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Friday, 27. March 2009

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Dear readers,

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

1) **Sign & Digital UK 2009: Something for everyone**

Sign & Digital UK 2009 will involve many leading suppliers from the world of visual communications, including Hewlett-Packard, Roland DG, Robert Horne Group, Hybrid Services, Hexis, Spandex, William Smith, AXYZ, Fujifilm Sericol, and many more. Exhibitors will be offering everything from advice through to product information and demos, across a diverse product background that includes vehicle wrapping, digital signage, textile printing, engraving, large and small format digital printing, ink technology, color management and much more. At Sign & Digital UK 2009 there will be a wealth of seminars and expert-led workshops where attendees can watch professionals demonstrating the latest technologies and solutions – a fantastic way to find out how to get more value from the equipment. The Sign & Digital UK theatre, which will involve some leading experts and organizations from within the industry, takes place across all three days. Returning to Sign & Digital UK 2009 after yet another packed out show in 2008 is the Adobe Theatre.

Sign & Digital UK: 28 to 30 April 2009, Halls 6-8, NEC, Birmingham

More information: www.signanddigitaluk.com or email: signanddigitaluk@fav-house.com

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2) **FESPA Digital 2009 will be hub for Wide Format Learning**

FESPA Digital 2009 will provide visitors with an unprecedented program of knowledge-sharing initiatives to inspire and help printers reach their business goals in challenging economic conditions. FESPA has focused on maximizing the learning opportunities that visitors can access at FESPA Digital 2009. FESPA's popular Digital Innovations Showcase Theatre program spans the three-day exhibition, comprising 18 free-of-charge sessions hosted by world-leading authorities from print and associated industries. For the first time at FESPA Digital 2009, FESPA's own stand (Stand E90, Hall 5) will provide an additional stage for industry learning, with interactive lunchtime debates and interviews with key digital print figures and 'revolutionaries'. Issues and challenges currently faced by printers in the wide format arena will be discussed on the stand and visitors will have the chance to engage in debate with industry leaders on these topics.

FESPA Digital 2009: 12 to 14 May, RAI Exhibition Centre, Amsterdam

More information: www.fespadigital.com

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Sincerely Yours
Susanne Aschoff

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3) Seiko I Infotech: New value performance 64-inch printer

Seiko I Infotech Inc. (SIIT) announced that it will add a new 64-inch mild-solvent inkjet printer to its ColorPainter Series, the "ColorPainter V-64s" for the mid-volume digital printing industry. The "ColorPainter V-64s" produces true 720 x 720 dpi printing resolution with CMYK and LcLm colors. The newly developed print head allows the printer to achieve the printing speed of 16sqm/h. Its capability of jetting higher pigment loading makes higher density and richer color printing image. The new "EG-Outdoor EX" mild solvent ink set has very low-odor which offers better working and display environment while providing extensive media versatility, exceptional color, dry times glossiness and overall outdoor lightfastness. Featuring the "Smart Pass Technology" enhances the beauty of the EG-Outdoor EX ink by eliminating or reducing pass-to-pass banding. A free blower unit comes with the printer and supports media take-up at maximum productivity. The ColorPainter V-64s will be sold through SIIT channel partners worldwide and will be scheduled to start shipping in June 2009.



More information: www.seiko-i.com

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4) EFI's VUTEK GS3200 and GS5000r – New line of UV printers

EFI introduced two new members of its VUTEK family of superwide format UV printers, a 3.2-meter hybrid VUTEK GS3200 with eye-popping image quality and incredible speeds up to 222.9 sqm/h, and a 5-meter roll-to-roll VUTEK GS5000r, uniquely combining enhanced Point of Purchase (POP) quality capability with stunning billboard production speeds up to 288 sqm/h. The GS3200 delivers category-defining, photorealistic quality and expands the reach of superwide printing into new industries and applications. VUTEK's Dual-Resolution Capability enables true 600 dpi and true 1000 dpi output with selectable 24pl or 12pl drop sizes. The GS3200 is ideal for beautiful fine art replication, detailed photography, and stunning high-definition POP displays, as well as traditional 3.2 meter banner and signage applications. The GS5000r is a game-changing 5-meter printer with VUTEK Dual-Resolution Capability enabling true 600 dpi and true 1000 dpi output with selectable 24pl or 12pl drop sizes. With 1000 dpi, 8-color printing, the GS5000r produces phenomenal backlit and display graphics with amazing image detail and crisp four-point text in addition to applications such as billboards and building wraps that you would expect from a 5-meter printer. EFI's VUTEK GS3200 and GS5000r are available for order now and will be shipping in the second quarter.

More information: www.efi.com/vutek

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5) Gandinnovations celebrates 2,000th Jeti printer at ISA, Las Vegas

Gandinnovations will celebrate its 2,000th printer at ISA, April 16-18 in Las Vegas, NV in booth # 3548. The company has decided to share the experience with everyone, showing off the Jeti 3150 X-2, which happens to be the most successful model in the company's five year history. "This is really a monumental occasion," says James Gandy, President of Technology and Engineering for Gandinnovations. "I was there when the first printer came off the line five years ago and I'll be there to see the 2,000th printer roll off the line in early April. We work extremely hard to ensure that every printer we produce is of exceptional quality." Along with the Jeti 3150 X-2, the company will also exhibit its three newest models at the ISA Show. The Aquajet, as well as the eco-friendly Jeti 3348 UV RTR Jetspeed and the Jeti 1224 Nanojet will be printing nonstop for visitors.

More information: www.gandinnovations.com

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6) GCC: Pre-coat and Top-coat Solution for StellarJET printers

GCC is pleased to announce that the GCC StellarJET UV-curable inkjet printers are now available with optional Pre-coat and Top-coat solutions. The market demand for special media application is growing; however, users generally lack the knowledge of practical and technical techniques. In addition to optional White and Varnish solution, GCC has also developed their own optional Pre-coat & Top-coat solutions to assist customers in achieving not only exceptional output image, but also surpassing anti-scratch performance. With GCC's formula, the total solution includes PP Primer, Acrylic Primer, Metal Primer, Ceramic Primer, Ceramic Top Coat, Glass Primer, Glass Top-coat, Laminate Primer, OPP Film Primer, and Airbrush cleaning solution, developed under critical experiments of high-low temperature cycle test, scratch hardness test, surface abrasion test and boiling test. It is available for a variety of media such as PP, Acrylic, Metal, Ceramic, Glass, Laminate, OPP Film and many more.

More information: www.gccworld.com

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7) Mutoh releases "i² GPS System" for Mutoh piezo printers

Belgium-based wide-format inkjet printer and vinyl cutting plotter manufacturer Mutoh Europe announces availability of a "Guided Printer Setup system" (GPS) for all Mutoh piezo printers incorporating Mutoh Intelligent Interweaving (i²) technology. These guided printer setup sheets will enable Mutoh printer operators to produce the best quality for a specific purpose and image, based on three simple criteria. In defining its Guided Printer Setups per printer type, Mutoh takes into account the purpose for which a print is intended, based on three criteria, i.e. the viewing distance, the image type and the image content. Four categories of viewing distances are defined: less than 1 meter, more than 1 meter, more than 3 meters and more than 5 meters. The image type represents the answer to the question: is it a sign requiring maximum print quality or a less demanding picture image which can be printed faster. Image content relates to the image definition, i.e. less detail or a lot of details.

More information: www.mutoh.eu/interweaving and www.mutoh.eu

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8) Gerber Scientific Products at FESPA Digital

Gerber Scientific Products, a leader in sign-making and specialty graphics systems



headquartered in South Windsor, CT, USA, is proud to announce the environmentally-friendly aspects of the Gerber Solara ion, their latest wide-format, flatbed, UV inkjet printer. The Gerber Solara ion's specially-designed Cold Fire Cure technology uses low temperature to cure its unique GerberCAT cationic inks; enabling the Solara ion to print on heat-sensitive materials like biodegradable and recycled sign board. Because the Cold Fire Cure technology cures the ink at nearly room temperature, so it uses less energy during printing. One of the most important contributions the Gerber Solara ion makes to the planet is that it releases no volatile organic compounds (VOC's) into the air and it is emission-free. The environmentally-friendly technology of the Gerber Solara ion is but one of its many strengths. All this coupled with Gerber's high-quality, time-proven routers and digital finishing systems, such as the M Series, provide complete graphic printing solutions for the sign-making and specialty graphics industry.

FESPA Digital: booth B30

More information: www.gspinc.com

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9) **Epson: Decorative art made on show at FESPA Digital**

Epson will be showcasing its Micro Piezo digital inkjet printing technology which has been developed to deliver high-quality, durable prints for the signage, decorative art and interior design markets. On the booth will be five strategic industry partners who will demonstrate Epson's innovative technology in digital inkjet printing across a wide range of vertical market applications. Blanc Canvas, Caldera, ColorGATE, EFI and Ergosoft, will be producing traditional signage through to specialist display products such as wallpaper, lenticular POS and printed textiles. One of the main products on the Epson stand, demonstrating a number of different applications, will be the Epson Stylus Pro GS6000, a 64" wide format printer which uses Epson UltraChrome GS Ink, a new eco-solvent type ink. Integral to the quality and durability of print output is the new Epson UltraChrome GS Ink, an 8-colour eco-solvent type ink set (C,M,Y,K,LC,LM+ O,G) available in efficient 950 ml cartridges. Epson UltraChrome GS Ink doesn't spread harmful VOCs (volatile organic compound).

FESPA Digital: Hall 4, booth G 30

More information: www.epson.com

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10) **Zund cutter advances productivity to the next level**

Zund's semi-automated production workflow gives customers a way of boosting production. In a standard handfed production workflow, the time it takes for the operator to react to the machine having finished cutting, unload cut pieces and waste, and reload the next sheet/board can amount to significant interruptions in the cutting process. Semi-automated production workflow gives the operator unencumbered access to the loading area, facilitates removal of cut pieces, increases the window of time available for unloading/reloading, and consequently makes the machine producing non-stop. This setup not only frees up the operator, it also helps keep the cutter producing continuously. Semi-automated loading is suitable for most rigid sheeted materials (printed or blank) and can be supplied for all new G3-series machines.

ISA, Las Vegas, 16.-18.04.2009 (Booth 5543) and FESPA Digital: Hall 1, booth C 28

More information: www.zund.com

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11) **Drytac: UV XL80 wide format roller coater**

Drytac Europe Ltd, one of the world's most highly regarded manufacturers of products for graphics finishing and display, will be exhibiting and demonstrating a wide range of mounting and laminating consumables and machinery at this year's Sign & Digital UK. Drytac's revolutionary addition to their new generation of liquid laminators is the ultimate wide-format UV roller coater XL80. This is an exciting new introduction to the already successful liquid range, and is expected to transform the future of wide format laminating and all its possibilities. Whether its posters or POS, flexible or rigid substrates, the UV XL offers both a high speed and economical finishing solution for all graphic needs. With no VOC's, InstaCure UV-curable coatings are less harmful to the environment. **Sign & Digital UK: Hall 7, booth C 28**

More information: www.drytac.com

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12) **ONYX Graphics launches ONYX PrepEdge Pro Software**

ONYX Graphics, Inc. announced the availability of ONYX PrepEdge Pro software in the EMEA region and in Asia. ONYX PrepEdge is a professional job preparation tool designed specifically for large format workflows that reduces job preparation time and media waste, and



increases throughput and productivity for large format print service providers in the prepress stage of their printing workflow. ONYX PrepEdge Pro software addresses all job preparation issues prior to print processing. It includes features specific to large format job preparation such as one-click grommet placement; size, crop and positioning tools; bleed and fold tools; complex tiling and template tools; fast contour cut path generation; and a raster image to vector tool. With ONYX PrepEdge Pro software, prepress operators can quickly and easily edit any image, text or graphic element of a PDF file. Shapes, lines and gradients can be manipulated, and text or fonts can be changed. Users can import files and save the output as a PDF. Job templates, including tiling and placeholder setups, can be saved. ONYX PrepEdge Pro software works with all large format software RIPs. It runs on Mac OS® X 10.4 or higher, Windows XP or Windows Vista® platforms. ONYX PrepEdge Pro software is available now from selected ONYX Authorized Resellers. To view an online demonstration of ONYX PrepEdge Pro or to locate a reseller, visit www.onyxprepedge.com.

FESPA Digital: booth D 90

More information: www.onyxprepedge.com

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13) EFI: New versions of Colorproof XF and Fiery XF

EFI announced the release of version 4.0 of its EFI Colorproof XF for software color proofing and Fiery XF for production printing. Patent-pending Dynamic Wedge, Intelligent Calibration, and enhanced spot-color simulation provide a measurable advantage for achieving color accuracy for every job and device, even in remote locations. EFI's new software increases productivity and saves costs by eliminating redundant production steps. "Printing today requires full control of the entire color supply chain with maximum productivity," said Frank Hueske, EFI product marketing manager. "EFI's new Colorproof XF 4.0 and Fiery XF 4.0 allows users to manage color in a new dimension with efficient and fast production tools to achieve standardized, accurate color effortlessly."

More information: www.efi.com

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14) Caldera adds multiple languages to CostView 2.0

CostView 2.0, Caldera's PRICE and QUOTE management tool is now available in English, Français, German, Espanol and Italiano. Fully integrated within the RIP, Caldera's COSTVIEW option enables production calculation and the set-up of a pricing policy, from printing to finishing, including transport costs, logistics and overhead costs. With Costview a print professional can calculate printing costs, including finishing, shipping and other overhead costs and estimate a sales price. Its webdriven interface can be accessed by any user in the company network using a simple web browser. The added value at the end of the day is being able to quote and monitor in order to improve business profitability.

More information: www.caldera.eu

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15) Bordeaux: The Mix & Match system

Mix & Match features were developed by Bordeaux's R&D team for the purpose of making the process of Ink Changeover from original inks to Bordeaux inks, as easy as possible. Bordeaux scientists have been able to make this transition so natural, that one can replace one color at a time – without any need to waste a whole set of cartridges when switching over. With Mix & Match technology, full compatibility with the original product is achieved, the company says. Users enjoy a host of Mix & Match features: Original color matched so no Customer Profiles are required. There is no need for flushing or printer parts replacement. Bordeaux's Mix & Match product line is interchangeable with original inks at the individual cartridge level so no money lost when converting; the printer can use up all of the original ink in stock. The Mix & Match solutions currently cover printers such as the Roland Soljet Pro and VersaCAMM, Mutoh Falcon Outdoor and Rockhopper as well as Agfa Grandsherpa. Bordeaux also extends the Mix & Match offering to Mimaki's JV3, JV33 and JV5 printers, fully compatible with Mimaki SS2, SS21 and HS original inks. Another Mix & Match ink was introduced recently for the HP Expedio and Tempo UV Curable printers.



More information: www.c-m-y-k.com

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16) Marabu extends its product line-up

Marabu will be presenting its complete product range at FESPA Digital solvent-based and UV-curing inkjet inks for graphical and industrial applications. For the first time a range of liquid lamination coatings, both water based and UV curing coatings will be shown. In wide format, the light solvent ink series Marajet DI-LS for the well established Roland Cammjet/Soljet models and Marajet DI-CP for Seiko/HP are in focus. Both offering an excellent product performance and come with a fully compatible / matching bulk system. In super wide format, Marajet DI-V covers an extensive range of suitable equipment such as Vutek, Gandinnovations, DGI Megajet and Keundo printers. For UV applications, both in graphic and industrial segments, Marabu offers a solution onto rigid substrates with very good adhesion and a new hybrid solution, the best possible combination of adhesion and flexibility. Both UV inkjet platforms achieve excellent results in a number of different printheads.

FESPA Digital: Hall 5, booth G 110

More information: www.marabu-inks.com

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17) Sihl at FESPA 2009 – Polypropylene films on the advance

At FESPA Digital 2009, Sihl presents no less than four new polypropylene films to supplement its highly successful range of PP products for inkjet printing. Thanks to its physical, ecological and economical advantages, polypropylene is an ideal carrier material for tear-resistant inkjet media, optimally satisfying the current needs of the market. The multi-layer coated bright white TriSolv Prime Art Paper blueback SA 210 is suitable for printing with solvent-based and UV-hardening inks and has a permanent adhesive on the back. The media is available now. For some time now, Sihl has been offering the high-quality SyntiSol-product group for solvent-based inks for various indoor and outdoor applications. SyntiTec is now the new catchy name for the group of PP films for water-based inks – each group is supplemented with two more products. **FESPA Digital: Hall 4, booth G 60**

More information: www.sihl.com



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18) Regulus: New PVC-free self-adhesive film for solvent printers

At Regulus, modern environmental management is a key element of corporate strategy. As early as during product development, environmentally friendly raw materials and manufacturing processes command a high priority. Thus, many aspects of environmental protection were taken into account when new self-adhesive inkjet film SIPO was developed and manufacturing was planned. Polypropylene is the basic material – a plastic that generates a minimum of pollutants while decomposing and whose impact on the ground water is neutral. Its glossy soljet coating contains no PVC and the glue used, dispersion acrylate, no solvents. Signolit SIPO is a self-adhesive, white glossy film. Any conventional eco-solvent, mild-solvent, real-solvent and UV-hardening inks can be used for printing. After a sufficient drying period the film can be glued on wet and thus bubble-free both indoors and outdoors on any level and smooth surfaces. Its glossy Power Sol coating is scratchproof and water-resistant. Unlaminated, SIPO's durability outdoors is up to 12 months, as tested according to the DIN ISO 4892-3 standard.

More information: www.regulus.de

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19) ASLAN expands range of printing and laminating films

ASLAN has updated its range of digital printing films and laminating films to offer added benefits for digital print applications combined with the quality that has become synonymous with the ASLAN brand. The wider assortment benefits customers in three ways. All standard digital printing films and laminating films are now available in widths of up to 1.60 m, some of them have had their prices cut and there are innovative products for special applications to complete the well-rounded range of digital printing films and laminates. ASLAN's brand new speciality films make out-of-the-ordinary applications possible. One example is the ASLAN DFP 45 facade film, which, with a digital print, creates additional advertising space on any building wall or facade. The ultra-removable digital printing films, which can be repositioned repeatedly, are another original idea. They're a really quick and flexible way to change the look of interior walls, making them a perfect tool for short-term sales promotions. These films come in white, glossy or transparent. ASLAN has three special products for glass applications. The ASLAN DFP 25 double-sided white blockout film is ideal for use on glass panels and doors. Its high opacity ensures that digital prints don't shine through. The film has a special white reverse, enabling different designs to be displayed on the two sides, thus "doubling" the advertising space available on the glass. One way vision film and etched look glass decoration films round off the range.

More information: www.ASLAN-schwarz.com

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20) Fujifilm Sericol showcases 'euromedia' at Sign & Digital UK

euromedia – Fujifilm's dedicated offer for Large Format Printing was successfully launched in the UK late last year. At the heart of the euromedia offer is an extensive range of hundreds of media products for all water-based, solvent-based and laminating applications, all proven products, excellent value for money, trouble-free and with downloadable profiles. Also on display will be the latest developments in 'euromedia qualified' printers. In UV flatbed, the proven Acuity flatbed will feature, together with the new Acuity X2 with an enormous maximum print size of 3.05m by 2.05m giving increased productivity. For printing roll media, the Maxjet solvent-based printer and Acuity roll option will be demonstrated.

Sign & Digital UK: booth C20

More information: www.fujifilmsericol.com

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21) SEAL Graphics: New UV liquid laminates and special coatings

SEAL Graphics will underline the importance of its new strategic alliance with WP Digital AG by demonstrating new UV-curable liquid laminates with its popular AquaSEAL 60 UV Pro laminator. Also on the stand will be the AquaSEAL 1600 using the brand new 610 liquid Gloss which marks a breakthrough in water-based laminates developed specifically for eco-solvent and UV-ink printed graphics. Roll-up, pop-up and banner products featuring SEAL's new high-performance inkjet coating will be showcased alongside the new online color profile databank, ColorBase. The AquaSEAL 610 water-based gloss liquid laminate provides a durable coating that enhances and protects both indoor and outdoor displays produced on a variety of substrates. The single component formulation offers protection against abrasion, UV, water and chemical damage for up to five years. As such, it is considered to be ideal for a range of applications including fleet graphics, truck-side curtains, outdoor signage, vinyl banners, billboards and backlit displays that are all subject to harsh environmental and physical conditions. The color profiles for the existing media are available through the new ColorBase online tool that can be downloaded from the SEAL website.

FESPA Digital: Hall 1, booth C 60

More information: www.sealgraphics.com

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22) Printing Carpets: New dye sublimation carpet and Floor Vinyl de LUXE

Solvent-, UV- and sublimation carpet Specialist Printing Carpets has created a new floor graphic called Floor Vinyl de LUXE. This high printed material comes on rolls of 25 x 200 wide. The ink will not come off after it's printed by the UV-inks. Their current customer line has seen this and printed their first rolls with an amazing result – some quoted that they never seen such a good material to print on for flooring. This gives print houses the possibilities to print and give guaranty on a longer durability even with high traffic on this brand new vinyl. Printing Carpets is specialized in producing and supplying carpets and floor vinyl's for the solvent UV and sublimation market. They also introduced a brand new Dye-sub carpet called XXL. Ask for a free sample sales@printingcarpets.com



More information: www.printingcarpets.com

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23) Starflex: Coated media for Solvent, Eco-Solvent and UV printing

Known as the manufacturer of supreme quality banners, Starflex is now launching a full range of coated banners. Previously, Starflex produced Mesh only on their coating line, due to too limited capacity of production and very high demand on Mesh on their international markets. Thanks to the recent addition of new extrusion facilities in the South Korean new factory, a complete range of high grade coated Banners, Frontlit, Blockout and Backlit has been added to the already vast product portfolio. Now available is a complete family of products, in different weights: 13oz, 15oz, 18oz, and in various widths up to 5meters. The products are suitable for Solvent, Eco-Solvent as well as UV and Screen printing. Through the latest investment, Starflex enhanced not only the capacity of coated media production, but also combined the strengths of coated and laminated media. Starflex coated media offer high tension resistance and long durability in the extreme cold or warm weather conditions. The special processing also minimizes plasticizer migration even in the extremely warm weather conditions present in the South of Europe, the Middle East but also South Asia, Latin America and Africa, territories where Starflex has already gained enormous popularity.

More information: www.star-flex.com

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24) Neschen: Many new products at Sign & Digital UK

Digital wallpapers, solvent printable vinyls and new roll-up and pop-up exhibition display systems will be among the many products available from Neschen to be featured at Sign & Digital UK 2009. The digital wallpapers offer excellent value for money and are available in four finishes: smooth, sand, linen and stucco. They are exceptionally easy to hang, using standard 'Solvite' adhesives and are available in paper-backed form for low-to-medium human traffic areas as well as linen-backed for areas of medium-to-high traffic. All come on 50 meter rolls of 1300mm width. New for the show is the 'Easy 100' (micron) – a general purpose, permanent gloss vinyl. Being thicker than most means that it is easier to handle and apply. It is expected to be especially popular in the vehicle advertising sector, such as on taxis, where it can be used with both clear and grey adhesives – the latter being particularly useful when applying new graphics over old because there will be no show-through. [Sign & Digital UK: Hall 7, booth J 40](#)

More information: www.neschen.com

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25) Berger: Wide range of digital printing fabrics

At FESPA Digital Berger will present a wide range of digital printing fabrics up to 505 cm. The highlights are solvent printable textiles from 162 cm up to 505 cm as well as dyesub textiles for water based inks. The absolute top news will be presented at the show, so it is absolutely worth visiting the stand.

FESPA Digital: Hall 1, booth C 35

More information: www.bergertextil.com

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26) HumanEyes: On-site training and implementation program

HumanEyes provides customized on-site training designed to help new customers and their teams get up and running with their new lenticular capabilities, quickly and easily. A comprehensive support package for HumanEyes Producer3D – including email and phone support, and free future upgrades – is available for one year. HumanEyes Technologies Ltd., with offices in Jerusalem and New York, provides a complete solution for the creation and printing of 3D and other lenticular special effects like flip, motion, zoom and much more. The award-winning company develops software for printers, graphic artists and photographers that enables them to professionally and easily create amazing lenticular applications for advertising, packaging, POP, events, and more.

More information: www.humaneyes.com

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27) Agfa Graphics' Anapurna Mv rewarded by EDP

Agfa Graphics announced that the European Digital Press Association (EDP) has rewarded the :Anapurna Mv for the 'Best Flatbed Printer Entry Level of the Year 2009'. EDP acts as a recognized industry forum and groups publishers of leading European magazines who are all devoted to digital printing and associated products. The :Anapurna Mv was first introduced at drupa 2008 offering an affordable and versatile industrial solution for wide format applications. "Agfa Graphics has consciously chosen for UV ink based solutions for industrial inkjet", said Willy Van Dromme, Marketing Manager Wide Format at Agfa Graphics. "UV solutions offer a wide range of possibilities specifically for high demanding applications. With the :Anapurna Mv we go even one step further. You can add gloss effects to enhance the look and feel of your designs with spot varnish or overall varnish. This is unique for this category of printers. Adding varnish will make the print look more vibrant."

More information: www.agfagraphics.com

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28) SEAL Graphics and WP Digital AG: Strategic alliance

SEAL Graphics, a world leader in image and print finishing systems, has announced a strategic alliance with WP Digital AG to work closely together in the field of large format UV-printing and UV-coating. In future sales and marketing activities of its UV printers, WP Digital AG will integrate the AquaSEAL 80UV Pro coater and offer it as a complete package. The first public presentation of the new alliance took place at the launch of the new 'Virtu', a 5-metre UV printer unveiled end-February in Wittenbach, Switzerland. As part of the launch ceremony, SEAL Graphics demonstrated its coater to WP Digital AG's customers, business partners and the trade press.

More information: www.sealgraphics.com and www.wp-digital.com

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29) Spandex: Signet Signs Ltd installed a Gerber Solara ionx

Spandex has announced that Bristol-based screen-printer and sign manufacturer, Signet Signs Ltd, has installed a Gerber Solara ionx UV wide-format digital inkjet printer. Signet Signs Ltd made the decision to purchase the Gerber Solara ionx after witnessing the benefits afforded by combining a direct-to-substrate print capability with Cold Fire Cure technology and GerberCAT cationic UV inks. This allows the company to print onto a wide range of substrates while reducing turnaround time and material costs. "The Cold Fire Cure technology, which cures the ink at room temperature, allows us to successfully print onto a wide variety of heat sensitive materials including PVC fluted board brands, HIPS (high impact plastic) and polypropylene", explains Mike Rawlings, Director and General Manager, Signet Signs. "In addition, the superior print quality, ability to print large blocks of solid vibrant colors without banding, and high scratch resistance, were key factors that influenced our decision." Signet Signs Ltd is an established, family run business, now offering a whole range of signage solutions to the UK and Ireland. The company aims to increase competitiveness by further improving its efficiency and expanding into new markets with the Gerber Solara ionx.

More information: www.spandex.com

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30) Mimaki receives ISO 14001 certification

Mimaki Engineering Co., Ltd. announces that on 28th January 2009, it has received ISO 14001 certification for its headquarters, Bokuya plant, Kazawa plant, Tokyo branch, Osaka Branch, and Mimaki Precision Co., Ltd, a subsidiary of Mimaki Engineering, supplying precise milling parts and processed jigs and parts. ISO 14001 is a globally recognized standard for an environmental management system. It specifies requirements for establishing an environmental policy, determining environmental aspects and impacts of products/activities/services, planning environmental objectives and measurable targets, implementation and operation of programs to meet objectives and targets, checking and corrective action, and management review. "With the ISO 14001 Certificate Mimaki aims to be a company devoted to the environment and sustainability. We are continuously improving our environmental assurance and performance in all business activities to have the least impact on our environment and burden for future generations", said Akira Ikeda, president of Mimaki Engineering.

More information: www.mimakieurope.com

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31) MACtac IMAGin JT 5000 certified for HP DJ L 65500 and HP Latex Inks

Nine MACtac printing media from the IMAGin JT 5000 series for digital inkjet printing have been tested and profiled using ONYX and CALDERA RIP software on the newly launched HP Designjet L 65500 printer. HP odourless Latex Inks have been used for the product test. MACtac helps HP Designjet L 65500 users to reduce the impact of printing on the environment while keeping high quality prints and saving drying time. Profiles are available – free of charge – from www.mactacdigital.com. "This certification will open a great many opportunities to HP users for street marketing, indoor decoration and promotion and vehicle wrapping. Some of these films will also be available with MACtac's specialized bubble free adhesive construction", says Jos Snijders, IMAGin Product Manager.

More information: www.mactacdigital.com

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32) Color Alliance – system solution for large-format digital printing

A wind of change is blowing on the inkjet market. It has been caused by a newly established cooperative agreement among international RIP and printing media manufacturers under the umbrella of the "Color Alliance" (CA). The aim of the close collaboration is to simplify production processes in the field of large-format (L-XXL) inkjet printing and to boost productivity and process reliability for printing service providers, dealers, print buyers and end users. The basis includes standardized coatings which drastically reduce the number of color profiles and ensure the color accuracy of inkjet prints. Color Alliance tries out, tests and certifies printing media and makes the relevant ICC (International Color Consortium) profiles available. Interacting with the quality assurance tool, "CA Control Tool", which is integrated into the RIP software "PS5 CA Edition", the standardized and harmonized CA printing media achieve maximum production reliability and reproducibility. With a complete range of production functions PS5 CA Edition is a high-end production tool for LFP service providers. Color Alliance supplies it in the bundle with the CA Control Tool: a software solution for quality control with traffic-light function.

More information: www.color-alliance.com

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33) ColorGATE: Bart Fret joins ColorGATE team

ColorGATE is pleased to announce that Bart Fret has joined the innovative company as a member of the Business Development team. He will be in charge of Strategic Partner Development and will also act as Regional Sales Manager for BeNeLux and France. "I believe ColorGATE is one of the most innovative companies currently in the industry. It places a strong focus on delivering solutions to the market that combine very high quality and user friendliness and I am very much looking forward to joining the team," said Bart Fret, happy to accept this new position.



More information: www.colorgate.com

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