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Dear readers,

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

1) **FESPA Digital: A storming success**

The debut FESPA Digital Printing Europe, which took place at the RAI in Amsterdam, was a huge success, with 9,317 individual visitors attending the exhibition. Many visitors returned for more than one day, making the total attendance 12,323. The show's popular and accessible location in Amsterdam attracted a truly international visitor mix. While the Benelux region (the Netherlands, Belgium & Luxembourg) naturally predominated, generating 39% of visitors, this was more than matched by attendance from the rest of Europe. 18% of visitors to FESPA Digital came from the German-speaking countries (Germany, Austria & Switzerland), 13% from northern Europe (the UK & Ireland, the Nordic region and the Baltic states), 12% from France, Italy and Iberia, and 10% from central and eastern Europe and the Balkan region. While the profile of FESPA Digital was strongly European, many visitors from much further afield also made the trip to Amsterdam, with the remaining 8% of visitors coming from the Middle East, Africa, India, Asia Pacific and the Americas. In all, visitors to FESPA Digital represented over 103 different countries. Thanks to the wealth of experiences available at the exhibition, the visitor data indicates that around 30% spent two days or more at the show. Many of the 234 exhibitors launched new products and visitors were able to enjoy a number of extra features, such as free seminars in the Showcase Theatre and a first class conference program. Frazer Chesterman, FESPA Exhibitions Director, comments: "We have been delighted with the overwhelmingly positive response to FESPA Digital Printing Europe, which has been consistent since its launch. The visitor turn-out last week clearly underlines the value of a regular, international forum that is dedicated to digital technology in this marketplace. We look forward to building on this success at the next FESPA Digital, to be held at Geneva Palexpo from 1st to 3rd April, 2008."

More information: www.fespadigital.com

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Sincerely
Yours Susanne Aschoff

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2) Lüscher: Premiere for JetPrint 3530 UV

At FESPA Digital Lüscher has now staged the world premiere of a completely new system for UV-drying which employs new UV-LEDs instead of the traditional metal halogen UV lamps, the JetPrint 3530 UV. The system, which was developed in co-operation with the US company Phoeson, reduces not only the heat generated but also operating costs because of its substantially lower energy requirement and the longer lifespan of the LEDs. Lüscher initially utilized this system for intermediate drying and can now apply the so-called Pinning step-free from 0 - 100% and therewith optimally adapt the UV drying to the substrate in use. By means of the LED technology the warm-up time of the UV lamps also ceases to apply: the system is ready for use as soon as it is switched on. In future the new LED system will be offered as an option to the present UV system. To ensure absolutely accurate register when printing double-sided, Lüscher also developed for a customer in the USA the first punch and register system which enables the company to print double-sided in accurate register on flexible substrates with two copies, each of 1.5 x 3.2 meters, on the sheet at the same time. The pre-punched substrates are mounted on lowerable register pins on the printing table. Now with this system, for the first time double-sided prints can also be produced economically in digital flat-bed printing with large run-lengths and constant quality.

More information: www.luescher.com

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3) Mutoh Europe: Two new Wide-Format Printer

Mutoh Europe introduced at FESPA Digital two additions to its wide format digital inkjet printer family, i.e. the VALUEJET 1204 Eco-Solvent printer and the PHOENIX S 3.3 meter solvent printer. The new ValueJet 1204 is a third-generation Mutoh Eco-Solvent printer. This four color piezo drop on demand digital inkjet printer offers a media width of 1300 mm and a printing width of 1200 mm. Using Mutoh's Eco-Solvent Ultra inks, the ValueJet 1204 can be used for printing onto a wide variety of popular uncoated vinyl and banner media. The ValueJet 1204 incorporates a new generation "wide model" 1440 dpi 3 picoliter drop-on demand piezo print head (8 lines of 180 nozzles). Application possibilities encompass production of outdoor posters & signs, banners, long-term backlit signage, building and construction announcements, POS displays, as well as durable photorealistic prints for indoor use. Prints made with the ValueJet Eco-Solvent Ultra printer are UV and water resistant for up to three years outdoors, without lamination. For fleet, floor graphics or other applications where prints are exposed to intensive mechanical stress or abrasion, lamination is recommended. The new ValueJet 1204 printer will become available during the third quarter of 2006. Incorporating Spectra® true solvent inkjet head technology, Mutoh's new Phoenix S super wide format 3.3 meter solvent printer offers a media & printing width of 3300 mm. Phoenix S is a heavy-duty outdoor production printer, specifically targeted at existing super wide format users looking for an economical solution for top quality printing. The machine offers a high-end industrial concept: a unique threading bar system allowing single user media loading, incorporated heating elements, motorized unwinder / winder system for media rolls up to 200 kg and 500 mm roll diameter, front and back active media tension bar system, bulk ink supply – 2 liter bottles, making the printer suited for production runs of top quality outdoor durable graphics onto uncoated banner and mesh materials. The new Phoenix S printer will become commercially available during the month of June.

More Information: www.mutoh.be

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4) Gandinnovations: Success in Amsterdam

Gandinnovations has declared another successful show, this time in Amsterdam showcasing their new Jeti 3324 UV Roll To Roll to hundreds of attendees at the FESPA Digital. Along with the new Jeti 3324 UVRTR, Gandinnovations demonstrated their Jeti 3318 with backlit camera option and the Jeti 3150 UV Flatbed, known around the industry as "The Workhorse." This nickname, given by onlookers throughout the three day show, was issued based on the Jeti's ability to print nonstop throughout each day without any banding, stoppage or general problems. All Jeti printers were producing vibrant output at the new 600 dpi resolution, a new option on all Jeti grand-format printers. Upcoming plans for Gandinnovations includes exhibiting at the NBM Sign Business and Digital Graphics show in Long Beach, CA, July 20-22. In booth 152 Gandinnovations will showcase the Jeti 3318 with backlit camera option.

More information: www.gandinnovations.com

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5) MacDermid ColorSpan: New ColorSpan 9840UV

MacDermid ColorSpan, Inc. has presented at FESPA Digital its newest flatbed UV inkjet printer, the ColorSpan® 9840UV. This industrial-grade product will join the highly successful DisplayMaker 72UVR, 72UVX and 98UVX printers to create the most comprehensive line up of affordable, production-oriented UV-curable flatbed inkjet printers. The ColorSpan 9840UV offers the ability to print on rigid sheets or flexible roll stock up to 2.5 meters wide and 70 mm thick. Designed around a belt driven media feed system and sixteen 600-dpi Micro-Quad™ piezo-electric printheads, the 9840UV delivers true 600 x 600-dpi quality at print speeds up to 75.4sqm/h. With its ability to print directly onto full-width rigid display materials the ColorSpan 9840UV is ideal for sign makers, screen printers and other print-for-pay service providers that produce large volumes of indoor and outdoor signs, banners, point-of-purchase and exhibit displays. The printer will be sold through MacDermid Color Span's worldwide network of value-added distributors and resellers beginning in the summer of 2006.

More information: www.colors span.com

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6) Roland DG Benelux: New SOLJET PRO III XC-540

Roland DG Benelux, a JV-company of Roland DG Corporation Japan announces the addition to their product range of the new SOLJET PRO III XC-540, its fastest, wide-format integrated inkjet printer/cutter to date. During FESPA Digital 2006 Roland successfully released the XC-540 on their booth. Combining photorealistic image quality and precision contour cutting into one 54" device, the XC-540 seamlessly integrates a new generation of hardware and software, including fully-optimized RIP software, to deliver the ultimate Print&Cut solution. Based on superior Roland engineering, the latest SOLJET sets a new standard for performance with up to 1440 x 1440 dpi resolution and a maximum print speed of 41sqm/h. The new VersaWorks 2.0 RIP software, award-winning ECO-SOL MAX ink and a range of additional features make the XC-540 the industry's top performing production tool for signs, banners, vehicle graphics, labels, decals, retail displays and more. The XC-540 will be distributed from their headquarters in Oevel, Belgium through their dealer network in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Slovakia and Switzerland.

More information: www.rolanddg.be

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7) Spandex: New Gerber Solara UV2

Spandex showcased its latest innovations in wide-format digital printing at FESPA Digital. The Gerber Solara™ UV2 aims primarily at sign makers, screen printers and other visual communications experts on the lookout for more versatility and added value. Solara's unique six-color (CMYK plus violet and green) UV-ink range opens up a completely new array of applications, including spot color reproduction while eliminating the need for pre treatment or lamination. The multi-functional Solara™ UV2 reduces the number of production steps and finishing materials drastically. Using the stepless head height adjustment and media sensor, the printer can easily be switched between roll-to-roll and flatbed printing to print directly on a wide variety of rigid and flexible materials up to 13mm thick and 152cm wide. These include most rigid substrates such as acrylic, Foamex, glass, PVC, polycarbonate, aluminum and a wide range of flexible materials. The instant-dry UV-curable inks guarantee increased UV durability and abrasion resistance without producing irritating odors or harmful VOCs.

More information: www.spandex.com

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8) Durst: Rho 600 Pictor – New addition to the Rho Family

The Rho 600 Pictor is a compact version of the Rho 600. Utilizing the same technology as other members of the Rho family, the Rho 600 Pictor is uniquely positioned being the first low priced, industrial standard, UV curing flatbed in the market from Durst. The Pictor is particularly suited to the sign industry and smaller graphics houses which are likely to already have a certain level of flatbed business but are would like to make the most of this growing business sector. Smaller than the Rho 600 at 160 cm wide, the Pictor has many of the same features as its larger family members. This includes Durst's own proven Quadro® Array printhead technology, which means that the print quality from the Pictor is of the highest standard. In fact, it offers an even finer resolution and is therefore ideally suited to printing small items typically produced by signage companies. This feature is further enhanced by special software which allows the printing of different small items alongside each other, maximizing productivity and profitability. Additional Quadro Arrays can be added so that it is also able to be upgraded with additional printing features such as Durst's leading white ink printing and selective varnish. And using Durst Rho ink the print has excellent adhesion and flexibility. The Rho 600 Pictor will be available for delivery during July 2006.

More information: www.durst-online.com

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9) Agfa Graphics: New :Grand Sherpa Universal AM

Agfa Graphics has at FESPA Digital demonstrated the new :Grand Sherpa Universal AM wide-format printer (65 inch version), which features :ABISS, Agfa's Bulk Ink Supply System. The :Grand Sherpa Universal AM's fourth-generation solvent inks provide improved color saturation and guarantee a uniform gloss appearance. :ABISS offers users longer automated production cycles resulting in worry-free, unattended printing. Agfa Graphics presented also the :Anapurna L and XL wide-format printers, with respective print widths of 1600 and 2500 mm, print on rigid media using Agfa's UV-curable :Anapurna ink. The Dual-Mode system enables fast printing of two half-sized media simultaneously. Additional features include maximum resolution of 363x725 dpi, borderless printing capability (no white edges), white ink printing, low-cost, and user-replaceable UV-curing lamps for low cost of ownership. Agfa Graphics added the two new :Anapurna models to its wide-format printer assortment at Ipex last April, where they met with great interest from attendees. The :Anapurna printers are already commercially available in Europe and North America.

More information: www.agfa.com

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10) Multi-Plot: Successfully complete solution for digital textile printing

The "IMB-World of Textile Processing" in Cologne was an international meeting place for all specialists of textile processing. An extensive offer of high quality technology for the production of clothing and complete solutions was presented. Multi-Plot showed a complete solution for digital textile printing and finishing and was very satisfied with the quantity and qualification of visitors. The presentation of the Kongsberg cutting table on a screen was a good possibility to see how it works. The Kongsberg table 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. But first, a d.gen Teleios direct textile printing machine printed up to a working width of 260 cm. Different motives were printed on different fabrics. The integrated fixation system fixes the colors on the textiles and the advantages of digital textile printing are brilliant colors, waterproof, UV resistant and ecologically safe and it is usable for in- and outdoor. Sportswear, textiles for decoration, bed sheets, 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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11) SAi: New Flexi 8 Family at FESPA Digital

SA International, formerly Scanvec Amiable, introduced the new release of its flagship signmaking products – Flexi 8 – during FESPA Digital with a first showing to the European public. The many enthusiastic reactions received, both from existing Flexi users and visitors to the SAi booth, confirms a leading edge

The logo for Flexi 8, featuring the word "Flexi" in a stylized, bold, blue font with a white outline, and the number "8" in a larger, bold, blue font with a white outline.

technology and production features Flexi provides to the professional signmaker. Among the most welcomed new features are the unique TrueShape Nesting tools – an industry first – as well as the dynamic spelling, PDF export, extended weedlines, anti-aliasing, latest CPSI, the new FlexiPRINT&CUT level and the many new "out-of-the-box" supported devices. The new Flexi 8 Family, localized European editions, will start shipping by the time you read this. Further on display were the latest versions of the PhotoPRINT 5 FAMILY V5.0v2 and the new EnRoute 3 FAMILY V3.3, capitalizing the leading role SA International continuous to play in the Signmaking, Wide Format Printing and CNC Machining markets.

More information: www.SAintl.biz

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12) EFI: VUTEK Printers now feature EFI Fiery XF RIP Software

VUTEK®, a division of EFI, presented at FESPA Digital the new EFI® Fiery® XF RIP software. EFI Fiery XF software delivers high-speed processing, exceptional color quality and increased productivity. The Fiery XF software, using Bestcolor Technology, enables the addition of multiple proofing devices to the production equipment, and integration with EFI Print Management Information Systems (MIS) and Web2Print products. EFI Fiery XF software provides users of VUTEK superwide format printers with advanced production capabilities through an intuitive, easy-to-use graphic user interface and preview feature with sound zooming to simplify work. EFI Fiery XF software provides sophisticated ICC-based color management and easy-to-use color adjustment functions to ensure consistent and excellent colors from VUTEK's superwide format printers. International spot color tables are built in, ensuring correct reproduction of company colors and logos. Advanced features, such as generating ICC profiles and optimizing existing profiles, allow users to achieve appealing colors and tones that meet customer demands. EFI Fiery XF software also works seamlessly with spectrophotometers from GretagMacbeth or X-Rite. And, with the solution's linearization tool, users can produce consistent, accurate color output every time. EFI Fiery XF software will be available from early Q3 2006.

More information: www.vutek.com/fieryxf

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13) ONYX Graphics: Successful launch of Version 7.0

ONYX Graphics introduced version 7.0 of its color production workflow software at FESPA Digital with great success. The "Discover a New World of Digital Printing Workflow" campaign as seen throughout the booth gave visitors insight into the new features and benefits of version 7.0. The hourly live demonstrations attracted large crowds interested in seeing first hand how ONYX solutions work within large and wide format printing environments. ONYX products were demonstrated in more than 20 partner booths such as Mutoh, HP and HP Scitex, MacDermid, Spandex, Spühl, Durst, Agfa and GCS Belgium. Version 7.0 offers a host of new features including improved workflow efficiencies with a 28% faster RIP speed, a new Layout Tool with a new Variable Data feature for batch customization, a new Media Manager application, better profile generation tools, a streamlined AutoUpdate function, easier installation, and new documentation. Users of ONYX version 6.0 and 6.5 can purchase and download an update to 7.0 now through AutoUpdate. New version 7.0 packages will start shipping in June 2006.



More information: www.onyxgfx.com

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14) Wasatch: Support for new lineup of DisplayMaker

Wasatch Computer Technology has announced new support for nine printers from MacDermid ColorSpan. Included in this release are drivers for both UV and solvent inkjet devices in the DisplayMaker product line. For consumers considering an investment in affordable flatbed UV technology, Wasatch has released support for the DisplayMaker 72UVR as well as the DisplayMaker UVX devices which offer users additional media flexibility and increased production speed. New support for the DisplayMaker 72SI and 98SI devices will make SoftRIP a leading RIP option for solvent DisplayMaker users as well. These new drivers from Wasatch have been rigorously tested to ensure reliable, quality results for every installation. Wasatch will offer standard driver support for popular 72 inch MacDermid ColorSpan printers, including the 72UVR, 72 UVX, 72S/72SR, 72SRU, and 72SI models. Support is available for the 98 inch DisplayMaker 98UVX, 98SI, and 98SX models with a grand format driver fee.

More information: www.wasatch.com

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15) Xennia: New XenJet Vivide range of UV-cure inks

Following rigorous testing, Xennia's new XenJet Vivide range of CMYK pigmented UV-cure inks have been approved by Xaar for use with its OmniDot 760 greyscale printheads. The inks offer outstanding jetting, color and mechanical properties, and when used in conjunction with Xaar's OmniDot 760 printheads set new standards of quality on a wide range of flexible graphics, packaging and label substrates. XenJet Vivide UV cure inks are the first Xennia inks to be approved by Xaar under a new ink partnership, building on the existing preferred integrator relationship between the two companies. Further inks for Xaar printheads are planned for launch by Xennia during 2006. XenJet Vivide inks are optimized for color gamut and vibrancy, speed of cure and low odor. The cured inks demonstrate excellent adhesion and durability on many substrates, together with high levels of chemical, abrasion, temperature resistance and UV light-fastness.

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

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16) Marabu: Marabu Inks – success formula for Large Ideas

At FESPA Digital Marabu presented “Digital Printing Inks for Large Ideas” for the segments wide format and super wide format as well as UV-applications. The exhibition was a full success. Marabu presented first solutions for wide format with a new, mild solvent-based inkjet ink which will be available by the middle of 2006. Characteristics like a wide color gamut and excellent lightfastness have been combined in a perfect way. Another focal point was the printing ink Marajet DI-E for Mimaki JV3-75 SP II, JV3-160 S/SP and JV3-250 SP. With this superfine pigment quality an optimal color gamut could be ensured. Marajet DI-E offers a great variety of substrates: PVC self-adhesive foils, different tarpaulin materials, mesh with paper backing, coated and uncoated textiles and suitable papers, as well as different reflecting foils. On suitable quality foils a lightfastness of up to two years can be achieved. Outdoor prints which are subject to mechanical stress like e.g. graphics on cars will require an additional lamination or varnish for mechanical protection. For the Super Wide Printing machines Marabu presented the color systems Marajet DI-V for Vutek UltraVu®, Marajet DI-S for Scitex Grandjet/ XL Jet, and Marajet DI-N for NUR Salsa/Ultima™ machines. With the UV-curable inkjet series Ultrajet DUV-X for Zünd, Marabu developed an ink system which is the perfect basis for flatbed printing machines thanks to its wide substrate range. Besides that, it is also best suited for outdoor applications.

More information: www.marabu-inks.com

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17) TEPEDE – Color variety and brilliance

TEPEDE, with the new media, showed an up to now never achieved color variety and brilliance on the FESPA Digital. Alike whether the new Clingfilm, the puncture film or the polypropylenes film, the media variety and the media qualities convinced the visitors. However, also the shown systems convinced – the Mutoh Spitfire 100 with Bulk-Ink system, the new Osprey 75 as well as the Rockhopper 3 with the eco-solvent-ultra inks – that they are ideally for sign painters. To continue the specific offers for complete printing systems as well as the announcement the successful Try-and-Buy offer for the color controller TEPEDE ColorBooster have found furthermore a great interest. Try-and-Buy: Customers of other software solutions can test this secure and extremely rapid solution for 14 days freely. Detailed information about the specific offers are at the homepage of TEPEDE.



More information: www.tepede.com and email: info@de.tepede.com

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18) ASLAN: New translucent goldfilm for light boxes

From May 2006 on ASLAN, German manufacturer of self-adhesive films, presents a new translucent gold film for light box-applications. Shiny golden during daylight, this film shows its advantage at night: Illuminated from the back, the film still shows a golden-yellowish color – no spotlights from outside are needed. This film is perfect for pub- and bar signs and available in two qualities: ASLAN CA 23 for an outdoor durability of two years and ASLAN CA 30 with an UV-protection for an outdoor durability of 5 years. Both films can be plotted easily and available in the measurement of 25 m x 1,25 m.

More information: www.ASLAN-Schwarz.com

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19) Avery: New Avery DOL 1030 3D-Laminate

Color fading, scratches, and the effects of automatic car wash bays are the enemies of self-adhesive vehicle graphics. Now Avery Dennison Graphics Division Europe has developed an innovative, ultra-conformable overlaminating film that finally offers fail-safe surface protection – even over compound curves, corrugations, and rivets. Avery DOL 1030 3D-Laminate is a product, which is newly available in the Avery Digital Overlaminates range from Avery Graphics distributors across Europe. It overcomes a number of problem areas, particularly for commercial vehicles where longer-life corporate graphics need good surface protection. Avery DOL 1030 3D-Laminate offers significant benefits for digital print and graphics application team. A high-gloss cast film, just 30 microns thick, it is very forgiving during warm application, and highly conformable (as you would expect from a cast film). Designed to partner graphics printed using solvent, mild solvent, and eco-solvent inks, Avery DOL 1030 3D-Laminate can be pre-applied to graphics in-house by the signmaker using standard roll-to-roll cold laminators.

More information: www.europe.averygraphics.com

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20) Papergraphics: Blue Fish – New range of solvent media

Papergraphics is delighted to announce the launch a fabulous new digital range of solvent print media for graphics. Blue Fish is an exceptional range of solvent printable media that has been specifically developed for superior outdoor performance. The Blue Fish range delivers a superb choice of products and offers everything possibly wish for to survive the great outdoors: resilience; confidence; bright colors, strength and durability. From vinyls to bluebacks, backlits to static and self-adhesive window films, this creatively inspired range has been developed to work brilliantly with a broad range of printers.

More information: www.bluefish.biz

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21) Hexis: New repositionable adhesive for solvent media

At the recent FESPA Digital show in Amsterdam, Hexis S.A. for the first time demonstrated their new repositionable adhesive technology HX200 Hex'Press. Hexis launched a series of vinyl media for solvent and eco-solvent inkjet with a newly developed liner and adhesive compound that makes the film repositionable during application and allowing convenient elimination of air bubbles. Thus wet application is no longer required and the installer avoids the risks commonly associated with wrinkles and entrapped air. The main characteristics of the new technology are a structured high performance adhesive, an embossed liner and a polymeric high performance vinyl. As the film remains repositionable during application, the installer achieves substantial cost savings through fast and efficient completion of vehicle wraps and fleet markings. The HX200 Series is available with either a grey (opaque) or a clear (transparent) adhesive on a special polyethylene paper liner and with a matching laminate the printed product offers an outdoor durability of up to 4 years. The standard roll sizes are 45m, 100m or 200m long and 1370mm or 1600mm wide. Technical data sheets are available on request from Hexis S.A. or local distributors. Currently the technology is not for sale in the USA, Canada and Mexico.

More information: www.hexisgroup.com

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22) 3P: New SubliDirect line

3P InkJet Textiles presents a newly created range of polyester fabrics especially for high speed printing with sublimation inks. The new SubliDirect line comprises four different fabrics: SubliDirect Voile FR (IQ-IJ 617), SubliDirect Flag (IQ-IJ 621), SubliDirect Display FR (IQ-IJ 625) and SubliDirect Taft FR (IQ-IJ 629), whereas the Flag material is also available with a flame retardant coating (IQ-IJ 619). All textiles marked with "FR" are flame retardant and can be used unconsidered in public buildings. The high speed printing technology makes high demands on coating and textiles. With the grand-format printers DuPont™ Artistri™ 2020 and d.gen Telios 3P's newest SubliDirect line achieve fantastic results. 3P InkJet Textiles makes the production of permanent prints with brilliant and vivid colors quite simple. After heat activation the prints are visible on both sides in first quality. The special 3P coating offers a wide color gamut. The sublimation direct printing allows reproducible first-class image quality that resist abrasion and other mechanical stress. 3P InkJet Textiles recommends this new line for point-of-purchase advertising, banners, exhibition graphics, wall murals, stage graphics and flags. All this media are available in 61 or 98 inches width, roll length vary.

More information: www.3p-inktextiles.com

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23) Mehler Texnologies: FESPA – A success

The first verdict on FESPA Digital 2006 is: it was worth it. The growing importance of digital large-format printing was once again underlined by the great demand for banner materials. Furthermore, it became apparent, that quality is of the utmost importance. Printability and color rendering as well as material strength, weathering resistance and processing versatility are the properties, which are hugely important to printers and customers. Consequently, AIRTEX®-materials attracted the visitors' greatest attention, and AIRTEX® magic took first place in the running: its textile structure and having one glossy and one semi-matte side make it suitable for a great variety of uses. In addition to its standard program, Mehler Texnologies also presented the product types at Frontlit and Backlit. Mehler Texnologies has been a leading manufacturer in Europe for a long time, but the great number of interested parties from outside the European market speaks for the quality of its banner materials, which meanwhile is already widely known on the international market.

More information: www.mehler-texnologies.com

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24) Hahnemuehle: FineArt Pearl – A new FineArt Paper

In response to the growing demand for a superior fiber-based digital FineArt media with the look and feel of a traditional darkroom photo paper, the Hahnemuehle mill is introducing the newest member of its digital FineArt media collection: Fine Art Pearl. Fine Art Pearl 285gsm is a triple coated, lignin free, 100% alpha-cellulose paper. The result is age resistant paper with a surface that is remarkably similar to a traditional silver gelatin

double-weight photo paper. Hahnemuehle FineArt Pearl proved to be significantly superior in D-Max, white point and surface structure. When FineArt Pearl was previewed at PMA 2006 in Orlando, the response from those who saw the samples was overwhelmingly positive. It will come in all standard sheet and roll sizes. The Hahnemühle paper mill has been producing quality artist's papers for over 420 years. Since its founding in 1584 they have developed experience and a tradition of excellence in art materials that is now been brought to the digital age, and fine art InkJet printing. The German based company, whose headquarters are in Dassel, has 150 employees worldwide.

More information: www.hahnemuehle.com

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25) MACtac Europe: New fully automated packing line

MACtac Europe has invested in a new fully automated packing line for paper sheets at its Soignies site in Belgium. MACprint/Starliner paper sheet stock has been a quality leader for more than 30 years in Europe. This investment will help MACtac to stay ahead of the market evolution thanks to improved service to its Customers and Distributors. It will also guarantee MACtac growth in this highly competitive market by doubling the Company production capacity of this product range. MACprint/Starliner paper sheet stock is available from MACtac authorized distributors and merchants.

More information: www.mactac-europe.com

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26) PerfectProof: ProofMaster v3 – revolutionary all-in-one solution

The latest release of PerfectProof's award-winning ProofMaster software gives wide format printing and silk screen professionals an unprecedented, full-fledged solution for all their proofing, printing and cutting needs. ProofMaster v3 is a software suite that can proof and drive Wide format printing and silk screen printing applications with equal ease and accuracy from both Mac and PC. The ability to go from design to production with guaranteed color accuracy, and all from a single platform, yields huge efficiency gains. ProofMaster v3 works seamlessly for all specialty applications — high-level fogra-certified color proofing, silk screen film production and wide format proofing, printing and cutting. The package allows the users to accurately simulate any wide format prints on a more manageable size ink jet printer. Because it is an all-in-one, fully integrated package, ProofMaster v3 significantly reduces training, installation and technical support time, yielding further savings. ProofMaster v3 will be available worldwide as of second half Q2 2006.

More information: www.perfectproof.com

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27) GretagMacbeth: New Eye-One Display Solutions

GretagMacbeth announces an all-new high-end professional version of its award-winning Eye-One Display 2 monitor calibration solution. At the same time, GretagMacbeth is pleased to announce the new Eye-One Display LT for budget conscious professionals just getting started with color management. Both of the new Eye-One Display solutions feature the renowned professional Eye-One Display measurement device, which is recognized as the defacto industry standard for its ability to precisely measure all types of displays, including LCDs, CRTs and laptops, as well as its high sensitivity in dark areas resulting in a better control of shadow detail. The new functionality in the Eye-One solutions is a result of the new Eye-One Match 3.6 software that is included with the devices, making it ideal for both new users as well as existing Eye-One Display 2 and Eye-One Pro users. With Eye-One Display 2, users can utilize the Ambient Check and Match functions to take precise measurements of the ambient light in their environment to ensure that their standard viewing conditions remain consistent – ideal for professional designers and photographers who want an accurate match between their light box and their monitor. Current Eye-One Display 2 owners can benefit from all the new Eye-One Display 2 enhancements by simply downloading the new Eye-One Match 3.6 software. The new Eye-One Display LT solution provides the perfect entry point for professionals who are investing in monitor calibration for the first time. It enables a basic set of functionality within the new version of Eye-One Match 3.6 that provides users with the possibility to calibrate their monitors and adjust the color on-screen with a few simple clicks. If a user wants to upgrade their Eye-One Display LT to an Eye-One Display 2, they can do so at any time simply by purchasing a license code to enable the full Eye-One Match 3.6 functionality. Both products are compatible with Mac OS X (10.3 or higher) and Windows 2000, XP and x64. Eye-One Display 2 is available immediately through the GretagMacbeth reseller network worldwide. Eye-One Display LT is available through select GretagMacbeth resellers in Europe, Asia and Latin America, as well as through Pantone and their reseller network worldwide. Current owners of Eye-One Display 2 and Eye-One Pro solutions (including Eye-One Design, Eye-One Photo, etc.) can download the new Eye-One Match 3.6 software for free from gretagmacbeth.com.

More information: www.gretagmacbeth.com

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28) SEAL Graphics: Toolkit for Liquid Lamination

Given the growing interest in liquid lamination techniques, SEAL Graphics has brought together new literature, warranty certificates, machine presentations, technical data, sample swatches of liquid laminates and a whole lot more, to introduce a new marketing program especially dedicated to this recent development. Called 'Liquid Essentials', this program follows the success of 'SEAL Essentials', the toolkit for SEAL products and services launched at FESPA last year. Liquid Essentials includes samples produced on four liquid coaters – the AquaSEAL 1600, SW3300, Signcoater and AquaSEAL 72UV and on two different media: Solvent Backlit PVC Banner and Solvent Economy Vinyl Matte. It includes Materials Safety sheets with technical details on the liquid coatings, warranty statements on SEAL's Integrated Graphics Protection System for fleet graphics and truck side curtains; as well as details of the new, purpose-built training facility, the SEAL Academy. The Academy is available to end-users for tailor-made courses which may be either application- or machine-specific according to their needs. The toolkit comes with a CD containing an electronic ROI calculator, a corporate presentation and four individual "How to operate" machine presentations.

More information: www.sealgraphics.com

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29) photokina: Around 1,600 suppliers and 160,000 visitors expected

Imaging is more - photokina is more: Starting on September 26, 2006, photokina will once again be setting the standard as the global information and communication platform of the imaging sector, with the latest techniques, products, applications and services. It is the wide range of products on show, which cover the entire scope of the complex imaging market that makes photokina unique. At the same time, the trade fair is presenting itself in a new light: The modified concept of the "new photokina" and the premiere in the new Cologne exhibition center ensure that even regular visitors to the show are eagerly awaiting this year's event. It's already clear that photokina will live up to its reputation as the global sector highlight once again this year. The trade fair distinguishes itself in the booming global imaging market by its unique competence in imaging - expertise built up over decades. It is highly regarded by consumers and professionals alike. The fair's popularity among renowned exhibitors is correspondingly high. Around 1,600 suppliers from 50 countries will be presenting at this year's "World of Imaging," with more than 60 percent of them coming from outside Germany. Around 160,000 visitors from 140 countries - mostly professional users and dealers - are expected in Cologne. The attractive venue for photokina 2006 is provided by Cologne's new exhibition center, which has already generated a very positive response from exhibitors and visitors at several large trade fairs. **photokina: 26 September to 01 October 2006**



More information: www.photokina.de

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30) FESPA 2007: Sales Campaign for FESPA 2007

The global sales campaign for FESPA 2007 in Berlin has begun, with the launch of the FESPA 2007 website, and the publication of the sales brochure for the show. The new FESPA 2007 sales brochure carries a striking front-cover shot of Berlin's iconic Brandenburg Gate, and includes the show's new strapline, 'The Power of Imaging'. It features a gallery of vibrant images illustrating the buzz and vitality of the last FESPA World Expo held in Munich in June 2005, which broke all previous FESPA visitor records with over 33,000 visitors from more than 121 different countries, a 74% increase over the previous FESPA event. A raft of big-name screen and digital suppliers has already indicated their commitment to participating in FESPA 2007. FESPA 2007 will occupy eight halls at Messe Berlin, equating to at least 48000 square meters of floor space. Centrally located in Berlin, the exhibition grounds are directly connected via autobahn to the city's three international airports. Messe Berlin also offers ideal connections to one of the world's best public transport systems.

FESPA 2007, 5 to 9 June 2007

More information: www.fespa2007.com

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31) GretagMacbeth: Colour Without Limits Seminar

GretagMacbeth, Hewlett-Packard, Apple and Adobe are currently touring Europe through June with the "Colour Without Limits" seminar. This complete color workflow training is designed to give digital print shops, designers and photo professionals the knowledge and the tools to understand and apply color management. Registration is still open in most cities. Here's what some attendees were saying: "All of my color concerns were covered. The instructor's knowledge was outstanding."; "Thorough explanation of color profiles and how to manage different input and output devices."; "Good introduction into a subject that's hard to know where to start". The 9am-5pm seminar includes lunch, a GretagMacbeth huey™ monitor calibrator and the Color Toolkit. Visit www.graphintel.com/cwl for registration, the full agenda and printable seminar information.

More information: www.gretagmacbeth.com

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32) EasySIGN: Numerical Control Design b.v. is EasySIGN b.v.

EasySIGN announces that it has changed the company name and starts doing business as EasySIGN b.v.. "The EasySIGN software product and the EasySIGN brand name are well known in the sign industry. The company is focused on the sign industry and has made major progress with the recent release of the new EasySIGN Print Server software. Large format printing software is and will be our key business and therefore a change of the EasySIGN logo is required. The raster behind the new EasySIGN logo reflects our strong relation with printing and the CMYK circle at the bottom shows our link with full color. Our house style will change gradually in 2006," said Mr. Paul Schoofs, CEO of EasySIGN b.v.. Visitors of FESPA Digital exhibition in Amsterdam have noticed the introduction of the new Print Server software, new company name and EasySIGN logo.

More information: www.easysign.com

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