

Sign *UP* Date

September/October 2007 Issue 103 £2.50

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height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	1200mm	other sizes available on request
3mm	£0.58	£0.76	£0.92	£1.16	£1.39	£1.73	£2.31	£2.89	£3.12	£3.58	£4.39	£6.53	£7.97	£9.82	£11.90	£46.20	
5mm	£0.87	£1.10	£1.39	£1.73	£2.19	£2.66	£3.46	£4.27	£5.49	£6.01	£7.51	£9.24	£10.40	£13.28	£16.17	£63.53	
NEW 10mm	£1.74	£2.21	£2.77	£3.47	£4.39	£5.31	£6.93	£8.55	£10.98	£12.01	£15.02	£18.48	£20.79	£26.57	£32.34	£127.05	

FOAM PVC (all available sizes - 10mm & 19mm - available in white only)																NO MINIMUM ORDER	
height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	1200mm	other sizes available on request
3mm	£0.40	£0.51	£0.81	£0.98	£1.09	£1.32	£1.50	£2.02	£2.31	£2.59	£2.89	£3.81	£4.62	£5.49	£7.51	£17.33	
5mm	£0.46	£0.69	£1.04	£1.39	£1.91	£2.19	£2.54	£3.00	£3.47	£4.16	£4.91	£5.78	£6.54	£7.62	£10.51	£28.88	
10mm	£0.81	£1.27	£1.62	£2.43	£3.35	£4.16	£4.74	£5.78	£6.93	£7.92	£8.90	£10.97	£12.71	£16.17	£20.56	£55.44	
19mm	£1.73	£2.43	£3.47	£4.04	£4.62	£6.35	£8.09	£8.96	£10.40	£11.83	£14.15	£16.17	£19.06	£21.95	£26.57	£75.08	

EXTERIOR MDF (MEDITE comes in its raw form for painting)																NO MINIMUM ORDER	
height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	1200mm	other sizes available on request
6mm	£0.35	£0.81	£1.16	£1.55	£2.31	£2.48	£2.89	£3.63	£4.16	£4.97	£6.35	£9.01	£10.40	£11.78	£13.86	£41.58	
12mm	£0.87	£1.50	£1.85	£2.71	£3.70	£4.44	£5.20	£6.01	£7.16	£8.78	£9.82	£11.14	£13.28	£16.34	£18.48	£55.44	
18mm	£1.50	£2.31	£2.82	£3.87	£4.79	£5.89	£7.28	£8.20	£10.40	£11.83	£14.21	£16.29	£19.87	£20.79	£27.72	£83.16	

3mm ALUMINIUM COMPOSITE (Dibond, Alupanel)																NO MINIMUM ORDER	
height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	1200mm	other sizes available on request
standard colours	£1.04	£1.45	£1.90	£2.43	£2.77	£3.23	£4.62	£5.43	£6.35	£6.93	£7.85	£9.24	£10.74	£15.02	£18.48	£55.44	
NEW Chrome	£1.91	£2.43	£2.77	£4.08	£5.54	£6.68	£7.80	£9.01	£10.74	£13.13	£14.78	£16.72	£19.93	£24.53	£31.19	£93.57	
Brushed finish	£1.27	£1.62	£2.20	£2.72	£3.70	£4.45	£5.20	£6.01	£7.16	£8.78	£9.82	£11.14	£13.28	£16.35	£20.79	£62.37	

2mm 316 GRADE STAINLESS STEEL																MINIMUM ORDER £95	
height	50mm	75mm	100mm	125mm	150mm	175mm	200mm	225mm	250mm	275mm	300mm	375mm	425mm	500mm	600mm	other sizes available on request	
Satin Brush	£4.50	£4.85	£5.89	£6.76	£7.28	£10.23	£12.96	£15.25	£16.38	£18.11	£20.79	£29.63	£33.14	£41.58	£50.24		
Polished	£4.85	£5.20	£7.11	£7.62	£8.49	£11.61	£14.90	£16.29	£17.50	£20.79	£22.79	£31.97	£38.29	£45.22	£57.17		

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- Add 10% to above prices if plastic locators and paper template are required
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- Add 25% to price list if a template is required for cladding (*cladding gaps will be required*)
- Add 25% to price list for Flame Polished Edges (*clear acrylic only*)
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- Add 25% to price list for a rounded or 45° edge to letter (*mdf only*)
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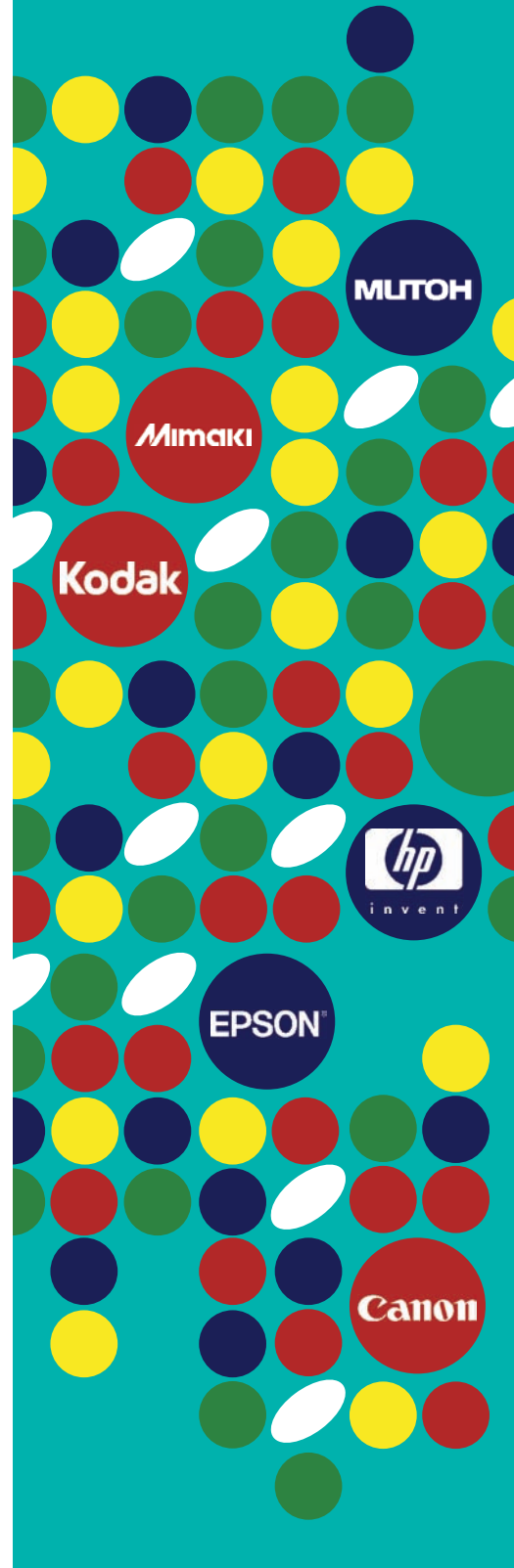
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You just have to smile ... don't you?

Smile! It's something that's over rated, is smiling. It gives you wrinkles and can be quite tiring if you're not used to it, and what is there to smile about anyway? After the summer we've had - floods, then foot and mouth, bin collections being only every other week ... I could go on, but I won't.

Having said that, I will let you know how well we are getting on with our fortnightly bin collection. Many people whinge about them, and yes, it could mean that your bin smells of rotting food. But there are ways around it. Cook smaller meals to reduce waste, or put leftovers in the fridge for the next day. In our house, what's cooked is eaten, so there's no need for any food waste to go in the bin. Occasionally we have visitors and that's the only time we have waste food. Then my good lady wife, Linda, freezes the waste and on collection day, it's straight out of the freezer and into the bin, saving it from rotting in the wheelie bin, meaning no smell and everyone's happy. Well, a word of warning on this practice. Some weeks ago my good lady spent the day shopping and I was told I would have to fend for myself. We're not just talking breakfast here, it's the whole day, dinner, tea and supper, plus snacks.

Now, to be fair to Linda, she spends hours cooking wonderful meals to go into the freezer for those occasions when I have to fend for myself. If Linda ever left me, I could feed myself for months before I needed to cook anything. Anyway, as I was saying, Linda was going shopping and I'd been told to get something out of the freezer. Come lunchtime, I take out a meal that just needs heating in the microwave.

The following week with bin collection due, Linda asks me "Where's the waste food gone?" My reply was "How do I know where it's gone?" That's never the right answer, so I'm called in for questioning and asked again. This time it's face to face and I'm asked "What did you have for lunch last week when I went out?"

I gave it some thought and replied, "I don't know, it was some sort of mixed grill." I also remembered some salad mixed in with it, which was a bit unusual and the salad didn't look too good after microwaving. But I daren't moan for fear that it could be my last meal. Linda then informed me that I had in fact eaten the waste that was due to go into the bin this week!

Looking back, if I had thought about it, Linda is a good cook and not taken to mixing salad with a meal that is to be heated. Also I've never known her to take an occasional bite out of the meat, or chew on it to check the texture. The only good thing was that it was a week later I found out about it, rather than just after eating it, when I'm sure I would have spent a bad night in the bathroom. If I had to smile, it would be for that reason only.

Smiling - you can keep it ...

Roger



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Print and cut separates bundle from B&P

Available from B&P Graphic Systems, and designed as a low-cost option for sign-makers and display producers who want a versatile printing and cutting package, are two wide-format digital printer bundles which include a separate cutting plotter. These two attractively priced packages include the latest eco-solvent ink options, inks and software and are delivered and installed ready to use.

Based on the Lancer G2, two size options are on offer, with the first having a maximum material width of 1.3 m and the second being a wider model at 1.63 m. Both are designed with established - as well as first time users - in mind and come complete with a Uniform Ultima cutting plotter and software. The bundles include a full set of inks, a take-up system and full training as well as the Troop! RIP and are priced at £11,995 for the narrower option and £16,995 for the wider version. Alternatively, these solutions are also available from £55/week and £61/week respectively.

The Uniform Lancer G2 1300 and Lancer G2 1625 offer up to three years' outdoor durability thanks to the incorporation of the latest eco-solvent ink technology, whilst applications can be laminated for use in extra tough environments, such as floor graphics and vehicle liveries. The machines feature four different print resolutions of 540 x 720, 720 x 720, 1440 x 720 and 1440 x 1440 dpi which have been pre-defined for fast set-up and grouped in quality, graphics and banner modes. This makes selection of suitable output quality quick and easy via the printer control panel, and eliminates the need to input complex settings for different types of job.

The inclusion in the Lancer G2 of intelligent interweaving, known as i2 (pronounced "I squared") produces high quality results by incorporating algorithms, which lay the ink down in optimised wave forms, instead of straight lines that are used commonly in wide-format printers. This technology eliminates the likelihood of banding, mottling and unwanted bleed as well as removing the effects often caused by a misfiring or absent print nozzle. This means that even the finest of applications can be output in bi-directional mode, not only speeding up throughput but also improving ink density.

Both printers use Uniform's own brand Eco-Solvent Ultra ink which offers a wider colour gamut, faster drying time and superior adhesion, as well as providing excellent resistance to scratches, scuffs and chemicals, faster print speeds and wider media compatibility. Tests have shown that printing with Uniform's Eco-Solvent Ultra inks is more than 20 percent cheaper than using conventional versions. These inks also have the benefit of being able to output onto a range of low cost PVC materials with standard paper backing, again leading to a similar percentage in savings.

Incorporated as part of this generous bundle, and featuring high quality drag-knife capabilities, the Uniform Ultima series of cutting



plotters has been developed to be simple to use either as part of a print and cut solution or as a stand-alone vinyl cutter. Used in tandem with the Uniform Lancer, the Ultima uses its own electronic positioning, designated Epos, to create seamless contour cuts on pre-printed displays. On its own, this cutter can be used for vinyl signs or it can plot and output designs onto paper. Also featured is an automatic bar code registration system which individually numbers every job, thus virtually eliminating operator error. Unlike combined print and cut systems, the Lancer G2 and Ultima can either work together or be operated as independent sign and display production solutions.

Complementing the printer and cutter bundle is the acclaimed Troop! RIP which contains all the settings needed to prepare images for output, including options for sizing and cropping, checking colour gamut and tiling from a simple navigation screen. Troop Server speeds up production via selectable work-flow options, with the ability to drop images into the layout window ready for printing and the facility to use pre-RIPped files as job elements.

The Lancer G2 bundle also includes Uniform's warranty pack which includes an all-inclusive prompt on-site service for twelve months and covers all parts and labour. This also incorporates cover for print-heads which are excluded from most warranty cover options. As well as a support contract and user ID, there is a printer cleaning and self-care kit, plus a trouble-shooting guide and the latest Uniform ICC colour profiles.

Further information is available from B&P Graphic Systems on 01932 568555 or e-mail awilson@bplightbrigade.com



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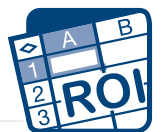
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Vista System International launch 'No Smoking' wall sign

Vista System International, has unveiled a new 'No Smoking' wall sign frame. The new sign is very noticeable and conforms to requirements for placing a 'No Smoking' signage in public places.

Vista's 'No Smoking' sign is developed around the Vista wall frame line of products. The attention grabbing red 'No Smoking' symbol is an additional element, made of laser cut steel.

As in all of Vista System's MCFT sign frame products, the new sign accepts most sign substrates including engraving, screen-printing, photopolymer, ADA, digital printing, and more.

According to Vista System's spokesperson; "With legislation in the USA, Europe and the rest of world's trend for smoke free premises, we have designed specific 'No Smoking Signs' suitable for most needs."

For an interactive 360° view of the product go to: <http://xrl.us/vb9g>
For further information, visit www.vistasystem.co.uk



Rasterprinters UK to launch the Daytona T600UV Variable Dot Flatbed printer

Rasterprinters UK, based in Bicester, Oxon, recently announced the launch of an all new 'variable dot' UV Flatbed Digital Printer.



The Daytona T600UV is based upon a stationary vacuum table, moving gantry design and offers a versatile rigid media handling of substrates up to 50mm thick.

It utilises 6 grey scale print heads based on the latest MEM's technology and can produce graphics at 1080dpi resolution in two configuration CMYK, White and Varnish and the conventional CMYK, LC,LM.

The Rasterprinter Daytona T600UV was launched at ISA Sign Expo in Las Vegas and demonstrations are now available in the UK.

Book a demo by telephoning 01869 242100.



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Three printers One result ... Excellent

Exceptionally fast and accurate, the new range of Colourjet printers from Identify is designed to print on a multitude of rigid materials.

Printing direct to substrate, they also offer superlative textile and garment printing. Additionally there is a printer designed for gifts and giveaways manufactured from ABS and Polycarbonate.

Contact Identify on 0117 953 0800 today and find out how these printers can transform your product range.



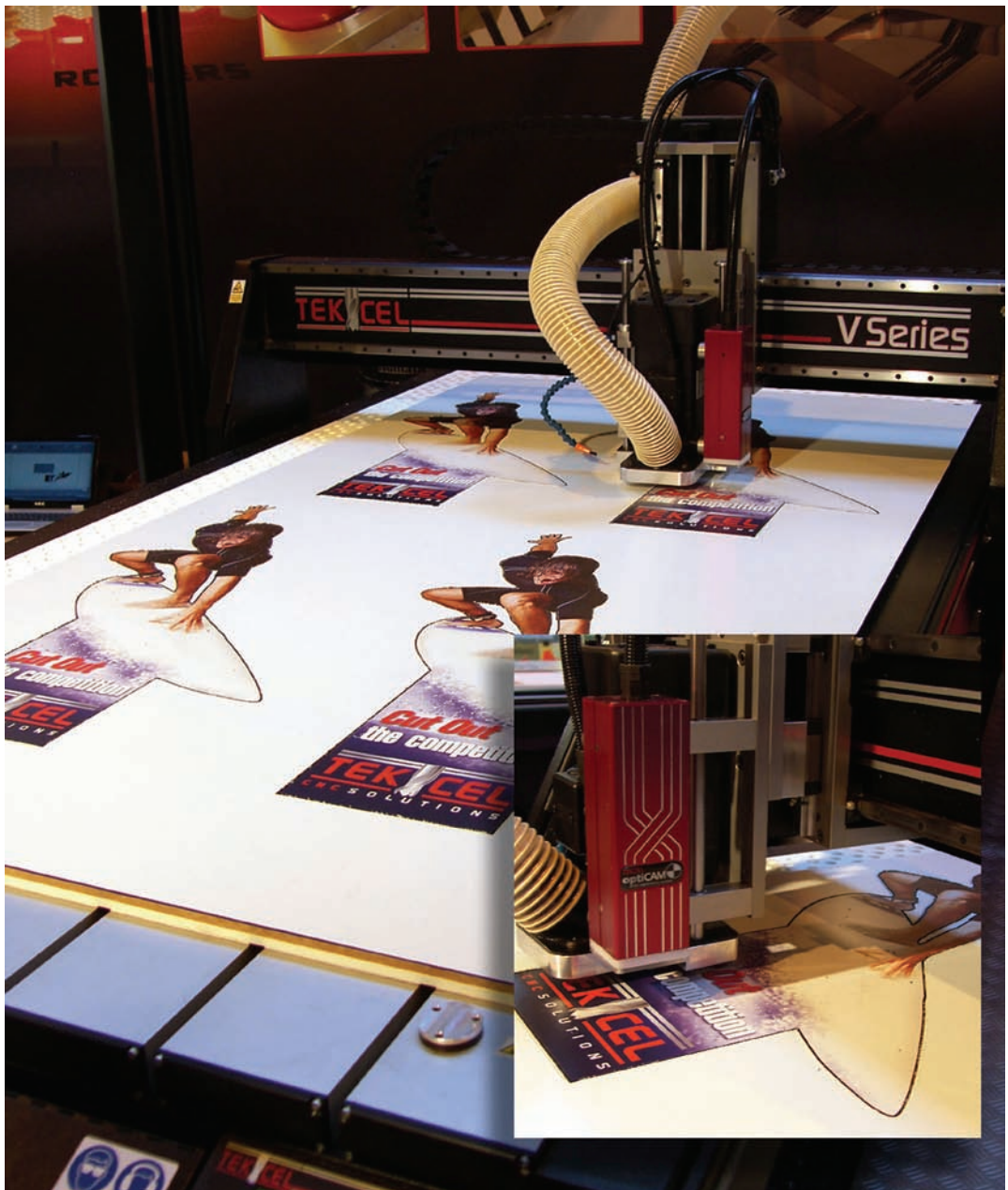
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PRODUCTS *update*

Routers with vision

Tekcel CNC Solutions has developed its own digital camera registration system, which makes a Tekcel router the ideal cutting partner for the increasing number of flat bed digital printers on the market.

Using the new Tekcel OptiCAM registration system, operators can use the same .ai source files as the printer to generate accurate cut paths around the images. OptiCAM only needs to register three points around a printed image to accurately register the cut path. Developed in conjunction with Cadlink, world leaders in software development for the sign and digital print industry, OptiCAM's software program automatically re-calibrates the cut path to compensate for any misalignment in loading, stretching or skewing that may have occurred during the printing or, in the case of roll-fed printers, the lamination process. Given the growing number of companies that are now printing direct to rigid sheet materials - from foamboard and aluminium composite to more substantial substrates like acrylic and MDF, understandably, Tekcel routers fitted with the OptiCAM system are likely to be extremely popular with existing and prospective flatbed printer owners. The Tekcel OptiCAM registration system is available as an option on all new E and V Series router models. Existing Tekcel router owners



will be pleased to hear that the OptiCAM system will also be available for their machines.

For further information, call Tekcel CNC Solutions on 01275 342 668.

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Mini Truelight with a big impact

The Mini Truelight from Professional Sign Systems is the latest technology in trough lighting, marrying a host of clever ideas in a compact design at a cost that makes it a most efficient way to illuminate signage.

The Mini Truelight has a 72mm diameter, a lightweight high-grade aluminium extruded profile and end caps that can be supplied in a standard white or black finish or powder coated to any RAL or BS reference paint colour, and it can also be ordered in a mill finish ready



for painting. It comes complete with a high impact extruded polycarbonate diffuser, which is hinged to allow easy access for maintenance and fluorescent tube replacement. Between



the aluminium profile and diffuser are two lines of silicone beading, which coupled with the neoprene gasket on each end cap, helps prevent water ingress and allows the Mini Truelight to be used as an uplighter as well as the traditional downlighter. Mini Truelight has a big impact when it comes to illumination. It uses high output T8 triphosphor tubes, which increase light levels and extend lamp life, (up to 20000 hours), when used with efficient electronic control gear, improves colour rendering performance and reduces

maintenance and energy costs.

The lamps and control gear are fitted to a bright mirror polished aluminium reflector that improves performance and comes complete with easy fit lamp holders, which aid and speed up any maintenance.

Installation of the Mini Truelight couldn't be simpler, says P.S.S.. The one piece galvanised and powder coated steel brackets have been designed to be easily installed and allow the Mini Truelight to be adjusted to get the best illumination possible.

Mini Truelight can be supplied in one 6.15m long section or in smaller sections, which can be joined together using locating pins and a bracket. The system is designed so that both the unit and the electrics are quick and simple to fit, aiding installation and maintenance.

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R-Tape now available from William Smith

New from William Smith are the highly acclaimed R Tape application tape products. These impressive pre-masking and pre-spacing tapes, which come in a choice of tack options, are designed to make the application of letters, logos and digital prints to substrates a much easier process.

William Smith is offering four product ranges:

Aplita - a standard series of four paper tapes with tack options from Low to Very High. These are easy to cut, giving a clean edge and are suitable for applications from small plotter and die cut graphics to large graphic panels.

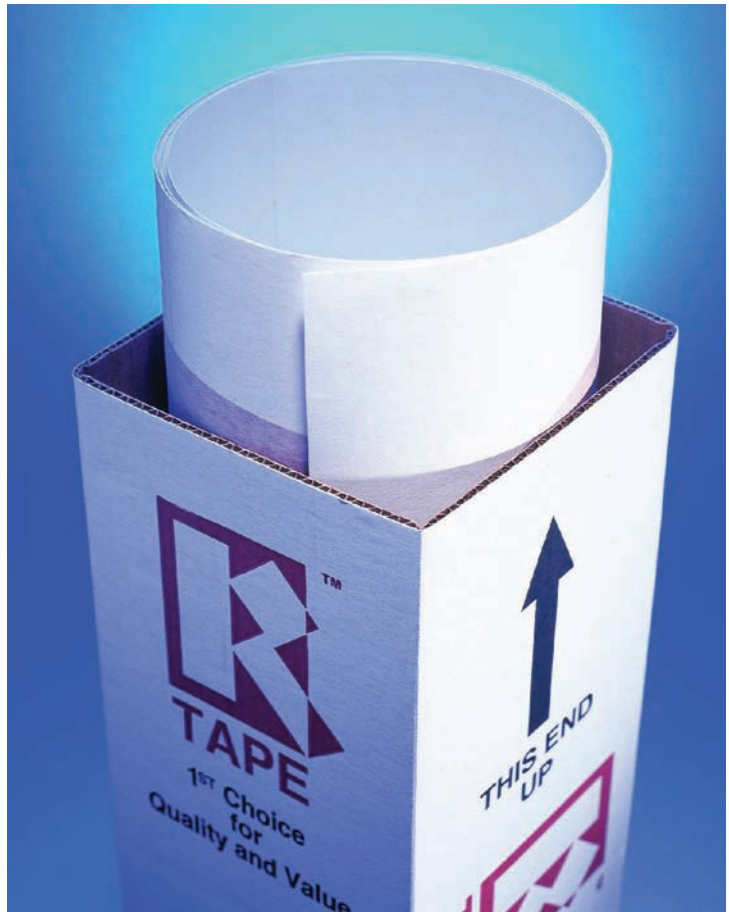
Conform - available in three standard paper choices with Low to High tack options, this is an impressive product range with lay flat properties and a release liner adhesive. It is resistant to tunnelling, wrinkling and edge curling, allowing smooth application of ready to apply graphics and/or text and logos. A further benefit is trouble free storage and transport. Conform is easy to apply and offers improved adhesion to exposed release liners, thereby eliminating the need for heat and vacuum.

Clear Choice Transparent Tape - five clear application tapes with Low to Medium tack. Their rigid polypropylene face minimises stretching and misalignment and is static free to ensure smooth and accurate lamination. They have easy unwind properties and because of the unique adhesive system it will not yellow overtime.

Digital Pre-Masking Tapes - a range of three tapes with Very Low tack but with a choice of standard or premium paper. These are excellent for wet applications, can be easily removed following installation and are particularly suitable for large format graphics.

With the addition of R Tape ranges to its material distribution service, William Smith now offers its customers a great choice of application tape options to suit individual needs.

For further information contact William Smith on 01833 694707 or visit www.williamsmith.co.uk



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No room for an Ugly Betty at UK Point of Sale

Betty Suarez may be ruling the roost over at fictional Mode magazine, in Channel 4's hit comedy, but when it comes to promotional merchandise there isn't any room for an Ugly Betty.

The conundrum of style versus substance may be raised in the fashion world, but for businesses looking to create a stylish environment, they want both, and are turning to UK Point of Sale's wallmount panel supports.

"Ugly versus lovely, there's no contest. Our latest wallmount products really do give an environment an upmarket look and with durability and easy fitting make them a real winner," explains Debbie Jamieson, sales and marketing director at UK Point of Sale.

"How a company chooses to display its key messages, whether advertising a product, event or general information says a lot about that organisation. An A4 piece of laminated paper stuck up with blue-tak is never going to look good, and by using wallmounts you take your offering up another level. They're stylish, sleek and contemporary and our customers range from five star hotels and professional service providers, to restaurants and department stores." Available in a range of sizes from 12mm up to 25mm, in silver anodised finish, they can be side mounted, or through hole panel supports. The latest addition to UK Point of Sale's wallmount range are the poster holders, consisting two acrylic panels with pre drilled holes, available in a range of sizes from A5 to A1.

For further information contact UK Point of Sale on 0161 431 4400 or visit www.ukpos.com



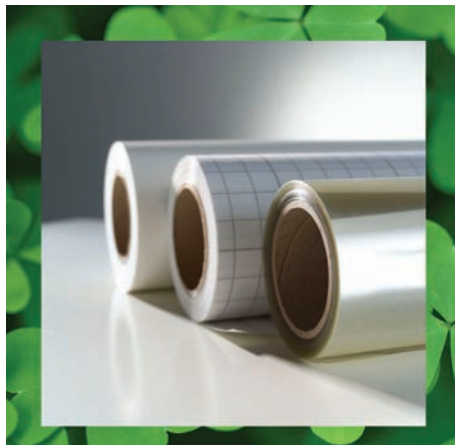
Drytac introduce 'Eco-Friendly' range of pressure-sensitive overlaminating films

UK based manufacturer Drytac Europe Ltd, have recently added to their already wide portfolio of graphics finishing produces, an 'Eco Friendly' line of pressure-sensitive overlaminating films, available in 3 finishes (Gloss, Lustre and Sand textured satin).

In addition to superior performance at a moderate cost, their Interlam Eco Series of overlaminating films promise a number of performance characteristics compatible with a healthier environment.

Interlam Eco base films are polypropylene, which, in addition to their innate functional benefits, do not contain PVCs.

These films are coated with an aqueous-based acrylic adhesive, which utilises H₂O rather



than a solvent to disperse the acrylic particles.

The relatively thin release liner is paper-based and coated only on one side with a moisture barrier (which does not impede performance).

This practice facilitates disposal (less volume) as well as recycling and/or decomposition of the release liner.

The cores and boxes are made of 70% + recycled paper.

For further information or to order a catalogue contact Drytac on 0845 0700660 or visit www.drytac.com

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Mutoh Europe introduces SC-PRO 64" sign cutter

At this year's Fespa show, wide-format piezo inkjet printer manufacturer Mutoh Europe nv, premièred its new sign cutting plotter, the SC-PRO 1650. The SC-PRO is a 64" multi-purpose professional drag-knife cutter for regular vinyl cutting, integrating Mutoh's patented EPOS technology for automatic contour cutting.

Engineered and developed by Mutoh Europe, Belgium, the new Mutoh SC-PRO 1650 friction-feed cutting plotter, which will be available from September, can accommodate roll and sheet media up to a width of 1850 mm (72.83"). The machine is equipped with 4 repositionable grid rollers, allowing the use of different media widths. The cutter's maximum cutting width amounts to 1635 mm (64.37"). The SC-PRO grid rollers are matched per individual cutting plotter to guarantee perfect long length tracking and straight media transport.

Equipped with a combo head enabling cutting/plotting and automatic sheet off, the SC-PRO can cut a broad range of sign making materials ranging from self-adhesive PVC to sandblast, up to a maximum thickness of 1 mm. Cutting force is stepwise adjustable from 20 – 450 g, in order to guarantee optimum cutting results with various materials. Cutting speed is adjustable to 1000 mm/s (39.37 ips), at a maximum acceleration of 2.5 G. The unit's keyboard is detachable for maximum user convenience. The machine will come with a stand, a roll support system and media basket. The SC-PRO 1650 cutter is standard equipped with RS-232 & USB interfaces.

For further information visit www.mutoh.be



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3mm	£0.99	£1.45	£2.31	£3.15	£4.44	£6.13	£7.56	£8.45	£9.75	£10.90	£11.80	£13.32	£16.02	£45.88
5mm	£1.38	£2.17	£3.30	£5.39	£7.46	£8.75	£9.90	£11.96	£13.19	£14.33	£16.09	£19.03	£22.88	£63.41
10mm	£2.76	£4.34	£6.88	£10.78	£14.92	£17.50	£19.80	£23.93	£26.38	£28.66	£32.21	£38.06	£45.76	£126.82

WHITE FOAM PVC (3mm & 5mm coloured foam add 20%)

NO MINIMUM ORDER FEE

C/Height	100mm	150mm	200mm	250mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	650mm	700mm	1200mm
3mm	£0.78	£1.08	£1.50	£2.31	£2.87	£3.78	£4.15	£5.22	£5.47	£6.66	£7.45	£8.67	£9.78	£16.98
5mm	£1.02	£1.88	£2.54	£3.41	£4.90	£5.48	£6.24	£7.08	£7.58	£9.36	£10.49	£12.34	£13.98	£28.10
10mm	£1.60	£3.34	£4.70	£6.85	£8.75	£9.88	£11.70	£13.60	£16.11	£18.66	£21.24	£24.55	£27.87	£53.66
19mm	£3.45	£4.58	£8.08	£10.33	£14.06	£15.47	£18.10	£19.99	£21.87	24.89	£26.55	£29.88	£32.77	£72.89

3mm ALUMINIUM COMPOSITE (Dibond/Alu Panel)

NO MINIMUM ORDER FEE

C/Height	100mm	150mm	200mm	250mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm	650mm	700mm	1200mm
Colours	£1.88	£2.74	£4.60	£6.30	£7.81	£8.35	£10.04	£12.22	£14.98	£16.65	£18.45	£20.89	£22.77	£54.90
Brushed	£2.19	£3.65	£5.14	£7.09	£9.70	£10.68	£12.09	£14.28	£16.30	£18.20	£20.72	£23.48	£25.63	£61.77
Mirror	£2.74	£5.49	£7.73	£10.66	£14.65	£16.09	£18.27	£21.30	£24.45	£27.14	£30.98	£35.08	£38.33	£92.10

STAINLESS STEEL (Gold Polished ADD 50% to 1.5mm polished price)

£50 MINIMUM ORDER FEE

C/Height	100mm	150mm	200mm	250mm	300mm	350mm	400mm	450mm	500mm	550mm	600mm			
1.5mm Brushed	£3.93	£4.55	£5.54	£7.46	£8.23	£9.99	£11.90	£16.34	£20.50	£27.49	£33.50			
2mm Brushed	£5.61	£6.50	£7.92	£10.66	£13.18	£17.26	£20.09	£31.70	£37.48	£44.66	£47.85			
3mm Brushed	£6.17	£7.15	£8.71	£11.73	£14.50	£18.99	£22.10	£34.87	£41.23	£49.13	£52.64			
1.5mm Polished	£4.25	£5.66	£6.99	£9.80	£11.55	£14.60	£18.30	£26.15	£32.66	£34.84	£38.12			
2mm Polished	£6.07	£8.09	£10.75	£16.44	£19.48	£26.88	£31.53	£38.80	£43.07	£49.77	£54.45			
3mm Polished	£6.68	£8.90	£11.83	£18.08	£21.43	£29.57	£34.68	£42.68	£47.38	£54.75	£59.90			
Brass Loc p/l	£2.50	£2.50	£2.50	£3.00	£3.00	£3.00	£3.00	£4.00	£4.00	£4.00	£4.00			

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Atech introduce the New AquaSEAL 60 and 80UV Pro liquid laminators

Atech, a leading UK distributor for the digital printing and imaging industry, have a full range of liquid roll to roll laminators in 1.6 and 3.3 metre widths and have now added the new range of UV coaters for sheets and rolls from Seal Graphics - the new AquaSEAL 60 and 80UV Pro machines.

The AquaSEAL 60 & 80UV Pro machines are designed to be the workhorses of the print finishing industry, typically high volume sign and display houses using inkjet and UV flatbed printers. These heavy-duty UV coaters deliver automated protective lamination on sheet, board or roll-fed substrates up to 76.2mm thick and widths of 1524mm and 2032mm respectively.

Among the features of these machines are: an air knife to eliminate roller wraps; large diameter coating rollers to avoid roll deflection; adjustable coat weight between 7 and 20 microns and a manually adjustable nip with calibrated display for repeatable accuracy.

Both the AquaSEAL 60 and 80 UV Pro operate at variable speeds of up to 32 metres per minute and of course, the liquid laminate is instantly cured when passing under the inbuilt UV dryer. Being UV cured also means there is no necessity to clean down on a daily basis the three switchable 19 litre lacquer reservoirs.

AquaSEAL UV laminators use curable liquids that offer instant curing and provide immediate protection to a large variety of materials and substrates such as inkjet, photographic, dye-sub and

vehicle graphics. The liquid has been specially formulated to meet the extreme demands in the Outdoor and Vehicles Graphics market and is resistant to UV-exposure, moisture, gasoline, detergent, alcohol, salt-spray, grease, scrubbing and abrasions.

For more details on the new AquaSEAL 60 & 80 UV Pro liquid laminators contact the Atech sales team on 01707 373738 or visit atech.co.uk



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VIO™ high-power white LED knocks down general illumination barriers

The new VIO™ high-power white LED from Lumination, LLC, GE Consumer & Industrial's LED business, uses proprietary violet-chip technology to produce less than a 100-Kelvin colour shift over a 50,000-hour rated life. Its minimal colour shift overcomes many of the inherent colour control issues of standard blue or red-green-blue LED devices. Lumination's VIO LED also provides high efficiency at warmer colour temperatures, as well as flexible colour temperature and colour-rendering options.

Lumination scientists create VIO high-power white LEDs by combining 405 nanometer violet chips with a proprietary blend of phosphors. The VIO violet chip operates at a higher efficiency wavelength than blue LEDs. Phosphors applied to the hemispherical lens of the VIO LED convert its violet wavelength to white light. VIO LEDs are offered in 3500K and 4100K colour temperatures that can be used in many standard fixtures designed for general illumination applications.

"The availability of Lumination's VIO high-power white LED is a significant milestone on the path toward general illumination with GE-quality LEDs," comments Kraig Kasler, vice president of marketing, Lumination, LLC. "Our investment in this major new product underscores the commitment we made earlier this year to pursue global distinction in the general illumination market. We think our violet-chip technology offers the best available control of colour shift in white LEDs."

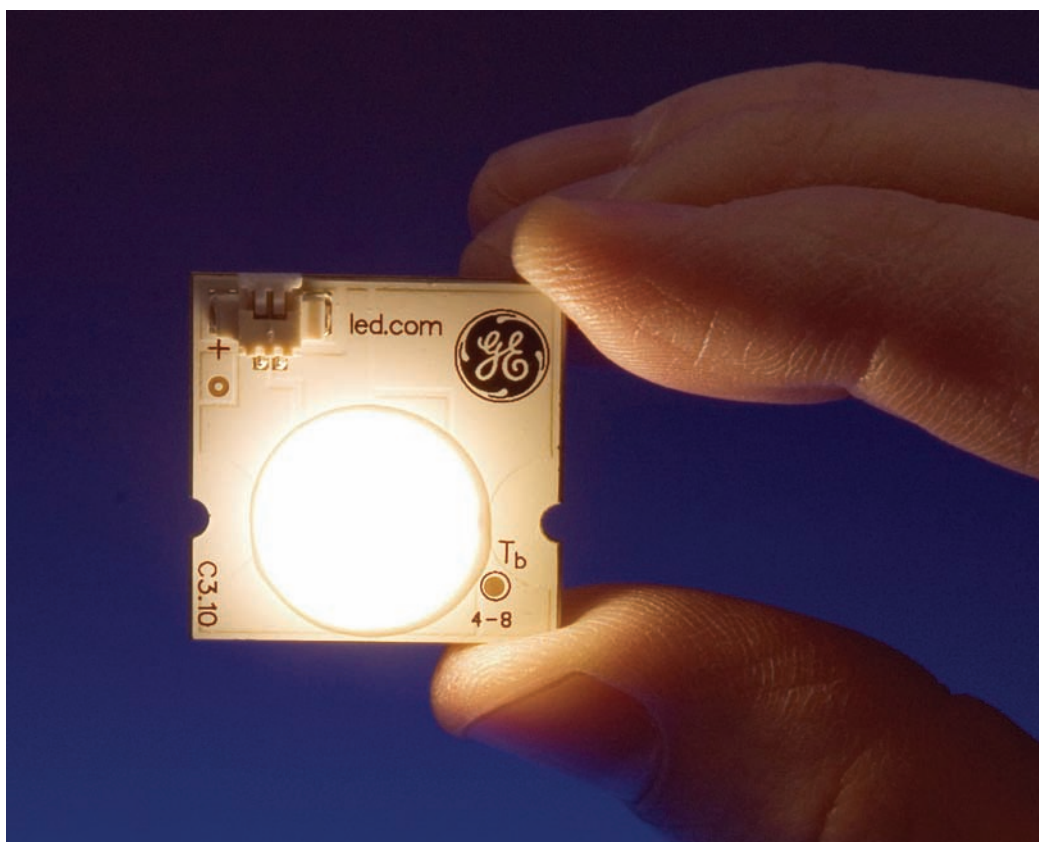
LEDs used in fixtures often produce glare or bright spots. The use of multiple point sources in fixtures (e.g., several LEDs grouped together) has the potential to produce multiple shadows. VIO LEDs eliminate

such distractions. High-power, 4-watt VIO LEDs distribute diffused light more evenly over a 180-degree beam angle.

The colour of Lumination's VIO high-power white LED is so stable that its light can be used with confidence as a replacement for traditional general illumination light sources.

"With this new product, we're ushering in a new era for lighting fixture OEMs and designers," notes Kasler. "Incorporating LEDs in a lighting scheme is more than a novel approach or smart move from an energy standpoint. Based on its performance, our VIO LED is a real alternative light source that will maintain a consistent appearance over a period of years."

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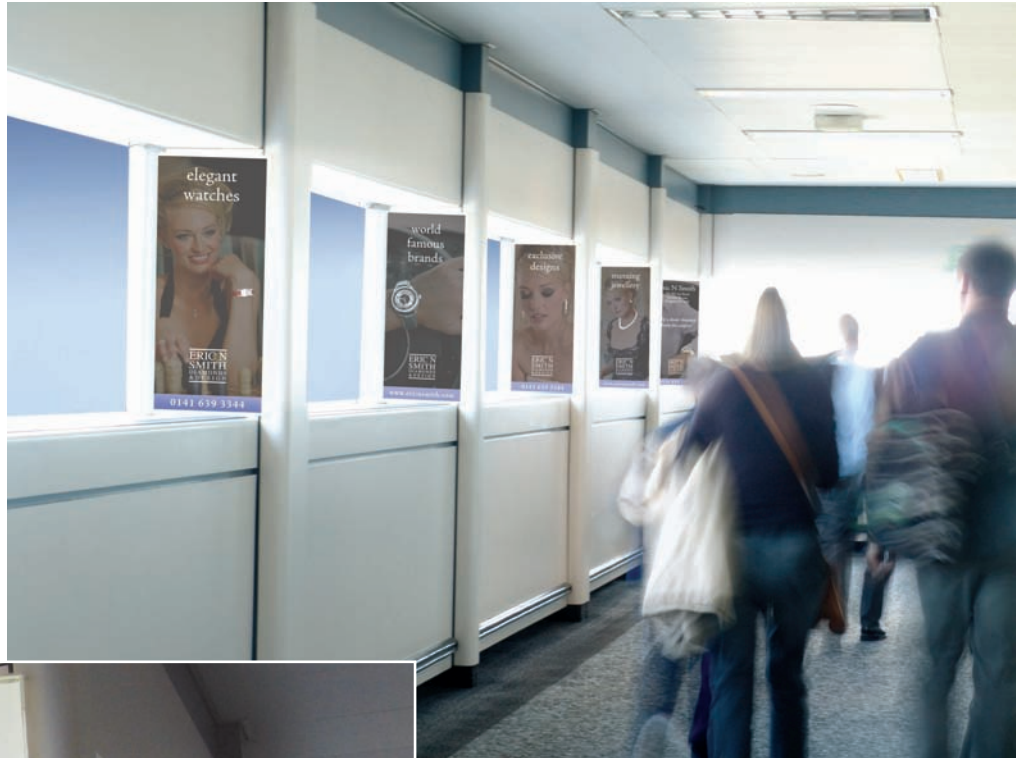
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Multi-unit installed at Glasgow Airport

The new 'ISIS' system, designed by Randak Design, the Glasgow based consultancy, recently went to market. The system has been six years in development and is patented worldwide.

Restyled with a new profile and now with energy saving low voltage cold cathode, it is manufactured by Principle Corporate Signage of Huddersfield.



With an elegant profile and a panel depth of just 22mm 'ISIS' has been selected for Glasgow Airport by J C Decaux. The huge advantage of the design is the unique 'slip-in / slip out' feature. There are no moving parts and the system uses ordinary digitally printed paper inserts.

The combination of ease of change (no tools required - anyone can do it in seconds) and low cost infills, allows a new dimension in visual merchandising, information panels and signage as content can be updated instantly or customised to suit events, promotions or timescales.

Specifically on the signage side, it means no more blanked out information while replacements are ordered and installed with the relevant attached costs. While on the visual merchandising / point of sale side a whole new flexibility is offered - you can insert for a day or even a morning if you want to!

The opposite end to the plasma screen, 'ISIS' offers "sheer simplicity, low cost, energy efficiency and total flexibility," says the manufacturers, who call it their 'passive plasma screen'.

For further information visit www.isis-signage.com

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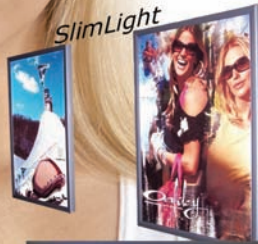
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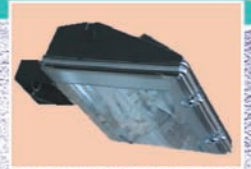


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Simplex add three new profiles to Pole and Plank range

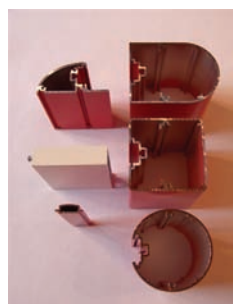
To satisfy many requests, three new profiles have been added to the Pole and Plank range by Simplex - proving, says the company, that it is indeed listening carefully to customers and incorporating their ideas into these extrusions.

Available shortly will be Quad-Slot, a 78mm diameter round pole with four slots to allow for multi banked signs, right angled signage and fingerpost assemblies. Next is Signbox 78, which is intended for use with the D-Post section to give a flush faced monolith style sign. Once again this section is designed to accept 2mm thick aluminium and Dibond composite sheet for extra strength. Finally, Composite Holder to produce single skin panels, which will slide into the poles in the same manner as the planks and panels. This will enable customers to use Pole and Plank to compete with the old fashioned panel and clip road traffic type signage, whilst retaining the modular look.

The authorised distributors, Simplex and Nova Aluminium, hold large stocks of Pole and Plank to ensure rapid delivery and there is no delay in supplying their customers needs, whether in straight lengths, kit form or fully assembled systems, painted and ready to accept graphics.

Simplex have offered a vote of thanks to all in the sign industry who have taken the plunge and purchased Pole and Plank. Their reaction and complimentary comments have been welcomed by the company. Says a spokesman; "For those of you that have not tried Pole and Plank yet - What are you waiting for? You will be pleasantly surprised by the sensible prices, the quality without compromise and last but not least, the total ease of assembly, less time on site and you can throw away your rubber mallet."

In addition to the authorised distributors of



Simplex Pole and Plank Profiles



Simplex Pole and Plank Think Signs

Pole and Plank in the South East and South West of England, they are soon to announce the appointment of another in the North and Midlands area of the country. This company is a large and well respected supplier to the Sign Industry and brings with them a wealth of knowledge to the network. Details to be announced shortly. For further information contact Simplex Ltd on Tel: 01903 750333 or email: dr@simplexLtd.com



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'Perfect prints' with FUJIFILM ImageHunter EPI version

FUJIFILM's popular ImageHunter software, which enables users of large format printers to control digital images and produce perfectly balanced prints with a minimum of settings and preparation, has just been made even easier to use with the availability of a FUJIFILM ImageHunter EPI version.

According to Fuji, the FUJIFILM ImageHunter RIP has been successfully achieving maximum results for digital printer users for some time. Now, says the company, the EPI (Easy Printing Interface) version does it via logical and straightforward processes, which anyone can operate. In addition to being easy to use, the system ticks all the other boxes, which determine its advantage for all users: it is affordable, it is extremely profitable, and it is highly versatile.

Able to be used with both PC and Mac computers, FUJIFILM

ImageHunter EPI still carries all the facilities necessary to ensure perfect results – advanced colour management and ICC settings to directly match the output media being used – but these are all applied automatically in the background when the media is selected. No operator intervention is necessary.

The user simply clicks through five options, from loading the images via a standard browser, determining the print layout for single sizes to multi-image photopacks as required, and making the image fill or fit, rotate, zoom or pan, to selecting the media to be used (this automatically activates all the settings), deciding on the number of copies and options such as crop marks, print cutter or nesting to

save paper wastage, and then pressing the print button.

That's it, says Fuji. No fuss. No bother. No struggling with colour balancing, media synchronisation and all the other aspects which have an effect on the finished print. The FUJIFILM ImageHunter EPI system does it all behind the scenes.

Obviously, such benefits as being able to save images or collection folders to 'favourites' listings, saving previous settings, and the facility to play with every aspect of the server, design and printer control can be accessed if wished. In addition, the FUJIFILM ImageHunter EPI software can easily be upgraded to a full RIP.

Printer coordination is no problem. The FUJIFILM ImageHunter EPI

works beautifully with the latest EPSON Stylus Pro, HP Z-series and Canon IPF photo printers, while ICC profiles for all FUJIFILM Professional Inkjet media is integral to the system.

"The FUJIFILM ImageHunter EPI system can be purchased on its own, or, for maximum price advantages, it can be supplied bundled with the FUJIFILM GreenBox," says Peter Hayward of FUJIFILM UK.

"The exceptional value-for-money GreenBox bundle also includes either the EPSON Stylus Pro or HP Designjet Z3100 printer as preferred, the X-Rite Eye-One Display 2 Monitor profiling and calibrating system, and two full rolls of 24-inch FUJIFILM Professional media, together with installation and full training."

Full details can be obtained by telephoning 01234 245 337 or emailing greenbox@fuji.co.uk
A video demonstration can be viewed at www.fujifilm.eu/video_feb



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New CNC routing and engraving solution from Vectric

Specialist sign and engraving software developer Vectric Ltd, the creator of VCarve Pro, PhotoVCarve and Cut3D, has released Version 4.0 of its flag ship CNC routing and engraving software, VCarve Pro. The company says that the software has been significantly enhanced to make CNC machining even easier and faster!

VCarve Pro 4.0 includes new and improved design, layout and machining functionality. Extending the superb decorative carving abilities of version 3 by adding industrial strength production capabilities and providing all the tools and flexibility demanded by commercial shops and users while remaining incredibly easy to use and affordably priced.

Version 4 now provides all the tools and functionality needed to design and machine projects that might start as a scanned concept image, supplied as a CAD file or created in VCarve Pro. Raster images can now be routed or engraved in seconds using the new Image Tracing (also referred to as vectorization) tools, that are perfect for converting image files (jpg, bmp, tif, gif, png) such as company logos and sketches into high quality vector boundaries for machining.

New advanced toolpath strategies in VCarve Pro 4.0 provide production workshops with the flexibility to machine components with perfect edge quality and smoothness. The ability to lead the cutter onto and off the edge of a component and ramp into the material at a user defined position, ensure improved cutter life and reduced loading on the machine.



3D files from Cut3D, Vectric's 3D model machining software can now be imported and combined with VCarve Pro 4.0 projects, making it very easy to add high quality 3D design elements to conventional 2D projects such as signage, door panels, jewellery, gifts and awards etc.

New and enhanced 2D Drawing Tools provide more control and accuracy when designing or editing projects. Complicated designs can be simplified using new Layer management tools that make it very easy to organise information for viewing and machining purposes. Other design enhancements include precise geometry



drawing using typed coordinates, interactive measuring tools, block copy paste for creating multiple copies of objects and additional a node editing tools for quick and easy geometry editing.

Dedicated engraving functionality has been added to VCarve Pro 4.0 for engraving or marking gifts, awards and badges etc. Automated Plate Production functionality allows lists of names and details from database files to be merged into predefined badge templates, and instantly creates both the design and toolpath information. If the number of badges requires multiple sheets of material, the software automatically creates separate toolpaths and organises the design

geometry onto individual layers. A dedicated Quick Engraving interface plus new engraving fonts (stick fonts) have been added for fast and efficient marking and engraving. Text can also be wrapped onto a curve with positioning, alignment and interactive kerning options. VCarve Pro is extremely easy to learn and use and is supplied with high quality training tutorials and documentation. The software is compatible with most CAD and graphics design packages and drives virtually all CNC routing and engraving machines.

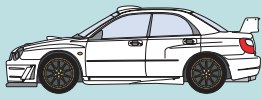
For more details visit the Vectric web site www.vec tric.com where you can download the Free Fully Working Trial Version of VCarve Pro 4.0 that lets you actually cut sample jobs on your own CNC machine. Comprehensive training videos and tutorial documents that show and explain step-by-step how to use the software, are also free to download from the web site.

For more information about Vectric Ltd or the Vectric software products, contact Vectric Ltd by calling 01527 460 459 or visit www.vec tric.com

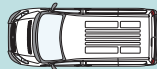
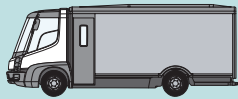
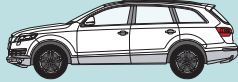
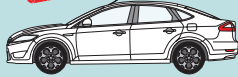
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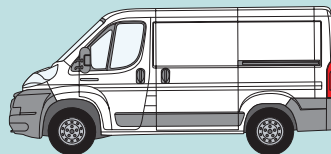


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Enhanced production capabilities with upgraded K Series router from Pacer Systems

Manufacturer of all-British CNC routing and engraving machines, Pacer Systems, introduced the first K Series model in the early 90's. It subsequently became a benchmark solution for end users in both the UK and overseas markets.

Launched earlier this year, the latest K Series system features a number of key enhancements to radically enhance the production capabilities of the machine. The familiar ball screw technology found on all Pacer machines has been updated to correlate with the company's market-leading HDS machine. A twin ball screw system with dual X-axis motors now drives the router, rigidly locking the gantry square.

The bed and frame construction of the machine is now heavier to ensure even greater accuracy and smoother cutting under all conditions.

The upgraded K Series also benefits from a zoned vacuum bed of either four or six zones, with the ability to direct the airflow into small sections to localise the vacuum at specific areas. This is particularly beneficial when using smaller off-cuts of material or when holding smaller components.

The new Version 3 XMC-E machine control software makes complicated programming very simple. Two- or three-dimensional data can be loaded in for simple tool path creation. The software is Windows XP-based and will integrate with any current CAD/CAM system.

Networking the machine to the design office is available, thanks to the built-in network card supplied with the machine's PC.

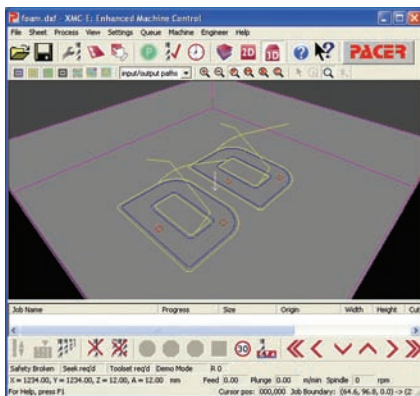
The new software also features a graphical facelift as well as other key features such as a material utilisation facility.

Operators can see graphically items cut from a panel (shown in black). This information can be stored for future retrieval when the material is next used.

A time and costing estimation tool is also now available for pre-costing of jobs and so forth. Demonstration CD's of the latest K Series are available from Pacer Systems.

Hands-on demonstrations of the router are available at the Pacer Systems' factory in Nottingham.

Telephone 0115 988 7777 for more information or to book a demonstration.



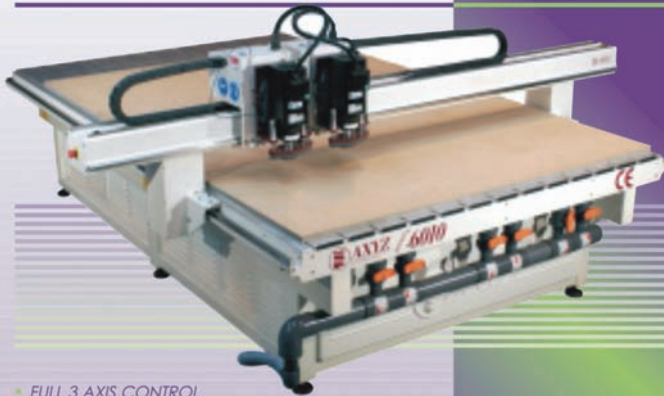
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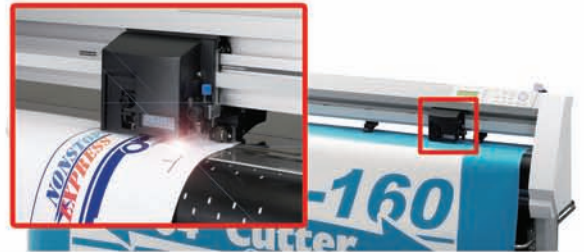
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PRODUCTS *update*

New safety ladder stabiliser launched by Standfast Access Equipment

Standfast Access Equipment in Bristol have launched a new Safety Ladder Stabiliser into the UK market.

The company states that not only will this product add safety and stability to a ladder, it will also enable users to work on uneven ground whilst keeping the ladder 'plumb' at the same time.

It is permanently fitted to the ladder so is always available when required, in comparison to other accessories which often need to be attached and removed each time.

Says Standfast, this "must have" product is suitable for timber, aluminium and glass fibre ladders and will fit most box section, C-section and I-section styles.

Even if the existing ladder feet or styles are worn down, by trimming them off first you can fit the lever and give a ladder a new lease of life.

For further information regarding the product, or any other access equipment from the company's extensive range, sales, service and introductory offers, contact Standfast on 0117 953 9533.



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Complete Fixing	£33	£58	£98
Sockets Only (Black or white)	£22	£35	£60
Studs Only	£23	£38	£62

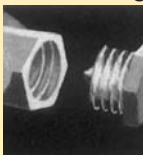
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Extra strong - no shearing - excellent weathering

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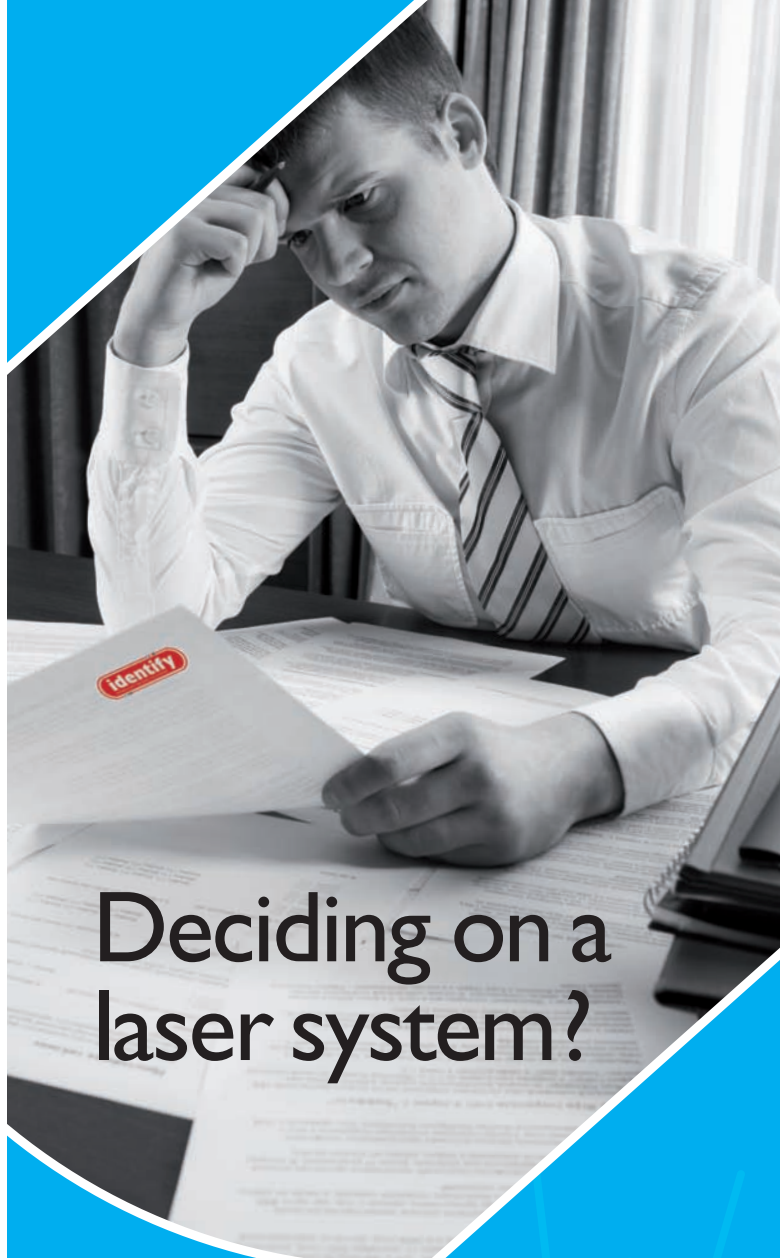
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The affordable, versatile and convenient way to change a suspended sign



With increasing Health and Safety regulations from the HSE, would it not be so much easier if one person could lower a sign, replace graphics, repair or change it and return it to its original position?

There is a solution, says the Vulcan Spring & Mfg Co., as they introduce the Super PULLBOX® and Super PULLBOX® Plus.



These are durable plastic boxes with strong steel cable that can extend and retract up to 3 metres. For extra high ceilings the cable can have a fixed length to

suit whilst still retaining the 3 metres of extension/retraction. It can be customised to counterbalance a suspended sign allowing one person, using an expandable pole, to lower, change or repair, and retract.

There is a special ratchet system inside the Super PULLBOX® Plus, which allows the cable to stay extended at any length, then with a light tug the cable retracts and the sign returns to the selected height.

The Super PULLBOX® Plus can be made to cope with any sign weight with springs that will give a retracting force from 1/8lb up to 6lbs per box (56g – 2.73 kg). The ratchet system gives that extra assurance that the sign will be counterbalanced.

The Super PULLBOX® has no ratchet but the spring can still be customised to the sign weight. For example, a special arrangement

of 10 Super PULLBOX® has been successfully used in the UK to raise and lower an external sign 28 kg in weight. A clever design by SMF International for StreetBroadcast meant the Super PULLBOX® were contained within the sign.

The appearance of the sign and use of the Super PULLBOX® or Super PULLBOX® Plus can be made to suit the preferred style of each design or manufacturing company. The box can be hidden in the sign, or in some kind of 'housing' for ceiling mount, enabling each company to retain their individuality. Super PULLBOX® are made to order to specific customer requirements and delivered direct to their premises ready for assembly. Steel cable options are uncoated, clear nylon coated or black nylon coated in either 0.8mm or 1mm Diameter.

Based in Pennsylvania, USA, Vulcan Spring & Mfg Co was founded in 1967, is QMI registered and all products are custom made in a modern factory to ISO certification 9001 : 2000.

The UK Office of Vulcan Spring & Mfg Co is based in Derbyshire and was set up to help UK / European customers with design and spec, organise quotes and samples and to assist with admin between the USA and Europe.

For further information visit www.vulcanspring.com or call the UK office on 01773 850250.

Right: 28 kg Sign designed by SMF International for StreetBroadcast



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PRODUCTS *update*

Intelligent Cutting System adds new dimension to XYZ routers

Owners of XYZ routers can now add a powerful new Cut-to-Print facility to their machines, thanks to the latest Intelligent Cutting System™ (ICS) developed by XYZ Automation. Formally introduced at this year's Sign UK exhibition, this latest innovation from one of the world's leading exponents of advanced routing solutions is powered by the new i-cut® compensation algorithm technology to provide incomparable levels of accuracy when processing both digitally-printed media and thicker sign-making substrates like aluminium, aluminium composite material (ACM), PVC, acrylic, plywood and medium-density fibreboard (MDF).

Compatible with all XYZ CNC routers and available as an upgrade to existing machine installations, ICS incorporates both a high-resolution camera imaging system that captures print registration marks and the industry leading i-cut control software. The automatic shape adjustment and Adobe Illustrator Plug-in registration mark capabilities inherent in ICS promise to resolve problems associated with linear



and non-linear material distortions where previously the use of standard software and print registration procedures had resulted in signs and graphics having to be scrapped, with a consequent erosion of profit for the sign or graphics producer and inconvenience to valued customers.

The ICS solution also features I-script® workflow communication to allow connectivity with all of the industry-leading RIPs and printers. Typically, these include those provided by 3M, Durst, Wasatch, Amiabile Technologies, Caldera, Colorburst, VUTEK, HP and ONYX.

With XYZ ICS, the constantly changing aspirations of the mainstream commercial sign and graphics, digital imaging and POP display industries can now be more effectively realised, says the company. Significantly, the technology will also enable users of XYZ routing systems to develop new areas of business that hitherto would not have been possible.

XYZ say that users 'can start adding intelligence to their existing cutting practices' by accessing the ICS demonstration video at www.digital-cutting.com or by contacting a member of the XYZ Automation technical team on 01902 375600.

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5 mm	£1.30	£1.70	£1.70	£2.20	£2.60	£2.97	£3.90	£5.00	£5.60	£6.70	£8.50	£11.50	£15.20	£28.00	£62.00

Add 10% for Gold & Silver Acrylic

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5 mm	£1.22	£1.27	£1.27	£1.80	£2.02	£2.25	£2.75	£3.20	£3.50	£4.20	£5.33	£6.76	£10.75	£16.50	£25.00
10 mm	£1.50	£1.70	£1.70	£3.50	£4.00	£4.56	£5.47	£6.61	£7.50	£8.40	£10.80	£14.50	£19.00	£27.00	£48.00
19 mm	£3.00	£3.50	£4.00	£4.50	£5.80	£7.56	£8.24	£9.89	£11.94	£13.50	£15.00	£20.09	£28.00	£40.00	£80.00

Add 10% if Drawplan & Simplefix Locators are required

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Sunday



July 2007

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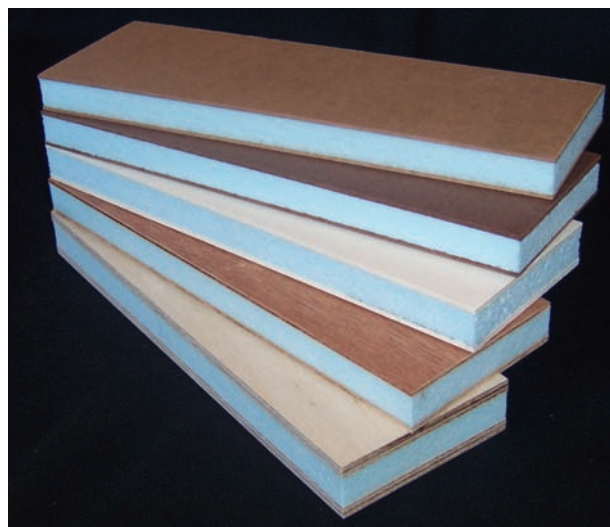


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Foamkore offered in a panel thickness up to 3"

The Kerfkore Company, a manufacturer of patented bendable substrates and panel products, now offers its fast growing Foamkore in a panel thickness up to 3".

Foamkore (patent pending) is a lightweight cost-effective alternative to traditional panels that features polystyrene foam core and thin face materials. It consists of a balanced constructed foam board that provides a structural panel with up to 80% reduced weight when compared to conventional panels of plywood, particleboard and MDF. Panels can weigh as little as 12oz per square foot. Panels can accept a variety of edging options including edge capture, edge insert, outer edge band, edge banding, and corner post.



When plywood face materials are used, the product has water resistance capabilities. Panels are laminated with special glue that results in greater moisture resistance. Panels are available in a nominal panel size of 4' x 8' in a panel thickness up to 3". Standard face and back panels are available in the following: hardboard, fibreboard, Luan Plywood, Poplar Plywood, and Birch Plywood. Additional options include marine grade plywood and melamine faced hardboard face and back. The panels can be painted, veneered, or laminated for producing design possibilities as vast as one's imagination. Applications include furniture, exhibits, ceilings, walls, signage, displays, partitions, shelves, stage props, doors, marine panels, recreational vehicles and even dance floors and much more.

The extruded polystyrene core has been ASTM E84 tested with results of 5-10 Flame Spread and 60-200 smoke development which falls in a Class A qualification. The addition of the face materials must be taken into consideration for overall fire rating. Custom sizes, thickness, and materials available. Additional information, samples and literature are available from The Kerfkore Company (a division of Interior Products, Inc.).

For further information visit www.kerfkore.com

For further information visit www.kerfkore.com

New hanging systems from arken

The new hanging systems from arken are available in both front opening and slide in format and are perfect for displaying paper posters, card or a variety of vinyl substrates.

Ideal either suspended from the ceiling, as window displays or freestanding, they create high-impact signage in showrooms, retail sites and foyer receptions.

The front opening frames use arken's unique Ultragrip™ system, the other variation allows graphics to slide in, both allowing easy change of graphics.



Both variations are available in a wide range of sizes, and are an extremely cost effective way to display graphics.

For further information call 01638 56 56 90 or visit www.arken-pop.com

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New body will unite image based industries

A new trade association, which will bring together for the first time companies which use photographic images to create signs, exhibition graphics, vehicle liveries, banners, POS, ultra wide format prints and so on with those working in professional photo labs, is due to be unveiled shortly.

To be called the Association of Imaging Professionals, it is being seen as a natural evolution for the long standing Professional Photographic Laboratories Association, which it will absorb, and will reflect the way the digital revolution has blurred the edges between what were until recently, a number of different image based industries.

The AIP grew out of the recognition that many photo labs had diversified into image or print related areas which took them outside their traditional markets while companies which have in the past had no links to the photographic industry had at the same time moved into what used to be the province of the commercial photo lab.

It will provide both an industry wide umbrella and specific core business benefits to special interest groups such as photo labs and those involved in producing exhibition and display material, signage, ultra wide format prints, digital bureau work and so on.

Like the PPLA, the AIP will come under the auspices of the UK division of the world-wide Photo Marketing Association, which represents more than 20,000 members in 100-plus countries.

Said PMA UK Director, Nigel McNaught: "The digital revolution has

affected the PPLA's core membership but at the same time it has opened up a gap in the market just waiting to be filled.

"As a result the PPLA is evolving into the AIP with the objective of assisting its members in developing their imaging businesses and of engendering a sense of community within the broader commercial imaging industry.

"The decision to create what we hope will become a major force in the overall image business was taken after consultation with PPLA members and a cross section of companies working in the areas the AIP will cover."

Heading the consultation team was ex-Agfa marketing man and now communications consultant Simon Childs, who added: "There is clear enthusiasm among companies that have no historical link with the photo industry and no previous association with the PMA as well as from current and ex PPLA members who see the need for that organisation to evolve."

The AIP will have a formal launch during the summer and its inaugural meeting during the Photo Marketing Association's Autumn Conference in October.

Final details will be made available shortly but AIP membership will provide a host of benefits including financial and business support services, industry news and market data, a range of UK and international events, manufacturer user groups, technology and marketing information exchange and networking forums.

For further information contact PMA UK on 0870 240 4542.

Signage management division launched

Sports Management Limited, the signage company, has announced the launch of a new division. To be called 'Signage Management'. This new brand will run alongside the existing Sports Management business. It will be targeted at the commercial, industrial and property sectors offering a wide variety of signage and branding solutions.

As part of a major new growth phase for Sports Management, Janet Filler, Managing Director of Sports Management Limited said, "Sports Management has long been the signage company of choice for many of the UK's most prestigious sporting venues and we are now keen to work hard to develop a similar high profile in other market sectors. It is this desire that has driven the creation of Signage Management."

Signage Management represents a brand-new offshoot of the existing Sports Management business and it will focus heavily on both print and service contracts in the non-sports marketplace. Janet Filler continued, "We are currently investing in significant

website development, PR and marketing to put Signage Management on the map."

Having worked hard over nearly three decades to become one of the UK's premier suppliers of signage to major sporting events, Sports Management is actively looking to grow more non-sports business, such as the work that they are currently undertaking for the Liverpool City Council on the European Capital of Culture 2008 project.

"We see the skills gained from our sporting and exhibition work, operating successfully under extreme pressure, to tight deadlines and to rigorous health and safety standards, as giving us an ideal platform to attract more work from other business sectors," Caroline McEleney, Head of Sales and Marketing for Sports Management said.

For further information

contact Sports Management on 01327 858614

or e-mail: info@sports-management.uk.com

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A vinyl for every occasion

3M film provides winning formula for Fiorano Ferrari

As an official supplier of graphics to the Fiorano Ferrari motor sport fleet, 3M has guaranteed the outstanding durability of the distinctive markings seen on the F430 road cars and the Challenge 360 race cars used in Fiorano Ferrari's European driving activities.

Mindful of its powerful and influential and customer-facing image, the Fiorano Ferrari team demanded only the very best materials for the markings applied to its cars. The graphics featured have to retain their original pristine condition throughout a year-long gruelling programme of customer events, allowing for the disparate weather conditions likely to be encountered in the various countries playing host to around 40 individual events, as well as the breathtaking speeds at which the cars would be travelling on each circuit.



For the 11 cars making up the racing fleet, Fiorano Ferrari specified 3M ControTact™ Plus IJ 180 50 micron-thick inkjet-printable cast white opaque vinyl film. It is designed for mid- to long-term sign and graphics applications, with vehicle marking among its many areas of application. It features a grey permanent adhesive and comes with the renowned 3M MCS (Matched Component System) warranty, contingent upon the nature of the application and the inks used in the graphics production.

The film can also be supplied with 3M's Comply™ Performance Technology. This is unique in its ability to effectively apply graphics faster, easier and accurately, even when the applicator is relatively inexperienced. It dramatically reduces the likelihood of applicator error by allowing the film to be applied and repositioned more than once during the application process without damage to the substrate. However, once positioned correctly and firmly applied, the film adheres permanently until such times as it is to be removed.

For further information, visit www.3m.com/uk/graphicsolutions or telephone 01344 857850. Information on other 3M vehicle graphics solutions can be found at www.3m.com/uk/fleetadvertising.



Metamark distributes its products direct and puts class leading service at the heart of its business.

More materials from Metamark for a wider range of work

Signmaking is an expanding speciality with signmakers now routinely undertaking work that would have once been the exclusive province of screenprinters or other imaging specialists. With more applications to pursue, signmakers need a bigger range of materials to work with – something Metamark is happy to provide.

Metamark has practically every material a modern signmaker needs in stock and ready to despatch. With a manufacturer's perspective on quality and technical leadership, Metamark products are engineered by design to perform flawlessly during production, and deliver enduring quality in the final application. Metamark distributes its products direct and puts class leading service at the heart of its business.

With one of the largest material swatches in the industry, Metamark materials have every application covered. Cut and applied sign vinyl, digital media, speciality materials – Metamark has them all in depth. Metamark Sign Vinyl has a soft handle making it easy to work with in challenging applications. Its proprietary adhesive system allows repositioning and builds to a reliable, ultimate bond with the substrate. The material removes cleanly leaving no adhesive residue on the application substrate.



Signmakers need a bigger than ever range of materials to work with – something Metamark is happy to provide.

Metamark Digital Media for solvent inkjet printing is used by many printer manufacturers as a quality reference material. Metamark MD5 consistently delivers outstanding definition and a huge gamut thanks to its appetite for ink. Users of the material say it's like having a hardware upgrade with the all round improvement in output quality being so obvious.

Metamark Specialties offer the signmaker a range of innovative material including glass etch effects, special finishes such as simulated carbon fibre and much more besides. These versatile extensions to the core, signmaking products offer the signmaker the means to add value to every job.

Metamark's entire product range is fully detailed at www.metamark.co.uk together with all the company's latest news, technical data and profiles.

Expanded trade facility at William Smith

William Smith is now a national distributor of R-Tape application tapes. This is one of four major recent enhancements to the company's material distribution service, which includes 3M and Ritrama materials for both commercial and traffic sign and graphics applications.

The R-Tape range includes the Conform and Aplitape paper formats. Conform utilises a particularly innovative release liner adhesive technology that provides an enhanced layflat capability and resistance to tunnelling, wrinkling and edge curl. The Aplitape variant is a standard range of application tapes offering outstanding value and incorporating easy tear properties and simple handling characteristics.

An alternative to paper tapes, Clear Choice is easy to handle, will minimise stretching and misalignment of graphics, while DigiMask is ideal for surface protection when masking large-format digitally generated graphics.

William Smith has also added eight new products to its range of 3M Glass Decorative Films. The decorative effects and textures of the Fasara Privacy & Manifestation range, combined with a low-gloss surface to reduce glare, provide multiple privacy and manifestation options within and to the façade of buildings. The films can also be used to create logos, lettering, symbols and associated markings for identification of specific areas or to ensure visibility of glass doors, panels and partitions.

There are three Dusted and Frosted film variants plus five Striped and Punched films offering a high-tech appearance, including Illumina which fades from fully opaque white to clear across the full width of the roll.

All the films are available ex-stock in rolls of



William Smith's Fasara decorative films provide many options within a building.



1,270mm x 30m with part rolls also available, on same-day despatch and carry a five-year performance warranty.

A choice of 3M tinted automotive films is also available from William Smith. These comprise Scotchprint FX window films and Scotchtint colour-stable Panther auto films, both of which are supplied with different levels of shade and block out 99 per cent of UV rays.

For digitally printed brilliant graphics, 3M's Scotchcal IJ25 is a two year-durable inkjet printing film offering a number of notable performance characteristics. Of special significance is the excellent adhesion provided by the powerful pressure-sensitive acrylic adhesive, even at high ink lay down, without compromise of the film's fast removal capability.

For further information, visit www.williamsmith.co.uk

Left: William Smith is now a national distributor of R-Tape application tapes.



Metamark products are engineered to perform flawlessly during production

Continued from page 49

A vinyl for every occasion

Atech upgrades mediaTech self adhesive vinyl

Atech has announced an upgrade to the specification of its successful OG3 range of self-adhesive vinyl. This 3-5 year vinyl now has the benefit of a 17% increase in the weight of its release paper bringing the new version to 140gsm.

The heavier liner enhances handling stability when using heat settings on solvent printers, which in turn aids drying and ink adhesion. Designed for use with solvent and eco solvent inks, the OG3 range has the additional benefit of grey back adhesive as standard to help neutralise the substrate.

Stuart McMahon, Director of Atech says, "This range is already very popular with our customers and we are delighted that we can offer increased quality for better performance at no extra cost."

The new range also includes an economy three year self adhesive white back version based on a 100 micron PVC with 120gram paper in either matt or gloss.

With an extensive knowledge of their market and excellent supplier arrangements in place, Atech has a versatile range of products to suit many different visual requirements and also provides laminating and mounting supplies as well as inks and media for a wide range of large format graphics and digital graphic production. Atech specialises in providing total solutions that address the needs of a wide industry sector.

For more details on the mediaTech range of consumables telephone 01707 334422 or visit www.mediatech.eu.com

A vinyl that sticks to virtually any surface

Hexis has introduced a new high tack vinyl film that will adhere to substrates such as trashcans, garbage bins and other non-polar plastics.

The first new inkjet printable product is VCR3000WG1, a gloss white intermediate PVC has a special high tack clear permanent solvent-based adhesive on a 145g/sq.m. PE-coated liner with an outdoor durability of up to four years. The second is VCR200WG1, a gloss white high performance PVC with a special high tack clear permanent solvent-based adhesive also on a 145g/sq.m. PE-coated liner, and with an outdoor durability of up to eight years.

Both are available in rolls of 1370mm or 1600mm wide by 45m, 100m or 200m long and are suitable for solvent and eco-solvent inkjet printers.

The Hexis laboratory has created a media with a heavier coat weight of adhesive in order to allow the product to be more aggressive on hard to adhere surfaces (low energy surfaces), such as polyethylene, polypropylene, polycarbonate and ABS such as rubbish bins, canoes, and motorcycle fairings can all now have graphics put on to them.

Data sheets, evaluation samples and further information are available directly from Hexis, tel. UK Hexis on 01543 411221.



Hexis launches Carprotect

A new development from Hexis's automotive division is the Carprotect clear protective film.

It is a transparent self-adhesive urethane film specially designed for the durable protection of vehicle bodies. With excellent shock proofing properties the film protects vehicle paintwork against environmental aggressions such as stone chipping, scratches, carwash brushes, and insect debris. Totally transparent, it does not alter the vehicle colour.

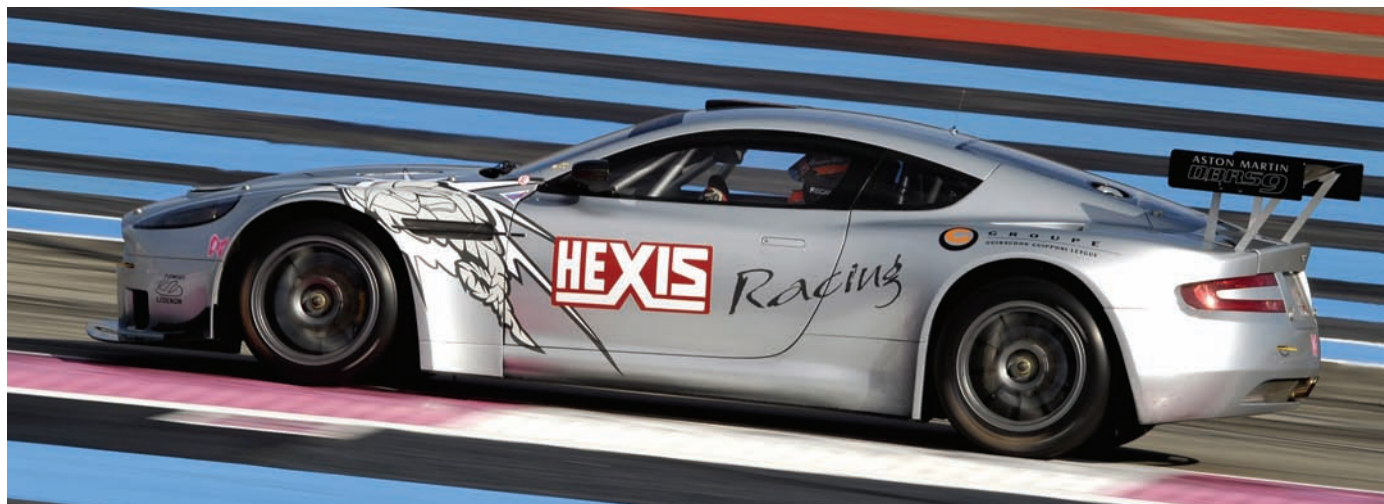
Sercovam, an independent laboratory, successfully tested the film for compliance with Renault industrial standard specifications for self-adhesive vehicle protection films. The test confirms that the Hexis Carprotect film resists carwash brushes, high-pressure steam cleaners, abrasion, friction, exposure to sunlight and petrol spillage. The major benefits for the user are the durable protection of the paintwork, the unchanged appearance of the vehicle and the improved resale value.

The adhesive formulation allows clean removal of the film without leaving behind any adhesive residues. Besides the protection of vehicle bodywork, doorsills, bumpers, headlights and wing mirrors against damage from stone chips and the like, the film also aids in protecting painted panels from vandalism, key scratches, minor accidents and car park scuffs.

The Carprotect film is available in rolls 1230mm wide by 20m long. A data sheet and samples are available directly from Hexis or from local distributors.

Visit the Hexis website at www.hexisgroup.com for further information.

Below: Durable protection of beautiful paintwork with Carprotect from Hexis.



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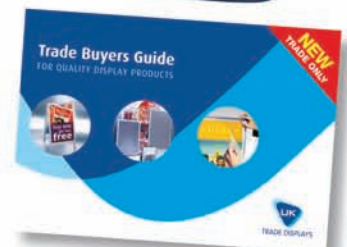
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Plug-in filters are a great way to liven up your signs and while many other design and sign making software's boast the ability to be able to use them, only Signlab goes further by offering 10 free plug-ins with every copy of 7.1 Print and Cut.

In this tutorial we will be covering the use of the Eye Candy Gradient Glow plug-in, and how it can be used to emulate stunning neon effects.

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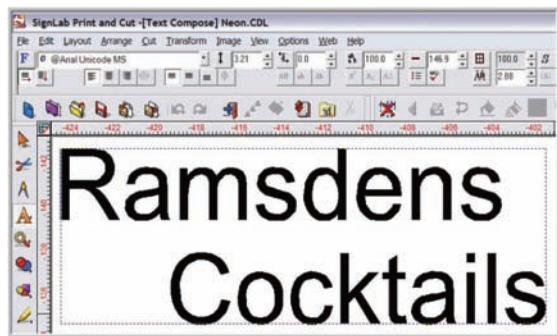


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01

Get typing:

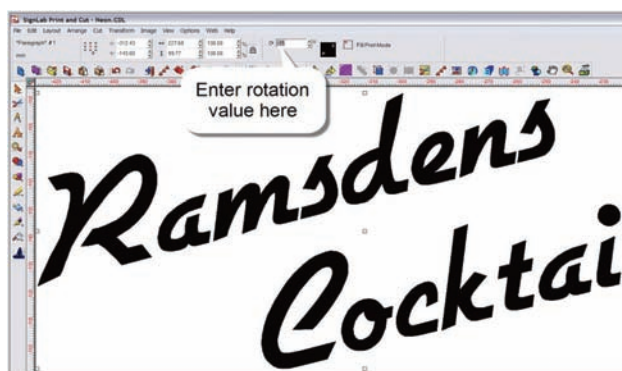
Grab the text compose tool and place it on screen. Type the word 'Ramsdens' and hit 'enter' and then press the space bar a couple of times and then type the word 'Cocktails'.



02

Which type?:

Although it's possible to apply these effects to any font, the choice you make will affect the realism of your finished design. For this example we are going to use "Gill Sans Bold" but once you have done this tutorial, why not experiment with different styles. You will soon learn what works and what does not. While still in text edit mode, press and hold the left mouse button and scroll over all the text. Now drop down your fonts list and select 'GILLBLD' double click to enable your selection.



03

Rotate:

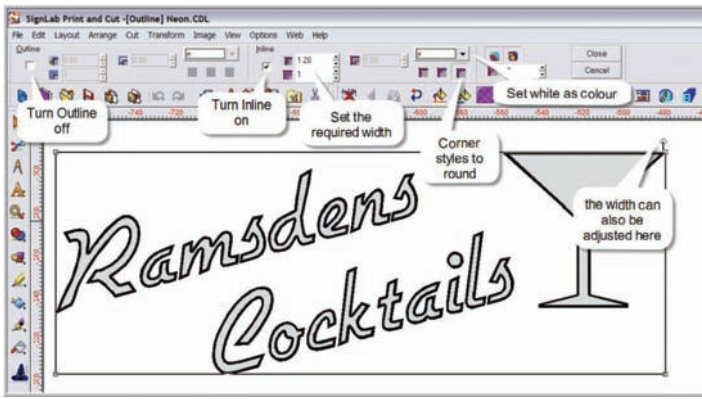
With the text selected, enter -15 in the object rotation, box located in the smart bar. Hit enter to set. Your text should now have a nice angle to it.



04

Add a picture:

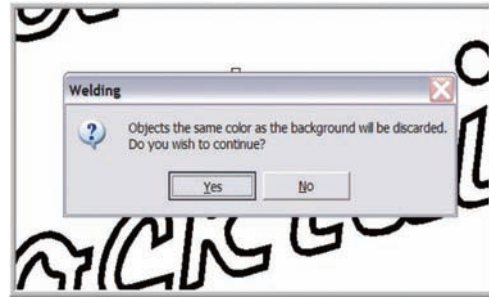
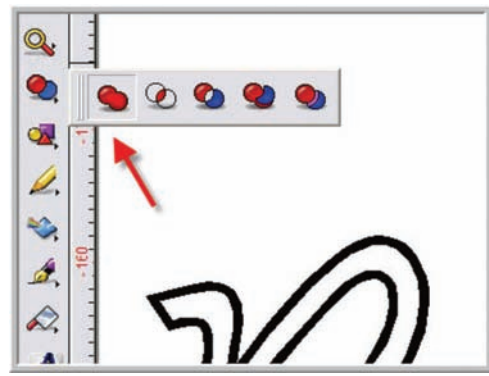
For the next stage you will need a piece of clip art from the food section of the CADlink Fonts and clipart CD ROM. I used a file called 'MARTINI2.CDL'. Some of you may keep these files on your hard disk, if not pop the CADlink Fonts and Cpart CD in to your drive and import the file.



05

Inline:

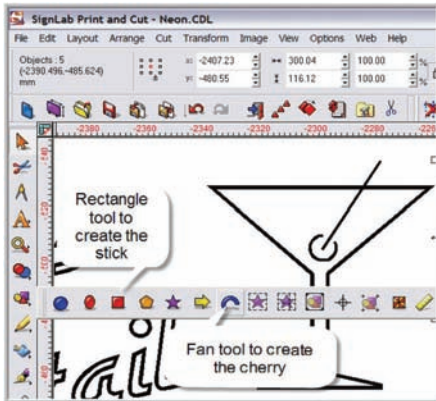
Once you have positioned the cocktail glass, select all and then go to the 'Transform' menu and select 'Outline'. You will need to make sure that the 'Outline' box is unticked and the 'Inline' box is ticked. Set corner styles to 'Round' and adjust the outline either by entering a value in the box at the top or freehand by grabbing the small round handle on screen and sliding it to the desired width. The width required will largely depend on the size of your objects; I used a 35mm font height and found that a 1.2mm inline worked well. Lastly here, make sure the inline colour is white.



06

Welding time:

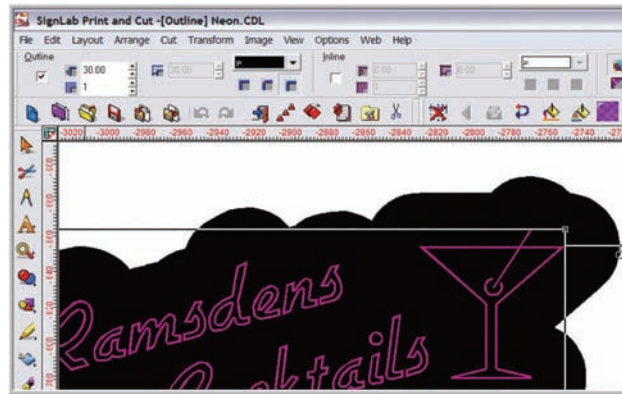
The next task is to eliminate the white centre and leave just the black outline. This is an easy step, thanks to SignLab's welding tools. Select the first weld tool, a dialogue will appear warning that object the same colour as the background will be discarded. This is exactly what we want so click 'Yes' to finish the task.



07

Add some shapes:

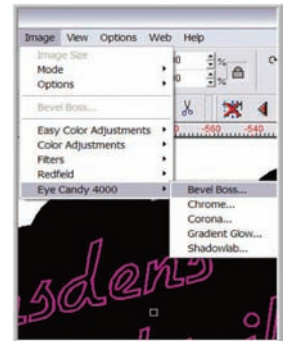
If you look at the cocktail glass, you will see I have added a cocktail stick and a cherry. This was done using the 'Rectangle' shape tool for the stick and the 'Fan' shape tool for the cherry. When your done, select all objects and give them a nice bright colour.



08

Outline:

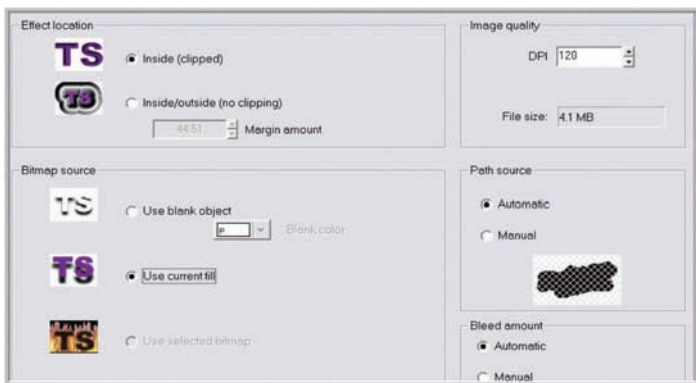
To create a background we must first outline our objects. This is almost the same procedure as the inline we just added. The only difference is this time, make sure 'Inline' is not ticked and that 'Outline' is. Use black as the outline colour and adjust the width to suit. As before the required width needed will depend on the overall size of your design but for mine I used an outline of 30mm.



09

Let the fun begin:

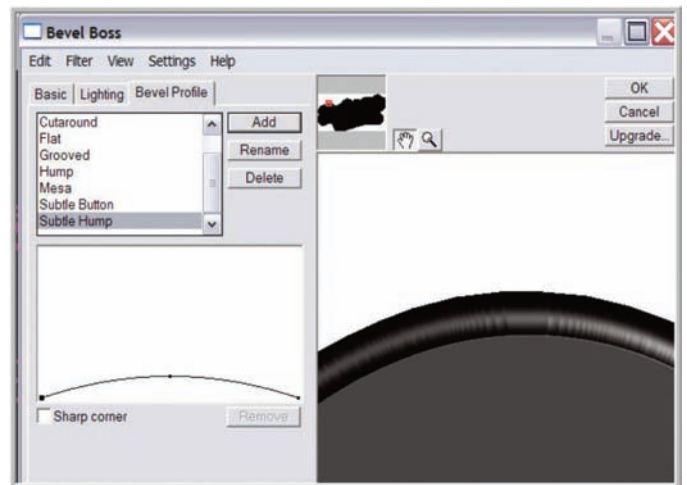
Ok, now we have all the basics in place, it's time to start using the plug-ins. First select just the black background and go to the 'Image' menu and Select 'Eye Candy > 'Bevel Boss'.



10

Settings:

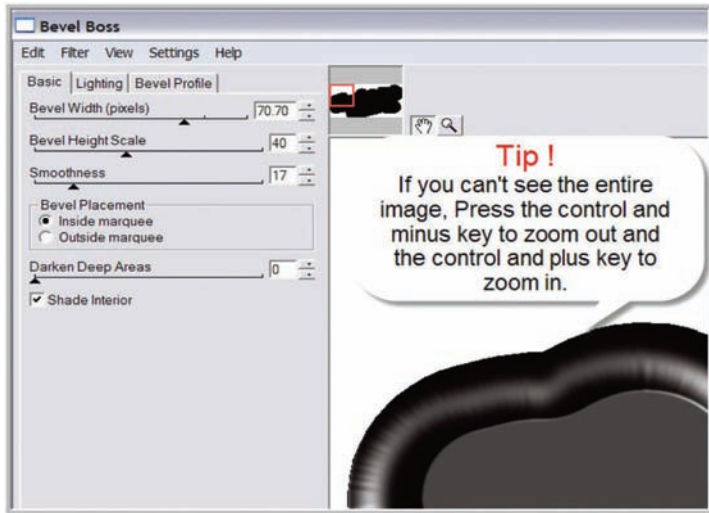
Whenever you apply any filter in SignLab, you first have to make some choices in this dialogue window. What you select here will depend on what you're doing. For a bevel you will normally want to end up with a clipped object (this ensures neat edges, regardless of how big you print the final sign) so select 'Inside Clipped'. Selecting 'Use Current Fill' in the path source area ensures that the black colour we applied to the background will be used on the bevel we are about to create. Finally you may want to increase the resolution; again this will depend on your finished output size but remember to keep an eye on the overall image size.



11

Settings:

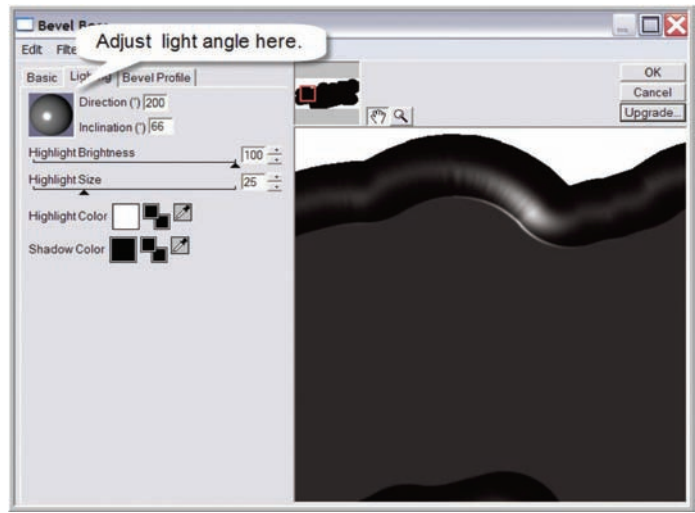
Now we're on to the main Eye Candy interface, infinite results can be achieved here by simply adjusting the different settings. For this example were going to use one of the presets. Click on the tab marked 'Bevel Profile' and select the last option called 'Subtle Hump'. Now click the tab marked 'Basic'.



12

Tweaking:

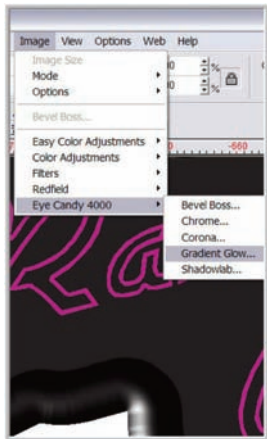
Next you'll need to adjust the bevel width, the higher you push this the fatter the edge becomes. I had mine set to about 70%, you may need more or less depending on the size of your image. You will also see a slider here for the 'Smoothness' of the bevel. Play around here until you get something you are happy with, my preference is to have a very sharp bevel but it's really up to the individual. When you are done here, Click on 'Lighting'.



13

Lighten up:

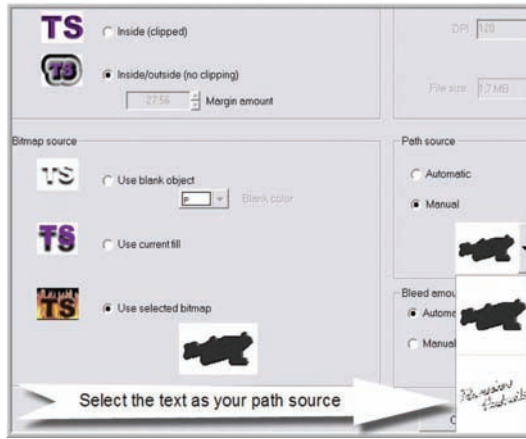
Finally here, you'll need to give the lighting settings a little tweak and this is just to make the whole image a little lighter and bring out the shape of the bevel a bit more. You can adjust the lighting direction by entering values or by grabbing the sphere and moving it manually. Aim to have the light quite high over the top of the image. When you are happy, click 'OK' and return to the main Signlab screen.



14

Neon time:

First select drag a marquee box to select all the text, go to the 'Layout' menu and select 'Group'. Now with the text still selected, press and hold the 'Shift' key and click on the black background. You should now have the text and background selected but not the cocktail glass. Go to the 'Image' menu and select Gradient Glow from the Eye Candy List.



15

Set it up:

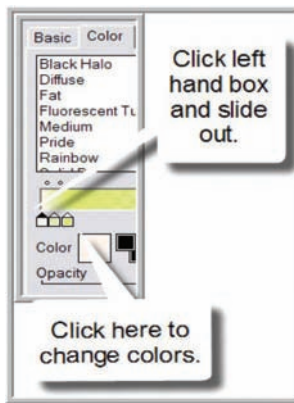
This time, the effect will blend out, so 'Inside/Outside' needs to be checked. In 'Bitmap Source' select 'Use selected bitmap'. This refers to the black background that we are going to blend the neon effect in to. Finally, you will need to set a path source. Click 'Manual' and then drop down the list below it and select the text. Hit 'OK'.



16

Presets:

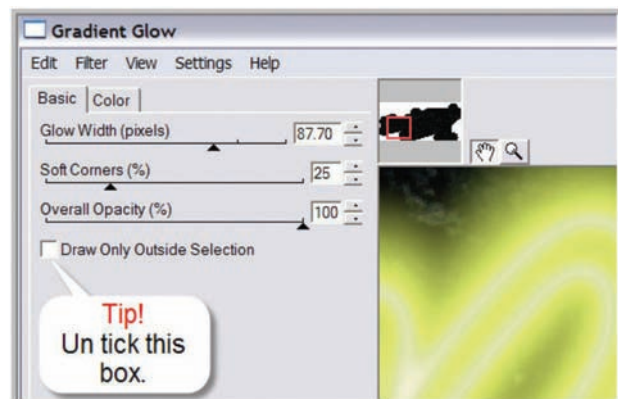
A good place to start your Neon effect is by selecting the 'Neon Outline' preset from the 'Settings Menu'. You will now see the effect taking shape in the preview window, you can now click the 'Colour' tab.



17

Colour:

Decide on a colour and then apply three different tones of that colour to create the neon glow, extra colours are created by dragging boxes from the left, click the larger box below that says 'Colour', you can now pick any tone from the pallet. I find the best results come from starting with almost white for the first box, then a paler tone of the colour you want to achieve (in this case yellow) and then finish with the brightest tone you can find. You can also get different results by playing with the position of the boxes or even adding more, experiment with the opacity of each shade until you get an effect that looks good.



18

Finish up:

To complete the effect, click on 'Basic' and experiment with the three properties sliders. 'Glow Width' should now act like a strength bar, the higher you take it the brighter the light becomes. I found the best results by keeping the 'Soft Corners' setting pretty low and the 'Opacity' around 90%. The real beauty of these effects is that it's so simple to adjust the values to get a result you feel is right. Don't feel you have to follow my settings, just spend some time playing with the various properties and getting to know these fantastic tools. To finish of this design you will simply need to repeat these steps for the cocktail glass, stick and cherry. Just apply different tones of the colour you wish to use on these separate elements. When you're done, don't forget to delete the original vectored paths. **All the plug-ins in Signlab work with the same ease, have a play around and remember to visit the CADLink website for more tips and tricks. Just go to www.cadlink.com and click on Info Source.**

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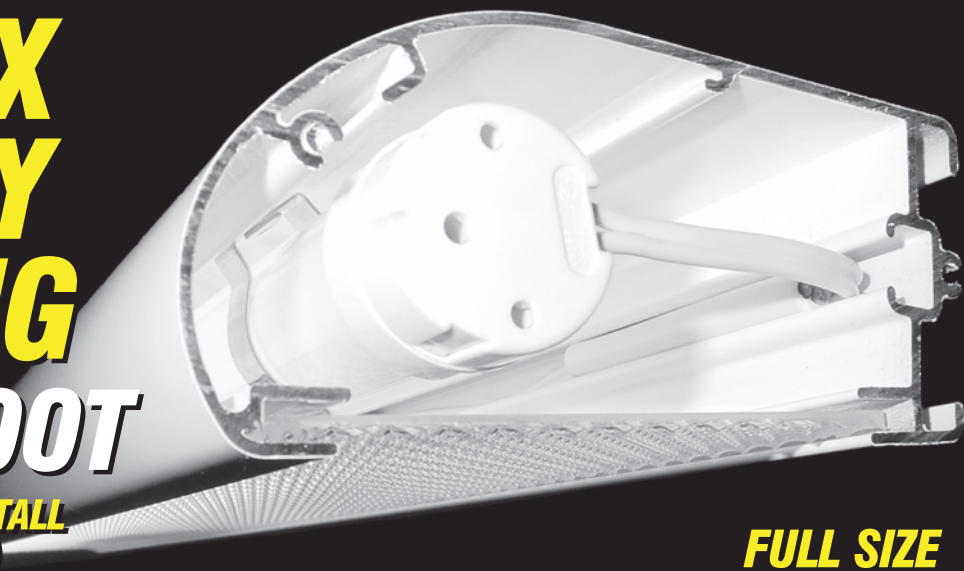


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Budget T5 is only available in white or black finish.

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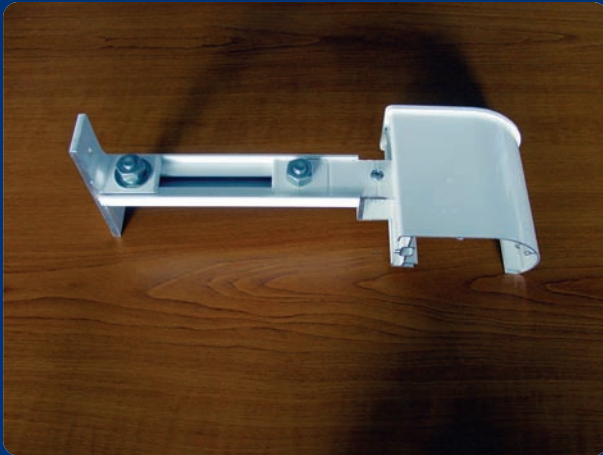
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The above photo shows Highlight in normal position (not angled). Illumination is even, and the unit blends into the background. Angling of the light is only required on sloping fascias.



The above photo shows Highlight angled inward, resulting in glare at the top, and dullness at the bottom. The profile also becomes highly noticeable.

Wrap campaign is on the right track



In a pioneering new venture, a leading signs and graphics company, Signs Express, have completed full vehicle wraps on two 'One' railway train carriages. The wraps are an ideal promotional medium and have been commissioned by Norwich shopping centre, Chapelfield, to promote the retail development throughout the Region.

One operates train services throughout East Anglia and the Class 156 two-carriage train will be used on several lines, travelling to key destinations including Cambridge, Ipswich, Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft.

Signs Express (Norwich) centre manager, Ken Venables said, "We have worked with One on a number of projects but never anything quite like this! Obviously we were delighted to be involved in a real first and with more train sponsorships planned, it's a very exciting time to be working with them. We are specialists in vehicle livery and so often undertake vehicle wrapping projects but have never done something of this magnitude so are absolutely thrilled with the finished result.

"We used 3M Control Tac vinyl because of its excellent fire rating and this was then laminated for a long lasting finish. In total we used over 225m of vinyl to completely 'wrap' the two carriages. The

digitally printed sections were printed in house on our Mimaki JV3 and then fitted by a four man team ready for the launch of the trains."

Clive Morris, Rural Business Director for One said, "This is an exciting development for One railway. Working with key partners will help to promote the attractiveness of using the train to key centres such as Norwich, encouraging more people to leave their cars at home. We have also been able to refurbish the carriages as part of the commercial

arrangement ensuring rail passengers will enjoy a more pleasant environment on their journeys."

The designs follow the corporate branding of Chapelfield, reinforcing their advertising campaigns featuring a striking image of two models and the bold statement 'Love shopping love Chapelfield'. Sheridan Smith, Marketing Manager for Chapelfield said, "We see this as an excellent way to get our message out to people throughout East Anglia whilst underlining the fact that Chapelfield is easily accessible by public transport."

As part of the sponsorship, the trains have also undergone a complete refurbishment which included the replacement of table tops, seating and carpets within the carriages. Signs Express also provided the table top graphics, which depict Chapelfield branding. Signs Express was established in 1989 in Norwich and now has over 80 centres nationwide. Signs Express is a member of the British Signs & Graphics Association and the International Sign Association. Providing a full signage solution, Signs Express supplies interior and exterior signs, vehicle graphics, banners, exhibition displays and window graphics to businesses large and small.

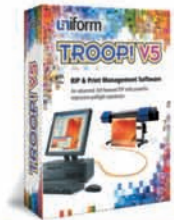
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Green Graphics partners with Esko and Dufaylite to develop eco-friendly display solutions

Esko recently installed a Kongsberg i-XL24 cutting table at Green Graphics in Cambridge, which will work in tandem with the eight-module, Inca Spyder 320. Mill Pond Graphics, Esko's UK distributor, handled the sales and installation of the new cutting table.

The Esko Kongsberg is a strategic acquisition that will enable Green Graphics' to develop a range of environmentally friendly display solutions made from Dufaylite Ultra Board. This strong honeycomb board is extremely puncture resistant and lightweight. The Esko Kongsberg i-XL24 cutting table was selected for its superior registration system and its ability to cut the widest range of substrates, including textiles and paper honeycomb board.

The Kongsberg is the perfect choice to work with Dufaylite Ultra Board, effortlessly cutting and finishing the board to create wear-resistant displays with a high visual impact. Dufaylite Ultra Board has the additional benefits of being lightweight and easy to assemble. It can also be recycled – a key advantage supporting Green Graphics' environmentally friendly corporate ethics.

With its brand message of 'Be Seen and Be Green', Green Graphics is a newly formed company specialising in eco-friendly large format digital print. It was founded to service current print requirements, but also to facilitate companies wishing to make the transition into the production of environmentally friendly promotional materials. Green Graphics is well equipped to produce a wide range of digital products for applications such as signage, point of purchase and point of sale display systems as well as traditional banners and flags.

Mike Burnell, Managing Director Dufaylite Developments Ltd, points out that an increasing number of companies are addressing the world's environmental issues. Green Graphics distinguishes itself by offering clients an 'environmental option' for their promotional needs. "We have some high profile customers who are looking to the future and have developed corporate environmental policies. We are taking a stand ourselves and saying to them – 'if you have an environmental policy, Green Graphics can help you meet your targets'. Our company is continuing to offer standard materials but we want to introduce and migrate our customers to environmental



From left to right: Geoff Spicer, Mill Pond Graphics - Ashley Moscrop, Green Graphics and Mike Burnell, Managing Director of Dufaylite Developments Ltd.

solutions," explains Burnell. "In offering our customers an environmental option, we can help to take them from where they are now, to where they want to be in the future."

The fully automated Kongsberg i-XL24 offers advanced technical capabilities, along with speed and precision. "The Kongsberg is providing us not only with a print finishing solution of ultimate flexibility, but fast and accurate production," states Burnell. "It is effectively supporting our business strategy to consistently meet deadlines, provide a quality product, and increase our product range using re-cycled paper and board and natural fibres."

Green Graphics is using the Esko Kongsberg in conjunction with the Esko i-cut 6.2 Vision control system and i-script® workflow. This innovative technology supports cutting and tooling with perfect registration on all different kinds of substrates. It also offers maximum flexibility, handling the wide variety of substrate materials that are printed on Green Graphics' Inca Spyder.

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121 Computers go big and bold

When PSS were approached in early June to build illuminated letters reading 121 COMPUTERS, the job immediately proved exciting due to the sheer size of the letters.

The 121 proudly stands at 1800mm high and COMPUTERS at 800mm high. The letters were required to be fixed to a glass building fascia, weather resistant and face illuminated.

Using their standard Profile 5 style letter, PSS began the process of building the letters. The faces were cut from 3mm Plexiglas TruLED and finished with a red plastic trim. The back trays were made from aluminium and the 125mm returns were manufactured from aluminium using their ACCU-BEND machine.

As the letters were to be housed onto glass, they would be visible from the inside of the building. PSS flat cut 2mm aluminium to read 121 COMPUTERS, powder coated them and affixed them directly onto the reverse of the built up letters.

For outstanding illumination, PSS used 89m of our IP66 rated, red Tetra CL. With 5 years warranty on the LEDs and power supplies, they wanted to make sure that the customer was receiving a high quality product that wouldn't let them down.

The letters were to be mounted onto a glass fronted building so mounting bars were designed to hold the letters and manufactured in-house.

The mounting bars were manufactured in three separate sections, all from square hollow aluminium frame and powder coated to match the building fascia. The 1800mm high number 2 was fixed to the first set of bars and the number 1's were mounted with hanging brackets so the customer could adjust the positioning of these when on site.

The second set of bars for the word computers were supplied in 2 sections. The power supplies (pictured below) were mounted behind the letters and housed in fabricated aluminium boxes and powder coated to match the letters. This allowed them to blend in with the letters.

The three sections were transported by Professional Sign



Systems and delivered direct to the customer where they made arrangements for installing the sign. Professional Sign Systems supply aluminium and stainless steel built up and flat cut letters. They offer a range of IP rated LEDs

suitable for almost any application and can install LEDs into your built-up letters ready for you.

Visit www.pss-signs.co.uk or contact the sales team on 0191 4911908 for further information.

Banana-Art cuts wastage with Koolkut

When Steve Morris of Gloucester-based Trinity Art Products Ltd came across Sagetech's Koolkut vertical panel saw range at the 2006 W6 show, he realised that he had found the tool he needed to dramatically cut wastage and improve profits.

Trading under the name Banana-Art, the company provides a range of art products, including the distinctive curved pictures that inspired its name.

As Steve Morris, Managing Director, explained, it was a desire to make better use of resources, cutting costs and wastage, that led him to invest in the Koolkut. "Creating the curved pictures involves removing large sections from the centres of sheets of MDF – these centre sections were essentially waste," he said. "In order to make use of them, we needed a panel saw to trim them down, so that we could create smaller pictures out of them." Banana-Art took delivery of its Koolkut KK12 late in 2006. "Delivery and setup went very smoothly," Steve recalled. "The saw was here a couple of days after we ordered it, which I found very impressive, and Sagetech had a technician in a couple of days later to set the machine up."

With a design engineering background, Steve is quick to praise the design and

build quality of the Koolkut. "It's obviously been thought through properly," he enthused. "The machine is bristling with clever engineering solutions, such as the sealed linear bearings running on ground, hardened shafts. It's also immensely strong, but remarkably compact."

With the Koolkut in place, Banana-Art can make much better use of its raw materials, by using the centre pieces from larger pictures as material for smaller ones. Steve expects this to make a significant

difference to the company's bottom-line performance.

"I'm very pleased with the Koolkut," Steve summed up. "It's a remarkable machine, very nicely engineered and very reasonably priced, which is why we have become agents for the range. I'd definitely recommend it to anyone looking for a vertical panel saw."

For further information on the Koolkut range, visit www.sagetech.co.uk or www.banana-art.co.uk Sagetech can be contacted on 0118 970 1950 and Banana-Art on 01452 751199.



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Graffiti Design 'makes the cut' at East Sussex National

In a fiercely contested tender, Graffiti Design won the contract to design, manufacture and install a comprehensive interior and exterior new signage programme at the prestigious East Sussex Golf Resort & Spa. Set within the undulating beauty of the South Downs, it has been described as a prime example of modern architecture blending harmoniously with the environment.

Acknowledged as one of the finest facilities of its kind in Europe, East Sussex National comprises two championship golf courses, a three-level 104-room hotel, an open-plan restaurant and a multi-faceted health club and spa which includes a 50-station gymnasium, 20-metre indoor heated swimming pool and nine individual treatment rooms. Graffiti Design was contracted to provide interior and exterior signage solutions to cover identification, information, directional and statutory health and safety requirements within and around the new £14 million hotel complex.

On the appointment of Graffiti Design, East Sussex National General Manager Derek Howe commented, "Graffiti Design was awarded the contract amidst fierce competition. East Sussex National has been in existence for 15 years and with the opening of our prestigious hotel and leisure facility it was decided to completely re-brand the complex. Working in conjunction with East Sussex National's marketing team, Graffiti Design delivered a comprehensive service comprising consultation, design, manufacture and subsequent installation."

Interior signage comprised bespoke information and directional solutions throughout the hotel and the adjacent health club and



spa, including guest room and conference room identification and swimming pool and health club signs to cover various requirements. Exterior signage included three metre-high curved monoliths to the entrance of the complex, smaller directional monoliths throughout the grounds leading to the hotel and club



house, face-illuminated built-up mirror stainless steel lettering to the entrance to the health club and spa and statutory health and safety signs throughout.

Materials used for this £40,000 contract included stainless steel, aluminium, Perspex and Dibond. Finishes and processes comprised fabrication, stove enamelling, screen- and digital-printing and the manufacture of illuminated built-up stainless steel letters. The initial project spanned a period of three months.

On completion, Derek Howe concluded: "Graffiti Design's

considerable experience in providing signage solutions for a wide range of venues and the advice it was able to offer proved invaluable. The result is a brilliantly executed, comprehensive and clearly presented signage programme for what is an extensive and multi-faceted complex. Nothing was too much trouble for the company in bringing this project to a successful conclusion and we were lucky to have found such an efficient supplier so close to East Sussex National."

For further information, visit www.graffitidesign.co.uk or telephone 01825 763690.



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The latest way to present your business card

Business card dispensers aren't a new idea but fitting them to moving vehicles is. The new design, which is fitted to a flat clean surface, can be installed on to vehicles, trailer, exhibition units, site/show boards and estate agent signs to name but a few.



They can act as a free lead generator for an existing client database. This ingenious little design can add value to a 'bottom line' when sold as is, or as an addition to existing services such

as site boards for trades people. Custom graphics used to draw attention to the holder and supplied by the user can further increase profit.



Available in six colours, these weather resistant 'silent salesmen' can open up a new area of business to the service sector. Anybody in business will realise the value in making access to their services more accessible to prospective clients.

The card caddies are fitted easily using very high bond tape or a special 'docking' mechanism when fitting and removal are a requirement. No damage should occur to vehicle bodywork when correctly fitted. With an end user price of £24.99 inc. vat, this useful marketing tool should prove good value to any business.

In fact, so confident are ASD - the exclusive UK trade distributors - that purchasers will value this product that they offer a money back guarantee if the product fails to please. Single samples are available at a special promotional price.

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Identify launching new range at Sign Ireland

Identify Engraving Systems – on Stand A22 - will be launching their new range of Ink-Jet printers at Sign Ireland in September.

These new direct-to-substrate flat-bed printers are exceptionally fast and accurate, printing on a whole multitude of rigid materials. They also promise superlative textile and garment printing. In addition there is a printer designed especially for gifts and giveaways manufactured from ABS or Polycarbonate. Other products being demonstrated, will be the unique Millennium

printer which makes all kinds of badges in full photo-quality colour or monochrome and Vision engraving systems, with their fantastic reputation for quality and reliability.

Finally, as Identify is the materials specialist in their field, there will be both Rowmark and IPI materials on display, covering a huge range of both standard and laser materials available in both ranges.

For further information contact Identify by telephoning 0117 953 0800.

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Signscape opens new Northern Division

A leading provider of both standard and bespoke sign and display solutions to the trade, Bristol-based Signscape Systems has opened its new Northern Division. Announced formerly at this year's Sign UK exhibition, the new division will greatly extend the company's fabrication capabilities and provide a strategic base from which to market these solutions to customers north of Birmingham.

The 30,000 square feet facility in Preston, Lancashire will provide access to a vast technical resource founded on many years of experience in essential manufacturing skills. These include CNC routing, powder coating, water-jet and laser cutting, the latter of which will introduce a new arm to the company's existing production capabilities. Significantly, for customers north of Birmingham

the cost of delivering products such as large monoliths and notice boards will be dramatically reduced, whilst the inclusion of a demonstration and showroom area within the new facility will enable representatives of the Signscape Northern Area Sales Team to meet customers to discuss their preferred requirements. The team, which currently comprises Bill Lambert, David Hughes and Richard Lloyd, will also be better placed to visit clients in the North and to provide a more readily accessible product support capability. During its relatively brief history, Signscape Systems has evolved to become one of the foremost suppliers of architecturally appealing,



Richard Lloyd (left) and Davis Hughes who will be spearheading the Signscape Northern Division Sales Team.

design-driven solutions for multiple interior and exterior sign and display applications. Essentially modular in construction, the systems are manufactured predominantly in aluminium but also in steel, timber, glass, acrylic and other plastic derivatives. They have become a preferred choice in the creation of corporate ID, high street retail and public building sign and display themes. In addition to the company's established and widely specified external and internal sign and display solutions, new product innovations have included the Base freestanding display unit, the MSS interior signage solution, the latest illuminated Fingerpost series and the

Café range of display support systems. These have been favourably received as an ideal solution to the creation of barrier signage for cafés, pubs and restaurants following the introduction of the no-smoking restrictions in public places.

Following the opening of the new division, Managing Director Hamish Paterson commented: "As the latest stage in our rapid development, opening of this new division will augment our national coverage and add to the company's existing manufacturing capabilities. It will especially enhance the service we are able to offer customers north of Birmingham and introduce considerable savings in the production and delivery of our wide range of sign and display solutions."

For further information on the Signscape Systems' Northern Division, telephone 01772 258 844.

Signscape Systems has opened its new Northern Division.



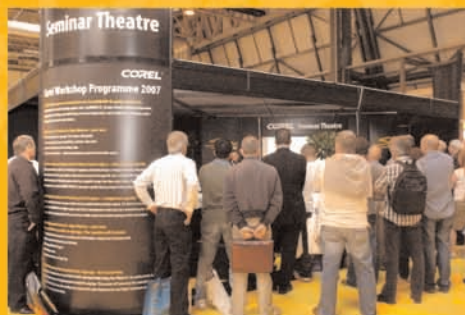
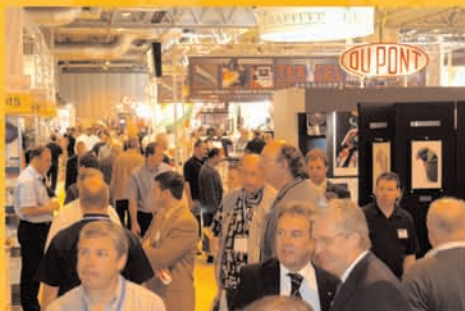
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New 3M™ DFS 700 Driver Feedback Sign trialled by South Yorkshire Police

New from William Smith is the very latest 3M™ DFS 700 Model Driver Feedback Sign, which has recently been trialled by South Yorkshire Police Traffic Management and Road Safety partnerships.

Stuart Williams of South Yorkshire Police comments, "Following my involvement with the setting up of the trial 3M DFS sign at Darton, I can confirm that South Yorkshire Police fully support the use of these signs in our attempts to reduce speeds on our roads. I have always been rather sceptical of these signs not having the desired effect but after witnessing the effect this particular model had on driver behaviour, I have to admit that certainly at this site its value was justified."



The DFS 700 Model uses state-of-the-art LED technology display to alert drivers to the speed of their vehicle. Vehicle speed is measured by the built-in microwave radar and a data logging facility allows analysis of traffic flow and speeds. User defined programming options allow auto on/off switching, e.g. during school times, weekends, holiday periods. This makes the signs ideal for a range of applications where compliance with the speed limit is essential for the safety of drivers and vulnerable road users. For example, school safety zones, pedestrian crossings, hospital areas, temporary road works, sharp or dangerous curves, accident 'black-spots', and areas where the speed limit changes. DTLR studies have shown this system to have an instant and dramatic impact in reducing traffic speeds and accidents.

"I have been an Advanced Police driver for 24 years and a former training Officer for Speed Enforcement Equipment. I checked the speed reading on the 3M DFS sign against a certified calibrated speedometer fitted to a Volvo S60 Traffic Patrol Car. I made a total of three 'drive throughs' at various speeds from the upper limit cut off threshold limit to below the speed limit (in other words from 50mph to 30mph) and the sign was accurate at all times within the tolerance of + or - 1 mph.

This is perfectly acceptable (enforcement equipment allows this tolerance) and I am therefore satisfied that accurate speed readings are being displayed to the public."

Excellent day and night time visibility is ensured by the use of energy-smart LED's which allow for red, amber and green displays. This is activated by the microwave radar and programmed commands. Visibility is further enhanced by 3M™ Diamond Grade™ Reflective Sheeting on the surround to the sign face.

Driver Feedback Signs are generally supplied as 'stand-alone' units with additional informatory signs if necessary.

For further information contact William Smith on T: 01833 694707 or visit www.williamsmith.co.uk

Stylos Finger Posts encourage Lancaster residents to 'get on their bikes'

26 Stylos Finger Post units from William Smith have recently been installed on the Lancaster to Morecambe Greenway, one of the busiest cycle routes in the North West of England.

"The Greenway, which is part of Sustrans National Cycle Network Route 69 and links with National Cycle Network Route 6, had been there for many years but had very little signage or identified linkages to it," explains Lancaster City Council's Project Engineer, Gary Bowker. "However, funding through the Cycling Demonstration Town Project, which aims to create a step change in levels of utility cycling, made it possible to remedy this situation.

"William Smith's Stylos units were chosen as result of our previous experience of successful installations

at Lancaster's Millennium Bridge, where the signs were well received and have stood up well. We also required the signs to match with the style at Millennium Bridge, but

replacing the Millennium Commission logo in the centre of the roundel with the Celebrating Cycling logo developed by Lancaster City Council."

Designed to point in up to eight different directions, Stylos finger posts can be supplied as complete units or in component form. A concealed internal fixing system, comprising an inner post into which the pre-drilled aluminium arms are slotted and secured into position, means that the fingers, which can be set either at one height or at different levels, cannot be twisted around once in situ. The arms are, therefore, robust and inaccessible to tampering, thereby reducing the incidence of vandalism.

For further information contact William Smith on 01833 694707 or visit www.williamsmith.co.uk





Size:
750 x 1050mm*
(*Image area)

Folding Swing Sign

This folding swing sign is easy to transport and store. Folds flat for easy storage. Manufactured from 25mm square tubing with 1.2mm zinc coated steel panel.

Available in 3 heights
1 metre high • 1.5 metre high
2 metre high



Bus Stop Sign

A useful sign for marking meeting points or giving direction. Suitable for indoor and outdoor uses. Available with lightweight or located base (as shown).

Available in 2 sizes in any combination
635 x 457mm (A2)*
530 x 450mm*
(*Image area)



Handi Sign

This lightweight and easy to move 'A' board is manufactured un 1.2mm zinc coated steel.
• Powder coated in white as standard
• Integral carry handle

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Banner Frame

The easy way to display your banners. Fabricated from 25mm square section steel tubing, this double or single sided frame comes in a modular easy to assemble system.



Available in 3 sizes in any combination
864 x 533mm* • 876 x 635mm*
1170 x 838mm* • (*Image area)

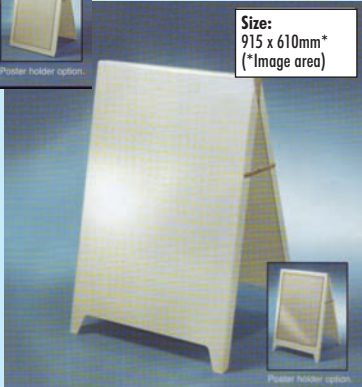
Pavement Sign

1.2mm zinc coated steel. White powder coated. Available in 3 sizes and 4 styles. i.e. Standard, poster, blackboard and poster blackboard.



Legged Pavement Sign

Manufactured from 1.2mm zinc coated steel.
• Powder coated in white as standard
• Two heavy duty metal side stays and legged feet
• Double folded sides give extra strength



Size:
915 x 610mm*
(*Image area)

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FOR YOUR FREE CATALOGUE

Sussex Sign Group plays key role in success of estate agency rebrand

As a leading sales and lettings specialist across East Sussex, Lampons has one of the most highly visible names in the county.

So when the independently-owned company invested in a stunning new brand image, it needed a swift, smooth introduction to ensure maximum impact and instant public recognition and support.

The firm, one of the UK's top 50 estate agencies, chose The Sussex Sign Company's family of businesses to help fulfil the task. Its decision was influenced by a long-standing relationship with Hove-based screen printers Milterbest, which became part of the Sussex Sign Group in 2006.

The estate agency board specialist, which puts its share of the Brighton & Hove market at around 70%, worked with Lampons and its PR and marketing agency on the production of new-look black square sample boards. Once the design was refined, the print firm embarked on the mammoth task of producing dedicated stock for the sales and lettings teams at offices across the 12-strong Lampons network.

Marian Leggett, Works Manager at Milterbest, knew the boards would be an immediate success. "Lampons' design is utterly brilliant – it's simple, clever and confirmed my belief that where wording on boards is concerned, less is definitely more."

While Marian's team worked on one side of the project, The Sussex Sign Company – run by Group MD Norman Mayhew over at Newhaven – set about planning the practicalities of transforming the fascias and signage at each Lampons office.

"Lampons had worked with Milterbest for some years, but this was our chance as a group to show them that we could provide the high quality one-stop service they were seeking," said Norman. "They'd chosen a fantastic new brand image and they wanted to put together a strategy that would allow it to go live across all their branches within a matter of days."

"The company has prominent offices in key locations, but the style of the buildings varied enormously from town to town. Some careful calculations had to be made to ensure the best impact possible was achieved at each branch."

Trays shaped from 3mm thick aluminium were powder coated in white to form the base for each office fascia. This was fronted with 8mm thick acrylic letters raised 25mm from the surface to create a powerful three dimensional effect.

"This was the biggest estate agency rebrand we've ever undertaken, so it's been an important and exciting



project for us," added Norman.

Lampons' Director Robin Lampon said the firm's new identity had met with an overwhelmingly positive response from the public.

"I'm in no doubt that the swift switch to the new brand image has given it added impact and appeal. Milterbest and The Sussex Sign Company understood what we wanted to achieve and they responded with enthusiasm, practical skills and professionalism," he said.

For more information on Sussex Signs or Milterbest visit www.sussexsigns.com or www.milterbest.co.uk



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Oh the times they are a change-in

In today's fast moving, for ever changing face of signs, S.M.P. Norfolk try to do their bit for product development. Not all the things they have developed in the past have received accolade but Mike Smart says "never mind the next one might"...

That is not a comment that can be made about some of their latest developments. One of them is "Click-locks", an injection moulded product from tough polycarbonate. A two-piece panel lock, "click-

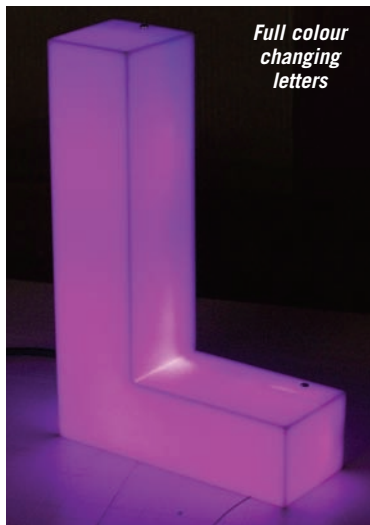


locks", the name speaks for its self. Bonded to the back of a rebated sign panel, simply slide the first panel into one of their frames (or any other frame come to that) then fit the second panel, slide along until contact, a gentle push and the panels will click and lock together. An ingenious and simple little product, priced at 32p per pair this is an investment worth considering. Your panels will be held firmly together, expansion and contraction can do their worst but these little beauties do the

business and hold the joint firm.

Another product that is causing considerable excitement is their full colour changing letters. Letters can be flat cut halo illuminated or built-up internally illuminated. These are illuminated using a neat compact rgb (red,green,blue) unit, which are plugged together inside or behind the letter and connected to a nine-function controller and a 12v transformer. The end result is a set of letters that will change through the full colour spectrum. The nine function controller will give nine different methods of the colour changing. Your customer, at the click of a button, can have a different appearance to the way his sign lights up for nine consecutive nights. If that was not novel enough for you, their next development was a 'vibrosound' unit using the same rgb technology and letters (as mentioned earlier). A 'vibrosound' unit will activate colour change by music, clapping, shouting, in fact any form of percussion or vibration will create a frequency that will display a colour. It could be said that never will the same colour sequence be repeated so these opal white letters are every colour under the sun.

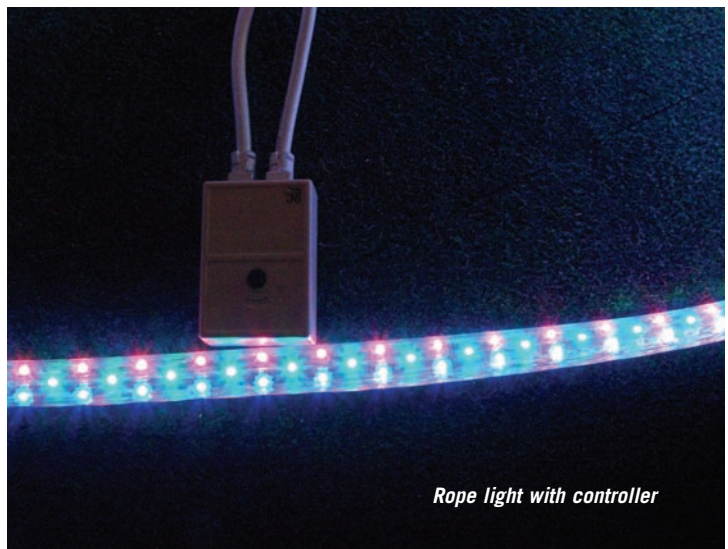
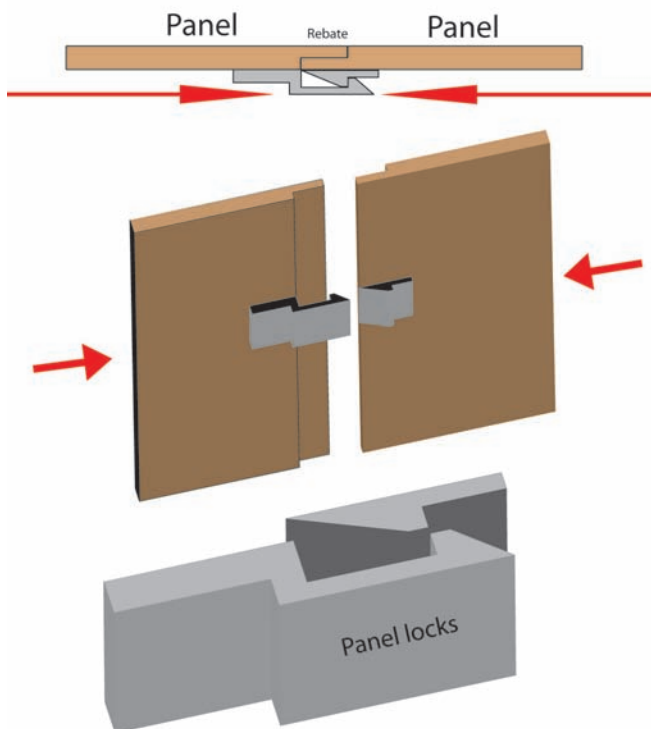
'Stop colour' is the latest electronic control being developed. A customer has a client who has an Italian restaurant and the requirements are to have red, green and white illumination behind the letters and graduate from one colour into the next on a five second cycle. This was incorporated with S.M.P.'s standard range of static coloured leds to halo light various portions of the sign permanently. S.M.P.'s standard range of leds are unique, novel and easy to use. The plug together system starts as low priced as 90p each and are available in red, white and blue from stock. These are often used in



Full colour changing letters

another new product, 'Minitrough', a trough lighting system so thin and neat it will sit on top of the average sign frame and be un-noticeable until the light is turned on. It is only then that the true worth of led illumination comes into its own. A two channel flasher unit can change the 'minitrough' from white to red or blue, (dependant upon the colours used), whereas the rgb units can be fitted and a full colour trough light can be achieved. Minitrough can be applied directly over the top of swing signs without the huge brackets used by some conventional systems. The possibilities are endless

NEW PANEL LOCKS



Rope light with controller

S.M.P. have also developed a stand alone system. A battery pack is attached to their 'Pathfinder' directional post. A wrought iron bracket and a double sided swing sign is added and a battery pack to power the leds. This has opened up a new field of signage where it may have been uneconomical to fit a sign, say at the end of a long driveway where running a 240v power supply is not an option. The country house, a bed and breakfast establishment or the entrance to an hotel are just some of the places it could be fitted. This idea can be applied to a menu or a display case and bring illumination to an otherwise dark space.

S.M.P. are also working on a solar powered system. One is currently being trialled at their factory in Norfolk and should be available soon. Their second range of leds are totally waterproof. Don't underestimate this comment. When they say waterproof that is exactly what they mean. The photograph on this page shows 300 waterproof leds in a fish tank full of water. These units are £2 each and come in a maximum string of 100 and are guaranteed waterproof to IP44.

A range of transformers is available to drive these leds 240v/12v. These are also waterproof and cost as little as £16.50. This model will run 100 double diode leds. A larger model will run 200 double diode leds and has two channels. Both of these units are also waterproof to IP44 standards. A third model can run 1200 double modules and because it is fan/air cooled this model is not waterproof.

There is nothing new about the next product, 'ropelight'. It has been around for years, but like "all things old" they are constantly being improved and that is just what has happened with this product. Ropelight is now available with two, three, four and five parallel diodes (channels) and controllers to suit. This product is a must for fairgrounds, amusement arcades, nightclubs and discos. When a

controller is added the expression "blinding!" comes to mind. S.M.P's website www.signmakersproducts.com has had a refurb and all the afore mentioned products are on a video clip. If you ask S.M.P for a quote, two links comes up on the front page of their e-mailed quote.

One will take you into their website whereas the other www.smpforum.co.uk will invite you to sign up to their free forum where you can meet other signmakers, exchange views, comments, knowledge and even trade with each other. But it is not all work, you can chat and talk sport or any other subject that you like. Mike Smart says just keep it clean!

Further information can also be obtained by calling S.M.P on 01508 531183.



Round rope light



AWLTECH - a leader in fabricating equipment

AWLTECH specialises in supplying fabricating equipment such as Heat Benders, Diamond Edge Polishers and Flame Polishers to the plastic industry, point of sale and sign trade. Established in 1988, AWLTECH has been providing an valuable service to its customers for nearly 20 years and has gained a reputation for supplying high quality plastic fabricating equipment, with a first class back-up service facility.

AWLTECH - based in Guildford - serves the UK and Ireland, with partners in Europe covering the acrylic fabricating and sign industry. AWLTECH is a company that is pioneering new semi-automatic production equipment, only adding products to its range when the company is confident that it can offer quality equipment at a competitive price.

The new AMT Diamond Edge Polisher from BERMAQ is a tabletop machine able to polish up to 35mm material and also polish a bevelled edge up to 60 degrees.



The FBM is a semi-automatic folding machine, for processing thin material PVC, PETG, with a thickness of 0.4 to 1mm. Ideal for the large production of ticket holders, name badges etc.

The HRP/D is a semi-automatic heat bender for processing acrylic and all thermoplastics from 2mm up to 20mm thick! The machine can be equipped with four upper heaters and four lower heaters.

The height, temperature and position of the heaters are adjustable. It also has a transport system to convey the material along the machine.

HEAT BENDERS

AWLTECH have over 20 different models of standard heat benders. Starting with an efficient 1/2 metre machine with one bending line, ranging up to 3-metre machines that can bend material up to 20mm thick and 4 bends in one go.

Most of the machines are supplied within 10 days and AWLTECH can modify machines to suit a particular need. The machines are

manufactured in Holland by SHANNON BV, a company with over 30 years experience in the plastics industry.

AWLTECH is able to create bespoke heat benders based on individual requirements and customer specifications.

FLAME POLISHERS

The original AWLTECH machines have been sold in



their hundreds over the last 20 years. With three models in the flame polisher range there is one to suit any thickness

you may wish to polish. Full service facilities are offered. Flame polishing is a very quick and economic way to produce a polished edge.

The FBM is a semi-automatic folding machine



The HRP/D is a semi-automatic heat bender for processing acrylic and all thermoplastics



The new AMT Diamond Edge Polisher from BERMAQ is a tabletop machine able to polish up to 35mm material



DIAMOND POLISHERS

Awltech has 6 different diamond polishing models on offer, ranging from the EF200 that will polish up to 20mm to the BERMAQ 2.5m able to polish up to 100mm.

The EF200 is a tabletop machine that can polish up to 20mm thick material. This is ideal for the small work shop but also capable of large scale production.



The Bermaq AM2 edge polisher can polish up to 90mm thick material. On this machine the milling motor moves, not the material. So the length of the flat bed has to be considered.

The Bermaq AMI 2m, 2.5m and 3m machines can polish up to 100mm thick material using the same system as the AM2. The advantage of the AMI is not only the length of the bed, but also the milling motor can be tilted so a bevelled edge can be polished.

AWLTECH's showroom is situated on the Slyfield Industrial Estate, on the

A320 just to the north of Guildford. Showroom visits are by appointment only so that the company can ensure that it can dedicate the time to discuss individual requirements and demonstrate accordingly.

As well as providing a quality service to its customers, AWLTECH also do its bit for Charity. Owner Andy Gleeson and his brother recently took part in the 20th Round Britain Reliability Run in their Triumph TR6 to raise money for BLISS. Andy and his brother drove 2000 miles from London to John O'Groats to Lands End and back to London, all in 48 Hours! During these hair-raising 2,880 minutes they suffered failed brakes, a severe lack of sleep, 140-mile detour, lots of speeding and a few other things besides!

AWLTECH would like to thank all those who took the time to sponsor Andy, who raised a very respectable £2,650 for BLISS. AWLTECH are still waiting for the speeding tickets to start rolling in! For more information please visit www.awltech.co.uk or call 01483 569232.





Vehicle graphics company to launch in Scotland

The roads of Scotland are set to receive a colour boost with the arrival of a vehicle wrapping company that turns business vehicles into eye-catching mobile advertisements.

Totally Dynamic, one of the UK's largest vehicle wrapping companies, launched their first Scotland-based centre at the Wardpark Industrial Estate, Cumbernauld in July this year.

Vehicle wrapping is the process of covering the entire bodywork of a vehicle in specialist vinyl. In its simplest form it can change the base colour of a vehicle from black to white or green to bubblegum pink, but more commonly it is used by companies as a means of displaying their products and services on their vehicles, using eye-catching designs and full colour images.

Totally Dynamic is a quality-driven franchise operation - they use the best available products combined with the very latest installation techniques. Vehicle wrapping is an extremely technical discipline and Totally Dynamic centre owners and their staff are trained to the highest standard, receiving regular training updates. Adam Sharpe of Larbert will be setting up and running the Scottish branch of Totally Dynamic, which is a UK dedicated (British Franchise Association accredited) vehicle wrapping company, with its own specialist installation centres. Adam trained as a graphic designer at Leeds University and has since been working at a sign company in Stirling, so he has the perfect background to head up this exciting new business at the very forefront of new marketing technology.

Adam says, "Traditional advertising is merging with innovative and modern techniques. The future lies in increasingly imaginative ways of communicating brand messages - like vehicle wrapping. It's a cost effective and eye-catching way of raising awareness of a brand. "As companies expect more from their advertising spend and customers begin to accept new forms of advertising, marketing



activity in Scotland is becoming increasingly sophisticated. As a result, I predict that demand for our cutting-edge vehicle wrapping service will be high."

Adrian Rope, Managing Director of Totally Dynamic, says, "The potential of the market in Scotland is huge and we pride ourselves on being able to offer a completely comprehensive service. Customers can either supply us with the finished artwork and we'll do the rest, or our team of talented designers can help to create a one-off bespoke design that will really help get a business noticed. Vehicle wrapping is a great way for a company to promote itself simply by driving around and we're thrilled that Adam has launched a centre in such a progressive part of the country."

Totally Dynamic charges from £660 to put a plain wrap on a Smart Car or up to £7,500 to completely wrap a double-decker bus in a vibrantly-coloured design.

Totally Dynamic's new Scottish brand will be located at: 16 Napier Court, Ward Park Industrial Estate, Cumbernauld, G68 0LG. To find out more or to obtain a quote, call 01236 727116.

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COMPANY *Profile*

Signed, sealed and delivered the Raccoon way

Every so often a company comes along within a specific arena that sets a new benchmark in product and service delivery. In the realm of vehicle wrapping, that company is Raccoon. With its emphasis on graphical clarity, durability, quality, accuracy and cost-effectiveness on every job, it has set a new precedent in professionalism. With over £1million invested in the company so far, rapid expansion plans are afoot. Here Matt Pigott goes behind the scenes to find out more about the company following all the right signs.



At the Hampshire launch are from left to right: Joe Williams (Sam Williams's brother); Wayne Freemantle, one of Sam's fitters; Val Winteridge (Sam and Joe's stepfather), and Sam Williams.

Despite the inclement weather that has struck the UK with devastating force over the past few months, Hampshire-based sales director and Raccoon Franchisee Sam Williams was undeterred in his efforts to wrap a Nissan Aventura truck, and a five-door Ford Focus hatchback at his company launch.

Says Sam, "It was hammering it down with rain outside the units, but we'd invited a lot of people to our launch party in July and didn't want the bad weather to interfere with the car-wrapping extravaganza we had in store for them.

"Everyone gathered around as we made the finishing touches to a couple of vehicle wraps, and they were amazed at the visual transformation that took place."

With Raccoon graphics and vehicle wrapping, cars are literally transformed into beautifully liveried vehicles with exciting graphics that are stylishly and thoughtfully applied to the vehicle body.

Says Sam, "What a lot of people don't realise is the level of skill and the high level of concentration needed to make a simple car an eye-catching showpiece. Cars are literally stripped down in our bespoke units by my team of workers. The wing mirrors come off, the window shields, the lights, the inside door panels...you name it, so there's hours of preparation before the wrapping even gets underway.

"The guys who worked on the cars for the Hampshire launch started at 8am and worked right through until 4pm without taking a lunch break. They're very dedicated to the job, they're hard working, and that is how they need to be to ensure that the wrapping is completed to the highest specifications," says Sam. "Ultimately, at Raccoon, it's about providing that special 'wow' factor that's impossible to achieve with standard vehicle signage."

He adds, "With standard signage, the workers usually just cut in around things, but all of our wraps are recessed beneath the external accessories and fixtures of the vehicles, so what you're left with is a car that literally has a second skin. The wraps can last for three, four or even five years, which makes them extremely cost-effective as an advertising medium."

Just prior to the launch, the Raccoon Hampshire team worked on local businesswoman Sarah Biddlecombe's car for her. Sarah, who runs a 24-hour emergency key holding service for corporate and domestic clients, had a rough idea of how she wanted her new graphics to look on her Ford Focus estate but never imagined Raccoon would bring her livery to life with such aplomb.

Says Sarah, "I knew I wanted some vehicle signage for Key Holding Services, so I had a look on the Internet to see what companies were out there. I came across Raccoon and was really impressed with their website and the vehicle wraps they'd already done. At the time, it looked as though they only had a workshop at their head office in Kent. Still, I was prepared to travel there because of the company's impressive credentials. But when I phoned up the Kent office and spoke to Richard Clark, the managing director, I found out that a new Raccoon franchise had just opened up in Hampshire, not far from me, and I was delighted.

"I got in touch with Raccoon and spoke to Sam. He put his graphics team on the case, and they took my 'golden surfer' and worked on it, tirelessly developing the concept. Sam contacted me every day to show me the proofs and explain what was happening, so I was always in the picture throughout the development phase. When I finally got to see my car, I was gobsmacked. The graphics were crystal clear, and the overall design was really cool and colourful. They had the motif as a golden surfer riding the waves on a golden key, which I thought was inspired. Basically, the designer took what was a rough idea in my head – and on paper – and breathed life into it. My ordinary car is now completely eye-catching. It's like having an ambassador for the business out on the road, working on my behalf, all of the time."

Richard Clark, the managing director and brains behind Raccoon, is also thrilled with the way Hampshire franchise is shaping up. He

says: "It's an exciting time for Sam, it's an exciting time for his new clients and customers, and it's an exciting time for the expanding Raccoon network.

"The reasons we picked Sam out of all of the franchise candidates that have approached us to buy into the brand is that he's brilliant at sales but, more importantly, he has an eye for detail and a passion for quality. Nothing leaves his showroom unless it's seamlessly wrapped and totally snag free. It's this approach that recently secured him a high profile contract with Saint FM and Volkswagen in an impressive three-way deal.

Adds Richard, "Sam's exactly the kind of person we want on board, and right now we're looking for new recruits, either inside or outside of the signage industry, to come and join us at Raccoon. Anyone who loves cars, loves signage, loves graphics and loves business can make a lot of money and lead a very rewarding life with their own Raccoon outfit.

Since we ramped up the awareness of the availability of Raccoon as a business opportunity, we've had no end of enquiries. Now Hampshire is up and running, and we've got a new franchisee in Lancashire getting ready to launch in September, so it's a very exciting time for us."

Continued overleaf



Sarah Biddlecombe with her customised vehicle

COMPANY *Profile*

Signed, sealed and delivered the Raccoon way

from previous page

Today, Raccoon is one of the UK's leading companies for vehicle graphics, van graphics, vehicle wrapping, custom graphics and vehicle fleet branding. Operational since 1992, Raccoon has wrapped thousands of cars, vans, buses, trucks, boats, planes and trains. And to coincide with a major promotion by Transport For London, Raccoon also wrapped two of the London Eye's 32 capsules in 2005, an event which garnered extensive publicity throughout the UK's national press.

In addition, Raccoon was recently awarded the status of Official Branders of Gumball 3000 and wrapped a number of supercars, among them Lamborghinis, Maseratis and a Bugatti Veyron all set to go on the 3000-mile rally. Along with the many cars Raccoon branded were also those of pop stars Jamiroquai, and famous rapper Xzibit. Says Richard, "At Raccoon, there's always something exciting and innovative happening. Franchisees meet interesting, wealthy people and deal with businesses right across the board. With our pioneering ideas and initiatives, Raccoon has always remained at the cutting edge of the signage industry, and I intend to keep it that way."

Indeed, in the last few years Raccoon has scooped myriad industry awards including Vehicle Livery of the Year three times in a row, and it was also the European winner at the 2006 Mactac Worldwide Awards for Best Fleet Graphics.



Members of the Raccoon team holding their award certificate - including MD, Richard Clark second from left.

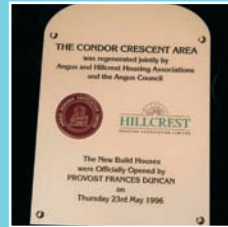
Adds Richard, "We produce fantastic looking vinyl livery, commercial vehicle graphics, vehicle decals, vinyl wraps, vehicle graphics, car signs, van signs and vehicle lettering for any car, van, truck or lorry - the list goes on. But unlike many of our competitors, our business is built on three vital components: our comprehensive in-house graphics production facility, our project management and planning abilities, and our nationwide network of experienced and accredited graphic application teams. These are the three pillars that support the Raccoon structure and make it the success that it is. They are also, I feel, the reason we win so many awards and gain so many accolades."

For further information contact Richard Clark at Raccoon by calling 0845 257 87 57 / Mobile: 07739 364 832

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The National Gallery and HP bring works of art to the streets of London

For 12 weeks from mid June, the streets of London were turned into a Gallery - as around 30 full size re-creations of National Gallery paintings were hung on the walls, in the most unexpected and unusual places.

Masterpieces from Caravaggio to Constable were vying for position amongst the bustling streets from Soho to Seven Dials. Celebrating the richness, diversity and stories of the National Gallery's permanent collection, the Grand Tour aimed to encourage people to make the short journey to visit the genuine works, and many more, for free.

The Grand Tour has been made possible as a result of the collaboration between the National Gallery and HP.

Through innovative and creative imaging and printing, HP reproduced the paintings so they exactly mirrored the format of the originals.

Steve Gill, Vice President and managing director, HP UK & Ireland said, "This is a really exciting initiative for HP to be involved in and has provided us with an opportunity to demonstrate some of our leading edge technology. Our imaging, printing capabilities and portfolio has enabled us to support the National Gallery with this Grand Tour concept, by producing high quality colour reproductions of these wonderful masterpieces."

Each picture was in a replica frame, and had an information plaque

next to it - just as it has in the real Gallery. The plaques also included a phone number, which people could call to access a specially recorded audio guide to that particular painting, and its artist.

A map of the entire Grand Tour (including a selection of 'mini-tours') along with further information about the paintings, the story of how the project came about, audio downloads and a picture gallery were all available on a specially created website - www.thegrandtour.org.uk

National Gallery Director, Charles Saumarez Smith said, "I am very delighted that the National Gallery's long-standing association with Hewlett-Packard is continuing with a characteristically imaginative effort to bring art into the local community and to encourage new audiences to be aware of the great works of art to be seen in London."

The origins of the Grand Tour date back to the 17th century, when the wealthy upper classes undertook a journey of cultural enlightenment across Europe, in a life-changing trip that could last for months or even years.

Now, thanks to the National Gallery and HP, we're seeing the idea of the Grand Tour turned on its head. Rather than the public seeking out its art, art is seeking out the public, interrupting their everyday lives and reminding them of the treasures just around the corner.

For further information visit www.hp.com



Samson & Delilah, Rubens (1577-1640), Ganton Street

Top quality printing and innovative tensioning behind The Grand Tour

The National Gallery's Grand Tour was made possible by advances in printing technology, the development of a new media and a superb tensioning system.

Electronic Print Services (EPS) which output the reproduction prints has been working with Hewlett Packard for several years through PSP, and selected a HP Designjet 10000 for the prestigious work. The tensioning systems were fabricated by Brownings, manufacturer of some of the world's best selling flexible face tensioning systems that have been developed and patented by SignComp Inc, USA.

Steve Farley of EPS says, "The National Gallery has wanted to do a project such as The Grand Tour for years. But the highest quality of printed image required for reproducing these great works of art was not achievable. Quite rightly, with the reputation the National Gallery has, 'posterfied' reproductions were not acceptable. The main reason the quality required is now achievable is down to the HP DJ10000."

The Designjet 10000 is a superwide (104") digital inkjet printer offering flexible solutions for top quality and durable super-wide signs, banners, billboards, window and vehicle graphics, and wall murals. Six heavy-duty Piezo print heads with 512 nozzles each, making a total of 3,072 nozzles, provide the highest quality reproductions and high speed printing. High capacity cartridges and the capability to change an ink cartridge without interrupting a print job, enables continuous production with low running costs.

Accurate colour reproduction of the many different artists' paintings was further helped by the wide gamut and vivid colours of HP's low-solvent pigmented inks.

"Another contributory factor to the finished quality of image is the media used, Epiflex," says Steve. "We worked with a major UK supplier to develop Epiflex which is a plastic based material



Self Portrait at the Age of 34, Rembrandt (1606-69), in Rose Street.



Mounted prints, ready for framing.

that has a texture like canvas and an ultra-white finish.

"For this work, the HP DJ10000 laid down a lot of ink on to the Epiflex media and the finished prints really look like original paintings, right down to brushstrokes. The National Gallery team were so impressed with the single test print we produced that they gave us the go ahead for the printing of 44 paintings.

"At EPS we've successfully produced prints of fine art works numerous times for various customers, but this project is particularly prestigious. The National Gallery had to obtain permission to reproduce many of the paintings, and approval of the prints, from the owners, including Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber."

With the prints underway, the next challenge was finding the perfect tensioning system, which had been proving difficult, until Steve was put in touch with Brownings.

Continued overleaf

From previous page

The National Gallery and HP bring works of art to the streets of London

Richard Vincent, Brownings' Sales Director, takes up the story. "Steve came to us through a mutual contact, after he'd exhausted other potential solutions from across Europe.

"We met up and I quickly realised that one of Brownings' tension systems would provide an effective and, above all, simple solution to mounting the prints in both a cost effective and decorative way. It's such a good system because of its versatility and speed of installation. The sizes needed weren't a problem either; we've quoted for jobs up to 50 x 10m using this system."

Within 24 hours the first sample was available for Steve to view in Brownings' Hull workshop. Two days later the National Gallery and its partners had approved the prototype and Brownings began producing the dozens of different sized systems required.

To overcome the problem of both fixing to listed buildings where the drilling of brickwork is forbidden, and the extremely short timescales in which to install the new prints, Brownings provided the frames mounted onto board and already pre-tensioned, ready for direct installation.

Richard says, "We collected the prints from EPS in Leeds on the Monday morning of the week after our meeting and by the end of Wednesday all prints were mounted, pre-tensioned and ready for collection. Everything went according to plan. The deadlines were remarkably short and this task was a one-off, but we are used to this type of bespoke project working as we supply the sign trade nationwide."

Reproduction frames were used to enhance the authentic appearance of the prints, which were on display in Soho, Piccadilly, and Covent Garden from mid-June to the end of September.

"The prints look so much like the real thing that on the first day they were exhibited the National Gallery received more than 700 calls from the public about valuable paintings being out on the streets," says Steve. "They are certainly attention grabbers, at one point, the road became blocked when around 200 people had stopped to look."

The Grand Tour's press launch was attended by art experts and critics, local dignitaries and journalists from television, and national newspapers both here and abroad. It was featured on prime time news programmes, including BBC News and ITV's News at 10, even making headlines in countries as diverse as the



Only the highest quality was acceptable for these prints.

USA, Australia and Kazakhstan.

"The art experts were also really impressed. I heard some very complimentary things, including 'best production prints I've ever seen' from more than one, which is a real tribute," says Steve. An interview with Steve was available on the BBC news website, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/6741399.stm> at the time of going to press.

Further information on Brownings tensioning systems is available at www.browningsltd.co.uk or by telephoning 01482 380900. For details of EPS, visit www.eps-ltd.com or tel. 01132 788333. Details of the Grand Tour are at www.thegrandtour.org.uk

The Virgin of the Rocks, Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) Marlborough Court.



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Award shows Palram in the best light

Palram were once again celebrating success in an international awards ceremony after being highly commended in the prestigious 2007 FESPA European Digital Print Awards.

Palram's light box installation at Arsenal's state-of-the-art Emirates Stadium was "... singled out from a large number of entries by the jury as commended within the commercial digital print sector on account of its professional execution and merit as an excellent example of interior graphics," declared FESPA's Bob Rees.

The award-winning project at the £390m, 60,000 capacity Emirates Stadium in North London was designed to dress the concourse area with a series of six metre wide Palsun® light box installations - a

composition which depicts the Gunners relocation a mere 500m down the road, after 93 years resident at Highbury. The eye-catching project stood out in stark contrast to its surroundings, having been set against the bare concrete fabric of the building.

Beckie Norris, Marketing Coordinator at Palram Europe was thrilled with the international recognition conferred on Palram. Norris observed that "...this commendation from FESPA is a compliment to Palram's products and services but resonates far beyond that. The award is testament to Palram's determination to be the substrate manufacturer of choice for the digital print market."

For further information visit www.palram.com

Sign*A*Rama wins prestigious 'E' award for exports

Sign*A*Rama, a worldwide retail sign franchise, has announced that it has been awarded the prestigious U.S Presidential 'E' Award by the United States Department of Commerce. Sign*A*Rama is the first franchise company ever to win this award.

The Presidential 'E' Award is the highest honour the federal government can give to an American exporting company and acknowledges US companies achievements in world markets and the part they have played in increasing US exports. The award recognises the 700% growth in Sign*A*Rama's export sales that have increased from \$1.5 million in 2002 to \$12 million in 2005. The award was presented to Ray Titus by the President of the United States of America, George W. Bush.

Ray Titus, founder and president of Sign*A*Rama says, "Winning this award was a great honour for our company coupled with the privilege of meeting President Bush in the Oval Office. Since we began more than 20 years ago, we have grown to over 850 locations in 50 countries.

"We are extremely proud and honoured to have the opportunity to have helped so many people over the years achieve their dream of becoming their own boss."

The 35 Sign*A*Rama franchises in the UK provide a full range of sign and graphic services to both businesses and individuals.

For further information visit www.signarama.co.uk



From left: Ray Titus, President George W. Bush, World Franchisor President Tony Foley, Angela Titus.



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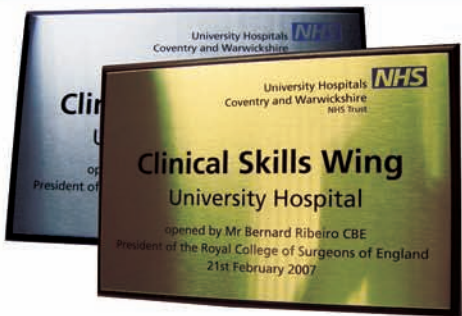


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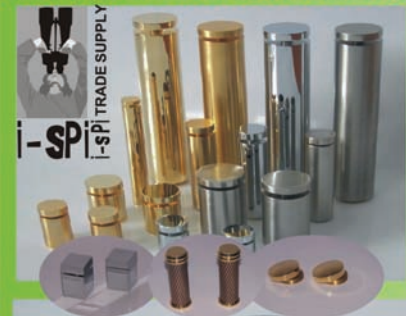
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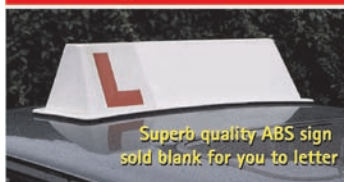
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Web: www.mkdesign.org.uk
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Working with our U.S. based partner 'Permlight', Applelec Sign Components bring a new range of LED styles and designs for the Sign industry with energy efficient, state of the art, durable LED lighting modules and power supplies for indoor and outdoor applications, ideal for built up halo or face lit, and even flat cut halo illumination.
Alternatively, the LED's are available separately in kit form for a variety of other uses if required. For all your illuminated requirements, from design to despatch, speak to Applelec.

LED SOLUTIONS

129 Humberstone Road, Leicester LE5 3AP

Tel: 0116 262 5933

Fax: 0116 262 6061

email sales@ledsolutions.co.uk

web: www.ledsolutions.co.uk

LED Solutions provides the latest in solid state lighting products for a range of professional industries. Our signage products (developed by AgiLight) combine high lumen output with low heat emission. This means you can mount our boards to any surface without the need for costly heat sinks.

We also provide SlimLight; a range of Ultra-Slim illuminated poster frames. Edge Lit technology provides profiles as narrow as 30mm.

LEDXPRESS

No.7 Helmsley Rd, West Park, Leeds LS16 5JA

Tel: 0113 274 2869

E-mail: info@ledxpress.co.uk

Web: www.ledxpress.co.uk

A superb range of ready-made indoor shop signs in neon and LED. The new LEDXPRESS range of super-bright LED signs are available from stock. Amazing 17mm thick, 8mm wide-angled LEDs. Chip-on-board technology. Prices from £69 to £119 + VAT. Supplied complete with hanging chains - ready to plug in and play. Call for free CD, brochure and trade list.

MASTER PRODUCTS LTD

Unit 51 Cutlers Road, Salt Coats Ind Estate, South

Woodham Ferrers, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 5WA

Tel: 0845 838 2325

Fax: 0845 838 1634

E-mail sales@masterproducts.com

Web: www.masterproducts.co.uk

Suppliers of leds for halo and face lit channel letters & logos includes led neon, a genuine replacement for neon, and octoflex the flexible leds that are encapsulated in a fully waterproof pvc jacket, all products suitable for internal and external signage projects

OSHINO LAMPS (UK) LTD

Brookfield House, Brookfield Road, Arnold,
Nottingham NG5 7ER

Tel: 0115 920 9513

Fax: 0115 920 9886

E-mail sales@oshino.co.uk

Web: www.oshino-lamps.co.uk

All high efficiency LED colours and RGB full colour change illuminated pucks for channel sign applications now available from your illumination partner, Oshino Lamps UK Ltd. Someone you know is using Oshino.

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Chromasign launched at Sign UK. We offer a complete range of Chrome Plated Letters with Halo Lighting not available anywhere else. Ring Richard for details and samples.

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Fax: 0141 774 6653

Web: www.insightsignsystems.com

E-mail:

sales@insightsignsystems.com

Insight is a trade only manufacturer, offering a made to measure service, with in-house powder coating. A range of boxes is available to cover applications including back-lit acrylic, aluminium, flex, posters and transparencies.

N E PLASTICS LIMITED

Unit 1, Rudey Corner Industrial Estate, Edgington Way,
Sidcup, Kent DA14 5BL

Tel: 020 8308 9990

Fax: 020 8308 9995

E-mail: sales@neplastics.co.uk

Web: www.neplastics.co.uk

N E Plastics Ltd - one of the U.K.'s largest independent distributors of semi-finished plastics, supplying a fast and flexible service to the Graphics, Glazing, Exhibition, Point of Sale, Sign making and Screen printing industries.

LIGHTING

INSIGHT SIGN SYSTEMS

61 Dykehead Street, Queenslie Industrial Estate,
Glasgow G33 4AQ

Tel: 0141 774 5990

Fax: 0141 774 6653

Web: www.insightsignsystems.com

E-mail:

sales@insightsignsystems.com

Insight is a trade only manufacturer, offering a made to measure service, with in-house powder coating. Trough lighting systems are available to cover a range of applications from shop fascias to billboards.

SIGN MAKERS PRODUCTS LIMITED

Hawthorn House, Ipswich Road, Long Stratton,
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Tel: 01508 531183

Fax: 01508 531139

Manufacturers of sign boxes, frames and display cases to the trade. Fast delivery.

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ALL PRINT SUPPLIES LTD

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Fax: 0800 374635

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Web: www.allprint.co.uk

Plain white gloss magnetic sheeting for vehicle livery and general signage. Standard thickness 0.60mm and 0.85mm with widths of 610mm and 1000mm, supplied by the metre. All products delivered next day before noon.

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Fast ex-stock delivery of magnetic materials for vehicle livery and promotional applications. Magnetic sheet supplied in pre-cut sizes to customers specifications or 610mm/1 metre rolls, 30 metres in length. Available in plain white, gloss or a variety of attractive coloured finishes.

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Fax: 01246 573338

Web: www.arnoldmagnetics.com

Email :

dgoodwin@arnoldmagnetics.com

The complete range of 'Flexmag' Magnetic sheet and products from standard plain white gloss 0.85mm thick, to special materials, colour and finishes, DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURER AT THE LOWEST PRICES! Call our Flexmag specialist now for samples, design advice, or a quote at the most competitive price from our factory stock.

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DE13 0BN

Tel: 01283 531000

Fax: 01283 534000

e-mail: sales@bisbellmagnets.com

Web: www.bisbellmagnets.com

Bisiflex magnetic sheeting is available in a satin or gloss white vinyl with no brown edges to trim and plain, adhesive backed and coloured finishes.

Supplied ex-stock, by the metre, cut to your specific requirements or by the roll. Standard thickness 0.85mm & 0.6mm, 615mm wide x 10 or 30 metre rolls.

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Traffic Material Specialists.

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BN10 8BD

Tel: 01273 581746/584295

info@pamasigns.com

www.pamasigns.com

High Quality 0.85mm Vehicle Grade Magnetic (White) available in 610 x 10M from stock for next day delivery.

We can also supply complete plates with your Logo and details complete and ready for use on your vehicle.

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Unit 4, Redwood House, Orchard Industrial
Estate, Toddington, Gloucestershire GL54 5EB

Tel: +44 (0)1242 621534

Fax: +44 (0)1242 621529

Manufacturer of specialist acrylic and polycarbonate mirrors. The process used is vacuum aluminium deposition which produces a very high quality finish with no effects on the material being coated. We can process most materials from flat sheets to complex mouldings.

The mirror surface is applied typically to the inside of transparent materials, requirement being a smooth surface and absolute cleanliness for the highest quality coating. Vinyl and other masks can be used with ease, it is also possible to use coloured lacquers to create a gold effect.

The vacuum vessels used can handle components up to 2.0m x 1m. We also manufacture a variety of moulded plastic forms in small to medium batches. Experienced in blow and vacuum moulding and in batch fabrication of plastic components.

MODEL MAKING

RUSSELL SIGNS

Waterhouse Business Park, Waterhouse Lane,
Chelmsford, Essex CM1 2QX

Tel: 01245 500428

Fax: 01245 500438

E-mail: ken@russellsigns.co.uk

Website: www.russellsigns.co.uk

3-dimensional and working models for the sign, advertising and TV/film set industry. Interactive displays incorporating LCD screens and touch screen technology.

MODULAR PANEL SIGN SYSTEMS

APCO UNITED KINGDOM

LKH Estate, Tickhill Rd, Babby, Doncaster DN4 8QQ.

Tel: 01302 311121

Fax: 01302 311852

E-Mail: APCO@norking-com

APCO UK is the exclusive wholesale distributor of APCO's design award winning modular sign systems, which have been providing innovative solutions for hospitals, universities and other facilities throughout the world since 1966. APCO UK offer a complete range of interior and exterior systems, in stock length component form or pre-cut and coloured, including APCO's most comprehensive system, Accord15.

INSIGHT SIGN SYSTEMS

61 Dykehead Street, Queenslie Industrial Estate,
Glasgow G33 4AQ

Tel: 0141 774 5990

Fax: 0141 774 6653

Web: www.insightsignsystems.com

E-mail: sales@insightsignsystems.com

Insight is a trade only manufacturer, offering a made to measure service, with in-house powder coating. A range of external directional signs is available, ready to accept lettering. CAD drawings are provided with each quote, showing specifications.

RIGHTON LIMITED

Righton House, Brookvale Road, Witton,
Birmingham B6 7EY

Tel: 0121 356 1141

Fax: 0121 344 4558

Righton Ltd is the UK's leading supplier of semi-finished plastics to the sign industry. our extensive range includes: ● Cast and extruded acrylic available in clear, opal and a full range of colours. ● Polycarbonate ● Foam PVC ● PET-G ● Dibond ● Painted aluminium sheet ● Aluminium extrusion ● Ultragrain stainless steel sheet. In house cutting and coating as well as 24 hour delivery service.

SIGNCONEX LIMITED

St Johns Works, Fern Street, Bury, Lancs BL9 5BP

Tel: 0161 764 9500

Fax: 0161 764 9600

E-mail: info@signconex.com

Original Product Manufacturer of the following sign-trade products: ● Stax-i (interior) and Stax-x (exterior) reversible modular sign panel systems ● Scroll: Award winning display/menu case and notice board products ● Varitex: Traditionally styled exterior & interior display cases ● Signature: State-of-the-art showcase. Non-standard sizes available ● Comprehensive range of insert and finish options for all products ● Grooved-board changeable lettering systems ● In-house powder coating and Sign Building service ● Trade only supplier. Marketing support & 'trade to retail' brochures available.

SIGNSCAPE SYSTEMS LTD

Pear Tree Works, Bath Road, Upper Langford,
Bristol BS40 5DJ

Tel: 01934 852888

Fax: 01934 852816

E-mail: sales@signscape.co.uk

Web: www.signscape.co.uk

Signscape are a trade only supplier of modular sign systems including Post & Panel, Infocurve, Papyrus, Infotex, Minislats and Timbertex. Other products include the coveted range of Lynester security notice boards as well as other display units which include Posterloc, Clipframes, the Helix slimline lightbox and Vision Box. To complete its extensive range of trade services, Signscape now have a special fabrication department capable of producing bespoke signage to your specification.

SIGN MAKERS PRODUCTS LIMITED

Hawthorn House, Ipswich Road, Long Stratton,
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Tel: 01508 531183

Fax: 01508 531139

Manufacturers of sign boxes, frames and display cases to the trade. Fast delivery.

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Fax: 01603 616781

E-mail: mercphil@globalnet.co.uk

Web:

www.mercuryphillipsigns.co.uk

Suppliers of moulded acrylic pans and logos up to 2800mm x 1500mm and other types of press and vacuum forming in PVC and HIPS. Specialists in fabricated plastics for POS displays with full screen print, graphics and CNC routing capabilities.

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Tel: 01206 868696

Fax: 01206 793737

E-mail:

project.plastics@btinternet.com

www.projectplastics.co.uk

Manufacturers of acrylic spheres, tubes, leaflet holders and window displays. CNC Routers • Diamond Edge Polishing • Blow Moulding • Vacuum Forming • Screen Printing.

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Fax 0121 561 5458

Email: accsign1@aol.com

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Web:

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Moulded letters and logos in all standard Perspex colours and UV stabilised gold and silver acrylics, in 8 standard sizes, bespoke sizes available on application. Press, vacuum and blow moulded pans, in acrylic and petg also available.

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Tel: 020 8346 8515

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Moulded letters are our speciality with stock of 20 fonts 8 letter heights in coloured Perspex and 1000's of flat cut letters as well. Your own font or logo is made by our own toolmakers. With over 50 years of experience to call on.

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Fax: 020 8368 9018

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Specialists in chemically etched nameplates. Brass, Stainless Steel and Anodised Aluminium. Any size up to 2400 x 1200mm (8ft x 4ft). One-offs up to 5000+. Trade work is totally confidential.

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Tel / Fax 01604 631068

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Full computerised design service neon and cold cathode lighting. Fully qualified installation engineers, fault diagnosis, fast repair service. Complete sign service from vinyl through to acrylic to polished stainless steel to transformer and neon accessory supplies.

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Fax: 0121 707 7954

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Fax: 01708 521703

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Tel: 0113 271 5777

Fax: 0113 271 5666

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Web: www.kempsneon.com
Trade suppliers of quality neon/cold cathode lighting. We have 5 glassbenders and two pumps. Fast turn around and delivery. coverage nationwide. Sub- contract fitting/ neon maintenance undertaken, plain white vans. Urgent repairs while-u-wait. Suppliers of transformers, HT cables etc.

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Tel: 0191 251 7910

Fax: 0191 253 1118

E-mail: sales@logotech-ltd.co.uk

web: www.logotech-ltd.co.uk
Specialists in neon manufacture to the trade, all types of neon work undertaken. Quick repair service. Very competitive prices. Over 25 years experience in the sign trade.

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Fax: 0208 521 1150

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The Store, 57A Rockstone Lane, Bevois

Valley, Southampton, Hampshire SO14 6JA

Tel: 02380 710300

Fax: 02380 338481

E-mail: david@southernneon.co.uk

Web: southernneon.com
Neon and cold cathode manufacturing specialists. Confidential trade supply, installation and maintenance service. Transformer and neon accessory stockists.

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Fax: 0161 962 1997

E-mail:

sales@wholesaleneonltd.sagehost.co.uk

Manufacturers of high quality neon/cold cathode lighting. Trade only. Confidential service. Fast turnaround. Glass packed. Urgent repairs while U wait. Delivery available. Transformer & accessory stockists.

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No.7 Helmsley Rd, West Park, Leeds LS16 5JA

Tel: 0113 274 2869

E-mail: info@neonexpress.co.uk

Web: www.ledxpress.co.uk

Web: www.neonexpress.co.uk
A superb range of ready-made indoor shop signs in neon and LED. The new LEDXPRESS range of super-bright LED signs are available from stock. Amazing 17mm thick, 8mm wide-angled LEDs. Chip-on-board technology. Prices from £69 to £119 + VAT. Supplied complete with hanging chains - ready to plug in and play. Call for free CD, brochure and trade list.

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Fax: 0161 764 9600

E-mail: info@signconex.com

Original Product Manufacturer of the following sign-trade products: • Stax-i (interior) and Stax-x (exterior) reversible modular sign panel systems • Scroll: Award winning display/menu case and notice board products • Vartex: Traditionally styled exterior & interior display cases • Signature: State-of-the-art showcase. Non-standard sizes available • Comprehensive range of insert and finish options for all products • Grooved-board changeable lettering systems • In-house powder coating and Sign Building service • Trade only supplier. Marketing support & 'trade to retail' brochures available.

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Fax: 01508 531139

Manufacturers of sign boxes, frames and display cases to the trade. Fast delivery.

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Fax: 01763 273554

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Web: www.eagleplastics.co.uk
Reliable independent stockholder of semi-finished plastic materials including HIPS, ABS, Clear PETG, PMMA for Point of Sale, Display and Design, Light Boxes, Screenprint, Sign Making, Fabrication and Vacuum Forming industries. Cutting service available upon request.

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Dawkins Road, Hamworthy, Poole, Dorset BH15 4HF

Tel: 01202 670567

Fax: 01202 667768

E-mail: transplas@transdev.co.uk

Web: www.transdev.co.uk

As well as being an official Perspex distributor, we stock a wide range of Display and Engineering Plastics, including: Perspex, Polycarbonate, Palight and SS50 Foam PVC's, Alu Panel and Hoarding Panel, EZ Frame Systems, Engraving Laminate, Polyethelene, Nylons, Acetal, Polypropylene, ABS and PVC.

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Fax: 0151 728 8851

E-mail: mail@blades.uk.com

Web: www.blades.uk.com
Specialist manufacturers/suppliers of tungsten carbide plotter blades and router cutters. We don't just sell blades, we are the UK's leading manufacturer. Note - we have no connection with any other company who sell or re-sharpen blades.

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CENTRE GRAPHICS DESIGN AND DISPLAY

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Tel: 01924 485888

Fax: 01132 527505

Email phill_hird@centregraphics.freeserve.co.uk
Polystyrene Lettering and Logo production. We use Fire Proof grade polystyrene and can produce letters and logos small or huge. Supplied faced in card / vinyl, or plain for you to finish. Fitting templates also available. Contact us for a quote.

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Fax: 01727 898828

E-mail: studio@fonteynesigns.co.uk
Manufacturers of all types of polystyrene cut letters, graphics & 3-dimensional models. Virtually any logo, graphic or shape can be cut in polystyrene. Especially useful for short term exhibition, conference or promotional use (All polystyrene has a fire retardant additive). Polystyrene can be faced with vinyl or inkjet prints. Fitting service nationwide. Established 1976.

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Tel: 01274 585511

Mobile: 07831 828636

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Web: www.signagraphic.com
The complete Polystyrene lettering and logo creation service. There is no better way of producing punchy graphics for any corporate event. We have been producing eye-catching, impressive Poly products for 25 years and WE are still impressed by them.... so will you be. Call Steve for free advice and same day costs. All material is small bead FR grade. Call us for this and all other graphics products. Our templates for fixing take the headache out of on-site application. We think it through for you.

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Unique 3d & 2d Polystyrene promotional items & signage, supplied to your own bespoke design. Letters, logos & signage in polystyrene or decorative foam materials. Painted plain or faced with Foamex, board or vinyl print. 3D - Spheres, Eggs, Graphics, Columns, Arches, Logos, Display Models. All available in any size. Fast delivery throughout the UK.

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Fax: 01489 895899

E-mail: info@green-magic.co.uk

Web: www.green-magic.co.uk
Easy change print frames and poster holders for all commercial and retail applications. Various styles including aluminium snap frames, low cost injection moulded frames, natural wood frames etc., all available in wall-mounted, suspended and free-standing versions. Call for our catalogue.

INSIGHT SIGN SYSTEMS

61 Dykehead Street, Queenslie Industrial Estate, Glasgow G33 4AQ

Tel: 0141 774 5990

Fax: 0141 774 6653

Web: www.insightsignsystems.com

E-mail: sales@insightsignsystems.com
Insight is a trade only manufacturer, offering a made to measure service, with in-house powder coating. A wide range of options is available for displaying posters and transparencies (panels not included), including back-lit or non-illuminated, wall mounted or free standing etc. Hinged opening front provides access for maintenance. Rubber gaskets and slam locks provide security. Suitable for outdoor use.

SIGNCONEX LIMITED

St Johns Works, Fern Street, Bury, Lancs BL9 5BP

Tel: 0161 764 9500

Fax: 0161 764 9600

E-mail: info@signconex.com

Original Product Manufacturer of the following sign-trade products: • **Stax-i** (interior) and **Stax-x** (exterior) reversible modular sign panel systems • **Scroll**: Award winning display/menu case and notice board products • **Varitex**: Traditionally styled exterior & interior display cases • **Signature**: State-of-the-art showcase. Non-standard sizes available • Comprehensive range of insert and finish options for all products • Grooved-board changeable lettering systems • In-house powder coating and Sign Building service • Trade only supplier. Marketing support & 'trade to retail' brochures available.

SIGN MAKERS PRODUCTS LIMITED

Hawthorn House, Ipswich Road, Long Stratton, Norfolk NR15 2XB

Tel: 01508 531183

Fax: 01508 531139

Manufacturers of sign boxes, frames and display cases to the trade. Fast delivery.

SIGNSCAPE SYSTEMS LTD

Pear Tree Works, Bath Road, Upper Langford, Bristol BS40 5DJ

Tel: 01934 852888

Fax: 01934 852816

E-mail: sales@signscape.co.uk

Web: www.signscape.co.uk

Signscape are a trade only supplier of display units including the coveted range of Lynester security notice boards (internal and external), Posterloc, Clipframes, the Helix slimline lightbox and Vision Box. Other products include modular sign systems such as Post & Panel, Infocurve, Papyrus, Infotex, Minislots and Timbertex. To complete its extensive range of services, Signscape now have a special fabrication department capable of producing bespoke signage to your specification.

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A division of WOODCON PRODUCTS LTD

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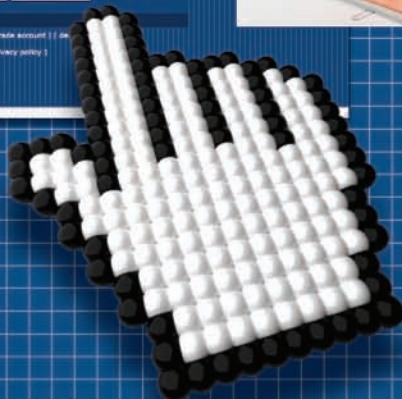
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