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Latest News about [Large Format Printing](#)

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Thursday, 1. November 2007

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Dear readers,

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

1) **viscom Italia is sold out and getting ready for a successful event**

The 19th edition of VISCOM VISUAL COMMUNICATION ITALIA 2007, Europe's event for everyone involved in visual communication, is getting ready from 8 to 10 November 2007 to welcome more than 20,000 visitors. More than 580 international suppliers (321 direct exhibitors and 288 representative companies) on over 40,000 square meters of exhibition floor, will be exhibiting at viscom Italia to meet their clients from 78 countries. A further increase of 11% in terms of exhibitions space and exhibitors will guarantee their attendees a unique overlook of what is new in the industry from large format digital printing to digital imaging solutions, from screen printing to promotional object and wear, from engraving to plates and trophies for the award industry, from signs and sign making to digital signage solutions and from P.O.P solutions and Event Services to innovative digital communication. viscom Italia, former Sign Italia, launched in 1988 as a 300 qm hotel show, has become over the last 19th years, the international event of the year, where people come to actively do business on the exhibition floor and learn about the impact of new technology trends and marketing strategies on products and services. The exhibition will be open to visitors every day from 10.00 to 18.00.



More information: www.visualcommunication.it

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Sincerely
Yours
Susanne Aschoff

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2) EFI: New VUTEk QS3200r

EFI introduced a new member of its award winning VUTEk QS family of superwide format UV printers, the QS3200r, an exceptionally high quality, high-speed roll-to-roll UV printer that produces images up to 3.2 meters (10.5 feet) wide at 1,080 dpi at the rate of up to 171.9 sqm/h. The QS3200r incorporates VUTEK's exclusive High Definition Print technology combining rich 8 color printing, high 1080 dpi image output, VUTEk Smoothing, a quality optimized bi-directional printing mode, and the power of the EFI Fiery XF RIP. Best of all VUTEk quality means that even four-point type is rendered crisply, and the printer's EFI Fiery XF RIP ensures consistent, accurate color output every time for superior unmatched quality from a UV printer. The QS3200r uses specially developed VUTEk QS Series r UV inks ideally suited for roll-to-roll applications. The inks are available in eight colors (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black, Light Cyan, Light Magenta, Light Yellow and Light Black; alternatively, the printer can be operated in the VUTEk exclusive Fast-4 mode with two CMYK banks for faster speed. The new VUTEk QS Series r inks have unique properties that allow printing on fabric, backlit materials, banners, adhesive backed vinyl, static cling, and a variety of different substrates.

More information: www.efi.com/vutekdna

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3) Inca Digital: New 6 Color Columbia Turbo plus flatbad printer

At SGIA' 07, Inca Digital has reinforced their commitment to development and flexibility by launching the Columbia Turbo Plus printer. The new model incorporates two additional print modules that increase the total number of print heads to 96 compared to 64 on a four color Columbia Turbo. The extra printheads enable the Columbia Turbo Plus to incorporate white or two additional colors which can be selected from light cyan and light magenta as well as green, orange or violet. The Columbia Turbo, first launched in 2004, set an exceptional standard in performance with display print firms worldwide. The new Columbia Turbo Plus offers the same benefits, printing on rigid or flexible substrates up to 1.57" thick at speeds of up to 1325 sqft/hr (123 sqm/hr). With a maximum sheet size of 126" x 63" (3.2 x 1.6m), it will consistently produce at a throughput of up to 24 full bed sheets per hour (allowing for handling time). The new Columbia Turbo Plus is available for immediate delivery.

More information: www.incadigital.com

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4) Teckwin presents the new TeckStorm

Teckwin has launched its new TeckStorm UV flatbed printer, offering dramatically increased print quality for closely viewed applications. The new product from Teckwin goes beyond photo realistic to true photographic quality, greatly increasing creative and visual opportunities at a 2.44 meter width. The print area of 2,44 m x 1,22 m is divided in 8 areas each separately controllable vacuum. Media up to 50 mm thickness and weight of about 30 kg/qm can be used. First time the newly designed Xaar Omnidot print heads offering variable drop size starting with 8 pl are applied. Fine details, smooth color shades and even smallest type faces down to 4 mm and smaller are now possible without satellites and other disturbing effects. The new inks offer scratch resistance on many media as well as a wide color gamut. With a 1440 dpi capability, the five-color digital printer (includes white color) provides the ideal solution for very high quality indoor and outdoor applications. The new model provides a unique solution for the increasing demand for ultra high quality, large format digital applications. The inherent flexibility of Teckwin hardware provides the ability to print on a range of substrates including vinyl, paper, mesh, rigid board and pressure sensitive materials.

viscom Italia: hall 3, booth F21/G30 (Saatiprint)

More information: www.teckwin.com and www.tepede.com

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5) Mimaki: New flatbed cutting plotters CF3-1610/1631

Mimaki Engineering launches its new series of flatbed cutting plotters CF3-1610 and CF3-1631 with a router head. The machines can cut rigid material up to 1.6 x 3.1 m / 1.6 x 1 m respectively. Late last year, Mimaki introduced the JF-1631 and JF-1610 two new large-size flatbed UV-curable inkjet printers. These printers can print directly on uncoated rigid substrates such as acrylic and plastic. Printers nowadays do not only want to cut. Contour cutting is one of the new demands large and superwide format print providers have expressed for finishing options for UV-curable inkjet prints. In order to fulfill this and many more wishes printers have Mimaki has developed new flatbed cutting plotters equipped with a router head. These cutters accommodate the same sizes as the JF-series of inkjet printers to enable easy and precise contour cutting of rigid printed materials such as acrylic, aluminum and other substrates. The new CF3-series is delivered with two software packages enhancing productivity and ease of handling. Mimaki's Product Manager software is used to set cutting conditions and settle problems with the Wizard functions from a PC-workstation. FineCut 7 provides for creation and import of cutting data from design programs CorelDraw and Adobe Illustrator.

More information: www.mimakieurope.com

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6) Matan introduces two exciting applications

Matan Digital Printers announces superior printing capabilities for Digital Traffic & Way finding signs and short-run Membrane Switch-Overlays with the SprinG³. Matan offers a unique solution for the Traffic & Way finding signs market based on the integration of digital thermal transfer printing, 3M traffic color "dry" inks and 3M reflective media. This combination delivers high performance traffic signs with up to 10 year outdoor durability with virtually no set up. The SprinG³ creates opportunities for screen printers to offer competitive, high-quality, short-runs of sign production on the most challenging reflective media – such as 3M's Prismatic (HIP) and Diamond-Grade (DG3) films. In addition, Matan joined forces with world-leading polyester & polycarbonate manufacturers to create a digital solution for printing membrane switch overlays. The SprinG³ provides excellent ink adhesion and vivid spot colors including opaque white, silver and gold. The thermal transfer process delivers outstanding resistance to switch life testing as compared to other digital solutions as well as traditional screen printing. The SprinG³ is already working in environments that require fast, short-run of membrane switches.

More information: www.matanprinters.com

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7) Océ recognized at the viscom 2007 with Innovation Award

Océ was recognized at the viscom 2007 with the viscom INNOVATION AWARD for the Arizona 250 GT. The Arizona 250 GT, a near-photographic quality flatbed and roll-to-roll UV curable inkjet printer, impressed both the audience and the experts. The jury recognized the Océ Arizona 250 GT for its versatility, its easy handling at a high speed as well as its productivity. Especially in combination with the Zünd cutter, the Océ Arizona 250 GT met with enthusiasm. In combination with the cutter the range of applications for the flatbed printer is enhanced by various post-production options such as at the Point of Sale. Additional highlights at the Océ booth were seminars offered by Océ under the name Océ Cockpit in the Océ production center in Mülheim/Ruhr, Germany. As an eye catcher Océ used a 1966 VW T1 bus at their booth as a demonstration center for their products.

More information: www.oce.com

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8) Bompan showcases new Mimaki printer

Bompan S.r.l., Mimaki Europe's exclusive distributor for the Italian market, showcases the new JV33 Series and JV5 Series of large format roll-to-roll printers at viscom Italia. In addition, new UV flatbed and roll-to-roll solutions from Mimaki Engineering, such as the JF-1631, UJF-605CII and UJF-605RII will be presented. Bompan's large stand all in all encompassing 300 sqm will be divided into three areas; large and superwide format printing, industrial and on-demand including flatbed printers and cutters. Another highlight at Bompan's booth will be the new CF3-1610 and CF3-1631 flatbed cutting plotters which already attracted many visitors to Mimaki's booth at viscom in Düsseldorf, Germany and which will be shown for the first time in Italy.

viscom Italia: hall 3, booth M01/P02

More information: www.mimakieurope.com and www.bompan.it

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9) Neolt: New products at viscom Italia

At the upcoming viscom Italia, Italy-based manufacturer Neolt, will present the following new products: the NeoJet K solvent printer series with KonicaMinolta print heads; the Neo CNC Router 1325 with a working size of 1300 x 2500 x 155 mm; the X/Y Matic Trim: fully automatic trimmer reading trimming marks, functioning also in-line with an optional kit; the Neolam 1650E: economical cold laminator with manual thickness/pressure adjustment; the Neofold 920E: entry-level, very silent off-line folding machine providing fan and cross fold processes and the Neofold HE: very productive off-line folding device for fan and cross folding. In addition to this, Neolt will be demonstrating its SuperJet-M UV printer. Launched in May this year, the SuperJet-M is already finding its way to many enthusiastic customers in Italy and abroad.

viscom Italia: hall 3, booth K11/L20

More information: www.neolt.it

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10) EskoArtwork: Two larger models of the Kongsberg i-XE series

EskoArtwork announces that its Esko Kongsberg i-XE series digital dieless cutting table is now available in two larger sizes: the Kongsberg i-XE32 with a working area of 51" x 63¾" (1300 mm x 1620 mm) and the Kongsberg i-XE54 (63"x120"; 1600 mm x 3050 mm). These two new models join the compact Kongsberg i-XE10. The new tables are perfect for the swift cutting and finishing of digitally printed, flexible and light-duty sheeted materials such as adhesive vinyl (decals), vinyl banners, foam board, and textiles. The system also easily cuts semi rigid materials such as carton and single flute corrugated board and polycarbonate. The Kongsberg i-XE series of automated digital finishing systems, based on the technology and robust architecture of the Kongsberg i-XL series of large format digital finishing tables, was specifically created for signs and displays. Screen printed decals, digitally printed POP displays, and pressure sensitive films, among others, are perfectly kiss-cut or through-cut using an advanced motion system and Mikkelsen Graphic Engineering's (MGE's) patented i-cut® vision system. This is supported by proven, rugged construction, with robust rack and pinion motor drives, and an ultra-fast multi axis servo system that permits superior acceleration and full speed without loss of precision. The first machines will be available for delivery at the beginning of 2008.

More information: www.esko.com

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11) SAi introduces PhotoPRINT 6 and Flexi 8.5

 SA International (SAi) announces the release of PhotoPRINT 6. As technology moves forward, SAi brings a new era in color management. Progressing along with the large format industry, PhotoPRINT 6 is designed to help the productivity ascend to new heights while maintaining SAi's signature ease-of-use interface. PhotoPRINT 6 highlights include compatibility with Windows Vista operating system, a redesigned user interface, dual roll printing and Application Direct Printing through dynamic PPDs.

Also, continuing their efforts in ease-of-use, they introduce Print Wizard, which offers inexperienced users a fool-proof path to high quality output and a new point-and-click color variations tool. Users of all skill levels will appreciate the improved Color Profiler, which simplifies the workflow of ICC output profile generation while adding time-saving features. Also SAi announces the release of Flexi 8.5. By integrating finely tuned technology with years of feedback from their partners and users, Flexi Family 8 maintains its status as the number one choice for dependable, feature-rich Sign Making Software with uncompromising quality. Flexi 8.5 features compatibility with Windows Vista operating system, dual roll printing, Application Direct Printing through dynamic PPDs and repeat job function. Also, continuing their efforts in ease-of-use, they offer a point-and-click color variations tool and context-sensitive help files.

More information: www.PhotoPRINT6.com and www.Flexi85.com and www.saintl.biz

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12) ONYX Graphics: Support for new line of Epson Stylus Pro printers



ONYX Graphics has added support for the recently-introduced Epson Stylus Pro 7880, 9880 and 11880 wide format printers. These new printers use Epson UltraChrome K3 inks and can achieve extremely high quality with resolutions up to 2880 x 1440

dpi. ONYX Graphics workflow solutions software products include key features such as PANTONE® Spot Color Matching, Contour Cutting Workflow and Automatic Job Nesting, which enhance the performance capabilities of these printers. The ONYX drivers include support for the following key features of these Epson Stylus Pro printers: On-board contone, Epson® halftone, ONYX halftone and custom screening print methods; fast contone and versatile halftone print modes; Photo Black/Matte Black (switchable), Light Black, Light Light Black, Cyan, Light Cyan, Vivid Magenta, Vivid Light Magenta, and Yellow ink configurations and Epson-qualified color profiles for more than 20 Epson medias. The Epson Stylus Pro 7880, 9880 and 11880 wide format printers are supported in the standard version 7.1 of ONYX ProductionHouse, ONYX PosterShop, and ONYX RIPCenter software products. The drivers and profiles can be downloaded from the ONYX Profile Download Client included in Version 7.1. as well as the ONYX website at www.onyxgfx.net

More information: www.onyxgfx.com

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13) ErgoSoft supports Mutoh Blizzard series

Mutoh's newest generation of printers, the Blizzard series, are now supported by ErgoSoft's PosterPrint v.12 RIP software. The new mild-solvent printer can print directly onto most available standard uncoated media, as well as soft signage and banners. Possible applications include backlit and corporate signage, vehicle and indoor graphics and much more. Mutoh offers the new printer in two models, the Blizzard 65 capable of print widths up to 1640 mm and the Blizzard 90, up to 2230 mm. Combined with ErgoSoft's intuitive RIP solutions, end users can expect shorter RIP times, more accurate color reproduction and higher output quality. Another offspring of the Mutoh DrafStation family, the DrafStation Pro will also be supported by ErgoSoft. In addition to the current DrafStation printer models, the DrafStation Pro incorporates the new Intelligent Interweaving Print Technology dubbed i2. With this technology patented by Mutoh, the ink is printed in a wave pattern. This reduces the risk of banding as well as issues arising from misfiring nozzles. The i2 Technology is fully supported by the PosterPrint v.12 RIP software from ErgoSoft and ensures high color accuracy through optimal ink application achieved with density linearization and ink limiting capabilities. The Swiss RIP software offers also many different features, such as mirror-inverted printing that is used for sublimation.

More information: www.ergosoft.net

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14) Caldera presents Caldera SWING

Caldera will be introducing the Caldera SWING, an affordable, easy to use, versatile and reliable calibration automatic device built to achieve top quality prints from digital output devices. Caldera SWING is a solution for linearization and profiling of photographic and wide format output devices for flexible reflective and transparent materials with a thickness up to 0,7 mm. Target markets for the device are aqueous and solvent large format inkjet printers, entry to mid range UV flatbed printers, packaging, proofing, fine art printing and prepress. The SWING is driven by EasyMedia, Caldera's integrated color management, color calibration and profile making solution. Caldera SWING with EasyMedia provides a complete solution for ICC color profiling specially dedicated for sign production. The SWING with measuring by Barbieri Electronic is an automatic measuring instrument for reflective and transmissive media (backlit, film etc.) to create ICC profiles and for linearization of digital output devices in large format printing. **viscom Italia: hall 3, booth V06**

More information: www.caldera.eu

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15) RATIO: CAD|STATION SCAN with many new features

CAD|STATION SCAN is the versatile SCAN module for CAD|STATION, the fast RIP solution for CANON iPF printers. With the new release CAD|STATION SCAN offers many new features for convenient wide format scanning and copying. Scan-to-DWF converts the scan output directly into Autodesk DWF file format. Another enhancement to the scan-to functions is Scan-to-multipage. With this feature single scans can be combined to one multipage PDF. Regarding the supported hardware, CAD|STATION SCAN now supports the Contex scanners Hawkeye and Chameleon G600 as well as similar models of the same scanner group. Also scanners connected via TWAIN are now supported by CAD|STATION SCAN. CAD|STATION plus CAD|STATION SCAN is a high performing color print and copy solution for companies that are dealing with large amounts of wide format drawings.

More information: www.cadstation.com

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16) Bordeaux Digital PrintInk launched Eden PP

Bordeaux Digital PrintInk, a leading manufacturer of premium digital inks in the large and grand format digital graphics industry, announces the launch of its newly developed water-based pigmented ink for Piezo inkjet Technology, the Eden PP (EdPp). Eden PP broadens the already available Eden ink series, Bordeaux Digital PrintInk's complete water-based ink solution. EdPp is a pigmented ink available in 6 colors: C, M, Y, K, LtC, LtM and flushing liquid. The ink is intended for printers with Piezo printhead such as the Mimaki JV2/JV4, Roland Hi-fi Jet, Mutoh Falcon II (8000) and Agfa Sherpa series. Eden PP offers exceptional quality printouts and a wide color gamut. It is highly UV resistant and therefore suitable for point of sale (POS) and Point of Purchase (POP) applications.

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

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17) J-Teck 3: Green solutions for a clean environment

J-Teck 3, an Italian ink manufacturer, will introduce their innovative Nanodot Technology line for ink-jet printers with piezo heads at viscom Italia and will show the high performance inks with Value line fabrics of 3P InkJet Textiles AG. J-Eco Nanodot inks, an environmental friendly line for transfer and direct sublimation printing, are free of Alkylphenolethoxylate (APE) according to the EC Directive 2003/53/CE. The combination with 3P's eco-friendly and still economical Value fabric line for direct and transfer sublimation printing is perfect to protect the environment for the future. Value fabrics are free of harmful substances and the entire production chain is environmentally friendly. The Value assortment is suitable for flags, displays and banners and for various applications in interior design and decoration, covering both indoor and outdoor uses. J-Teck 3's Nano Technology combines the reduction of the disperse pigments in nano particles and a process of surface fixation of active ionic polymers on the particles themselves. The advantages are more vibrant and brilliant colors, an improved fluidity and printability through the piezo printing heads, and fast dying times on the sublimation substrate. [viscom Italia: hall 3, booth G21/H22](#)

More information: www.j-teck3.it and www.3p-inktextiles.com

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18) 3M: New "intelligent" printable film solution for full van wraps

3M announced the launch of its IJ380 Printable Film Solution, a unique development that it describes as the next generation of premium graphic films to overcome a well-known pain in the graphics industry: the problem of film lifting in deep corrugations and 3D structures. The IJ380 Printable Film Solution is the result of the joint development of 3M Controltac Graphic Film IJ380 and 3M Scotchcal Overlamine 8580. More than five years of research and development went into this latest innovation. The result is what 3M calls an "intelligent" graphic: Controltac IJ380 and Scotchcal Overlamine 8580 "remember" their new shape once applied. Unlike other graphic films, these show virtually no tendency to return to their original shape, making them most suitable for extreme graphic applications, including full van wraps where 3D conformability is required. Controltac IJ380 is suitable for screen printing and piezo ink jet printing with 3M approved ink systems.



More information: www.3M.eu/IJ380

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19) ASLAN presented new specialty films

At the viscom 2007 ASLAN, Schwarz GmbH & Co. KG presented its innovative self-adhesive specialty films for sign making, digital printing and creative glass-design with a striking stand-design. A disproportionately high visitor traffic attested the impact of the eyecatcher. This element demonstrating variety and possible fields of applications of ASLAN digital printing films on the one side and ASLAN Glassline on the other side was in center of attention. Colored ASLAN glass decoration films in 20 bright colors and many different etched look effects open unlimited options for creative glass designs. Approval received also the ferro film ASLAN FF 400. This self-adhesive film contains iron and can be applied on all smooth surfaces making magnets stick on it. Additionally, a colored or digitally printed vinyl can be applied on top of the ferro film in order to give the surface the desired color or design. With ASLAN whiteboard- or ASLAN blackboard films it's a perfect combination for using in office. Further highlights were new ASLAN specialty films such as ASLAN metal effect films in 12 glossy colors and a new fluorescent film ASLAN CL 150, with an outdoor durability of three years.

More information: www.ASLAN-schwarz.com

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20) Regulus: Glass Panels in an Inkjet Roll Printer?

A completely new method of glass decoration has been developed by Regulus GmbH in Erlangen. Advertising graphics can be applied with every conventional solvent or UV-inkjet printer on shop-windows now, making it look like the glass panel has been directly printed upon. This is made possible by an optically clear printing film equipped with a highly transparent solvent borne adhesive. After printing, the film is applied wet on the window panel, using the application method known from colored vinyl films in order to avoid air bubbles. This technique, called "Clear-on-Clear" turning the film completely invisible, making possible completely new effects for advertising art. The film, called Dialux SIGS, has been tested with all conventional ECO-solvent, solvent and UV inkjet systems. It can be used on the outside of the windows as well as on the inside – in this case mirror-inverted. It is highly resistant to scratch and it is fully waterproof. The manufacturer guarantees the stability for two years when applied indoors. During this period of time the film can be removed easily and without residues. The distribution is carried out through selected sales partners.



More information: www.regulus.de

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21) SEAL Graphics: New vinyl media for outdoor use

SEAL Graphics has expanded its range of vinyl media for outdoor use with the addition of the new Inkjet Solvent Premier Vinyl 80 GPA. This glossy white vinyl consists of a permanent, almost black adhesive, which makes this product especially suitable for applications where the media will be applied onto previously printed or uneven surfaces. This high quality polymeric vinyl is also printable with (eco) solvent and UV-curable inks. The Solvent Premier Vinyl range will be of particular benefit for use on vehicles when used in conjunction with Inkjet Vinyl Clear lamination films as a matched solution. To compliment the current glossy transparent vinyl, a new matte version – called Inkjet Solvent Vinyl Clear Matte 80 – will be available in November. Lastly, to complete the Seal range of polymeric vinyls, white Premier vinyls and transparent clear vinyls, the 80 micron range is now available in 1550 mm width as well as the existing 1372 mm width. Both new products include a five year warranty, details of which can be found under the Warranty System section at www.sealgraphics.com

More information: www.sealgraphics.com

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22) x-film: Always the right combination – also at viscom Italia

x-film presents at viscom Italia its comprehensive product range of signage and graphic art products. Amongst others the "CONVEX corner" – a specially designed area where visitors can experience the new x-film 3D doming kit – as well as the constantly growing range of digital print media for eco-, mild- and low-solvent inks (JETREX Mild-Solvent) are the highlights of the company's trade fair presence. Special emphasis is placed on 4 new, high-gloss durable metal-PVC sandwich films in gold and silver glossy as well as brushed. Due to their very good plotter application, these films are very well suited for print&cut and finally domed labels where customers want a first-class and durable sticker. Another focal point is laid on the 10 new digital print media for water-based dye inks. These media allow premium, high-quality and photo-realistic prints. In addition, visitors can experience x-film's new transfer adhesive tape – REFLEX BOND FINGERLIFT – which is used for bonding digital banners like x-film's REFLEX BANNER. x-film also shows its new plotter film series DECOREX – a range of various decorative and effect foils, including the D-MX EASY LINER for bubble-free applications.

viscom Italia: hall 1, booth A19 (in cooperation with S.I.R.)

More information: www.x-film.com

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23) GRAFITYP: New Grafiprint M01

The Belgian manufacturer GRAFITYP SELFADHESIVE PRODUCTS recently introduced a new product to their Grafiprint range of media for solvent- and eco-solvent printers, designated M01. Grafiprint M01 is a white glossy flame retardant mesh on the basis of polyester fibres, with a PVC backing liner. The material is printable at one side, and is especially meant for use on solvent and eco-solvent printers. The Grafiprint mesh is suitable for decorating scaffoldings during the renovation of buildings. Grafiprint mesh holds very well on its PVC carrier. The new Grafiprint mesh material is available in widths of 1370 mm and 1600 mm, both in rolls lengths of 50 meters, and will shortly become available in widths of 2500 mm and 3200 mm.

More information: www.grafityp.com

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24) Junkers & Müllers: Premiere for Mediatex Presto

The Kufstein Operetta Summer Festival was not the only event to premiere this year with Mediatex Presto by Junkers & Müllers appearing on stage for the first time. The digitally printed fabric was used for the entire stage set of a production of "Die Fledermaus". Austrian artistic director Helmuth Lohner orchestrated a production of "Die Fledermaus" on an open-air stage in midst of the ruins of Kufstein Castle for 2200 spectators. But not only the grand stand was of gigantic scale – the stage itself was massive. A total of 800 qm of Presto was used in the construction of the stage set which was entirely covered with the digitally printed fabric. Open air productions of this scale create very specific demands of any fabric used in set design. The production team decided on Mediatex Presto due to its high degree of whiteness, the ease with which it can be stretched onto wooden frames, its tear resistance and flame retardancy and last but not least, its unusually high quality print image which would meet the high standards demanded by director and set designer. However, the test results that were submitted by JM with the fabric satisfied the local fire brigade, but not the set designer. During the pre-production stage, he carried out a number of further tests on the fabric to ensure that quality and durability would definitely meet his requirements. For this purpose, he had the already printed frame structures sprayed by the fire brigade with high pressure water hoses for several times and afterwards let them dry in the blazing sun in order to observe any changes in fabric or printed image. The structural engineer measured a tear resistance against winds of up to 130 km/h.



More information: www.jm-techtex.com

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25) Megaink contributes to Czech Ministry Seminar

At a seminar announcing the United Nations Environment Program's GEO-4 report at the House of the UN in Prague 5, Megaink lent conference organizers from the Czech Ministry of Environment its efforts in delivering key messages by printing banners and posters with the company's new bio ink products. Made from renewable sources, BioMG Inks bring a new element of environmentalism to printing for events, which fit in well with this seminar's theme. Megaink's Director, Andrej Keblusek commented, "This was truly a wonderful opportunity for us to reinforce our commitment to the environment. We hope to be able to work more with these types of events in the future."

More information: www.megaink.biz

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26) SEAL Graphics: 100 per cent RoHS compliance

In what is believed to be an industry-sector first, SEAL Graphics, a world leader in imaging and print finishing systems, has achieved 100 per cent RoHS compliance for its entire range of laminators. The RoHS Directive requires the restriction of use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment. Specifically, it bans the bringing to market of new equipment containing more than specified levels of lead, cadmium, mercury, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyl (PBB) and polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE) flame retardants. Describing the amount of work required to comply with this recent EU Directive, Mick Budd, SEAL Graphics' product manager for machines, said: "It certainly has not been an easy task but as a manufacturer committed to producing machines of the highest specifications; it was something we believed we had to do." The attainment of RoHS compliance has been achieved by a continuous drive for improvements in both part acquisition and manufacturing processes over a prolonged period of time.

More information: www.sealgraphics.com

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27) DuPont Digital Printing expands sales of Digital Textile Inks to OEMs

DuPont Digital Printing has announced that, effective early 2008, DuPont Artistri digital ink technology, previously available only as part of the DuPont Artistri digital textile printing system, will be available broadly through select OEM partners and others. The move will enhance the company's digital ink offering and position DuPont Digital Printing to participate more effectively in the rapidly growing digital textile printing market. As part of its expanded focus on digital inks, DuPont Digital Printing is exploring other equipment solutions that would take full advantage of its high-value ink products. Consistent with this new direction, the company will continue to sell Artistri and Cromaprint equipment until early 2008. DuPont Digital Printing will continue to provide uninterrupted equipment service and support to the Artistri and Cromaprint installed customer base. In addition, the company will continue to provide digital inks for textiles and UV graphics to the installed customer base while expanding its digital ink development and sales.

More information: www.cromaprint.dupont.com and www.artistri.dupont.com

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28) Brook International and DuPont Marketing Partnership

Brook International is proud to announce that they are an approved DuPont Artistri Marketing Partner with the supply of fabrics ready for use on the DuPont Artistri 2020 and DuPont Artistri 3320 print machines. This means that by using Brook International fabric's with the new pre-treatment – Brook-7 – together with the DuPont Artistri print machines you can be assured of excellent results. The new pre-treatment is the result of a development program aimed at improving the print results for Customers who print direct-to-textile. This has been achieved by a series of trials where the Brook-7 pre-treatment was carefully engineered and refined to give the best results possible. The colors are remarkable and the brightest and most vibrant achievable with unparalleled print clarity. A test program was initiated by Brook International with DuPont to formally test the fabrics at their test center in Wilmington Delaware USA. This resulted in their endorsement of the new Brook-7 pre-treatment. So impressed were DuPont by the results that they insisted on demonstrating Brook-7 pre-treated Textured Poly FKPP1 at FESPA Berlin. Brook International is able to offer Brook-7 in non-flame retardant or flame retardant options complying with the stringent BS5867 Type B and the German DIN4102 B1 standards. Fabrics available with the new pre-treatment include Textured Poly 205g, Knitted Poly 160g, Knitted Poly Satin 135g, Knitted Poly flag 115g, Digital Canvas FR 300g and Artists Canvas FR 500g. More fabrics will be added to increase the product offer in the future.

More information: www.brookinternational.com

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29) Spandex sells new Mimaki JV33 Series Inkjet printers

Spandex, one-stop supplier of complete and innovative solutions to the digital printing and sign making industries worldwide, has announced that, as an authorized dealer for Mimaki printers, it is now selling the new JV33 Series inkjet printers in Australia, Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, Holland, Luxembourg, Poland, Slovakia and Switzerland. The JV33 Series, which replaces Mimaki's successful JV3 Series, meets the needs of sign and graphics users by delivering outstanding performance and featuring unique inkjet technology. "As an extremely robust and feature-rich printer, we fully expect the new Mimaki JV33 Series to exceed customer expectations as regards price versus performance", says Leon Watson, Sales Director Hardware at Spandex. "The JV33 harnesses Mimaki's respected heritage in inkjet and represents a worthy successor to the hugely popular JV3."

More information: www.spandex.com

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30) Multi-Plot Europe GmbH is the new reseller for Gandinnovations

Multi-Plot is the new dealer for Gandinnovations and sales the direct textile printing machine "AquaJet 3324" in Germany and Austria. The printer prints up to 330 cm directly on textiles and the integrated fixation system fixes the colors on the textiles. The max. resolution is 600 dpi and the max. printing speed is around 95 sqm. Additional, the "AquaJet" is equipped with a heat cutting system, which allows to slit and seal the fabric to the finished required sizes. Advantages of digital textile printing are brilliant colors, waterproof, UV resistant and ecologically safe and it's usable for in- and outdoor. Sportswear, textiles for decoration, carpets, bed sheets, towels, large format banners or flags are only a small selection of media, which can be printed on.

More information: www.multiplot.de

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31) FESPA announces 2008 Digital Print Awards

FESPA announces its FESPA Digital Print Awards 2008, with the continued support of HP, a market-leading supplier of wide- and super-wide format printers and consumables. First launched at FESPA Digital 2006 in Amsterdam, the FESPA Digital Print Awards set out to recognize and reward best practice in the digital printing sector, judging entries not simply on their print quality, but on their creativity and the use of digital technology to deliver definable advantages to the client. The FESPA Digital Print Awards program is being simplified and energized with the launch of a new, interactive web site at www.fespadpa.com. The site will function as the fulcrum of the Awards program, providing printers with access to essential information and terms and conditions for entry, as well as a simple, online entry mechanism. For the first time, entry to the Awards will be completely free of charge, making participation feasible for even the smallest digital printing business.

More information: www.fespadpa.com

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32) viscom France: A very positive result

The viscom France 2007 exhibition welcomed 7654 visitors, i.e. an increase of 7% compared to 2005 with 153 exhibitors, including 34% for the first time. This year's 11 conferences were also widely followed. This is a very positive result which reveals the dynamism of the visual communication sector. The Visual Communication trade fair rechristened viscom in 2007 was host to the visual communication markets leading companies. These included digital printing (37.5%), sign makers (31%), cutting/engraving (16%), digital media (10.5) and finishing (5%). The next viscom Europe, the 20th Edition will be held from 23 to 25 September 2008 in Paris Expo, Porte de Versailles hall 7/2.

More information: www.viscom-paris.com

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