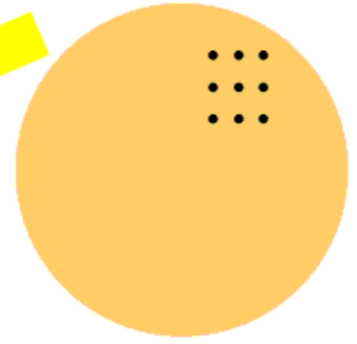


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Actual News about [Large Format Printing](#)

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Friday, 26. September 2003

Dear readers,

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

Enjoy while reading.

Sincerely Yours

Susanne Aschoff

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1) viscom has set records



The signmakers are looking confidently to the future. More than 60 percent of businesses are expecting the recovery to be “marked” or “very strong”. This is the result of the representative trend barometer at viscom 2003. Business at Europe’s leading trade fair for visual advertising techniques and signmaking was also influenced by the upbeat mood.

Exhibitor and visitor numbers were up, the latter by five percent, meaning that the viscom registered record figures and the event was characterized by an overall increased willingness to invest. Almost 62.2 % of the total of 296 exhibitors from 30 countries reported concluding “very good business deals”, and a further 20 percent stated they had seen strong demand. Enjoying great popularity this time were the areas of digital and large format printing (72.2 %), signmaking including neon and light advertising (48.2 %) and screen printing (4.5 %). Overall the organizers, Reed Exhibitions Deutschland, posted record numbers of trade visitors – roughly 8,900. Two years ago 8450 buyers attended that event in Düsseldorf. The largest increases came from abroad, specially from Asia and East Europe. The proportion of foreign visitors rose to nearly 50 percent. Visitors’ assessments were just as positive. More than 80 percent gave a “very good” or “good” rating to the fair overall and to the exhibitors’ products and services. The congress and supporting program, including the Open Forum and the “Total digital –an overview” exhibition, attracted a great deal of interest. Almost 93 percent of the visitors reported having met their targets at this year’s viscom.

More information: www.viscom-messe.com

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2) Yaselan shows grand format printer

Shanghai Yaselan Advertising Material Co. Ltd, a Chinese manufacturer of solvent inkjet printers, has launched a new 3.4 wide grand format printer based on Spectra inkjet technology, and a new streamlined design. The YSL S8N employs eight Spectra Nova 256-nozzle printheads to enable a very stable and high performance solvent-based inkjet printing system. It combines high speed with superior printing quality and user-friendly operation. This S8N is available now with speeds ranging from 26 qm/h at highest quality, 51.7 qm/h in normal mode up to 133 qm/h in draft mode. The engineers at Yaselan are impressed by the accuracy, high precision and long life of the Spectra printheads, and to support this technology have designed a completely new superior performance ink delivery system.

More information: www.yaselan.com

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3) Makom celebrates 10 Years of LFC

For the occasions of this celebration, Michael (MiKi) Lazar, founder of the Makom Network, gave a speech during the viscom. The title, “XXL applications – a track record without comparison?” was reason enough to deal with Large Format Communication (LFC) a little more critically. Since MiKi Lazar and his team as the first ones used mesh for a printing substrate, times have changed. The market now thinks in applications, and not in techniques, it thinks in efficiency and in added value. Although there is still the hunt for more pixel and more substrates to print on, the quality of the medium increases thanks to the cooperation of producers and users. Yet, prices and production times are going down, the demand for quality and administration rises. All-rounders like Makom are now in demand; not mere printers, installers, or agencies.

More information: www.makom.de

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4) Self adhesive films for glass design

At viscom 2003, ASLAN, a worldwide supplier of self-adhesive films, introduced its new products for the surface decoration of glass. In cooperation with the internationally known artist Detlef Vorderbäumen, ASLAN showed several glass exhibits at its booth decorated with the new films for glass design. Thus visitors could directly convince themselves of the different and multifunctional uses and effects of these brand new films while seeing an entire work of art. The new product program contains a wide range of glass decoration films with various etched look and sand blast effects, sight obscuring films with several different designs and sand-blasting stencil films. It makes ASLAN one of the first suppliers worldwide offering a complete program for effective and practical design effects on glass. The ASLAN-films are ideal for many different applications such as the decoration of rooms, supermarkets, medical institutes as well as windows of shops or restaurants. The application of the self-adhesive films is very easy, cheap and quick. Besides the products for glass decoration ASLAN will be presenting the entire range of self-adhesive films for signmaking and digital printing including the stencil films.



More information: www.ALSAN-Schwarz.com

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5) Infiniti with new printer models

At viscom, Infiniti Europe has launched and demonstrated new large format solvent-ink based printers from 1.52 up to 3.22 m width. The new models are introduced in Düsseldorf for the very first time in Europe: The Infiniti FY6150 is a semi-flatbed solvent-ink based press for prints up to 1.52 width on a wide variety of rigid and flexible materials including standard rolled media, corrugated board, foam-core paperboard, acrylic, PVC, etc – up to 6.5 mm thickness. The Infiniti FY6250SL is a large format system that prints on a wide variety of materials up to 3.5 mm thick and 2.52 wide. Printing resolutions vary between 180 and 720 dpi at speeds up to 40 sqm/h. The solvent-ink based printer Infiniti FY6320LQ is the fastest and largest of the Infiniti range. It prints resolutions varying from 180 to 720 dpi at speeds up to 61 sqm/h. The print results on flexible materials up to 3.5 mm thickness and 3.22 m width are excellent. Main characteristics: four Spectra 256LQ print heads, automatic cleaning and tension controlled media feed system. With a large choice of quality large format printers in different formats, a range of materials for all kind of signage applications and a very strong price point, Infiniti Europe is a powerful newcomer in the European signage landscape.

More information: www.infiniti-europe.com

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6) New flatbed printer by NUR

The latest and most anxiously anticipated addition to the NUR macroprinter product line, the NUR Tempo flatbed inkjet press, had completed the testing phase and has been presented at viscom, Düsseldorf as a highlight on NUR Europe's booth. The company featured also the NUR Fresco HiQ 8C 3200 high throughput wide-format inkjet press and the NUR UltimaT HiQ 5000 mid-range inkjet production printer. The equipment demonstrations have made quite an impression on visitors. The Fresco HiQ 8C is the company's popular workhorse production press. With its eight-color printing capability and print speeds up to 100 sqm/h, the Fresco HiQ series has raised the bar on expectations for productivity, quality and reliability in production wide-format printing. The Ultima HiQ 5000, is an eight-color photo-realistic printer, that is gaining a comparably strong reputation for production printing of super-wide (five meter wide output) printing applications. It is also available as the Ultima HiQ 3200 (3.2 m wide). The NUR Tempo is a flatbed, wide-format inkjet printer that can produce high quality output on a wide variety of both rigid and flexible materials. It was designed as a digital alternative to screen printing presses to handle diverse applications. In operation, it is designed to eliminate the extra steps and costs of finishing – laminating and cutting/trimming processes – common to other traditional methods of printing graphics on rigid surfaces. The NUR Tempo uses UV-curable ink that gives it the flexibility to print on almost any type of substrate.

More information: www.nur.com

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7) VUTEk celebrates 15th anniversary

It's a 15-year history of profitability and unwavering commitment to customers. VUTEk is celebrating its 15th anniversary and its success in continually bringing technical developments to the out-of-home advertising market. From the introduction of its first airbrush printer to the billboard market in 1989 to the latest eight-color digital inkjet printing systems and UV flatbed innovations, VUTEk continues to strengthen its position as the industry leader and renowned expert in superwide digital inkjet printing technology. Since its inception, the company has grown rapidly and has been profitable for each of the 15 years. VUTEk Inc. is owned and financially backed by American Securities Capital Partners LLC, the private-equity investment arm of American Securities. VUTEk pioneered superwide format printers and will continue its tradition of setting the standard in digital inkjet technology for out-of-home advertising applications. Throughout its 15-year history, the company has remained keenly focused on providing its customers with highest quality, most reliable, most productive printers in the industry. In turn, this allows customers to grow their business, enter new markets, increase their client base and become more profitable. With customers in more than 90 countries, VUTEk will continue to lead the superwide category with product innovations and invest in the industry's best service and support. The LFP-Newsletter.com says: Congratulations.

More information: www.vutek.com

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8) EasyTWAIN now TWAIN 1.9 compatible

SCP Software announces that their TWAIN driver for Context, VIDAR, Océ and GTCOCALCOMP large format scanners is now compatible with the TWAIN 1.9 standard. EasyTWAIN 2.2, which is available since the middle of September, was released especially in order to meet the latest TWAIN standard. One of the new software's main features is the UI-less mode: all parameters are transmitted by the TWAIN host without any EasyTWAIN window being displayed on the screen. EasyTWAIN 2.2 guarantees a smooth, direct scanning workflow from a broad range of graphic, CAD and GIS applications. The software is sold online and by a large number of authorized resellers worldwide.

More information: www.scp.de

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9) A lot of Agfa-News at viscom

There is a 130g/qm material, developed by Agfa, for outdoor billboards, named Universal Wet Strength Paper UWSP, and it was shown as an Agfa-highlight at viscom 2003. The new UWSP, completing Agfa's wide assortment of industry-leading inkjet media, is a white, general use, water-fast, matte paper with blue backing increased opacity. It provides vibrant high quality images with good color saturations on a white background. UWSP will resist water for up to six weeks with no loss of image quality.

Agfa was also presenting three self-adhesive materials: Universal Instant dry Photograde Paper (UIPP) that delivers high quality on an microporous photo-base RC paper, Premium Paper – 90 g/qm premium coated inkjet paper, and premium Vinyl (PV), a flexible, high-quality.

Another absolute highlight on the Agfa booth at viscom was the new Grand Sherpa 64/87 Universal, the earth-friendly inkjet printing system based on the successful Grand Sherpa line of large format printers. The 64/87 Universal uses Eco-Solvent Plus inks made by Mutoh, which do not spread volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The Grand Sherpa Universal does not require any special equipment for ventilation in the production facility. It offers with Eco-Solvent Plus inks six colors – CMYKLCm. The Universal's long-life piezo-electric heads print at 360, 720 and 1440 dpi, and is driven by the Agfa edition Onyx RIP 6.0. That RIP belongs to Agfa's newest workflow solutions, designed to fit the individual needs of large-format printers. These solutions were also shown at viscom. The Agfa Editions of Onyx RIPCenter 6.0, RIPCenter Photo 6.0, PosterShop 6.0 and ProductionHouse 6.0 are optimized for the Sherpa line of large-format printers.

More information: www.agfa.com



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10) ColorGATE offers PROOFGATE

A solution to master standardized proofing company internal is PROOFGATE. The ColorGATE Digital Output Solutions GmbH offers it not only to digital proof specialists but also to users in the fields of creative agencies, publishing, print houses. Essential advantages of PROOFGATE are the easy usage of the software and the overview over the production process, both user-friendly software properties. The product was developed following the BVDM media standard print as well as the ECI recommendations; the UGRA/FOGRA media wedge CMYK V 2.0 can be integrated as a controlling instrument flexibly into PROOFGATE for easy validation. The PDF-X3 conform software RIP for all present windows platforms drives nearly all well-known professional inkjet printers. By integration of new transformation algorithms in the color management, color shifts on inkjet printing systems can be minimized so much that established digital proof solutions are replaceable. Furthermore the spot color replacement function allows the creation and administration of spot color tables.

More information: www.colorgate.com

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11) Onyx: New version of Workflow CD

Onyx Graphics has launched a new version of its popular Workflow Tutorial CD that reflects the features found in Onyx 6.0 version products. The free CD now includes tutorials on in-house proofing and contour cutting workflow. The Onyx 6.0 Multimedia Workflow Tutorial CD is now included in the version 6.0 release of Onyx ProductionHouse, Onyx PosterShop and Onyx RIPCenter software. In addition to in-house proofing and contour cutting, the tutorials cover topics such as photo, color proofing, remote proofing and screen printing workflow environments. The tutorials, developed in partnership with the Graphic Intelligence Agency (GIA), are designed to help Onyx customers learn about a variety of wide format working environments and to determine which workflow model might enhance their facility's productivity. The Workflow CD is available on request from Onyx Graphics.

More information: www.onyxgfx.com and www.graphintel.com

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12) BASF at ITMA: Color is not enough

BASF will be surprising visitors to ITMA with a world innovation for textile inkjet printing: an innovative family of inks which is set to revolutionize the process costs in digital Textile printing. The company will be presenting this product range for the first time at ITMA 2003 in Birmingham from 22nd to 29th October in hall 8, booth DC 8-7A. And: Color is not enough – a new concept for a new system – will be a big talking point there. So, communication will also be a central issue on BASF's newly designed exhibition stand. Apart from the world innovation in inkjet printing, BASF is also presenting products and system solutions in the following areas at ITMA: Sizes, pretreatment, optical brighteners, dyeing, finishing, textile printing and inkjet printing. Other program-highlights are a new optical brightener for all polyester-cellulose blends, high-quality coatings for cotton and synthetic textiles, the new "dyexact" system, for exact dyeing on polyester and last but not least a new family of products with top ecological scores for pre-treatment.

More information: www.basf.com/textile

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13) Xaar's high-performance ink 770

Xaar plc and Sericol Imaging has launched a new high-performance pigment-based UV ink – the Xaar 770. It has been specially developed to work with Xaar's XJ126 printheads for wide format graphics and scanning applications. Teamed with the XJ216, the 770 series offers Xaar customers the ability to print onto a wide variety of rigid, flexible, uncoated and non-porous substrates such as acrylic, display board and PVC, with the added benefit that the ink is ideal for indoor and outdoor applications. The 770 ink set achieves rapid cure times when used in conjunction with a compatible UV light source. Xaar 770 will be available in 1 kg and 5 kg pack sizes in CMYK, with green and orange available on request. The new UV 770 ink joins Xaar's growing ink product portfolio. Xaar looks to develop inks that work specifically with chosen printheads, thus guaranteeing high performance and quality output.

More information: www.xaar.co.uk

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14) Enfocus at IfraExpo in Leipzig

From 13th to 16th October, IfraExpo 2003 in Leipzig/Germany will be open. So, Enfocus Software will demonstrate their latest PDF solutions at booth 2B 509. CertifiedPDF.net, the online resource for PDF specifications is designed to extend CertifiedPDF workflows beyond the desktop and to improve information exchange among graphic arts professionals. Three specifications for newspaper workflows can be found on the Ghent PDF Workgroup page of CertifiedPDF.net. The first one, NewsPaperAds_lvl, is targeted at newspaper ad delivery workflows. The two others, WebSpotNews_lvl and Web CmykNews_lvl were developed for commercial web printing on newspaper with and without spotcolors. The new release Enfocus PitStop Server 3.0 offers faster processing speeds. It is a stand-alone application with powerful multi-document preflight and automatic editing features. Enfocus CertifiedPDF is fully integrated in PitStop Server. This PDF-files will be automatically identified and move faster through production. With PitStop Server, multiple PDF files can be dropped into a hot folder to be automatically and efficiently processed. Key to this process are Enfocus PDF profiles and PitStop action lists.

More information: www.enfocus.com

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15) FESPA 2005 kicks off sales campaign

The sales campaign for FESPA 2005 (31st May – 4th June) is kicked off with the appointment of an International Sales Manager and the introduction of a brand new exhibitor brochure. The newly-created sales position at FESPA will be filled by Michael Ryan, reporting directly to Exhibitions Director Frazer Chesterman. Michael will manage the sales of the 2005 event, and will also fulfill a commercial role on the FESPA magazine. The efforts will be supported by a new full-color exhibitor sales brochure, featuring key facts and figures about exhibitor and visitor attendance at FESPA 2002 in Madrid. The publication highlights the business diversity and international spread of the visitor base, and identifies the unstoppable trend towards digital output technologies as one of the key interests of visitors to the show. The brochure outlines the state-of-the-art exhibitor facilities offered by the new Messe Munich, which is the venue for FESPA 2005. It also spells out the advantages of the German location in attracting exhibitors and visitors from across Europe, particularly the emerging markets of Central and Eastern Europe. The brochure can be downloaded from FESPA's new look website.

More information: www.fespa.com

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