Joel Carmany Featured in TLMI’s Exclusive Interview Series

TLMI has recently released the second in a series of the association’s Leading From The Front podcasts. These podcasts feature North American narrow web industry leaders and provide an opportunity to listen to featured guest speakers discussing their own entry into the marketplace in addition to what they view are the industry’s most significant present-day challenges, and the opportunities of tomorrow.

Recently Jennifer Dochstader, TLMI Communications Director, had the opportunity to talk with Joel Carmany, the President & CEO of Consolidated Label Co., and their extensive conversation can now be heard by visiting www.tlmi.com.

In this interview listeners will gain insight into the thought process and outlook of one of our most successful members as he talks about his own past in the industry and his thoughts on the future.

To listen to the interview simply click or paste this link into your web browser:
http://www.tlmi.com/leadingfromthefront.php

www.tlmi.com
Wikipedia defines search engine optimization (SEO) as the process of improving the visibility of a website or a web page in search engines via the "natural" or un-paid ("organic" or "algorithmic") search results. Dave Conklin introduces the TLMI to SEO with a laid back, raw, Gen X attitude to something they find extremely simple and easy, while many of us view this concept as daunting and overwhelming.

Six months ago, three supplier and three converter members allowed Dave to do a basic site audit to evaluate items such as the link equity of a site, in order to see what we are doing well and what needs some improvement. Thanks to The Label Printers, I.D. Images, Consolidated Label Co., FLEXcon, Rotometrics, and Multi-Plastics, Inc. for allowing Dave to dig deeper into what is behind the www dot of our organizations.

It is the Learning committee’s hope that within these brief 30-minute podcasts you will gain one nugget of information that will springboard further research on this topic. Or at least, give you a broader vocabulary in which to correspond with your Gen X IT department.

New Features at Largest Ever Labelexpo Europe

Labelexpo Europe will introduce two new major feature areas at this year’s show, taking place 28 September to 1 October at Brussels Expo. With four months to go, the exhibition is already larger than the previous edition and organizers are expecting that all six halls will sell out soon. This will make the show the largest ever label event.

The popular Technology Print Workshops, first introduced at last year’s Labelexpo Americas, will make their debut in Europe. Three printing technologies (dry toner, liquid toner and inkjet) will be compared against each other during live machine demonstrations run by an independent moderator. The technologies will be represented by Xeikon, HP and EFI Jetrion respectively. There will be four sessions per day, three of which will see the different companies printing the same job – a food, pharmaceutical or personal care label – on the same substrate. The fourth session will allow participants to print a label of their choice.

For the first time at any Labelexpo show, there will also be a new feature dedicated to package printing. The Package Printing Zone will consist of seminar sessions and working machinery demonstrations. The aim of this feature is to introduce label printers to opportunities in short-run package printing (including flexible packaging, folding cartons, pouches and sachets). Many of these jobs can be printed on narrow to mid web presses and there will be package printing presses on display at the show.

Both the Technology Workshops and the Package Printing Zone will be free to attend for visitors to the show.

Roger Pellow, Labelexpo Managing Director said: “Labelexpo Europe is set to be the largest edition yet and this will mean more working machinery and more opportunities for label converters and brand owners. The Technology Workshops is our most popular feature ever and will allow visitors to evaluate the different printing technologies in detail. Similarly the Package Printing Zone will demonstrate how converters can expand their business beyond labels, often using the same equipment. This all makes Labelexpo Europe an absolutely unmissable event.”

www.labelexpo-europe.com
Consolidated Products, Inc. Receives Innovation Award

Consolidated Products, Incorporated, was recently named Innovation Partner of the Year by A.O. Smith Corporation. The award was presented to CPI Vice President Tony Patton at a recent meeting of A.O. Smith North American key suppliers and partners on September 14, 2010. Consolidated Products was recognized for developing innovative inventory control programs as well as for the development of their Operational Print Services (OPS) centers within multiple A.O. Smith manufacturing facilities. These OPS centers serve as the central point of label distribution and include on-demand serialization and sub-assembly of all compliance labeling, documentation and manuals required for A.O. Smith products.

Consolidated Products, Incorporated was established in Knoxville, TN, in 1988 as a locally owned company that specializes in producing and providing highly compliant labeling, serialization, and documents to major manufacturers of appliances, medical devices, electrical components, and others.

A. O. Smith Corporation is a global leader applying innovative technology and energy-efficient solutions to products marketed worldwide. The company is one of the world's leading manufacturers of residential and commercial water heating equipment, offering a comprehensive product line featuring the best-known brands in North America and China. A. O. Smith is also one of the largest manufacturers of electric motors in North America with an extensive line of fractional horsepower and hermetic motors for residential, commercial and industrial applications.

Label Technology Wins Best of Show Flexography Award

Label Technology, Inc. was awarded the Best of Show and a Gold award in the Mid Web category for Excellence in Flexography at the Foundation of Flexographic Technical Association’s 2011 Forum. The winning entry was for a John Frieda® Frizz Ease® Overnight Repair packet. The process project utilized 175 line screen technology, water-based inks on a metallized structure and required very tight registration.

In addition to the Best of Show, Label Technology was also awarded an additional 5 Gold Awards in the Mid Web category for Nutrisystem® Advanced® Apple Cinnamon Oatmeal pouch, Plum™ Organics Organic Multigrain Cereal pouch, EOS™ Ultra Moisturizing Shave Cream packette, Fit 365® Gourmet Chocolate Shake pouch and Biore® Blemish Fighting Ice Cleanser wrapper. The winner of over 100 industry awards for excellence in printing, Label Technology continues to strive for a quality finished product that exceeds client expectations.

New Press for Envision Label

Envision Label, Inc. of Lewisville, Texas is proud to announce the arrival of their newest state-of-the-art 10 Color all UV Flexographic Press. “Our corporate commitment to the Highest-Quality labels is confirmed with our ongoing investment in new technology,” quotes Gary Dunlap, President of Envision Label. The newest press compliments the other high-end UV presses, along with the investment into shrink sleeve finishing equipment to produce Shrink Sleeves, which enables companies to provide 360 degree flexible packaging coverage. The newest press enables Envision to print flexible packaging, screen printing, foil printing, and auto registration for perfect printing!
Walle Corporation Earns HD Flexo Certification

Walle Corporation, a leading label supplier to the beverage, food and household products industries, is leveraging EskoArtwork's HD Flexo high definition flexographic screening technology (www.esko.com) to provide a high-quality, affordable, and environmentally-friendly alternative to gravure.

Known for its ongoing commitment to innovation and efficiency, Walle has already achieved two significant firsts as an HD Flexo user: its Winchester, KY facility was the site of the first North American installation of HD Flexo, and the company, having demonstrated the highest level of expertise with the technology, is the first label printer to become an HD Flexo certified user.

"We have been a pioneer in flexographic printing for over 25 years," says Sean Keeney, Walle's president and CEO. "HD Flexo has advanced flexography, narrowing the quality gap with gravure. We are pleased to have been the first to invest in HD Flexo, and we are proud that we are now the first label printer to be officially recognized with HD Flexo certification in North America."

Founded in 1872, and owned for the past 30 years by the Keeney family, Walle Corporation is headquartered in Alpharetta, GA and employs over 250 associates in two operating facilities. Both the Flexographic Operating Division in Winchester and the Lithographic Division located in Harahan, LA have achieved HACCP Accreditation, an industry first.

Walle prints a full line of lithographic and flexographic label products, including cut and stack paper, cut and stack film, roll-fed, roll-fed shrink, in-mold, and shrink sleeve labels for a client base that includes smaller, emerging companies and national Fortune 500 corporations. The Winchester site uses high-speed wide-web and mid-web roll fed presses to print labels in up to 10 colors with 100% eco-friendly water-based inks. In 2003 Walle installed an EskoArtwork CDI Spark 4835 (35x48") flexo plate imager at the facility, followed more recently with a larger imager--the EskoArtwork CDI Spark 4260 (42x60")--outfitted with HD Flexo technology.

Walle benefitted from the impact of HD Flexo technology immediately, experiencing better highlight reproduction, especially for dots below 10%. "We saw a huge impact in drop shadows, so we don't have any challenges getting to fine zero and 1% dots," says Keeney. "Our customers are also realizing the benefits--winning awards for their package reproduction."

Another industry first for company HD Flexo also gave Walle another first, sparking the development of EcoFlex(TM), an economical high-quality shrink sleeve label solution that competes successfully against rotogravure which has historically been the dominant printing method for shrink sleeves. HD Flexo - coupled with Walle's 10-color, servo-driven central impression press technologies, combines the best of gravure and narrow web flexo, delivering gravure's quality and long run efficiencies along with narrow web flexo's lower prepress costs and quick turnaround times.

"Prior to HD Flexo, selling flexo shrink sleeves against rotogravure was a harder sell--the quality didn't quite match on the more intricate designs," says Keeney. "So gravure was the preferred print method for customers, unless the upfront cylinder costs made it prohibitive or the sleeve design was more forgiving. With EcoFlex(TM), we have the best possible solution for shrink sleeve production, offering customers high-fidelity printing using HD Flexo technology to provide full coverage, 360-degree imaging, and premier graphics at a lower cost, faster and with increased flexibility.

Additionally EcoFlex(TM) labels combine HD Flexo with Walle's other innovative processes like solvent-free, thermal platemaking, and water-based flexo ink manufacturing to create a superior sustainable choice for shrink sleeve production. Industry studies have shown that flexo printing reduces energy and CO2 emissions by as much as 50% compared to gravure.

"Customer interest in our EcoFlex(TM) shrink sleeves is very strong, and EcoFlex(TM) is our fastest growing product," says Keeney. "With the installation of HD Flexo, we are converting more and more rotogravure shrink sleeve projects to EcoFlexTM everyday."

www.walle.com
Mark Andy Inc. Hires New Director of Continuous Improvement

Mark Andy Inc., a leading global manufacturer of narrow- and mid-web printing and finishing solutions, has hired Chris Bronikowski to serve as Director of Continuous Improvement. In this role, Bronikowski will lead, drive, and sustain the cultural and technical changes necessary to further Mark Andy's commitment to Lean manufacturing.

Bronikowski comes to Mark Andy with more than 17 years experience in manufacturing, the most recent years being heavily involved in Lean and continuous improvement initiatives. His commitment to Lean principles will complement the advancements already in place throughout the Mark Andy Inc. organization which have led to increased customer satisfaction by providing and delivering the company's well designed and manufactured products faster and better.

"Chris is going to be a key contributor to our Lean efforts throughout the organization," states Paul Brauss, president & CEO, Mark Andy Inc. "His knowledge of manufacturing and his commitment to quality and issue resolution is in line with our dedication to providing the highest quality product to our global customer base. Our Comco, Mark Andy and Rotoflex product lines will all benefit from this important addition to our team."

Flint Group Publishes “Guide to Best Practice for Print” of Food Packaging

To support its customers in placing safe product packages on the market Flint Group has designed a brochure titled “Food Packaging: A Guide to Best Practice for Print” which is now available in several languages. "The guide has been developed based on our long lasting experience in the food packaging segment, which has been a key market for Flint Group for decades", explained Jens Zimmermann, Director Flint Group Global Marketing Packaging and Narrow Web.

He continued: "This compendium gives an overview of the macro issues related to food packaging regulations and provides printers and packaging converters with a sound understanding of the issues that can arise through the interaction of the printed package with the packaged food. It also includes practical checklists and recommendations that can help to promote best practices in printing of food packaging."

CTC Appointed North American Agent for Flexor

CTC International has been appointed the exclusive North American Agent for the Flexor Brand of Label Industry products manufactured by EMIS Ltd. of Warsaw Poland.

The Flexor brand is a rising star among high quality value priced roll finishing machinery for the label industry. Products include the familiar line of Flexor Slitter Rewinders, Die Cutters and Inspection Winders. These products are manufactured in web widths ranging from 280 mm to 520 mm, and feature servo drives, compact designs, highest quality components used and very affordable prices.

CTC also offers the “Flexi” roll cart, which is a very compact and economical roll lift usable for loading raw material rolls onto unwinds and also removing finished rolls from rewind shafts. All North American sales, service and spare parts supply for Emis Ltd. will be headquartered out of CTC’s conveniently located facility in West Caldwell NJ.
Keller Crescent Adds Martin Splicer to New Press

Pharmaceutical printer and converter, Keller Crescent, installed an ECP splicer from Martin Automatic at their Greensboro, NC, location. The splicer provides non-stop unwinding to a new Muller Martini Alprinta offset press. The new press and splicer are used to print literature for pharmaceutical packaging.

Keller Crescent runs Martin splicing equipment at other of its US facilities, but this is the first splicer for the Greensboro plant. “We chose the Martin splicer on the recommendation of the press supplier that it was the right machine for the work we need to do,” reports Jimmy James, Press Manager.

acpo ltd. Launches New Laminaton Blogs

Self-wound overlamine film manufacturer, acpo ltd, has launched a new Q&A discussion forum and two new blogs on their web site, www.acpo.com. All three online features are available in English and Spanish and are geared toward educating customers on lamination, production tips for running the material and lean manufacturing practices.

Located at the bottom of the web site home page, Kevin’s Q&A Lamination Station offers production tips for running lamination on press and requests online readers to post questions for Kevin Foos, VP Sales & Marketing to generate an informative discussion. Over at “Tape Talk” a discussion forum hosted by resident doctors, acpo Technical Director, Nathan Storfer-Isser Ph.D., and company mascot Stock Doctor, several film and adhesive topics are all ready posted for review, but readers are encouraged to participate and post questions or comments. Finally, Dave’s Business Blog, is a detailed look into Lean Manufacturing from acpo Chief Operating Officer Dave McSherry, a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt. Dave offers insight on how to become a Lean organization and welcomes feedback from his online audience.

www.acpo.com
Nearly 200 On Hand for Green Bay Harper® Roadshow Hosted by PCMC

A record turnout of nearly 200 attended the March 30 roadshow underwritten by global anilox supplier Harper Corporation and hosted by Paper Converting Machine Company/Aquaflex in Green Bay, WI. The one-day seminar featured seven in-depth presentations on printing and converting technology issues and a 75-minute demonstration of wide web and narrow web press techniques conducted by PCMC/Aquaflex experts.

Attendees heard presentations on a variety of subjects: the latest rotary cutting tools, ways to effectively combine plate and surface screening, use of plate mounting tape, options for enhancing color consistency in the pressroom, tips on boosting printing profits and the benefits of anilox reliability on improving on-press color consistency.

The event included a complimentary lunch and door prizes. The roadshow generated positive feedback from many in the audience, including Jim Costello who traveled 95 miles upstate to the seminar from Menomonee Falls.

"I was extremely impressed by how your team worked with PCMC and the other sponsors in order to put on just an awesome show," said Costello, Plant Operations Manager at Glenroy, Inc., in an email to Harper officials. "I thought the content, accommodations and structure of the show were great. It was evident to me just how much work went into its preparation." Costello said he found the seminar content very informative. "I learned a great deal in just that short time frame and for that I’m very grateful," he said.

Mark Andy Inc. Signs New Agent for Italy

Mark Andy Inc. has announced the signing of Mr. Paolo Nascimbeni, an agent representing Mark Andy press and Rotoflex finishing equipment brands in Italy. Mr. Nascimbeni joins the Mark Andy Inc. global team of representatives with over 30 years experience in the labels market and a strong history representing both narrow- and wide-web press brands through well-known agent SOMACA.

"We are excited to have Paolo on board representing our brands in Italy," states Richard Holden, head of sales and marketing in Europe for Mark Andy AG. "His rich experience with the Italian market combined with his knowledge of the converting industry make him an ideal candidate to represent our brands in this critical European region."

www.harperimage.com
www.markandy.com
ROTOCONTROL Enhances Operator Efficiency with Vacuum Splice Table

Marco Aengenvoort, ROTOCONTROL Managing Director, today announced the availability of the WC70 Vacuum Splice Table option on all ROTOCONTROL RSC and RSP slitting, rewinding and inspection machines taking Operator efficiency to a whole new level.

By automatically placing mill-splice/flags, matrix/missing labels and vision detected defects right on the vertical inspection plate for reworking, the Operator is only required to leave the rewind zone to change the master roll. The vacuum and mechanical clamping system holds the material in a vertical position at eye level directly in front of the Operator, assuring perfect splices for finished rolls every time.

Manohar Dhugga, ROTOCONTROL Field Applications Engineering Manager commented: “With over 15 years of engineering and field service experience, I can attest to the value of the Vacuum Splice Table option, specifically the ergonomic benefit it provides the Operator of the finishing machine. The waste rewind retracts after use to allow full access to the slitting system, enhancing Operator efficiency.

www.rotocontrol.com

You Tube Video Highlights Harper’s Phantom QD Proofing System

One of global anilox supplier Harper Corporation’s most innovative products is going viral – using a new video on You Tube to expand its already substantial profile in the worldwide printing industry.

The Harper Phantom QD™ Quick Drawdown Proofer is highlighted in a colorful four-minute video that debuted on You Tube in late March. The video details the broad capabilities and flexibility of the industry’s first fully portable, utility-free ink proofing system.

“This video is the best way we have found to illustrate all the options and capabilities we have engineered into the Phantom QD proofer,” said Jim Harper, Vice President of HarperScientific™, Harper’s printing and coating supplies division. The video is also available on the company’s www.harperimage.com website.

The presentation covers use of the Phantom QD as a standard flexographic proofer and in gravure proofing. It follows the full proofing cycle -- focusing on how the Phantom’s variable speed drive and constant loading pressure tracking mechanism produce consistent proofs with superior repeatability. Set-up, proofing and tagging, UV curing and proper cleanup techniques are included.

www.harperimage.com
Bunting® Magnetics has launched a brand new website, www.BuyMagnets.com, to make buying magnets online quicker, simpler and better. BuyMagnets.com features a streamlined purchasing process, live status on orders, instant updates on available inventory, 24/7 access to place orders and an expanded offering of magnet products.

“We want to strive to become the one source for magnets online,” stated Don Lindstrom, General Manager for Magnet Materials at Bunting®. “The functionality of BuyMagnets.com allows us to provide a great customer experience that rivals those of large retailers. There are very few clicks of the mouse required before your order is complete. We feel strongly that this is the best web site in the world to purchase magnets!”

BuyMagnets.com gives Bunting® customers the ability to receive instant confirmation that their order has been processed. Customers get live updates on when the order is packed and ready for shipment and when it will be delivered. Most orders placed on www.BuyMagnets.com ship within 24 hours of the order being placed. Within the Your Account feature, customers can store multiple payment methods, shipping addresses and access their complete order history.

BuyMagnets.com offers our customers the largest selection of permanent magnets and industrial magnetic equipment in the world. Permanent Magnets and Holding Assemblies in hundreds of shapes and sizes are in our warehouse inventory along with a wide assortment of magnetic tools for work-holding, lifting, and plant maintenance. BuyMagnets.com Stock Magnets meet or exceed Magnetic Materials Producers Association Standards (MMPA) for physical quality and magnetic properties.

www.buntingmagnetics.com
Kodak Appoints Eric Owen

An award-winning veteran in the digital printing market, Eric Owen was recently named Vice President, Worldwide Sales and Business Development, Digital Printing Solutions. Owen continues to be instrumental in the rollout of the KODAK PROS-PER Press Platform and will explore new opportunities for Kodak’s entire portfolio of digital printing solutions.

“Eric is working with customers around the world to explore the business opportunities enabled by digital printing in marketing, publishing, and photo,” said Isidre Rosello, General Manager, Digital Printing Solutions and Vice President, Eastman Kodak Company. “He has the experience to understand how our customers think and can help them identify the best solution for their specific business needs.”

As a member of the Kodak team for more than 15 years, Owen has worked in virtually every area of the company’s Graphic Communication Group. Prior to joining Kodak, he held a number of sales and marketing positions with Creo and Scitex America.

“This is a dynamic time in the graphic arts industry, and it’s very rewarding to work with so many leading companies that are pursuing the opportunities provided by digital,” noted Owen. “Only Kodak provides upgradeable, tailored digital printing solutions that drive profitability. I look forward to helping customers find the right solution for their particular environment.”

www.graphics.kodak.com

SATO America Announces the GY412 Printer

SATO, a leader in barcode printing, labeling, and EPC/RFID solutions, have announced the introduction in the Americas of its new GY412 printer. A direct thermal printer with two thermal print heads, it simultaneously prints on both sides of the label for maximum productivity and tremendous cost efficiencies.

The GY412 lowers the overall cost of printing, allowing for greater efficiencies in processes, and is environmentally friendly due to the double-sided, coated labels using thermal technology. It eliminates the need for secondary printers to print packing slips and the associated cost of additional media, ink and toner, and by eliminating the label liner associated with single-sided label printers, the GY412 significantly reduces the overall environmental impact and costs associated with landfill waste.

“At SATO, we develop leading edge, customer-centric products that support our customers drive for continuous improvement, bettering their efficiencies, and lowering of their operation costs; solutions that positively impact their business processes and give true tangible ROI,” said Robert Linse, President of SATO America. “Typically, most companies utilize up to three printers for their picking, packing, and shipping processes. One printer for the pick list, one for the packing slip, and one for their shipping label; but now with the GY412, the need for the packing slip printer and the associated costs of paper, ink or toner, and packing slip adhesive pouches is eliminated. This is a significant savings in real dollars as well as in labor costs as the solution may allow process modification and reassignment of staff to more critical need activities.”

Designed and built for a wide variety of applications, the GY412 is ideal for transportation and logistics applications, e-commerce fulfillments and forms, shipping labels, and much more.

www.satoamerica.com

www.tlmi.com
Polyonics Introduces Flame-Retardant Polyester Label Material

Polyonics has introduced the XF-604, a 2 mil white polyester, halogen free label material designed and recognized by Underwriters Laboratories to meet the VTM-1 level of flame retardants per the UL94 standard. The addition of the XF-604 to the FLAMEGARD™ product family provides customers with a lower cost alternative to the XF-603 (polyimide) while still exhibiting flame retardant properties.

“The need for materials that will not propagate a flame in electronic devices and machinery is in demand” notes Tom Rogers Marketing Director for Polyonics. “As demonstrated in our Flame Test video, traditional polyester labels burn rapidly and will not meet these emerging flame retardant requirements”. Like the XF-603, the XF-604 uses Polyonics’ Halogen Free, Flame Retardant Technology that provides significant “self-extinguishing” performance.

The XF-604 is coated with a semi-gloss white topcoat specifically designed for flexographic and thermal transfer printing. When matched with the proper inks or halogen free thermal ribbons, images on the XF-604 will withstand harsh chemicals and solvents typically used in electronic manufacturing processes. Application suggestions for the XF-604 include: product identification of electronic devices, gaming consoles, power supplies, identification of batteries and network cards.

The XF-604 complies with the requirements of RoHS, REACH, and is certified to be halogen free to the IEC 61249-2-21 levels.

www.polyonics.com

Multi-Plastics, Inc.’s Smolkovich Receives HACCP Certification

Multi-Plastics, Inc. is proud to announce that Cathy Smolkovich has received HACCP On Demand certification from AIB International. According to AIB, HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points) is “a systematic approach to the identification, evaluation, and control of food safety hazards.” It is an internationally recognized system used to identify and control Food Safety Hazards.

As a supplier of flexible packaging films, carton window films, and food insert materials, MULTI-PLASTICS recognizes the importance packaging suppliers play within the food safety chain. Since 2008, six North American distribution facilities have been audited yearly and continue to receive Excellent or Superior ratings from AIB International. Multi-Plastics, Inc. continues to take the lead in providing quality products to the food industry.

“Smolkovich will be our key contact person for training and maintaining all critical control points at our distribution facilities across North America. This program will enable us to ensure our products are as safe as technology allows,” explained Stephen P. Parsio, Vice President of Manufacturing.

AIB International (American Institute of Baking) is committed to protecting the safety of the food supply chain and delivering high value technical and educational programs. The HACCP accreditation is an integral part of their comprehensive AIB Integrated Quality Management System. The course meets the Education Requirements of 9 CFR417 (USDA Products) and is accredited by the International HACCP Alliance.

www.multi-plastics.com
Anderson & Vreeland to Distribute OKI® Digital Color Printers

OKI Data Americas, which markets its products under the OKI® Printing Solutions brand, including the OKI proColorTM Series, has appointed Anderson & Vreeland, Inc. as one of its distributor in the United States effective immediately.

The OKI proColor™ Series is an innovative family of products for color-critical applications in graphic arts and production environments, built on parent company OKI Data Corporation’s history of leadership and innovation in color printing. The OKI proColor™ Series uses Single Pass Color™ and award-winning LED technology widely recognized for its reliability as it requires fewer moving parts.

“The OKI proColor™ Series defines a new segment in the graphic arts and production market, allowing users to produce short-run jobs faster and with unprecedented media flexibility at its low price point,” said Randy Rickert, Director, Graphic Arts & Production, OKI Data Americas. “We are excited to kick off our partnership with Anderson & Vreeland because it will introduce their broad customer base to the products’ groundbreaking capabilities.” Ideal for color-accurate proofs, short-run color jobs that include variable data, and cost-efficient web printing, the OKI proColor™ Series delivers to the industry’s most exacting color standards, with low investment/operating costs.

Darin Lyon, Vice President and General Manager of A&V, noted, “The OKI proColor™ Series represents a strategic fit in our flexographic space and will complement our extensive portfolio of the industry’s finest equipment. The addition of OKI Printing Solutions HD technology continues with our tradition of bringing innovation and best-in-class solutions to our customers to improve their ability to grow new business through horizontal and vertical channels.”

Anderson & Vreeland will sell the OKI proColor™ Series and provide technical support using a nationwide staff of technical sales representatives.

Flint Group introduces Flexocure ANCORA

In response to new demands in food label and packaging Flint Group announces the worldwide introduction of a brand new ink series - Flexocure ANCORA.

Flexocure ANCORA is a high performance low migration UV flexo ink range designed to provide a very low migration potential in compliance with the demands of Swiss Ordinance on Materials and Articles (SR 817.023.21). Flexocure ANCORA provides excellent press performance at high printing speeds, very good adhesion and excellent scratch resistance on synthetic substrates. Niklas Olsson, global brand manager commenting on the introduction said, “We have been working hard on this development for some time and are very pleased with the results. To be able to offer a UV Flexo ink with high performance on press, excellent color strength and adhesion while still meeting lowest possible migration limits, is exactly what our clients have been looking for – which is, no compromise in performance due to low migration properties.”

UV inks consist of a range of different ingredients, with the photo-initiators and monomers commonly used being considered as potential migrating substances. When formulating UV curing products for food labels and packaging, careful consideration in regard to ingredients must be made - in order to optimize both overall press performance and produce an ink that can be used on food packaging while meeting stringent requirements. Commenting on the migration studies conducted on Flint Group’s new Flexocure ANCORA, Christina Eriksson R&D manager of Flint Group Narrow Web explains: “For this new ink series we have conducted migration tests at several independent institutes, as well as in our own analytical laboratories. The migration measurements have
indicated, that when correctly applied on suitable packaging structures migration levels with Flexocure ANCORA are below currently accepted limits. This was verified based on the standard migration test method using the food simulants 95% ethanol and Tenax as set out in Commission Directive 97/48/EC. Furthermore we have the confirmation of leading end users that the ingredients used in Flexocure ANCORA are meeting their company guidelines.”

Niklas Olsson concludes: “All analytical results have been confirmed by printers who applied Flexocure ANCORA on actual final packaging constructions: The migration limits are below stipulated limits. Looking at all the tests and the practical results with Flexocure ANCORA we can say that this ink series offers a unique combination of low migration and high performance for UV flexo printing in the food segment!”

The German-based RAKO-GROUP has officially opened its new production site in Cape Town, South Africa. At the heart of the new production facility is a Gallus EMS. The RAKO-GROUP is one of the largest and most modern adhesive label manufacturers in Europe. Its workforce of over 1,400 operate a total of more than 80 printing presses at a number of sites throughout Europe and Asia. An extremely successful partnership has existed with Gallus for several years now. The new branch in Cape Town, South Africa, RAKO labels Cape Town (Pty) Ltd. has a workforce of 23 and four state-of-the-art flexographic printing presses for the manufacture of high-quality adhesive and wraparound labels. The site’s centrepiece press is a ten-color Gallus EMS with screen printing and cold foil finishing options.

By investing in the new site in South Africa, RAKO has extended its growth strategy to a further up and coming region. “We are a new market player in South Africa, an emerging market that is enjoying strong growth. We boast one of the country’s most cutting-edge production facilities for adhesive labels and also benefit from the RAKO-GROUP’s international customer relations. RAKO labels is planning for the long term in South Africa. We see the country’s recovering economy and its great potential for growth in the area of fast-moving consumer goods as an opportunity for the company,” underlines RAKO South Africa Managing Director Uwe Bögl.

“Trend cycles are getting ever shorter in the adhesive labels market. Change has become an everyday occurrence and only companies with sufficiently flexible presses and a wide range of applications will enjoy market success. State-of-the art production resources and methods are therefore essential,” Bögl continued.

The Gallus EMS at RAKO in Cape Town maximizes application flexibility. The ability to use any combination of printing and finishing processes on a single press opens up a virtually unlimited variety of applications. Thanks also to the unrivalled level of automation offered by the Gallus EMS, both large runs of labels with limited finishing (e.g. food labels) and short runs of labels with extensive finishing (e.g. labels for personal hygiene products) can be produced cost-effectively.

“Dependability and reliability in production are the top priorities for a press,” stresses Bögl. “At the same time, it needs to be sufficiently flexible to adapt to new production requirements at any time. The Gallus EMS enables us to excel in meeting these requirements, and fast job changes are no longer a problem,” he adds.

RAKO has been using Gallus presses for flexographic printing for several years – to great success – and now the first Gallus EMS with ten flexographic printing units has been taken into operation in South Africa. Despite some difficulties, the experienced and well-versed RAKO and Gallus teams succeeded in installing the press within a very short space of time. The combination of comprehensive, cutting-edge prepress operations and the Gallus
EMS now enables even the toughest demands to be met when printing adhesive labels and flexible packaging in up to ten colors.

“In the current climate, the reliability that a partner can bring to the table is becoming ever more important. We have got to know Gallus in various projects and our experience has been very positive. We have found the company to be an extremely reliable and flexible partner,” says Bögl. Ferdinand Rüesch, Vice-President of the Gallus Group’s Board of Directors, adds: "We are extremely pleased that our successful partnership with the RAKO-GROUP, which has installed several of our presses in Europe and Asia, is now being extended to South Africa."

www.gallus-group.com

RotoMetrics has announced the successful acquisition of Gerhardt International. The two companies have joined together to create a supplier with unprecedented global reach and technology leadership to support tooling requirements.

“Our teams are excited about the opportunity before us to continue to develop our collective technology leadership in rotary converting solutions. The ability to draw on the resources of both companies gives us the ability to meet customer needs for short lead-time production and local service,” said Michael Bryant, CEO of RotoMetrics. He added, “Customers will continue to have access to the full range of current product solutions and technologies, including Gerhardt 3*, 5* and 7* flexible and solid dies, RotoMetrics AccuFlex® and FlexPremier® flexible dies, solid tooling, magnetic cylinders, print cylinders and other high-quality products that converters have come to expect from both companies. Contacts within both RotoMetrics and Gerhardt will continue to promote both brands and provide service and support.”

Moving forward, the companies will provide updates on investments to further enhance local manufacturing and support, and to provide expanded product offerings on a global basis. Today’s integration of the full Gerhardt team in the RotoMetrics Aldridge, UK plant creates an unrivaled capacity for flexible die production and technology development of both brands.

The combined company will have global headquarters near St. Louis, Missouri, European headquarters in Wiesbaden, Germany, and major manufacturing operations on 4 continents with a global sales and service network. The company’s facility in Herlev, Denmark, is a center of excellence for non woven and specialty converting tooling and support.

www.rotometrics.com

Avery Dennison Label and Packaging Materials today launched the Avery Dennison Brand Experience Contest, which will challenge designers to use originality, imagination and skill to deliver a unique brand identity from bottle to shelf for five products, including children’s juice, red wine, organic coffee, salad dressing and shampoo.

In addition to receiving international recognition on TheDieline.com, the world’s number one package design website, each of the five winners will receive their award at The Dieline Package Design Conference in Chicago on June 23, 2011. As title sponsor of the contest, Avery Dennison will display the winner’s work in the Brand Experience Contest booth. Additionally, Avery Dennison will create a Look Book that will be shared with 2,000 global consumer packaging brand owners. Each winner also will be given a chance to make a difference through a $1,000 donation in their names to an international charity.

“The Brand Experience Contest not only opens the door for package designers to express their creativity and skill,” says Jon Maley, global vice president of marketing for Avery Dennison Label and Packaging Materials. "It
also offers a valuable opportunity to gain significant visibility with peers around the world."

Entries will be judged by a panel of package design leaders, including Joe Duffy, principal and chairman, Duffy & Partners; Andrew Gibbs, founder and editor in chief, TheDieline.com; Christine Mau, brand design director, Kimberly-Clark Worldwide; Gerardo Herrera, director of packaging, Art Center College of Design; Dave Schuemann, owner and creative director, CFNapa Brand Design; Todd Simmons, executive creative director, Wolff Olins New York; Audrey Saberi, art director, Coffee Bean International; and Laura Clark, global marketing director, food and beverage, Avery Dennison, and Renae Kulis, global marketing director, health and beauty, Avery Dennison.

www.averydennison.com

Technicote Appoints Doug O’Connell President

Mr. George Corbett, Chairman of Technicote has announced that Mr. Doug O’Connell has been appointed President, succeeding Tony Vinciguerra. Mr. Vinciguerra retired in January of this year. Doug was also elected to the Board of Directors of Technicote.

Mr. Corbett added “Doug has done a solid job improving Technicote’s position in the marketplace and growing the business. Under his leadership we've implemented enhanced service programs, initiated lean manufacturing methods to improve operational efficiencies, developed several new cost effective products, and added new talent to help lead our business. We look forward to Doug’s continued leadership to position Technicote for long term growth as a best in class supplier of pressure sensitive roll label materials.”

Mr. O’Connell said, “Technicote is an outstanding organization with tremendous potential. Our commitment to achieve our long term growth objectives is evidenced by our excellent people, the significant investments we’ve made, and our strong customer base. I look forward to working with George and the Board to reach our strategic goals for our customers, our employees, and our shareholders.”

Mr. O’Connell joined Technicote as General Manager in 2007, and was promoted to Vice President, General Manager in 2010. Prior to joining Technicote, Doug served as General Manager of Tredegar’s Performance Films Business Unit and previously held various leadership positions at Tredegar and Exxon Chemical. Doug earned an MBA from American International College and a BS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Massachusetts.

www.technicote.com

MacDermid Combines LUX & LAVA and Signs on xpedx

MacDermid Printing Solutions have announced that the LUX™ platemaking process can now be used with LAVAT™ thermal processing systems. The combination of flattop dots with thermal processing is an industry first and offers a unique opportunity for printers and converters to merge the quality and consistency of LUX with the efficiency and environmental benefits of LAVA.

“The results have been outstanding,” said Timothy Gotsick, MacDermid's Global Director of Innovation. “Thermal LUX combines the print advantages of LUX with the speed and environmental characteristics of thermal platemaking with LAVA. These technologies just belong together because they address so many needs for both platemakers and printers – convenience, versatility, lowered environmental impact, and superb print quality. And all ready to work today with current digital platemaking workflows. We are excited to offer this unique combination of technologies to our customers." he noted.

In conjunction with the introduction of this new capability, MacDermid announced that LUX Laminators are now available in two format sizes: the original 62” and a new 38” model. The new LUX laminator laminates plates up to 38” in width and includes several new features that make lamination of the LUX membrane easier and more efficient. This new LUX Laminator, in combination with the LAVA 2530 Plate Processing System, is a combination ideally suited to the narrow web market.

www.tlmi.com
The LUX platemaking process is a simple and easy to use technology which produces unique flat-top dots on current digital flexo printing plates. This new dot shape enables printers to substantially improve their print quality and consistency, making flexo competitive with gravure and offset printing processes. This simple process is easy to integrate into existing platemaking workflows, is compatible with all digital plates from MacDermid, does not require modification to current platemaking equipment, and can be used with all digital flexo plate imaging units, including units equipped with the latest "HD Flexo" imaging technology from EskoArtwork.

The LUX Process has been print-proven on a wide variety of substrates – including paper, flexible film, foil, paperboard, labelstock and corrugated. LUX has been met with much success in the marketplace with more than 50 installations worldwide.

LUX has received both the Flexographic Technical Association’s (FTA) Technical Innovation Award and the Flexographic Pre-Press Platemakers Association (FPPA) Technology Innovator Award in 2011. MacDermid offers LAVA thermal processors in 42”x60” and 25”x30” format sizes.

Those using the LAVA process are able to significantly reduce platemaking time by eliminating the drying step and reduce their environmental footprint by eliminating VOC’s from the platemaking process.

In addition, MacDermid solutions have also announced that xpedx® will distribute MacDermid’s photopolymer plate products and equipment in the United States. With the addition of xpedx to its distribution roster, MacDermid is now represented in distribution via two outlets: xpedx and JV Imaging Solutions, Inc.

www.macdermid.com

Manufacturing Team Expansion - Bunting® Magnetics

Bunting® Magnetics Co, headquartered in Newton, Kansas, is pleased to announce the addition of Matt Anderson, Manufacturing Engineer, and Kenton Stumps, as a Design Engineer for our Material Handling product line.

“We are experiencing a large increase in sales and as a result needed additional talent to help balance our workload,” stated Barry Voorhees, General Manager for Bunting’s main production facility. “We anticipate this growth continuing throughout the first half of 2011 and we will be adding more headcount in our Technical Services Department soon. Both Matt and Kenton will be instrumental in streamlining our operations going forward.”

Mr. Anderson will handle the overall workflow of active orders between our Technical Services group and the plant floor operations. Matt has several years of experience in sheet metal fabrication and shop floor planning along with previous experience in CAD/CAM systems, job routing and tooling design. In the past, Matt has designed and engineered new products for Weckworth Manufacturing in Haysville, Kansas and Hehr International in Newton, Kansas.

Mr. Stumps holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Wichita State University. Kenton has experience in the aerospace, construction and manufacturing sectors. He has a deep background in Catia V5, Solid Works and AutoCad software programs.

“Kenton is a valuable addition to our engineering team,” stated Marvin Angleton, Bunting® Manager, Technical Services and Quality. “He brings with him a solid foundation in mechanical design for industry and complemented by his education will make a positive impact for us. We have experienced a large jump in demand of our conveyors over the last seven months and Kenton’s skills will help us continue our growth in this product line.”

www.buntingmagnetics.com
acpo ltd. Introduces Thermal Transfer Printable Overlaminate with Matte Finish

Self-wound overlaminate film manufacturer, acpo ltd., has introduced 531T, a matte polypropylene thermal transfer printable PSA roll label film. 531T is a linerless overlaminate which provides label surface protection and thermal transfer printability for variable data on pre-printed labels. In addition, the low glare surface of 531T facilitates barcode scanning and offers a dull, yet attractive label appearance. Constructed with a 1 mil matte biaxially-oriented polypropylene film and .5 mil water emulsion acrylic adhesive, 531T offers excellent acid, chemical and oil resistance.

In conjunction with their launch of 531T, acpo ltd. has updated their thermal transfer overlaminate product line with ribbon recommendations and chemical testing data for optimum overlaminate and ribbon compatibility performance.

www.acpo.com

New Flex Water-based Adhesives from Franklin Adhesives & Polymers

Franklin Adhesives & Polymers’ new Flex line of permanent, removable and repositionable water-based adhesives enables printing companies to run adhesives on their flexography equipment – and give customers the precise construction they want on a multitude of print jobs.

Franklin Adhesives & Polymers, a division of Franklin International, has empowered printing companies to easily and cost-effectively print adhesives in-house on their own flexography equipment – and give their customers exactly what they want – with its revolutionary new line of Flex water-based adhesives.

Franklin introduces the extraordinary Flex line with no fewer than 11 adhesives for permanent, removable, repositionable and specialty applications. Breadth of line gives print houses the right type of adhesive for just about any job. Printers can easily provide customers the precise construction they seek, on a variety of print pieces: Direct mailers, packaging, sheet labels, signage, beverage labels, repositionable notes, scrapbooking and much more.

The Flex line includes nine Covinax® adhesives for permanent, removable and specialty applications and two Micronax® adhesives for jobs that require repositionable adhesives, such as sticky notes and repositionable packaging. Micronax adhesives enable printing companies to create unique pieces that can be lifted and re-applied over and over again.

Printers also will find Flex adhesives easy to apply. First, unlike other flexography adhesives, Flex products are water-based, not solvent-based. This unique formulation renders them safe to use and safe for the environment, too. It also simplifies equipment cleanup after runs.

Further, through relationships with equipment manufacturers, Franklin helps printing companies that want to use Flex quickly identify any additional components required to enable their flexography printers to run water-based adhesives. In short order, companies can begin offering their customers the reduced cost and increased versatility of in-house adhesive application.

“We are extremely excited to introduce water-based adhesives for flexography processes to the printing industry,” said Dan Pikula, Technical Director, Pressure Sensitive Adhesives at Franklin Adhesives & Polymers. “It enables us to bring our expertise in adhesives to a new market and enables printing companies to greatly expand services to their customers – and to open new opportunities for the printing industry.”

www.franklinadhesivesandpolymers.com
MACtac® Roll Label Offers Expanding Line of Opaque Labelstocks

From corrective labeling to blocking out a graphic effect, converters often require a product that will ensure concealment while guaranteeing a clean, legible new label. For labeling applications that require complete cover-up properties, MACtac® Roll Label has improved and expanded its offering of opaque labelstock options with facesheets suitable for a variety of labeling needs.

New opaque labelstocks are offered in thermal transfer, high-gloss options, and a new semi gloss product meeting different labeling requirements. Featuring a charcoal gray, opaque primer for an end product that ensures 99 percent opacity, MACtac's opaque labelstocks provide excellent cover-up while maintaining the whiteness and brightness of the sheets' facesheets. Typical end use includes healthcare, promotional, corrective and retail over-labeling applications.

"MACtac has served this market for a number of years, but we’ve recently worked to perfect our primer and expand our facestock options to offer our customers solutions driven by their need for variety and value," said Kathy Magyar, marketing manager, MACtac Roll Label. “Our new product offering covers both, from facestocks for blank variable information printing to glossy stocks for high-end graphic printing."

Featuring several MACtac adhesives, including ST95, a general purpose, permanent adhesive with aggressive initial tack and excellent ultimate adhesion and mandrel hold, MACtac opaque products feature a semi-bleached, 2.5-mil super-calendered kraft liner, excellent for die-cutting and stripping.

MACtac® Supplies Pressure-Sensitive Adhesive Label for Purple Heart Stamp

Recognizing the sacrifices of the men and women in the U.S. military, the U.S. Postal Service has issued the Purple Heart with Ribbon Forever stamp, prior to this year’s Memorial Day celebrations. MACtac® supplied the pressure-sensitive adhesive label materials for the 500 million, 44-cent first-class stamps issued.

The Purple Heart, said to be the oldest military decoration in the world that is still in use, is an award in the name of the president of the United States that honors members of the U.S. military wounded or killed in action.

The original honor was a product of General George Washington who issued an order to establish a badge of distinction for commendable action during the Revolutionary War. The Purple Heart decoration seen today was established Feb. 22, 1932 to celebrate the 200th birthday of Washington.

"MACtac is honored to supply the label stock for such a prestigious stamp that was created solely to recognize the many brave men and women in our military," said Allison Hazel, marketing manager, MACtac Printing Products. “We hope this stamp serves to remind everyone of the sacrifices the U.S. military makes to safeguard our freedom."

Although the stamp replicates the design of the Purple Heart decoration, Jennifer Arnold of Washington, D.C., designed the stamp in its entirety. Ira Wexler took the photo of the Purple Heart medal featured on the stamp, which was awarded to 1st Lieutenant Arthur J. Rubin for his service during World War II.

The Purple Heart with Ribbon Forever stamp is the second Purple Heart stamp issued by the USPS. In 2003, the Postal Service issued its first Purple Heart stamp, which featured a photograph also taken by Wexler of a Purple Heart; the medal was awarded to Lt. Colonel James Loftus Fowler in 1968.
Meeting the Challenges for Lead Free PC Board Identification

Over the last several years, change has come to the electronics manufacturing industry with the inception of the “lead free initiative”. This initiative was put in place to remove lead and other hazardous substances from the electronic manufacturing process to comply with RoHS & WEEE regulations. This process change presented many challenges for the label construction, including exposure to higher temperatures (up to 260°C) and exposure to new harsher cleaners.

Since the lead free process was initiated Polyonics’ THERMOGARD® product line has proven to exceed the harsh requirements found in lead free reflow & wave solder environments for PCB and component processing. This product line has 2 mil polyimide products used for auto apply applications as well as a cost effective, 1 mil alternatives that maintain the same durability standards at a lower cost. These materials are coated with a permanent pressure-sensitive acrylic adhesive and come in a matte (enhanced chemical resistance), semi-gloss (excellent abrasion resistance) or high-gloss (extreme smoothness) finish that is specifically designed for thermal transfer printing.

The key "go to" products for printed circuit board applications include:

* Semi-gloss polyimide, XF-581 (1mil) & XF-582 (2mil)
* Matte polyimide, XF-583 (1mil) & XF-584 (2mil)
* High-gloss polyimide XF-596 (1mil) & XF-597 (2mil)

Polyonics supports lean manufacturing with low minimum order quantities for these label materials.

www.polyonics.com

Avery Dennison Breakthrough Helps Brands Stand Out

Avery Dennison Corporation has introduced a revolutionary advance in label application that will free package designers to create more distinctive packaging shapes to catch and hold consumers’ eyes as they choose products from crowded store shelves.

Avery Dennison’s Curve Appeal™ is a patent-pending system encompassing special Fasson Curvy™ film labels that work together in a machine application process. This system labels complex curved surfaces far beyond other current labeling processes.

"In mere seconds, shoppers make purchase decisions,” said Renae Kulis, Avery Dennison’s Global Marketing Director, Health & Beauty, Home Care. “Avery Dennison Curve Appeal allows marketers and package designers to profoundly affect consumers’ decision-making. Savvy brand owners can now create a more impactful marketing asset at the shelf.”

The new Fasson Curvy film label combines a wraparound look with the shelf appeal of pressure-sensitive graphics. It creates up to 30 percent more space for primary labeling than current flat surfaces and, because it reduces the need for two-ply label constructions, enables larger back panels to carry more product or multi-language information.

The new application technology enables converters using Fasson Curvy film to deliver improved lay-down quality for large-format and unique label designs. The linear label application equipment is manufactured under license to Harland Machine Systems Ltd., a leader in the design and manufacture of pressure-sensitive labeling machines.

www.tlmi.com
“Being chosen by Avery Dennison as the preferred partner in developing this process has allowed Harland to demonstrate our cutting edge engineering capabilities,” said David Latham, Sales Director for Harland Machine Systems. “We are continually pushing the boundaries of innovative labeling equipment in an ever-changing market.”

To help consumer packaging companies and their converters see the impact of Fasson Curvy labels, Avery Dennison will work with packaging designers to prototype labels for existing containers or help them redesign packages to use more complex curves and take advantage of the increased brand impact possible with Avery Dennison Curve Appeal.

“This is our company’s 75th year of delivering innovations that help build brands and make information more impactful,” said Kulis. “We’re proud to bring Avery Dennison Curve Appeal to our customers.”

Asahi Kasei E-materials Corp. (Asahi), a world-leading supplier of photopolymer printing plates to the flexographic printing industry focusing on providing high value added products and unique photopolymer technology for flexographic printing plates and systems, announces that it is reorganizing its photoproducts sales network in North America. Going forward, Asahi will discontinue its direct sales efforts, and will rely on its reseller network for all sales and technical support activities. In doing so, Asahi is in the process of closing the Atlanta Office of Asahi Kasei America Inc. (AKA).

In the view of the strength of the Japanese yen compared to the US and Canadian dollars, and the slow recovery of the North American economies, Asahi decided to provide technical and sales support through its strong network of distribution partners.

Resellers to provide sales and technical support in North America: While Asahi had overseen its North American sales efforts from the Atlanta Office of AKA since 2008, the company has provided its products and service through the North American distribution network it has utilized since 2000.

MACtac® Roll Label introduces MACScript™ 2 for the Prescription Labeling Market

Image fade on a label can cause serious problems for converters as well as end users, especially in the medical industry where the legibility of patient data and medical care instructions is critical. A recognized leader in the prescription labeling market, MACtac® Roll Label has introduced MACScript™ 2 (DDRX9502), a new direct thermal labelstock specifically designed to address prescription labeling challenges.

MACScript 2’s advanced thermal chemistry design virtually eliminates the need for a press applied UV overcoat, which can add cost, slow the printing process, inhibit full image density and cause premature print head wear. The new direct thermal labelstock offers outstanding environmental resistance, enabling it to withstand extreme exposure to heat, moisture, sunlight and certain chemicals typical to prescription labeling such as oils, lotions, hand sanitizers and soaps. Outside lab endurance tests resulted in MACScript 2 receiving superior image density ratings for the following testing categories: sustained heat and humidity, sunlight, bleaches, ammonias, soaps and detergents.

“Our second-generation prescription labeling solution is one of the most durable prescription labels currently available,” said Kathy Magyar, marketing manager, MACtac Printing Products. “We continue to utilize internal and third-party testing to develop and improve upon our advanced thermal chemistry to ensure our position as industry leaders.”
leaders in addressing the latest application challenges our converters face, especially in regard to prescription labeling."

Compatible with both high speed and low voltage direct thermal printers, MACScript 2 is a medium to high sensitivity top coated paper labelstock. Its bright white face offers full image density for easy-to-read text and images.

It features MACtac’s ST-95 acrylic emulsion adhesive, which offers outstanding open time for short-term repositionability and excellent ultimate adhesion and mandrel hold, ideal for most plastic prescription containers. A glove-friendly adhesive, ST-95 offers service temperature abilities ranging from negative 75 to 200 degrees Fahrenheit. A semi-bleached kraft liner designed for excellent die cutting, stripping and label dispensing in roll-to-roll applications protects the adhesive.

www.mactac.com

Bower Appointed Director of Sales for Anderson & Vreeland

The appointment of Bill Bower as Director of Sales for Anderson & Vreeland, Inc., leading manufacturer and distributor of flexographic plate processing equipment and materials, has been announced by Darin Lyon, Vice President and General Manager.

In his new position, Bower will supervise sales and support for A&V’s customers throughout the Midwest and Eastern United States, and Canada. Regional Sales Managers Joe Anderson and Don Stoll will report to Bower as he oversees A&V’s direct sales organization, as well as the company’s Sales Support Group.

Bower brings to his new position 20 years of sales and management experience in the printing and packaging industry. He was formerly North American Director of Sales for Flint Group Flexographic Products, responsible for sales of printing plates and sleeves throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico.

“Bill is a widely-respected and talented individual and we are extremely fortunate to now have him on our management team,” said Darin Lyon. “The addition of Bill further demonstrates our commitment to the flexo market. His wealth of experience and familiarity with the industry will be a big benefit for our customers,” added Lyon.

Commenting on his appointment, Bower stated "I have always been impressed with Anderson & Vreeland as a forward-thinking organization with great products. A&V has all the right pieces in place for tremendous growth by continually introducing new products while always focusing on customer support."

www.andersonvreeland.com
UPM Raflatac Extends its Health and Beauty Film Labelstock Portfolio with Raflex Plus Clear

UPM Raflatac is pleased to announce the release of Raflex Plus Clear – the latest addition to the company’s innovative Raflex Plus film product offering. With its transparency and thinness, this non-top-coated film is ideal for the demanding health and beauty market, as it helps brand owners position goods effectively with discerning buyers who purchase products not just because of brand reputation, but also because of their appearance.

Raflex Plus Clear also provides compelling advantages for participants in the labelstock value chain. Label printers and converters will find that this clear film offers improved cold foil stamping performance and superior on-press registration, and it supports solvent gravure, rotary screen, UV letterpress and UV flexo printing methods, among others. And when paired with RP37, UPM Raflatac’s water-based emulsion adhesive for films and a 1.2 mil. PET liner, Raflex Plus Clear also delivers trouble-free die-cutting and dispensing.

Brand owners benefit by working with a product that is known for its no-label look, showcasing colorful graphics and lettering, while providing conformability and squeezability. These companies know that they can count on Raflex Plus Clear to perform admirably in a wide array of home usage conditions, supporting their objective of delivering a consistent, high quality brand experience to consumers.

“Raflex Plus Clear offers several advantages, including appearance, performance and productivity, for health and beauty end-uses,” says Patrick Goss, Prime Business Director, Americas, UPM Raflatac. “This innovative clear film combines the best properties of PP and PE films in a single product.”

www.upmraflatac.com

BOPP Label from Innovia Films Reduces Pack Waste and Weight

Innovia Films, innovative producer of speciality BOPP and cellulose substrates for a variety of labelling techniques, has launched a new range of films suitable for linerless label applications, Rayoface™ NB.

Working in partnership with leading machine and technology supplier, Ravenwood Packaging Ltd, the new Rayoface™ NB films, have been developed for use on Ravenwood’s range of Nobac linerless label applicators.

Richard Southward, Innovia Films’ Product Manager - Labels, commented: “Rayoface™ NB films provide the linerless label market with a choice of solutions to minimize packaging waste, drive process efficiencies and create sustainable value through the supply chain.”

Rayoface™ NB films are available in both white and transparent grades and in thicknesses of 92µm (suitable for replacing carton board sleeves) and 60µm (for conventional pressure sensitive and wraparound label replacement). When converted into linerless labels, Rayoface™ NB films can be used by retailers on lidded food trays for meat and fish product packs. As the label is applied directly to the pack, a reduction of over 30% to the labeling waste and weight can be achieved.

Based in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, Ravenwood Packaging Ltd sells and services a range of Nobac linerless labelling systems and associated packaging machinery. Paul Beamish, Founder of Ravenwood Packaging Ltd, said ‘We have used Innovia Films’ substrates on our machines for over 5 years and the development of the Rayoface™ NB range is another example of how we have worked together to respond to our customers’ needs in the fast changing label industry.”

www.innoviafilms.com
Momentive Specialty Chemicals Inc. Introduces New LSE, Pressure Sensitive Adhesive

A new emulsion acrylic adhesive designed for pressure sensitive applications that require excellent adhesion to LSE (low energy surfaces) and excellent water resistance is now available from the North American Dispersions Business of Momentive Specialty Chemicals.

SYNTHEBOND™ 7201 LSE utilizes proprietary emulsion technology to create a new polymer with superb low energy substrate wetting, excellent blush resistance and optical clarity, together with a strong balance of peel and shear properties. In addition, SYNTHEBOND 7201 LSE is APEO (alkylphenol ethoxylate)-free

SYNTHEBOND 7201 LSE’s unique formula creates strong adhesion to low energy surfaces without the use of tackifiers. The exclusion of tackifiers allows the adhesive to maintain its excellent optical clarity and color stability, while also enabling its water resistance and high adhesion after prolonged exposure to water or high humidity. The adhesive can be easily customized and formulated to meet a variety of converting needs.

OMNOVA Solutions Introduces New Ultra-Removable NovaCryl™ Pressure Sensitive Adhesive

OMNOVA Solutions’ Specialty Chemicals business today unveiled its new NovaCryl™ PS-R 30 pressure sensitive adhesive (PSA) for film tape and label markets. NovaCryl PS-R 30 is a water-based acrylic polymer adhesive designed for ultra-removable label applications, including those used for storage identification, decals and window cling graphics, as well as protective films for glass, automotive components, electronics and displays. This product features excellent cling and electro-wetting characteristics, and delivers clean removability with no “ghosting.”

NovaCryl PS-R 30 is free of alkyl phenol ethoxylate (APE) type surfactants, offering a more environmentally preferred profile for certain end use applications. It is available as a base polymer or a coater-ready formulation, and is compatible with many wetting agents, defoamers and rheology modifiers. NovaCryl PS-R 30 is FDA 21 CFR, section 175.105 compliant for indirect food contact applications.

OMNOVA Solutions is a Responsible Care® company, with a strong, long-standing commitment to the American Chemistry Council’s environmental, health, safety and security initiative that covers nearly every aspect of chemical development, manufacturing, transportation and disposal.

Technicote Announces Expanded Digital Label Products Portfolio for HP Indigo Presses

Digital printing technology is revolutionizing the rapidly growing label printing industry. Lower production costs, reduced set-up times, high resolution printing, short to medium run label order flexibility and less impact on the environment are just a few reasons converters are embracing this new technology. Technicote is keeping pace with this demand in the marketplace, growing its qualified digital paper and film substrates for applications such as Wine & Spirits, Specialty Foods, Nutraceuticals, Health & Beauty, Medical, and Durable Goods.

Technicote has a unique offering in our “Dry Edge” adhesive coating process. It is currently available with all of our digital label products used with HP Indigo digital presses. This 1/8” adhesive “Dry Edge” on each side of the roll label will significantly reduce the potential for adhesive build up on press. “After working closely with the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) to become HP 3-Star Certified on all of our digital substrates, we are confident in our solid portfolio and excited to share our new digital offerings to the label industry," stated Gary Stover, Director of Marketing for Technicote.
EskoArtwork Concludes its Most Successful EskoWorld User Conference

EskoArtwork has announced that the recently concluded EskoWorld user conference was an absolute success, offering a record 350 attendees a peek into the company's future products, and a wide variety of industry outlooks, product presentations and roadmaps, and workshops for anyone with an interest in packaging, displays, and printing.

"Feedback from everyone is that the 2011 edition of EskoWorld is the best they ever attended," enthused Mark Quinlan, President, EskoArtwork North America. "The program offered attendees both hands-on sessions and presentations to help them make the most of their EskoArtwork products -- and understand where EskoArtwork will take them in the future. We are confident that anyone who attended EskoWorld returned with a list of productive, actionable items."

Following a welcome from Simon James, EskoArtwork VP Marketing, Carsten Knudsen, EskoArtwork CEO, presented the State of the Union, also offering a glimpse of new applications available in the near future for web based collaboration with iPhone and iPads.

Bernard Zwaenepoel, EskoArtwork Senior VP Software Business, offered a market overview of the various packaging 'eco-systems' --markets where EskoArtwork products fit-- including narrow web, labels, flexible packaging, corrugated, commercial print, sign & display, and others.

Sessions for everyone
"Our company has had a long-standing relationship with EskoArtwork since 1998, when we decided to buy our CDI with all of the supporting workflow tools. Since then, our entire prepress workflow system has been built with EskoArtwork products," recalled Sebastian Longo, President, Fotografados Longo S.A. in Avellaneda, a Buenos Aires suburb in Argentina. Because of this long-term relationship, we decided to visit EskoWorld to see what is coming but, more important, how to make our current tools even more productive. The hands-on sessions, product roadmaps, and Open Labs were the keys the program. It was very important for us to have conversations with all of EskoArtwork's staff, but the most amazing thing is what all of them asked me, from software to hardware: 'What do you need? How can we help you?' We were happy to be there."

A total of 19 product-related presentations were held. Those offering insight into the education of packaging in universities, in particular 'Graphic Arts and Packaging Universities - Educational Update' and 'Graphic Arts and Packaging Universities' were well attended. The 28 EskoArtwork Academy activities, mostly hands-on sessions and product features presentations, were very popular. For example, 'Jobs and Products in Automation Engine 10', attracted more than a hundred people. Nine plenary sessions offered attendees an overview of industry issues. Not surprisingly, the MIS Roundtable was a highlight.

EskoArtwork partners
"This was my first EskoWorld conference, and I was pleased with the experience," commented Joseph Maurer, Prepress manager, Collotype Labels in Napa, California. "I appreciated the interaction with EskoArtwork management, as well as product developers. The sessions I attended included presentations that showed future product roadmaps, in-depth technique seminars as well as open labs with production technicians available for help. I especially appreciated the ability to offer input to guide product development. I also spent some time in the Partner Pavilion and made valuable connections with key individuals in the industry. This all holds a lot of value to us."

www.esko.com
**KODAK TRACELESS Anywhere System for Anticounterfeiting Strengthens Brand Protection**

Kodak’s Security Solutions group announces the availability of the KODAK TRACELESS Anywhere System for Anticounterfeiting, designed to help brand owners, companies and law enforcement agencies combat counterfeiting and product diversion. The TRACELESS Anywhere System combines robust, proprietary marker material with a discreet, handheld, field deployable reader. This combination enables users to effectively detect illegally marketed products and merchandise.

“The complex nature of counterfeiting and product diversion poses many challenges for brand owners and law enforcement officials,” said Dr. Myra T. Olm, Director, Brand Protection Research and Product Development, Security Solutions, Kodak’s Business Solutions and Services Group. “At Kodak, we’re constantly assessing this landscape and discovering new ways to leverage our imaging and materials science capabilities to protect consumers by enabling companies to stay ahead of counterfeiters.”

The TRACELESS Anywhere System offers ease of implementation into companies’ existing manufacturing or printing processes to minimize impact on product and packaging processes. The proprietary marker material can be implemented on a wide range of material types including plastics, foils, corrugated and flexible packaging, labels and documents. A variety of application types can be used, including flexographic, offset, gravure, screen, pad and thermal transfer print methods.

The system’s pocket reader enables companies to deploy a discrete field authentication strategy. The easy to transport, battery-operated reader displays color coded LEDs to indicate the presence of different types of marker formulations. Companies and brand owners work with Kodak to customize programming for specific tracking purposes. This adaptable function also allows companies to regionalize and localize their brand protection strategies.

“Our most recent developments will help companies establish stronger countermeasures against counterfeiting from point of production to product distribution,” said Roberto D. Colangelo, General Manager, Worldwide Services, Vice President, Kodak’s Business Solutions and Services Group. “Kodak’s broad experience in deploying and implementing services in a variety of environments enables us to maximize security while maintaining costs and existing processes.”

[www.kodak.com/go/brandprotection](http://www.kodak.com/go/brandprotection)

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**New Equipment Hikes Efficiency at Harper Charlotte, Green Bay Plants**

Global anilox roll supplier Harper Corporation has completed installation of advanced equipment that boosts efficiency at its production facilities here and in Green Bay, WI. Company officials announced their investment in innovative production machinery at the two ISO 9001:2008 Certified U.S. manufacturing sites. The long-time Harper locations have enabled the company to fabricate and restore more anilox rolls than any other manufacturer in the world.

Upgrading manufacturing technology is integral to Harper’s continuing effort to lower energy use, cut waste, reduce packaging, conserve resources and reduce its overall imprint on the environment. “These state-of-the-art production improvements deliver benefits on two fronts,” said Ronald “Lee” Harper Klutz, Harper Vice President of Manufacturing Operations. “First, we enhance the efficiency of how we produce anilox rolls. Second, we advance the sustainability goals that Harper has long supported.”

Over the years, Harper has introduced many “green” manufacturing programs – all aimed at saving energy, preventing pollution and maximizing raw material use. Its ambitious recycling program includes recapture of all production-generated waste – including powder, shavings, wires and consumable parts.

[www.harperimage.com](http://www.harperimage.com)
In 2001, Flint Group Flexographic Products introduced the award „Dealer of the Year“, and nominated Dereli Graphic as the first winner. Now, ten years later, they have earned this prestigious prize again. Founded 30 years ago, Dereli Graphic is the largest distributor for graphic products in Turkey with about 100 employees. Since 1992, the company has represented Flint Group Flexographic Products in Turkey.

During this period, Flint Group’s market share in the printing plate segment increased significantly. After the integration of the rotec® Sleeves and Adapters range, Dereli Graphic completed their product portfolio offering sleeves with outstanding success. Because of Dereli Graphic’s high dedication and professionalism, Flint Group is clearly leading the market for flexographic products in Turkey.

“We are proud to have such a great success with our highly committed and experienced distributor”, comments Dirk Schimmack, Sales Director Middle East and India-Pacific, and Ahmet Dereli, Chairman of Dereli Graphic adds: “It’s a great pleasure that our work is recognized a second time by Flint Group. For the first time we were the honored dealer of the year by BASF Printing Systems in 2001. To receive the same award from Flint Group is very exciting because we are continuously striving for maximum performance. We would like to thank you for the recognition and look forward to continuing our good and fruitful cooperation.”

Label Traxx Names Hans Poortinga European Agent

Label Traxx™—the print business management software for flexographic narrow web label printers and converters—has named Hans Poortinga their agent in Europe. Under the agreement, Poortinga will market the Label Traxx product to label printers and flexographic converters throughout Continental Europe.

Announcing the appointment, Label Traxx president Ken Meinhardt commented: “Label Traxx is pleased to be associated with Hans Poortinga, who brings us a wealth of printing industry experience. As the Label Traxx agent for Europe, he will provide narrow web label printers, flexographic printers, and converters with a direct link to the most powerful software in the label industry. We look forward to a long and mutually productive relationship.” Hans Poortinga, also commenting on the new relationship, said: “It is a pleasure to be associated with the leading print business management software available to label printers.”

Hans Poortinga brings nearly 25 years experience in the printing and converting industry to Label-Traxx. His expertise includes wide and narrow web flexography, digital printing, offset printing, newspapers, shrink sleeves, and bookbinding.
Thomas McBride is New Finance Director for acpo ltd.

Thomas McBride, the Finance Director for acpo ltd., is pleased to welcome Thomas McBride to their staff as Finance Director. Tom brings with him sixteen years of experience in management, business development, accounting and operations. In addition to his economic role, Tom will also hold a position on the acpo ltd. leadership team.

As Finance Director, Tom will be responsible for the overall financial strategy of acpo ltd. with focus on business growth and future development. Tom’s leadership skills, accounting experience and business acumen is an asset to acpo’s quest for continuous improvement.

Prior to joining acpo ltd., Tom worked as Financial Reporting and Accounting Manager for Rexam Industries, a leading global consumer packaging company, in Perrysburg, Ohio. Tom also held financial and accounting managerial positions at both Worthington Industries Corporation in Columbus, Ohio and Dana Corporation in Toledo, Ohio.

Martin Automatic Adds New Sales Person for Asia Pacific

Mr. Hope Hu will rejoin the Martin Automatic sales team as their regional manager for Asia Pacific. Mr. Hu worked for Martin for four years in that same territory until 2008 when he left to pursue another opportunity with IDP – International Design Packing Co. in Suzhou, China, Ltd., where he managed the company’s sales and operations. Martin Automatic is happy to have him back as of June 1st. Mr. Hu has over 25 years experience in printing and graphic arts, including art design, prepress, press and bindery.

Spinnaker Coating Launches SureLock™ Adhesive for Textured Surfaces

Spinnaker Coating, LLC has introduced SureLock™, a permanent adhesive specifically designed to adhere to textured surfaces without being gummy or leggy.

SureLock works where the flow of the adhesive is needed to fill in a textured surface; not applications requiring merely high adhesion, but ones that involve uneven surfaces which are difficult to stick to. This adhesive exhibits high tack and appropriate flow to work in a large number of hard-to-stick-to applications.

SureLock works where many standard products do not, and when compared to other textured surface adhesives that have significantly higher coat weights than SureLock, it runs with less build-up on press and has a flat release profile for good dispensing. Applications to test this adhesive on include lumber, carpet front and carpet back, plastic woven bags, ABS plastic, plywood, tile, burlap, and cement. SureLock is available Trimless in a variety of constructions.
UPM Raflatac's New ProLiner PP30 Delivers Increased Productivity and Profitability

UPM Raflatac announces the launch of ProLiner PP30 for the Americas market. ProLiner PP30 is a revolutionary, ultrathin, easily recyclable polypropylene liner for paper-faced labels. It sets new standards for paper labelstock productivity and profitability and offers “pros” for the entire labeling value chain.

UPM Raflatac offers some of its most popular Prime and VIP paper facestocks with ProLiner PP30, providing labelstock converters with the following business advantages:

- A thinner construction that results in 30% more labels per roll compared to products constructed with a 2.5 mil. Kraft liner, which enables the use of longer rolls and reduces the number of roll changes.
- This robust polypropylene liner offers high-speed converting and faster dispensing with fewer web breaks.
- Reduced transportation and packaging costs, thanks to the thin, lightweight construction of the liner.

As part of the ProLiner PP30 launch, UPM Raflatac also provides a sustainable solution to the challenge of siliconized liner waste disposal. The company’s new, innovative RafCycle™ program collects and reuses ProLiner PP30 waste and ensures that it is reused and recycled into PP-based materials or new products, like UPM ProFi™, a wood-plastic composite used in outdoor decking materials. Participation in the RafCycle™ program provides brand owners the opportunity to further demonstrate a commitment to pro-environmental packaging solutions, while capturing savings on waste removal and disposal-related costs.

“UPM Raflatac’s ProLiner PP30 products and the RafCycle™ program are innovations that will have a meaningful impact on the entire industry, providing both labelstock converters and brand owners with cost savings and a compelling alternative to liner waste disposal,” says Patrick Goss, Prime Business Director, Americas, UPM Raflatac. “We are pleased to introduce our customers to a liner waste recycling program that demonstrates how economic sustainability can provide productivity and profitability for all participants in the labeling value chain.”

www.upmraflatac.com

Prism Charts Course at User Conference

Executives from around the world disclosed the roadmap into the coming years for Prism's graphic arts applications WIN and QTMS. Manfred Lange, Prism technical director for management information system (MIS) product development disclosed the software architecture that will enable Prism's users to enjoy the very best in reliability, security, and functionality. David Sparling, Prism technical director for Prism QTMS gave users a peak of the latest major version of QTMS that will be released at Graph Expo in September. Forty attendees from across the US and Canada attended the four day event which included an architectural boat tour of Chicago.

Lange, travelling from Auckland, New Zealand, Prism's world-wide headquarters, described the move toward Prism WIN's three-tier architecture.

"Architecting three discreet modules for the user interface, business rules, and database allows Prism to update each of the modules independently as enhancements and technology dictate," said Lange as he addressed the general session. "This also sets the stage for continuing Prism's heritage of open architecture and connectivity to external systems. We are continuing to supplement the existing Prism WIN Connect module with state of the art web services allowing robust and secure two-way access to the database layer."

This year was the first year Mark Kuehn, Chief Technology Officer at the John Roberts Company of Minneapolis, MN, attended the conference.

"We recently purchased Prism WIN and QTMS and are in the midst of implementation," says Kuehn, "and what attracted me to the product offering and the company was Prism's dedication to staying at the forefront of technol-
ogy. Having the opportunity to meet Manfred and hear first hand his plans for the product made the conference worthwhile for me. I hope to be back year after year."

Sparling, travelling from Colchester, UK, grabbed the attention of the attendees as he demonstrated the latest in automated shop floor data capture and material tracking. This, combined with Jim Zeman's case study of QTMS material tracking in a labels operation laid the foundation for a strong return on investment for controlling shop floor material handling, counts, and waste reduction. Zeman is Production Manager at Outlook Group of Menasha, Wisconsin.

President and CEO, Filip Buyse provided a year in review which included Prism's strong financial performance, business unit performance and goals, and organizational changes.

"Prism has had a strong year," Filip said during his presentation, "showing that when you help your customers become successful, it helps your company's performance."

Buyse also highlighted the successful year in North America with record new sales.

This year marks the first year that Prism holds three user conferences around the world within a 12 month period open to all Prism customers. Chicago was the first conference with two additional conferences in the UK and Australia.

"One of the many values of the user conference is networking between customers," states Kathy Mitchell, Global Director of Professional Services and Technology. "We feel that sharing ideas across continents will be a great benefit to all Prism users."

Mitchell, who arrived from Brisbane, Australia, encouraged North American attendees to join future conferences in Australia and the United Kingdom.

"Jet Litho has been a long time Prism user and has attended just about every user conference since the first North American users gathered together," says Jeff Norby, President and CEO of Jet Lithocolor, Downers Grove, IL. "The face to face interaction with Prism staff and customers is invaluable to Jet in our pursuit to maximize our utilization of Prism WIN."

The next Prism user conference is in Birmingham, UK, September 6 and 7, 2011.

www.prism-world.com

Ferrostaal Mexico to Represent Mark Andy Inc.

Mark Andy Inc. is pleased to announce the signing of Ferrostaal Mexico, S.A. de C.V. to represent Mark Andy press and Rotoflex finishing equipment brands in Mexico. A global provider of industrial solutions, the Mexico office of Ferrostaal has been providing support to Central American converters for more than 50 years. Through the graphic arts division of the group, Ferrostaal will be providing sales and aftermarket expertise for Mark Andy and Rotoflex equipment in the region.

"We are excited to enter into this relationship with Ferrostaal," states John Cavey, Sales Manager for Latin America, Mark Andy Inc. "Their experience and knowledge of printing and converting makes them an ideal fit for our equipment. The Ferrostaal sales and support staff is top-notch and we are looking forward to a long lasting partnership."

Customers may contact Ferrostaal Mexico at +52 55 5242 35 00 or by email at ventasmeg@ferrostaal.com.

www.markandy.com