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Friday, 31. March 2006

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Dear readers,

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

1) IPEX 2006: From April 04 to 11 in Birmingham

Organized by IIR Exhibitions on behalf of Picon, IPEX is the global technology event for the print, publishing and media. Serving these dynamic and technologically diverse industries, IPEX is constantly evolving and is committed to demonstrating new innovations across all sectors. Drawing from the advice and feedback of major exhibitors, trade associations and visitors alike, IPEX continues to meet industry needs and has become an essential global forum to advance conceptual thinking, launch new equipment and define print processes. IPEX takes place every four years. The IPEX 2006 event will run from 4-11 April at the NEC in Birmingham, UK. Opening Times: 4-8 April: 09:30-17:30, 9 April: 10:00-16:30, 10 April: 09:30-17:30 and 11 April: 09:30-16:00. Visitors can go to www.ipex.org for further information about the show, and to register for their free entry badge.



More information: www.ipex.org

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2) Sign UK, Digital Expo and Screenprint 2006

Sign UK, Digital Expo and Screenprint 2006 are taking place from 9 to 11 May at the NEC in Birmingham, 10am to 5pm every day. Many companies have already indicated that they will be using the shows to launch new products and unveil the latest technological advances. And, with a packed program of workshops running over all three days where experts will be on-hand to demonstrate how sign-makers can get the most from existing and new software packages, a visit to the shows will be a source of real inspiration and an opportunity for free skills training. Visitors are encouraged to visit www.signuk.com to register for free, fast-track entry and for full details of features and exhibitors on show.

More information: www.signuk.com

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3) FESPA Digital: Additional space in Hall 10

FESPA Digital opens its doors in Amsterdam on 16th May 2006. Thousands of screen and digital printers from all over Europe are set to converge on Amsterdam's RAI Exhibition Centre from 16th to 18th May to explore the commercial opportunities offered by digital output technologies, particularly in emerging applications for digital printing, for example printing onto glass, ceramics, textiles, white goods, and many more. Having sold out its contracted floor space at the beginning of February, FESPA has taken additional space in Hall 10 at the RAI, enabling a further 30 new exhibiting companies to be accommodated at the show, bringing the total number of exhibitors to 210. The additional hall area makes room for a number of exciting visitor features, including the FESPA Digital Showcase Theatre, the 3D Print Forum and the Chinese pavilion. Visitors can go to www.fespadigital.com for further information about the show, and to register for their free entry badge.

More information: www.fespadigital.com

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Sincerely Yours Susanne Aschoff

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4) Spühl launches new Virtu RS 35

Spühl AG is displaying the Virtu RS 35 – a 3.5 meters wide inkjet digital printer for flatbed and roll-to-roll applications – for the first time at FESPA Digital. The Virtu RS 35 is based on the already proven Virtu RS 25, and its numerous innovations underscore the robust industrial design of Spühl. The heart of the Virtu RS 35 is a newly designed vacuum table with more than 30 controllable vacuum zones. They make it possible to affix substrates to be printed in the lateral edge zones with increased vacuum. Plate materials of a size up to 1.2 m x 3.5 m and a weight up to 50 kg/qm can be printed in a stationary position on the new vacuum table. For larger plates, Virtu RS 35 switches into a hybrid mode in which continuous printing is possible. The completely new developed ink management system is also exceptionally innovative. It makes it possible to make a fast switch from 4 to 6 colors (CMYK, LM+LC or CMYK + 2 special colors) or in reverse order, and through an integrated antisedimentation system, it controls the ink consistency in special colors such as white. The fast ink change makes it possible to fill all 36 Spectra print heads with the desired color configuration, which ensures maximum production efficiency. Another component of the new ink management system is a rinsing device which takes over the cleaning of the ink feed and can even be used for rinsing the ink head jets. This not only makes it easier for the operators to perform maintenance but it will also make it unnecessary to remove the ink heads in the future. The new ink reservoirs with level monitoring and a capacity of 6 liters can now be refilled during the printing process.

FESPA Digital: hall 8, booth D 750
More information: www.spuhl.ch

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5) Roland: AJ-1000 – New eco-solvent printer

Roland DG Benelux, a JV-company of Roland DG Corporation Japan, a leading manufacturer of wide-format inkjet printers and integrated print/cutters, announced the addition to their product range of the new AJ-1000 grand format eco-solvent printer. During FESPA Digital Roland will be releasing the AJ-1000 on their stand. The new advanced JET AJ-1000 104" grand format inkjet printer is designed for very high productivity with minimal maintenance, the AJ-1000 features a new industrial-strength EcoXtreme eco-solvent ink, delivering enhanced durability and performance for durable outdoor and indoor graphics applications. With a width of 104" and with a precision print speed of 45 sq m/hr, the AJ-1000 is the perfect production printer for a wide range of outdoor graphics including banners, billboards, front- and backlights, fleet graphics, and more. Every AJ-1000 will be supplied with VersaWorks, Roland's powerful, easy-to-use professional RIP, which allows users to easily set up the printer for immediate production and quick delivery of graphics for their customers. In order to increase productivity, the AJ-1000 features an easy-to-use automatic maintenance system which eliminates the need for wiper cleaning and other manual maintenance procedures that can interrupt daily production. The AJ-1000 will be distributed from Rolands headquarters in Oevel, Belgium through their dealer network in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Slovakia and Switzerland.

FESPA Digital: hall 8, booth C 100

More information: www.rolanddg.be

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6) **NUR Tempo adds upgrades for optimum performance**

NUR Macroprinters has announced three important upgrades for its versatile Tempo UV-curable flat-bed printer, all of which are designed to optimize productivity and simplify operation. Currently in late beta, and ready for launch in Q2, extra speed options have been introduced, along with shorter start-up times and software refinements for ease of use. The NUR Tempo was originally launched in 2003 and is a modular wide-format machine which can be purchased in four- or eight-color versions, with white ink and roll-to-roll options available. The new speed upgrades include both hardware and software modifications and are complemented by additional print modes for optimal performance. The first refinement to the Tempo relates to the shutters which form part of the UV-curing system used to provide instant-dry results on all materials. Now featuring linear shutters for additional reliability, start-up times have also been reduced to just ten seconds and the life expectancy of the UV lamps has also been extended. There is now a choice of three new print options with the Tempo. In Xpress mode the machine utilizes four colors and can output at speeds of up to 110 sq m/hour. This type of output is used typically for hoardings and billboards. The second mode designated Press II, also uses four colors but outputs in higher quality at speeds of up to 60 sq m/hour. Press II is suitable for the production of point-of-sale applications and general displays. Finepress II uses all eight colors in the Tempo and has a throughput speed of up to 42 sq m/hour. Typical applications include displays which are designed for close viewing and, thus, require attention to detail, as well as fine art and photographic output. The final enhancement to the Tempo is within its Printop II software suite which now features enhanced queue management, step-and-repeat, a new management module and fully automatic calibration and print mode change.

More information: www.nur.com

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7) **VUTEk presents its Superwide Digital Inkjet Printers**

VUTEK, a division of EFI, is exhibiting its broad portfolio of UV-curing flatbed and solvent roll-to-roll printers at the International SignEXPO, Orlando, Florida. The PressVu® UV 200/600 SC UV-curing flatbed printer delivers high-end image quality, greater productivity and improved profitability. The PressVu UV 200/600 SC is loaded with features like stunning six-color, 600 dpi capabilities that deliver photographic color reproduction and crisp text reproduction. Also on display, the UltraVu II 3360 three-meter roll-to-roll printer delivers best image quality and productivity. In addition to throughput improvements in all print modes, the UltraVu II 3360 comes standard with many new features, including a more automated two-sided print registration option for producing consistent, distortion-free double-sided graphics. In addition, VUTEk will showcase the PressVu UV 320/400 UV-curing flatbed printer. Its features improved text quality, designed to help digital print providers increase profitability. Also on display is the UltraVu 150 1.5 meter roll-to-roll printer. Available as a six-color model, the UltraVu 150 provides image quality to satisfy the most demanding customer requirements.

International SignEXPO 2006: booth 3216

More Information: www.vutek.com

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8) **Mimaki introduces the new JV5 Series**

Mimaki Engineering Co. Ltd. announces the JV5-130S and JV5-160S. These next generation solvent inkjet printers are equipped with newly developed print heads. The new JV5 series prints with ultra-high speed of 40 sq m/hr (430 sq ft/hr) in a new high quality print mode of 540 x 1080 dpi specially designed for short distance signage and photorealistic applications. The new generation JV5 responds to the needs of power users and quick delivery by using a newly developed print head which carries 4 times as many nozzles as the current JV3 series. In addition to this breakthrough advancement is a recently developed Mimaki head configuration of 4 staggered print heads. The new JV5 models are equipped with 4 new automatic functions: automatic laser nozzle-out detection, automatic adjusting head gap, automatic change double ink cartridges and automatic media-feeding compensation. These automatic functions are designed to improve operator efficiency, resulting in the highest quality and consistency of the printed work. Two kinds of solvent inks are available: ES3 ink which is eco-designed & low odor and HS ink for high scratch-resistance and durability (HS ink will be available in the near future). A 3-way intelligent heating system includes a large sized post-heater and an external dryer enabling super-high speed printing. The take-up mechanism allows media to be printed fast with any type of ink. The European debut of the new JV5 series will be at IPEX 2006 in Birmingham, The product delivery is planned to start in summer 2006.

IPEX 2006: hall 9, booth 35 and FESPA Digital: hall 8, booth E700

More information: www.mimakieurope.com

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9) Multi-Plot: Complete solution from printing to packaging

At IMB Multi-Plot will show a complete solution for digital textile printing, finishing and packaging. The printer "d.gen Teleios" prints up to 260 cm directly on textiles and the integrated fixation system fixes the colours on the textiles. Advantages of digital textile printing are brilliant colors, waterproof, UV resistant and ecologically safe and its 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. The cutting machines from Esko Kongsberg i-XL, i-XE and XL-tables are productive solutions for digital finishing of signs and displays. The Kongsberg i-XL complements digital printing of sign and displays with a unique finishing solution for the widest range of materials, providing automation, high productivity and outstanding precision. With the MGE i-cut vision system, you can guarantee a cut contour that perfectly matches the printed graphics. The newest product in the Multi-Plot assortment is the "Rollo Motion". The "Rollo Motion" is a moving feeder for materials (e.g. carpet rolls). Thereby, the supplies in the machine will relieve. The stable steel construction can be load with the material rolls. Also, it's easy to roll the "Rollo Motion" in the right position and the material will push in the machine. **IMB: hall 7, booth A-045/A0-41**

More information: www.multiplot.de

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10) Matan: Enhanced features for Thermal Line

Matan Digital Printers has released the SpotBoard, enabling innovative features for its thermal transfer digital printers: Matan SpringPro and the new Matan Spot36. The SpotBoard is a new electronic board that provides significant benefits to Matan's Thermal Transfer line users. First and foremost, it enables individual control over the energy levels of each printing station separately. This maximizes the print quality of spot colors and combinations of process colors and spots. This is especially important in the case of spot white or metallics that require higher energy levels than most other colors. Secondly, the SpotBoard offers automatic energy leveling compensation across the width of the print, enhancing print quality for uniform areas. The SpotBoard also allows operating the Matan Spring from a variety of computer platforms, including laptops, offering maximum flexibility and eliminating the need for a dedicated PC for the printer. The card uses USB2 communication between the printer and the computer. The SpotBoard card was developed by Matan's R&D team and was originally designed for the Matan Spot36, the new 2-color wayfinding signage printer. It has been further implemented in the Matan SpringPro and will be integrated by default in all new Matan Spring printers as of March 2006. Matan also offers an upgrade option for the Spring install base. The Matan SpotBoard was installed and tested at 4 US customer sites, all of which are reporting great satisfaction from the new capabilities.

More information: www.matanprinters.com

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11) Epson at IPEX

Epson will be demonstrating the versatility of its extensive range of wide format inkjet printers under the banner 'Epson Everywhere' at IPEX 2006. This will be the biggest presence at IPEX for the company with its largest stand to date and a huge number of specialist RIP software vendor and distributor partners showing the widest number of diverse Epson-based applications throughout each of the event's 11 halls. The Epson stand will operate as the principle 'kick-off' central hub for those who wish to evaluate the latest developments in digital proofing techniques and creative large-format applications. Visitors to the stand will have the opportunity to discuss the various technologies, receive best practice advice from Epson specialists, and guidance on where to find relevant applications in action around the show on a number of reseller and software partner stands, including Bodoni, Compose, GMG, Kodak, Litho Supplies, NCS, Turning Point Technologies and Xerox. **IPEX 2006: hall 9, booth B45**

More information: www.epson.com

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12) GBC: New thermal laminating systems and films

GBC Films Group Europe, part of Acco Brands Corporation (NYSE : ABD – news) will be exhibiting the new Delta 76 and the Centurion 2 thermal laminating solutions for high quality commercial, on-demand and packaging finishing on its stand at Grafitalia 2006. GBC will demonstrate the full range of films, encouraging customers to adopt not only gloss and matt films, but discovering the silk, scuff-free and metallic films. At Grafitalia GBC will launch the new GBC Delta 76, which can laminate up to a max. width of 76cm at a max. speed of 50m per minute. The Delta range is particularly suited for digital printing as it matches most of the digital printing systems in the market and processes films, which offer better lay-flat properties and better adhesion to digital prints with fuser-oils as the GBC Hi-Tac Lay-Flat. Another new development will be the GBC digital OPP, which will offer a significant better initial adhesion compared to the GBC 9525 Premium gloss and GBC 8326 matte films at an affordable premium. At Grafitalia GBC will show their complete

automated GBC Centurion 2 thermal laminating system, a machine appreciated by the market, as stated by the 13 machines installed in Europe since its launch a couple of years ago. The Centurion 2 has now increased the maximum web-speed from 60 to 70 m per minute and is designed to process a wide range of films gloss and matt including the GBC Specialty films such as the 8600 Silk and the 8300 Scuff-free film. The new 8600 Silk OPP film provides a silk finish and non-reflective surface. The unique finish is resistant to fingerprints and gives a quality feel to the product. The GBC 8600 Silk offers all the advantages of standard OPP film such as excellent adhesion ensuring consistent quality output. This film is also suitable for further finishing like spot varnish, UV varnish, embossing and foil stamping. Another new development is the 8300 Scuff-free film, this matte film is three times more durable and scratch-resistant than the GBC 8326 matte film. This film accepts UV-spot coating and creates greater visual impact. The new 7100 Metallic PET film is a thermal metallic printable polyester film. This revolutionary new film of 30 micron, available for processing on the Delta laminators, is targeted especially to luxury packaging applications, magazines and brochures of very high quality which gives them a distinguish finishing. **Grafitalia 2006: hall 13, booth D63**
More information: www.gbctfilm.com

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13) ONYX Graphics adds support for HP Designjet 9000s Series

In alliance with HP, ONYX has optimized the HP Designjet 9000s driver and profiles to operate the printer at its top performance capabilities. ONYX software solutions include key features such as PANTONE® Spot Color



Matching, Contour Cutting Workflow and Job Nesting, which enhance the performance capabilities of the HP Designjet 9000s printer. The driver is available for all ONYX version 6.5 workflow solution software products including ONYX ProductionHouse and ONYX PosterShop®. It includes color profiles for all HP media for the HP Designjet 9000s in addition to profiles from third-party media providers such as Avery®, Kapco® and Océ®. ONYX continues to work closely with HP and other media providers to produce a wide range of media profiles. The HP Designjet 9000s Series printer driver is included in new ONYX PosterShop and ONYX ProductionHouse software packages purchased after March 1, 2006. Registered users with licenses obtained prior to March 1st, 2006 can purchase the driver for ONYX 6.5 versions of ONYX ProductionHouse, ONYX PosterShop and ONYX RIPCenter software. For Users with version products 5.6 and older ONYX is now offering an attractive Update Promotion. Contact your ONYX dealer for details.

More Information: www.onyxgfx.com

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14) Eisfeld: PosterJet 7.5 at the IPEX show

Eisfeld Datentechnik is presenting the fantastic print quality and the ease-of-use of its innovative RIP solution PosterJet 7.5 on the Canon and HP booth during the IPEX show in Birmingham. Here PosterJet can be fully scrutinized by any user: Starting from fastidious photographers, who mainly focus on color accuracy and printing quality, up to large groups which concentrate on quality, an optimized workflow and a better workload of all printers – the requirements for PosterJet are wide. When high-quality print results, speed and absolute ease-of-use are required, users worldwide trust PosterJet – for the full bandwidth of large-format printing. During the IPEX users can directly convince themselves from the tremendous productivity of PosterJet.

IPEX 2006: hall 6, booth C50 (at Canon) and hall 4, booth A01 (at HP)

More information: www.posterjet.com

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15) MacDermid ColorSpan: New driver support

Scanvec Amiable and MacDermid ColorSpan are pleased to announce new driver support for MacDermid Colorspan's line of UV-curable and solvent inkjet printers. Scanvec Amiable's PhotoPRINT and Flexi product lines now have full driver support for MacDermid ColorSpan's line of DisplayMaker printers that include the 72UVR, 72UVX and 98UVX flatbed UV-curable and the 72SI and 98SI roll-fed inkjet printers. Scanvec Amiable and MacDermid ColorSpan teaming together will create a powerful RIP and print solution to take digital printing to the next level. "Our line of fast, yet affordable, UV and solvent printers is the perfect productivity tool for the small to medium sized sign maker and digital printer," said Bruce Butler, Director of Marketing, MacDermid ColorSpan. "Now, customers using the PhotoPRINT and Flexi products will benefit from their feature-rich software and accurate color matching capabilities." "In keeping with our commitment to maintaining our industry leading position, Scanvec Amiable is pleased to further our partnership with MacDermid ColorSpan by supporting their new and innovative printing technology," states Jim Cain, Vice President of Sales, The Americas."

More information: www.colorsan.com and www.ScanvecAmiable.com

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16) Xaar approves new UV-curable ink from Fujifilm Sericol

Xaar extends its successful partnership with Fujifilm Sericol with the approval of another of the company's innovative inks for use with Xaar's piezoelectric drop-on-demand inkjet technology. The new UV-curable general purpose ink, Uvijet Versa, has been developed to achieve vibrant, lightfast and durable colors when used in conjunction with Xaar's XJ-126 and XJ-500 high-performance printheads. Formulated specifically for wide-format graphic and flatbed printer applications, the Uvijet Versa ink offers excellent adhesion and a tough, scratch-resistant finish on a wide range of rigid and flexible substrates. This makes it an ideal choice for both internal and external graphics, such as banner and signage printing, POS, vehicle and exhibition graphics as well as backlit graphics and window displays.

More information: www.xaar.co.uk and www.fujifilmsericol.com

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17) Marabu presents itself with convincing Digital Printing Inks

As a full supplier in all three segments – Wide Format, Super Wide Format and UV-applications – Marabu presents itself at the FESPA Digital with a comprehensive range. Digital Printing changes the world of printing and completes traditional screen printing applications. To follow this expanding trend, take a look at the applications at the Marabu booth. The latest solvent-based digital printing ink in Wide Format Marajet DI-E has been especially developed for Mimaki JV3-75 SP II, JV3-160 SP and JV3-250 SP. Marajet Di-E offers an excellent color gamut and additionally covers a vast media range. Furthermore Marabu offers Digital Printing Inks for super wide printing machines as well as different services in this segment: Marajet DI-V for Vutek UltraVu®, Marajet DI-S for Scitex Grandjet and Marajet DI-N for NUR Salsa™/Ultima™. The UV-curable inkjet series Ultrajet DUV-X offers because of its wide range of printing substrates the perfect basis for flat bed printing machines and beyond this, it is suitable for outdoor applications.

FESPA Digital: hall 8, booth C 1150

More information: www.marabu-inks.com

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18) IntelliCoat Magiclee Verona honored with DIMA Award

IntelliCoat Technologies® announced that its Magiclée® Verona 225S universal fine art paper for aqueous and solvent ink jet printing systems received the DIMA Innovative Digital Product Award. The DIMA Innovative Digital Product Award recognizes products or services utilizing new technologies and/or applications that make the product either distinct or the first of its kind. The award was announced at the PMA Trade Show in Orlando.

Magiclée Verona 225S is a 225-g smooth digital fine art paper with a traditional matte finish designed for fade-resistant reproductions. This natural white, 100% cellulose, fine art paper is designed with a water-resistant coating that is free of optical brighteners. Verona 225S universal fine art paper can be used with both aqueous and solvent ink jet printing systems. "As a pioneer of ink jet coatings, IntelliCoat has the experience, manufacturing capabilities, technical expertise and product knowledge to deliver consistent, reliable, high quality products that the artistic and photo markets demand," said Tony de Ruiter, IntelliCoat's European marketing manager for digital imaging. "We are pleased to continue to add cross-platform products that perform in both water-based and solvent environments to our Magic and Magiclée brands of digital imaging media."



More information: www.intellicoat.com or www.magicinkjet.com

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19) Hexis: New release of Digital Printing Glossary

Hexis S.A. announce the release of a new edition of their popular Digital Printing Glossary. The booklet explains the most common and recurring technical words relating to inkjet printing, color management, media and printer technology. It focuses on practical advice for non-specialists or those who want to familiarize themselves with the specialist vocabulary of digital printing. Previous editions proved to be extremely popular both with end-users and with distributors. The 2006 edition has been extended and now features an inch-metric conversion chart and includes more basic terms targeting a wider audience. There are numerous new entries and many others have been revised in order to take the latest technology changes into account. As in the previous version the glossary list terms that you will encounter in day-to-day dealings with the digital printing business covering subjects as color profiles, ink and media types, printer technologies and basic facts about materials and adhesives. Hard copies of the glossary are available on request from Hexis. A PDF-file can be downloaded from the Professionals Page of their website.

More information: www.hexisgroup.com

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20) Dr. Graphix Imaging: New Trilogy Progressive Display

Dr. Graphix Imaging has consistently developed quality products for the large format print and display markets. The new Trilogy Progressive Display (DRTRIOLOGY) is the latest addition to Dr. Graphix Imaging's impressive lineup of displays. The 3 sided prismatic design of the Trilogy rotates 120 degrees to display 3 individual advertisements. This device can be mounted vertically or horizontally. The Trilogy uses a unique venetian blind effect that rotates the images every 5 to 25 second depending on their needs. Dr. Graphix has committed itself to providing high quality, competitively priced displays and media. The Trilogy is a professional, high end solution to your display needs. It gives the flexibility of a rotating display with the look and feel of a permanent advertisement. There are no limits to the creative uses. Dr. Graphix Imaging Trilogy Progressive Displays are made of the highest quality extruded aluminum available and include Dr. Graphix Imaging's legacy of outstanding support. The Trilogy is available in 40"x26", 52"x34", 60"x40", 72"x48", 88"x52" and 100"x56" sizes.

More information: www.drgraphix.com

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21) Kodak Media compatible with new Wide Format Printers

Kodak continues it's tradition of quality and consistency with the completion of rigorous testing and ICC output profile development for several media products designed for the photographic market. Included in the testing process were the popular KODAK Premium Rapid-Dry Photographic Paper/260g, KODAK Rapid-Dry Photographic Paper/190g and KODAK Universal Backlit/8mil. As a result, these products are now covered by Kodak's unique Performance Guarantee when used with Epson's new Stylus Pro 4800, 7800 and 9800 printers and Ultrachrome K3 inks and Canon's W6400 and W8400 printers and pigment inks. For more than 100 years, Kodak has devoted enormous resources to ensuring the consistency of its imaging papers, films and related products, and that same approach is used to bring to market the highest quality wide format inkjet media. Kodak's image science test lab was created to improve each generation of new media. On average a media undergoes 1,000 hours of testing in such areas as technology assessment, compatibility and durability prior to being introduced into Kodak's comprehensive portfolio. In the Applications Lab, a variety of scenarios featuring different applications and profiles and/or RIPs are used to simulate customers' workflow. These workflows are used as part of the media's assessment. Testing is also conducted on print finishing, including laminating and posting the product.

More information: www.graphics.kodak.com

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22) Esko presents Kongsberg i-XL44 and i-XE10

Esko will demonstrate two of its successful Kongsberg line of digital finishing tables for the short run production of signs & displays, POP & packages at FESPA Digital 2006. Esko will display its vision to turn the entire packaging supply chain - from brand owner to retailer - into a straightforward collaborative process, boosting consistent quality while reducing time to market and costs. Part of this total integrated packaging pre-production workflow solution is the Kongsberg digital finishing solution, powerful tables driven by Scope components. Esko will show the Kongsberg i-XL44 large format finishing table with the powerful MultiCUT toolhead. It features 3 simultaneous combined tools including the high-power precision router and high-frequency oscillating & drag-knife cutting tool inserts. With the successful integration of the proven MGE i-cut® technology, it complements digital or other printing with a unique finishing solution for the widest range of materials with sizes up to 2280 x 3420 mm. The Kongsberg i-XL44 will be demonstrated with a conveyor system combined with an MGE sheet feeder system for continuous material loading for non-stop production. Esko will also demonstrate the Kongsberg i-XE10 - a complete new, high-speed cutting table for light duty and flexible materials such as vinyl, polyester, polypropylene, polycarbonate, carton up to single flute corrugated board. It is ideally suited for the finishing production of sign & display, decals & labels, boxes and other specialty print applications with size up to 800 x 1100 mm. Continuous production will be shown combined with i-cut® and automation features to handle roll and sheet material.

FESPA Digital: hall 8, booth C 500

More information: www.esko.com

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23) CGS to debut ORIS Package Pro and ORIS Color Server

Signaling the company's continuing expansion, CGS Publishing Technologies International will introduce two new color workflow applications at IPEX 2006. ORIS Package Pro will be a complete system for packaging proofing, with particular emphasis on flexographic reproduction. ORIS Color Server will be a database-driven web environment for a broad range of ORIS color workflows, including remote proofing, job submission and preflight, digital file processing and much more. Also part of the new offering is ORIS' unique ability to work with GretagMacbeth's implementation of multi-channel ICC profiles, or Generic Output Profiles (GOP), which was announced at Print 05. This capability will continue, as an option to the entire ORIS Package Pro offering.

Established in 1985, CGS Publishing Technologies International GmbH, Hainburg, Germany, is a world leader in color proofing, productivity and production systems for the professional graphics arts market. Headquartered near Frankfurt, CGS also has operations in the Americas, as well as sales and support partners throughout the world.

IPEX 2006: hall 6, booth C20

More Information: www.cgs-oris.com

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24) PerfectProof introduces new look and product line-up

PerfectProof celebrate its 10th anniversary with a new corporate identity and a major product overhaul. Under the new house colors, the company is set to showcase ProofMaster v3, the new software solution suite for color accurate digital proofing and printing. E-commerce for printers will also take center stage in the company's product line-up at their technology partner booth on the Enfocus stand. With over 4,500 installations since 2001, the ProofMaster software RIP offering both ConTone/1-bit proofing and photo printing, a wide variety of file formats, a host of production tools, soft-proofing and workflow automation. At IPEX, PerfectProof will showcase the new ProofMaster v3 software solution suite, set to target a number of new user groups by adding a host of new functionalities all based around the same powerful color management engine. Next to enhanced proofing for offset, gravure, flexo and newspaper production, the software will now also offer film production for screen printers and wide format printing & cutting capability. Visitors will see live demonstrations of the new color accurate digital proofing and printing software suite at the stand. The two Belgian software companies recently entered a technology partnership which will already see a close integration of ProofMaster technology with that of the new Pitstop Automate workflow solution from Enfocus. Details on this and on how certified proofing joins forces with certified PDF will be announced by both companies at the show. **IPEX 2006: hall 6, booth A20**

More Information: www.perfectproof.com

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25) FESPA: Certified PDF Initiative in Association with Enfocus

FESPA is encouraging screen and digital printers to explore the productivity benefits of automated PDF workflows, and has partnered with industry specialist Enfocus to launch a new FESPA Certified PDF initiative. FESPA Certified PDF in association with Enfocus enables members of FESPA's National Associations to obtain a discount of 20% over the normal price of Enfocus software products until the end of 2006. To take advantage of this discounted price, printers simply need to contact their national association to obtain a discount voucher, which can then be redeemed against a purchase of any Enfocus software product via the Enfocus web site at www.enfocus.com, or via the local Enfocus distributor. The FESPA Certified PDF initiative is based on Enfocus Certified PDF®, a patent-pending automation-enabling technology used for efficient quality control while managing a large volume of PDFs. Certified PDFs® are immediately identified and moved through production faster than non-Certified PDF® files. Certified PDF® extends the power of PDF by embedding the PDF Profile that was used to preflight the file, and also creates a detailed preflight report, and audit trail of all edits made to the PDF document. FESPA technical experts have created profiles specifically for screen and digital printers, which users of Enfocus software can access via the Enfocus CertifiedPDF.net web site. Enfocus will provide free on-site training to FESPA association staff on the use of Certified PDF workflows, including the use of CertifiedPDF.net. Enfocus will also deliver a session on workflow automation at the FESPA Digital Conference.

More information: www.fespa.com

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26) visualcommunication Europe in Paris

Because it is everywhere and because we have to communicate if we want to be seen, visual communication is vital in today's world. What's more, there is an ever more varied range of visual communication solutions on offer in response to an ever-growing demand. This constant evolution in the techniques and technologies of visual communication reflects the dynamism of a sector that covers a vast market. From 20 to 22 September 2006 leading players in the sector will converge on Visual Communication Europe to showcase a huge range of visual communication solutions. With 17 shows already under its belt, Visual Communication Europe is growing constantly. Now in its 18th year, Europe's leading visual communication show is richer than ever with new products, new players and new areas of application. Communication always involves exchange.

More information: www.visualparis.com

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27) photokina 2006: Excellent prospects for photokina 2006

Koelnmesse is expecting to attract around 1,600 suppliers from 50 countries to the photokina event beginning on September 26, 2006, with more than 60 percent of the exhibitors coming from outside Germany. All of the global imaging sector's key players will be represented. Also on hand once again will be major names from the IT and telecommunications segments. In 2006, the traditional separation of the consumer imaging and professional imaging product ranges will be dispensed with at photokina. Instead of this division into two realms, the concept to be used will ensure that the entire imaging workflow is represented in the layout of the halls. The unifying theme in the new trade fair halls will be the progression of the image – from its recording, storage, processing and transfer to its presentation. At photokina, the imaging workflow will be divided into the five main areas of Input Devices, Storage/Processing, Output Devices, Service/Transfers, and Accessories/Consumables. This structure offers exhibiting companies the advantage of being able to clearly position themselves and their products within the five areas. At the same time, visitors will benefit from a clear overview of the products in a particular segment and will be able to find their way around the exhibition center quickly and easily. What's more, in 2006 the fair will be held for the first time in the new halls of the Cologne exhibition center, which is one of the most modern and attractive trade fair venues in Europe.



More information: www.photokina.de

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28) FESPA Digital Conference

FESPA has announced the two-day Conference Program for its Digital Printing Europe exhibition (RAI Exhibition Centre, 16th-18th May 2006), offering visitors a world-class line-up of speakers on a host of topics associated with digital production. The conference, sponsored by workflow automation experts Enfocus, runs on Days 2 and 3 of the exhibition, Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th May 2006. With a choice of 26 different conference sessions, the program is designed to offer delegates fresh insights and inspiration as to how they can capitalize on new and existing digital production technologies to build their businesses going forward, and address emerging vertical markets for their printed products. The morning sessions, chaired by FESPA past President Michel Caza, will cover general topics such as The Flexibility of Industrial Inkjet; Bringing Together Printers & Graphic Designers; and Integration of Digital Technology. The afternoon sessions on both days will be split into two streams – Homeware and Retail & Outdoor Advertising. These streams will offer specific presentations addressing the challenges and opportunities of printing digitally onto textiles, corrugated cardboard, packaging, retail POP materials, wood and stone, ceramic tiles and glass, as well as conventional substrates. The full FESPA Digital Printing 2006 conference program include costs is available as a downloadable PDF from the features page of www.fespadigital.com.

More information: www.fespadigital.com

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29) GretagMacbeth announces 2006 Training in Europe

GretagMacbeth Global Services is pleased to announce their color training opportunities in Europe for 2006. These include touring seminars, customized on-site Color Expert™ training and a range of workshops at their Centres for Color Excellence in Zurich, Frankfurt, Manchester, Paris, Florence and Milan. There are easy ways to get information about the trainings, the terms and the prices from GretagMacbeth: Contact the local GretagMacbeth authorized reseller or visit www.gretagmacbeth.com, select "Training & Support", then "Training Programs" to register online. You can also visit their European training calendar at www.graphintel.com/news/europe.html.

More information: gretagmacbeth.com

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30) Hauchler students are invited to 60-year jubilee celebration

On the 29. July 2006, Hauchler Studio, the German private technical school for print, media and paper-converting, celebrates its 60-year jubilee. Since 35 years, the school has offered training courses for the demand of the International print industry conducted in English. Technological transfer at state-of-the-art-machines and equipment is a speciality of the school. Due to a pragmatic approach with a focus on practical training, the courses aim to provide its participants the exposure to current best-practices and effective use of technology as well as quality assurance and overall plant management. Generations of participants come from 85 European, Asian, Middle and South American and African countries. As announced at DRUPA 2004, former International students are invited to the celebration held during Schuetzenfest in Biberach. To round up the anniversary, a refreshing course "Printing Quality Management" for former participants will be held from 3. July till 3. August 2006. Deadline for reservation for both events is 15. May 2006.

More information: www.hauchler.de

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31) Nazdar acquires Lyson, Ltd

Nazdar, North America's largest manufacturer of screen inks, digital inks, and chemicals, announces the acquisition of Lyson, Ltd., and its subsidiary, Lyson, Inc., a leading manufacturer of inkjet inks for digital printers. The Lyson brand and product line are now part of Nazdar's Inks and Coatings Division, based in Shawnee, Kansas. Based in Stockport, UK, with a US subsidiary in Chicago, Illinois, Lyson supplies major OEM digital printer manufacturers and end-users through an international network of distributors. The Lyson product line includes digital inks for all major inkjet print technologies, including piezo, thermal, and CIJ. Lyson manufactures both solvent and water based inks in pigment and dye formulations for markets such as industrial coding and marking, office printing, wide format graphics, fine art, photography, proofing and grand format billboard printing. "Nazdar is committed to the digital ink market," stated Mike Fox, President of Nazdar. "It's an increasingly important part of our core business. We've been manufacturing and marketing the NDI brand of digital inks since 2000, and we know what it takes to deliver a top quality product. Lyson and Jeff Ball have done an excellent job of establishing Lyson as one of the world's premier providers of digital ink products. They have an innovative history and have developed an excellent product line that enables Nazdar to achieve its strategic initiative to expand outside of our traditional channels and presents us with new customer opportunities. Bringing the two companies together will help both Lyson and Nazdar reach our goals for the future. We're extremely pleased to welcome Lyson to the Nazdar organization." Jeff Ball, Lyson's founder, stated, "The acquisition is a great fit for both companies. It gives the Lyson brand the resources necessary to further our penetration into the marketplace and to continue to research and develop Lyson products at the very highest level. It gives Nazdar a larger product portfolio and an established base in Europe which accelerates their international expansion objectives. We're excited about the possibilities and look forward to being part of the Nazdar organization."

More information: www.nazdar.com

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32) Kodak: Mike Howard new Vice President of Marketing

Kodak's Graphic Communications Group (GCG) has named Michael K. Howard as Vice President, Marketing, for its Digital Printing Solutions (DPS) business. A veteran of more than 20 years in the industry, Howard will lead all marketing efforts for DPS. "Mike Howard's deep industry experience and leadership will help us develop and market industry leading solutions for our print provider customers. These solutions enable our customers to blend color and black and white digital printing systems in production grade environments. Kodak and its customers are dramatically expanding the digital printing market with these capabilities," said Venkat Purushotham, General Manager of DPS and Vice President of GCG. "I'm excited to be part of Kodak's DPS management team, and eager to create more value and awareness for Kodak and its customers," commented Howard.

More information: www.graphics.kodak.com

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