



# LFP-Newsletter

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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) **SGIA '07 sets the stage for innovation and profitability**

“Complacency is a dreaded disease”, said Oren Harari, Ph.D. during his keynote address at SGIA '07. In an increasingly competitive, copy cat economy, he said, “technologies alone aren't the value, it's how they are being utilized differently and innovatively that matters.” Such was the message at this year's SGIA Expo in Orlando, Florida. Held at the Orange County Convention Center, SGIA '07 was the perfect event for the numerous attendees with significant buying power to meet and see exhibitors with the most cutting-edge technology available. The major theme of SGIA '07 was that creativity leads to innovation, and innovation results in new revenue sources. Attendees easily saw this on the show floor, from high-production digital printers and integrated direct-to-garment equipment to highly developed finishing tools. Exhibitors were treated to well-qualified and educated attendees who came to the show ready to purchase. As SGIA's CEO and President Michael Robertson recently noted, “The increased value of creativity as a marketable skill within the community is a very positive step. Selling creative services helps fend off commoditization.” Messages of using creativity to differentiate and stand out in a crowd echoed throughout the Expo, from the Wrap Demonstration Area and attendees at the Digital Apparel Production Zone, as well as at the Future Forum, Interior Design Display, Keynote Luncheon and other SGIA '07 events.

**More information: [www.sgia.org](http://www.sgia.org)**

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Sincerely  
Yours  
Susanne Aschoff

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**2) Dipl. Ing. Dieter Weber: New market study**

The market for wide format printers in Germany 2006 grew by 4,2%. Though the number of shipments could not repeat the results of the year 2005, which ended up with an increase of 8,5%, it followed the general economic trends. Without LED-CAD-printers, which again closed lower in 2006 the ink-jet market could gain a 6% mark up. These statements are among the findings of a new market report, based on the shipping results in terms of units of about 35 vendors of wide format printers. The more detailed analyze reveals quite different results between the market section of LED-printers/copiers and wide format inkjet printers. While the LED-market could gain with small and medium sized models, more requested by corporate customers, typical inkjet users are concentrated on the service industry. Sales show successful results in the lower format range on top with printers for proofing, photo and fine-art applications as well for high performance CAD-output. Advertising outdoor printing with less aggressive solvent-inks reveal growing rates of 30% creating the opposite focus for models in range of 2m output wide and allowing the success of XXL-printers in the 3m and 5m range. Another topic includes the flatbed-printer market where the group of high performance hybrid UV-production printers lead the growing list. 29 tables show the number of shipments within the different printer classes in a breakdown of the last three years and give reason for detailed comments.

**More information:** [DJWeberHG@aol.com](mailto:DJWeberHG@aol.com)

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**3) Spühl: Virtu RS 25/48 – New large format UV digital printer**

Spühl AG, located in Switzerland, presented at viscom Italy its new large format UV digital printer, the Virtu RS 25/48. The Virtu RS 25/48 is a combination roll, flatbed, and hybrid printer all in one. It was equipped with a brand new plate advance system and now prints multiple user-defined plates consecutively and without delay. Printing demonstrations were the highlight of the viscom exhibition.

For example, three single KAPA plates (70 x 100 cm) were laid edge to edge, and different motifs were printed one each individual plate at the same time. This extraordinary ability enables uninterrupted, continuous printing for large print jobs, thus saving time and money. The international audience seemed very impressed. Options for rolled and rigid substrates are vast. Spühl's Virtu RS 25/48 prints on (nearly) anything, up to a width of 2.50 m. For those whose needs are greater, Spühl also offers the Virtu RS 35/48, a digital printing machine with multiple functions and a print width of 3.50 m.

**More information:** [www.spuhl.ch](http://www.spuhl.ch)



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**4) Mimaki: JV33 and JV5 now also available with water based inks**

After the successful first year of the solvent JV5-130/160 versions, Mimaki now launches the JV5-130/160 printers as aqueous models for on-demand production of indoor graphics and transfer printing to polyester based materials. The staggered head array of the four print heads with nozzle failure detection monitors the ink-discharging state from the printing head and detects and cleans clogged nozzles, thus eliminating the waste of media and ink. Also the recently introduced solvent JV33 series is available as aqueous model. The solvent JV33 version took off with a flying start. There are two types of aqueous inks available: the new aqueous dye sublimation features faster drying time to meet the high speed of JV5. Also the ink enhances the

print quality; bleeding is not likely to occur and the color density of especially the black ink is improved. Also the wash- and crock-fastness is improved. The ink can be used for the transfer of prints onto polyester based materials. Operators can now easily output banners, flags, roll screen, hanging displays etc. with the JV5A models or JV33A models. The aqueous pigment ink features a high quality of UV resistance and high color density. This enables print companies and sign makers to produce indoor graphics, posters, wallpapers, blueback paper and print on backlit film.

**More information: [www.mimakieurope.com](http://www.mimakieurope.com)**

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#### 5) Spandex presents Gerber Solara ion Inkjet Printer

By far the most popular highlight among visitors to the Spandex booth at viscom Italy was the new flatbed/roll-to-roll Gerber Solara ion wide-format UV inkjet printer, which features advanced GerberCAT cationic inks and Cold Fire Cure technology. The Gerber Solara ion provides a host of new features. These include: Impressive print speeds of up to 60 sqm/hr, compatibility with a very broad material range including UV-sensitive and heat-sensitive materials through to difficult to print substrates such as glass, exceptional ink adhesion and scratch resistance on all printable substrates, innovative cationic UV ink technology offering the ability to print on both rigid and flexible substrates, including vehicle-wrap applications, with one ink set, print quality up to 1440 dpi for indoor and outdoor-durable graphics that are immediately usable and flatbed/roll-to-roll capability offering two full systems in one machine, for a considerably smaller footprint. In addition, the Gerber Solara ion boasts Gerber's patent-pending Cold Fire Cure technology; a UV curing process that provides revolutionary inkjet curing features by using low energy and low temperatures to cure the proprietary GerberCAT cationic inks at approximately room temperature. As a result, the range of printable substrates is significantly expanded.

**More information: [www.spandex.com](http://www.spandex.com)**

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#### 6) Seiko I Infotech announced new family of the Teriostar LP-1020

Seiko I Infotech announced the 6th generation of LED wide-format printers. The new family of Teriostar takes high-quality printing to the next level. These precision engineered monochrome printers with monochrome or color scanner come in two state-of-the-art models. One is a network multifunction scanner/copier/ printer model with one roll support, the LP-1020S MF-1R with monochrome scanner. The second one is a multifunction scanner/copier/printer model with two roll support, the LP-1020L MF-2R. Originally set as a monochrome scanner system, this model offers a color scanner as an option. The color scanner is offering multiple possibilities to drive the monochrome printer and a color inkjet printer. It is the ultimate solution for scan to print applications. Each model boasts high-speeds of output, printing at 4.8 meter per minute in a continuous print at a true optical resolution of 600dpi. The Teriostar family delivers superb density and accurate prints with high quality. Additionally, both models feature a small footprint allowing users the added convenience of a front-side feed system and ejection all in one small space. The new printers, marketing, sales and distribution is handled by SII distributor network across the Europe.

**More information: [www.seiko-i.com](http://www.seiko-i.com)**

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#### 7) ColorGATE: First Update for new PRODUCTIONSERVER

With the launch of PRODUCTIONSERVER Generation 5.x in June 2007, ColorGATE now offers the "universal RIP solution for all applications": digital, centrally controlled high-end large-scale format printing, proofing, film production, photos and fine art. Now that the "teething troubles" of the past have been eliminated, Version 5.01 is available on the retail market for all ColorGATE products. The ColorGATE Version 5.01 highlights are: PRODUCTIONSERVER is the first large-scale print RIP solution to use DeviceLink technology. In addition to



ICC color management, it is future-proof, even for the most demanding proofing. Innovative MEDIA DEVICE SYNCHRONIZATION (MDS) optionally calibrates identically built systems in the event of system and environment-related deviations. This guarantees maximum color consistency after the update from Version 4 to 5.01. MIM combinations can also be easily migrated from Version 4. A refreshing facelift of the user interface ensures an even better workflow, just like the completely new online help feature, the extensive white-print support and the optimization of the CONTAINER function or the horizontal TILING. Upgrade customers from version 4.x can take advantage of significant discounts. New in the ColorGATE portfolio: Attractively priced "5.01 Special Editions" for specific printing systems (incl. HP Designjet 8000, Mutoh Valuejet, Roland). Up until the end of the year, ColorGATE will also make just as attractive upgrades available to Version-4.x users via the ColorGATE retail sales channels.

**More information: [www.colorgate.com](http://www.colorgate.com)**

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### 8) ONYX Graphics: ONYX Rocks Everest

ONYX® Graphics and Art Guitar® collaborated to produce 10 one-of-a-kind limited edition guitars for the Everest Rocks event in Nepal October 2007. The guitars were produced using an exclusive, patented process on a custom UV printer and ONYX ProductionHouse Version 7. Everest Rocks is a fourteen day trek and acoustic concert at the base camp of Mt. Everest, with a grand finale rock concert in Kathmandu. This event will benefit the Nepal Cancer Relief Society (NCRS) and is created by the Love Hope Strength Foundation. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the NCRS to provide much needed equipment and funding to the Bhaktapur Cancer Hospital. The guitars donated by ONYX Graphics and Art Guitar were played in the acoustic concert at base camp. They had been then put up for auction and all proceeds went to the Love Hope Strength Foundation to benefit the Nepal Cancer Relief Society.



**More information:** [www.onyxgfx.com](http://www.onyxgfx.com) or [www.artguitar.com](http://www.artguitar.com) or [www.lovehopestrength.com](http://www.lovehopestrength.com)

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### 9) Folex: New Folajet Backlit ES media for ecosolvent printers

Ink jet media manufacturer Folex is focusing on the popular backlit window display market – with a new Backlit film. Folajet Backlit ES is top-coated to ensure super brilliant color fidelity when using eco solvent and solvent large-format printers, such as those from Mimaki, Mutoh and Roland. Backlit ES is a front print film which offers exceptional color contrast performance whether lit or unlit and can be used in backlit panels indoors or outdoors. The film is a 125 micron coated polyester and also offers superior water and wet smear resistance as well as good light stability. Simon Warren, Print On Product Manager comments: “We have been delighted by the customer reaction so far to this product which has been very positive. This success has already been endorsed by winning some significant orders for Backlit ES.” The new Folex Backlit ES is available in widths of 610mm, 914mm, 1067mm, 1270mm, 1370mm and 1524mm x 30m roll.

**More information:** [www.folex.com](http://www.folex.com)

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### 10) NOPAR: Three new digital canvases from Innova Art

Innova Art releases three new canvases; they have been fine tuned to meet the demands of today’s art and photography markets. Each has been thoroughly tested to ensure complete compatibility with all leading inkjet printers, and give exceptional detail, color and d-max, whatever the image, whatever the machine. Profiles for all leading makes, including Epson, HP and Canon, are offered. Made from high-grade polycotton, these canvases are tough, flexible and easy to stretch without unsightly cracking. Photo Canvas Matte 350gsm and Fine Art Matte Canvas 340gsm are water resistant and can be finished with water based and solvent giclée varnishes to seal the surface and extend UV resistance. The unique high gloss coating of Photo Canvas Ultra Gloss 380gsm eliminates this stage altogether. All three canvases are available on 15m rolls on a 3” core in 17”, 24”, 36” and 44” widths. The three new digital canvases now available at NOPAR International. During September 2003 NOPAR International GmbH moved to Bremen in the Northern part of Germany. Their core business is driven by the production and sales of Niche high quality film based media, for the ever increasing digital imaging, presentational and sign markets.

**More information:** [www.nopar-international.com](http://www.nopar-international.com)

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### 11) Epson launches 60” PremierArt Canvas for Epson Stylus Pro 11880

It has never been easier to produce high-quality, large format canvas prints on demand. Photographers, reprographics specialists and artists can now extend their portfolio with Epson’s 60” PremierArt Water Resistant Canvas roll and 60” Water Resistant Matte Canvas roll. Both are compatible with the Epson Stylus Pro 11880 featuring UltraChrome K3 Ink with Vivid Magenta and are ideal for exhibition display, portraits or limited edition fine art. Water Resistant Matte Canvas offers a smooth matte finish while the PremierArt Water Resistant Canvas provides a high-gloss finish. The durable blend of polyester and cotton, combined with a heavyweight, tight weave design provides a perfect base to create photographic and fine art prints. Their instant-dry, high-resolution coating, will withstand stretching without sagging and display a subtle texture for a true artistic look and feel.

**More information:** [www.epson-europe.com](http://www.epson-europe.com)

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### 12) 3P Value Display FR was named Product of the Year 2007

This year marks the third time in succession that 3P InkJet Textiles Corp won the DPI Product of the Year partner award. At the SGIA trade show in Orlando/Florida 3P scored with the print at Value Display FR (IQ-IJ 675) in the Textiles Product category. Value Display FR, printed with the sublimation printer TexPress DSS 1800II, stood out against competition and the team of digital imaging professionals of DPI awarded 3P InkJet

Textiles Corp in combination with TexPress, Inc. the coveted prize. DPI designed a common test file to find strengths and weaknesses in practice. Different images and color gradients indicate clearly whether skin tones appear natural, colors brilliant, and details clear. High image quality and authentic color reproduction ensure this fantastic result of 3P's 15 mil polyester display media.

**More information: [www.3p-inktextiles.com](http://www.3p-inktextiles.com)**

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### 13) ErgoSoft wins "Product of the Year Award"

During the SGIA '07 Show in Orlando, ErgoSoft was once again awarded the coveted "Product of the Year Award" by the DPI. In the category "Software and Related Systems", PosterPrint from ErgoSoft was declared the best RIP product. The "Product of the Year Award" competition required all registered participants to take a DPI supplied file, print it, and submit it back to DPI within the required timeframe. The target file was characterized by a number of challenging picture elements and included everything from hard to print from black-and-white images, gray ramps and various skin tones as well soft and hard transitions. A neutral panel consisting of digital printing experts examined the entries based on the accuracy of color and the precision of the details. ErgoSoft exhibited at the show and demonstrated the latest RIP software versions of StudioPrint, PosterPrint, TexPrint, as well as its profiling tool, ColorGPS. The digital print experts from ErgoSoft demonstrated its easy-to-handle software and the value of a RIP in a stable color management workflow.

**More information: [www.ergosoft.net](http://www.ergosoft.net)**

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### 14) TEPEDE: TeckStorm first installation in Sweden

Teckwin is going to ship first printers to Europe these days. First installation will be done at PadReturn AB in Fristad, Sweden. Beside the outstanding print quality reasoned by the variable drop size opportunities given by the new Xaar piezo head technology, TeckStorm convinced already several companies in Europe due to white print color and the good price/performance ratio. After the printer has been introduced in Milano it's now on the way to the Central European Teckwin showroom driven by TEPEDE in Willich near Düsseldorf.

**More information: [www.TEPEDE.com](http://www.TEPEDE.com) or Email: [info@de.tepede.com](mailto:info@de.tepede.com)**

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### 15) FUJIFILM Sericol acquisition targets wide format market

FUJIFILM Sericol has acquired the business of Germany-based Colormy AG in a move to spearhead its growth in the wide format inkjet market across Europe. Colormy, based in Cologne, sells wide format printers, ink and media under the 'euromedia' brand. Acquired for an undisclosed figure, Colormy employs sixty staff. Globally, FUJIFILM Sericol has 1250 employees. This new acquisition will give FUJIFILM Sericol access to a wider base of digital graphics producers who do not screen print, as well as provide specialist commercial and technical skills specifically designed for wide format producers. According to FUJIFILM Sericol's European Director, Peter Kenehan, "Colormy is a successful business with a highly developed system-sales approach – we intend to build on this winning formula to strengthen our position in wide format". Although FUJIFILM Sericol acquired Colormy on October 31st, this is subject to obtaining the approval of the German federal cartel office. It is expected that this process can be completed during the month of November, and that the acquisition can be finalized on November 30th.



**More information: [www.fujifilmsericol.com](http://www.fujifilmsericol.com) or [www.colormy.de](http://www.colormy.de)**

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### 16) DHJ / Decoprint partners with Caldera

DHJ, manufacturer of textile media for solvent and eco-solvent printers, has selected Caldera VisualRip+ as the exclusive RIP and color management software for testing and profiling its large format substrates. Each new product is tested in the Caldera headquarters in France on various machines before their market launch. DHJ has recently launched at SGIA two new "eco" substrates which are formol free. Caldera Graphics is a software company specializing in color management, imaging and driving solutions for large format peripherals. Caldera software packages are "production oriented" with an emphasis on color quality. With 16 years experience in developing imaging solutions and technology, Caldera Graphics has thousands of corporate customers worldwide.

**More information: [www.decoprint.com](http://www.decoprint.com) and [www.caldera.eu](http://www.caldera.eu)**

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### **17) Megaink completes a successful year by taking the Russian market**

In an exciting close to the year, Megaink has recently undertaken an intensive tour of its customers in the Russian market, educating both customers and dealers in the benefits of using its successful BioMG ink range and promoting its new magenta color that has just been launched on the European market. BioMG Inks, made from renewable sources are advantageous in that they are environmentally friendly, and the new magenta color, for Super Wide Format printers, will enhance customers' abilities to print red and orange shades. Megaink has a strong presence in Russia which extends well beyond Moscow. Last month's tour took Megaink executives through Moscow, Yekaterinburg and into remote Ural area locations, giving training sessions on the new bio ink products to customers with demo installations on their sites. The tour demonstrates Megaink's strength in communicating directly with its business partners and training end-users across the globe. Megaink will be launching yet more new products on the world market in the new year.

**More information: [www.megaink.biz](http://www.megaink.biz)**

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### **18) FESPA welcomes Xaar as First Global Technology Partner**

FESPA has announced that Xaar is to become the organization's first ever Global Technology Partner. Xaar will play a vital role in supporting FESPA's forthcoming global events, including the Director's Forum in Budapest (28th - 29th February 2008), FESPA Digital Printing Europe 2008 in Geneva (1st - 3rd April) and FESPA World Expo Asia Pacific 2008 in Bangkok (28th - 30th November). The partnership aligns two powerful brands, further reinforcing their positions as innovators in the digital marketplace. As Global Technology Partner, Xaar will have the opportunity to be involved in FESPA-organized digital debates and networking opportunities, present and participate in technology and business seminars, and will be referenced in FESPA promotional materials.

**More information: [www.fespa.com](http://www.fespa.com)**

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### **19) FESPA: First Digital Textile Conference alongside FESPA Digital**

FESPA is responding to exponential growth in the use of wide-format digital printing technology for textile applications, by introducing a brand new Digital Textile Conference to run alongside its FESPA Digital 2008 exhibition in Geneva in April 2008. The conference will take place in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Geneva, immediately adjacent to the Palexpo exhibition centre which plays host to the FESPA Digital exhibition. Running from 11.00h on 31st March to 13.00h on 1st April, delegates will be able to easily combine this valuable learning experience with a visit to the exhibition, which runs 1-3 April 2008. The conference, entitled Digital Printing for Commercial Success, is being delivered by FESPA in partnership with industry publication Digital Textile e-Broadcast, and will have a strong focus on examining the market opportunities that have emerged as digital printing technology for textile output has matured. Similarly, the FESPA Digital exhibition in Geneva will feature a number of exhibitors whose solutions are targeted specifically at textile printers, and recent research carried out by FESPA in conjunction with industry consultants InfoTrends indicates that a staggering 92.6% of FESPA visitors questioned cited textiles as the application experiencing greatest growth. Further program and booking details will be available via the FESPA Digital web site at [www.fespadigital.com](http://www.fespadigital.com), where delegates can register their interest now.

**More information: [www.fespadigital.com](http://www.fespadigital.com)**

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### **20) Sign UK & Digital Expo returns to the NEC Birmingham**

Sign UK & Digital Expo returns to the NEC Birmingham on the 22nd - 24th April 2008, as Sign & Digital UK. The show will be celebrating its 21st birthday, marking the occasion by being the largest, most exciting and innovative show to date. Having listened to exhibitors and visitors at this year's show, and in response to what they felt the show needed, event organizer Faversham House Group has re-branded as Sign & Digital UK, to clarify the two individual yet complementary aspects of the show. Event Director Rudi Blackett explains: "Much has been made within the industry of the move towards digital formats, and this new branding will highlight the equal importance of all the sign and digital technologies, modern and traditional, that make our market as interesting and diverse as it is today. In re-branding as Sign & Digital UK, Faversham House Group will further enhance the position of the show as a unique, all encompassing event with a wealth of free information, demonstrations, seminars and much more, that is a 'must-attend' event for the entire industry." It is not only the name of the show that has changed, but a brand new, fully interactive website is set to follow at the end of November, detailing all the new and exciting features set to be unveiled in the coming months for this year's show.

**More information: [www.signanddigitaluk.com](http://www.signanddigitaluk.com)**

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