Fujifilm announces return of Peak Performance Print Experience

New Peak Performance Print Experience

Following the success of the first Peak Performance Print Experience in 2021, Fujifilm will host a second event on the 28th September 2022 at the Fujifilm Advanced Print Technology Centre, Brussels. The Peak Performance Print Experience brings together print businesses from across Europe to see first-hand the latest developments in Fujifilm’s rapidly expanding digital print portfolio. Fujifilm’s new Jet Press 750S High Speed Model will be featured at the event, where a range of brand new features and further developments will be showcased. There will also be live demonstrations of the fastest, most productive and cost-effective high quality B2 inkjet press on the market.

New imprinting configurations based on Samba printhead technology will also be showcased, bringing together inkjet printheads, ink and image optimisation into hybrid or bespoke print systems that can be fully integrated into various conventional production processes.

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on show, with a live first-look demonstration from Japan of the company’s forthcoming Jet Press FP790 flexible packaging press.

Taro Aoki, Head of Digital Press Solutions, Fujifilm Europe, commented “We’re delighted to welcome people back to the Peak Performance Print Experience. The first event was a huge success and we look forward to presenting our very latest technologies at this year’s event. The Jet Press 750S High Speed Model leads the market in terms of quality and performance, while our imprinting solution offers flexibility for digital transformation. We look forward to showcasing our extensive portfolio at our Advanced Print Technology Centre and demonstrating how print businesses can achieve peak performance print with Fujifilm technology.”

Flint Group Narrow Web Highlights Award-Winning Sustainable Innovations at Labelexpo Americas
At Labelexpo Americas 2022, Flint Group Narrow Web demonstrated...
how its new Evolution Series boosts the recyclability of shrink sleeves and bottles made from crystallisable PET. Recognised by the Association of Plastic Recyclers in the USA, the products—a de-inking primer for shrink sleeves and an over print varnish for PSL labels—prevent ink contamination during recycling, so that the PET quality remains clear in the waste stream.

Applied in a single pass on a press, these products require no changes to the converter’s existing ink system or curing processes. In this way, the Evolution Series makes an important contribution to the circular economy for packaging—where recycled plastic material is remains valuable and is kept in the production chain for longer.

Over Print PSL Varnish Ups PET Yield

The Evolution Caustic Resistant Over Print Varnish is applied to the pressure-sensitive label after the colours are printed. The varnish protects the ink, stopping it from bleeding out in the caustic wash.

After the bottle and label are ground down, the pressure-sensitive label flakes cleanly separate from the package in the caustic ‘float-sink’ bath. The label material containing the protected ink floats to the top and can be skimmed off to an alternate waste system, leaving the uncontaminated PET flake in the recycling stream.

The Evolution Deinking Primer for PET shrink sleeves is a primer that goes between the ink and the sleeve itself. When the package is recycled, the primer enables the ink to separate from the sleeve and wash away in the caustic bath. The ink and sleeve go their separate ways: the ink and the primer rise to the top of the caustic wash and are swiped off. This leaves behind the sleeve, which instead of being taken to landfill, now remains in the recycling stream with the bottle—and adds between 3 and 6 percent of the sleeve pack back into the recycling chain.

Both the over print varnish and deinking primer are Dual Cure UV flexo inks, curable under LED lamps as well as conventional mercury lamps.

The Evolution Deinking Primer won the Environmental Sustainability Award at the Global Label Awards, announced on the show’s opening night, on September 13th. The judging panel felt that the primer makes a major contribution to developing a circular lifecycle for label materials.

Julian Cass, Vice President for North America at Flint Group, comments: “Flint Group is committed to driving packaging circularity with innovations that minimize environmental harm and bring value to the wider supply chain. “The Evolution Series is a perfect example of that, providing converters with a fast and smooth solution for improving the sustainability of their offering—as well as that of their brand owner customers,” he says.

“Additional printing stations are required: the converter can be offering a recyclable pack in the short time it takes to exchange one coating station on the press.”

At the show, Flint Group Narrow Web also presented its expanded range of Dual Cure UV-flexo inks that are curable under LED lamps as well as mercury lamps.

Dual Cure Ultra Clear is a UV-flexo clear over-printed coating that does not yellow over time. Free of benzophenone, Dual Cure Ultra Clear offers assurance of long-term product integrity and product safety.

Dual Cure inks and coatings allow label converters to embrace the environmental, low-energy and productivity advantages of LED-UV curing, while managing the financial risk associated with curing lamp conversions. Switching to LED-UV curing technology with Flint Dual Cure inks brings energy cost reductions of up to 50 percent, compared with using mercury lamps on press, as the lamp produces less heat.

Ewout Maartense joins Scodix as the company ramps up sales infrastructure

Scodix, the leading provider of digital embellishment solutions for the graphic arts industry, today announced the appointment of Ewout Maartense as Sales Manager for the Benelux territories, reporting to Franz Repp VP Sales EMEA.

As a newly created position, the move underscores Scodix’ growth as the company states that by the end of 2022 it will have doubled its sales and marketing teams in just a year.

“2022 is a continued year of worldwide expansion for Scodix,” comments Mark Nixon, Scodix VP Global Sales & Marketing, “We have an incredible portfolio of embellishment systems with presses tailored to all types of print and especially packaging businesses, so almost anyone can benefit from our incredible range of enhancements. With Ewout’s pertinent background, we’re delighted to welcome him to the team and further develop our business in the Benelux territory.”

Maartense comes to Scodix with extensive experience within the industry. Following positions at Apple, Scitex (later CREO) and Kodak, he most recently worked for Landa. Nixon adds, “His knowledge of the region and relationships with printers and packaging companies is second to none. With his commercial experience we know he’ll be a hugely appreciated addition to the team.”

Scodix now has a worldwide network with 40 partners and more than 360 installations across the globe. Offering economic, productive and sustainable embellishment to the market since 2012, Maartense comments, “The Benelux territory is well known for their cool design aesthetics and progressive packaging companies, so I’m looking forward to seeing how brands can enhance their designs even further with Scodix and how packaging converters can benefit from the sustainability and economics which offer such great value and fast ROI, so I’m delighted to be working with the company and being a part of their growth.”

IGS launches Titanium 0912 B1 Automatic Digital Cutter-Creaser

The Titanium 0912 has a maximum cutting area of 900 x 1200 mm and...
features automatic loading and unloading of material. The four station tooling includes an electronic oscillating tool, drag knife, kiss cut knife and creasing wheel. Materials typically being cut and creased on the Titanium 0912 range from paper through to card, thin plastics up to 6 mm thickness, label, foamboard and corrugated, A high resolution registration camera ensures cutting printed jobs accurately to register. To maximise the automatic production, the Titanium 0906 can automatically load and cut 200 B1 sheets or with the QR code recognition three B3 sheets can be loaded simultaneously performing several functions in the same pass without stopping for a tool change. Peter Flynn Managing Director at IGS comments “Digitally cutting any shape the Titanium 0912 is the ideal solution for the lucrative prototype, short run packaging and digitally cut labels market with no requirement for costly cutting dies. Priced at £34,000.00 + VAT which included delivery, installation, training and twelve months’ parts and labour warranty makes for a quick ROI. This will be of great interest to anyone involved in the packaging and point of sale industry I’m sure.”

Mondi invests in new research and development centre at Mondi Steinfeld

Mondi is investing around 5 million in a new research and development (R&D) centre at Mondi Steinfeld in Germany. This investment will support customers to develop packaging solutions together with Mondi to meet their sustainability goals. Construction of the facility has begun and when completed it will include pilot production lines for both plastic and paper-based solutions - from coating, film extrusion and printing to filling lines for various products. The centre will also have an analytical laboratory and a customer experience centre floor, providing an open environment to meet and collaborate with customers at an early stage of new innovation development.

The R&D centre brings together experts with extensive knowledge of different materials and packaging types. Extrusion coating, aqueous dispersion coating and siliconisation will be available, as well as various printing machines. Filling equipment for different materials, including horizontal and vertical form, fill and seal lines, will allow customers to conduct trials without interrupting their own ongoing production. The facility also enables Mondi to work with its customers to develop pilot-scale solutions on site and accelerate the process from idea to scaled solution.

Elisabeth Schwaiger, Head of R&D and IP Flexible Packaging at Mondi, says, “This R&D centre demonstrates our hands-on approach to developing sustainable packaging solutions at Mondi. We look forward to working with our customers and combining their knowledge with ours to achieve their sustainable packaging goals. This investment also contributes to the sustainability goals of Mondi’s 2030 Action Plan, in particular our goal to make 100% of our products reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2025.”

The research and development centre will open its doors at the end of 2023 and will complement Mondi’s other research and development centres such as the recycling and food safety laboratories in Frantschach, Austria.

Durst Group expands management team at Durst Austria GmbH in Lienz

Durst, a leading manufacturer of digital printing and production technologies, has appointed Wolfgang Knotz as Technical Managing Director of Durst Austria GmbH at its Lienz site. “Durst Austria GmbH is and will remain an essential part of the Durst Group and we want to continue to grow in the coming years,” says Christoph Gamper, CEO and co-owner of the Durst Group. “For me, the appointment of Wolfgang Knotz as Technical Managing Director is the logical consequence for this objective, as he has contributed a great deal to the development of the site in Lienz with his expertise. We are proud that we can fill this key role with an employee from our own ranks. Andreas Unterhofer will continue in his role as commercial director and will take on additional tasks in the area of human resources strategy and development in the management team of the Durst Group. I wish Wolfgang and Andreas all the best in their respective new and expanded roles and am already looking forward to many joint successes in the Durst family.”

Wolfgang Knotz holds a degree in industrial engineering and mechanical engineering with a focus on production engineering. After joining Durst Austria GmbH in 2013, he took over the management of assembly and shortly afterwards the management of overall production. Since 2016, he has been responsible for optimising the digital printing systems at the site as head of the development department. In April 2021, Wolfgang Knotz was appointed Chief Technology Officer of the Durst Group together with Georg GrobRubscher in Brixen and joined the Executive Board. “I am very pleased about the recognition of my achievements at Durst Austria GmbH and the Durst Group,” says Wolfgang Knotz, Chief Technology Officer of Durst Austria. “We will continue to develop the site and already count here as a technology leader in the packaging industry with our innovations in digital printing.”