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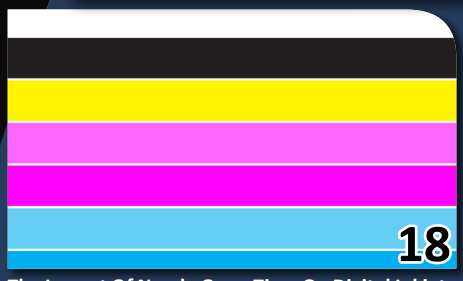


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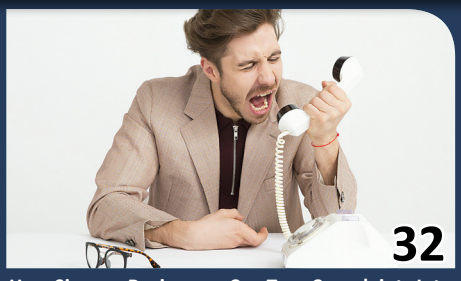
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The Impact Of Nozzle Open Time On Digital Inkjet Printing



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As we look ahead to the highly anticipated Johannesburg edition of the Sign Africa FESPA Expo this September, we're excited to once again take part in what is widely regarded as the highlight of the signage calendar. Johannesburg, as the business hub of Africa, always delivers unmatched energy and networking potential.

Visit us at our stand in **Hall 2 (H2F11)** to meet our expert team and discover our world of solutions for visual communication supplies. Whether you're a longstanding customer or new to Stixo, we look forward to connecting with you.

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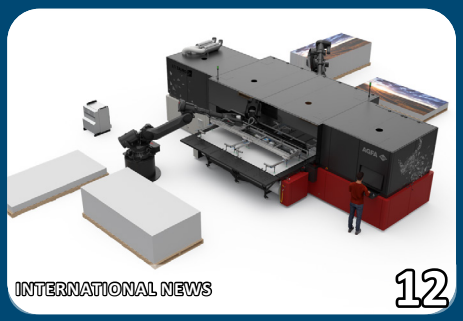
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EDITOR'S NOTE

BY MEGGAN MCCARTHY, EDITOR

We're looking forward to the flagship Sign Africa and FESPA Africa Johannesburg event, taking place from 9-11 September at Gallagher Convention Centre. Note our new expo days: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Read about the workshop, networking event, presentation and exhibitor showcase highlights happening at the expo in this issue. Register online for free at: www.signafricaexpo.com

Our front cover features Eco Bond visual communication grade aluminium composite panels. They feature an ultra-smooth surface, making them ideal for high-quality UV digital printing with sharp details. The high-gloss and matt polyester finish is available in a wide range of vibrant colours, offering excellent durability and performance.

Other Features

Sign-making is a multi-step process involving design, production, and installation. With various people, processes, and moving parts involved, the potential for error is higher than in many other industries. Each stage brings its own risks, from quoting to design, from fabrication to final fitment. The past few months have seen a noticeable uptick in customer complaints across the signage industry. Fortunately, in most cases, these issues have been resolved without escalation. The most common causes? Communication breakdowns and weather-related delays.

Nozzle open time (also known as decap time or latency) refers to the duration that a nozzle remains open when a printer is idling or not firing. This is critical in ink chemistry because it directly affects print quality, reliability and the operational efficiency of the ink and the equipment. When a digital printer is not being used, is inactive, dormant or in standby mode, things can go wrong, especially because the nozzles on a printhead want to be firing and used for what they are intended. This is why chemistry matters. The nozzle open time 'decap' relates to how long the printhead/ ink can be left in idling mode and the print will still be of good quality. Most digital printing equipment runs a circulation or 'spitting' function that assists with nozzle open time when the ink channels or printers are not in use.

Why do customers patronise one company over another? The answer is customer service. How you and your employees treat your customers is critical. When you provide your customers with exceptional customer service, you will own them. They will be loyal to you and wouldn't dream of taking their business to one of your competitors. When you have loyal customers, you can drastically reduce your advertising and marketing budgets. Loyal customers tell their families and friends about you and your company and that, my friends, is the most effective advertising you can get — and it's free!

When we talk about smart cities, it's usually the high-tech aspects that get airtime; our minds usually go first to AI-powered cameras and digital dashboards to smart grids and self-regulating traffic systems. In South Africa, however, where daily realities include potholes, power outages and overloaded public transport, the smartest solutions are often the simplest ones – in this case, clear, reliable street signage that stand the test of weather and time. While signage in its traditional sense might not scream 'innovation', it's one of the most foundational and often overlooked building blocks of functional, inclusive cities.

Signing off
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meggan@PracticalMedia.co.za

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HOT NEW PRODUCTS

Roland XP-640

The printer delivers speed and productivity without compromising on image quality. It features high print speeds paired with TrueVIS colour, vibrancy, and detail. Backed by Roland DG's trusted reliability and customer support, this inkjet printer delivers versatility and performance. Available in 8-colour (CMYKLkOrGrRe) and dual CMYK configurations, the TrueVIS XP-640 offers the ultimate blend of image quality and productivity, allowing users to print higher-quality output faster. **www.rolanddg.co.za**



Trotec Speedy 100 Cross

The industrial diode laser plotter really comes into its own when used for direct marking of metals and plastics, and is ideal for marking the smallest graphics such as QR or data matrix codes on components or printed circuit boards. For the first time, a diode laser source is now being used in a professional laser machine. This technology has made enormous progress in recent years and now offers the necessary power for a variety of demanding applications. **www.troteclaser.co.za**



Kongsberg Entro Digital Cutting Table

The tables are designed to meet the needs of sign makers and packaging converters looking for a cost-effective solution for producing low-volume jobs and prototypes across packaging, signage, and graphics applications. The Entro series comprises two systems, the Entro 20 and Entro 24, designed for customers with lower volume requirements that still want a system with user-friendly operation. Both Entro models are equipped with the latest easy-to-use iPC 3.1 software and offer production speeds of up to 50m per minute. **www.gsw.co.za**



HP Latex Printers

The new HP Latex 730 and 830 printer series allows print service providers to produce high-value applications with consistent quality. Users can print vivid colours and sharp 4-point text with the latest generation of HP Latex Inks and the non-circular nozzle printhead architecture. Users can deliver stunning prints with uniform colours via the precise ink combination and distribution of HP Pixel Control technology. Printers can achieve consistent quality over time and between printers with the HP Embedded Spectrophotometer.
www.midcomp.co.za



GCC Piolas 400SE

The new model delivers precise engraving and cutting capabilities while providing a more versatile and cost-effective solution. Engineered for industries like sign making and print and cut workflows, the Piolas 400SE achieves the ideal balance of quality, productivity, and smart investment. In addition to enhancing engraving capabilities, it delivers long-term value by reducing maintenance efforts and lowering operating costs, making it a smart choice for businesses aiming for sustainable growth.
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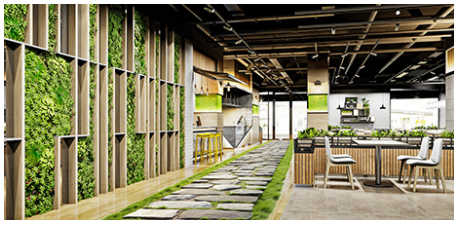
AM.CO.ZA Flatcut CNC Oscillating Blade Cutter

The blade cutter features affordability, versatility and it can cut thicker materials. Ideal for packaging and display products, the machine's key feature is its ability to switch between an oscillating rotating blade and any other tool that is required. It also has a spindle, vacuum table and built-in camera, as well as a six-axis control system. The oscillating blade not only cuts thicker materials, but can create complex shapes and patterns accurately.
www.am.co.za



ASLAN Protective Laminate

With its classification according to slip resistance class R11, FloorProtect R11 ASLAN MP 330 offers effective, slip-resistant protection for digitally printed graphics on a wide variety of floor coverings. The 170 µm thick, structured floor laminate effectively protects prints from dirt and abrasion caused by mechanical stress. The laminate is scratch and tread-resistant and is ideally suited for use in public areas such as retail spaces, trade fairs or exhibitions. **www.maizey.co.za**



Avery Dennison Application Tools

The full range of Avery Dennison application tools is now available at Intamarket Graphics. From Wrap-U-Ezee and YelloBlade to ProSlide Gloves and BigBuffer Microfine, the range includes everything wrapping professionals need. The range includes squeegees, precision knives, surface cleaners and wrap accessories. Avery Dennison's expertly designed application tools are trusted for their precision, durability and ease of use.
www.intamarketgraphics.co.za



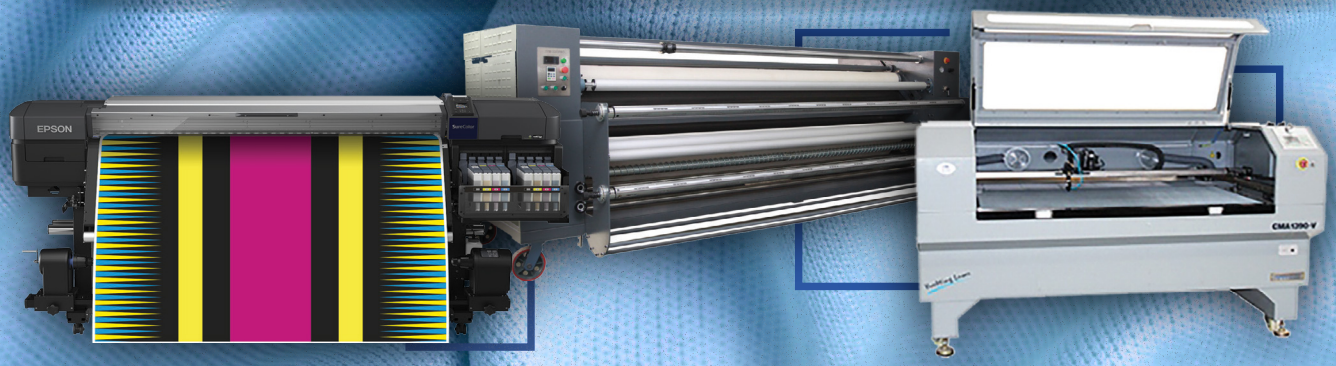
Roland TY-300

The DTF printer delivers stunning graphics and bold designs for heat transfer onto a wide range of materials, including cotton, polyester, denim, nylon, rayon, and more. Users can transform custom apparel and textiles with technology that enables them to produce vibrant colours, razor-sharp text, and fine details with unprecedented cost effectiveness, speed, and efficiency. It offers high print quality and reproduces colours, detailed images, and even smaller text with amazing accuracy. **www.rolanddg.co.za**



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SIGN INDUSTRY NEWS

Midcomp Appointed As Distributor For Durst Printing Technology In SA

Midcomp has been appointed as the sole distributor for Durst in South Africa. Durst SA will be incorporated into Midcomp and Midcomp will offer the full range of Durst products, from graphics, sign, display and wide format to labelling solutions.

Durst printing systems offer reliability, speed and outstanding colour reproduction that has been perfected through decades of expertise and cutting-edge technology. Durst offers specific ink sets for its printing systems, based on UV or water based technology. These inks provide high system stability, low ink consumption, a large colour gamut, and a broad range of applications. Durst also provides smart and easy-to-use software solutions to optimise the printing process.

Midcomp Group CEO, Rob Makinson, explained that Midcomp were approached by Durst late last year to form a partnership to further their interests in Southern Africa: 'Midcomp's team was built around implementing and supporting industrial digital printers but the portfolio unfortunately dwindled to a fantastic offering of low and mid-range printers. We have long sought to be a relevant player in the industrial segment and we can think of no better partner than Durst. They unquestionably are the leaders in their field.'

Makinson said that there is already a significant install base of Durst products in South Africa. As such, Midcomp are not introducing the brand to the market, but simply solidifying it with a new foundation for growth. They are doing this in conjunction with the existing players responsible for Durst sales and support in South Africa.
He added that Wayne Barker, Chris Lever and Erich Ludick from Durst SA are all now part of the Midcomp team effective July 1 2025. 'They bring all of the necessary support and sales skills, and most importantly the customer relationships. We could not do this without them and we look forward to the upcoming integration,' said Makinson.



Christian Harder and Christian Casazza, Durst with Rob Makinson, Midcomp and Markus Gleissner, Durst.

'This is a very exciting time for Midcomp. To be back in the industrial space where we belong, and where we excel in customer support, is a welcome challenge. We look forward to continued growth with the Durst team and products,' he added.

Markus Gleissner, Managing Director for the graphics division at Durst, covering the Eastern Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EEMEA) regions, said that working with Midcomp enhances Durst's ability to provide localised expertise and service excellence: 'Their in-depth knowledge of the regional market allows us to tailor our offerings and ensure seamless support to customers.

Moreover, this partnership helps us deliver quicker turnaround times for service and spare parts — not just in South Africa, but across neighbouring countries as well. By aligning global expertise with local insights, we're able to deliver exceptional value and performance to end users.'

www.midcomp.co.za

Maizey Partners With Gencotech To Launch Next-Gen DTF Solution

Maizey is proud to partner with Gencotech to bring a cutting-edge direct-to-film (DTF) printing solution to the South African market that offers both hot and cold peel options for maximum flexibility and efficiency. The system features high-performance GLM DTF pigment inks (White + CMYK) for flawless

flow, vivid colour, and long-lasting, fabric-safe results. Complementing the inks, TPU hotmelt powder delivers a smooth finish, excellent fabric adhesion, and wash durability.

'At Maizey, we believe in delivering 'more than materials'. We are committed to equipping our customers with leading-edge solutions that drive their success,' said Maizey's chief marketing officer, Richard Maizey.

'Partnering with Gencotech was a natural fit, they bring deep technical expertise, innovative thinking, and product excellence to the table. Their next-generation DTF technology perfectly complements our commitment to offering reliable, future-ready solutions. Together, we're not just offering a product, we're delivering a new standard in DTF printing for the South African market.'

Combined with the TPU hotmelt powder, which offers crystal-clear finishes, strong adhesion, and wash resistance, the DTF system ensures superior output with minimal fuss. It's an all-in-one solution that simplifies production, reduces rework, and helps customers stay competitive in a fast-moving industry.

'The partnership reinforces Maizey's ongoing mission to be 'your partner in possibility'. The Maizey and Gencotech DTF solution is not just another product, it's a complete, professional-grade system designed to empower customers every step of the way,' added Maizey.

'What truly sets it apart is the trust behind it: it's backed by two of the most respected names in the industry. With Maizey's legacy of customer-first service and nationwide support, and Gencotech's cutting-edge engineering, our customers can move forward with total confidence. Whether you're scaling your print-on-demand operation or entering the DTF space for the first time, this partnership delivers the innovation and reliability to help you grow.'



www.maizey.co.za

Be Inspired At The C1W Networking Event For Women In Branding, Print And Signage

Change One Woman (C1W) is hosting a free networking event at the Sign Africa and FESPA Africa Expo in Johannesburg on Wednesday 10 September at 11h30am. C1W is an initiative dedicated to empowering women through connection, conversation and support.

The event, sponsored by DTF Printing Africa, Avery Dennison, Printing SA, FP&M SETA and Graphix Supply World, is your platform to connect with women in branding, print and signage. Be prepared to be uplifted, guided and inspired.

C1W aims to bring women together in the branding, print and signage industries, building a community where ideas, experiences and support can be freely shared and put in action to make a change to uplift women in these industries.

The first 150 ladies to RSVP will get their own C1W badge (courtesy of Avery Dennison) and shopper bag (sponsored by DTF Printing Africa). Book your spot: info@c1w.co.za

We'll see you on the C1W stand at Gallagher Convention Centre.





Visit the new Change One Woman website: www.c1w.co.za



SIGN INDUSTRY NEWS CONTINUED

ORAFOL Opens Office In Namibia

ORAFOL has opened an office in Windhoek, Namibia. According to Carl Smit, who will run this office, customers can expect to find just about everything under the ORAFOL brand, such as reflective materials, vinyls and double-sided tapes. The office opened in January, but started to trade formally in May this year.

Etienne Smit, ORAFOL South Africa Managing Director, added, 'We noticed that there were a lot of Namibian visitors at the Sign Africa Expos, and we thought that opening an office in Namibia would be a good opportunity to service our customers in the region. We've made a lot of sales in Namibia, but transport and lead times were quite a problem, so now the new office there can handle the demand.'

In Namibia, and like in South Africa, print vinyls and reflective materials will be a key product focus.

The physical address for the Namibian office is: 10 Dante Street, Prosperita, Windhoek.

carl.smit@orafol.com.na



Carl Smit, ORAFOL Namibian office, with Etienne Smit and Clive Versfeld, ORAFOL South Africa.

GSW Launched New Flatbed Printer At Johannesburg Open House Event

Graphix Supply World (GSW) hosted an open house event at its Johannesburg office from 23-27 June. The company launched the new Eurotech Flatbed 2512 Pro at the event.

The Eurotech printer uses greyscale inkjet technology and offers 4-level greyscale printing. The high-precision honeycomb vacuum flatbed features sectional zones designed to accommodate various media sizes. It also includes an energy-efficient lower-power LED curing lamp to reduce power consumption. A unique 3D printing function provides engraving capabilities. The printer's original three-layer spot colour printing function can print colour, white, and colour simultaneously. This printer also offers professional application solutions for various materials, including glass art, acrylic, blister spray painting, wood boards, and desktops.

There were a range of Mimaki printing solutions on display. Some highlights included the CJV330-160, a UV model for high image quality, high production, and application versatility and the TS330-1600. This sublimation transfer inkjet printer can achieve a printing speed of 69sqm/h in draft mode with a 4-colour ink set, with the fastest mode reaching up to 135sqm/h.

With the CJV150-130, users get the highest quality prints with this printer and cutter solution, which allows them to create prints in various sizes, shapes and designs, from large, high-quality signage and vinyls to smaller stickers, promo items, vehicle wrapping films or other indoor and outdoor branding.

The evolved Mimaki Tx300P-1800 MkII now adds sublimation transfer printing to its capabilities, opening up a host of possible new materials and applications.

The EFI VUTEk FabriVU 340i+ printer was also on show. The printer offers ultra-high resolutions up to 2400dpi and three-level greyscale printing with 7, 12 and 18 picolitre drop sizes. Its printheads optimise ink drops with no overlay for smooth transitions and perfect crispness.



www.gsw.co.za

Fujifilm South Africa Announces Sale Of Acuity Ultra Hybrid Pro

Fujifilm South Africa sold an Acuity Ultra Hybrid Pro to Beith Digital at the 2025 FESPA Global Print Expo in Berlin, which took place in May.

'This marks a significant milestone, not only in our partnership with Beith Digital, but also in Fujifilm South Africa's growing presence in the hybrid wide format segment.

The Acuity Ultra Hybrid Pro – a high-performance printer that combines quality, speed, and versatility – was a clear standout at the show, impressing with its ability to handle both rigid and flexible media with ease,' said Fujifilm South Africa.

'Beith Digital's investment in this advanced technology reaffirms their commitment to innovation, efficiency, and delivering top-tier print solutions to the retail market and beyond.'

'We are excited to see what incredible work they will produce with the Acuity Ultra Hybrid Pro, and we are even more proud to be a part of their continued growth story.'



www.fujifilmgraphicsystems.co.za

Intamarket Graphics Hosted Christmas In July Event

Intamarket Graphics hosted its Christmas in July event at its Johannesburg head office in Wynberg from 15-17 July. Clients were invited to see the company's range of equipment and consumables, including printers, inks and vinyls, from renowned brands.

During the event, vehicle wrapping demonstrations were held, and attendees also had the opportunity to get their laptops wrapped for free.

Intamarket's Managing Director, Gavin Turner, said, 'The purpose of the event was for clients to see all the equipment and consumables that we sell, spend some time with our sales and technical teams, and understand a bit more about what we do.'

Brittany Fourie, Intamarket's Marketing Manager, said, 'The interactive event was a good opportunity to network, to get to know people in the industry, and for people to see a whole range of products that they might not know that Intamarket offer.'

www.intamarketgraphics.co.za



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SwissQprint Announces New Facility



The construction of swissQprint's new premises in the USA marks a significant step forward in the company's growth in North America. The new facility will enhance swissQprint's ability to serve customers and showcase its cutting-edge technology.

Kilian Hintermann, CEO of swissQprint, shared his enthusiasm about the project, 'We continue to see North America as a growth market. This new facility for our US subsidiary is a testament to our commitment to serving our North American customers even better.'

The new facility will be situated on 12,140sqm within West Dundee, Illinois, strategically located approximately 10 minutes closer to Chicago O'Hare airport than the current premises. Erik Norman, President of swissQprint America, explained, 'The heart of the new facility is the expanded showroom to feature our large format printers and applications, along with increased capacity for our applications and service teams. All of this is designed so that we can deliver exceptional support and experiences for our customers.'

The new building will span 2300sqm. Key features include a 440sqm showroom and hospitality area, a dedicated training center for individual or group applications training, and 200sqm dedicated to machine refurbishing and service. The building will also have significantly expanded warehouse and office space compared to the existing Elgin premises. Overall, the US team looks forward to a 130% increase in space.

Reflecting swissQprint's commitment to environmental responsibility, approximately 400 solar panels are planned to be installed and to supply power from renewable resources. Heitman Architects Inc. designed the building, and construction will be done by The DSI Group, both of Chicago, IL. swissQprint was represented by Bespoke Commercial Real Estate.

The facility is scheduled to be completed by mid 2026. The site provides an option to expand an additional 1394sqm to accommodate future growth. While leaving the Elgin base, swissQprint America will keep the Californian demonstration centre to cater to the Western States and Western Canada.

www.sign-tronic.co.za

Metamark Material Produces Colourful Vehicle Wrap For Open-Topped Bus



Metamark materials were selected for a bus wrapping project that required colour-change as well as cut and applied lettering. The project was undertaken by Dragon Signs.

Bath Rugby recently celebrated winning the Gallagher Premiership cup. The team and its entourage got to say thank you to the legions of fans and supporters who never wavered while Bath was finding its form, and that culminated in an open-topped bus tour of the City of Bath.

Dragon Signs has an association with Bath Rugby and was awarded the job of wrapping the busses at the centre of the celebration. Had Bath gone down on the day, the plan was to send one bus out to thank everyone for their support. In the event, Bath triumphed and so a second wrapped bus was needed for the very next day to deliver the full-strength celebration.

Dragon Signs' team worked all night and delivered a second, total coverage bus wrap complete with all the correct lettering and graphics. The resources and capabilities needed to deliver under such time pressure speak to Dragon Signs' stature as signage and graphics producers.

Metamark MCX was used for the bus body colour-change element of the wraps and Metamark M7 for the cut and applied lettering. MCX has a good reputation for working well in skilled hands when a deadline's pressing and it acquitted itself well.

www.sytech.co.za

Zünd Digital Cutting System Reduces Company's Environmental Footprint



Onfab has reinforced its commitment to innovation and operational excellence by investing in a Zünd G3 XL-3200 digital cutting system. This strategic move modernises production processes and positions the company for sustained long-term growth.

Key Benefits Of Onfab's Investment In Zünd:

– Significantly reduced material waste through intelligent nesting: cutting waste down to just 10–15%.
– Increased production efficiency with nesting time reduced from 45 minutes to just one minute.
– Future-proof cutting capabilities for both flexible and rigid materials, including pharma-grade polyurethane.
– Enhanced product quality and consistency thanks to the precision of Swiss-engineered cutting technology.
– Stronger sustainability and competitiveness through digital transformation and reduced environmental footprint.

'With Zünd's digital cutting solution at the heart of our production strategy, Onfab is not only enhancing quality and efficiency but also reducing its environmental footprint in measurable ways,' said Mark Arnold, Managing Director, Onfab.

Founded in 2004 and now part of Savillex in the USA, Onfab has established itself as a specialist in the design, manufacture and installation of flexible containment solutions within many pharmaceutical manufacturing processes.

The company began looking for ways to future-proof its manufacturing process, reduce material waste and diversify the types of materials it could

work with. Recognising the need for a high-performance, versatile cutting system, Onfab explored various solutions and quickly identified Zünd as the ideal partner. 'Our ability to handle new and existing flexible and rigid materials in our manufacturing process needed future-proofing,' Arnold explained. 'We wanted a solution that could handle various material types, whilst reducing our environmental impact and support our expansion for new products and markets.'

After reviewing Zünd's offerings through online research and product demonstrations, Onfab decided to invest in both the Zünd digital cutting system and Zünd's PreCut Center (ZPC) software for a fully integrated solution. 'What stood out to us was the precision of the Swiss-made system, its ability to cut both rigid panels and flexible sheeting, including food/pharma-grade polyurethane, and the intelligent nesting software that dramatically reduces both setup time and material waste,' said Arnold. 'The reliable service and support from Zünd was also a key factor in our decision.'

Onfab took delivery of their Zünd G3 XL-3200 in April 2025, and the impact was immediate. Reducing material waste was a top priority and Zünd's advanced nesting capabilities delivered exactly that. The company saw material wastage reduced to 10-15% across the month, in both environmental impact and cost savings. Equally transformative was the implementation of the latest PreCut Center software. Onfab's lead operator noted that what once took 45 minutes to nest now takes just one minute, streamlining production and freeing up valuable operator time.

www.midcomp.co.za

Kornit Technology Boosts T-Shirt Production And Automation



T-Shirt & Sons is a provider of high-quality, eco-friendly direct-to-garment (DTG) printing. But with the continued surge of e-commerce and customised apparel demand, the company needed to adapt, and invested in the Kornit Apollo platform.

'We've always had the people and the will,' said Adam Golder, Managing Director at T-Shirt & Sons. 'But we've never had the tools that enabled us to do it with confidence, day in and day out, until now.'

That confidence came with the installation of the Kornit Apollo system. At peak times, T-Shirt & Sons was already handling thousands of daily orders, but the processes involved were resource-intensive, and growth brought increasing pressure on quality control and turnaround times.

'We knew automation was essential,' said Golder. 'But not at the expense of quality or sustainability. That's where Kornit came in.'

The Kornit Apollo is a smart, end-to-end DTG platform that brings together hardware, software, and data to enable faster, smarter, more sustainable printing at scale. The Apollo solution integrates seamlessly into T-Shirt & Sons' workflow, enabling fully automated production from order intake to shipping label. It's a leap from batch-based to continuous, intelligent production.

'With Apollo, we've brought together hardware, software, and data into one intelligent platform,' explained Golder. 'This isn't just faster printing, it's smarter printing.'

www.rexxscreendigital.co.za

Epson Brand Celebrates 50th Anniversary

The longevity and success of the Epson brand was made possible through the support and loyalty to its products and services. The Epson 50th anniversary logo expresses the company's gratitude, and determination to continue to be a globally trusted brand.

As a company, Epson traces its roots back to 1942 and the watchmaking industry. For more than eight decades, Epson have continued to advance the efficient, compact and precise technologies that it first developed for watches and that have become a part of the DNA that has been passed down from generation to generation.

Epson launched its first information equipment product, the compact and lightweight EP-101 digital electronic printer, in 1968. It was this printer that served as the impetus for the creation of the Epson brand, in 1975. The brand name reflects the company's hopes of preserving the value of the electronic printer ('EP') while continuing to create many valuable derivatives ('SONs'). This brand embodies a desire to capitalise on its unique efficient, compact and precise technologies to deliver innovative products and services that provide value to people around the world.

This desire was realised with the launch of a compact and lightweight computer printer. Years of effort eventually culminated, in 1993, with the release of the MJ-500, an inkjet printer equipped with Epson's proprietary Micro Piezo ink ejection technology. The following year, Epson launched the MJ-700V2C, the world's first printer to deliver high-resolution (720dpi) at an affordable price. Epson was thus instrumental in creating a new culture of printing high-quality photos at home. Later, in 2010, feedback from business users in emerging markets convinced the company to develop and launch a printer equipped with high-capacity ink tanks.

Micro Piezo technology continued to evolve, with Epson developing next-generation printhead technology called 'PrecisionCore'. PrecisionCore has made it possible to develop a wide range of products, not only for the home and office but also for commercial and industrial applications. Epson's printheads are recognised for their outstanding quality and, in addition to Epson printers, are widely used in third-party printers.

In the commercial and industrial printing sectors, the company entered the large format printer market for professional graphic applications in 2000.

Note: The product model names listed are the names used for products released in Japan at the time.

www.epson.co.za

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Fiery Software Awarded For Technical Excellence



Fiery LLC's solutions empower commercial print, industrial, packaging, signs and display graphics, ceramics, building materials, textiles, and more. The company has won three prestigious 2025 Pinnacle Awards for products in the RIP, variable data software, and prepress workflow categories.

This is a recognition of the company's leadership in digital print technology, representing the fifth consecutive year Fiery® has won multiple Pinnacle Awards and the third consecutive year a Fiery product has won in the RIP software category.

Three flagship Fiery products won 2025 Pinnacle Awards:

Fiery XF 9 (RIP Software)

Fiery XF is a high-performance software RIP, colour management, and workflow solution built to optimise every stage of large format print production. Version 9 adds support for free, easy VDP with Fiery FreeForm Create, integration with Fiery ColorGuard for streamlined colour control and verification, and innovative features like AI-powered print bleed, all aimed at delivering more creative, high-quality output with greater efficiency. This is the third consecutive Fiery RIP product to win a Pinnacle Award.

Fiery FreeForm Create 2.0 (Variable and Transactional Software)

Now supporting large format printing, Fiery FreeFormTM Create 2.0 will bring powerful, free VDP tools to every corner of a print room, from Fiery DrivenTM cut sheet and high-speed inkjet to large format presses. Users can quickly add variable text, images, and barcodes to any job with just a few clicks.

Fiery JobFlow Pro (Prepress and Premedia Software)

Fiery JobFlow Pro is a brand-new AI-native workflow automation platform that redefines print production efficiency. Purpose-built around large language models (LLMs), it goes beyond static rule-based workflows by using real-time, intelligent decision-making to automate a wide range of job preparation and production tasks, without requiring advanced scripting. Engineered for speed, ease of use, and scalability, Fiery JobFlow Pro helps users work smarter and stay ahead in a rapidly evolving digital print market.

www.fiery.com

Flexa Cutter Optimises Processing Times



To optimise its production process and ensure flawless wallpaper installation, Instabilelab, an Italian company specialising in interior decoration with wallpapers, fabrics, and rugs, has adopted the latest-generation Miura Katana automatic XY cutter. This strategic choice has immediately delivered benefits in terms of visual quality, productivity, and operational reliability.

Stefano Marin, Production Manager at Instabilelab, said, 'As a company, we are constantly striving for improvement and always looking for new technologies that help us deliver precision, quality, and consistency,' said Marin.

The push for innovation was also fuelled by Fabrizio Da Frè, Flexa Italy Sales Manager, who introduced the Miura Katana, an innovative solution specifically designed to meet the needs of the wallpaper industry.

'Da Frè guided us through a thorough evaluation, clearly explaining all the machine's features and potential,' Marin added. 'At first, we were a bit hesitant, but we quickly changed our minds: the machine lived up to expectations from day one.'

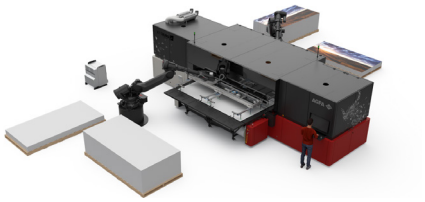
'The cutting quality is outstanding: the V shaped angled cut system completely eliminates the white lines between panels. This means installers no longer need to make manual touch-ups during installation, and the seamless wall effect is guaranteed.'

'Material handling has also improved: the dual rollers, front and back, keep the wallpaper taut, preventing wrinkles or imperfections. The cut is always straight, regardless of the material used.'

Installation and startup of the Miura Katana were quick and straightforward, 'After just one day of training with Massimo Vettorazzo, owner and president of Flexa, we were fully up and running. The training was clear and practical, and by the next day, the machine was operating at 100%.'

www.sign-tronic.co.za

Agfa Secures Three Awards For Printing Quality And Productivity



The Pinnacle Product Awards celebrate outstanding products that drive advancements in quality, capability, and productivity within the printing industry. Agfa has secured three 2025 Pinnacle Product Awards, presented by PRINTING United Alliance.

The company's Onset Panthera FB3216, Onset Panthera Autoloader, and Jeti Tauro MAX BOTS were each recognised for their outstanding innovation and impact in advancing print quality, automation, and productivity.

Arnaud Calleja, Vice-President of Digital Printing Solutions at Agfa said, 'We are immensely proud to receive three Pinnacle Product awards. Having won these awards in the past, including its predecessor, the Product of the Year award, this continued recognition is a testament to our commitment to innovation and excellence in inkjet printing. It also reinforces our mission to empower print service providers with cutting-edge print technology. We look forward to showcasing our award-winning products at PRINTING United Expo 2025.'

The Onset Panthera FB3216 is the latest addition to the Onset product line. It is the only true flatbed press in the market that is built for high volume and high-performance jobs, serving both the sign and display and packaging communities. The Panthera Autoloader is an advanced automation system that ensures the Panthera printer operates at its full potential, harnessing its high-speed capabilities. By automating the substrate feeding and handling processes, the Autoloader, which seamlessly matches the printer's maximum speed, significantly reduces labour costs and enhances operational efficiency.

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BY ECO SIGNAGE SUPPLIES

Eco Bond visual communication grade aluminium composite panels feature an ultra-smooth surface, making them ideal for high-quality UV digital printing with sharp details. The high-gloss and matt polyester finishes are available in a wide range of vibrant colours, offering excellent durability and performance.



The aluminium base material consists of a high strength aluminium alloy and the panels feature an LDPE core. The panels can be used for signage, construction, cladding, interior design, advertising and more.

Panel Specifications And Dimensions

- Panel thickness: 2-3mm.
- Panel width: 1220mm and 1500mm.
- Panel length: 2440mm and 3000mm.
- Aluminium thickness: 0.1-0.3mm.

Customisation is available for special specifications and requirements.

Eco Bond Aluminium Composite Panel Features

High Strength

It uses high quality aluminium with greatly enhanced strength, and provides wind and impact resistance, and is shockproof.

Smooth Surface

It provides a superior and smooth surface, satisfying modern building requirements with the perfect appearance.

Easy Processing

It is easy to cut, slot, punch, and bend into circular, rectangular and other shapes. It can also be customised to various modelling requirements.

Advantages Of The Paint Layer:

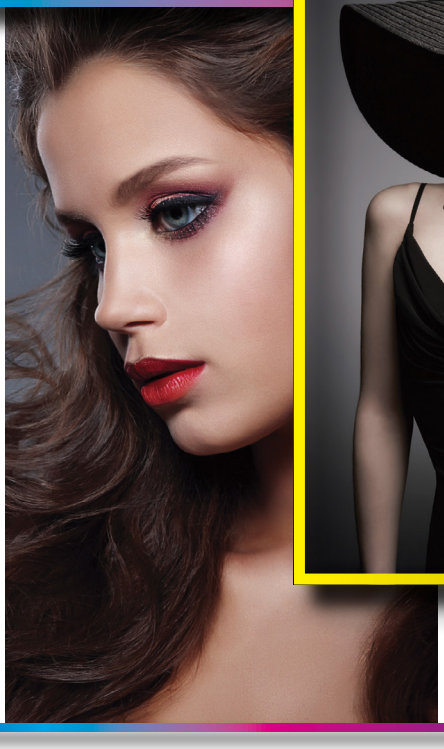
- No special ventilation.
- No Hazardous Air Pollutants.
- Odourless prints.
- No reactive monomer chemistry.
- Ozone free.

Eco Bond aluminium composite panels are available in the following colours: white matt and gloss, black matt and gloss, red matt and gloss, light and dark blue, light and dark grey matt, brushed gold and brushed silver, silver matt, and mirror finish.











Your Sustainable Choice

Eco Bond aluminium composite panels are designed with environmental responsibility in mind. Both the aluminium and LDPE core are 100% recyclable, reducing waste and supporting circular economy principles. The panels' durability lowers the need for frequent replacements and further conserves resources. By choosing Eco Bond, you will not only benefit from superior performance, but also contribute to sustainable practices in the signage industry.

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THE IMPACT

OF NOZZLE OPEN TIME ON DIGITAL INKJET PRINTING

BY ILISNA O'REILLY, NUTEC DIGITAL INK

Nozzle open time (also known as decap time or latency) refers to the duration that a nozzle remains open when a printer is idling or not firing. This is critical in ink chemistry because it directly affects print quality, reliability and the operational efficiency of the ink and the equipment.

When a digital printer is not being used, is inactive, dormant or in standby mode, things can go wrong, especially because the nozzles on a printhead want to be firing and used for what they are intended. This is why chemistry matters. The nozzle open time 'decap' relates to how long the printhead/ ink can be left in idling mode and the print will still be of good quality. Most digital printing equipment runs a circulation or 'spitting' function that assists with nozzle open time when the ink channels or printers are not in use.

We want the inks to dry quickly on the media, what we don't want is for the ink to dry in the printhead. This is where the chemistry comes in.

In the real world, no printer is operational 24/7/365 and printers often pause between jobs. The nozzle open time in this case would mean that the ink does not dry/cure in the nozzles during this downtime. Good nozzle open times ensure that the inks stay fluid and are ready to fire on demand.

When developing ink chemistries, nozzle open time is one of the many crucial factors our R&D chemists focus on. Not only must the ink have a good decap during idling or standby mode, but it must be stable under varying temperatures and humidity. The components that relate to this 'balancing act' are humectants, solvent volatility control, as well as surfactants and co-solvents.

We focus hugely on optimising nozzle open time to ensure longer idle duration without clogging when the machine is idling or not in use. This ensures improved print consistency and minimises printer operator interventions to do multiple cleans after the machine has not been in use.

Different ink types have different nozzle open times. UV has longer nozzle open times when compared to solvent, while water-based inks have the shortest



nozzle open times. UV-curable inks don't dry until exposed to UV light, whereas solvent-based inks start evaporating as soon as the printer is in idle mode.

If for whatsoever reason the printer will not be used for periods longer than 1-2 weeks, consult the relevant maintenance guide and follow the ink manufacturer's recommendations on how to prevent the ink drying in the printhead nozzles.

C1W Initiative

Change One Woman (C1W) aims to empower women in the branding, print and signage industries. As part of this initiative, Sign Africa would like to spotlight women-authored content like this piece. If you have any trend/business articles related to the signage, branding and printing industries, please email content to: meggan@practicalpublishing.co.za. Follow C1W on Facebook and LinkedIn.

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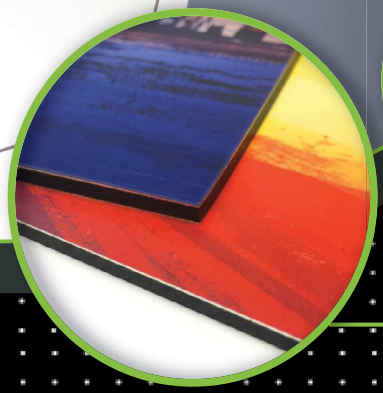
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EMBRACE THE FUTURE

IN SIGNAGE AND PRINT INNOVATION

BY MATTHEW WOOD

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Join us at the Sign Africa and FESPA Africa Johannesburg Expo, taking place from 9–11 September 2025 (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) at the Gallagher Convention Centre, Johannesburg.

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Stay ahead of industry trends: The print and signage industry is evolving fast. Discover the latest technologies and techniques to keep your business competitive. Embrace the future of signage, wide format print, screen print, DTF and T-shirt printing at the Sign Africa Expo.

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More info:
www.signafricaexpo.com/speedwrap-reg

AI Workshop: Join us for AI TOOLS FOR DESIGN and AI PROMPTING workshops, taking place from 9-11 September 2025, at 11am and 2pm. A must-attend for designers, creatives, and innovators eager to harness the power of AI in their workflow.

More info:
www.signafricaexpo.com/ai-workshop-jhb-2025

World Wrap Record: watch the pros wrap with precision and speed in their attempt to set the world wrapping record.

More info:
www.signafricaexpo.com/world-wrap-record

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Change 1 Woman networking event: This is your platform to connect with women in branding, print and signage. Be prepared to be uplifted, guided and inspired. Taking place on Wednesday 10 September, at 11h30am, Gallagher Convention Centre, Hall 2, Change 1 Woman stand.

Book your spot: info@c1w.co.za

EXHIBITOR HIGHLIGHTS

3A COMPOSITES DISPLAY EUROPE



Visitors can explore proven classics and new solutions for signage, POS/POP, retail, and exhibition display. As in Berlin, 3A Composites will showcase their materials in real-life retail environments, and also digitally via their Virtual World.

Sustainability In Focus: The FIVE-DOT-MISSION

The FIVE-DOT-MISSION is a classification system for 3A Composites' products that uses five categories to indicate the factors with a significant impact on sustainability. Designed to support responsible decision-making and product transparency, this initiative directly aligns with the growing demand for eco-conscious solutions across Africa's visual communications sector.

From recyclable foam board to low-impact aluminium composites, visitors will have the opportunity to explore how these materials meet global sustainability standards while offering local performance advantages.

The 3A booth promises a wealth of inspiration and practical solutions tailored to local needs for designers, fabricators, signage consultants and brand strategists.

www.display.3AComposites.com

CANON SOUTH AFRICA

Canon Colorado M Series

The Colorado M-series is a modular 1.6m roll-to-roll printer with two speed configurations that also features Canon UVgel white ink, boosting the printer's unmatched productivity and substantially expanding the range of applications that customers can create.

Canon imagePROGRAF GP-4600S

Create premium posters in-house, ensuring precise colour replication for images and corporate colours, with a larger colour gamut.

Canon imagePRESS V1000

Users can grab the opportunity to meet diverse customer demand with fresh thinking. The imagePRESS V1000 is built on a reliable technology platform, harnessing innovation and automation to produce a wide range of applications on different media sizes, types, and weights, all at speed.

Canon imagePROGRAF TZ-32000

Maximise printing for the production segment with a sustainable 5-colour 91.4cm printer, offering effortless productivity with intuitive functionality, professional image quality and robust security.

Canon imagePROGRAF PRO-2600

The sustainable 60.96cm 12-colour printer marks a new era in professional photography printing. It delivers prints with excellence, precision and longevity, expertly crafted for discerning photographers, artists and print service providers who demand the highest quality.

Canon imagePROGRAF TX-4200

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SLX+® is an all-season cast film packed with improved outstanding features to make every part of your fleet and vehicle look amazing. The ultra-repositionable film with FLITE Technology® with deep channel warranty and exceptional multi-surface adhesion facilitates the fastest and easiest installations. This is the ideal product for large amounts of fleet applications.

Arlon Graphics Premium Colour Change™

The conformable cast film features FLITE Technology® for fast, easy installation, excellent repositioning and clean removability. The engineered liner with invisible air channels gives bubble-free application, resulting in an ultra-smooth finish for full and partial vehicle wraps. The specially adapted protective film on gloss colours ensures the highest gloss level.

ASTARIGLAS® XT

This is a high-quality extruded acrylic sheet with high clarity. It provides the perfect solution

for a variety of indoor and outdoor applications. ASTARIGLAS® XT is easy to work with, being significantly stronger, but half the weight of glass, and has beneficial properties such as thermoformability and impact resistance. It Enhances fabrication efficiency, energy savings, and cost-effectiveness.

ASTARIGLAS® DN

This is a specially formulated cast acrylic sheet designed to achieve the perfect balance between a rich, dark daytime appearance and optimal light diffusion for night-time brilliance. It provides a deep, black colour during the day. When appropriately lit from the back, it transforms into a brilliantly illuminated surface at night, making it ideal for eye-catching signage.

ASTARIGLAS® GP

These cast acrylic sheets are made from 100% virgin methyl methacrylate monomer (MMA), ensuring that the highest quality product is achieved. This ensures excellent clarity, weatherability and high strength. They have been certified by Underwriters Laboratories to UL-94HB, which is the highest flammability rating obtainable for acrylic sheet with 92% light transmission. They can be thermoformed, cut, drilled, bent, machined, engraved, polished and glued.

PROFLEX PRO COLOR

Proflex Pro-Color combines the protection of paint protection film (PPF) with incredible colours to transform your car. The high-performance top coat with extreme gloss features protects the clear coat of a car from contamination and scratches. This technology also prevents the colour from fading, giving you long-lasting results.

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The versatile and all-in-one HP Latex R530 lets users print directly onto rigid and roll media, including Coroplast, acrylic, PVC, and even magnets. With advanced white ink technology, user-replaceable printheads, and eco-friendly, odourless latex inks, the R530 delivers high-quality, durable prints with unmatched efficiency. Learn how the HP Latex R530 can transform your business with fast, precise printing on a wide range of materials – up to 68kg and 5cm thick.

HP Latex 630 And Latex 630 W

The print and cut machines give customers the option of upgrading to a dual-device solution, with print and cut functionality. They have automated front-loading systems and simple, fast load/unload workflows. Users can enjoy easy reprints, with in-printer storage of up to 10GB and stunning image quality, with HP Pixel Control Technology and new printhead architecture for sharper small text, all at standard speeds of 14sqm an hour. The printers can be bundled with SAi Flexi RIP software.

HP Latex 730/W And 830/W

The W models offer white ink capability for the first time in this category. It is the whitest white ink available on the market that does not yellow over time, enabling print businesses to produce neater outlines. Updated printheads with more nozzles and speeds of up to 36sqm/hr allow the HP Latex 830 and 830 W to offer 50% higher productivity levels compared to previous HP models. Print jobs executed on the new 730/830 series deliver vivid colours and finer image and text details, even at faster print speeds.

www.graficomp.co.za

GRAPHIX SUPPLY WORLD



Mimaki CJV200-160
The print and cut eco-solvent inkjet printer enables even inexperienced operators to produce printed products beautifully, quickly, and easily. The CJV200-160 is suitable for cost effective production of large, high-quality signage and vehicle wrapping films, featuring a maximum print/cut width of 1610mm and a maximum media width of 1620mm. Applications include: labels, posters, illumination signboards and banners.

Mimaki TS100-1600
The high performance dye sublimation printer has a maximum speed of up to 70sqm per hour and features low ink cost, minimal maintenance and precision Japanese engineering. It is designed to produce a wide range of materials and applications, including fashion, soft signage, home and interior, sportswear, promotional products and more.

Mimaki UJV100-160 Plus

This UV printer allows users to create the most beautiful, bright and colourful prints with white and clear ink. This entry level model features new capabilities and it has been designed to consume an exceptionally low amount of power. At just 0.5kW, the UJV100-160 Plus consumes less than half of the power of eco-solvent and latex/resin printers on the market (based on Mimaki research), helping print businesses to reduce running costs and their CO2 emissions.

Mimaki TS330-1600

The dye sublimation inkjet printer achieves superb productivity and high image quality through Mimaki printing technology. Designed on a new platform, the printer incorporates improved conveyance mechanism and renewed usability, enabling stable and constant high-quality printing. It is designed to produce a wide range of materials and applications such as: fashion, soft signage, home and interior, sportswear, promotional products, metal sublimation, and more.

www.gsw.co.za

HORNET SOLUTIONS



WASP CNC Router

The lightweight CNC model is constructed from durable aluminium. With its compact cutting area, this machine is ideal for precision work in limited spaces. Its agility and efficiency make it a versatile choice for various machining needs.

VIPER CNC Machine

The heavy-duty CNC machine is made of mild steel with a larger cutting area than the WASP. It features an advanced controller system that boosts precision and performance for complex machining tasks.

HS-1200 L Channel Letter Bender

The channel letter bender is designed to use high-quality aluminium coils, and bend each

piece with precision according to the uploaded computerised file. It is ideal for sign makers looking to enhance productivity.

www.hornetcnc.co.za

INTAMARKET GRAPHICS



Intec ColorCut SC7000 Pro-T

This is an automatic sheet cutting and tangential creasing solution for lightweight card, packaging, POS and kiss-cut sheet labels, in a compact and mobile device. Targeted at users seeking an affordable, compact, high-capacity cutting solution, it combines ultra-reliable feeding with an instant job retrieval system and flawless high-speed cutting and tangential wheel creasing for complete unattended production.

Intec ColorCut FB1190-T

Perfect for light to medium production of two and three dimensional items, the ColorCut FB1190-T suits the cutting and creasing of virtually any form of print from cardboard packaging and protective cartons to synthetic point of sale and kiss-cut stickers/labels. With the ability to digitally produce items on demand, it is also perfect for prototyping.

GZ H0906EI

The high-end small flatbed UV printer is for customising graphics on various substrates. Features include 2-3 Epson i3200 printheads; drop-on-demand piezo with variable dot print technology; four water cooling LED UV curing lamps; UV curable inks; CMYK colour configuration; a bulk ink supply system with white ink stirring unit and a 500ml ink tank. It is suitable for: acrylic, aluminium sheet, foam board, PVC board, leather, glass bottles, wood, ceramic tiles, etc.

GZ Apsaras G2 Sublimation Printer

The machine features two Epson 13200 A1 heads; a unique media handling system developed for entry-level sublimation; GZ Variable Dot Technology; a grooved anti-wrinkle platen; and a unique pinch roller system. There is one bottom controlled electric driver pinch roller system for convenient operation and three-level tension adjustable pinch rollers perfectly match different paper thicknesses.

GZ Thunderjet AQ1602UV

The 1.6m roll-to-roll UV printer features: drop-on-demand piezo with variable dot; dual water cooling LED UV lamps; UV flexible ink and a bulk ink supply system with white ink recirculation system.

IECHO TK4S-2516 Cutting machine

With the AKI System, the depth of cutting tool can be controlled accurately by the automatic knife initialisation system. It features two X-Axis Motors for an extremely wide beam. The two motors with balancing technology ensure the transmission is more stable and accurate. The machine also features diversified cutting tools: the cutting head can be flexibly chosen from the standard head, punching/notching head, and the milling head.

www.intamarketgraphics.co.za

JG ELECTRONICS



Brother™ SP-1

This is an innovative printer designed to transform creative ideas into vibrant, high-quality products, offering unparalleled opportunities for artists, designers, crafters, and small business owners across the country. It is engineered to meet the growing demand for personalised products. From custom apparel and accessories to unique home décor items, the SP-1 enables users to produce professional-grade merchandise with ease. The printer's efficiency and affordability make it a valuable asset for businesses aiming to provide personalised merchandise without significant overheads.

Prestige R1 DTF Printer

The printer is an ideal entry-level A3 machine for garment printing enthusiasts who are starting out and looking to enter the DTF market on a budget. Featuring a single semi-industrial XP-600 printhead, this compact, direct-to-film desktop station provides the ideal balance of affordability, performance and reliability. This system is perfect for smaller businesses and print shops. The printer takes eight minutes to print a full colour, full coverage A3 page, while the addition of the powder, curing and transferring takes a maximum of two minutes in total.

MIRO 13 MAX DTF Powder Shaker And Oven

Miro 13 Max is the DTF Station's newest automatic DTF powder, shaker and dryer, developed to pair alongside DTF Prestige A4, R1, R2 and R2 Pro DTF solutions. With bottom platen heating for even, consistently cured transfers and a built-in air purifier for safer, more eco-friendly powdering, this shaker helps make powdering DTF transfers a breeze. Plus, at just 1170W (1.17KW), this shaker requires no special electrical adjustments to install or use. Coupled with its intuitive interface for easy operation, users will be printing and powdering transfers in no time.

www.jgelectronics.com

KOLOK GRAPHIC SUPPLIES

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Roland

Kolok's PVC offerings are ideal for creating durable and visually striking signage. These materials provide excellent print quality and are suitable for both indoor and outdoor use, making them a staple for any signage professional.



Designer Wallpaper Solutions

Kolok's range of wallpapers combines aesthetic appeal with practicality. Perfect for interior design projects, these wallpapers offer a variety of textures that cater to both commercial and residential spaces.

Advanced Dye Sublimation Paper

Discover Kolok's dye sublimation paper, engineered for high-quality transfers and brilliant colour reproduction. This product is perfect for producing vibrant prints on textiles and other sublimation-friendly substrates.

Branded Print Media

Kolok is proud to feature HEXIS, ORAFOL®, SIHL, HP and STAHLS' branded print media, known for their superior performance and reliability. These materials are perfect for high-demand applications, from T-shirt branding to vehicle wrapping, providing excellent print quality and durability, and offering solutions to a wide range of industries.

NUtec Digital Inks

Kolok's range of NUtec Digital Inks for solvent, eco solvent and UV printers offers exceptional colour accuracy and consistency. These inks are designed for a variety of printing applications, ensuring high-quality results and compatibility with a wide range of substrates. Kolok also stock the NUtec Dye Sublimation range of inks, ensuring vibrant, rich and colourful results for dye sublimation transfers.

www.kolokgs.co.za

MAIZEY PLASTICS



DTF Solutions

Maizey will showcase a bold new range of Direct to Film (DTF) solutions from Gencotech. On display will be: a DTF machine; a range of DTF inks, powders as well as hot peel and cold peel material; and their latest UV DTF product line, bringing vibrant, durable customisation across surfaces. This addition positions Maizey at the forefront of next-generation digital textile and object printing.

SoTex Fabrics And Trusted Core Materials

Maizey will launch its SoTex textile fabric range, expanding its footprint in soft signage and textile printing.

Lamin8

Maizey is also proud to be exhibiting alongside Lamin8, with whom they've partnered to introduce a range of new wrapping tools. These tools are designed for enhanced application ease, quality output, and cost efficiency, empowering installers and businesses alike. Together, they're also launching a new range of Paint Protection Films (PPF) in clear and black variants, delivering reliable, affordable vehicle surface protection backed by brands that the market already trusts.

Premium Acrylics and Polycarbonates

A cornerstone of Maizey's stand this year is the company's strategic collaboration with Polyvantis, their long-trusted partner. Together, they will showcase a broad array of high-performance acrylic and polycarbonate materials, including the world-renowned Plexiglas® and Lexan® brands. This initiative builds on their national roadshow training programme launched this year, where Maizey and Polyvantis have travelled across South Africa educating their customers on the importance of quality assurance and product knowledge.

Reflective Solutions: DM And Avery Dennison

Maizey are proud to highlight their exclusive partnership with DM Reflective, now the exclusive supplier of advertising-grade reflective materials to Southern Africa.

In addition, Avery Dennison reflective films will also be on display, broadening Maizey's reflective solutions portfolio and providing trusted, high-visibility materials for a variety of signage applications.

Expanded Display Material Range

Visitors can see the following: Cover Styl' architectural films: for elegant surface finishes and refurbishments.

DISPA® paper boards: a sustainable, rigid, and printable paper board from 3A Composites. LUMEX® PET sheets: durable, lightweight, and ideal for thermoforming and printing. FOAMALITE® rigid foam plastic sheets: perfect for signage and digital print. FOAM-X® and SMART-X® lightweight foamboard: versatile for display, shop fitting, and exhibition use.

www.maizey.co.za

MIDCOMP



HP Latex R530 W

The HP Latex R530 printer is the only all-in-one compact HP Latex printing solution, allowing seamless adaptation between rigid and flexible applications. It delivers consistent, high-quality output across various media types, enabling PSPs to tap into new markets and expand their print applications. With automatic recirculation and printhead cleaning, businesses can enhance uptime and reduce maintenance costs.

HP Latex 830 W

Deliver stunning prints with uniform colours via precise HP Pixel Control ink mixing and distribution. Achieve consistent quality across jobs and create colour profiles with the HP Embedded Spectrophotometer. The machine also features speeds up to 36sqm/hr outdoor, 3-litre ink cartridges and white ink.

HP Latex 630W P&C

The new HP Latex 630 printer series completes HP's Latex range and makes white ink technology available to Print Service Providers (PSPs) of all sizes. White ink allows users to produce a more impactful range of signage and décor jobs with stunning image quality and colours that jump off the page, creating attention-grabbing campaigns for end-customers. The HP Latex 630 Family also provides the HP Latex 630 and 630 W Print and Cut option, giving customers the option of upgrading to a dual-device solution, with print and cut functionality.

Zünd G3-L2500 Swiss Digital Cutter

Featuring uncompromising performance and precision, the Zünd G3 flatbed cutter is extremely flexible thanks to a modular cutter concept. Whether for digital print on vinyl, POP made from corrugated cardboard, or textiles for soft signage applications, Zünd's extremely versatile cutting solutions meet the many and varied needs of the advertising industry. All components, from drive system to cutting blades, are designed and manufactured to work together perfectly.

Durst Products

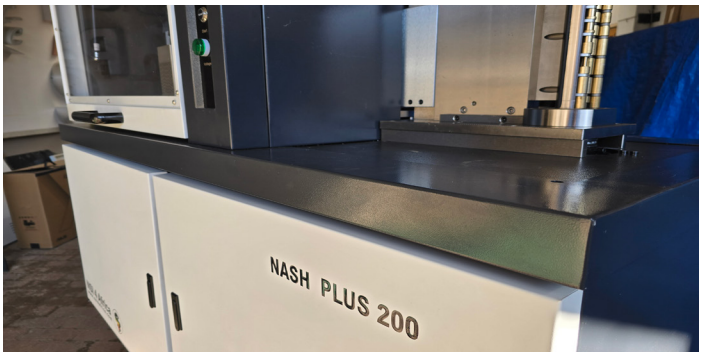
Durst printing systems offer reliability, speed and outstanding colour reproduction that has been perfected through decades of expertise and cutting-edge technology. Durst offers specific ink sets for its printing systems, based on UV or water-based technology. These inks provide high system stability, low ink consumption, a large colour gamut, and a broad range of applications. Durst also provides smart and easy-to-use software solutions to optimise the printing process.

Pay Per Use (PPU) Programme

With this comprehensive and customised programme, users can enjoy peace of mind with no unexpected costs and subscribe to a fixed monthly cost per square metre based on their location. There is no minimum print volume required. PPU covers a user's ink supplies, printheads, cleaning cartridges, service maintenance kits, labour and spare parts, and is an ideal solution for cost-efficient printing.

www.midcomp.co.za

NSI-4-AFRICA



Nash Plus 200

The channel letter bender can bend NSI extruded aluminium profiles suitable for large outdoor signs. It can process flat aluminium material up to 2mm thick and stainless steel up to 1mm thick. The 200mm maximum width of the letter return gives large signs higher proportional impact. User-friendly software enables the operator to calibrate for different materials. NSI carries the largest choice of return materials in Southern Africa to suit most applications. From small signs to mega signs, the Nash Plus 200 SA is the tool for the job.

Nash PRO Letter Bender

The letter bender accommodates aluminium returns from 30mm to 130mm (180mm is an optional upgrade); aluminium thickness of 1.5mm and below and with a minimum bending radius of 6mm. It can produce 3D letters, logos or box work, whether illuminated or not. Nash Pro uses a combination of high precision servo and stepper motor controls to manage double-sided swing milling cutting systems to offer no limits when using flat aluminium materials (the slot degree being between 45-135 degrees when using profiles). The included, easy-to-use and understand software can import AI, DXF and PLT files.

www.nsi4africa.com

PRINTING SA



Member Benefits And Services

Visitors will have the opportunity to speak to representatives to find out about their member benefits, such as: human resources consultancy services; industrial relations consultancy services; B-BBEE advisory and consultancy services; commercial, technical and legal expertise; industry representation and training.

With the Members' Portal, Printing SA members have exclusive access to a host of great online tools from industry research, tenders, RFP's/Q's, marketing material, templates and so much more.

www.printingsa.org

PLATINUM SPONSOR

ROLAND DG SOUTH AFRICA



TY-300 DTF Printer

The printer delivers stunning graphics and bold designs for heat transfer onto a wide range of materials, including cotton, polyester, denim, nylon, rayon, and more. Users can transform custom apparel and textiles with technology that enables them to produce vibrant colours, razor-sharp text, and fine details with unprecedented cost effectiveness, speed, and efficiency.

TrueVIS XG-640

The printer uses new GBL-free TR3 ink to deliver rich, vivid colour in a wide colour gamut, with a choice of ink configurations up to 8 colours. White ink printing is 3 times faster and 1.3 times denser than the VG3, delivering excellent opacity for window graphics and base coats.

TrueVIS XP-640

The printer delivers speed and productivity without compromising on image quality. The machine features high print speeds paired with TrueVIS colour, vibrancy, and detail. Backed by Roland DG's trusted reliability and customer support, this inkjet printer delivers versatility and performance.

VersaOBJECT MO-180 / 240

Users can expand their business with high-definition, high-speed digital printing thanks to the VersaOBJECT MO Series. The advanced UV flatbed printer gives users the power to dominate a growing direct-print market.

DIMENSE DA-640

The large format water-based printer enables the user to control the media's surface structure through specialised media, ink, and heat rather than building up layers of ink, creating richer finishes that meet industry professionals' expectations and demands. DIMENSE technology and the DA-640 printer take the user beyond interior design and add an unforgettable, textured twist to their digital print applications. The DA-640's combination of newly developed dual printheads, which eject fine ink droplets at high density, and state-of-the-art ceramic heaters, delivers high-definition, vivid image quality, along with embossing that's strikingly precise, crisp, and clear.

VersaSTUDIO BD-8/12

The BD-8 and BD-12 make it quick and easy for anyone, even those with no prior experience, to print vibrant and detailed graphics on a wide range of objects. The printers fit on the user's desktop, making it ideal for use in home businesses, small offices, retail spaces and classroom settings. Adding value and appeal to items like phone covers, cosmetic cases, fashion accessories, sports memorabilia, gifts, bottles and more is a breeze.

VersaSTUDIO BF-16

The desktop UV flatbed printer is designed for entrepreneurs, creators, artists, and producers. It offers exceptional print quality and versatility with outstanding productivity

and price. Compact and affordable, it is the perfect partner for a new business. With the BF-16, it is easy to embark on the profitable personalisation market, including cell phone cases, cosmetic packaging, fashion accessories, gifts, promotional items, and much more.

VersaOBJECT CO-300i

Take object customisation to new heights with these UV flatbed printers. Digital UV printing has never been more versatile and the CO-i Series is the perfect solution for customising boards or objects up to 242mm in height and even irregular 3D objects. Deliver high-quality vibrant and impactful graphics onto a vast range of objects and substrates, including metal, plastic, board, wood, canvas, vinyl, paper and much more.

www.rolanddg.co.za

SIGNBOX



Aluminium Extrusions

With refined looks and versatility, the Classic Sign Box range of extrusions is suitable for internal, shopfront and building signs. The Twin Sign Box double-sided sign box extrusions make quick and easy suspended, projecting or freestanding signs.

The Tempo Textile Frames are extruded aluminium profiles for single-sided textile frames. Displays can be illuminated or non-illuminated. The Vogue Backing Box System is an innovative range of aluminium extrusions for large and small, single or double-sided sign boxes.

www.signbox.co.za

STUART & MARKS



Hot Peel DTF Film
The new 80 micron hot peel DTF film features vibrant colour transfer, exceptional durability and effortless application. It is available in 600 x 100m, or 1200 x 100m rolls.

Fabric

The fabric options available perfectly complement the company's dye sublimation papers. There are various options available for apparel and rolls are available in 1500mm wide.

Sublimation Paper

The company's addition to its dye sublimation paper range is its 29gsm and 42gsm printable paper for sublimation. Also included in the range are solvent, eco solvent, Latex and UV printable substrates such as vinyls, poster papers, canvases, photo papers and backlight films.

www.stuartandmarks.co.za

TROTEC



Speedy 100 Cross

The laser diode machine is the ideal choice for industrial parts marking and impresses with razor-sharp detail on metals and plastics. It enables large-area marking up to 610 x 305mm and is ideal for small to medium throughput volumes. With a speed of 2.8m/s (110 ips) and 40 watts laser power, it also excels in the field of personalisation and when used in schools and universities.

Its versatility allows the processing of a wide range of materials and future applications. It also masters the cutting of thin organic materials such as paper, cardboard and wood with ease.

Speedy 50

A small footprint with big capabilities, the Speedy 50 is user-friendly and secure, designed for professional use. It outpaces comparable desktop laser machines from other suppliers by up to 6.5 times in productivity. Speedy 50 is exclusively available with a CO2 laser.

Speedy 400 (with VDP option)

The flagship product in the Speedy line sets the standard with its expansive work area, the industry's fastest engraving speed and acceleration, coupled with OptiMotion™, SonarTechnology™, HDLR Technology™, and a user-friendly Run on Ruby® touch panel for swift and seamless operation. The Vision Design and Position (VDP) option of the Speedy 400, with a 12 megapixel camera integrated into the top lid of the laser, offers a view into the processing area and onto the workpiece placed inside in a matter of seconds.

U300

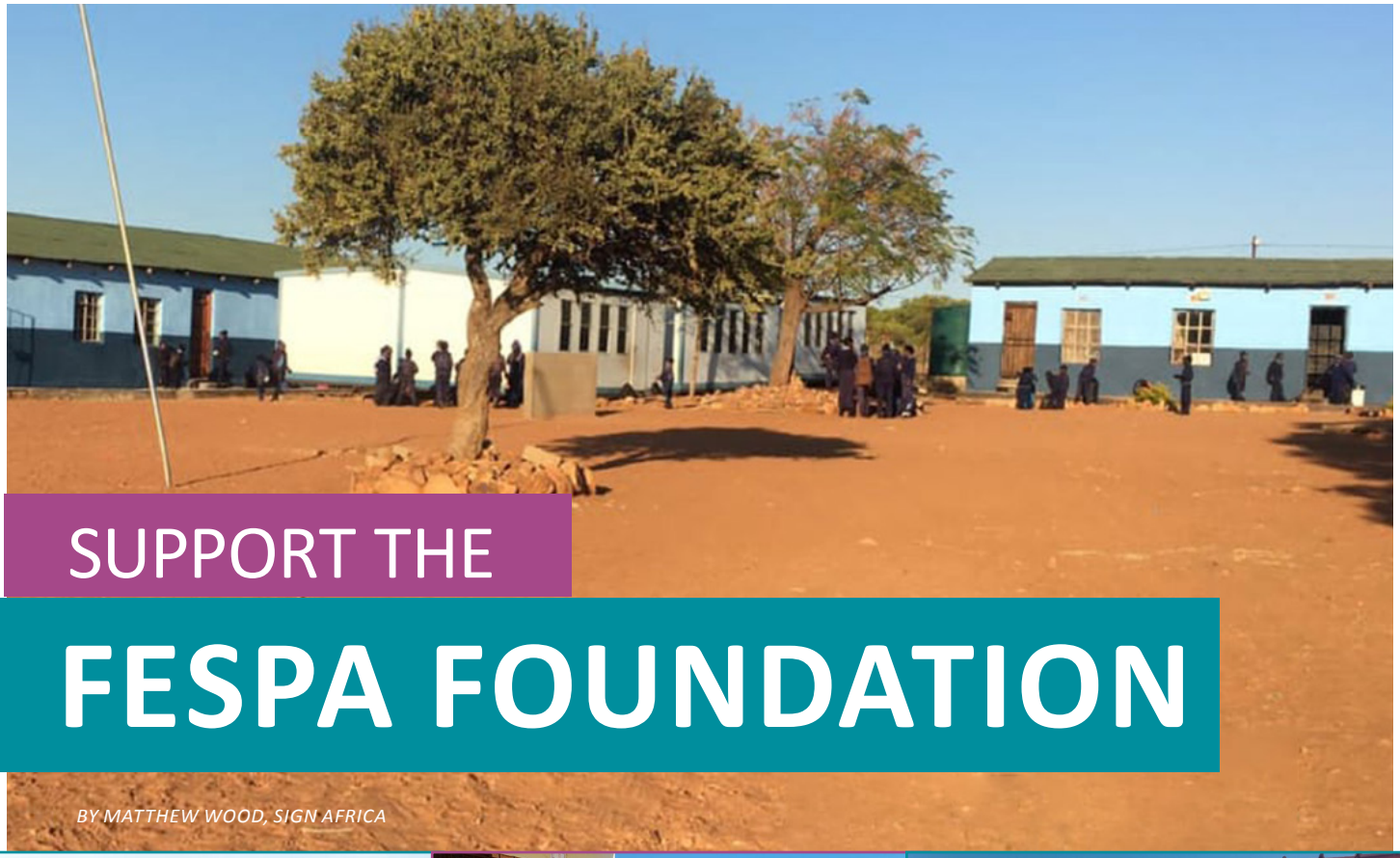
The U300 marking laser, made with premium components, ensures a lifetime of durability. Its robust design includes a fibre laser source and housing with the highest European quality standards. Users of Trotec laser machines who are familiar with the Ruby® laser software can seamlessly integrate the U300 into their workflow, as most of Trotec laser machines are operated by Ruby®.

The U300 with the Ruby® not only streamlines laser processes but also sets the stage for additional Trotec machines in the future, making it a reliable investment.

www.troteclaser.co.za

Don't miss this chance to power up your business with the latest solutions in the signage and print world. We look forward to seeing you there!

Register online for free entry: www.signafricaexpo.com



SUPPORT THE FESPA FOUNDATION

BY MATTHEW WOOD, SIGN AFRICA







Exhibitors and visitors at the Sign Africa and FESPA Africa Johannesburg Expo, taking place from 9–11 September 2025 (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) at the Gallagher Convention Centre, can support the FESPA Foundation. The FESPA Foundation, guided by 'Print For Good' is a global initiative dedicated to transforming the specialty print and visual communications industry through sustainable practices, community supply and educational outreach.

The FESPA Foundation aims to positively impact lives in sub-Saharan Africa by providing printed materials for early child development. The Foundation exists to combine waste reduction efforts with meaningful impact for young people living in challenging circumstances. By enriching their learning environments, they aim to establish a strong foundation for their lives. The initiative was founded in October last year by FESPA CEO, Neil Felton.

How Can Exhibitors Help?

Maximise the impact of your print output during the show by participating in the 'Print for Good' initiative by producing items such as maps, T-shirts, backpacks etc. to enrich educational opportunities. Artwork files are available from the expo organisers.

Recognising the environmental challenges associated with large-scale events, the Foundation is leading an innovative project to repurpose print samples produced during the event. Instead of contributing to waste, these samples will serve meaningful purposes, such as:

- Educational posters: high-quality print samples will be delivered to schools in need, providing visual aids and resources for classrooms.
- Student clothing: T-shirts and other wearable items will be produced for

underserved schools, offering practical benefits while demonstrating the versatility of print technology.
- Community resources: additional printed materials, such as banners or instructional guides, will be distributed to support local initiatives and community programmes.

How Can Visitors To The Expo Help?

The FESPA Foundation's 'Print For Good' initiative represents a bold vision for the future of the print industry. By aligning sustainability, education, and community support, the Foundation is creating a powerful platform for change. As it expands its reach to South America, India, and Asia, and strengthens collaborations in Sub-Saharan Africa, the FESPA Foundation is poised to leave a lasting, positive impact on the global print community and beyond.

Team leader Steve Thobela ka Mdlalose is an experienced print business executive with knowledge of running non-governmental organisations (NGOs), having served as the CEO of Printing SA, and managed one of the Nelson Mandela charity organisations.

FESPA Foundation is inviting exhibitors and visitors to the exhibition to assist in the following manner:

- Maximise the impact of your output during the expo by participating in the 'Print for Good' initiative, producing clothing items that can be part of school uniforms or sporting activities such as white/blue/grey shirts/blouses, grey/black pants school ties, socks and shoes) to enrich educational opportunities.
- Donate, books, notebooks, pens, art kits, reading glasses or school supplies, which will be delivered to the schools in need.
- Donate funds towards additional printed materials, such as banners or instructional guides to support local initiatives and community programmes.
- Cash donations are most welcome to help the Foundation purchase items such as a bakkie that is required to transport items to the schools, items for the renovations and to support the work of the Foundation.

For more details and how to donate financially please visit the website of the foundation: www.fespa.com/en/about/fespa-foundation/

FESPA Foundation Creates A Brighter Future For Limpopo Primary School



The FESPA Foundation has made several visits to Malekapane Primary School in Limpopo, where they have identified various challenges faced, and how the foundation can help with these. According to Thobela ka Mdlalose, schools like Malekapane are often disadvantaged and underdeveloped. 'This is where FESPA Foundation comes in,' he said.

'We will now be taking all the printed materials from the recent FESPA expo, held in Germany in May, to the school. We also continue to raise funds to build the kitchen and would appreciate the industry's assistance. The idea is that this is not a once-off thing. We build a permanent relationship with the school, hence the programme where we ask larger companies in the industry to adopt the school for ongoing support.'

FESPA Foundation And Partners Make A Difference For Mandela Day

Thobela ka Mdlalose and his team, along with Printing SA's Abisha Katerere and Jermaine Naicker, and Sign Wonder's Justin Robert and his team, were at Batau Primary School on 18 July to do their part for Mandela Day.



Steve Thobela ka Mdlalose (far right).



Batau Primary School is one of the schools selected by the FESPA Foundation, an initiative repurposing exhibition materials that would otherwise go to waste, and supporting education in rural communities by giving young learners better opportunities through access to improved resources.

The FESPA Foundation is calling for volunteers to get involved in uplifting one of its five partner schools:

- Evane Combine School in Dlomodlomo (approx. 100km from Vryheid).
- Malekapane Primary School in Limpopo (30km from Lebowakgomo).
- Pitseng ya Thuto Primary School near Lebowakgomo.
- Madesei Primary School near Lebowakgomo.
- Batau Primary School, approximately a 2-hour drive on Moloto Road towards Marble Hall.

Phase two will entail working with another charity organisation based in Malawi to build a school there. Phase three entails a similar approach as that in South Africa where the FESPA Foundation will support schools in Tanzania and Kenya.

FESPA FOUNDATION
www.fespa.com/en/about/fespa-foundation/

SIGNAGE IS A FOUNDATIONAL BUILDING BLOCK OF INCLUSIVE CITIES



BY JOEL CHETTY, EPSON SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa's infrastructure challenges mean cities can't rely solely on electricity-dependent or maintenance-heavy digital screens. Instead, forward-thinking municipalities and organisations should be turning to durable printed signage that does more, from guiding commuters during blackouts to supporting safe and inclusive access in high-traffic public areas.

When we talk about smart cities, it's usually the high-tech aspects that get airtime; our minds usually go first to AI-powered cameras and digital dashboards to smart grids and self-regulating traffic systems.

In South Africa, however, where daily realities include potholes, power outages and overloaded public transport, the smartest solutions are often the simplest ones, in this case, clear, reliable street signage that stands the test of weather and time.

Joel Chetty, Sales Manager for C&I at Epson South Africa, said that while signage in its traditional sense might not scream 'innovation', it's one of the most foundational and often overlooked building blocks of functional, inclusive cities.

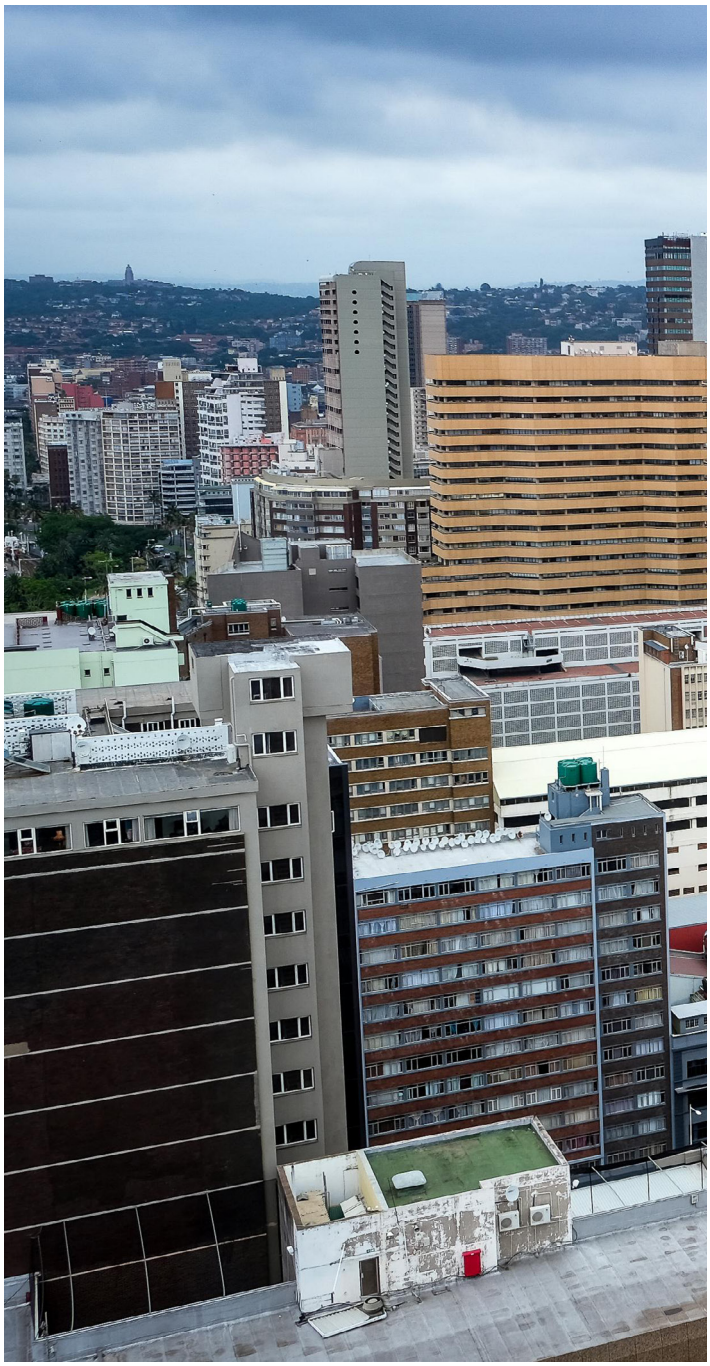
'Signage is a crucial part of how people move through and interact with public spaces. They're central to urban living and navigation, yet we barely take notice of how much we depend on them,' said Chetty. 'If you can't find a hospital entrance, navigate a parking garage to find the emergency exits or get to your destination safely at night, how smart is your city, really?'

Signage must also evolve to match the demands of our cities, not just in terms of what they say, but in how they are made too. More sustainable, longer lasting and adaptable print technologies exist than ever before, making it easier for institutions to produce signage that not only does the job, but holds up in tough conditions, whether rain or shine, and regardless of our loadshedding status (especially in the case of digital signage).

'Cities need solutions that can be rolled out at scale, that don't break down with every power outage, and that can cater to diverse public needs, whether that's multilingual directions or tactile elements for people with visual impairments,' said Chetty.

And the need is urgent. Unclear or missing signage has a negative ripple effect, slowing down emergency response times, causing unnecessary congestion, frustrating service delivery and limiting accessibility. This is especially the case in informal areas where public information is often outdated, vandalised or just not present.

Smart signage also has broader implications for education, health, tourism and economic participation. In busy school environments, for instance, clear wayfinding supports safety and structure, and at hospitals, well-placed signage



can reduce stress and confusion for patients. In CBDs or precincts trying to attract foot traffic, it shapes how people experience and even remember the space.

'Smart cities need to be human-centred,' added Chetty. 'And that starts with asking the very important questions, how easy is it for people to get around? How inclusive are our public spaces? And are we communicating clearly, even when tech fails?'

In a world obsessed with flashy innovation, there's something refreshingly powerful about getting the basics right, and as South Africa continues to imagine smarter, more connected urban environments, signage deserves to be reimagined, not as an afterthought but as a critical enabler of safety, accessibility and urban progress.

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HOW SIGNAGE BUSINESSES CAN TURN COMPLAINTS INTO OPPORTUNITIES



Photo: Icons8 Team, Unsplash.

BY KURT TYACK, SIGNARAMA SOUTHERN AFRICA

Sign-making is a multi-step process involving design, production, and installation. With various people, processes, and moving parts involved, the potential for error is higher than in many other industries.

Each stage brings its own risks, from quoting to design, from fabrication to final fitment. The past few months have seen a noticeable uptick in customer complaints across the signage industry. Fortunately, in most cases, these issues have been resolved without escalation. The most common causes? Communication breakdowns and weather-related delays.

Why Customer Complaints Matter

An artwork error (even on artwork that has been signed off), a mismatch in materials, a measurement missed on site, or a delayed installation – these aren't just mishaps; they're signals. Each complaint is a signpost showing where a business process might be failing. And while no one enjoys receiving a complaint, they can serve as valuable opportunities for improvement.

When a customer speaks up, they're giving us a second chance, not only to resolve the issue, but to strengthen the relationship and refine our internal systems so it doesn't happen again.

Here's how businesses in the signage industry can turn a complaint into a growth opportunity:

Take it seriously: for most clients, signage represents a significant investment – whether it's a small decal or a large-scale branding rollout. Their expectations are high, which means they've put their trust in your professionalism. That trust deserves respect.

Respond quickly and professionally: delayed or defensive replies can inflame the situation. A prompt, composed, and helpful response often makes the difference between a lost customer and a loyal one.

Identify where the breakdown occurred: was the quote inaccurate? Did the design skip a proofing stage? Was there a miscommunication between sales and production? Mapping the failure point is essential to correcting it.

Apply what you've learned: use each complaint as a trigger to improve processes, train staff, and strengthen quality controls. One complaint, handled properly, can prevent many more.

Make better use of your job management system: project management or signage industry tools like Sign Shop Manager (or any other project management tool) offer more than just quoting functionality. Updating job statuses, keeping internal notes, and ensuring full team visibility can significantly reduce the chances of something falling through the cracks.

Use complaints as credibility builders: a well-managed complaint can actually increase customer loyalty. Offering a goodwill gesture or a reasonable resolution often leaves a stronger impression than a job that went off without a hitch.

Ultimately, a company's reputation in the signage space hinges on how it handles its mistakes. Those who take complaints seriously, act professionally, and learn from feedback don't just recover – they improve, and often outperform the competition as a result.

www.signfranchise.co.za



PUT CUSTOMERS FIRST

TO ENSURE BUSINESS SUCCESS

BY JOHN TSCHOHL, SERVICE QUALITY INSTITUTE

Credit: Clay Banks, Unsplash.

Why do customers patronise one company over another? The answer is customer service. How you and your employees treat your customers is critical. When you provide your customers with exceptional customer service, you will own them. They will be loyal to you and wouldn't dream of taking their business to one of your competitors.

When you have loyal customers, you can drastically reduce your advertising and marketing budgets. Loyal customers tell their families and friends about you and your company and that, my friends, is the most effective advertising you can get — and it's free!

I have a friend who drives a Ford, and upgrades her car every few years. Even though there is a Ford dealership located a few kilometres from her home, she drives several more kilometres to purchase a car from another dealership. Why? Because it provides exceptional service. If she brings her car in to be serviced, the mechanics are skilled, friendly, and trustworthy. She drops her car off, and the dealer's courtesy driver brings her home. After her car is serviced, he picks her up and brings her back to the dealership to pick up her car. She says she won't buy a car from anyone else. In order to provide exceptional customer service, you must understand what that is. Simply put, it's putting the customer first. It's doing what you say you will do — and doing it when you say you will. It's doing whatever you can to solve problems customers have with a product or service they purchased from you.

How can you drive customer service in your company? Make a commitment to it, and make sure that everyone understands what it is and what you expect of them. Develop a strategy that emphasises customer service above all else. Set standards, and make sure all employees understand them.

Then train every employee in how to provide exceptional customer service. That training should focus on communicating with customers, listening to them, being friendly, accepting responsibility for the situation even though they didn't cause it, working with the customer to reach a reasonable and acceptable solution, and acting quickly. Another benefit of training employees is that you show them you value them and, when they feel valued, they will go above and beyond to serve your customers.

Eliminate policies and procedures that are roadblocks to providing exceptional customer service. Give employees clear, but general, guidelines so they have room to manoeuvre and to think creatively when serving your customers.

Also, realise that you can't provide exceptional customer service unless you empower your employees. Too many managers and executives don't trust their employees, thinking they'll 'give away the store', if they're allowed to make decisions in order to satisfy the customer. If one of those decisions costs your company R3600 ($200), but that customer spends an average of R180,000 ($10,000) with you each year, it's money well spent. Look at the long-term impact of that $200.

You must trust your employees to make decisions that will solve your customer's problems and, in the process keep them, and their wallets, coming back to you.

You must also motivate all employees to provide exceptional customer service. If you make sure your employees are happy, they will make sure your customers are happy. How do you motivate them? You do that by recognising and celebrating their efforts. When you do that, you encourage other employees to make customer service a priority. You can recognise exceptional employees without spending a lot of money. Implement a service employee of the month award and reference exceptional employees in your company newsletter.

Exceptional customer service can be your salvation. It will attract new customers and retain current customers. It will also restore brand loyalty, confidence, and repurchase intentions of customers who have experienced problems with your company.

www.johntschohl.com

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NEWS

In Memoriam: Zayed Bagus

It is with great sadness and deep regret that we announce the passing of Zayed Bagus, Director of Technical, Training, and Business Development at Printing SA. This news comes as a great shock to the team and industry at large.

Bagus was a colleague, friend, and mentor to all of the staff at Printing SA, and we cannot express just how devastated we are to learn of his passing. His dedication to our industry and his unwavering commitment to excellence touched the lives of everyone who had the privilege of working with him.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family, in particular his wife and two sons. Please, may the Lord bring you comfort during this difficult time, and may his fond memory and the life he lived be the solace during your time of mourning.

We ask the industry to join hands with us as we pray for his everlasting peace as he moves on to a better place. Our thoughts and prayers are with all who knew Zayed and experienced his love, camaraderie, and passion for this industry.

May his legend live on in all of us.



Printing SA Hosted Central Chamber Technical Forum

Printing SA held their central chamber technical forum on 10 July at Kyocera Document Solutions' head office in Midrand. The forum provided technical insights and strategic guidance for companies seeking to expand or upgrade their production capabilities through digital technology. Africa Print were a proud media partner. Events were also held in Cape Town and KwaZulu-Natal in July.

The keynote speaker was Phil Walsh, former VP of Sales, Digital Press and Inkjet Products EAMER at Eastman Kodak Company and a veteran of the printing industry with over 40 years of experience, including 22 years in digital printing. Walsh presented a session titled 'When Is the Right Time to Go Digital?' aimed at helping companies make informed technology adoption decisions. His presentation offered a vendor-neutral overview of the past decade's changes and the future potential of digital integration in print workflows.

Walsh reflected on the shift towards short-run digital print jobs, stating, 'Everything finds its level after a while and the level seems to be short run work. That's where digital excels today.' He also emphasised the growing demand for variable data printing (VPD), a digital printing method that allows for the customisation of individual pieces within a larger print run.

Addressing how businesses can embrace digital technology, Walsh emphasised that digital printing should be seen as complementary rather than a replacement. 'Digital isn't here to replace offset or flexo, it's here to complement it. Think of it as another tool in your toolbox,' he explained.

He encouraged attendees to assess their production volumes and customer needs to guide investment, highlighting the flexibility, speed and smart automation features of today's digital presses.

Walsh concluded by giving advice on how to choose a digital press,



stating, 'It's important to base your decision on several key factors. These include the specific application you intend to use it for, your anticipated monthly volume, and considerations such as turnaround times, available staffing, and finishing requirements. You should also evaluate the required speed of the press, its compatibility with various papers and substrates, and the type of ink it uses. All these elements play a crucial role in selecting the right solution for your production needs.' Heidie-Mari Middel, Production Specialist at Kyocera, concluded the forum by highlighting the range of the solutions available at Kyocera and announcing their 'Print Beyond Limits' road show.

Printing SA Introduces PrintHER Mentorship Programme

Printing SA has announced the launch of the PrintHER Mentorship Programme, which is a new initiative designed to connect experienced professionals with emerging talent in their industry. Whether you're seeking guidance on career transitions, skill development, or industry insights, or you're ready to share expertise with the next generation, PrintHER is here to facilitate those valuable connections. Sign Africa, Africa Print and Modern Marketing are proud to be media partners.

Those interested in being mentees can:

- Gain insights from industry veterans.
- Develop professional skills and networks.
- Receive personalised career guidance.
- Access exclusive learning opportunities.

Those interested in being mentors can:

- Share their expertise and experience.
- Help shape the future of our industry.
- Develop leadership and coaching skills.
- Give back to the professional community.

Registration is now open for both mentees and mentors. The programme will officially begin in September 2025 with an orientation session for all participants. Contact Printing SA for more information. Spaces are limited, so early registration is encouraged. Join Printing SA in building a stronger, more connected professional community through the power of mentorship. The PrintHER Mentorship Programme is committed to creating an inclusive environment where all participants can thrive and grow.



www.printingsa.org

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FOR SALE

ROLAND XC540 PRINTER — 17 JUL

Roland SOLJET Pro III XC-540. 1300mm eco-solvent inkjet printer/cutter. All heads as good as new, printer in perfect operating condition. Selling due to shop closure. R110,000.
Lebo +27 73 281 3135
lebohang@247weprint.co.za
Free State

DRYER FAN — 14 JUL

Dryer fan for 1.3m or 1.6m printer. Works very well. As good as new. R2220.
Pierre +27 79 475 7835
pierre.gte@gmail.com
Western Cape

BULK INK SYSTEM — 14 JUL

Generic 4-channel BIS to hold 1L ink bags. Suitable for any large format printer using solvent or sublimation ink. Excludes cartridges, chips, and ink. R1995.
Pierre +27 79 475 7835
pierre.gte@gmail.com
Western Cape

MIMAKI BULK INK SYSTEM — 14 JUL

OEM Mimaki bulk ink system. 8 channel, complete with containers that can hold 1.5l or 2l ink bags. For solvent or sublimation ink. In great condition. Excludes cartridges, chips, and ink. R4995.
Pierre +27 79 475 7835
pierre.gte@gmail.com
Western Cape

HP COLOR LASERJET PRINTER 4700DN — 12 JUL

Excellent condition. A4 size. Prints on both sides. 256MB RAM. Includes base with door and wheels for stationary storage. R49,995.
Pradeep +27 82 808 2390
info@poorna.co.za
KwaZulu-Natal

ROLAND PRINTER AND FUME EXTRACTOR — 12 JUL

ROLAND LEF 12 UV printer and BOFA PrintPro Base LEF 200 fume extractor. Prints on 3D objects. Advanced and affordable UV printer in excellent condition with new heads. Print area: 30.5cm x 28cm. Includes one set of inks and jigs for bottles, pens, USBs, licence disk holders. CMYK + white + clear coat. Base with wheels used as extractor and storage. Printer: 998(W) x 867(D) x 546(H)mm, 90kg. Extractor: 760(W) x 1250(D) x 980(H)mm, 135kg. R290,000.
Pradeep +27 82 808 2390
info@poorna.co.za
KwaZulu-Natal

HP LATEX 360 AND SUMMA CUTTER — 8 JUL

HP Latex 360 in perfect running condition, used daily. Includes 1.2m Summa cutter and PC with ONYX. R80,000.
Rowan +27 76 567 7016
rowanbuddy@yahoo.co.uk
KwaZulu-Natal

LEXMARK PRIMERA LABEL PRINT (LX610) — 2 JUL

Print and cut custom labels in squares, rectangles, and circles. Built-in die-cutter. High resolution up to 4800dpi. Includes tri-colour ink cartridge and 'pizza-wheel' cutter. R25,000.
Stella
admin@planetprint.co.za
Gauteng

RAYJET LASER — 2 JUL

Engraving and cutting machine. Rayjet laser engraver for sale due to print shop closure. Price negotiable. Currently in storage at Trodat. R90,000.
Stella
admin@planetprint.co.za
Gauteng

MIMAKI UJV100-160 UV — 28 JUN

Mimaki UJV100-160 UV printer in excellent condition. R180,000.
Bernard +27 82 927 7168
bernard@dpiconcepts.co.za
Gauteng

1.6 CALENDER PRESS — 26 JUN

Dye sublimation heat press. 1.6 calender press. Transfers prints from sublimation paper onto fabric. Includes new and used felt blankets. Machine size: 2m x 4m. Buyer must arrange rigging and installation. R33,000.
Lezahn
lezahn@yahoo.com
Western Cape

ARISTOMAT GL 2032 C — 25 JUN

Aristo CNC cutter with moving belt. Ideal for textiles, hard fabrics, cardboard, composites, signage, boxes and packaging materials. Immaculate condition. 3.5 years old. Price on request.
Keith +27 83 265 6254
keith@waltex.co.za
Western Cape

MIMAKI JV100-160B — 20 JUN

In excellent condition. Eco-solvent inkjet printer with high quality, high productivity, and stable operation. Features NCU, NRS, MAPS4, and DAS for automated dot and feed correction. R159,000.
Serj +27 81 766 7099
info@powermax.co.za
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HP LATEX 335 — 20 JUN

Selling due to upgrade. Printer in excellent condition. Available to view and collect in Witbank. Buyer responsible for loading and transport. R95,000.
NJ +27 63 684 3100
nj@signmax.co.za
Mpumalanga

ROLAND VS-640 — 5 JUN

In excellent condition. R75,000 (negotiable).
Chemzone +27 83 279 5680
sam@chemzone.co.za
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AVANTI 180 — 4 JUN

Two head sublimation printer. Price on request. Negotiable.
Karin +27 83 447 9862
karin@nmeclothing.co.za
North West

MONTI HEAT PRESS — 4 JUN

1.6m heat press in immaculate condition. Reason for selling: no longer needed. Price on request. Negotiable.
Karin +27 83 447 9862
karin@nmeclothing.co.za
North West

JOBS

JOBS OFFERED

GRAPHIC DESIGNER/ LAYOUT ARTIST — 21 JUL

Full-time. Responsibilities include interpreting design briefs, multitasking under pressure, editing proofs, stakeholder communication, and problem-solving within a team. Minimum requirements: matric, design qualification, own transport, 3+ years of experience (preferably in signage), and proficiency in CorelDRAW, Illustrator, Acrobat, Outlook, and Photoshop. Must be detail-oriented, punctual, self-motivated, and have strong communication skills.
Heleshia +27 11 440 6766
accounts@corporatejunction.co.za
Gauteng

PROJECT COORDINATOR/ SALES ASSISTANT — 11 JUL

Well-established digital printing and media company seeks a project coordinator/sales assistant to assist clients, manage orders, and coordinate production. Basic design skills in CorelDRAW and Photoshop preferred. Must be bilingual, self-motivated, dependable and well-organised, with own transport and contactable references. Salary: R9000 – R22,000 depending on experience.
Hennie +27 82 657 5530
info@redblockmedia.co.za
Gauteng

VINYL APPLICATOR/WELDER — 7 JUL

Must have experience in vinyl application and welding. Based in Cosmo Business Park. No freelancers or chancers. Work required 7 days a week. R6000 per month.
Vincent Govender +27 74 015 4846
vincent@sign-torque.co.za
Gauteng

EXPERIENCED STOCK CONTROLLER — 1 JUL

Seeking an experienced stock controller in the large format printing/signage industry. Join a dynamic team in Meadowdale. Send your CV to join the GZ Technology team.
Leo +27 62 211 7788
info@gongzheng.co.za
Gauteng

EXPERIENCED SALES PEOPLE — 1 JUL

Looking for motivated sales people experienced in large format printing equipment, papers, and inks. Send your CV to join the GZ Technology team.
Leo +27 62 211 7788
info@gongzheng.co.za
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SALES PERSON — 25 JUN

Dye sublimation company seeks a driven sales person experienced in branding and fabric printing. Must have own car and proven track record. R13,000 plus commission.
Nicola Ahlers

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EXPERIENCED APPLICATOR AND PRINT OPERATOR 25 JUN

Seeking a skilled signage industry professional experienced in vinyl application (wraps and decals) and operating Mimaki CJV printer. Must have 2 years' experience, own transport, and design experience in CorelDRAW and Illustrator. Salary to be discussed during interview.
Rudy +27 82 308 3582
Rudy@edenbuild.co.za
Western Cape

ADMIN/SALES/OFFICE STAFF 23 JUN

Entry-level office administrator position at QPS Productions. No prior experience required, training provided.
Johan Roos +27 65 310 9542
design.roos@gmail.com
Gauteng

JUNIOR DEVELOPER 12 JUN

Responsibilities include: coding, debugging, writing tests, managing servers, interfaces, documentation, UI design, bug fixes, and managing Google Ads and social media accounts.
Margo +27 68 639 8873
margo@signs4sa.co.za
Gauteng

JUNIOR DEVELOPER 12 JUN

Key Responsibilities: developing and maintaining code, debugging, integrating with external systems, writing tests, technical/user documentation, managing web servers, creating user interfaces, diagnosing website issues, managing multiple Google Ads accounts including Shopping and Hotels, and assisting with social media.
Margo Naidoo +27 68 639 8873
margo@signs4sa.co.za
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BRANCH MANAGER 11 JUN

Printing SA seeks a qualified Branch Manager to lead operations in Gauteng (90%) and surrounding regions (10%). Responsibilities include leadership, operations, finances, and member development. Requires a degree, 5+ years of relevant experience, valid driver's licence, and strong leadership and technical skills.
Maria Silveiro
msilveiro@printingsa.org
Gauteng

JOBS WANTED

VINYL APPLICATOR AND FINISHER 13 JUL

I am a lady seeking employment as a vinyl applicator and finisher. I have relevant experience working in the vinyl department at a design studio.
Ntombi +27 81 093 3667
marcussihle6@gmail.com
Gauteng

GRAPHIC DESIGNER/ DTP OPERATOR 2 JUL

I can operate CNC machines, laser cutters, and printers, with experience on Roland, HP, and Mimaki machines. Proficient in CorelDRAW, Adobe Illustrator, and Photoshop. Please contact me for my CV and portfolio.
Duran +27 72 064 7845
duran2531@gmail.com
Gauteng

GRAPHIC DESIGNER/OPERATOR 24 JUN

14+ years in the industry. Skilled in operating HP Latex, Mimaki, Roland, Titan-Jet, AM.CO.ZA printers and RIP software. Proficient in CorelDRAW and Illustrator. Expertise in vehicle, shop, and exhibition branding, signage, cost estimations, and client liaison. Available immediately for full or part-time roles.
Thandukwazi Dlamini
wandzdlaminisa@gmail.com
Gauteng

GRAPHIC DESIGNER/ MACHINE OPERATOR 14 JUN

Experienced operator of CNC Router, CO2 Laser, large format printers, plotters, and 3D printers. Skilled designer in CorelDRAW. Able to work in high-pressure environments. Open to calls or WhatsApp.
Darryl +27 75 224 4475
dboihvy@gmail.com
Gauteng

RECEPTIONIST/ ADMINISTRATOR 12 JUN

Seeking a receptionist or administration position. My résumé is available on request.
Sino +27 67 237 1115
sinombengom@gmail.com
Gauteng

GRAPHIC DESIGNER/ MACHINE OPERATOR 14 JUN

Machine operator with broad experience on CNC Router, CO2 laser, large format printers and plotters, 3D printing and slicing. I'm also a seasoned designer in CorelDRAW. I'm able to work in high pressure environments. Feel free to WhatsApp or call.
Darryl +27 75 224 4475
dboihvy@gmail.com
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Seeking a receptionist/administration position. My resume is available.
Sino +27 67 237 1115
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Ismael Davids +27 66 421 4701
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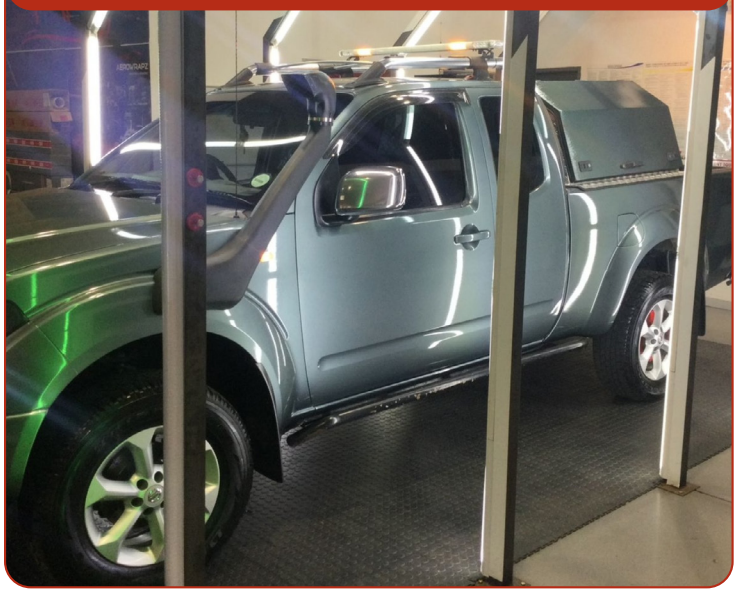
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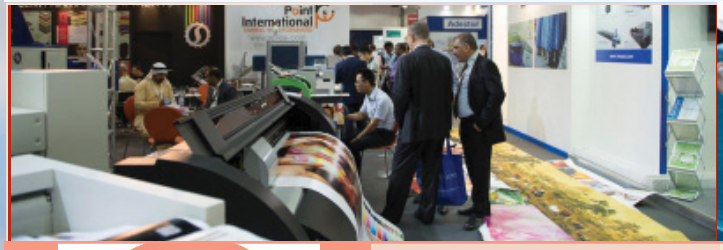


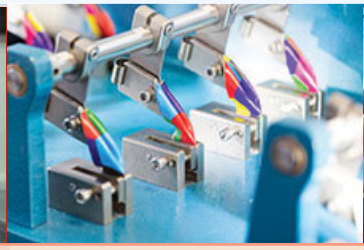




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CENTRAL CHAMBER WOMEN IN PRINT 2025

8 August 2025

Vodaworld, Midrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

www.printingsa.org/events

KZN CHAMBER WOMEN IN PRINT 2025

21 August 2025

Radisson Blu Hotel, Umhlanga, Durban, South Africa

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27 August 2025

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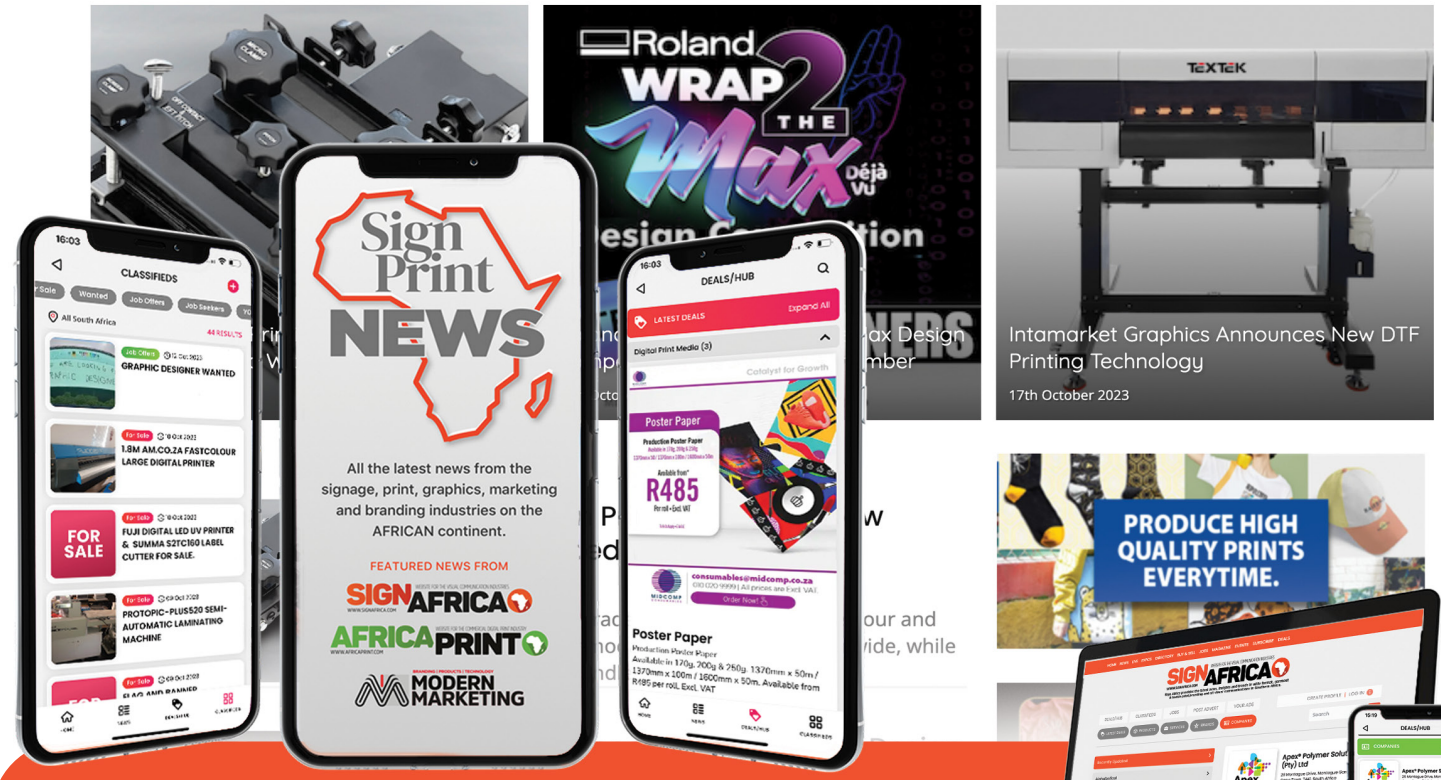
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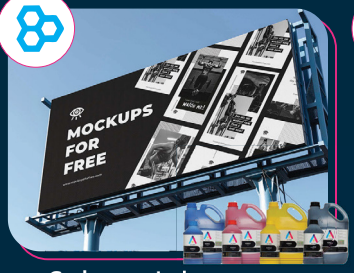
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• Eco-Solvent Inks



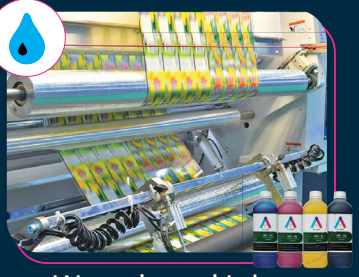
• Ceramic Inks



• UV Inks



• LED Inks



• Water based Inks

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