UV-curing Printers exhibited at SGI Dubai 2020

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Introduction

Trade shows have been essential for each industry around the world for many decades. We at FLAAR-REPORTS attend printer and visual communication trade shows around the world (this is what distinguishes our reports from the also helpful trade magazines). We base our reviews on physically standing in front of the printers and, when possible, testing them with our own images. Plus the team of FLAAR-REPORTS visits factories: A.T. Inks, EFI VUTEk, Apollo Inks. We have been to world headquarters of ColorJet (printers) and look forward to many more factory visits later this year and in 2021.

We are issuing three FLAAR-REPORTS on SGI Dubai 2020. By coincidence, with the pandemic, all other printer expos have been cancelled (Photokina 2020 for May, the largest digital photo equipment and photo printer expo in the world, is cancelled (not postponed)). Drupa is postponed. ISA has been re-scheduled but many re-scheduled expos are rethinking their schedule. FESPA 2020 is postponed and the expo center in Madrid is at the moment out of service for expos. Naturally we hope the late autumn expos will be able to continue, and obviously for 2021.

So our photo essay on what we experienced in peaceful and friendly Dubai at Sign Middle East 2020 is all the more helpful (since nowadays we all have a bit more time to read things on the Internet). Since the Internet around the world can barely handle all the increased usage from home, we need to keep the file size down, so for the large format UV-curing inkjet printers we focus on the brands that did print samples for us at SGI Dubai 2020.

We look forward to seeing our colleagues in the future, and in the meantime we will communicate to the 3,000+ Linkedin colleagues via Maria Renee Ayau, the 3,000+ Linkedin colleagues via Pablo M. Lee, the 4,000+ Linkedin colleagues via Dr Nicholas (Hellmuth) and FLAAR, and the 5,000+ Linkedin contacts via FLAAR-REPORTS plus we will be posting new material for the over half a million readers on our network of web sites.
Interesting UV-curing printers exhibited at SGI Dubai 2020

Canon Oce Colorado

The Canon Oce Colorado 1650 is an interesting UV-curing printer because its ink system is not based on liquid ink but on a gel, which allows for a faster dry time and a faster overall printing production.

Another advantage is that it has an advanced sensor system that allows the operator to easily print on both sides.
We thank personnel of Heliozid Océ, Dubai, for printing a number of samples with a selection of photographs from the FLAAR Mesoamerica photo archive.

Dr. Hellmuth flies back these samples to donate them to schools, museums and other educational centers, mainly in rural areas in Guatemala rain forest. There is a whole team of photographers, biologists and designers who work hard to document the flora and fauna of Mesoamerica and produce this type of high quality full-color material.
Teckwin

The Teckwin TS5000 HF is a 5-meter roll-to-roll UV-curing printer that was also exhibited by Heliozid Océ Emirates LLC, a printer distributor which handles other high quality printers. This company is a joint venture between Océ Holding B. V. and Heliozid Oce Reprographic Lebanon, SARL.

We have witnessed how Teckwin went from a modest entry-level hybrid UV-curing printer, to the current generation of superwide roll-to-roll UV-curing printers and other sturdy and advanced UV-curing models.
The Teckwin TS 5000 HF is capable of producing an accurate color gamut.
Dr. Hellmuth evaluating the images produced by the Teckwin TS 5000 HF.
Plamac

This printer brand is distributed by MASONLITE. The printers made by Plamac are definitely beyond the average in terms of build quality and print quality among Chinese manufacturers. If the company continues with the focus on quality, it is safe to forecast it will be among the top five Chinese printer manufacturers in the near future.

This model is the Plamac REFLION 5000UV, a sturdy 5-meter roll-to-roll UV-curing printer.
To evaluate the performance of the Plamac REFLION, we used two types of images: a vector-based design to show small text capability and a set of photographs of different flowers, to evaluate color saturation and color accuracy.

Plamac is on a good track with its UV-curing printers.
The Plamac REFLION produces accurate colors and fine text at small sizes.

As mentioned before in this and other FLAAR-REPORTS, the samples used in our printer evaluations serve two purposes: to determine a printer’s quality and color gamut capability. The second purpose is to produce high-quality material to be donated to public schools in poor regions of Guatemala. These schools have thanked several times these donations, especially because otherwise they don’t have access to this type of full-color material.
Desktop UV-curing printers exhibited at SGI Dubai 2020

This section is dedicated to the interesting UV-curing printers with a print width smaller than 1.6 m. As you will see in the following pages, some of them are classified as

- Small UV-curing printers (between 0.61 m and 1.59 m print width), and
- Desktop UV-curing printers (0.60 m or smaller print width)

**ArtisJet**

I would rank ArtisJet as among the top 5 desktop printer manufacturers in terms of engineering and manufacturing quality. They have no interest to be a low-bid entry level brand. They exhibit also at FESPA in Europe.

Their distributor, MASONLITE, cleverly provides each brand their own independent booth area within the larger MASONLITE space. This way each brand can fly in their key people and showcase their own brand.

At left, the Artisjet proV6 UV-curing desktop printer. At right, the Artisjet Artis 5000U, which has an print area more than two times the size of the print area of the proV6 model.
Compress

Compress is the UV-curing equipment brand name of Impression Technology, a company in Australia which manufactures the printers in Singapore. They have T-shirt printers under different brands.

However, Compress printers have a second website via ColDesi, which is the official distributor for the brand in North America. ColDesi is in Tampa, Florida. At SGI Dubai 2020, this printer was exhibited by Multisystem Technology. This shows this nice brand has distributors in several parts of the world.

This is the Compress UV-600s, a UV-curing printer with a print width of 0.6 m designed to print on specialty applications, such as souvenirs and promotional items.
In the showcase at the left, you see a number of applications but this model allows you to print glass and acrylic, cylindric drinkware, and even round objects.
Desert Signs

Desert Sign is currently a printer distributor company that is rebranding its UV-curing models. But the company started in 2005 as a supplies distributor for the graphics industry. So, it is remarkable how the company has grown in the last 15 years.

This small UV-curing flatbed printer has a print width of 1.10 m. Desert Signs has a wide range of printers of all sizes.
Nocai is another Chinese printer brand distributed by Desert Signs. Nocai specializes in desktop sized UV-curing printers at a relatively low price. You can easily find several distributors around the world working with this printer brand.
Direct Color Systems

Direct Color Systems is a company that has been exhibiting constantly at SGIA (now PRINTING United) and FESPA in Europe. It focuses exclusively on desktop sized UV-curing printers.

This model has interesting printing capabilities: it prints textured 3D applications. This is made possible by layering several coats of ink.

This 1024UVMVP 15 model was in the same booth as the antiquated Sun Innovations combo-belt printer.
PrintingPlus

PrintingPlus is a relatively new Chinese printer brand whose models are manufactured by Guangzhou Honeytek Printing Technology Co. Ltd.

This is the PrintingPlus 6090UV desktop flatbed printer.
Rikang Digital

This company based in Dongguan is belongs to a new breed of printer manufacturer whose UV-curing printers are 100% desktop models. The flagship printers of most other manufacturers are wide-format models, but Rikang Digital is a company totally focused in small printers, in terms of UV-curable ink models.

The Rikang Digital UV6090 has a print area of 60x90 cms. This type of printer has become widely popular among UV-curing printer manufacturers.
Since a good quality print, in addition to a well made printer, good quality ink, appropriate printable material, knowledgeable color management, also needs a high quality original photograph, we at FLAAR also cover digital photography, especially what equipment and what techniques produce the kind of image that will make your printer, your ink, your media look even better: www.digital-photography.org

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