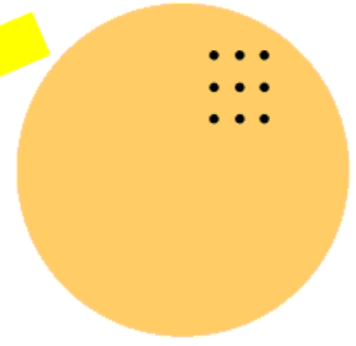


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Actual News about [Large Format Printing](#)

A free of charge information service

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Dear Readers, dear friends,

most of the vendors rush from one show to the next. Even open houses are done nearly everyday. So there is less time to do communication on the regular base. Nevertheless we found again a lot of news which might be for interest. Keep in mind, FESPA is coming up soon. A great place to go and meet with all the systems, media, inks, software, etc.

Sincerely

Wolfgang Hey

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1) Wasatch to offer second Web seminar

The first HP/Wasatch SoftRIP web seminar created such excitement that Wasatch have decided to hold another session. If you missed them in March, make sure to register early for the May 1 makeup session. Topic: Using Wasatch SoftRIP to Increase HP Designjet 5000 Performance Date: Wednesday, May 1 Time: 2PM Eastern, 1PM Central, 12PM Mountain or 11AM Pacific Time. Attend this interactive presentation to learn how to increase your efficiency using the powerful Wasatch SoftRIP and Hewlett Packard Designjet 5000 printing combination. The Wasatch printing experts will cover topics including color, sizing, rotating, tiling, queue management, and SoftRIP's two newest features: ImageNET Network Services and SpotOn Color Capture. A special segment will give advice on optimizing the software and hardware settings to dramatically improve your printing performance.

More information: www.wasatchinc.com

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2) Sihl introduces J39DS Banner material



J39DS is a double side coated, matte and tear-resistant polypropylene banner. The banner has a water-resistant coating and a paper-like touch. The printouts are characterized by high color brilliance and image definition. A high opacity reduces the shining through of the backside printing. Applications: The product was especially designed for "POS-advertising". It is also suitable for all kind of indoor applications and temporary outdoor use of up to 2 weeks (weathering-tests ongoing). For outdoor-use, pigmented inks should be used. The product is compatible with most of the common ink-jet systems. For double-side-printing it is recommended to print the first side from the roll, to cut the printed sheet and to roll the finished print in the opposite way for about 15 minutes. For the printing of the backside, the product can be loaded as a cut sheet. When printing the backside, please beware of upstanding edges. Problems due to curl can be solved anytime by rolling the media the opposite way. For specific applications the borders can be stabilized by folding. Double side tape can be used to stick the product. The banner has good lamination-characteristics and is suitable for encapsulating. For single-side lamination we recommend the use of pressure-sensitive laminates. To hang up the product, eyelets can be used but high tensile-forces and tensions should be avoided.

More information: www.sihl.ch

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3) Scitex Vision showcases New Printers and Revolutionary Ink Concept at ISA

Scitex Visionis made a big splash at ISA with two new models of its printers and a revolutionary ink concept specifically designed and adapted for Scitex Vision printers and their applications. The Scitex Pressjet II was launched and demonstrated for the first time during the ISA show. Targeted at the graphic arts market, the Scitex Pressjet II represents a new generation of the Scitex Pressjet; six-color printing (CMYK with the addition of light cyan and light magenta), making it possible to attain the highest image quality. Printing houses will also benefit from Onyx® Postershop® RIP, which offers a faster and simpler workaround, and provides new color management options. With a throughput of up to 240 sqm (2580 sqft) per hour, the Scitex Pressjet II offers impressive digital productivity. This new digital press also prints backlit and double-sided jobs with high registration accuracy, making it a perfect complementary system to all screen and digital printers. In addition to its new printing systems, Scitex Vision is introducing the innovative VisionInk ink program to the market.

More information: www.scitexvision.com

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4) New inks and software for NUR SalsaT Ultima

NUR Macroprinters announced a new ink set, Version 3.0, and new control software, Version 4.3, for its line of NUR SalsaT Ultima affordable, wide-format photorealistic printers. The cost-effective NUR Salsa Ultima series printers are available in 4 models for producing photorealistic output in shorter runs in widths from 1.5m to 5m (5 ft.-16 ft.). The new Version 3.0 inks for the NUR Salsa Ultima printers provide a wider color gamut, accurate dot gain, optimized impact drying, better light ink balance, and higher density printing while eliminating drop outs. The new ink formula also provides a longer "open bottle" life and does not require auto-purging, resulting in savings through reduced ink consumption. The new Version 4.3 software for the NUR Salsa Ultima printers, while retaining the Ultima series' unique dot placement algorithm - another key to the printers' high image quality - includes the 'custom-mode' feature that enables users to define the appropriate combination of print speed and quality based on the unique requirements of the individual application to be printed. The new Version 3.0 inks and Version 4.3 software for the NUR Salsa Ultima printers are available immediately.

More information www.NUR.com

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5) Version Image Plus supplies advertising graphics for fleet of 3,000 trucks

When Canadian large format printer, Version Image Plus signed a partnership deal with Robert Media Transport Company to print advertising graphics for its fleet of 3,000 trucks, for both parties, there was no question of which type of press would be used, it had to be a VUTEk. Pierre Peloquin, President of Version Image Plus explains, 'Four years ago we decided to switch to VUTEk and purchased an UltraVu* 5300 and an UltraVu* 2360 to replace our E-Stats as more cost effective, reliable options. So when we signed a partnership agreement to print advertising graphics for Robert Media Transport, we opted for another VUTEK printer, the UltraVu 5330* because of its substrate versatility, speed, reliability and most of all, color consistency.' This decision was fully endorsed by Robert Media Transport's Managing Director, Francois St Hilaire, who explains, 'Prior to going ahead with the deal, I myself had been to many trade shows to compare printers, and felt that VUTEk was best, offering excellent print quality. Since using VUTEk printed graphics, our customers frequently comment on the sharp vibrant colors produced.'

More information: www.vutek.com

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6) Rexam divests Coated Films and Papers business

Rexam PLC, the global consumer packaging company, announces that it has reached agreement to sell its Image Products business, for a consideration of \$60 million subject to a working capital adjustment. The purchaser is Sun Capital, a leading US private investment firm focused on leveraged buyouts of market leading companies. The consideration comprises \$35 million in cash, including borrowings assumed, and a 3½ year subordinated note for 25 million. The cash proceeds will be used to reduce borrowings. The sale is subject to regulatory clearance. Image Products is a leading global player in the market for speciality coated films and papers for the electronics and digital imaging markets. It has four plants in the US and two in the UK. Rexam retains the Lancaster plant in South Carolina, which makes weatherable films. A purchaser for this, the last remaining part of Rexam's Coated Films and Papers businesses, is being actively sought.

More information: www.rexam.com

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7) News from Aurelon

Aurelon PDFWriter offers 'direct to PDF' distilling capabilities from any application on PC and Mac. The application will be sold via the Internet and is only available through electronic delivery. Aurelon PDFWriter is still in beta stage, which means it is not yet available for evaluation or sales. The current development schedule is aimed to release the product in Q2, 2002. GretagMacbeth EyeOne Support: Aurelon's nColor Engine™ technology utilizes the spectral measurement of color to profile desktop inkjet printers and off-set presses without requiring any prior color expertise. The upcoming versions of the Aurelon calibration software will include support for the GretagMacbeth EyeOne. This popular handheld spectrophotometer will provide the Aurelon calibration software with accurate spectral data for easy creation of Desktop and Press Fingerprints. Epson 10000 Native Screening Support: Aurelon proudly announces the support of the Epson Stylus Pro 10000 using Epson Native Screening. Epson and Aurelon recently signed a license agreement that will enable Aurelon to deliver the native Epson Error Diffusion used in the drivers supplied with the printer. Aurelon RIP software already offers its own screening methods like CED, Error Diffusion, FM Screen and Halftones and is now extending its support in the upcoming versions of its software. The first driver to support the Epson Native Screening is the Epson Stylus Pro 10000 ENS for the Windows platform.

More information: www.aurelon.com

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8) PRO SIGN with its finger on the industry's pulse



While the ISA Show (organised by the International Sign Association), the largest sign making show in the USA, the PRO SIGN team headed by Daniela Rose and Petra Schmitz was once again there on their own stand. As in previous years, the aim was to set up bilateral transatlantic contacts, which will ultimately benefit the PRO SIGN exhibitors in the late autumn. "Obviously our main aim was to attract new customers in the USA for the PRO SIGN. But it was also important for us to be present at the global sign making industry got-together in the sunshine state of Florida because US companies are not the only ones to sign contracts there; German companies based just 30 kilometres away from the Reed group's head office in Düsseldorf were also there. Even Prosign is named a sign show, main part at this show will be large format printing with a lot of additional events and seminars around.

More information: www.prosign-messe.de

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9) Inca Digital launches digital variable data foiling machine

One of the key developments in the printing industry could be seen at IPEX on stand 5/494, a digital foiling solution resulting from the partnership between inkjet specialists Inca Digital Printers and global foil manufacturers API Foils. On the stand there were regular demonstrations of this new foiling concept (patent pending) which allows fully variable foiled images to be applied during print runs. This is a dieless application and offers a cost effective solution for metallic effects, however short the run length. Inca Digital built the prototype inkjet system and developed the associated control software. MM Digital with its knowledge of inkjet print in the direct mail market has been instrumental in the development of a web handling system capable of running in excess of 60m/min.

More information: www.incadigital.com

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10) Do you like to build an ink jet printer yourself?

The company Maxi-Poster digital printing GmbH from Germany offers electronics - and software components for the building of Large-Format-Printers. The completely package includes a favorable RIP solution, software for the control mechanism of Printers as well as electronic-boards for the operation of different Piezo print heads. Along with this components, that were tested in the own print shop more than 2 years, Maxi - poster offers an extensive KnowHow - package to the theme Piezo-Inkjet-printing.

More information: www.maxi-poster.de

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11) 3M Approves Liquid Lamination for Scotchprint Graphics

3M Scotchprint Graphics fabricators can now use either an AquaSEAL® AS1600 or SW3000 liquid laminator and 3M's water-based Piezo Ink Jet Protective Clear 8530 on selected piezo inkjet-printed graphics. The coated graphics will be covered under the 3M™ MCS™ warranty. Clearcoats are becoming increasingly common on superwide graphics to improve production efficiency and reduce finishing costs. And as 3M's Marcie Anderson points out, "Liquid lamination gives users the ability to apply graphics in very intricate areas, especially contours and curves, without fear of delamination." The clearcoat can be applied and dried at a throughput rate of up to 3 lineal ft/min. The AquaSeal AS1600 can apply coatings to materials ranging in with from 12 to 60 in. The SW3000 can coat substrates up to 102 in. wide.

More information: www.scotchprint.com and www.sealbrands.com

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12) ASLAN presents new self-adhesive films for digital printing

ASLAN, Schwarz GmbH & Co. KG presents its extended range of products for digital printing at the Fespa in Madrid, Spain, 4.-8. June 2002. For ink-jet printing ASLAN presents a new PVC-vinyl, white, matt, which is highly water resistant (ASLAN IF 83), a PE-film with a micropore surface and a new banner material with an excellent covering, also there are different new polyester films that complete the ink-jet program. With digital printers using spirit based printing systems ASLAN offers an excellent range of products such as white and transparent films, matt or gloss, in all popular widths. ASLAN also offers laminating films with a matt and gloss finish in many different types. Their bestsellers are the floor-graphic-laminating films, where ASLAN offers a special guarantee. And lastly ASLAN have a range of clever mounting films, covered on both sides and coated with various adhesives to complete the program. This includes an innovative transferfilm, sandwiched between two liners, which is the ideal product for the person who wants to apply an adhesive layer without the use of expensive machinery.

More information: www.aslan-schwarz.com

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13) STAEDTLER Ink Jet is going from strength to strength

STAEDTLER Ink Jet has announced a successful start to the new business year. Whereas a turnover increase of well over 50 % was already enjoyed in 2001, the turnover in the 1st quarter of 2002 has already exceeded that of the same period last year by an incredible 80 %. Product Manager Helmut Hufnagl comments: "The weak economy has helped us no end. Users are keener that ever to find ways of cutting costs. With the launch of our professional refill system for HP 5000 we hit just the right mark. OEM business (inks for machine manufacturers and professional refillers) and also services rendered to outside companies have played their role in this growth. STAEDTLER Ink Jet is extremely confident about the second quarter. The launch of a new solution for HP 1050 (enabling even completely empty cartridges to be refilled) as well as the launch of an own-brand bulk feed system for Piezo printers will offer further potential for growth. In addition, efforts will be concentrated on expanding the field of Continuous Jet, i.e. patented, specialized inks for industrial marking.

More information: www.staedtler-inkjet.com

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14) Scitex and Franchise Services announced collaborative Relationship

Even this news is concerning small formats it might be for interest. Scitex Digital Printing and Franchise Services, Inc., parent company of Sir Speedy, PIP Printing and Multicopy, announced today a strategic and collaborative relationship for developing and applying business color technology and printing systems designed to meet the franchisor's business objectives and customer needs. This collaborative relationship pairs two industry leaders in advancing new workflows techniques and applications for digital color printing – Scitex Digital Printing is the world's leading provider of ultra high-speed digital printing solutions, and Franchise Services, Inc. is the world's leading provider of business printing. The collaborative development will focus on the latest product from Scitex Digital Printing, VersaMark™ Vantage™, which was launched at IPEX 2002 in Birmingham.

More information: www.sirspeedy.com. and www.scitexdpi.com

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15) STC Dye Sublimation Toners for Scotchprint 2000 Printer

Specialty Toner Corporation (STC) announces the commercial introduction of its Dye Sublimation toners specially formulated for the Scotchprint 2000 printer. The recent explosion of "direct print to vinyl" printers such as the Vutek, Nur, and Arizona has left many Scotchprint 2000 owners with heavy lease/support payments and a dwindling market for the vinyl transfers the machine was designed for. 3M itself states that the only real market left for the SP2000 is vehicle graphics. STC's new dye sub toners bring a new and exciting option to SP2000 owners. You will be able to offer your customers the latest in exciting products, including soft signage/fabric banners, ceramic tiles, and (when combined STC's Soltex coating) a wide variety of other substrates. STC's focus on full support will help you enter this new production area, as we can provide all the resources (training, heat presses, etc) for you start production.

More information: www.specialtytoner.com

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16) NEW Pre Press Proofing Solution with Dr Graphix TR51 Photo Papers

The already highly successful TR51 Gloss and Satin Multiple Application Photo Papers are already widely accepted and used as a contract and intermediate Pre Press proofing substrate for use with Hewlett Packard Printers. TR51 Gloss/Satin provides the high image definition and colour space that enable accurate representation of the final print, and offers an unsurpassed image and substrate durability that ensures the proof remains looking fresh no matter how many people it is passed to for inspection. TR51 is also a fraction of the cost of dedicated proofing papers. Dr. Graphics also introduced a new universal reverse print backlit film. It's 5-mil durable polyester base designed for light box applications. Excellent for long-term, high-traffic backlit applications. Its unique coating formulation will produce high color vibrancy and superb light diffusion quality. In addition, it will withstand heat from prolonged backlit exposure and offer the most eye-popping color fidelity and intensity you will ever experience.

More information: www.drgraphix.com/tr51c.htm

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17) Condé Offers Dye-Sub-Ready Wallets

To create a special gift for Father's Day, a groomsman, or a wedding anniversary, Conde Systems suggests custom decorating a wallet. The company has added men's tri-fold, nylon wallets to its line of products ready for dye-sublimation. Available in blue or black, each wallet features a 4.75 x 2.75-in. sublimatable panel, currency pouch, credit card slots, 4-sleeve photo holder, plastic ID window, and Velcro closure. For entry-level to professional users, Condé also offers a selection of turnkey DyeTrans™ dye-sublimation printing systems, including desktop inkjet printers, software, transfer media, inks, and heat presses.

More information: www.conde.com

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18) X-Rite and Monaco Team Up

Although the tools for digital color management and proofing have been around for several years, getting the software and hardware components to work together remains a challenge. Even if the user ultimately makes the correct decisions, the process of researching, testing, and purchasing the disparate elements is time consuming. For these reasons, many graphics providers have chosen to take advantage of integrated offerings that bundle key color management elements together. Beyond assurances of compatibility and performance, such packages usually offer savings on total price. High on the list of recently released color-management packages are the **X-RiteColor® Ensemble Solutions**, created in partnership with Monaco Systems.

More information: www.x-rite.com and www.monacosys.com

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19) Wasatch to offer special textile software

Digital Fabric and Textile printing is a growing field with specific opportunities and needs. Wasatch has been providing specialized software for this field for some time and they'd like to offer you the chance to try it FREE OF CHARGE. The Repeats Option for Wasatch SoftRIP handles textile designs created in dedicated CAD software, as well as in popular applications such as Adobe PhotoShop. It can produce endless repeats on inkjets, electrostatic plotters, and thermal imagesetters. If you're running Version 4.4 of Wasatch SoftRIP, you can try this exciting extension by simply entering an 'enabling code'. Try it for one month FREE OF CHARGE.

More information: www.wasatchinc.com

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20) Hint of the month by SCP Software

Scan-to-PDF: Did you know that with Colorado and EasyScan you can create a PDF file directly, without having to switch to Adobe Acrobat™ ? In "scan-to-file" simply select PDF as file format. Now you can define further PDF parameters, if needed. At the end of the scanning process, a PDF file, compatible with Acrobat Reader 3, 4 and 5, is ready.

More information: www.scp.de

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21) AGL's Ergonomic Laminator Eases Production Hassles

When developing the new AGL 64i laminator, the engineers at Advanced Greig Laminators consulted finishing expert David Goetter for advice. At dozens of graphics-industry workshops, Goetter has taught hundreds of laminating-equipment operators how to overcome commonly encountered problems. In the process, he has formed some definite opinions about how to make laminating equipment more user-friendly-particularly in busy digital graphics shops that must efficiently produce multiple jobs on different materials each day. Advanced Greig Laminators has historically built heavy-duty equipment reliable enough for industrial applications. The company wanted to attune its newest generation of digital-graphics equipment to the specific demands of busy production shops. Like previous versions of 64-in. AGL laminators, this production-grade, bidirectional laminator features dual heated rollers, and can process materials up to 62 in. wide and 2.38 in. thick. It is a ruggedly built, versatile, "print-conversion" machine that can overlamine, encapsulate, and mount images, or transfer graphics produced on electrostatic printers.

More information: www.aglaminators.com

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