

Kodak to showcase the worlds fastest inkjet press at Hunkeler Innovationdays 2025

Dazzling inkjet speed

During Hunkeler Innovationdays, Kodak will be printing various applications at blazing speeds on the Prosper 7000 Turbo Press several times a day. Along with scheduled demos, printers can book individual demonstrations of the press through Kodak sales representatives.

Kodak will highlight unmatched speed and versatility in inkjet production printing by running live demonstrations of the Kodak Prosper 7000 Turbo Press, the world's fastest web-fed full-color inkjet press, at Hunkeler Innovationdays 2025 (February 24 to 27, Lucerne, Switzerland), booth P4 in hall 1. The show will be the Prosper 7000 Turbo Press's first appearance in Europe. Kodak will showcase the Prosper 7000 Turbo Press printing with wa-



The Prosper 7000 Turbo Press is the world's fastest inkjet press, capable of printing at speeds of up to 410 mpm (1,345 fpm).

ter-based Kodak Ektacolor Inks in a roll-to-roll configuration with an unwinder and a rewinder designed and manufactured by Kodak. The Prosper 7000 Turbo Press is the world's fastest inkjet press, capable of printing at speeds of up to 410 mpm (1,345 fpm). Its three print modes – Turbo, Performance and Quality – enable printers to easily fine-tune optimal speed and quality balance for each job. These capabilities make the Prosper 7000 Turbo Press an excellent solution for migrating larger direct mail, commercial, transactional, and book printing jobs from offset to digital.

Visitors to the Kodak booth will also have the opportunity to view a vast collection of print samples illustrating the high-quality output and the variety of applications that can be produced with the Kodak Prosper Ultra 520 Press, powered by Kodak Ultrastream Technology, and the new Kodak Prosper Print Bar, which incorporates Kodak Prosper Plus Imaging Systems.

Kodak, in cooperation with partners Horizon International and Hunkeler, will also demonstrate the efficient processing of paper rolls printed on Prosper Presses into finished printed products. A saddle-stitched catalog will be produced on a Horizon iCE StitchLiner Mark V, and a Hunkeler paper processing line will handle a demanding direct mail application. "We are excited to bring the Prosper 7000 Turbo Press to Europe for the first time and to raise the bar in terms of speed and production efficiency at Hunkeler Innovationdays. This cutting-edge inkjet press helps printers transition from offset to digital production and profitably serve their customers," commented Jim Continenza, Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Kodak. "Our Prosper Presses, using high-speed continuous inkjet technologies and proprietary Kodachrome and Ektacolor Inks and Kodak Optimax Primers, help printers succeed in the 'and' era of print by providing ultra-productive, cost-effective printing of a wide range of applications."

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WoodWing strengthens Enterprise Information Management through acquisition of Qonqord

WoodWing Group has acquired its multi-decade strategic partner Qonqord. By joining forces with Qonqord, WoodWing immediately expands its portfolio of solutions and gains direct local presence across EMEA, including in the UK, the Benelux, France and Iberia. The acquisition marks the third add-on acquisition of WoodWing since the start of its strategic partnership with Main Capital Partners (“Main”) in 2020.

Qonqord is a provider of technology-driven consulting services and value-added software components focused on orchestrating content management and workflow processes. With a strong focus on customer success, Qonqord has established itself as a trusted partner for a diverse client base spread across Western Europe, including globally recognized brands such as Next, DPG Media, Yamaha, and European Governmental bodies. The company’s expertise in developing value-added software add-ons has complemented WoodWing’s offerings for years, resulting in enhanced solutions and services for shared customers.

The regional presence in EMEA allows WoodWing to be closer to its customers in their home markets. Notwithstanding this acquisition, WoodWing continues to work with its global network of partners, as it remains an incredible source of competitive advantage and scalability. Furthermore, the combination with Qonqord allows WoodWing to extend its offerings with proven add-on solutions that liberate organizations from their content and information inefficiencies. Finally, Qonqord’s experience with add-on solution development will strengthen WoodWing’s ability to bring innovation to its customers.

Hans Fermont, Partner of Qonqord, is looking forward to joining forces with the WoodWing team: “WoodWing is an excellent strategic and cultural match for Qonqord. We share similar cultures and ambitions, and we are finally bringing together all

of the smartest experts within the field of Enterprise Information and Content Management to establish an even stronger offering. The integration also enhances customer intimacy by leveraging Qonqord’s close relationships with key end-users. This deep understanding of customer needs will allow the combined group to rapidly address market demands, further improving retention and expanding into new verticals.”

Ross Paterson, Chief Executive Officer of WoodWing, foresees a fruitful combination with solid potential to offer value-added solutions across international markets: “The acquisition of Qonqord is a strategic choice and a natural step in the direction of building a solid powerhouse within Enterprise Information Management. This partnership accelerates innovation, drives cloud-first adoption, and enables the creation of tailored solutions for industries such as retail and museums, where Qonqord already holds a strong market position. With these solutions, I am convinced we can better serve our global customers and partners. I am very much looking forward to collaborating with Hans, Jeroen, and the rest of the Qonqord team.”

Sjoerd Aarts, Managing Partner at Main and Chairman of WoodWing’s Supervisory Board, concludes: “With Qonqord, we are excited to announce this milestone in WoodWing’s growth journey in partnership with Main. Over the past four years of our partnership, we have successfully implemented a strategy that has enabled WoodWing to expedite the international expansion of its solutions. WoodWing has created a unique value proposition in the global Enterprise Information Management software market, and we are eager to see how the organization will continue to deliver even greater value to its customers and partners through the highly strategic integration with Qonqord.”

Spandex expands into safety and reflective products market with Lakeside Group acquisition

Spandex has announced the acquisition of UK distributor, Lakeside Group.

With over 15 years on the market, Clevedon-based Lakeside Group has built a stellar reputation for exceptional service to a diverse client base, including local authorities and commercial clients, and has developed in-house testing and converting capabilities.

Its comprehensive product portfolio spans reflective solutions for street signage, license plates, street furniture, and vehicle livery, as well as anti-graffiti coatings, dew-reducing films, and UV protective materials.

This acquisition represents Spandex’s strategic entry into the highly specialised market of reflective solutions – a move that positions the company to capitalise on this emerging sector poised for significant growth.

Paul Cooper, Chief Operating Officer of Spandex, says: “We’re proud to have concluded this acquisition, which enables Spandex to take an assertive step into this specialised and highly regulated market segment. Lakeside’s technical expertise and market knowledge perfectly complement our existing capabilities, enabling us to expand our portfolio and position Spandex as a trusted partner, ready to deliver innovative solutions for an increasingly diverse customer base.”

Scott Horne, Managing Director of Lakeside Group, comments: “Having started in this market over 30 years ago, this integration feels like a natural evolution for Lakeside. We’re excited about the opportunities this partnership will bring to our customers, people and the industry at large.” Scott Horne will continue in his role as Managing Director of Lakeside Group, which will operate independently in the immediate term as part of the Spandex family.

This latest acquisition reinforces a long-term commitment within the Spandex Group to grow and innovate, both in its heritage sectors and in emerging vertical markets, while maintaining its reputation for exceptional, expert-led customer service.

Ultimate Tech reaches new heights at Hunkeler Innovationdays 2025

Ultimate Tech announces its participation at the next Hunkeler Inno-

tiondays in Lucerne Switzerland this February 2025. As the demand for high-quality, fast-paced printing continues to grow, printers are always on the lookout for solutions that can help them keep up with the competition while maintaining efficiency and cost-effectiveness. One solution that stands out in the world of inkjet production is Ultimate Impostrip. For printers looking to stay competitive in the fast-paced world of high-speed inkjet production, Ultimate Impostrip offers a powerful combination of scalability, automation, and efficiency. Its ability to scale with the print business, automate critical tasks, and boost throughput while reducing waste makes it an invaluable tool for any print operation. At this event, Ultimate Tech will present Ultimate Impostrip 2025, a new generation of efficiency, speed and scalability reaching new heights in automation possibilities.

The entire spectrum for curing

The Höhle Business Unit Curing will showcase LED-UV and UV curing systems, as well as IRhot air dryers for digital printing at the Hunkeler Innovationdays 2025. The drying specialists offer solutions for every printing application, ensuring process reliability and product quality. For decades, the Höhle Business Unit Curing has been a trusted partner of the printing industry, with their customized curing and drying systems used worldwide in a wide variety of printing machines. At the Hunkeler Innovationdays, the focus of their exhibition will be on combined IR/hot air modules designed for drying water-based inkjet inks. The highlight of these systems: the hot air not only enhances the drying process through powerful removal of moisture but also cools the IR lamp, thus significantly extending its lifespan. Both drying components can be controlled independently. Developing this IR/hot air module the developers also prioritized user-friendliness: Thanks to its space-saving design, the module can be easily integrated into printing machines. Moreover, the IR/hot air dryer can be quickly and easily removed from the

machine due to its unique cassette technology - for instance, for the rare lamp replacement or to make room for an optional UV module, depending on the application's requirements. Höhle will also present a selection of its pioneering LED-UV curing devices for digital printing.

A world first is the new UV Scan MACS, featuring patented measurement technology for the simple and precise determination of UV dosage. The system consists of the reliable, industrial grade macsReader and the calibratable macsStrips, providing accurate measurement results.

Mimaki to spotlight latest sustainable Solution at Heimtextil 2025

Mimaki Europe, a leading provider of industrial inkjet printers, cutting plotters, and 3D printers, announces its attendance at global textile trade show, Heimtextil 2025 (Frankfurt, January 14th-17th). The show, as the world's largest trade fair for home and contract textiles, will give Mimaki the opportunity to demonstrate its latest sustainable innovation, TRAPIS, at its booth in Hall 3.0 Stand B96.

Following the system's commercial launch earlier this year, TRAPIS is set to revolutionise the home textile industry with its environmentally friendly two-step textile pigment transfer printing process. By eliminating the need for pre-treatment and washing stages, TRAPIS reduces water usage by up to 90%, saving approximately 14.5 litres per square meter compared to traditional methods. This nearly waterless solution is ideal for diverse applications, such as home textiles, as it enables vibrant printing on a diverse range of materials – including natural fibres, blends, and synthetics – with a single ink type. Certified by ZDHC MRSL Lv.3 and carrying the bluesign Approved label, the ink ensures both environmental and user safety, making TRAPIS a safe, eco-friendly solution for textile applications in sectors such as home décor, activewear, and fashion.

TRAPIS also streamlines production with its simplicity, requiring only an inkjet printer and a high-pressure calender, making high-quality, sustain-

able textile printing more accessible to print service providers worldwide. Its compact size allows for installation in limited spaces, such as the front of a print shop, and eliminates the need for costly wastewater treatment facilities. Additionally, the solution is easy to operate, requiring no specialised skills or complex maintenance and adapts to customer demands, even for short multi-material runs, while maintaining high standards for safety, colourfastness, stretchability, and breathability.

Following the system's announcement earlier this year, Heimtextil will serve as a stop on Mimaki's global TRAPIS Roadshow, launched in Amsterdam with the Mimaki's Textile Day Open House on 27th November. Each stop will demonstrate TRAPIS to a different regional market, offering hands-on experience with the new solution and showcasing Mimaki's innovation in the textile sector. The roadshow will continue into 2025, stopping in countries such as Poland and Spain, with more to be announced in the coming year.

Marc Verbeem, Product Management Supervisor, Mimaki Europe, comments, "As a global hub for innovation and creativity in the home textile industry, Heimtextil presents us with an opportunity to showcase TRAPIS. This technology not only simplifies production but also significantly reduces environmental impact, addressing the evolving demands of the industry. We look forward to engaging with the textile sector and demonstrating how TRAPIS can achieve vibrant, high-quality prints on a wide range of materials while prioritising sustainability."

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