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Latest News about [Large Format Printing](#)

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Dear readers,

here you will find something about interesting innovations and news about Large Format Printing.

1) FESPA Digital 2012: Enjoy a cup of coffee at Big Buck\$ Cafe

FESPA urges its visitors to "Explore the wider opportunities" of digital print at FESPA Digital 2012, so even a coffee break will provide an innovative collection of print in a very visual setting. Visitors are invited to take inspiration from print applications in a relaxing atmosphere at Big Buck\$ Cafe. This lively, fully operational 'pop-up' café will be serving hot drinks and snacks so customers can check their emails or surf the net using the free Wi-Fi, enjoy a drink and check out these unusual and extensive surroundings that provide a overview of the power of print. Big Buck\$ Cafe will open visitors' eyes to the full range of applications achievable using wide format digital printing equipment, substrates and consumables. A comprehensive showcase of the range of possibilities using different substrates to create unique environments and integrated marketing campaigns, Big Buck\$ Cafe includes examples of signage, promotional and point-of-sale graphics, interior decor, printed furniture, soft signage, fine art and garment applications. Almost every item inside Big Buck\$ Cafe will be printed: tables, chairs, sofas, cushions, carpet, tiles, wallpaper, curtains and bar counter, together with cups, plates and cutlery. This distinctive area will also be covered with stickers and signage, baristas' apparel will be personalised, and promotional giveaways will also be available. Visitors can start to explore Big Buck\$ Cafe virtually by visiting www.bigbuckscafe.net and visit the café at **FESPA Digital on stand Q90**.



More information: <http://www.bigbuckscafe.net>

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2) Sign & Digital UK celebrates 25 years of serving the industry

The Sign & Digital UK team are proud to reveal their plans for the 25th Anniversary of Sign & Digital UK 2012. Alan Caddick, marketing manager for the show explains: "We want to celebrate a quarter of a century of innovation and creativity within our industry and we want to celebrate it with our visitors. We need your help to put together a 25 year gallery that will show iconic machinery and images that help represent the industry over the past 25 years." There will be a dedicated area on the show floor which will host the 25 year gallery where visitors (and exhibitors) will be able to walk around and see machinery and tools in the flesh as well as photographs and images of the things that have really stood out since 1987.

Sign & Digital UK: 27 to 29 March 2012, hall 3 and 3A, NEC, Birmingham, UK

More information: <http://www.signanddigitaluk.com>

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Sincerely, Yours
Susanne Aschoff

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3) Lynx Europe: New UV printing system

Lynx Europe will have the first public demonstration of its new UV printer designed for the production of rigid materials for indoor- and outdoor advertising materials. This 8 color flatbed with UV curable ink gives signmaker the opportunity to invest in a production machine with the choice of 8 colors, 6 colors + white or 2 x times 4 colors and a resolution up to 1600 dpi. The company will also present its very popular Lynx 320 printer, configured with 4-color bio inks. Lynx Europe offers large format print service providers and screen printers the right technical solution for every type of signage, i.e. billboards, banners, car wrapping and building graphics. Lynx' flagship latest product development prints with Bio-inks. These inks are based on ethyl-lactate and are considered biodegradable. This Green Printer, with a maximum speed of up to 96qm an hour and a maximum print quality of 720x1600 dpi, gives every signmaker the opportunity to print high quality.

FESPA Digital 2012: booth K20

More information: <http://www.lynx europe.eu>

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4) Océ: "connect the dots" at FESPA Digital 2012

Amazing elements connect on the Océ stand at FESPA Digital 2012: everything a print provider needs to grow their business. On the Océ stand, visitors can learn how to 'connect the dots' to new applications. The 'dots' on the Océ stand represent elements of the company's various offerings including UV Flatbeds, Finishing, Roll-to-Roll, Instant Posters, Imaging Supplies, Workflow and Expertise. Visitors can experience these demonstration areas and learn how the elements interconnect to bring innovation and solutions to display graphics and specialty applications. Océ Arizona Series prints are ideal for traditional display applications such as point-of-sale displays, directional signage, backlit images and window graphics. Users can connect an Océ Arizona Series printer to the Océ ProCut system to create structural point-of sale and exhibit displays, decals, contour fabric displays and even custom furniture. The Océ ProCut digital cutting system can reduce production time and costs by automating the finishing steps and streamlining the workflow. The system can also be used to open doors to new business such as structural displays for exhibits and point-of-sale, or packaging prototyping. For outdoor-durable prints, the Océ CS9000 Series of eco-solvent printers combine value with ease-of-use, and deliver exceptional quality with high UV-fade resistance. These printers are ideal for short run print jobs in light production environments where high quality output and outdoor durability are required. For stunning indoor prints, Océ offers the Canon imagePROGRAF line of large format inkjet printers that produces the full spectrum of colors with extraordinary accuracy and perfect balance. This printer series is ideal for photos, posters and proofing applications.

FESPA Digital 2012: Booth F50

More information: <http://www.oce.com>

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5) **EFI: Next-generation 3.2 m dye-sublimation soft signage printer**

EFI announced commercial availability of the EFI VUTEk TX3250r fabric printer, enabling customers to take advantage of the demands and requirements of the growing soft signage markets. The VUTEk TX3250r printer is a new 3.2-metre, production-level solution that evolved from the first EFI industrial inkjet textile system, the VUTEk FabriVu, introduced in 2002. With the ability to print direct to textile and transfer paper, the VUTEk TX3250r is an ideal solution for users looking to grow their soft signage business with a production-level printer. The VUTEk TX3250r uses dye sublimation technology to dye, or sublimate, fabric fibres directly, so the fabric retains the same drape and soft hand customers prefer. This method achieves brighter colors and the final product is odourless. In addition, the TX3250r enables printing on polyester, which is a non-PVC material that is considered more eco-friendly than vinyl. Final printed images produced on the TX3250r can be washed, dried and folded without leaving marks, and reused.

More information: <http://www.efi.com>

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6) **HP: Latest latex printers at FESPA Digital with extended stand**

HP announced its line-up of printers for FESPA Digital 2012, including the first showing at a major international exhibition of the new HP Designjet L28500 and HP Designjet L26500 printers that use HP Latex Inks, and offer a broader range of indoor and outdoor signage. In a comprehensive display that extends beyond the exhibition hall, HP will present a range of its printers for flexible and rigid applications both on its stand and at its GSB Experience Center in nearby San Cugat. Visitors to the stand will find examples of new applications that can enable print service providers (PSPs) to develop new revenue streams and grow their businesses. Adding value to the visitor experience, HP will be demonstrating the full Sign and Display portfolio (including the new HP Scitex FB7600 Industrial Press, the HP Scitex TJ8600 Industrial Press and HP Scitex XP series printers) at its GSB Experience Center – just 25 minutes away. A shuttle service will be in operation throughout the show. Special focus areas on the stand will provide business-building advice and examples of applications that will show PSPs how to expand their services into areas of interior decor and textile printing, as well as their environmental programmes. **FESPA Digital 2012: Booth G05**

More information: <http://www.hp.com>

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7) **SIG/Emaser: Innovative printing functions at FESPA Digital**

Seiko Instruments GmbH (SIG) and his distributor for Spain, Emaser, will demonstrate several innovative printing functions with the new H2-104s in 8 colors configuration. H2 series, newly introduced last November, with new features, includes the Smart Nozzle Mapping which allows the operator, in case of a clogged nozzle, to re-map up to 10 print head nozzles per print head without losing any printing speed and quality. Provided with the Dynamic Dot Printing, the H2-series allows a maximum printing speed without density loss while maintaining fine graininess. The new generation of the Smart Pass Technology 3 improves the print quality and capability to print on wide range of medias. The CP Manager Printer control software comes free with the printers and enables the operator to see the printer's status and to perform print adjustments directly from a PC. All these new improved features are also integrated in the ColorPainter W-64s, with both 6 and 4 colors configuration, and will be demonstrated, one with the Eco-Friendly HAPs-free IX ink low-solvent, low odor, in re-loadable cartridge holder design. The other with GX low-solvent ink for high speed production printing which gives excellent density and outdoor durability. **FESPA Digital 2012: Booth J45**

More information: <http://www.seiko-i.com>

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8) **Kala: New laminators at FESPA Digital**

On FESPA Digital in Barcelona Kala will be showing its latest products including the already successful cold laminator Starter and a new professional hot and cold laminator. Kala has delivered successfully its entry level cold laminator Starter since September 2011. Answers from the market have been very positive with orders and satisfied customers throughout the globe. With Starter, Kala illustrates that a modern production machine can be made in France with European components in full compliance with the latest Health & Safety and Electrical regulations without being produced in the Far East to remain economical. The user-friendly Starter is ideal for any workshop. It can be used immediately and easily by a novice user, helps reducing wastage of printed material due to mishandling. Kala will also present its new hot and cold laminator Atlantic 1650, integrating the company latest technological developments for outperforming and impressive results. This new laminator is designed for the most demanding users with versatile requirements and intensive use.

FESPA Digital 2012: Booth K18

More information: <http://www.kala.fr>

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9) Seal: New functions for Seal laminators

Mounting and laminating specialist Seal will be at FESPA Digital to show off its top-quality image finishing products. The company's exhibit at the trade fair will focus in particular on the new functions of its Seal 62 Base, Seal 62 Pro and Seal 62 S roller laminators. Seal 62 Base is the basic laminator model, and starting now, it is available with the standard feature of a trough for the easier handling of large-size lamination materials. Feed-in is made simpler because all three models (Seal 62 Base, Seal 62 Pro and Seal 62 S) now come with this fold-down extension for easier material handling. An additional hand wheel at the back of the Seal 62 Pro and Seal 62 S roller laminators now makes it possible to adjust the nip height and fine tune the pressure while standing at the back of the laminator inspecting the output. For improved release-liner take-up, the manufacturer now provides auto-grip take-up stations for the Seal 62 Base model to replace the rewind tubes as standard. In Barcelona, Seal will also be displaying the Seal 54 EL roller laminator, intended as a cost-effective means to get started in the lamination business. **FESPA Digital 2012: Booth M80**
More information: <http://www.sealgraphics.com>

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10) Esko: 'design to print to cut' with Esko at FESPA Digital

At FESPA Digital, Esko will showcase its 'design to print to cut' solutions that streamline the entire workflow, including the printing and finishing of sign and display applications. Featured at the show are the Kongsberg i-XP24 and Kongsberg i-XE10 Auto. Combined with i-cut Suite including the newly launched i-cut Automate, these end-to-end solutions deliver most versatile equipment for the digital finishing of signs and displays. With i-cut Automate, users can quickly build dynamic workflows that automate repetitive prepress tasks, reducing operator intervention and errors. i-cut Automate is the latest addition to Esko's successful i-cut Suite, an integrated solution designed to streamline the entire sign and display manufacturing workflow, from design to print to cut. Taking center stage at Esko's FESPA Digital stand is the Kongsberg i-XP24 with sheet feeder, a digital finishing solution specifically designed to deliver unsurpassed productivity and perfect registration. The Kongsberg i-XP24 is equipped with i-cut camera-based registration. It also has multiple quick-change cutting tools that allow manufacturers to easily handle a variety of materials. **FESPA Digital 2012: Booth H05**
More information: <http://www.esko.com>

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11) SETeMa at FESPA Digital's Print Shop Live

Booth S10 is the Print Shop Live, a live and interactive forum which will allow visitors to experience each element of the production process first-hand. At this new FESPA feature visitors can discover a complete digital textile printing workflow solution with SETeMa's in-line fixation unit, the I-Fix, in combination with Mutoh's new direct textile printer. The I-Fix is since its introduction one of the best selling products of SETeMa and proved its performance with all kind of printers and with all kind of inks and fabrics. It is a complete autonomous heat fixation unit for the fixation of disperse direct and disperse transfer/sublimation dyes. Without the need of a mechanical or electrical interface, textile printing and fixation are synchronised to a one step process. When used stand-alone, the fixation unit can manage a print output of almost 200 sqm. Existing printers without an on-board fixation can be upgraded with the I-Fix since it works completely independent from the printer hard- and software. Marketing and sales activities of SETeMa are handled by 2-some.

FESPA Digital 2012: Booth S10

More information: <http://www.2-some.com> and <http://www.setema.com>

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12) ONYX Graphics: Global Product Introductions at FESPA Digital

ONYX Graphics, Inc. is pleased to announce global product introductions and an extensive event program at FESPA Digital 2012 in Barcelona.

Visitors to the ONYX booth will see a brand new ONYX workflow software solution for digital printing environments and new product additions to the ONYX SmartApps product line. Users learn how to increase productivity and to drive smarter workflows in one of their various workshops held by experts and guest speakers at the booth during the entire show. And, their "Meet the Expert"-Area gives visitors opportunity to exchange professional knowledge with real industry experts. As the software partner of FESPA's "Print Shop Live", a fully functional live print shop in booth S10 at the show, ONYX will also showcase its RIP and SmartApps products live in production, register here (<http://www.fespa.com/digital/en/fespa-print-shop-live-tour-registration.html>). In addition, ONYX will also feature a brand new software application in FESPA's "WrapCup Master Series" in booth B65. Last but not least there is their presentation "How to meet Color Management Challenges" in FESPA's "Explore Conference Taster Programme" held Feb. 24th, 2012 at 11:30 am. **FESPA Digital 2012: Booth F12**

More information: <http://www.onyxgfx.com>



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13) Caldera V9: New standards for color and transparency control

Caldera has brought to market a new edition of its pioneering RIP software, Caldera V9, which harnesses the latest version of the Adobe print engine, APPE 2.5, to deliver additional productivity features and refinements. Caldera V9 brings two significant updates to its already advanced Spooler module. Operators can now double-click a job within Spooler to reopen it within the Print window, allowing them to verify parameters or resubmit it with modified settings. LiveSpooler, meanwhile, introduces a new XML exchange protocol which allows for the monitoring of offline devices within the print environment, thereby improving workflow management – especially for owners of Caldera's popular Flow+ package. Users will also discover significant developments in color control and correction in Caldera V9, specifically engineered to save time and improve accuracy. Amongst these is the ability to make last-minute adjustments to contrast, luminosity and color balances within the main Print window, avoiding the need to jump between modules for minor alterations. Implementations of the Caldera RIP with the EasyMedia profiling module will also be able to take advantage of i1Prism V2, now integrated within Caldera V9 to provide excellent smoothness in color rendering and more fine-tune settings, such as contrast and saturation control. A totally new option in V9 is the fruit of Caldera's partnership with color management specialists Alwan, InkPerformer. This module, which requires a special license key, calculates new levels of black ink to reduce the use of other inks while reproducing faithfully the hues intended from the original file.

More information: <http://www.caldera.com>



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14) SAI: New PixelBlaster print production software at FESPA Digital

SAi International (SAi) has announced that it will officially unveil its new PixelBlaster print production software on its stand at FESPA Digital 2012. As the latest offering from SAi's growing line of comprehensive, professional software solutions spanning design to production, the modular and scalable PixelBlaster uses standardized printing to ensure predictable and consistent print quality and color. Eliminating the need for multiple software programs to run production, PixelBlaster has been designed to reduce bottlenecks, streamline workflows and increase profitability. The software offers a complete production solution from file verification, job preparation, color management, RIP to analog or digital, and finally output check and production. PixelBlaster has been specifically introduced to meet the needs of users in super-wide high volume print production environments, as well as the increasingly important specialty printing sector which embraces substrates such as glass and ceramics. Using modular building blocks, PixelBlaster can also be easily tailored and scaled to fit users' needs in mixed Macintosh or Windows environments. During FESPA Digital, SAi's specialist team will showcase all of PixelBlaster's production tools from file verification, RIP to digital and analog, proofing, N-Color support, contour cutting, output check and preview, last minute correction tools, easy tiling, to automated finishing options for grommets, Fotoba marks, hems, pockets or sewn-in webbing.

FESPA Digital 2012: Booth J46

More information: <http://www.saintl.biz>



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15) GMG ColorProof now with client-server architecture

Version 5.3 of the GMG ColorProof / DotProof / FlexoProof proofing solution is available as of now. The chargeable upgrade comes up with a client-server architecture that makes proofing simpler and more convenient than ever. In addition to the GMG WebClient, the new version features numerous innovations for a wide range of applications, including remote proofing and production printing. Via a WebClient, GMG ColorProof users for the first time have the possibility of creating, editing and monitoring proofing jobs from any PC or Mac within the corporate network. Consequently, several users can work with ColorProof at the same time. The configuration of spot-color channels, in particular, is facilitated and accelerated by the WebClient. The impact of spot-color changes can be seen in a visual job preview. Hotfolders can likewise be used from the WebClient. Flexible calibration sets for production printers, such as the Roland LEC and VS series, reduce the calibration effort considerably. Calibration sets can now be grouped according to printer series, similar combinations of printing media, and printing modes. For layered printing, all printing layers for the Roland VersaCAMM VS and VersaUV LEC printer series can for the first time be configured in a single job. This greatly facilitates and accelerates the processing of CMYK, varnish, White and Silver.

More information: <http://www.gmcolor.com>



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16) X-Rite: Free Color Management software updates

X-Rite, Incorporated announces the availability of several free downloadable software updates including ColorMunki Display software, i1Profiler software and i1Profiler D2LionEdition software for i1Display LT and i1Display 2 Color Calibration Devices. The i1Profiler software v1.2 operates with the X-Rite i1Display Pro colorimeter, i1Pro spectrophotometer and i1iSis spectrophotometer. Currently installed i1Profiler software will automatically detects the update if the user has this function turned on. If not, users can download directly from either www.xritephoto.com or www.xrite.com. This new update provides improvements for ColorMunki Display device connectivity, ADC (Automatic Display Control) functionality and color accuracy. i1Profiler D2Lion Edition, a MAC OSX 10.7 Lion compatible software update for registered i1Display LT and i1Display 2 users, is now available. These currently retired devices, which run on i1Match software, now have the benefit of utilizing this limited special edition version of the new X-Rite i1Profiler software. This software update is designed for MAC OSX Lion users to utilize their i1Display LT or i1Display 2 device on the latest Mac OS until they are ready to upgrade to one of X-Rite's newest display products – i1Display Pro and ColorMunki Display. Both new solutions allow users to get the most out of their monitors and projectors, adding unprecedented functionality and fully support Mac OSX 10.7 Lion.

More information: <http://www.xrite.com>, <http://www.xritephoto.com> or <http://www.pantone.com>

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17) SAI: HP Designjet L26500 and L28500 RIP Certification

SA International (SAi) announced that PhotoPRINT, Flexi and FlexiPrint versions 10 have achieved a full star RIP (raster image processor) Certification rating for the HP Designjet L26500 and L28500 printers. PhotoPRINT, Flexi and FlexiPrint were rigorously tested for compatibility with the HP Designjet L26500 and L28500 printers in the HP RIP Certification Program. The SAI RIP software received the highest rating possible in all categories of the HP Designjet RIP Certification Program, including a perfect three-star rating for Premium Workflow and Dual Sided Printing Support. Other criteria included Printing Performance, Use of an Embedded Spectrophotometer, Media Flexibility, Printer Management and Job Management.

More information: <http://www.SAintl.biz>

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18) Color-Logic: Four more languages

Color-Logic announced that instructions and other technical support information for their Process Metallic Color System is now available in French, German, Spanish, and Italian, in addition to the original English. Announcing the new translations now available, Color-Logic Director of Operations and eCommerce Dave Bowden commented: "Our Process Metallic Color System is rapidly being adopted by global brand managers, graphic designers, and their printers around the world, particularly in Europe and Latin America. These new translations will make it easier for those Color-Logic customers and their clients to enjoy the benefits of the most advanced metallic printing system available. Those still considering the Color-Logic process can see us at drupa and in partners' booths at FESPA Digital. "

More information: <http://www.color-logic.com>

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19) Bordeaux: New inkjet technologies and solutions to FESPA Digital

The newest versions of Bordeaux inkjet ink solutions will be highlighted during FESPA Digital including UV and UV LED inks delivering stunning print quality on rigid and flexible media. Among the new innovations is a Chip Encoder device, developed in partnership with InkonDemand.com. Bordeaux will also display its vast portfolio of newly formulated eco-, mild- and low-solvent-inks, free of Cyclohexanone and NMP and harmonious with virtually all wide and super-wide format digital printers, printheads and applications. During the show, Bordeaux will run its popular Mix & Match ink solution and display a solution for Mimaki bulk ink system as well as Bordeaux's bulk ink system for these machines. In addition, following Bordeaux's inauguration of its new production facility in North America, Bordeaux will present its new range of clear coatings and varnishes for post printing applications. FastCure, UV based coating for document finishing and Pro-Teck, water based coating for vehicle graphic and sign and banner applications.

FESPA Digital 2012: Booth E30

More information: <http://www.c-m-y-k.com>

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20) Marabu: Innovations galore

Marabu will kick off the new year at FESPA Digital by showcasing an impressive array of new digital inks and liquid coatings. UltraJet DUV-F is the company's first UV digital ink designed primarily for printing on flexible substrates. That adds to Marabu's portfolio of UV digital inks especially developed for rigid and flexible substrates. Marajet DI-MS is another breakthrough. This solvent-based digital ink is ideal for wide-format printing. In addition, the recently introduced textile ink TexaJet DX-SHE, with its brilliant new fluorescent color tones, is sure to catch visitors' eyes. More highlights include the new Marashield primer and a white liquid coating that serves as a blocking layer. Last but not least, visitors can see Marabu's remarkably effective new anti-graffiti coating in action. **FESPA Digital 2012: Booth G20**

More information: <http://www.marabu-inks.com>

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21) Felix Schoeller launches Premium Poster Paper at FESPA Digital

For the first time the manufacturer of high-quality specialty papers Felix Schoeller will be exhibiting at FESPA Digital in Barcelona. In addition to its wide range of photo imaging papers Felix Schoeller presents its new Premium Poster Paper for latex inks. The new Poster Paper with a grammage of 170 g/qm impresses by its semi-gloss, photo-realistic surface and the high whiteness. The brilliant color reproduction as well as the non-curling behavior promise permanently high-quality prints for premium applications. A variety of indoor applications such as exhibition graphics, POS signage and advertising material will benefit significantly from this new Poster Paper. **FESPA Digital 2012: Booth C71**

More information: <http://www.Felix-Schoeller-Imaging.com>



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22) Neschen: New self-adhesive products for digital printing

The two self-adhesive digital print media "solvoprint easy dot 100" and "solvoprint event fleece CA adh" take centre stage at the Neschen trade fair appearance at the FESPA Digital 2012 in Barcelona. Furthermore, the comprehensive range of display and protection films from the Display Graphic Solutions (DGS) range is also on show, plus top-quality textiles. The award-winning solvoprint easy dot 100 (Viscom Award 2011), which is also nominated for the "Top Produkt Handel" prize sponsored by the Handelsjournal, as well as the solvoprint event fleece CA adh are two easy-to-handle self-adhesive products. The "dot-shaped" adhesive coating enables solvoprint easy dot 100 to be applied quickly and easily, without using a squeegee. There is a new addition to the product range; solvoprint easy dot 100 clear is a transparent film which is ideal for use on glass surfaces. Mirror-inverted printing allows inside-mounted window advertising. Neschen has coated the new self-adhesive solvoprint event fleece CA adh with a semi-permanent (removable) adhesive. The PVC-free wall covering, solvoprint event fleece CA adh, is ideally suited to covering exhibition walls such as the so-called "pre-fitted" trade fair stands and other smooth, non absorbing surfaces. Further highlights are the new display and protection films in the sector of Display Graphic Solutions, DGS. Neschen is presenting its new textiles DYEtex flag 110 B1, DYEtex display 220 B1, the new DYEtex PES banner 240 and VARItex decoframe 250 B1 CA. DYEtex flag, DYEtex display and DYEtex PES banner are pure sublimation media for flags/banners and display systems. **FESPA Digital 2012: Booth M80**

More information: <http://www.neschen.com>



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23) Asphalt Art: Floor films for nearly every surface

The innovative character of the Asphalt Art film is the aluminum core. The aluminum layer of Asphalt Art conforms perfectly to any surface structure. Indeed only with a little pre-cleaning and without any big pretreatment user can apply Asphalt Art even on paving stones in a historic city center, as the aluminum adopts the surface structure of every single stone and the application takes place without heat. The special designed adhesive guaranties the necessary adhesive strength on almost any surface. Further advantage of Asphalt Art is the surface layer. User can directly print on the surface and it does not need to be laminated. A special coating guaranties the bond of the inks, without losing its anti-slip-resistance. As Asphalt Art is fast and easy applied and just as fast and mostly completely residue-free removed, it is a favorable medium for events and especially sport events. At FESPA Digital Asphalt Art will also show their different indoor products as well as a material that can float on water. To the current range of Asphalt Art International AG they will present visitors their latest product "TexWalk". Details about the next product and also about the whole range, visitors receive at their **booth D55 at FESPA Digital 2012**.

More information: <http://www.asphaltart.com>



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24) Regulus: New backlit film for water-based inks

After the successful market launch of the "one step coating" technology for backlit films that are used with solvent and latex inks, Regulus is now pursuing a similar avenue for all water-based ink systems. With the newly developed frontprint backlit "Dialux SI 128" the German coating specialist is offering a polyester film of a colour intensity and representation accuracy that can be classified in the premium segment but is nevertheless suitable for price-sensitive large scale productions thanks to low prices per square metre, the company reports. During product development, Regulus has placed particular emphasis on good processability by printers as well as during cutting and laminating. The "day and night" ability, i.e. the ability to achieve an attractive colour reproduction even with switched off light source, has also been ensured. The microporous, matt coating is moisture-resistant, scratch-resistant and guarantees a fast drying of the ink. Dialux SI 128 can be purchased from European specialist shops in widths of up to 152 cm.

More information: <http://www.regulus.de>

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25) Hexis: Latest editions to the HX20000 and HX30000 cast series

HEXIS will be exhibiting at FESPA Digital to demo the latest additions to the HX20000 and HX30000 high performance cast series. The main feature at the show will be new multi-layered HX30000 cast vinyls with exciting surface finishes such as chrome, carbon, leather, alligator and super-matt, all available in different colors. The HX20000 Coloured Cast Series has new additions with the Metal Night Blue, Coffee Brown, Marrakech Brown, Raspberry Pink and Pink Candy. Also on display will be the HXL300WG2 Latex digital printing film. It is completely free of PVC and plasticisers and can be printed with Mutoh Bio inks and HP Latex ink and with all types of solvent and eco-solvent inks. The vehicle wrap demos carried out by HEXIS expert installers will be on daily throughout the show.

FESPA Digital 2012: Booth H20

More information: <http://www.hexis-graphics.com>

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26) Heytex: Extremely satisfied with acceptance

The HEYblue product concept of PVC-free textiles for indoor and outdoor use, presented for the first time at FESPA 2011, has convinced customers and users all over the world. Mainly in Europe, environmental compatibility and performance of the materials met with a thoroughly positive response. As a consequence, Heytex will continue to enhance the HEYblue range in 2012. The Heytex HEYblue product range is divided into the HEYblue digiline range made of PE and PP and the HEYblue digitex range comprising 15 different polyester-based products. After their initial presentation at FESPA 2011, these fabrics were successively introduced in the markets. Many of the completely PVC-free products can be used outdoors for as long as six months. The best-seller of 2011 was the innovative digitex SAT, one of the first self-adhesive textiles for indoor applications on surfaces, walls etc. The finely structured, matt digitex SAT can be printed using solvent, eco solvent, latex and UV inks. It is 137 cm wide and weighs only about 140 g/square metres. At FESPA 2012, as one of the first HEYblue highlights in 2012, Heytex will present digitex heylux Backlit – an extremely appealing, highly translucent backlit textile for indoor use, available for the first time on 5 metre rolls.

FESPA Digital 2012: Booth J20

More information: <http://www.heytex.com>

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27) Mehler: Frontlit range expanded

In order to meet the growing demand for cost-efficient production of large-format prints, Mehler Texnologies has expanded its Frontlit range: both with new substrates and new roll widths. VALMEX print Frontlit II easy and VALMEX print Frontlit II premium provide the advertising industry with two new grades of material in roll widths of up to five metres. Weighing just 420 g/qm, Frontlit II easy is particularly suitable for advertising jobs seeking to achieve very good print quality on a low budget, the company reports. Meanwhile, for promotions of long duration and with brilliant print reproduction Mehler Texnologies has developed Frontlit II premium. Its weight of 550 g/qm guarantees robust assembly and durability even under extreme conditions. Both new products are available in FR and non-FR. A product that has already proved itself very well in the marketplace is AIRTEX magic FR duo. The grey coating on the back reduces the material's translucence considerably. This gives the printed image greater contrast and richer colours, while also significantly broadening the possible uses, including, for instance, as wallpaper.

FESPA Digital 2012: Booth M05

More information: <http://www.mehler-texnologies.com>

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28) Printing Carpets: New media

Printing Carpets is proud to announce their latest new media floor graphic on roll and sheets. The brand printing carpets has developed 3 new type material called floor Vinyl de luxe and 2 new digital floor vinyl with and without structure type I and II which can be used on the latest roll and flatbed UV machines. It can be used for stores, stages floors, expos and fashion catwalks, outdoor events and on floors etc. The special surface is perfectly printable by UV. After printing the vinyl with UV user can't walk or scratch the ink off and don't need no over lamination. Printing Carpets has also set in a high tech new solvent and dye sub carpet which can be dyed very good. This can be printed direct and with paper.

More information: <http://www.printingcarpets.com>

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29) Drytac: Laminates with an eco-friendly water-based adhesive

Drytac's Interlam Bio laminates consists of a certified biodegradable laminating film (DIN EN 13432:2000-12) with an aqueous (water-based) adhesive. Both BioGloss and BioMatt are derived from wood pulp, a sustainable and biodegradable resource. Interlam BioGloss and BioMatt break down easily in the recycling process allowing for more eco-friendly disposal and recycling options for laminated graphics. Ideal for applications where a fully biodegradable laminate is needed, such as when laminating compostable print media and mount boards, point of purchase displays and other indoor signage applications. Finishes include: Interlam BioGloss 3mil, this film has an attractive gloss finish. Ideal for point of purchase displays and other indoor signage applications and Interlam BioMatt 3mil, this film has a nice "dead" matte non-reflective finish. Ideal for all graphics where direct lighting cannot be controlled.

More information: <http://www.drytac.com>

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30) 3A Composites: SMART-X in 2m width

At FESPA Digital 3A Composites GmbH will present the newly launched SMART-X in its 2m width for the first time. The only all-plastic sheet material with a core of expanded polystyrene and surfaces of impact-resistant solid polystyrene (HIPS) thus not only convinces by its extremely lightweight and the disproportionally high rigidity and flatness, but also by its availability in the maxi format of 2m width. The substrate is ideal for all types of signage, especially large-format signs or long and narrow signs. SMART-X is also an optimal medium for self-supporting, free-standing structures such as POS/POP applications. Due to its excellent resistance to weathering – with high UV stability and humidity resistance, it is an excellent substrate for external applications for a period of up to two years, a factor of crucial importance in the field of event marketing. Additionally, SMART-X is a mono-material composite panel made from 100 % polystyrene and, therefore, perfectly meets the demand for ecological materials in the area of visual communication. Thanks to the new production line, also the surface structure of SMART-X® has been enhanced. To create optimal printing results, the product now also comes with a protective film on one side.

FESPA Digital 2012: Booth G36

More information: <http://www.display.3AComposites.com>

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31) drupa 2012: online ticket shop with eTickets

The tickets for drupa 2012 (03 to 16 May 2012) are available online at www.drupa.com as of 25 January. For the first time, the tickets are offered as eTickets, this means double the benefits for the visitor: Saving time and money. Visitors can purchase their ticket online, print it out on their own printer and travel to the trade fair by bus and train free of charge. Furthermore, the eTicket is clearly less expensive than the ticket purchased on location. The opening hours of drupa are from 10.00 am to 6.00 pm daily (at weekends until 5.00 pm). All drupa tickets include free round trip transportation with busses, subway and trains to the trade fair on the Regional Transport Networks Rhine-Ruhr (VRR) and Rhine-Sieg (VRS) (2nd class, supplement-free trains only). More information about the rail network at www.vrr.de and www.vrs-info.de. In addition there is an attractive offer, which Messe Düsseldorf, in collaboration with the Deutsche Bahn (German Railway) and Düsseldorf Marketing & Tourismus (DMT), has agreed upon. Trade fair visitors can travel from all German cities to Düsseldorf and back at a reasonable price.

More information: <http://www.drupa.com>

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32) EcoPrint Europe Live 2012: HP as Headline Partner

EcoPrint Europe Live 2012, which takes place in Berlin from 26-27 September, is pleased to officially announce HP as its headline partner for the event, signalling the market leader's strong support for sustainability in print. EcoPrint will provide a focused attendance of professionals with guidance, support and inspiration for sustainability. At this early stage, nearly a full year from the event, EcoPrint has already received

excellent support from potential exhibitors and visitors from around the world, suggesting that the industry is ready to embrace both the show and its vision of a profitable, sustainable future. Frazer Chesterman, Director, EcoPrint continues: "Despite a busy event calendar next year, it's good to have HP's confidence in this new concept as a showcase for their commitment to the big issue of sustainability in print. With their encouragement and involvement, the event will, I am sure, deliver significant value for participants, visitors and delegates."

More information: <http://www.ecoprintshow.com>

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33) EFI expands inkjet focus to ceramic tile printing

EFI (Nasdaq: EFII), a world leader in customer-focused digital printing innovation, announced it has acquired privately-held Cretaprint S.L. based in Castellón, Spain, a leading developer of inkjet printers for ceramic tile printing. The Specialty Graphic Imaging Association (SGIA) conducts annual membership surveys. Their 2011 Industrial Printing Survey Report indicates that over 75 percent of its members utilise digital printing and also consider ceramic tile printing to be a strong market opportunity. EFI will use its extensive knowledge of inkjet technology to enhance Cretaprint's quality of output, software control, colour management and more. EFI's digital experience and award winning imaging technology in combination with Cretaprint's leading ceramic tile printing will provide the industry with expanded offerings, superior workflow software and a worldwide support network that will expand Cretaprint's reach worldwide. EFI plans to strengthen Cretaprint's operations in Spain, to further their expertise and innovation within the tile industry and to grow their market presence. "As a pioneer in the digitisation of the print industry, EFI is expanding into lucrative new markets. The ceramic tile industry can greatly benefit from our innovative portfolio of technologies," said Ghilad Dziesietnik, Chief Technology Officer of EFI. "We look forward to sharing our success with Cretaprint's 1,700-plus global customer network and expanding their talented employee base in Castellón."

More information: <http://www.efi.com>

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34) CREST Dutch Machinery appoints new Sales Director

CREST Dutch Machinery, manufacturer of high end laminating and cutting equipment for production environments in the graphic Industry, is proud to announce and welcome Jos van Eunen as its new Sales Director. Jos brings with him over 20 years of international Sales and Product marketing experience in the graphic industry. He comes to CREST from ILFORD Imaging where he successfully served as worldwide Business Development and Product Marketing manager. In the past Jos worked for SEAL and Sallmetall. A technical back ground and a wealth of OEM and End User sales experience will allow Jos to build on CREST's success. Jos Reimert, CREST's Managing Director says, "We are pleased to have Jos on board, his customer driven approach to sales and Graphic Industry background fits our future strategy and will drive our growth".



More information: <http://www.crest.nl>

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