you can buy and take away the smaller tools immediately.

SIGNET Sign System

SIGNET Sign System is your #1 trusted go-to supplier of wayfinding signage for more than 30 years! Our functional sign systems make it possible to create vast variety of great looking indoor and outdoor signage solutions, such as wall signs, directories, protruding and suspended signs, pylons, office signs and much more. We offer our sign shop customers the option to purchase full length profiles for cost-efficient in-house sign manufacturing or assembled signage for quick and easy resale. Our aluminium profiles are made in Scandinavia and of the very highest quality, as is our personal service. Visit our booth to learn more!

Signgeer

Signgeer offer performance sign making tools and equipment for newcomers to the trade and the experienced professional. Super Tools for Sign Heroes.

We have our own super brands and work with some of the most innovative sign tool developers in the World. Official, genuine and exclusive brands. With expert advice and overnight deliveries - we can help you save the day, every day.

We're super excited to be launching our new catalogue at Sign and Digital UK as well as a range of exciting new tools and gadgets - with over 4000 products we can't bring them all so if there's something specific you'd like to see please get in touch



Sign Update Magazine

Established in 1990 by a signmaker as a printed magazine, Sign Update is the UK's longest established signage magazine, that has also evolved to become an online news portal and the place to go for job vacancies and selling equipment.

Published 6 times a year, we cover various aspects of sign related news, based on new products, services, company profiles and various topics as part of features.



Signs Plaza

We are Signs Makers of bespoke channel letters - Pioneers in offering an instant quotation tool that allows you to obtain the final price of your sign in only 3 minutes by uploading a .dxf file in our website.

We stand out for our wide variety of effects and materials in more than 100 models of channel letters and neon flex led.

Signwaves

Signwaves design and manufacture advertising sign, display and presentation products to help brands, retailers and organisations promote their services and increase sales. Visit the stand to see their market leading products - and some exciting new additions including the Woodworkz® range of chalk boards.

Signzworld Ltd

We stock an extensive range of sublimation printing supplies, from sublimation blanks to heat presses, vinyl cutters and t-shirt making and sign vinyl, UV printers, laser engraving machinery and much, much more. We take great pride in helping both small start up businesses and established and thriving companies exceed their goals. We have impressive facilities that can carry an amazing amount of stock, guaranteeing we always have something in stock that'll meet your needs and at very competitive prices. We are the sole distributor of Liyu (Europe) and Creation Pcut machines in the UK.

Soyang Europe

Soyang Europe is a leading supplier of digitally printable media for a broad range of industries including the wide format and super-wide outdoor, retail POS, flag and signage sectors. Located in Altham, Lancashire, the company utilises a warehouse that holds stock of in excess of 2 million sq. metres of material to distribute including premium European and American manufactured products alongside a variety of innovative substrates produced by its high-end Far Eastern partners.

Space Tailor

Space Tailor offers interior pattern designs to printing and signage companies interested in expanding their range of services to the attractive printinterior market.

Companies interested in adding printing interior elements to their range of services can join the Space Tailor project and



METALS & PLASTICS

EXPERTISE • COLLABORATION • INTEGRITY

THE SPECIALIST SUPPLIER OF METALS & PLASTICS TO THE SIGN & DISPLAY INDUSTRY

Righton Blackburns is a leading distributor to the sign, display and print markets supplying a comprehensive range of premium grade materials. From print sector digital grade substrates, to bespoke signs and road traffic products, Righton Blackburns has the solution.

- Comprehensive range of high-quality raw materials
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- Technical support from leading manufacturers
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- 10 Service Centres nationwide

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Laserscript

The UK's leading supplier of laser cutting and engraving machines and CNC routers into the sign making industry

- » CE certified and compliant with UK safety standards
- » Established 2005, over 5,000 machines supplied
- » Delivered, installed and serviced by our own engineers
- » Lifetime access to UK technical support desk
- » 12 month ONSITE warranty on our PRO range, extendable to 3 years
- » Supplied complete with software, water cooling and fume extraction
- » Finance and lease options available
- » Onsite training provided

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Precision, Accuracy and Repeatability



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increase the quality of their brand.

Space Tailor offers high-quality patterns created with hand-drawn designs by professional artists. It is perfect for those, who have been printing only pre-made designs provided by their clients. By offering the Space Tailor's unique designs as a part of your range, you can suggest a new type of business to the customers.

SSE Worldwide

SSE Worldwide supply affordable, large and small format UV flatbed printers, rotary printers suitable for printing on bottles and round objects and flatbed cutters.

Our experts provide full training, guidance and support.

See the Apache UV LED printers in action on our stand.

Stanford Marsh

NEW Rigid Substrate, Poster & Banner Printing device - We are delighted to present the first UK showing of the NEW HP PageWide XL Pro for Graphics. Offering significantly increased quality over generation one PageWide the Pro series offers cleaner colour transitions and is ideal for high volume graphics further advancements include printing on to Rigid Substrates of up to 10mm | Double-sided Wide-format Cut Sheet up to B1 size | High Speed output with low cost per print.

In addition you can meet our product specialist for HP Latex, Neolt Print Finishing Systems and the new Canon GP Poster Printer with Fluorescent ink.



swissQprint

swissQprint large format printers are renowned for their top quality when it comes to design and printing results. At Sign & Digital UK, swissQprint is presenting its flatbed generation 4. These new printers redefine standards in terms of quality and productivity as well as usability and efficiency.

The swissQprint stand will also feature

neon inks, highlighting the scope that these new fluorescent colours open up. With just two inks, four striking colour variants are possible – Yellow, Pink, Green and Orange – as well as countless possibilities. In addition to neon prints, visitors may expect lots of other inspiring application ideas.



Tecna UK

We are Tecna UK - Transforming your ideas into unforgettable display experiences. Since 2007, we have become leaders in modular event, exhibition, conference, experiential and retail displays.

We create stunning stands combining the versatility of modular with the style options of custom build. Our T3 system is the world's most innovative, easy-to-build, modular system providing you the ability to reconfigure multiple exhibition stands from just one system.

We create unique solutions for our clients, bringing together design, project management, production, and installation and can do as little or as much as needed to create you a bespoke display.

The Sign Group & NeonPlus®

We're focusing on 2 products at this years exhibition, our award winning Neonplus® (Faux Ne-on), and our revolutionary new product Alphascreens™ (Shaped digital screens). The Alphas need to be seen to be believed.

TheMagicTouch

TheMagicTouch, since 1992, have pioneered the digital image transfer business with award winning innovation and service in all aspects of product and garment personalisation. The company offer toner-based transfer printers and papers, full range of sublimation solutions, garment flex (HTV) vinyl's together with the latest in Direct To Film (DTF) transfer

printing. All products are supported by professional technical, sales and marketing support. TheMagicTouch is the perfect no-risk addition to any business.



Trade Etching Direct Ltd

Dedicated trade supplier offering a first class chemical etching service to the sign industry.

Partnering with us, is like having your own etching department without having to invest in equipment & specialist staff.

We offer a 100% quality guarantee, fast turnaround time, and prices that offer excellent margins for customers.

Trotec Laser Ltd

Trotec will return with a host of new products and features to make laser cutting even more cost effective for the signs and displays industry.

The new mid-range Q-Series laser cutter will be demonstrated for the first time at a UK show. It'll also be a UK debut for a new 'design and position' camera on the Speedy 400 'Run on Ruby®' system.

Trotec's action-packed stand will show live print & cut demonstrations, so visitors can see material come straight off a Mimaki UV printer and onto the laser cutters, where the Trotec Vision camera ensures accurate cutting paths every time.



UNIFY VSN Ltd

HyperVSN is the world's first 3D holographic devices creating maximum excitement and engagement, captivating audience. This innovative all-in-one solution takes experiential marketing to a new dimension. Creating the ultimate experience that generates excitement, draws extensive crowds, and promotes service and products.

Holograms are set to disrupt visual communication as we know it & HyperVSN is leading the Revolution. Our integrated system allows users to create, display & manage 3D visuals, which resemble holograms floating in mid-air. Breakthrough holographic hardware meets the HyperVSN CMS to produce truly awe-inspiring 3D visuals.

Very Displays

Very Displays is a Trade Only supplier of portable display hardware including Roller Banners, Flags, Pop-ups, Outdoor Signage, Event Counters, Cases, Literature stands and more. Plus we offer printing services for our trade customers as well.

With over 50 years' experience and knowledge of the industry, we've selected a mix of the most efficient and effective products to add value to your business and in turn increase profit. We're flexible, supportive, transparent and easy to work with, ensuring your experience is always positive, productive and in turn straightforward.

Vivid Laminating Technologies

Europe's leading designer and manufacturer of laminating and finishing systems. Committed to developing, improving and upgrading our products to meet the ever-changing demand of the print industry.

**William Smith**

Leading trade supplier, William Smith Group 1832, offers one of the largest material supply services in the UK.

We stock a wide range of films and accessories from leading brands including 3M, Avery Dennison, Arlon, VION, Cover Styl', Contra Vision, Squid, and R-Tape.

We are the sole UK distributor of ROLLSROLLER flatbed applicators.

As part of our service, we run training courses on vehicle, architectural, and window film application through our dedicated academy.

Our aim is to build strong partnerships, placing high standards on everything we do, helping our customers provide the best service possible to their clients.

**WILLIAM SMITH GROUP 1832**

WILLIAM SMITH | SMITH SIGN & DISPLAY | ARCHITEXTURAL™

Witpac GmbH

Your specialist for textile transfer films, the manufacturer of Nova-Flex and the "Home of Weed-Ex".

Wim Rollfs of Roelofs is the Managing Director and driving force behind WITPAC. With his many years of experience in developing and selling heat-transfer, textile decoration and personalization materials, he knows what the market needs.

We are focused on our product range. Already while purchasing the raw materials for our transfer films, we make sure to select only the best products. Our improved production line and innovative machinery make sure that you will only receive the best quality for a competitive price.

WorksThing

The easiest way to manage sign & graphics installations

Streamline every part of your business with WorksThing

From enquiry to proposal. Planning through production. Surveys, scheduling and installation. Invoicing and payment.

All in one clever system.

YES Group

YES GROUP founded in 1995, is a family run 'full-service' engineering company, committed to bringing new and advanced technology into the decorative textile and apparel marketplace sourced from leading Brands worldwide. Our product range includes, DTG Digital 'direct-to garment' and DTF 'direct-to film' indirect printing, Compress LED UV, SWF and RICOMA embroidery machines, all backed with reliable and consistent technical department offering end-to-end training, and a full range of technical support platforms designed to transform production opportunities. Book an appointment to view our extensive product range at our Showrooms in Nottinghamshire – Alternatively see you on Stand G26

Your Print Specialists Ltd

YPS are leading suppliers of wide-format printing and finishing solutions from Mimaki, RolandDG and Epson.

Reliable, service-led partner within the Digital, Screen and Litho print industry, we can advise on the latest technology for your printing requirements.

Suppliers of OEM consumables, media including Drytac and Metamark, software, warranties and support.

Sign Update will be the only UK trade magazine about sign making at the exhibition.

Zund

Whether for digital print on vinyl, POP made from corrugated cardboard, or textiles for soft signage applications, Zünd's extremely versatile cutting solutions meet the many and varied needs of the graphics industry.



How to maximise profits with wide-format print

Wide-format print has been regarded as a key growth market for some time now, with a huge range of work on offer for companies active in this sector. However, as more businesses move into the market, competition for work intensifies and print companies are having to be clever about the way they operate to maximise their profits.

There are plenty of things to consider when ensuring you are generating the maximum amount of profit from the wide-format work you are producing.

First and foremost, the choice of printer is of paramount importance; the right investment can set you on the path to profit and establish your business among the leaders in wide-format print. For example, some machines are designed for specialist applications and niche work, while other devices are more versatile and can handle a range of popular and widespread work such as posters and textile products.

However, as is the case with all types of new investment, selecting a printer is no easy task. If you are looking to produce wider-format work, then you should be asking, "is the printer wide enough for this work?" Similarly, if you want to take on textile-based work, you should establish whether a printer has been designed to handle this sort of material and if it is able to run inks that are compatible with textiles.

By asking these types of questions, you are ensuring you have the right piece of technology in place to handle the type of work you want to produce, allowing you to target the markets that offer the most profitable opportunities for your business.

At HP, we offer a wide range of wide-format print solutions, each designed to help customers produce quality print every time across all types of applications within wide-format markets.

HP Latex printers enable users to print on virtually any substrate, deliver the highest quality of print over time and deliver projects on the same day, thus allowing them to access all sort of work in the wide-format segment.

Then there is the HP DesignJet range, a



HP Latex printers - such as the HP Latex R2000 - enable users to print on virtually any substrate, deliver the highest quality of print over time and deliver projects the same day.

series of wide-format print job submission plotters that are intuitive and easy to print, allowing those working in the architecture, engineering and construction sectors to give their attention to what is important.

For those companies focused more on textile-based work, the HP Stitch printer series includes a host of machines capable of producing vibrant and accurate colours across all sorts of applications within this creative sector.

Pushing the boundaries

One of the first things you should be talking about when it comes to buying a new printer is how well it operates in terms of productivity. While there are plenty of good options on the market when it comes to wide-format print kit, many of these are limited by their speed and will restrict users in terms of how much work they can take on, and thereby reducing profit potential.

Investment in HP wide-format equipment is a safe bet. Not only do our printers offer high quality printing capabilities across a range of substrates, but also produce work at an excellent rate, thus allowing you to take on more work and form partnerships with a wider range of customers, boosting your income and profit in the process.

Take for example the HP Latex 800 series; both the HP Latex 800 and HP

Latex 800W offer printing speeds of up to 36sq m/hr in outdoor mode, printing vivid colours on media as wide as 1.63m. These machines also offer storage for up to 100 jobs, allowing the user to start printing certain jobs quickly without having to worry about tricky setup.

The added benefit of working with the HP Latex 800W is that you can work with HP's market leading white ink. This innovative feature allows you to add another dimension to wide-format print work, which will in turn help your business stand out from the crowded market as an innovator in this highly creative segment.

Thinking green

Another aspect to consider when investing in new technology – both wide-format and other areas – is the impact this machinery will have on the world around us. Sustainability has become an incredibly important element for customers in recent years, and with this trend showing no signs of slowing down, print companies need to factor this in when making new investments.

Demonstrating your commitment to the environment through the type of equipment you run is an easy and effective way of showing off your green credentials to customers, helping you retain those clients with a keen eye on the environment, as well as win new work from

like-minded customers across all areas of wide-format print.

HP understands this and is itself fiercely dedicated to sustainability. Take for example our HP Latex printers; these machines run innovative water-based inks, which are much more planet-friendly than their solvent, eco-solvent and UV counterparts, yet still produce an incredibly high quality of printed output and are suitable for use on both indoor and outdoor wide-format projects.

For further proof of HP's commitment to the environment, then look no further than the impressive raft of certifications that have been awarded to HP Latex inks. The latest HP Latex inks are all UL ECOLOGO certified, meaning they meet strict health and environmental criteria, while the inks also hold the coveted GREENGUARD GOLD certification, confirming their ultra-low emissions.

This focus is strengthened through the HP Amplify Impact program, which extends HP's Sustainable Impact strategy to encourage HP partners to drive change across the global IT sector. Those that pledge their commitment to the scheme will gain access HP's knowledge, training and resources to not only improve their environmental credentials, but significantly enhance print production.

In addition, the HP Planet Partners return and recycling offers our customers around the world an easy and cost-effective way of recycling waste and further enhancing their green credentials. To put the impact of this scheme into perspective, more than 875 million original HP Ink and Toner Cartridges have been recycled by customers with HP Planet Partners.

Being part of these schemes will allow you to shout about your green credentials from the rooftops, and like-minded customers,

both new and old, will certainly take notice.

Plotting your profit path

As leading innovator in the print industry, HP is in a position to offer a range of supporting products to help customers get the most out of their HP hardware and maximise profits on work printed on these machines.

HP PrintOS is an incredibly valuable print production operating system with web and mobile apps designed to help you users to get the most of their presses, while also simplifying and automating production.

Currently utilised by over 34,000 people around the world, HP PrintOS can be used continuously to improve your operations, inspire your staff and make better, faster decisions – all of which can lead to greater profit for your business.

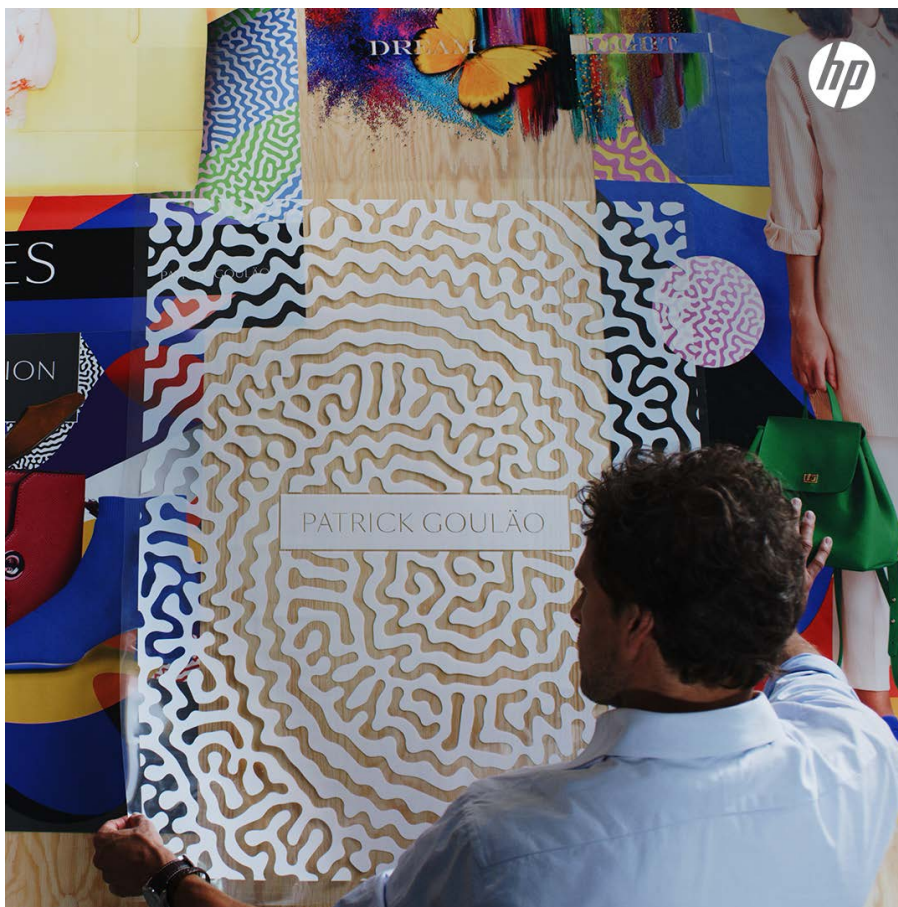
PrintOS makes it easy to manage any number of jobs from submission to shipment, collaborate with partners and colleagues, and discover new opportunities for growth. As a further benefit, users can access the open, secure cloud-based platform anytime and from anywhere in the world.

Suitable for use with HP Latex and HP DesignJet printers, key features of this solution include Print Beat, which uses historical and near real-time press data for better-informed decisions, as well as the Knowledge Zone, a searchable repository of technical, training, application, and marketing resources.

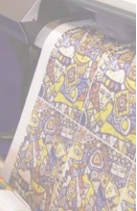
Then there is Open API, allowing for simple integration with third-party products and applications, and also the Partner Ecosystem, whereby users are able to leverage pre-integrated web-to-print and content providers to innovate and grow their business in the busy market.

Wide-format print may indeed be a competitive sector and margins on some work are decreasing, but by adapting your approach to work by making sure you are getting the most out of your printing kit and running the applicable software to support this technology, you can maximise profit and grow your business to new heights.

largeformat.hp.com/uk



White ink allows you to add another dimension to wide-format print work.



Brand Consortia becomes UK's First Carbon Neutral Plus Sign Maker

Sign and graphics specialist, Brand Consortia, is the first national signage contractor to achieve double-offset carbon neutral plus status.

Brand Consortia has brought sign making into the 21st century and converted the business operations to be not just carbon neutral, but carbon neutral plus.

The new accreditation will bring huge dividends to retail, grocery and forecourt businesses working with the leading national signage business.

A first for sustainable signage which involves investing in verified carbon offset projects, the Manchester based sign manufacturing business has not only achieved accredited net zero status but is in fact carbon neutral plus, having offset double its audited emissions.

Brand Consortia Director, Matt Mason, said: "We are delighted with the response from Carbon Footprint Ltd and it is brilliant to achieve this accreditation earlier than we expected. The initiative will bring immediate dividends to the brands working with us and to those in the grocery and forecourt sectors looking to control and improve their own sustainability."

Brand Consortia works with a number of leading brands within the UK grocery, convenience, forecourt and vehicle rental sectors. Customers include Sainsbury's, SPAR, AF Blakemore & Son Ltd, Enterprise Rent-A-Car (and associated brands), and Applegreen service stations

who operate Welcome Break motorway services.

Mason said: "We are offsetting double the carbon emissions that we generate in order to increase the number of social and environmental schemes we are helping to fund. Our chosen offset method is to support a tree planting scheme in England, Scotland and Wales because it ties in well with our partners. AF Blakemore do a lot of work in Wales, Sainsbury's have stores all over Great Britain and like us are working towards a net zero target.



"We share the same values as our client Enterprise Rent-A-Car who is funding the planting of trees in the UK as part of its 50 Million Tree Pledge"

"Other businesses will say they are assessing, measuring and reducing emissions and that is great, but we are proud to say we have done something unique within our industry and we have achieved net zero operations today. We now offset more carbon emissions than we generate, making us not just carbon neutral, but carbon negative."

Brand Consortia first introduced its Sustainable Sign Scheme in 2008,

where the business would offset the CO₂ released during the manufacture and installation of signage projects.

Mason added that no other company in the signage industry offered such a scheme at the time. "We calculate the energy and mileage used in producing, delivering and installing signage and use a bespoke formula for establishing the amount of CO₂ released. We then purchase the appropriate amount of carbon offset credits and produce a certificate of sign and graphics carbon neutrality for the sites to display," he said.

Longer term goals were then set and today Brand Consortia has its processes certified to a carbon neutral plus standard.

"We are working hard to push our commitments in tangible directions, such as using electric vehicles, swapping strong solvents for uv-cured alternatives, and embracing the use of remanufactured materials and sharing these passions with our clients," Mason added.

Ben Hunter, European Brand Identity Manager from Enterprise Rent-A-Car has been working with Brand Consortia for four years. Hunter said: "Being audited and fully accountable by offsetting their emissions is such a positive step forward and makes us proud that our signage is more responsibly produced. Brand Consortia are a valuable partner who help deliver our brand. We see this achievement as very important as we partner with Brand Consortia with a carbon neutral future for the signage."

More recently Brand Consortia looked to target growth with an expansion into indoor graphics and POS branding by investing £500,000 in upgrading significantly to an advanced flatbed printing solution in-house. This allows them focus on delivering high quality products with minimal environmental impact.

"Our market is in signage and large-format graphics such as external window displays but we are receiving increasing volumes of internal large graphics and POS branding work. Investing in more advanced print technology means we can efficiently support the expansion of our business," concluded Mason.

www.brandconsortia.com



Josero opens up showroom for demonstrations on new Ricoh Pro L5160e

Leading wide-format printing solutions provider Josero has installed a new Ricoh Pro L5160e printer at its Cambridgeshire showroom, enabling customers to experience live demonstrations of the Latex machine. The printer has been configured in 2 x CMYK, with Josero having already started conducting live demos for customers from across the UK.

The installation follows the announcement in September 2021 that Josero had been appointed as a UK reseller for the full range of Ricoh's leading Direct-to-Garment (DTG) printers and latest generation of wide-format Latex printers.

The two businesses are now working together to deliver these advanced

printing solutions to end-user customers throughout the UK. Based on Ricoh's leading inkjet head and ink technology expertise, the Ricoh Pro L5160e and Ricoh Pro L5130e machines are an evolution from the immensely successful Ricoh Pro L5160 and Ricoh Pro L5130 Latex large-format printers and add Ricoh's own enhanced quick-drying white, green and orange inks to the set-up, further extending applications and colour capabilities.

Both models open up a huge array of opportunities for print service providers and graphic arts display specialists, with the ability to operate at class-leading speeds of up to 46.7sq m/hr.

According to Sarah Winterbottom, Managing Director of Josero: "The latest Ricoh latex machines filled a gap in our product range and have been a powerful addition to our line-up. As a business, we're extremely focused on sustainability and the Ricoh Pro Latex large-format printer technology fits perfectly within this ethos.

"It's fantastic that the machine has now been installed and we can showcase this eco-conscious technology to our loyal customers in our own demonstration facility."

www.josero.com



The Ricoh Pro L5160e with extended colour capabilities.

New head of inkjet for Agfa UK & Ireland

Agfa is delighted to announce the appointment of Paul Fitch as Head of Inkjet, UK and Ireland. Fitch joined the company in 2018 as Regional Sales Manager South and brings over two decades of digital printing experience to his new position.

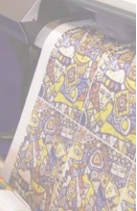
"I am honoured and excited to accept this new challenge", commented Fitch. "Agfa's global growth strategy for digital printing is extremely ambitious, and the UK and Ireland are at the forefront of this drive. Recent investment in an accessible showroom facility in Rugby, Warwickshire, has been a positive step forward in taking Agfa's inkjet solution closer to our customers and my aim is to build upon our success to date and further expand our local presence." Fitch succeeds Bobby Grauf, who is leaving Agfa to pursue a new career opportunity in Europe.

Agfa's Digital Print & Chemicals division manufactures, distributes and services total system solutions for the Sign & Display and Industrial Inkjet markets. In January 2022 Agfa won three European Digital Press Association awards for the Jeti Tauro H3300 UHS LED in the category "Large and wide-format printing", the InterioJet 3300 in "Industrial Print & Finishing", and for its Alussa genuine leather printing inks in "Industrial inks", respectively. Vincent Wille, Agfa's President of Digital Print & Chemicals said, "We are very proud to have our inkjet printing solutions rewarded once again with this mark of quality and innovation. Our investment in digital printing is substantial, and with Paul on board to lead the UK & Ireland, we will further invest in people and infrastructure to reach our goals."



Paul Fitch, Head of Inkjet, UK and Ireland

www.agfa.co.uk/inkjet



Epson scoops all three BLI Wide Format Pick Awards in its signage category

Three of Epson's latest SureColor large format printers have been awarded Buyers Lab (BLI) 2022 Wide Format Pick Awards. The awards, from Keypoint Intelligence, the world's leading independent provider of testing services and analytical information, acknowledge products that performed the best in their labs over the last 24 months.

The three awards go to:

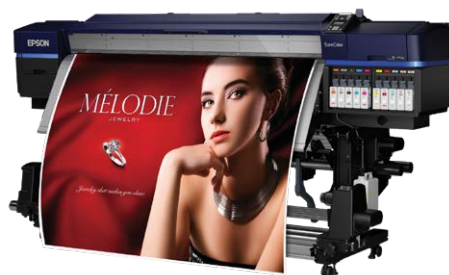
- **Epson SureColor SC-S60600L**
Outstanding High-Production CMYK Eco-Solvent/Latex 54"/64" Printer
- **Epson SureColor SC-S80600L**
Outstanding Gamut Expansion Eco-Solvent/Latex 54"/64" Printer
- **Epson SureColor SC-R5000 Series**
Outstanding Enhanced CMYK Eco-Solvent/Latex 54"/64" Printer

David Sweetnam, Director of Research and Lab Services EU/Asia at Keypoint

Intelligence, said: "Because of the pandemic, these awards cover tested products launched over the last two years, with several vendors submitting for the first time. There was stiff competition, but in the end, Epson won across three of our Wide Format Signage Pick categories. These three devices delivered impressive productivity and have noteworthy usability design coupled with the class-leading output quality that we have come to expect. Epson's new Resin ink devices are targeted at the latex ink market, while the other two winners are equipped with Epson's new Edge RIP and bulk-ink formulation matched up to the same standards of performance that helped their cartridge-based siblings claim BLI Awards in 2018."

Duncan Ferguson, Vice-President for Commercial and Industrial Printers at

Epson Europe, said: "These accolades are testament to the efforts made by Epson to deliver outstanding printers which consistently outperform the competition. We are thrilled to have received this recognition."



Epson's SureColor large format printers win Buyers Lab 2022 Awards from Keypoint Intelligence.

Solent Sewing and Welding endorses Innotech's Envirotech range for weldability

Innotech Digital has announced that Solent Sewing and Welding Solutions, the UK's main distributor for Miller Weldmaster machines, has endorsed Innotech's Envirotech Banner materials for weldability. Solent Sewing is a family business founded in the 1960s. They started representing Miller Weldmaster in the UK in 2004 in order to support sewing customers who also had welding requirements.

Miller Weldmaster welding machines are used extensively by the wide format printing trade. As the main UK distributor, Solent Sewing and Welding has now endorsed three Innotech PVC-Free banner materials for use with these machines. These include Envirotech PVC-Free non-woven banner (125g/m²), Flex banner

(160g/m²) and the Mesh banner without liner (210g/m² FR EN13501).

Mark Bostock, Technical Service and Sales Manager at Solent Sewing and Welding, says: "We carried out extensive testing of the Innotech materials with our Miller Weldmaster Triad series. The trials using this hot wedge welding machine were very successful and we can confidently say that they could also be successfully welded on our T3 & T300 welders."

Kieran Dallow, Marketing Manager for Innotech Digital, says, "We are delighted to see our Envirotech PVC-Free range be endorsed by a company with extensive experience and great respect in the industry. Welding is a critical part of banner



production and it is vital that printed PVC free banners can be welded by market-leading machines as durably as traditional PVC banners. We look forward to building on this relationship over the coming years."

www.innotechdigital.com

Mutoh win EDP award for VerteLith RIP software



Wide format printer manufacturer MUTOH, represented by Mutoh Europe for the EMEA territory, has received a prestigious EDP award for its genuine Mutoh VerteLith™ RIP software in the category "Workflow Technologies". The award was presented to Mutoh by the European Digital Press Association during a video conference.

"We are very proud to receive this prestigious and very valuable technical award for our new VerteLith™ RIP software on behalf of our Japanese development team", says Stephan Heintjens, Mutoh Europe's Product Marketing and Product Application Manager. "The EDP awards represent a strong point of reference for decision makers in the digital print industry. For Mutoh it is a token of recognition and acknowledgement of our ongoing commitment to bring high quality, added value and innovation in our products.

Our VerteLith™ software enables Mutoh printer owners to get the best from their Mutoh printer and allows them to manage the entire print environment better and more efficiently from one central backbone software", Heintjens concludes.

Mutoh's VerteLith™ software is built around the Harlequin host renderer ensuring fast RIP processing times for both PDF and PostScript files, as well as perfect handling of transparencies and spot colours.

The VerteLith™ RIP integrates halftone screening technology specifically developed for inkjet, called "Clear Tone". This Mutoh proprietary technology will allow you to seamlessly produce the best possible gradients and skin tones.

To avoid waste, the software includes powerful preview functionality, supporting soft proofing and on-screen RIP

previewing of the actual printed dots before printing.

VerteLith™ can also auto-generate white and/or varnish layers based on a selection of presets allowing the user to perform the ink-cost calculation prior to printing. Output can be perfectly prepared for the next step in the production process via the finishing toolset, allowing flexible tiling, crop marks and grommets.

For businesses who already invested in a RIP solution, VerteLith™ can be installed in "Pass Through" mode, leaving intact the existing workflow and adding extra functionality.

mutoh.eu/en/technologies/vertelith-genuine-mutoh-rip-software



Award-winning swissQprint products

Nyala – the top performing member of the fourth generation of swissQprint flatbed printers – is a winner at the EDP Awards. Another award went to the neon inks for UV printing launched by swissQprint in 2021.

The EDP Awards jury singled out new developments from swissQprint for honours in two different categories. Their awards pay tribute to the Swiss manufacturer's innovative strength across multiple disciplines.

Nyala 4 flatbed printer

Nyala 4 won an award in the "Best flatbed/hybrid printer < 250 m²/h" category. The jury's reasons: "The fourth-generation Nyala builds on the existing foundation while offering some serious improvements ... The swissQprint Nyala's environmentally friendly values are another reason why it can be considered a benchmark in large format printing."

The key features of the new swissQprint model are its multi-functionality, working efficiency and – first and foremost – premium print quality. The Nyala delivers these benefits thanks to cutting-edge print head technology and the high-

precision droplet placement perfected by swissQprint. Nyala 4 achieves maximum resolution of 1,350 dpi – with an output of up to 206 m²/h.

Neon inks for UV printing

Neon inks for UV printing are exclusively available from swissQprint at present – as the jury noted in its verdict for the "Consumables / UV inks" category: "The first fluorescent UV-curable inks for inkjet digital printing ... as well as introducing glow into advertising technology, they also deliver clear added value."

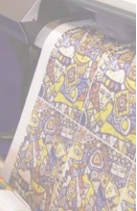
Neon colours make advertising and signage glow: in black light, they even appear fluorescent. swissQprint users can print these eye-catching media in whichever versions they choose: on rigid

substrates in any format, and also on roll materials. Neon Yellow and Neon Pink are available. These two inks make two additional colour variants possible – Neon Green and Neon Orange – along with countless applications.

EDP Awards in two different categories pay tribute to the holistic approach adopted by this Swiss manufacturer. "We aim to offer our customers comprehensive solutions that encompass hardware and inks as well as applications," explains Carmen Eicher, Head of Sales and Marketing at swissQprint.

www.swissqprint.com





CMYUK debuts the EFI VUTEk Pro 30h

CMYUK has taken delivery of the new EFI VUTEk Pro 30h at its demonstration and training centre in Shrewsbury, giving customers the first viewing of this UV LED hybrid printer in the UK.

The Pro 30h rounds out the EFI VUTEk portfolio perfectly, offering wide format 3.2m wide production at a highly competitive price point of £159,995 including delivery, warranty and installation.

This printer is designed to be ultra-productive and leverages proven technological innovations found in EFI's Reggiani textile printers, high-speed h-series and single pass platforms. With ultra-quick set-up times and an infeed take-up system, the Pro 30h handles dual media rolls as well as continuous board printing, delivering 100% productivity by enabling boards to be printed back-to-back without stopping the printer carriage.

Like the EFI Reggiani, it utilises a magnetic linear drive rather than a pulley system ensuring a far quieter carriage, with less vibration to ensure consistent and precise ink dot placement. It also features dual monitors giving screen access for production control working

at both the front and back of the press, increasing efficiency for the operative.

New inks

This printer also comes with XA inks, a new inkset that following the drive for productivity is available in large 5 litre bottle sizes. These new inks can be used for both roll-to-roll and rigid applications as they are flexible and also adhere very well to rigid sheets. They are durable and resistant to finger marks and any confusions bought about by the stacking of rigid materials.

With its latest printing models, EFI has transitioned away from UV mercury ink curing to cold LEDs. This has a number of benefits including low energy consumption, while curing with lower temperatures means the option of printing thinner, lighter, sustainable materials that don't buckle or malfunction due to heat issues. Unlike UV mercury lamps that need to be replaced every year, LEDs have a 5-year lifespan.

"The Pro 30h is a versatile, high production printer that delivers a stunning range of benefits at such a competitive price point. This 3.2m wide hybrid model



It's the first time this 3.2m UV LED hybrid printer has been shown in the UK

really rounds-out the EFI wide format range very nicely. It was designed to be a quality, high speed production dynamo. It's an impressive piece of equipment that combines very successful elements of EFI VUTEk technology packaged in one printer. It's a very impressive proposition and we've already had a number of customers buzzing over its feature set. We anticipate that it will be a very strong contender in the market," said Sue Hayward, CMYUK Sales Director (hardware).

www.cmyuk.com

PFI Group acquires Kesslers and Proportion London

Manchester based PFI Group have made a strong start to 2022, announcing the acquisition of the Kesslers and Proportion London businesses from Kesslers International Ltd.

Kesslers have over 125 years of experience designing, creating and delivering award-winning displays for retailers and brands across the globe, offering customers the full end to end service with global teams working together from design to implementation.

Proportion London is a global visual merchandising services company, designing and manufacturing high-quality, innovative display solutions for leading high-end and high street brands and

museums, combining the latest technology with traditional techniques and have over 150 years of experience producing innovative products.

Kesslers and Proportion London have a prestige client portfolio, delivering retail solutions from store refits and displays to worldwide launch activations for globally recognised brands.

Darren McMurray, PFI Group CEO commented: "PFI Group are delighted to welcome Kesslers and Proportion London and their teams to the PFI family. The Kesslers and Proportion London businesses fit well within the PFI Group's stable of signage, branding and visual communication companies, which further



strengthens and diversifies our uniquely comprehensive client solutions offering and represents another significant milestone in the Group's Buy & Build strategy".

The PFI Group is a powerhouse within the print and visual communication industries, now comprising 15 businesses: PFI Signs, GB Sign Solutions, Sign Plus, Lofthus Signs, In2 Signs & Graphics, Shades Graphics, Mardan Products, Futurama Group, Insignia Signs, Creative Display, SignMaster, Jasmine, Cestrian and Kesslers and Proportion London.

www.pfisolutions.co.uk

Josero joins forces with PrintFactory to add workflow software to their portfolio

Following a fast-paced and successful 2021, wide-format equipment distributor Josero is bringing that momentum into the new year, announcing a partnership with wide-format workflow software provider PrintFactory. The new addition to Josero's product offering signifies the ongoing effort to provide a comprehensive and streamlined service to Josero customers.

PrintFactory is a suite of workflow software that's been made by a team of printers, to solve the everyday challenges faced by wide-format printers. Available for purchase through a world-wide network of distributors and resellers, PrintFactory is a SaaS-based suite of tools that's making a lasting impression with its great ease of use and ability to deliver better colour, consistently, while saving ink, time, media, and money.

Sarah Winterbottom, Managing Director, Josero, comments: "We couldn't be happier to be offering PrintFactory's

world-class workflow software solutions to Josero customers. PrintFactory is all about improving the wide-format printing process and making life easier for printers through smarter, simplified ways of working, resulting in more productivity and more profit. That ethos makes them a perfect fit for Josero, as we're always looking for ways to deliver even more value to our customers and help them get the absolute most out of their print products and services."

Debra Roussouw, Marketing Manager, PrintFactory, adds: "Josero is a fantastic addition to our network of partners. PrintFactory is workflow software created by wide-format printers, for wide-format printers, so our tools are designed with printers' everyday headaches and the leading causes of bottlenecks in mind, and we're delighted to be combining that unique expertise with the technical proficiency of the Josero team to bring fully-optimised wide-format workflows to even more print businesses."



www.josero.com
www.printfactory.cloud

Premier Launch New Loyalty Scheme on Display Products

UK based print media supplier Premier have developed a brand-new loyalty scheme for their customers who purchase display graphic roll media.

Premier Club is the new loyalty scheme that has been developed by Premier, for their display graphic roll media customers. This new incentive is a points-based reward system that allows customers to accrue points based on their roll media purchases.

Customers who sign up to the promotion can view and redeem their points at their own leisure from a secure and easy-to-use web-based platform. Users can see an up-to-date running total of their points as well as the prizes available to them from the latest technology to weekends away and much more.

Brad West, Director of Wide Format Media at Premier comments, "The Premier Club adds another element to the "Premier Service" and offers recognition to our customers for their valued business; this

is a great way to thank our customers for choosing Premier for their display graphic roll media." West continues, "It is so simple too; all the customer has to do is register online to start collecting their points. The website is quick and easy to use with a great choice of rewards to pick from or if the customer prefers, turn those points into charitable donations to an organisation of their choosing."

Premier's portfolio of display graphic roll media has been developed to meet the needs of the sign and display market. The range consists of high quality, reliable brands including Contra Vision, Ritrama, KernowJet, eTEC and Neschen; a wide choice of products for engaging and eye-catching displays. Premier supply products with a "Premier Service", a next day delivery throughout the UK on stock items; delivered by Premier drivers on their own fleet of vehicles.

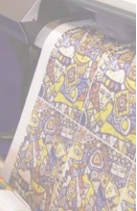
Signing up to the Premier Club is quick and easy to do, if you're an existing Premier customer simply visit



www.mypremierclub.co.uk, enter your details and start collecting those points today.

Premier is part of the OVOL Japan Pulp & Paper Group, comprising of 112 companies, operating in 21 countries. The Group is the world's leading specialist paper trading company which also has interests in other diverse sectors such as ICT systems, real estate and power generation.

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Kavalan PVC-free banner materials awarded Certifire - TS62 certification

CMYUK, the exclusive distributor of PVC-free Kavalan in the UK and Ireland has announced that Kavalan Sunlight Weldable Frontlit Banner and Kavalan Spiderweb 300 Mesh Banner have both successfully passed the stringent Certifire - TS62 certification programme.

These products will now bear the Certifire mark and once printed, can be used on any scaffolded buildings and construction sites, along with the many other promotional and branding applications for which banner and mesh are used.

Certifire is an independent third-party certification scheme that assures performance, quality, reliability and traceability of products and systems. It is recognised by regulatory authorities worldwide as an international mark of fire safety across a diverse range of products.



Fire safe banner and building wrap material manufactured by TAYA

The undisputed global industry standard, it helps to differentiate products and processes from non-certified equivalents and dramatically reduces risk. The scheme is operated by Warringtonfire in accordance with the requirements of BS/EN/ISO 17065 for product certification bodies.

The Certifire - TS62 scheme guarantees that temporary printed protective coverings used on construction sites have the highest level of fire protection and comply with stringent safety performance specifications.

"The Kavalan range is very impressive and renders traditional PVC banner obsolete. Not only now has it been given the ultimate fire certification but it also passed the BS 3424 pt. 4.6 tensile strength test. TAYA, the manufacturer of Kavalan has also put it through the rigorous LCA (Life Cycle Analysis) programme to measure its environmental impact. Kavalan makes the switch from traditional PVC very compelling," said Michael Crook, CMYUK, Business Development Director, who added, "It delivers on strength, performance, safety and the environment. With fire safety for construction now uppermost on the agenda, anyone involved in this activity will need to specify materials that evidentially demonstrate they adhere to robust certifiable standards."

Matthew Dale, Principal Certification Engineer, Warringtonfire, the organisation that carried out the Kavalan certification audit with TAYA said, "Certifire has become the industry standard for fire safety certification, even where there is already a mandatory market requirement such as CE marking. Choosing Certifire means choosing the mark of a reputable third-party certification body, and gives assurance as to the performance of the products, and we are delighted to bestow such a well-deserved accreditation on Kavalan Sunlight Weldable and Kavalan Spiderweb 300."

Vincent Lin, V.P TAYA Canvas said, "Kavalan is upholding its reputation as a trailblazer, setting our products apart by acquiring the respected Warringtonfire Certifire certification, which will become a mandatory requirement for scaffolding and building wrap projects in the future.

"We are always looking for ways to substantiate the quality and sustainability of the Kavalan range from our rigorous Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) assessments, to the development of the industry's first eco calculator for large-format banner materials, and now Certifire - TS62 for Sunlight Weldable Frontlit and Spiderweb 300 Mesh banners, all of this compounds Kavalan's unrivalled value proposition."

www.cmyuk.com

Boris Johnson visits Display Signs

On Tuesday 15th February 2022 the team at Display Signs welcomed Uxbridge and South Ruislip MP and British Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, to their factory in Uxbridge. A number of Display Signs' large exterior signs caught the attention of Mr Johnson during a recent visit to Brunel University and he decided that he must see how and where they are made.

The team at Display Sign put on demonstrations exhibiting both modern and traditional sign making techniques. Senior Sign Writer, Wayne, showcased 40 years of traditional sign writing experience by sign writing onto varnished plywood. Senior Sign Maker, Danny, guided Mr Johnson through the application of large format digitally printed graphics onto

aluminium composite using a cold roller.

Mr Johnson took a tour of Display Signs' state of the art factory where he took particular interest in the Summa F1612, three HP Latex 360 Printers and the Matrix Printer.

Group Chairman, Alan Kelvey, commented: "We were astonished when Mr Johnson expressed an interest in visiting the factory, and perhaps even more so when he actually showed up! We wanted to demonstrate how the industry has developed over the past 40 years that we have been in business. He showed a genuine interest in what we do here. Recent events have hit the sign industry hard, and we hope that this visit signifies a better understanding of sign manufacturing

at the core of government. We are grateful that Mr Johnson and his team took the time to come and see us."

www.displaysigns.net



Boris Johnson seeing a cold roller demonstration during his constituency visit.

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THE IDEAL CANDIDATE WOULD HAVE THE FOLLOWING SKILLS

- General sign making and fabrication of all types of signs.
- Experience on CNC router essential.
- 3D letters on Auto Letter Bender/channel letters
- Sound knowledge of LED and Electrical assembly.
- Use of Large format Printer / Vinyl plotter / Laminator.
- vinyl installation on vehicles / windows etc.
- Full UK Driving licence.

DAILY DUTIES WOULD INCLUDE

- Liaising with other members of the team to keep projects running smoothly.
- Undertaking site visits & surveys.
- Keeping all equipment (tools, vehicles, etc) clean and ready to use.
- Ensuring the working environment is kept clean and tidy.

This is a full time position. Our working hours are 9 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday.

Salary is negotiable depending on experience.

Please send your CV to : info@euro-signs.co.uk

Applicants must be eligible to work in the UK.

Estimator - Cornwall

An opportunity has arisen for an enthusiastic individual to join our team. Parc Signs supplies signage to companies and organisations across the UK including the University of London, the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, the National Trust and Royal Botanical Gardens Kew.

We are looking for an estimator to join our team, this is an office based role working from our production facility in Cornwall.

Responsibilities

- Calculate costs for labour and materials for large and small bespoke projects
- Process quotes in a timely manner
- Negotiating prices with suppliers
- Liaise with the Production and Design Managers
- Speak with clients on the telephone and in person
- Convert enquiries to sales orders
- Using Signflow to estimate and quote jobs
- Updating the database as material prices change and produce relevant reports on a monthly basis
- Ensuring the quote provides quality and value for money to the client, whilst remaining commercially viable for the company
- Problem solving to bring a project in to spec, turnaround and on budget.
- Associated admin work

Requirements

- Must have previous experience ideally in sign making or a similar manufacturing role
- Able to read and understand architect drawings, specifications and related documents
- Have excellent technical knowledge to enable specification of materials/production processes etc to arrive at quotes for clients
- Have a keen interest in design and sign making
- Good computer and numeracy skills
- Confident and articulate in dealing with customers
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Desirable Experience and Knowledge

- Knowledge of business planning and strategy
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Please send a copy of your CV and covering letter to
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This is an office based role based in Welwyn Garden City. Applicants must have a full, clean UK driving licence and live within reasonable distance of the main place of work.

Duties will include:

- Managing day-to-day workflow.
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Wage will be negotiable depending on experience.

Signage All-Rounder Leeds

Signhouse manufacture and install signage and graphics throughout the UK. Based in Leeds, we are currently looking for an all-rounder with a positive attitude who has knowledge and experience in the manufacturing and production of signs & graphics to join our team.

The ideal applicant should have the flexibility to travel at short notice and have a minimum 3 years experience in the sign industry.

From 20k to 30k a year Salary depending on experience

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- * The candidate must have a full Driving licence.
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Please send your full CV to:

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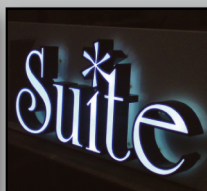
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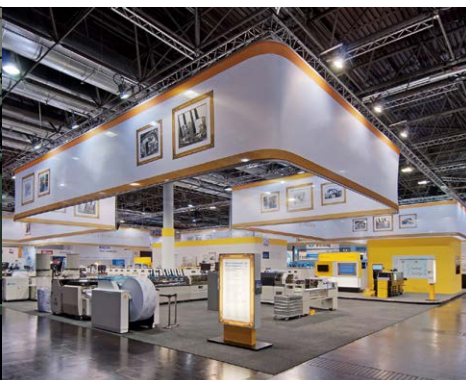
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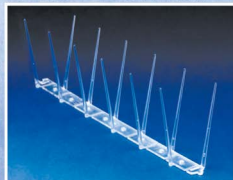
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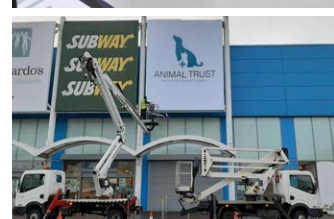
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UK distributor of Polycasa Crylux Cast & Crylon extruded sheet acrylic. Available in a wide range of clear, opals, colours and special finishes. Also stocked: Alucobest aluminium composite sheet, Marlon solid polycarbonate, PET-G, SAN, polystyrene, 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 PSFA class B and Class C to order.

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sales@applelec.co.uk
www.applelec.co.uk
Trusted TRADE suppliers of projecting signs. Manufactured inhouse with branding to one or both sides of the sign face & a variety of illumination & fixings options are available. When combined with our award-winning LED Light Sheet, a double-sided projecting sign can begin at a super slim 60mm. Trough light illumination is also available, so get in touch with our experienced team to find out more.

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.

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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.

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ATA ENGINEERING PROCESSES

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sales@ataeng.com
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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.

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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.

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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.

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Tel: 01322 340 194

mail@desp.co.uk

www.desp.co.uk

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Tel: 01279 467999

sales@firstsignsandlabels.co.uk

www.firstsignsandlabels.co.uk

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

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www.mercuryphillips.co.uk

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

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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

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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.

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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.

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Unit 1 Wortley Moor Lane, Leeds, LS12 4JD

Tel: 0113 279 9745

sales@vision-lighting.co.uk

www.vision-lighting.co.uk

Vision Lighting's Signtrim aluminium sign frame extrusion is ideal for fabricating sign frames for non-illuminated sign panels 5 to 6mm in thickness. Signtrim is widely used on convenience stores to create external displays where window graphics are not possible. Signtrim can be supplied in mill finish or painted to the required RAL colour on a short lead time.

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enquiries@fkmoore.com

www.fkmoore.com

British manufacturers of screw type Brass Sign Locators, Wall Fixing Standoffs 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.

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www.signtradesupplies.co.uk

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ISPI TRADE LTD

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Tel: 0141 764 1600

sales@ispitrade.com

www.ispitrade.com

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

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Tel: 01923 818282

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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 Durley Rd, Aintree L9 9AW

Tel: 07885 486 182

We specialise in sign surveying to the trade, with over 35 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

As confidential signage TRADE only suppliers, Applelec have the vision, experience & craftsmanship to help bring your project to life. Our in-house manufacturing facilities allow us to offer a vast array of signage & LED lighting options as well as respond to your needs without compromising on quality. Whilst our knowledgeable sales & production teams are there to support you all the way.

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31-35 Wortley Road, Croydon CR0 3EB

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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

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contactus@signscape.co.uk

www.sasl.co.uk

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info@smith-signdisplay.co.uk

www.smith-signdisplay.co.uk

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www.apptape.co.uk

Suppliers of various speciality films including Etch glass, Reflective, Fluorescent, Reflexite daybrite, Reflexite prismatic reflective, Hi intensity reflective, Photoluminescent, Cast metallics, 2yr Fluorescent, Gemstone metallics, Multi lens, Transparent colours, Checker plate, Mirror colours, Prismatic colours, Glitter colours, Brushed aluminium silver and gold.

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Tel: 01604 644697

www.mactacgraphics.eu

Mactac is a global manufacturer of many different PVC, PET, PP and PE self-adhesive films. Specialities include etched films, fluorescents, phosphorescents, mirror films, rear projection films, erasable films and textured laminates – all designed to complement and enhance your creative talent.

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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.

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sales@applelec.co.uk

www.applelec.co.uk

Manufactured inhouse for the TRADE signage industry, Applelec can create all styles of trays & fascia signs according to design specification. Available in metal or Dibond, trays can be flat face, curved or a bespoke shape. Back trays can be accessorised in a variety of ways with the addition of built-up, flat cut or vinyl letters & logos as well as LED illumination.

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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.

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Tel: 0113 279 9745

sales@vision-lighting.co.uk

www.vision-lighting.co.uk

Vision Lighting is a leading supplier of LED sign lighting products including Nanolight, a slim, modern trough light, unrivalled in brightness and efficiency. Nanolight is the most waterproof trough light available in the UK, rated IP66. We guarantee quality with high quality components, a 5 year parts warranty and our ISO 9001, UKAS accredited certification for Quality Management.

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FREELANCE GRAPHICS INSTALLER

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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.

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Distributors of Ritrama UK's full range of signmaking vinyls including their complete portfolio of Digital Films. We also have available a full range of signmaking vinyls manufactured in the UK by KPMF. We stock a range of application tapes from R Tape USA and various Digital Media manufactured by LG Hausys. Discounts available on credit card payments.

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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.

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One of the UK's Largest selections of self adhesive vinyl & heat transfer vinyl. Also supplying Graphtec CE7000 plotters, custom printing available on self-adhesive and heat transfer vinyl plus other medias.

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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.

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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.

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Tel: 01622 689 410
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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.

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TRADE suppliers of curved or flat-faced way-finding 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.

ICE SIGNS

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www.icesigns.co.uk
Suppliers of internal and external wayfinding and directory systems to DDA (1995) guidelines if required.

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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.

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sales@visual-group.co.uk
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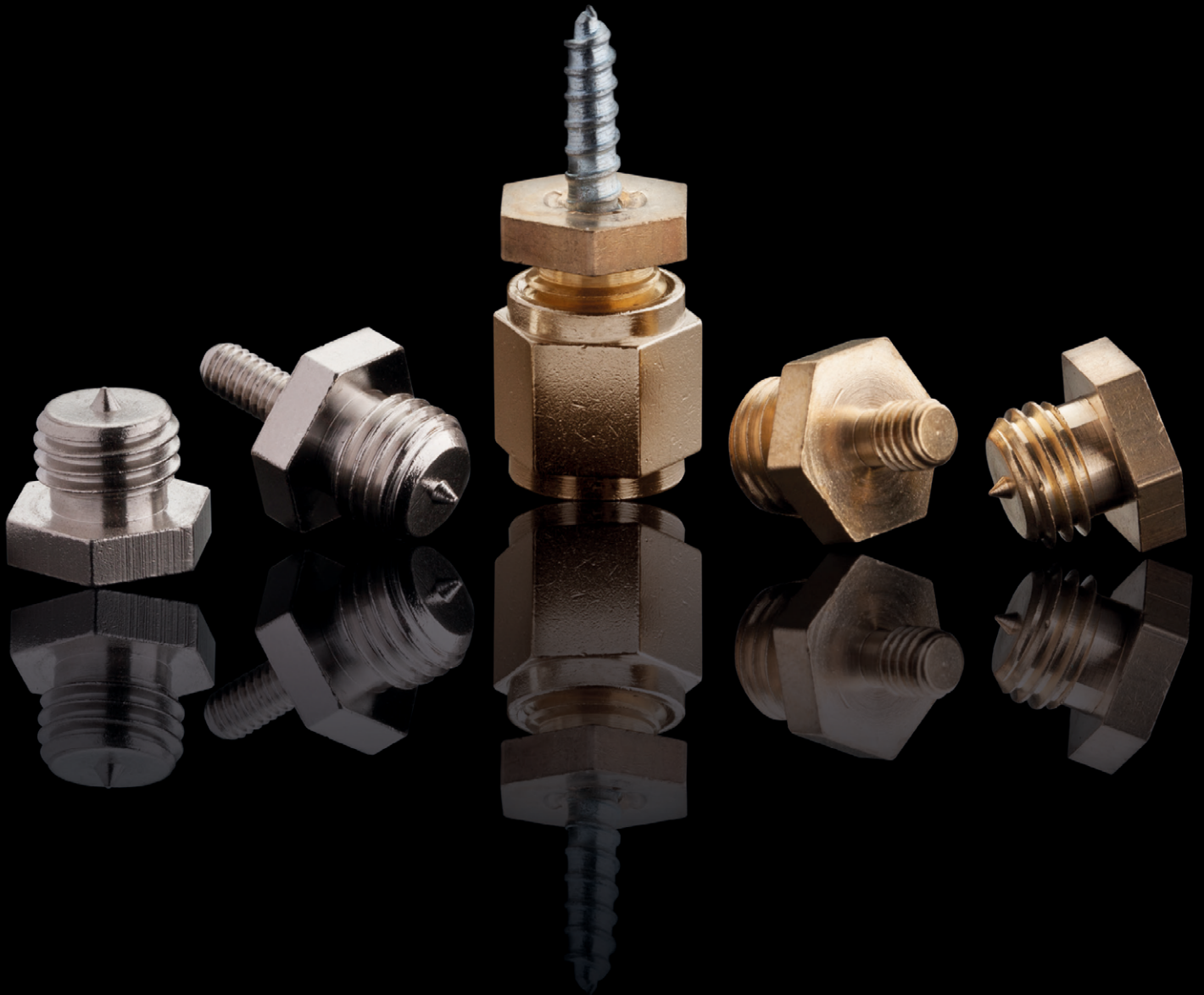
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