2025 ASIAN PACKAGING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Asian Print Awards Winners Announced

See Page 4

2025 ASIAN PRINT AWARDS

Also the winners of the FUJIFILM Innovation Print Awards Competitions on Pages 12 and 44 with full lists

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2026 ASIAN PRINT AWARDS

ASIAN PACKAGING EXCELLENCE AWARDS: 2025

2025 ASIAN PACKAGING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

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FUJIFILM BEST IN DIGITAL
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GM for GC Marketing and
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...ILM Iride...

HEIDELBERG BEST IN OFFSET
WANGINSA
Korea
Machine: Heidelberg

Asian Print Awards
2025 ASIAN PRINT AWARDS
BANGKOK September 2025

Gold Silver & Special
...Label Makers (Malaysia)
BRONZE
Image Quality Lab Co., Ltd Thailand
MONIN
Strawberry Daiquiri Mix
Machine: Fujifilm ... Press PC112...
Title: Lion Dance...
Colours: CMYK
STOCK: Digipro...
Design: Papaw...
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Asian Print Awards
2025 ASIAN PRINT AWARDS
BANGKOK September 2025

Asian Print Awards
2025 ASIAN PRINT AWARDS
BANGKOK September 2025

Asian Print Awards
2025 ASIAN PRINT AWARDS
BANGKOK September 2025

Digital Calenda...
SILVER
Amarin Corporations Public Company Limited Thailand
AMARIN
BRONZE
Dongin ... Korea
...Minolta
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With City's

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BANGKOK September 2025

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https://www.prin...
com/copy-of-apa-...
photo etc

Winner - Digital Personalised or Photobooks
Guangzhou Woniu Printing Co., Ltd.
China
Machine: Jet P...
Colour: 4
Title: All About
ALL About
NO Xiaoping

Winner - Digital Billboar...
Image Quality Lab Co., Ltd
Thailand
IQ LAB IMAGE QUALITY LAB
Machine: Canon Oce Arizona 1280 GT
Title: Wall Decoration for Centre Point Hotel
Stock: Perfect Bond (Gold Aluminium Compo...
Code PB501 (G-Tech)
PrePress: Associate Prof. Dr. Supachai Areer...

Click on the logo below to see all the winners jobs and hundreds of photos from the 2025 Asian Print Awards Presentation

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gmg color

UPM

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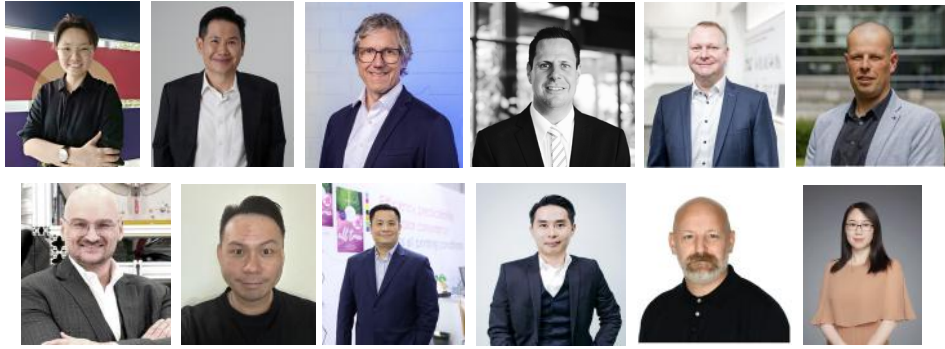
MPS
Presenter: Tham Zee Cheng – Regional Sales Manager of MPS Systems
Topic is **"Where Performance Grows – Redefining Success in Label Printing"**

XSYS
Speaker: Supachai Theravithayangkura
Topic: Packaging Sustainability in Motion
Position: Technical Director

Heidelberg/Gallus:
Speaker: Dario Urbinati
Topic: TBA
Position: CEO, Gallus Group

Konica Monolta
Speaker
Topic:
Position:

CGS
Speaker: Bernd Rückert & Lily Xiao
Topic: ECG in packaging printing
Position: CEO & General Manager – Greater China

Windmoeller & Hoelscher Group
Speaker: Tobias Skalischus
Topic: Sustainability and Flexible Packaging as part of the solution
Position: Production Manager

Hybrid:
Speaker: Bert Van der Pere & Sumate
Topic: AI solutions for Labels & Packaging Converters
Position: VP/GM Labels & Packaging

BHS
Speaker: Nick Price
Topic: Digital Print for Paper Based Packaging
Position: Head of Digital Print - Asia Pacific

GMG
Speaker: Yan Wei Phin
Topic: "From Spectral Data to SCTV: Unlocking the Potential of ECG"
Position: Head of Sales APAC

AGFA
Speaker: Raymond Lam
Topic: Achieving High Image Quality at High Speed with Industrial Inkjet Printing'
Position: General Manager of Inkjet, Greater China, Asean and Republic of Korea

Esko
Speaker: TBA
Position: TBA
Topic: TBA

TESA
Speaker: Wong Yi Kai
Topic: The Tape Triangle Explained: A practical solution to flexo challenges
Position: Regional Technical Support Manager –Print and Packaging Solutions Asia Pacific

Miraclon
Speaker: Andy Yarrow
Topic: TBA
Position: Regional Commercial Director for Asia Pacific.

Advanced Printing Technology Centre
(A subsidiary of The HK Printers Association)
Speaker: Brenda Pang
Topic: TBA
Position: Executive Director

e followed by the

Adhesive Materials

Tariffs and the Printing Challenges and Opportu

In today's interconnected global economy, the printing and packaging industry is more exposed than ever to shifts in trade policy. Among the most impactful of these shifts are tariffs—taxes imposed on imported or exported goods. While tariffs are often introduced by governments to protect local industries, encourage domestic investment, or balance trade deficits, their effects on printing and packaging are far-reaching and often complex.

The Direct Impact of Tariffs

For the printing and packaging sector, tariffs typically manifest in two primary ways:

1. Raw Material Costs – Packaging relies heavily on substrates such as paper, pulp, plastics, and aluminum. Tariffs on these materials immediately drive up production costs. For example, duties on imported pulp or resin increase the baseline expense of packaging converters, which is eventually passed on to brand owners and consumers.

2. Machinery and Equipment – The industry's reliance on advanced presses, converting lines, and digital printing equipment makes it vulnerable when tariffs are applied to capital goods. Higher import costs can delay technology adoption, particularly in emerging markets where margins are already tight.

Supply Chain Disruptions

Tariffs rarely act in isolation. They often trigger retaliatory measures, leading to global supply chain instability. Printing and packaging companies that source across multiple regions—say, resin from the Middle East, board from Europe, and machinery from Japan—can find themselves navigating a complex web of cost escalations, delivery delays, and regulatory red tape.

Regional Variations

• Asia-Pacific: As one of the largest manufacturing hubs, tariffs imposed by or against countries in this region can quickly ripple through global packaging supply chains. Southeast Asia, in particular, often benefits when tariffs make China-sourced goods more expensive, as manufacturers shift sourcing to Vietnam, Thailand, or Malaysia.

• North America & Europe: Trade tensions with China and tariffs on steel, aluminum, or plastics have already pushed up packaging costs in these markets. However, domestic industries sometimes gain a competitive edge when imports become less price-competitive.

Opportunities Hidden in Challenges

Despite the cost pressures, tariffs can open opportunities:

• Local Sourcing Growth: Rising import prices may push companies to source

& Packaging Industry:
unities

more locally, strengthening domestic packaging supply chains and stimulating investment in regional manufacturing capacity.

• Innovation Push: Cost increases often accelerate innovation. Printers and converters may invest in lightweighting, recycled materials, or digital workflows to reduce dependence on expensive imports.

• Diversified Supply Chains: To hedge against tariff risk, companies are increasingly building multi-country sourcing strategies, which can make them more resilient in the long run.

Navigating the Future
For industry leaders, tariffs are no longer a temporary disruption—they are becoming a structural factor in business planning. To stay competitive, companies must:

• Monitor global trade policy closely.

• Negotiate long-term contracts to lock in pricing.

• Invest in technologies that reduce reliance on tariff-sensitive inputs.

• Collaborate with industry associations to advocate for fairer trade rules.

1. Projected Industry Contraction
• A prominent Smithers study forecasts that over 1,000 U.S. printing companies could close by 2030, representing a 6.4% decline in the U.S. printing market— shrinking consumption from $84.7 billion to $78.6 billion by 2030.

• Globally, packaging demand is expected to reach $1.52 trillion by 2030, but under pessimistic tariff scenarios, growth could drop to 3.3%, compared to 3.8% in the baseline and 3.9% in the optimistic projections. U.S. packaging demand could swing by over $24 billion, ranging from $255.4 billion to $279.6 billion

**2. Business Sentiment &
Supply Chain Stress**
• In a March 2025 PRINTING United Alliance survey of 246 industry players:

o 66.5% expect operating costs to rise, by an average of 10.5% within six months.

o 61.4% foresee profit margin declines, with 23.1% predicting cuts in capital investments.

o 48.2% report expected supply chain disruptions, and 35.1% anticipate slower sales growth—double the 15.1% who see a boost from reduced foreign competition

o In terms of responses, companies plan to absorb tariff costs by:
- 58.7% through price increases,
- 17.7% via productivity gains,
- 23.6% by absorbing them into margins.

**3. Raw Material & Equipment
Cost Escalation**
• Tariffs on input materials like plastics,

Sven Olsen Managing Director
Muller Martini Asia Pacific

inks, plates, and paper have increased costs by 10–15%, particularly when sourced from China, driving up operational expenses.

• A tangible scenario: a 25% tariff on a $100,000 imported packaging shipment would raise its cost to $125,000, not including logistic and compliance surcharges.

• For manufacturing equipment, such as a $1,000 printer, a 25% tariff adds $250 in import costs. Essential components like rollers, drums, circuit boards, inks, and plates are all affected.

A perspective from inside Asia, Sven Olsen Managing Director Muller Martini Asia Pacific gives us his views.

Q: In the wake of these ": on again – off again "Tariffs from the US, what impact have you seen or heard from our Printing and Packaging industry companies

Unpredictability is seldom good for business. However, books are on the exempt list and do thus not incur any of the new tariffs when imported into the US. Therefore, book exporters in Asia have not been directly impacted by the US tariffs as of yet.

However, just recently US have implemented 25% "punitive" tariffs on India – and is considering doing the same for China – related to sanctions against

Russia (cheap oil etc.), and it is currently not entirely clear to what extent that the tariff exemption on books also is valid for these "punitive" tariffs.

Q: In the short term what Impact do you for see happening in the region, and what countries do you think will see the biggest effect of these tariffs

Already prior to the introduction of tariffs, the US had a guidance to companies sourcing products in China, referred to as the "China plus One" policy. Basically, requiring US importers to have alternative sources for products (mainly) sourced from China.

Therefore, US importers – and Chinese printers – had already started to build up supply chain channels from other countries in the region. For book export this has in particular been focused on Malaysia and India.

Meaning, that there is some flexibility to move around book production in the region depending on how the "final" tariffs are going to look, but only to a certain extent.

Interesting side note: If US based printers would want to increase their production capacity in order to onshore the book production, they would have to pay a 15-39% premium on the relevant equipment imported from Europe…..

Q: What can companies do to mitigate the effects of these and ride out the storm, or is there no simple answer

It is virtually impossible to predict where things will end up, but as long as books are on the exempt list, exporters in the Asian region should still be ok. However, with the unpredictability surrounding the tariffs and the validity of the exemption list, it must be expected that producers in Asia will be risk-adverse when it comes to investments in new capital equipment over the coming months.

Q: We know you don't have a crystal ball to see the future, but how long do you see this lasting till some commonsense starts to come from the country inflicting these tariffs

The sooner the better, but we expect that the current "dynamic" situation will remain well into 2026, before there is some clarity on where tariffs are going to end up and if they'll stay in place etc.

Conclusion
The printing and packaging industry sits at the crossroads of global trade, where tariffs can quickly alter cost structures and strategic decisions.

While challenges are undeniable, companies that respond with agility—by rethinking supply chains, innovating with materials, and exploring new markets—will find ways to turn tariff-related disruptions into opportunities for sustainable growth.

FUJIFILM Business Innovation Celebrates 36 Winners at the Innovation Print Awards 2025 APJ

FUJIFILM Business Innovation announces today the winners of the Innovation Print Awards 2025 Asia-Pacific & Japan (hereafter: IPA 2025 APJ) that celebrates creativity and technical excellence in production print. A total of 36 winners from 10 countries and regions were recognized for their outstanding entries that pushed the boundaries of digital print innovation.

In its 18th year, the IPA 2025 APJ received 282 submissions from across 10 countries and regions, including Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Chinese Mainland, Indonesia, Vietnam, Hong Kong SAR, South Korea, and Taiwan. With numerous entries in Creative Design, Packaging, and Books, this year's submissions demonstrated the growing demand for innovative, high-quality print solutions that deliver impactful results and redefine what's possible in the world of print.

A Platform for Creativity and Innovation The Innovation Print Awards (hereafter: IPA) has long been a platform for print professionals to challenge limits, explore new techniques, and showcase their creativity. This year's competition highlighted how advancements in digital production press technology are reshaping the industry.

With the commoditization of physical print, applications are becoming increasingly personalized and leveraging speciality colors to move beyond standard CMYK. Nearly 75% of submissions this year utilized specialty colors, demonstrating a shift toward producing high-quality, visually impactful outputs that stand out in a competitive market.

"It is very pleasing to see that FUJIFILM Business Innovation, after 17 years of the competition has kept the independence of these awards intact, and no outside influence by either suppliers or staff has kept the credibility of these awards at the highest levels, something no other supplier driven awards can boast about," said Paul Callaghan, Head Judge in IPA 2025 APJ. "It is transparent and being judged by the independent panel will ensure the future success of this event."

Celebrating Innovation in Print
The IPA is a celebration of the creativity, resilience, and adaptability that define the print industry. This year's winners showcase the limitless possibilities of digital production print, from photobooks that tell compelling stories to packaging that transforms brand experience. Each entry highlights the power of print to connect, inspire, and captivate.

Driving the Future of Print
FUJIFILM Business Innovation's cutting-edge toner and inkjet technologies continue to empower customers to achieve extraordinary results. As the print industry evolves, FUJIFILM Business Innovation remains dedicated to breaking new ground, driving innovation, and supporting customers in their pursuit of excellence. The Innovation Print Awards will continue to be a platform that inspires and celebrates the best in print.

FUJIFILM
Value from Innovation

IPA INNOVATION PRINT AWARDS

BEST INNOVATION AWARD 2025 APJ

Title
Wedding Photobook

Company
Golden Ladies Photo

Press
Jet Press 750S

Region
Chinese Mainland

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Winning Category	APJ	Company Name	Region
Best Innovation Award 2025 APJ	Winner	Golden Ladies Photo	Chinese Mainland
Books	Winner	Beijing ZhongXianTuoFang Technology Development Co., Ltd.	Chinese Mainland
Books	Runner Up	Nanjing New Century Union Printing Co., Ltd.	Chinese Mainland
Photobooks	Winner	Golden Ladies Photo	Chinese Mainland
Photobooks	Runner Up	Guangzhou Woniu Printing Co., Ltd.	Chinese Mainland
Catalogue	Winner	SUGANO Printing Co., Ltd.	Japan
Catalogue	Runner Up	Colornet Printing Technology Pte Ltd	Singapore
Creative Design	Winner	SAPPORO DAIDO PRINTING Co., Ltd.	Japan
Creative Design	Runner Up	Bunshodo Printing Company Limited	Japan
Use of Specialty Colours	Winner	GMW Creative Prints	Malaysia
Use of Specialty Colours	Runner Up	BEAVER PLANNING CENTER	Japan
Company Self Promotion	Winner	Wide Ocean Printing Co. Limited	Hong Kong SAR
Company Self Promotion	Runner Up	Monokrom Printing & Designs	Indonesia
Security Features	Winner	Refine Printing Pte Ltd	Singapore
Security Features	Runner Up	GRAPHICO Creative Imaging	Indonesia
FUJIFILM Young Creative Designer Award	Winner	TZUEN YU ENTERPRISE CO., LTD. / YU-CHIEH, SHIH	Taiwan
FUJIFILM Young Creative Designer Award	Runner Up	TZUEN YU ENTERPRISE CO., LTD. / YI-LONG, ZENG	Taiwan
Personalized Invitation / Greeting Card	Winner	Ant Printing Company Limited	Vietnam
Personalized Invitation / Greeting Card	Runner Up	2T Group Production And Trading Company Limited	Vietnam
Rigid Packaging	Winner	Pakem Print & Pack	Indonesia
Rigid Packaging	Runner Up	Guizhou Xianjunlong Color Printing Co., Ltd.	Chinese Mainland
Magazine	Winner	Okeprint Air Mancur	Indonesia
Magazine	Runner Up	PrintWorks Communications Pte Ltd	Singapore

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Thermoflex Edge
3rd Generation Flexo Laser Imager

XSYS
Print solid. Stay flexible.

XSYS, a leading global supplier of prepress solutions, announced the launch of the Thermoflex Edge, the third generation of its renowned laser imagers. Scheduled for commercial release in March 2026, the new imager was introduced to the global market at Labelexpo Europe 2025

"With Thermoflex Edge, we are taking flexo platemaking into an entirely new era," said Steven Vandevoorde, General Manager at XSYS PrePress. "This imager represents a milestone of decades of innovation at XSYS. Combining precision, productivity, and highest quality in one platform, it sets a new standard for what platemakers and printers can expect from imaging technology."

Engineered to outperform all challengers, Thermoflex Edge delivers unmatched imaging speed without compromising quality. Customers will also now be enabled to easily implement surface screenings in a much shorter time, eliminating a current bottleneck in the market. With support for Woodpecker Nano 2400 dpi and Woodpecker Nano 2540 dpi surface screening, running at speeds of up to 8.5 sqm/h, the system provides the finest screening variety available on the market, giving platemakers and printers unprecedented freedom to adapt flexo plates to any challenge.

The open architecture ensures seamless integration into existing workflows, while the premium build quality guarantees long-term reliability and consistency.

Operators benefit from an intuitive, state-of-the-art user interface designed for maximum efficiency. Modular automation provides scalability to match evolving business needs, and the system's

innovative design reduces manual touchpoints to an absolute minimum. This streamlined operation leads to less downtime, fewer errors, and higher throughput.

In line with XSYS' dedication to sustainability, Thermoflex Edge can be combined with EcoFillX software, available as an additional option, to help minimize solvent use and reduce waste in platemaking. Effortless handling of partial and thick plates further supports efficient and environmentally responsible operations. Combined with industry-leading remote service capabilities, the system ensures optimum uptime and lower total cost of ownership.

"Thermoflex Edge is more than just the next generation of imagers; it is a bold step into the future of flexo platemaking," concluded Vandevoorde. "At Labelexpo, we will present a display version of the Thermoflex Edge, while our XSYS experts will be on hand to provide detailed information and answer any questions visitors may have."

The Thermoflex Edge 80 will be commercially available in March 2026, with pre-orders open exclusively for this model. The Thermoflex Edge 48 is scheduled to follow later in 2026.

AccurioJet 30000, a B2+ HS-UV inkjet p

The AccurioJet 30000 will take color capabilities, production stability and media handling capabilities to new levels of excellence, maximizing customer value and improving usability for clients

As the successor to the AccurioJet KM-1e, the AccurioJet 30000 continues Konica Minolta's unsurpassed, proven and stable technology with insistence on professional quality. This next-generation digital press features the innovative technology of the tremendously successful AccurioJet KM-1e series, with more than 350 installations worldwide. With new functions to maximize throughput and operator performance, improve productivity and image quality and ensure labor savings through automation, the technology will ultimately contribute to increased revenue for customers.

The AccurioJet 30000 with its new applications, features and options, we are clearly demonstrating our intention to bolster our commercial printing business," said Frank Mallozzi, President, IPP, Konica Minolta. "We expect to see more and more mid-level clients looking

to adopt digitalization for the first time. By strengthening our products in the inkjet market with this commercialization of the AccurioJet 30000, we will continue with and strengthen proven and trusted product options with a greater Total Cost of Ownership, making it easier for customers to afford this technology."

The AccurioJet 30000 offers a highly stable, color-accurate digital printing platform with a more advanced inkjet printhead and inking system design featuring Konica Minolta's patented Dot Freeze Technology. Producing up to 3,000 sheets per hour (sph) with automatic duplex printing without ink drying delays, it prints on paper thicknesses from 0.06 to 0.6mm on an unprecedented variety of standard offset and specialty media. These include heavy textured stock, canvas, metallics, translucent stock, packaging board and plastics.

Enhanced features of Konica Minolta's AccurioJet 30000 include:

Improved Inkjet Manager – Maximizes overall AccurioJet 30000 performance

New Inking System – Incorporates latest generation of printheads, inks and ink delivery to maximize quality and productivity while reducing maintenance

Enhanced RIP Functionality – Improved RIP performance by optimizing the configuration of the latest CPU and memory storage; eliminates waiting time with Pre-RIP processing

Improved Image Quality – Higher definition (HD) mode available with the touch of a button

Ensured Continuous Image Quality – Optional detection and correction of

Without Quality Inspection
The operator must be stationed at the proce... preparation to post-processing.
Preparation | Printing | Visual/ inspection/...

With Quality Inspection
Inspection is conducted automatically, and r... performed automatically if there are streaks... During printing, the operator can perform ot... away from the press.
Preparation | Printing | Final check | Pos... proce...
Automatic inspection/automatic reprinting

a next-generation
ress

image quality artifacts that makes every print consistent and sellable

More Operator Serviceability – Clients benefit from the latest tools in remote diagnostics with augmented reality tools and embedded machine learning

Rethinking printing with increased application possibilities
Application examples include printing restaurant menus without lamination as well as maps, figures and outdoor displays. Other possibilities include backlit posters, signage, packaging, tags, desk calendars, direct mail, photo albums, light packaging and more.

Early Adoption
Neyenesch Printers, a 125-year-old family owned and operated printer serving a wide variety of clients in the San Diego, California area is one of the first to purchase the AccurioJet 30000. A legacy brand with a visionary approach, the company has also acquired Konica Minolta's AccurioShine 3600 digital embellishment press. A perfect complement to the AccurioJet 30000, the press will allow Neyenesch Printers to bring its spot UV projects in house and grow their business by offering advanced capabilities.

Investing in the latest technological advancements is how we continue to grow and evolve. The color and image quality the AccurioJet 30000 provides

is impressive, and a very close match to our offset press. This combined with the high efficiency of the press will increase the speed with which we can complete projects, enabling us to better serve our clients and be more competitive in the market

The AccurioJet 30000 offers exceptional color stability and a more advanced inkjet printhead inking system design, featuring Konica Minolta's patented Dot Freeze Technology, plus additional physical CPU space, increasing processing power. The new inkjet manager will be a gamechanger in the ripping process, offering the ability to free pre-rip days in advance so users are ready to go and can be as productive as possible

The platform continues to be good steward of the environment as well, with no VOC's in the ink, a small footprint and low power consumption. The features of the AccurioJet 30000 will help customers rethink printing possibilities and maximize value by providing a gateway to expanded and improved printing services.

Gallus and Heidelberg debut new solutions and initiatives

o Gallus Five: High-performance hybrid press, integrating digital flexibility with industrial-level productivity

o Gallus Alpha: Value-focused and compact digital-only press for seamless entry into digital label production

o Gallus Print Academy: New dedicated training initiative, designed to support customers on-site, transitioning from traditional flexographic printing to hybrid and inkjet technologies

• Strategic launches complete the companies' combined portfolio across all segments, overcoming key barriers to digital adoption and enabling customers to meet diverse market demands for long-term success

Gallus, a subsidiary of Heidelberg and a global leader in label printing technology, announces the launch of two new presses, one all-digital and one hybrid, at Labelexpo Europe 2025. These additions to its System to Compose portfolio have been strategically developed together by HEIDELBERG and Gallus to address the pressing and evolving needs of label producers to deliver greater speed, flexibility, and high-quality output.

Gallus Five
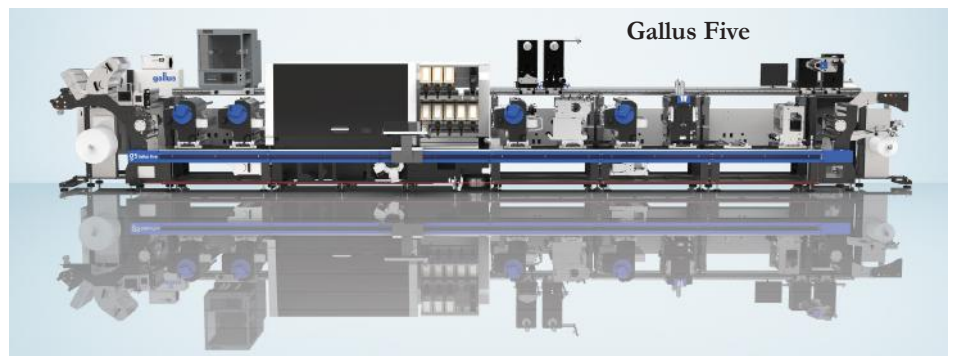
Sectors such as retail, logistics, household, health, beauty, cosmetics, pharmaceutical, and OTC are driving growth, with global label production projected to increase at a 4.0% CAGR through to 2030,1 and digital label production continuing to gain traction. This opens up significant growth opportunities for printers and converters – with enhanced production capabilities providing the key to capitalizing on these opportunities.

In light of this, Gallus is focused on developing smart, connected print solutions that improve speed, color accuracy, and workflow automation, enabling customers to maximize productivity without compromising on quality, and respond effectively to current market demands. From scalable hybrid presses to accessible entry-level systems, Gallus now offers a complete and expansive portfolio that addresses all market segments and applications – empowering even more customers to unlock the power of digital adoption, and ultimately delivering the right solution for every customer need.

The new Gallus Five, a high-performance hybrid press built on the robust Gallus Labelmaster platform, combines five key benefits to offer a combination of performance and versatility. Industrial throughput, high-resolution image quality, with plug and play modular configurability and finishing at full press speed. At the same time, total cost of ownership is significantly reduced.

Specifically, the new hybrid press offers 1200 x 1200 dpi resolution and production speeds up to 100m/min, increasing productivity for label converters. Built on Gallus' modular System to Compose concept, the Gallus Five is available in 340mm and 430mm widths and is fully compatible with the existing Gallus Labelmaster portfolio. Meanwhile, the newly introduced "SDC Pro" semi-rotary die cutter offers high-speed cutting at up to 100m/min, rapid job changeovers, and optional cutting-depth adjustment.
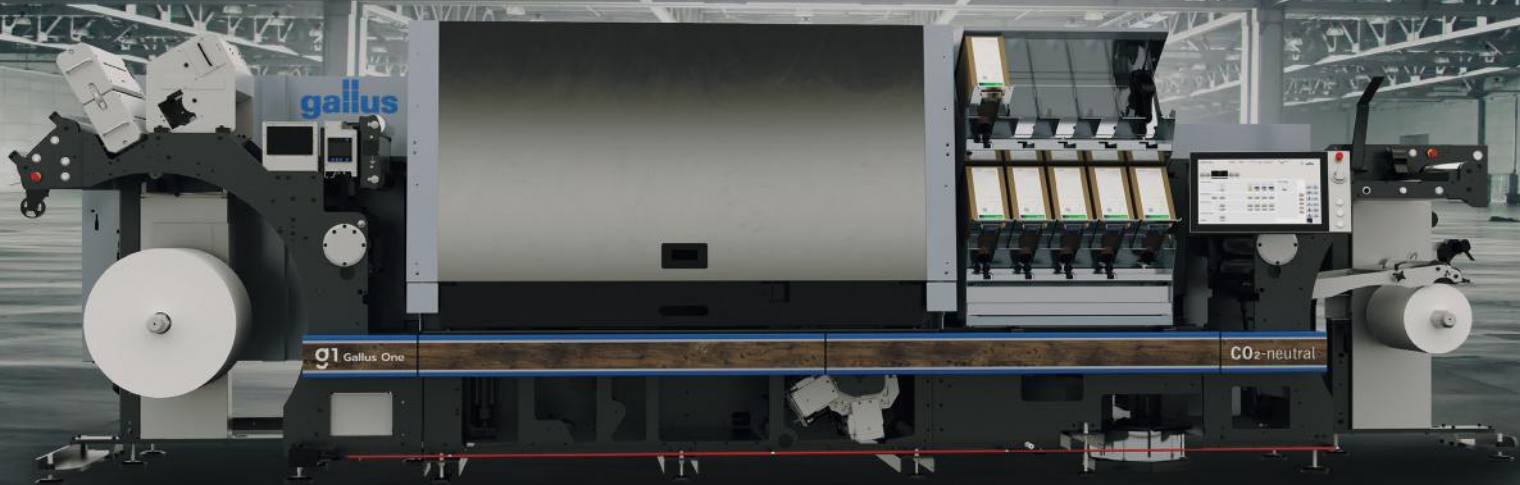
Gallus Five LEX

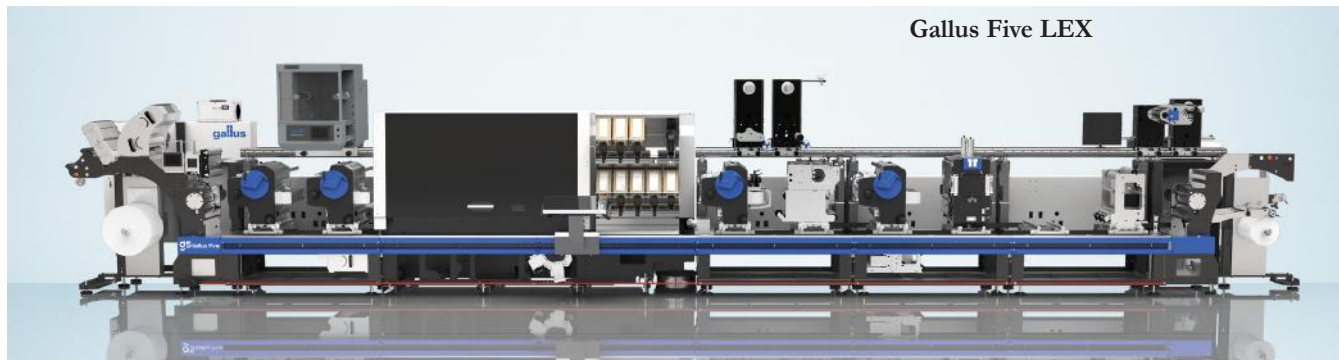Developed together with Heidelberg, the Gallus Five also introduces a host of advanced features designed to optimize productivity and reduce costs. This makes it particularly valuable for volume-driven markets where consistent, industrial-level quality, speed, and efficiency are critical such as the health, beauty and cosmetics, pharmaceutical and OTC as well as food and household segments.

The press incorporates the newly developed Heidelberg Saphira UV05 ink set – a major advancement in ink technology – with a high-pigmentation formulation that significantly cuts ink consumption, lowering total cost of ownership. It also delivers premium color performance, covering up to 95% of the Pantone® color gamut, including the vast majority of the most frequently used spot colors in packaging, while ensuring compliance with the latest ink safety regulations.

Serving the other end of the market, the new Gallus Alpha, an accessible, value-focused, digital-only printing solution, addresses the needs of converters looking for an efficient, cost-effective entry point into digital printing. Targeted at fast-growing markets such as retail, pharmaceutical, and logistics, the Gallus Alpha brings ease-of-use, flexibility, and

performance to converters adapting to shorter runs and faster turnaround times.

Available in 340mm width, the Gallus Alpha comes in two configurations – four-color + white or six-color + white – and offers high-resolution printing of 1200 × 1200 dpi at 65m/min. Notably, the press offers a pure roll-to-roll digital configuration for operational simplicity and seamless integration into existing production workflows. With the Gallus Alpha, converters gain a digital-first platform that enables faster onboarding, versioning, and agile job switching, all critical to thriving in a dynamic, fast-paced marketplace.

"Today's converters need future-ready solutions that deliver industrial speed, accuracy, and workflow automation to run a profitable business," explains Dario Urbinati, CEO, Gallus Group. "With the Gallus Five and Gallus Alpha, we're enabling smarter, more connected printing at every level from entry-level systems to fully scalable hybrid platforms. "Importantly, with the Gallus Five, we are taking the market beyond conventional definitions of hybrid," he continues. "The press represents a new evolution: a high-performance, fully integrated solution that brings together the best of digital and conventional technologies, intentionally

designed and crafted from the ground up and anchored by our System to Compose approach.

This isn't just another evolution in technical capability – it's a holistic, practical approach focused on removing barriers in even the most demanding areas of the market, accelerating digital adoption, and creating tangible, game-changing opportunities for converters worldwide."

In line with this vision, Gallus also today launches the new Gallus Print Academy: a dedicated training initiative designed to support customers either in transitioning from conventional printing to hybrid and inkjet technologies, or in gaining in-depth training for their existing equipment – delivered directly on-site to reduce travel and minimize production downtime.

Reflecting the company's wider commitment to driving long-term industry success, the Academy aims to deepen industry expertise and help equip converters with the essential skills and process knowledge needed to confidently adopt hybrid printing and harness its full potential. Positioned as a value-added support tool, the Gallus Print Academy will be available for all Gallus customers and printing technologies, helping them unlock the full potential of next generation print.

"The combined Heidelberg and Gallus portfolio strengthens the position of the Group as a full-range supplier for packaging and label printers," says David Schmedding, Chief Technology & Sales Officer at Heidelberg. "Together, we're investing in technologies that deliver end-to-end solutions for efficient, highly productive and cost-effective label production. This development reaffirms our growth strategy – the continuous and targeted expansion of our portfolio as a systems integrator for this key market segment."

Gallus_Alpha

Significant player in the Vietnamese packaging market

Recently, a brand new ROLAND 900 EVOLUTION six-color with coating module printing machine has been successfully put into operation at Shining Star.

Hang Yick Paper Products Co., Ltd. was founded in Hong Kong in 1976, specializing in printing and packaging products. In 2017, it established a new production base in Binh Duong Province, Vietnam – Shining Star Printing and Packaging Vietnam Co., Ltd. In 2024, Anfeng Shining Star Paper Packaging Co., Ltd. was established in Bac Ninh Province.

As a significant player in the Vietnamese packaging market, Shining Star Printing has not only witnessed the rapid growth of the local industry but also driven the enhancement of regional printing quality through technological advancements and management innovations. Following the introduction of the ROLAND 900 EVOLUTION Excellence printing press, Shining Star Printing has established a production system consisting of three different specifications of manroland presses, enabling it to flexibly cater to the full spectrum of needs, ranging from short-run quick printing to long-run mass production. This marks a significant step taken by the company to meet the growing demand for high-end packaging in the market.

Under the policy dividends from the Vietnamese government's continuous optimization of the foreign investment environment, Shining Star Printing is leveraging the ROLAND 900 EVOLUTION as a fulcrum to gain a larger share of the Southeast Asian packaging market. Hang Yick Group has achieved production capacity synergy from China to Southeast Asia through the networked layout of seven Manroland equipment, and the daily production capacity of over one million is being transformed into tangible competitiveness.

The ROLAND 900 EVOLUTION six-color with coating module printing press, which has been put into production this time, is equipped with numerous advanced configurations. With Triple Flow, Quick Change system, and large format of 1060×1450mm, it provides a production method that is high in quality, flexibility, and productivity, while significantly reducing ink and paper wastage.

The over 20-year collaboration between Hang Yick Group and Manroland has demonstrated profound accumulation, mutual trust, and win-win cooperation, with the cooperation territory extending from China to Southeast Asia. This continuously increasing trust stems from the consistent stable performance of Manroland equipment – even after completing hundreds of millions of prints, it still maintains excellent register accuracy and color performance.

This printing machine, embodying German precision manufacturing and future-oriented technology, will surely become an important engine in Hang Yick Group's globalization strategy, injecting continuous momentum into the upgrading of the printing industry in Southeast Asia.

Delivering Measurable Growth Beyond the Press

MPS made a powerful impact at LabelExpo Europe 2025, presenting its industry vision "Where Performance Grows". Across four days of the world's largest label and package printing exhibition in Barcelona, Spain, the MPS booth attracted strong attendance, lively discussions, and outstanding feedback from converters and partners around the globe.

With a focus on innovation, connectivity, and partnership, MPS demonstrated how it is more than a press manufacturer: it is a true printing performance partner.

Michiel Borst, CEO of MPS, shared during the show:
"MPS differentiates itself by being more than a machine builder. We are the true printing performance partner to our customers. Our mission is to keep innovating and to push the boundaries that many converters are facing today. At Labelexpo, we showed how our solutions empower customers to grow their performance in a sustainable and measurable way."

MPSConnect Ecosystem: The Foundation for Growth
The highlight of the booth was the MPS Connect Ecosystem, introduced as a total solution designed to help converters transform their operations.

Richard Miedema, Global Sales Director of MPS, explained:
"The best machine is a good beginning. However, this foundation must be strong enough before you can talk about performance. With an MPS press and the our MPSConnect Ecosystem, we deliver smart services that ensure long-term value of digitization and measurable improvements across the entire workflow."

The MPSConnect Ecosystem consists of five interlinked elements:
• Data Analytics
• Virtual Coach & AI
• MIS Integration
• Smart Services
• Partnership

Together, these five elements form the roots of printing performance, creating a strong foundation for growth.

Where Performance Grows

WITH MPS, YOU DON'T JUST PRINT - YOU GROW

At MPS, we believe true growth comes from more than just a press. That's why we created the MPS Connect Ecosystem - combining data, AI, smart services, MIS integration, and partnership into one powerful foundation. Together, these elements unlock efficiency, sustainability, and measurable results.
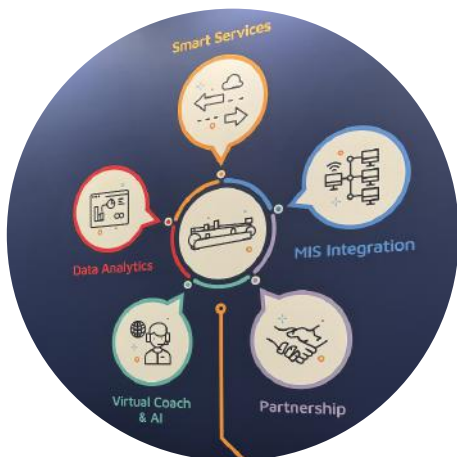
- Reduce waste by 30%
- Increase production speed by 30 m/min
- Reduce changeover time by 30 minutes
- Save €150,000 annually
- Boost production volume by 20%

Discover the MPS Connect Ecosystem

○ mps-printing.com/where-performance-grows

Connect to Grow ○

EF Packaging: Expanding into Flexible Packaging

MPS also unveiled the EF Packaging Print Unit, extending the proven EF platform into flexible packaging applications. With EF Packaging, converters can confidently expand into shrink sleeves, wraparound labels, and in-mold labels — without compromising print speed, quality, or efficiency.

Built on the flagship EFA model, the EF Packaging unit integrates advanced automation and mid-web capabilities, while maintaining connectivity through MPSConnect for real-time monitoring. Unique features include:

• Crisp.Dot technology for superior print quality assurance

• Patented E-Sleeve system for predictably print quality with lower waste and longer lifetime

• Slide-out ink drawer for quickest and ergonomics ink-change in the industry

• Tresu ink system with redesigned ink pump for optimized ink management

• Smaller footprint for lower waste usages

This innovation gives converters the freedom to diversify their portfolio while ensuring the reliable performance of MPS presses.

Full CERM Integration Experience

On day three of the exhibition, MPS, CERM, and ForLabels hosted an exclusive sharing session to talk about how end-to-end integration transforms productivity. Visitors saw firsthand how ForLabels simplified its workflow and improved efficiency through the latest MIS integration with MPS presses.

Kelvin van den Bunt, Connectivity and Performance Manager of MPS noted: "According to CERM, MPS is the first conventional printing OEM with full MIS integration – this is a real differentiator in the market."

This achievement marks a significant milestone for MPS, reinforcing its role as a leader in connectivity and automation.

From Roots to Fruits: The Results of MPS Total Solution

MPS used the metaphor of a tree to explain how its approach turns potential into performance:

• Roots – The five elements of the MPSConnect Ecosystem
• Trunk – The press as the solid foundation
• Fruits – The tangible, measurable results achieved by customers

Customer & Industry Response

The MPS booth was a hub of activity throughout the event, hosting live demos, private meetings, and knowledge-sharing sessions. Converters from across Europe, Asia, and the Americas praised MPS for its clarity of vision and practical solutions to current industry challenges.

Positive comments highlighted:

• The hands-on demonstration of EF Packaging capabilities
• The practical value of MPS Connect Ecosystem insights
• The confidence in MPS as a partner for long-term growth

MPS leaves Labelexpo Europe 2025 energized and committed to taking its vision further.

XSYS

Print solid. Stay flexible.

nyloflex® eco series

Lifting proven quality to a sustainable future

The new **nyloflex® eco series** provides a unique and new approach of printing plates which are using renewable raw materials as part of the plate build up. Beside of being more sustainable, this Flexo plates comes with the advantage of a 20% faster plate processing capability, leading to time & energy savings.

The **nyloflex® eco plates** have been developed to enhance the quality standard in flexographic printing and lifting it to a sustainable future.

Contains renewable raw material

Proven, consistent quality in a more sustainable way

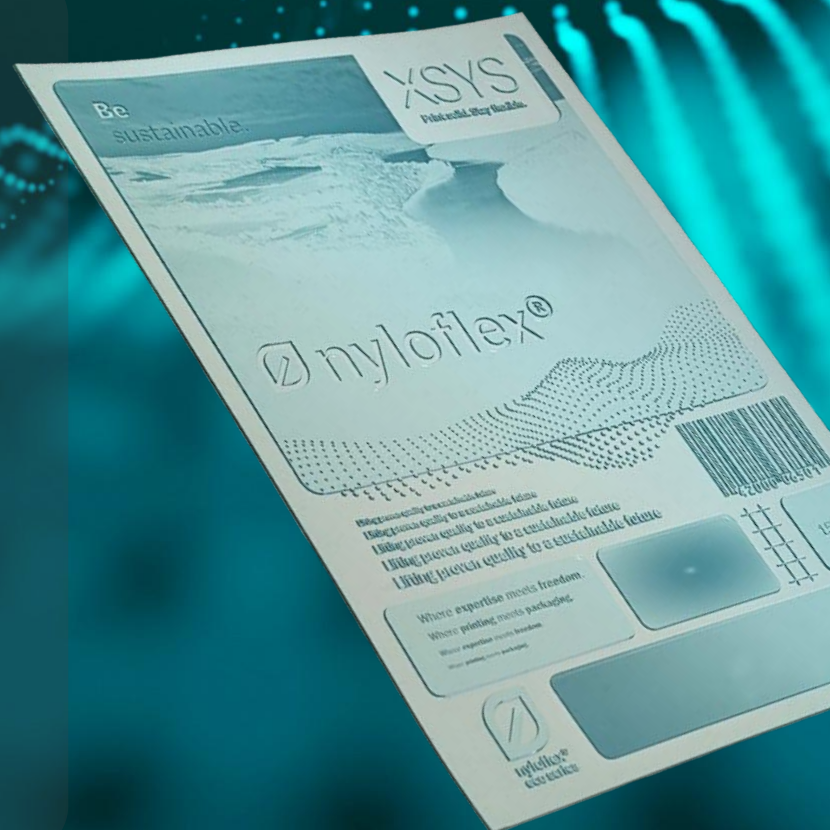**Suitable for bank- & LED exposure**

Energy & Time saving

Stable & reliable plate processing

eco ACT for paper & board applications with water based inks
eco FAC for high performance corrugated post print to cope with all requirements

Be sustainable.

info@xsysglobal.com
www.xsysglobal.com

Handles a wide range
to commercial printing

Founded in 1950, Koyo Media Co., Ltd. has grown its business around printing and bookbinding, while also offering public relations support and video production services.

Its Kashiwa Plant handles a wide range of jobs, from publishing to commercial printing, and provides one-stop solutions including printing, bookbinding, shipping, and inventory management. This comprehensive setup allows the company to flexibly respond to diverse customer needs. Aiming to boost productivity and increase in-house output, the company introduced production management based on KP-Connect and launched full-scale operation of the Lithrone GX40RP advance, a 40″ dedicated two-sided multi-color offset printing press, in October 2024.

We spoke with President Yasunori Akashi, Director, Head of Production, and Plant Manager Kazuhiko Funaki, Deputy General Manager of the Production Division Yoshiaki Yukitake, and Printing Section Manager Satoru Ishii about the effects of the introduction and the outlook.

Koyo Media's efforts to improve productivity and increase in-house output began in 2019 with the introduction of KP-Connect Basic, which visualizes the operating status of Komori printing presses. President Akashi explains, "We introduced it to accurately track and analyze performance so we could apply the insights to future initiatives and order acquisition activities."

The company later transitioned to KP-Connect Pro, which manages workflows across the entire factory. "We faced the challenge of coordinating the prepress department at our Tokyo headquarters with the print management department at the Kashiwa Plant. That's why we implemented KP-Connect Pro and established a system for sharing schedules. Because we can now view schedules in real time, the need for phone call confirmations has decreased, allowing for smoother communication," explains President Akashi.

Deputy General Manager of the Production Division Yukitake adds, "In the past, we had to call the site every time to check print progress, and the schedule created by production management often didn't reflect the actual situation. Now, with KP-Connect Pro, anyone can instantly understand the job status by simply checking the scheduler screen, and scheduling on the production management side has become significantly more efficient. In addition, awareness of job progress has improved. We're seeing fewer missed opportunities, and sales are growing as a result."

**"The reg
Changer
OK sheet
used." (P**

# of jobs, from publishing

Currently, information from three presses -- the Lithrone GX40RP advance, the UV-compatible Lithrone G40, and a third-party one-color two-sided press -- along with postpress equipment is shared via KP-Connect Pro, enabling centralized scheduling and progress tracking all the way through to postpress.

Company-wide efforts to strengthen production and introduce the new press

The Lithrone GX40RP advance, a state-of-the-art press, began full-scale operation in October 2024. As part of a downsizing plan, two aging presses were retired, reducing the total number from four to three. Based on analysis using KP-Connect Pro, Koyo Media was confident that it could maintain both job volume and quality with one fewer press.

President Akashi explains, "One of our

istration accuracy of the Fully Automatic Plate
for all colors has improved. It now reaches the
faster, reducing the amount of waste paper
lant Manager Funaki)

key projects last year was the introduction of this new press. The goal wasn't just to replace equipment -- it was to enhance productivity and increase output across the entire Kashiwa Plant, including both upstream and downstream processes. Thanks to a company-wide effort to strengthen both production and management functions and reorganize our structure, we achieved unprecedented results in the first half of the year. I think that the operation of the new press has really given us momentum."

Why the Lithrone GX40RP advance was chosen -- and the benefits

Plant Manager Kazuhiko Funaki explains, "Many of our clients are publishers, especially of educational materials, which are often supplied on custom-size paper. These sheets are usually 12-13 mm shorter than standard size in the vertical direction, so choosing a press that could handle this efficiently was crucial. We needed to choose a press with single-edge gripping."

Lithrone GX40RP advance

He continues, "Our previous third-party two-sided 4/4 press had issues with front-back register accuracy and fan-out, placing a heavy burden on operators. For that reason, we chose Komori's RP press, which allows stress-free operation," he says. This press was particularly impressive in terms of its digital capabilities. In particular, the PDF Comparator System detects issues such as defective characters by comparing the printed material with the prepress data.

The numbering system helps identify defective sheets, significantly reducing the mental load on operators by automating inspection tasks that were previously done manually. Color patches can be placed on the custom-sized sheets, and compact automatic registration marks can also be added. Automation and improved register accuracy have also stabilized product quality and reduced waste paper."

Printing Section Manager Ishii adds, "If there are no alerts from the PQA-S (Print Quality Assessment System for Sheetfed) or the PDF Comparator System, we proceed without inspection. This helps meet tight deadlines and reduces costs.

KID (Komori Information Display) shows color density changes during printing, so we've also reduced the number of sampling inspections needed." Plant Manager Funaki notes, "We went from four presses with six operators to three presses with five operators -- and still achieved nearly the same annual sales. As operators get more accustomed, we expect even greater profitability.

The personnel who became available for reassignment were assigned to operate the automatic paper stacking machine introduced at the same time. Setup processes have been further optimized, leading to improved production efficiency."

Visualizing improvements across the entire process with KP-Connect Pro
Looking ahead, the company plans to extend its production management system based on KP-Connect Pro beyond postpress processes to include the shipping stage, aiming to unify scheduling across the entire factory. Yukitake explains, "We want to visualize the lead time from completion to shipment,

With the installation of large monitors, progress can now be checked in real time. "In the past, we had to make multiple phone calls to the production floor, but now we can see the status just by looking at the screen," says Deputy General Manager Yukitake. The accuracy of scheduling has greatly improved thanks to KP-Connect Pro.

clarifying the 'idle time' and identifying efficiency improvements. Shortening the lead time from prepress to shipment will reduce losses and improve cost performance. Effectively utilizing KP-Connect Pro will also serve as a powerful tool to enhance competitiveness in sales and order acquisition activities."

President Akashi stated, "In order to achieve both goals -- maintaining a

production system centered on printing and bookbinding, and establishing and expanding revenue structures beyond printing and bookbinding -- we are engaging all employees in in-depth discussions on how our organization and talent should evolve. We aim to reach our targets within three to five years."

Outshining Fluorescent:
The Rise of LED Exposure Technology

Time is running out for fluorescent exposure frames. Fluorescent technology is caught in a pincer movement between an industry pursuing increased efficiency, greater sustainability and lower running costs on one hand, and a stream of global regulation designed to encourage, even mandate, a transition from fluorescent bulbs to more efficient, environmentally friendly LED lamps. This is why flexo printers and trade shops are also urgently reviewing their plate exposure technology.

**By Andy Yarrow
Miraclon Asia Pacific**

Problems in the plate room

The key problem with fluorescent exposure technology is the way that bulbs degrade over time, and at different rates across and within individual tubes. This weakness causes a host of problems that cost users time and money, including:

• Inconsistent, unpredictable exposure that can result in inconsistent plates and unpredictable print results, leading to wasted time, plates and printing materials.

• Because fluorescent technology is more operator-dependent, plate room staff spend excessive time monitoring bulb performance, and calibrating and recalibrating exposure units.

• Waiting for fluorescent bulbs to warm up and cool down impacts productivity and plate throughput.

• Replacing fluorescent bulbs at regular intervals calls for time-consuming recalibration each time new tubes are replaced.

• Because the long-term supply of fluorescent bulbs is uncertain, users spend money stockpiling.

Problems for the environment

As if these problems alone weren't sufficient to encourage the move to LED exposure technology, fluorescent bulbs pose significant problems for the wider environment, at a time when achieving and maintaining sustainable production is of crucial importance. These include:

• Fluorescent tubes contain mercury, a toxic heavy metal, and phosphor coatings, both of which must be disposed of properly in special recycling programs.

• Some fluorescent bulbs generate ozone, which can be harmful to health.

• Fluorescent tubes are less energy-efficient than LED lamps and have a considerably shorter lifespan, which work against sustainability.

Tightening regulation everywhere

The clearest signal that time is up for fluorescent light source technology is the tide of regulation that will eventually sweep fluorescent away. On a global scale, the Minimata Convention on Mercury, an international treaty aimed at reducing mercury emissions, has caused many countries to begin phasing fluorescent bulbs out. Among several measures in the European Union, the Restriction of Hazardous Substances Directive includes limits on mercury in lighting products, with the exemption for UV fluorescent expiring February 2027, and the Ecodesign Regulation bans the sale of compact and linear fluorescent bulbs. The US Department of Energy has introduced stricter efficiency standards that effectively phase out less energy efficient lighting. Canada, Japan and China are all encouraging LED adoption through a variety of subsidies and other incentives.

The benefits of LED

LED exposure technology has many advantages compared to fluorescent. Among the most significant benefits are:

• Stable, uniform light source that does not degrade significantly over time
• Instant 'on / off' characteristics
• More energy efficient in achieving comparable light intensity

One path into LED technology – a new exposure system,

If LED has so many advantages, and fluorescent technology is ripe for replacement, it might seem remarkable that some flexo plate rooms haven't yet made the switch to LED. But there are reasons, because the traditional route — investing in a new LED exposure solution — has significant drawbacks and complications.

The first is cost, as the capital outlay for a new LED exposure solution is anything but minimal. And besides, there's the question of finding extra space for an additional exposure system and training operators in new practices.

There is also greater operational complexity. Most new LED exposure solutions utilize high power, scanning LED light sources that use a 'burst exposure' process – executed in repeated passes - compared to the low-power, continuous 'bank' exposure of fluorescent technology. This presents several challenges:

1. Longer exposure times, driven by multiple passes
• To mitigate the longer exposure times plate suppliers have developed new, more sensitive plate types.
• Holding multiple plates for LED and traditional fluorescent exposure equipment means increased inventory costs.

2. Higher energy utilization
• High power light sources require significant cooling and generate more waste heat for HVAC systems to process.

3. A different dot structure. Not a problem – just work to transition.
• The scanning LED intensity creates a more 'flat top' dot structure when used with traditional round top dot LAMS plates. While a flat top dot is clearly a more optimal dot structure for printing this will require new bump curves and color profiles at a minimum.

• To accommodate archive jobs it is therefore necessary to retain fluorescent equipment for a period — typically two to three years.

There also appears to be limited ability to self-calibrate some of these high-power LED systems – which should be a watch-out for addressing changes in plate materials due to age, batch or manufacturers' changes.

Retrofit — the alternative, better way

An affordable alternative way into LED in the form of the Shine LED Lamp Kit, innovated by Miraclon, is seeing rapid adoption globally. Supplied as a simple, fast, in-the-field retrofit to existing fluorescent exposure frames, the Shine LED Lamp Kit enables flexo trade shops and printers to gain all the efficiency and sustainability benefits of LED exposure technology at a fraction of the cost – and

without some of the challenges - of a new system.

And it does it all in an open solution compatible with most third-party fluorescent exposure frames, as well as working with both FLEXCEL NX and all major LAMS plates — there is no need for special 'tuned' plates to accelerate plate making because of the short high-power bursts of alternative LED solutions.

The Shine LED Lamp Kit eliminates the frequent bulb changes, plate remakes and mercury disposal necessary with fluorescent technology, resulting in decreased waste. Sustainability is enhanced due to reduced energy consumption, with Shine LED outperforming fluorescent bulbs by up to 80%. With no lamp warm-up and cool down, exposure times are up to 20% faster, increasing plate room productivity and reducing bottlenecks. Instead of spending unproductive hours monitoring and recalibrating an unpredictable, inconsistent process, highly skilled operators have greater confidence in platemaking consistency and repeatability over time. The uniformity of the flexo plate exposure also enables on-press efficiencies, with more consistent printing and a reduction in unplanned press stops.

For more information on the Shine LED Lamp Kit, go to https://www.miraclon.com/go/shineled/.

Driving Efficiency in Rotogravure: Helio Asia Ltd. Adopts CLOUDFLOW and PACKZ

Founded in 1997, Helio Asia Ltd. is a Belgian-owned repro house and leading manufacturer of high-quality rotogravure printing cylinders. Based in Thailand, Helio Asia serves as a benchmark in Southeast Asia for precision and innovation in rotogravure cylinder production.

We were honored to be hosted at their state-of-the-art facility as they successfully implemented Hybrid Software's advanced workflow solutions — CLOUDFLOW and PACKZ — to streamline their design and production processes.

By integrating HYBRID solutions, Helio Asia Ltd. is now equipped with one of the most advanced digital workflows for rotogravure printing in the region. From job acceptance to final delivery, their entire operation is becoming seamlessly connected, ensuring faster turnaround, fewer errors, and higher efficiency.

• CLOUDFLOW: Our modular production workflow suite for file processing, asset management, soft proofing, and workflow automation.

• PACKZ: A powerful, all-in-one PDF editor designed specifically for the demands of prepress professionals.

As Helio Asia Ltd. continues to innovate, Hybrid Software is proud to be the intelligent link between their design, data, and production systems.

"With Proofscope, we're able to see in-file information and fine details more clearly than ever before. The ability to quickly compare the 'before' and 'after' versions of a file—side by side—makes the review process faster, more accurate, and incredibly efficient. It's a real game-changer for our prepress workflow", shares the prepress manager at Helio Asia Ltd.

Ms. Siriporn Sukkanta , Prepress manager at Helio Asia Ltd
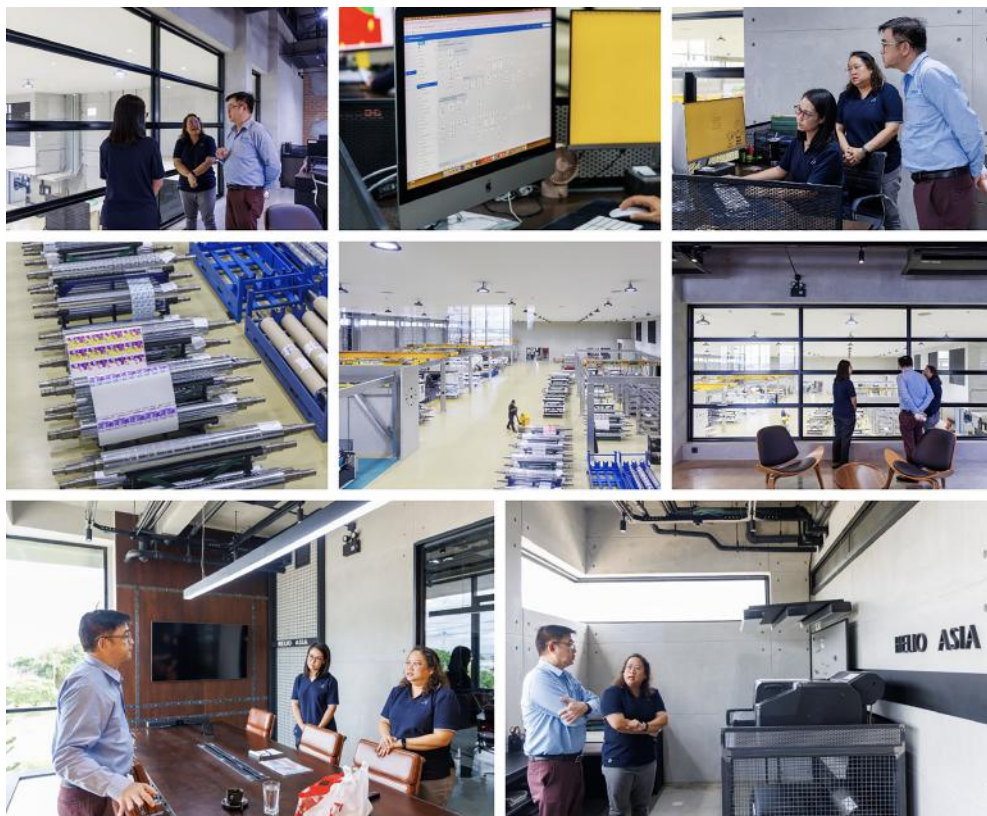
Sumate Jankasamepong Sales Director S.E.A. Hybrid Software, Ms. Martina Chanklang, Prepress Supervisor and Ms. Siriporn Sukkanta, Prepress Manager

HBD Packaging chooses high-end printing technology

HBD Packaging, a family-owned company founded in 1985 and based in Greater Noida on the outskirts of Delhi, India, has expanded its production capacities with a new sheetfed offset press.

Aditya Surana (l.), Managing Director of Koenig & Bauer's sales partner Indo Polygraph Machinery, presents a model of the Rapida 106 to Rajiv Bhargava, Managing Director of HBD Packaging, and his grandson – Rivaan Bhargava

At the end of August, a Rapida 106 with seven printing units and a coater from Koenig & Bauer was officially commissioned. This investment reinforces HBD Packaging's leading position in the Indian packaging industry and marks a significant step towards further optimising its production processes.

Led by brothers Rajiv and Neeraj Bhargava, the company holds all major certifications for packaging production, including ISO 9001:2015, ISO 22000:2018, HACCP, FSC®, and FSSC 22000.

Advanced technology for peak performance and flexibility
The new Rapida 106 is a highly configured seven-colour press with a coater, specially tailored to HBD Packaging's needs. With a special format of 750 x 1,060 mm and the ability to process boards up to 1.2 mm thick, it offers impressive versatility for HBD's entire production spectrum, which includes folding cartons, laminated solid and corrugated cardboard, hang tags, and much more.

Equipped with a fully automatic plate changing system (FAPC), combined washing devices, and the ErgoTronic ColorDrive (with L*a*b measurement)

and Automatic Camera Register measurement and control systems, the Rapida 106 enables extremely short makeready times and high production speeds of up to 18,000 sheets per hour.

These technical features ensure fast, smooth, and more reliable production, which directly impacts the company's efficiency and profitability. Additionally, the press includes non-stop feeders and delivery, and the entire machine is raised to handle larger stacks.

Reliable partnership as a guarantee for success
The key factors in HBD Packaging's decision to choose Koenig & Bauer were

the convincing technical features and the strong local support.

Rajiv Bhargava, Managing Director of HBD Packaging, particularly highlighted the SIS (Sensoric Infeed System), fast delivery time, excellent local service, and short makeready times. "The Rapida 106 is our dream machine. We want to use it to strengthen our market position and unlock new potential. We are already experiencing faster, smoother, and more reliable production than ever before. In that regard, the investment was a strategic step for us."

Aditya Surana, Managing Director of Koenig & Bauer's Indian sales partner Indo Polygraph Machinery: "We are absolutely delighted with the order. This order proves our Rapida technology remains the benchmark of productivity and performance in the Indian market."

Sustainable Pasta Packaging: Don Quijote's Shift to Flexographic

In response to growing concerns over the environmental impact of food packaging, Japanese companies are taking innovative steps to cut emissions without compromising quality.

A new collaboration between Don Quijote Co., Ltd. (Pan Pacific International Holdings Corporation), Sagawa Printing Co., Ltd., and Asahi Kasei—parent company of Asahi Photoproducts—has led to a significant reduction in CO2 emissions in the printing of frozen pasta packaging.

For the private-label "Yaba Mori Pasta" series, Don Quijote Co., Ltd. has chosen to implement water-based flexographic printing, using Asahi's AWP™ water-washable flexographic plate. This printing method replaces conventional solvent-based gravure printing, a dominant practice in Japan, and marks a forward-thinking step in sustainable food packaging.

Sagawa Printing established the optimal printing conditions for this transition in close collaboration with Asahi Kasei. According to their calculations, this method is expected to reduce CO2 emissions from the printing process by approximately 60 percent compared to conventional gravure systems.

Water-based flexographic printing inherently generates fewer emissions, thanks to the water-based inks and the AWP™ plate's development process. While solvent-based gravure printing continues to dominate Japan's packaging industry, growing environmental awareness is driving interest in more sustainable alternatives. The "Yaba Mori Pasta" packaging serves as a tangible example of how food brands can reduce their environmental footprint through innovation in print technology.

Through partnerships like this, Asahi aims to contribute to a more sustainable society, promoting the elimination of VOCs and supporting cleaner production processes across the food packaging sector.
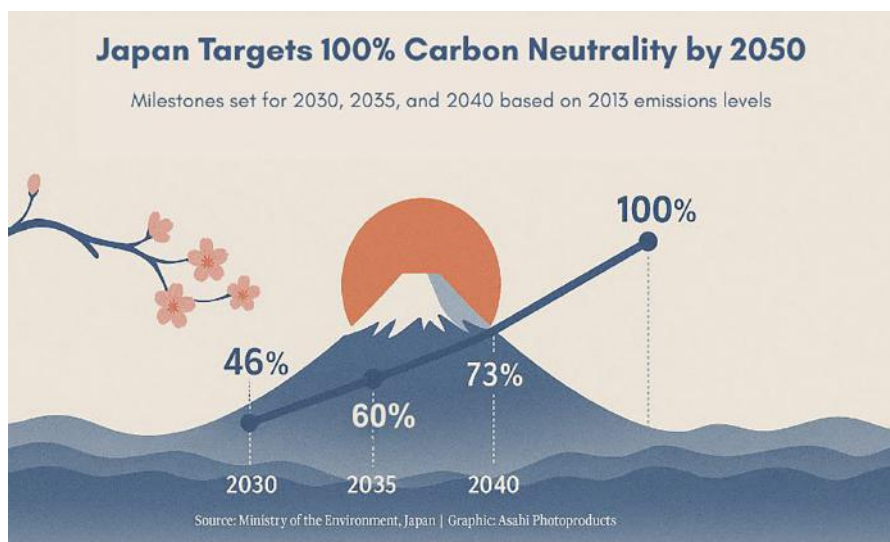
Japan Targets 100% Carbon Neutrality by 2050

Milestones set for 2030, 2035, and 2040 based on 2013 emissions levels

100%

46%   73%

60%

2030   2035   2040

Source: Ministry of the Environment, Japan | Graphic: Asahi Photoproducts

3.4m Colorado XL-series Powered by its Unique UVgel Technology

Canon announces the Colorado XL-series, a new platform of 3.4m/11ft printers that extends the proven advantages of Canon's UVgel technology to the 3.2m/10ft graphics market. Available in hybrid and roll-to-roll configurations, the modular, field upgradable platform powered by UVgel technology delivers great versatility and exceptional productivity for both flexible and rigid media applications.

The Colorado XL-series comprises two easy-to-operate models: the Colorado XL7 roll-to-roll printer and Colorado XL7 hybrid printer. The new series brings the benefits of UVgel to a new market segment with exceptional application versatility across a comprehensive range of media – from banner, paper, vinyl and films to textiles, heat-sensitive materials, foam board, fluted polypropylene, acrylic, aluminium composite boards and cardboard – providing the flexibility to tackle diverse customer requirements.

With print speeds up to 70m²/23[1] boards[2] per hour in quality mode, 106m2/351 boards per hour in production mode and up to 211m²/701 boards per hour in express mode, the system delivers the productivity needed for demanding production environments while accommodating substrates up to 52mm thick for rigid applications.

The new platform includes multiple technology innovations, such as the UVgel 860 gel set, which has been optimised to cover a wide variety of both rigid and flexible applications. It also provides the proven benefits of UVgel: odourless and instant-dry prints, high mechanical and chemical robustness, dimensional stability due to low-temperature curing, excellent colour consistency, TPO[3]- and VCL[4]-free, and matte and gloss finish without the need of a separate varnish.

The Colorado XL-series also incorporates new UVgel 850 PrintHeads. Each printhead has 4,544 nozzles and features automated built-in nozzle performance monitoring and compensation. A single printhead supports two colours simultaneously, so that only two printheads are required to print CMYK, plus an optional third if white is needed. Additionally, the Colorado XL-series has an agile and precise printhead carriage that features UVgel DynamicMotion Control to ensure exceptional print quality even with challenging media.

Taking the UV LED curing process to the next level, the Colorado XL-series introduces UVgel FullBeam Curing. This technology uses a unique 3.4m-wide LED curing array that, combined with an ingenious mirror system, delivers consistent UV light dosing across the entire print width, guaranteeing exceptional print uniformity over large surfaces and enabling a wider colour gamut. Media handling is optimised by the new UVgel TRIdrive vacuum belt system, which features three interactive rollers and multiple powerful vacuum zones that reduce wrinkling and skewing by automatically detecting and correcting the media positioning. This results in highly repeatable media transport through the printer, ensuring accurate positioning both longitudinally and laterally and enabling razor-sharp applications.

Optional features for the Colorado XL-series include UVgel White for hassle-free white printing, FLXfinish+ for creative effects using matte or gloss or mixed matte and gloss on the same print without additional varnish, and FLXture for textured finishes that mimic materials like leather, wood or fabric.

Katsuya (Kurt) Tode, Director, Regional Commercial and Industrial Printing, Canon Singapore, comments: "Our customers in Singapore and across Asia are seeking solutions that address the dual challenges of delivering exceptional print quality and efficiency in the face of a widening talent gap of skilled operators. The Colorado XL-series is designed to meet these demands, offering a combination of advanced automation, modular design and Canon's unique UVgel technology that streamlines workflow and operator productivity.

SMALL RUN. BIG IMPACT.

Enhance your high-quality packaging with the UVgel Packaging Factory.

Offering fast, flexible, and cost-effective digital printing for short runs, custom designs, and rapid turnarounds - perfect for meeting growing demand in personalized packaging.

THE UVGEL PACKAGING FACTORY

MAKE YOUR PACKAGING POP WITH UVGEL TECHNOLOGIES

UVgel
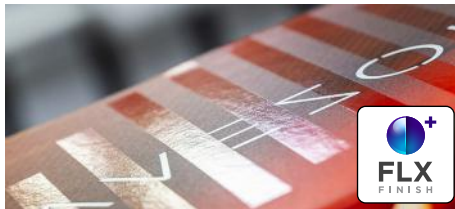
White Ink Without Worry

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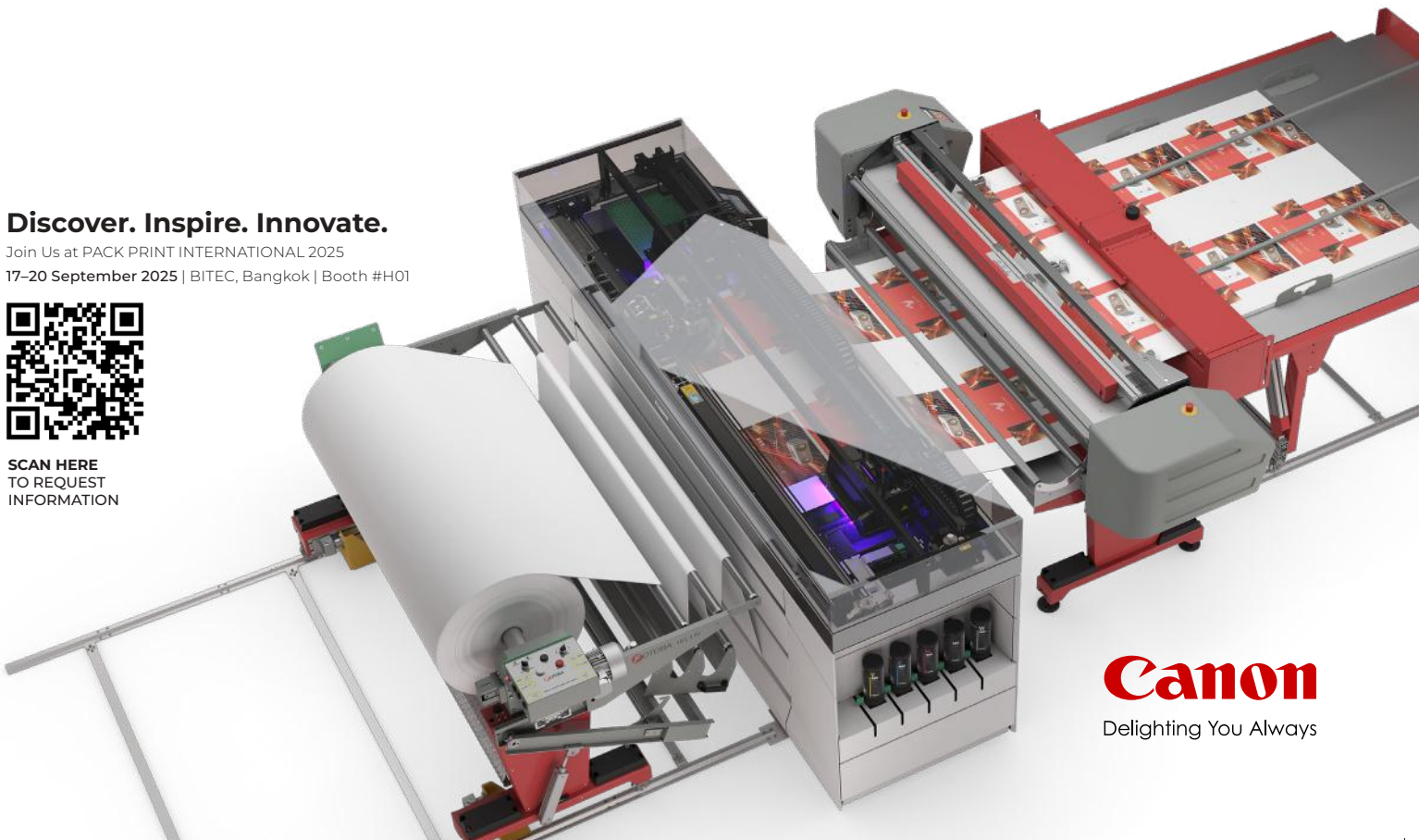
BEST INNOVATION AWARD 2025 GLOBAL

Title
"Island, Alone" (Artist Book)

Company
Project team 'Every Single Day'

Press
Revoria Press™ EC2100S / SC285S/ PC1120

Region
South Korea

FUJIFILM Business Innovation Innovation Print Awards 25 Global winners

FUJIFILM Business Innovation Recognizes 36 Global Achievements in Print Excellence

FUJIFILM Business Innovation announces the winners of the Innovation Print Awards 2025 Global (hereafter: IPA 2025 Global), recognizing 36 winners for their creativity and technical excellence from 170 submissions printed on FUJIFILM-branded production presses worldwide.

Now in its 18th year for the Innovation Print Awards (hereafter: IPA) and second year as a global competition, the IPA received entries from 14 countries and regions, including Japan, Singapore, South Korea, the United States, and Germany. With numerous entries in Books, Packaging, and Creative Design, the competition highlighted the versatility and innovation enabled by FUJIFILM Business Innovation's advanced toner and inkjet technologies.

A Global Celebration of Print Excellence The Innovation Print Awards Global brings together FUJIFILM-branded production press owners from around the world, fostering a vibrant community of innovators pushing the boundaries of

digital print. This year's winners leveraged FUJIFILM Business Innovation's advanced toner and inkjet technologies, including the Revoria PressTM series, Jet Press series, and Acuity series, to deliver standout applications and expand their product offerings.

The competition showcased the growing adoption of specialty colors, as press owners moved beyond traditional CMYK to create visually striking outputs. With the recent launch of the Revoria PressTM EC2100S and SC285S, the Revoria PressTM series' lineup boasts the largest range of specialty color production presses, empowering customers to unlock new creative opportunities and broaden their capabilities.

"Overall, the quality of this year's event and the difficulty of some of the jobs produced that were submitted have shown how digital print production is fast becoming the industry standard," said Paul Callaghan, Head Judge in IPA 2025 Global. "As commercial offset print runs decrease, digital is already filling the gap

left by picking up the lower print runs and now being produced by the digital print process."

The IPA Global is a testament to FUJIFILM's commitment to empowering its customers with the tools and technologies they need to succeed. FUJIFILM Business Innovation's toner and inkjet solutions enable vibrant colors, intricate details, and efficient workflows, while also supporting sustainable practices. These technologies continue to drive innovation and inspire customers to expand the frontiers of what's possible in digital print.

Looking Ahead
As the print industry evolves, FUJIFILM Business Innovation remains dedicated to supporting its customers and driving the future of print. The IPA Global will continue to serve as a platform to inspire, challenge, and celebrate the best in the industry, fostering collaboration and innovation across the global print community.

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Winning Category	Global	Company Name	Region
Best Innovation Award 2025 Global	Winner	Project team 'Every Single Day'	South Korea
Books	Winner	Paperprinn On Demand Sdn Bhd	Malaysia
	Runner Up	Xinyang Keda Digital Printing Co., Ltd.	Chinese Mainland
Photobooks	Winner	WEGNER GmbH	Germany
	Runner Up	Infopaper Technology (M) Sdn. Bhd.	Malaysia
Catalogue	Winner	DG Colorprints FZ LLC	Dubai UAE
	Runner Up	Neo Digital Co., Ltd.	Thailand
Multi-Piece Campaign	Winner	Shanghai Library Print-on-Demand Service	Chinese Mainland
	Runner Up	Vivar Printing Sdn. Bhd. / Chan Hui Jin	Malaysia
Wide Format Applications	Winner	Image Quality Lab Co., Ltd.	Thailand
Carton Packaging	Winner	SUN PRINTING CO., LTD.	Japan
	Runner Up	Neo Digital Co., Ltd.	Thailand
Digital Labels	Winner	Welcome Media Together Co., Ltd.	Thailand
	Runner Up	University of Shanghai For Science and Technology	Chinese Mainland
Calendar	Winner	WEGNER GmbH	Germany
Food / Drink Menu	Winner	M.I.W. Group Co., Ltd.	Thailand
	Runner Up	Neo Digital Co., Ltd.	Thailand
Art Reproduction	Winner	Image Quality Lab Co., Ltd.	Thailand
	Runner Up	Nanjing Yihaoyin Digital Printing Co., Ltd.	Chinese Mainland
Direct Mails	Winner	TEAM Concept Printing	United States
	Runner Up	Impress Print Services Limited	UK
Creative Design	Winner	Project team 'Every Single Day'	South Korea
	Runner Up	Nanjing Yihaoyin Digital Printing Co., Ltd.	Chinese Mainland
Sustainability	Winner	Banway Marketing Sdn. Bhd.	Malaysia
	Runner Up	Beluga Ltd (a subsidiary of Hung Hing Printing Group)	Hong Kong SAR
Use of Specialty Colours	Winner	WEGNER GmbH	Germany
	Runner Up	Image Quality Lab Co., Ltd.	Thailand
Company Self Promotion	Winner	Impress Print Services Limited	UK
	Runner Up	KPP Packaging Pte Ltd	Singapore
Technology Innovation	Winner	Nanjing Amity Printing Co., Ltd.	Chinese Mainland
	Runner Up	Ningbo Baiyun Printing Co., Ltd.	Chinese Mainland
Education	Winner	Galeri Seni Tuanku Nur Zahirah (GESTURZ), Universiti Teknologi Mara	Malaysia
	Runner Up	Marshall Cavendish Education Pte Ltd	Singapore
Magazine	Winner	Impress Print Services Limited	UK
	Runner Up	Zhejiang Xinhua Advertising Co., Ltd.	Chinese Mainland
Point of Sales	Winner	BUP Group Sdn. Bhd.	Malaysia

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Full integration of GMG's spectral color management technology

Durst Group integrates GMG color management into Durst Workflow and Smart Factory portfolio – A new benchmark in color-accurate print production

Durst Group integrates GMG color management into Durst Workflow and Smart Factory portfolio – A new benchmark in color-accurate print production

Durst Group, a manufacturer of digital printing and production technologies, announces the full integration of GMG's spectral color management technology into its proprietary Durst Workflow software as well as into the open Smart Factory portfolio of the Open Software Initiative.

With this integration, Durst is setting a new industry benchmark for automated and color-consistent production – regardless of printing system or substrate. From now on, the Durst Workflow will be delivered with fully embedded spectral color management from GMG. Existing customers with a valid software agreement will receive the new solution at no additional cost.

The integration covers all market segments in which Durst operates: labels & packaging, corrugated, and sign & display. In addition, the GMG solution becomes a key component of Durst's modular Smart Factory architecture, which is central to the Open Software Initiative – Durst's vision of an open, fully connected production ecosystem.

"By integrating GMG into our Durst Workflow and open Smart Factory platform, we are delivering a new level of color consistency – fully automated and highly scalable," says Michael Deflorian, Director Business Unit Software & Solutions at Durst Group.

"At the same time, this marks a first real-world example of a true best-of-breed integration in the spirit of our Open Software Initiative. It underlines our ambition to deliver the best software solutions on the market – not just for Durst customers, but for the entire print industry."

Darrian Young, Global Partnership Manager at GMG, adds: "This partnership brings together two companies with innovation and quality at the core of their DNA. The integration into the Durst Workflow and Smart Factory architecture enables a consistent, media-neutral production process – a real gamechanger for the market."

With this milestone, Durst Group further strengthens its position as a technology provider for end-to-end production solutions while advancing the open, cross-system approach of the Open Software Initiative.

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Why it is time for printers to reposition themselves as strategic partners

Print has a rare chance to differentiate and deliver results in a world oversaturated with digital ads. But that will happen only when printers step forward.

That is a key takeaway from Print Power's latest article highlighting how real time marketing is being made possible with automation and integration of Application Programming Interfaces (API).

Print used to take weeks of planning, quoting, design, approvals, and production. It also struggled to match the slick dashboard based reportability that performance marketers, CRM managers, digital advertisers and agencies rely on.

Now automated direct mail can be set in motion with a few clicks - directly from the same marketing platforms used to trigger emails, SMS, or push notifications and even social media posts.

Automated direct mail, also called programmatic mail or triggered mail, is a highly effective, hyper personalised channel that can be immediately actioned by abandoned baskets, reactivation flows prompted by customer inactivity, welcome sequences, and loyalty campaigns.

Print can land on the doormat, or in the mailbox, as soon as the next day.

This dynamic approach drives significantly higher response and conversion rates, increased average order value, and achieves a tangible, brand-rich interaction. Some of which I explored here.

It is being enabled by the following:
• Seamless integration with modern software connecting creative templates, CRM systems, customer data, and analytics into a single automated process. Direct mail performance can be tracked alongside digital campaigns by making use of attribution models to determine the trigger for online sales.

• An increased ability to measure results. For years, print suffered from the perception problem that it couldn't be measured. But today's data tells a different story and automated mail generates impressive returns.

• Greater focus on ROI rather than cost. Offline channels like direct mail tend to be more expensive than digital options but they often deliver higher conversion rates. Deutsche Post reported a 900% return on advertising spend, or nine euros in revenue for every euro spent. Postage, often the major cost in a direct mail campaign, can by reduced by using postal consolidators. These specialised service providers share deliveries at discounted rates.

• Enhanced software removing the complexity, with automated platforms managing templates, data cleansing, address validation, postal optimisation, and print fulfilment. For example, a single API that collects data, triggers campaigns and routes production.

Automation elevates print's visibility in performance dashboards for marketers, CRM leads, and digital media teams. It is helping put print back on the radar.

Important too, for many clients, is working with a partner that provides a full service approach to manage the complexity of print mailings.

For printers that have invested heavily in automation and production technology the next step is engaging with the world of CRM, marketing automation, and customer data.

Delivering a comprehensive service also helps attract first time users who see the potential of automated mail but need guidance throughout the process.

If print is to reclaim its place in the media mix, marketers need someone to show them.

Now is the time for printers to reposition themselves as strategic partners and lead the way.

Flexo Plate Making Connected

The Esko CDI Crystal XPS sets the benchmark for flexo plate making productivity & quality. High imaging quality and unique exposure consistency result in excellent flexographic print. Automated plate transport and integration with prepress provide for unseen productivity levels.

Esko Print Control Wizard software adds a new level of simplification and turns flexo plate making into a coordinated and streamlined process, enabling operators to quickly create premium flexo plates.

Esko - Flexo Plate Making Connected

Oxygen Inhibition in Flexo Plate Pro (and Glunz & Jensen Flex-Pose) W

What is Artificial Intelligence's role in the printing industry? For many it is limited to powering chatbots on their websites, automating order intake, managing prepress tasks, optimising some press settings, or informing predictive maintenance. All very useful of course.

Oxygen inhibition—the tendency of atmospheric oxygen to quench free-radical polymerization at the plate surface—has long been a limiting factor in flexographic photopolymer plate production. It manifests as tacky surfaces, bullet shaped dots, lost highlights, and variability across the sheet.

Next generation UV LED exposure, coupled with tight process control, dramatically reduces these effects in everyday production. Glunz & Jensen's Flex Pose LED platform brings the consistency, intensity, and thermal stability needed to suppress oxygen inhibition and repeatedly deliver flat top, well anchored dots at industrial scale.

What Oxygen Inhibition Is—and Why Printers Care

•**Mechanism**: Molecular oxygen diffuses into the top microns of the photopolymer during exposure and scavenges initiating and propagating radicals. The surface polymerizes more slowly than the bulk, yielding under cured top layers.

• **Symptom**s on plate/press: Tacky or soft surface, requiring longer post exposure/finishing Bullet or pin cushion dots (rounded tops and weak shoulders) Fragile highlight dots that break down on press Non uniformity across the plate when lamp intensity or temperature drifts

• **Business impact**: Lost time in makeready, variable print densities, and higher waste.

Why LED Exposure Improves Oxygen Inhibition vs. Traditional UV Tubes

Traditional UV fluorescent tubes (and aging mercury lamps) have served flexo for decades, but they suffer from broad spectrum output, lower peak irradiance at actinic wavelengths, warm up drift, and spatial non uniformity. These characteristics lengthen the time the plate surface sits in the oxygen rich boundary layer while radicals are being quenched. In contrast, modern UV LED exposure improves inhibition for four practical reasons:

1. High Peak Irradiance at the Right Wavelengths LED arrays deliver concentrated energy (typically around 365–405 nm) with minimal IR. A high initial photon flux quickly creates a dense radical population at the surface, outrunning oxygen diffusion in the top microns. Shorter, more decisive exposures mean less time for oxygen to quench the reaction.

2. Instant On, Pulsed, and Precisely Metered Dose Unlike tubes that need warm up and drift as they age, LEDs switch at full output instantly and can be dosed by speed, duty cycle, or passes. This dose on target control allows recipes that "snap cure" the surface early, then complete through cure without overheating or overexposing.

3. Tight Thermal Control LED bars generate substantially less IR load. With a cooled exposure bed (on the Flex-Pose LED range from us) and stabilized LED temperature, the plate's viscosity and oxygen diffusivity at the surface stay consistent, enabling repeatable top layer conversion and limiting tack.
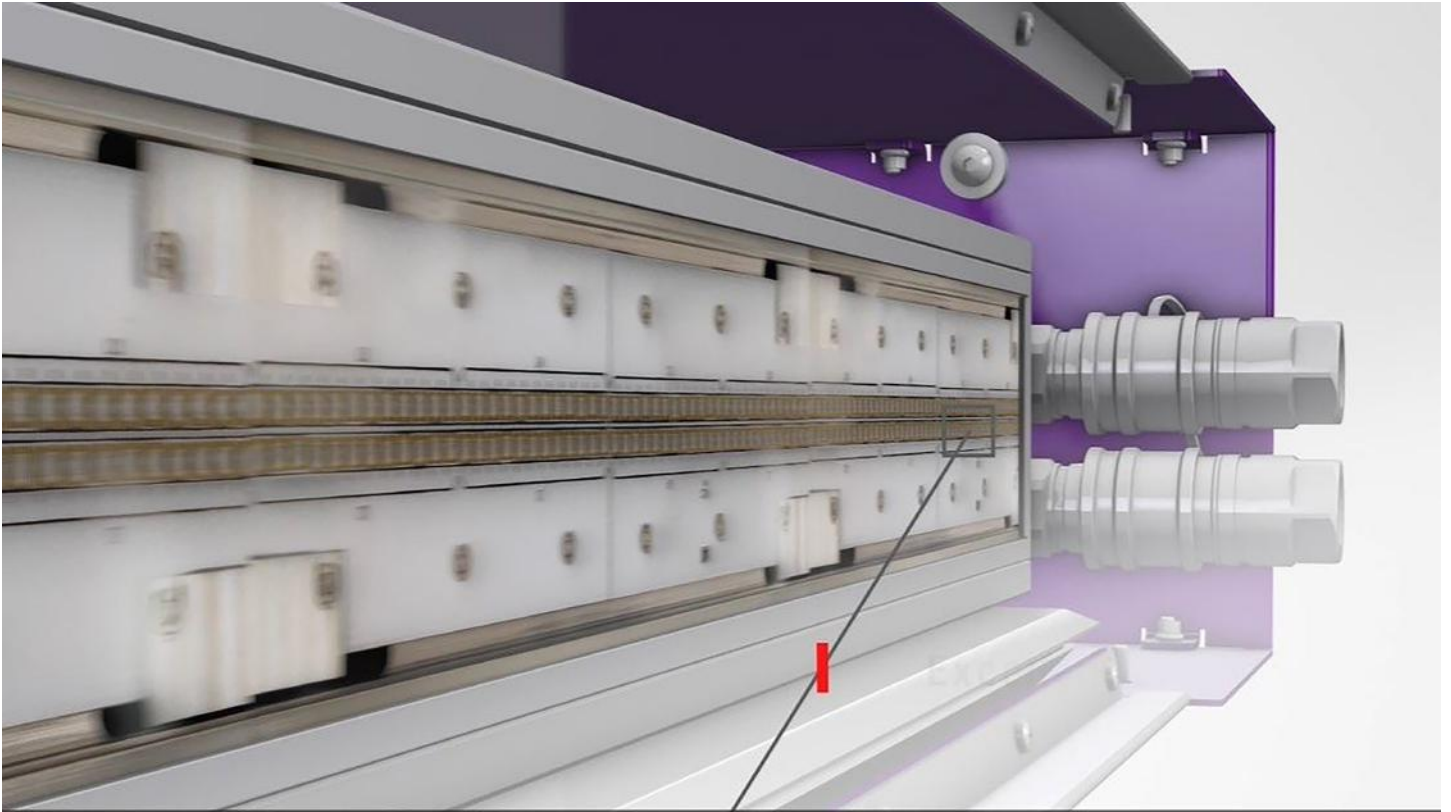
4. Uniformity Across the Bed Well designed LED heads produce far smaller spatial non uniformity than mixed age tubes. That uniformity translates into consistent dot height and shoulder

Per Arild - Chief Commercial Officer @ Glunz & Jensen A/S

oduction—Why LED Exposure
ins

formation, minimizing local pockets of under cure where oxygen inhibition would otherwise show up.

Net effect: with LED, the surface reaches a polymerization threshold faster and more uniformly, so oxygen has less opportunity to interfere. The result is flatter tops, cleaner highlights, and plates that come off the unit closer to press ready.

Why Glunz & Jensen Flex Pose LED Limits Oxygen Inhibition
Flex Pose LED is engineered around the specific process levers that govern oxygen inhibition in the plate room:

• **Dose & Speed Control** Exposure percentage and head traverse speed are fully programmable and repeatable. Operators can set exposure recipes that front load surface energy (mitigating oxygen) and then deliver a controlled cumulative dose for through cure—without the over bake that embrittles highlights.

• **LED Temperature Stabilization** The system actively regulates LED bar temperature. Stable junction temperature equals stable irradiance and spectrum, which equals predictable top layer conversion day to day.

• **Cooled Bed** A cooled exposure bed limits plate warming, reducing changes in oxygen diffusivity and preventing soft, tack prone surfaces. Lower thermal load also protects the LAMS mask and ensures crisp relief.
• **Servo Driven Head,**
Uniform Footprint Servo control ensures constant head speed and overlap, which keeps spatial dose uniformity tight across the full plate area—closing off pockets where inhibition could lurk.

• **LED Lifetime & Consistency** LEDs retain output characteristics for thousands of hours, eliminating the "mixed vintage tube set" problem that builds variability and reintroduces inhibition artifacts as tubes age at different rates.

Put together, these design choices deliver a repeatable, high irradiance, thermally stable exposure environment that materially reduces oxygen inhibited surfaces—without resorting to

cumbersome nitrogen cabinets or barrier films in day to day work. When LED tuned plates are used, oxygen inhibition moves from a daily headache to a controllable variable.

Business Outcomes You Can Expect
• Higher first time right rate: fewer re exposures and finish cycles
• Cleaner highlights and longer plate life: better surface cure and stronger shoulders
• Lower energy and maintenance: LED efficiency and long life vs. tube replacement cycles
• Consistent quality at scale: less drift between shifts and across sites

Bottom Line
Oxygen inhibition isn't going away, but with modern UV LED exposure the physics finally favor the plate maker. By delivering fast, uniform surface cure under tight thermal control, LED exposure shortens the window in which oxygen can do damage. Glunz & Jensen's Flex Pose LED builds those controls into the hardware—dose, speed, temperature, and uniformity—so production teams can ship plates with flat tops, clean highlights, and fewer surprises

How PSPs can drive client engagement with AI

What is Artificial Intelligence's role in the printing industry? For many it is limited to powering chatbots on their websites, automating order intake, managing prepress tasks, optimising some press settings, or informing predictive maintenance. All very useful of course.

47% of organisations use basic AI tools like ChatGPT and Google according to Keypoint Intelligence. Just 13% reported a deeper company wide use of the technology.

Keypoint Intelligence's research went on to show operations can use AI to not only optimise existing processes, but to innovate and create new opportunities.

For example, AI can help anticipate market trends, enhance supply chains, and deliver highly personalised products or services based on customer behaviour and preferences.

AI-driven decision making can also enhance strategic planning by uncovering insights that may go unnoticed through human analysis alone.

Those operations that adopt advanced AI applications, can revolutionise how they operate and engage with customers too. They can power predictive analytics, personalised customer experiences, and even dynamic decision making systems that continuously learn and adapt.

Marketers across many industries are already capitalising on what the technology can deliver:

• 55% that use AI rely on it for text based content creation. Additionally, 38% use AI for multimedia, including videos, images, and audio.
• 60% believe AI helps them personalise the customer experience.
• 51% apply AI to email marketing and newsletter platforms.

Print service providers (PSPs) can also incorporate AI possibilities into their services.

Those with in house design departments can enhance creativity and streamline the design process with tools that provide automatic suggestions regarding layouts, colour schemes, and even typography, based on the main body of work's content and context. They can quickly automatically enhance images, correct colours, remove backgrounds, and upscale resolutions without losing quality.

With campaign data analysis PSPs can help their clients produce highly customised designs that resonate well with the target audience. They can also review past orders and interactions to help predict future needs and better tailor marketing. This can help clients successfully manage their campaigns as well as develop and deliver more impactful customer engagement.

Artificial Intelligence provides a powerful toolkit to optimise current processes and push the boundaries of creativity, efficiency, and client engagement.

Internally it can help PSPs drive innovation and stand out in an increasingly competitive market by working smarter. Externally, it can allow stronger relationships to be created with clients by using up to the minute data to inform highly targeted, intelligent personalisation, which elevates their customer communications activities.

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Why security in the print now more than ever

In 2025, the print industry is more connected, automated, and data-driven than ever before and technological advancements are happening at record pace.

While this digital transformation has unlocked new efficiencies, it has also introduced new vulnerabilities, especially in the software that powers modern print operations. As a result, printers can no longer afford to be complacent. They must be agile and responsive to meet evolving challenges, especially when it comes to proactive security strategies.

Across the print industry, print security is no longer just an IT issue, it's a business imperative. At Kodak, we understand the unique challenges your customers face, and we're committed to helping you protect your assets, your clients, and your reputation.

The Evolving Threat Landscape in Print

Cyber threats are no longer limited to email phishing or network breaches. Today, print software and connected devices are prime targets for attackers looking to take advantage of unsecured devices and systems that are often ignored in traditional security setups.

According to Quocirca's Print Security Landscape report*, 59% of organizations experienced a print-related data breach in

the past year. For printers handling sensitive customer files, such as packaging proofs, marketing collateral, or regulated documents, these breaches can result in lost business, compliance violations, and reputational damage.

Why Print Workflows Are Vulnerable

Printing companies operate in high-volume, high-value environments where uptime and data integrity are critical. But many still rely on legacy systems or unsecure and unsupported systems that are a prime target for cyber-crime. Here's where the risks lie:

• Outdated Software: Legacy, unsupported workflow tools may lack modern security patches or monitoring capabilities.

• Unencrypted File Transfers: Print jobs often traverse multiple stages—from client to print service provider, through prepress, RIP, and output systems—without encryption, exposing sensitive data to potential security risks.

• Weak Access Controls: Without user authentication, sensitive files can be accessed or altered by unauthorized people.

• Cloud and Remote Access Risks: As hybrid work models and cloud-based printing solutions become more prevalent, inadequate support and oversight can introduce new vulnerabilities.

Kodak's Commitment to Secure Print Innovation

At Kodak, we've built our solutions with arguably the best security methods possible, because we know that protecting your print environment is essential to protecting your business.
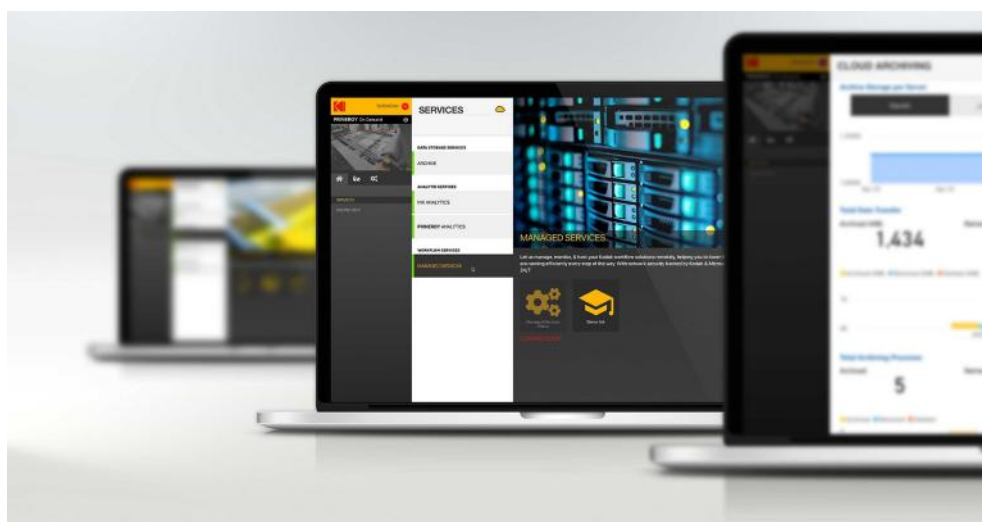
industry matters

PRINERGY Platform

The KODAK PRINERGY Platform is trusted by printers worldwide for its robust automation, scalability, and security. Key features include:

• End-to-End Encryption: Protects against unencrypted file transfers by securing data as it moves between systems.

• Role-Based Access Control: Mitigates weak access controls by ensuring only authorized users can access sensitive files and functions.

• Audit Logging: Supports accountability and compliance, helping detect unauthorized access and changes.

• Automated Updates: Addresses outdated software risks by ensuring systems stay current with the latest security patches.

PRINERGY with Managed Services

Hosted on Microsoft Azure, PRINERGY with Managed Services moves the traditional on-premises PRINERGY system to a virtual environment where the entire infrastructure is monitored and managed by Kodak and backed by Microsoft:

• Real-time data redundancy and backup

• Automated maintenance & updates
• Compliance with ISO 27001, SOC 2, and GDPR

The Bottom Line

Your customers trust you with their most valuable content. In 2025, that trust depends on more than print quality—it depends on data security.

UV ANALYZER
FOR UV AND LED UV UNITS

The UV Analyzer is a app-based UV radiation measuering device.

The measuring is quite easy. Put the strip on your substrate, irradiate it with UV and measure the strip with the stick. The app will show you the measured dose in mJ/cm². This dose value can be compared with your reference value to determine aging.

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Around the Globe: The Primera P Cherished as a "Work Horse"

Whether in the US, Europe, or Asia – the Primera PRO convinces across the board with its versatility and efficiency. The highly automated system is not only a symbol of quality and reliability, but also the "work horse among saddle stitchers."

The secret of the Primera PRO, according to Adrian Mayr, Product Manager at Müller Martini, is its high level of automation and fast setup times, as well as its ease of use: "The big touchscreen with intuitive interaction makes it especially easy to learn to use, which in turn results in minimal training required. This reduces costs and proves to be a major benefit when it comes to staffing changes as well."

"A game-changer"

According to Yannick Bucher, Managing Director of Schär Druckverarbeitung AG in Wikon, Switzerland, who was trained on the Primera PRO together with his machine operators, easy operation ensures smooth production processes, speeds up production windows, and results in more efficient production overall, something that is very important in saddle stitching given the intense price competition. "The local panels on the feeders and three-knife trimmers enable precision adjustments during production, which is why our machine operators enjoy working with the Primera PRO. When it comes to ease of use, the new saddle stitcher is a game-changer."

Two became one

At American print shop Spectra Print, located in Stevens Point, the Primera PRO replaced two older saddle stitcher models – or in other words, "two became one". Executive Vice-President Hans Hofmeister had a clear goal in mind with the Primera PRO: "By speeding up setup times and increasing the production speed, we lower our staffing costs, boosting profits." This also helped the traditional company improve its market position. "Offering our customers attractive deals and faster windows makes us more competitive, helping us to secure more orders," emphasizes Hans Hofmeister.

No more complaints thanks to Asir PRO

"The Primera PRO is just the machine we need," stresses Stefan Riedl, Head of Bookbinding at Klampfer GmbH located in Sankt Ruprecht an der Raab, Austria, making mention of another advantage of the new saddle stitcher. Besides the Motion Control technology and the associated faster setup times and large-screen display, offering a quick overview, highlights also include the new Asir PRO camera system developed by Müller Martini.

This system recognizes and compares the signatures using 1D/2D barcode and/ or image comparison. Faulty products are definitely a thing of the past. "Ever since we commissioned the Primera PRO, there hasn't been a single complaint," says Stefan Riedl.

260 pages – no problem for the three-knife trimmer

"We need more than just a modern machine with a high cycle rate and Motion Control drive for fast, precise setup, but – most importantly for us – an automated and thickness-variable three-knife trimmer where the operator doesn't have to make any manual adjustments," says Marek Siwkowski, Head of Production at Polish print shop Gofin. Their total annual run of around 4.5 million saddle-stitched copies includes magazines with up to 260 pages. This is no problem for the Primera PRO's three-knife trimmer.

From nine to five – with no loss in output

At Yongcheng Shengda Printing in China, two Primera PRO saddle stitchers went into operation at the beginning of 2025, the company having produced on different pre-owned Müller Martini saddle stitchers in the past. With the two new Primera PROs, the number of saddle stitchers in Yongcheng has been reduced from the original nine to a total of five, with no loss in output. Stakeholders at Yongcheng Shengda Printing hope the

PRO Saddle Stitcher is

new multi-job function and Connex line control, which integrates the systems into the digital workflow, will result in long-term increases in productivity.

Two new Primera PRO saddle stitchers are producing to utmost satisfaction at Shengda Printing in Yongcheng, China. Shown: machine operator Silong Gao.

2025 ASIAN PACKAGING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SHIFT25

ASIAN LABELS AND PACKAGING CONFERENCE PATTYA THAILAND NOVEMBER 14th 2025