UV, Textile and Solvent Printers
Cutters, Laminators, Inkjet Inks & Substrates

SGI 2019

Pablo M. Lee and Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth
We have enjoyed visiting Dubai and attending SGI for many years. SGI (Sign & Graphics Imaging Middle East) is a good expo to attend since it is the first trade show of international status of each year. Another nice aspect about the Dubai expo is the diversity of attendees: obviously lots of people from all the Emirates (UAE), and countries around UAE in all directions, such as print shop owners and numerous distributors from Iran. Plus many visitors from mid- and southern Africa. It is good to see an international presence.

Also inside the booths, personnel spoke dozens of different languages and represented countries from around the world. These are the reasons why FLAAR-REPORTS ranks SGI as the first INTERNATIONAL printer and signage expo of the year.
SGI in Dubai is healthy and is growing. FLAAR Reports is proud to cooperate with IEC to showcase this vibrant printer and signage trade show. To document the considerable diversity of products, it really helped this year to have a team of two. The pages which follow show the wide range of brands and products at SGI 2019, aka, Sign Middle East.
The diversity of brands and product categories make SGI Dubai worth exhibiting and worth attending.
At SGI you can expect to see, experience, and learn about all kinds of inkjet printers: UV, solvent, latex, water-based, T-shirt, textile (flags and soft signage).
Dr. Nicholas will be a judge for the annual Wall of Fame, plus on one of the panels for discussion of wide-format inkjet printing.

Dubai is a peaceful location, where people from the Middle East and Africa and Europe can experience both the city, the UAE, and all the equipment and software and solutions available to study at SGI, Sign Middle East, Dubai 2019.
Dubai
SGI2019

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UV & UV-LED Printers
UV printers can be used to print on both flexible and rigid materials, opening the opportunity to extend the limits of applications for both indoor and outdoor purpose (posters, signage, window graphics, POP displays, etc.)

With UV printers, you can print directly onto rigid media, foam board, glass, wood, composite materials, aluminum and other unusual substrates, opening the doors to new markets and new applications.

This ink is cured with UV light from either UV lamps or LEDs. The emergence of high brightness UV LED chips has quickly enabled the development of a new class of LED-UV lamp curing luminaire systems and architectures, with radiant power and intensity that rival the output of traditional UV lamps, but with less heat generation, longer operating life and less electricity consumption.
Textile printing is the up and rising technology in the wide-format printing industry, so naturally the amount of printers and companies that exhibit this kind of printers has increased considerably each year. Both direct-to-fabric and transfer paper technologies.
Although we focus on the concept of T-shirts, in fact the same printers, the same inks, and the same heat presses can be used for decorating shopping bags and logo bags. Two of us from FLAAR-REPORTS will be at SGI 2019 all three days. We always try to note every brand of T-shirt printer.
Solvent printer technology has been improved over the last years. It has been used for different purposes, but solvent printers are so commonly used for outdoor graphics because of its ability to adhere to non-absorbent materials. Also for being fade proof, water proof and scratch resistant.
Solvent printers are a constant in any expo in the world, specially since it is the most commonly used technology.
THIS YEAR WAS AMAZING FOR THE FLAAR-REPORTS & INSIGHTS TEAM

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SGI offered both international brands of wide-format inkjet media, as well as brands from Korea and China. We would estimate that brands from Taiwan may also have been present, but for printable media Korea, China, and European brands stood out the most.
Inkjet Ink
A great print is just not the result of a good printer, inks and media play a huge part in the end result. At SGI you can find many manufacturers and distributors for inkjet inks and many innovative technologies.
Finishing Equipment
Although signage is appropriately a focus of a sign expo, the trend worldwide is to offer other applications beyond just signs; so is essential to learn about: cutters, laminators, calenders, heat presses and a wide variety of different finishing equipment.
Signs all over the world are still made with traditional equipment and materials. LED lights may be inside, but the structure and concept are traditional.

3D printers are getting better every year (especially as new materials can be extruded or laid down by printheads). But there are so many other ways to make a 3D sign, or a 3D display: we look forward to exploring SGI 2019 in Dubai to learn every option.
Two of us from FLAAR-REPORTS will attend SGI, every day from January 13th to 15th, 2019, in Halls 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 at the Dubai World Trade Centre. We look forward to seeing you here in friendly Dubai, UAE.

SGI is organized by the experienced team of IEC (International Expo Consults). The Middle East is an important area because of the Dubai World Expo 2020. This event, and the years leading up to it, will create lots of market for signage.

www.SignMiddleEast.com
www.IECdubai.com
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING, EXPERIENCING, LEARNING ABOUT, AND WRITING FLAAR REPORTS ON LOTS OF TOPICS

As the first international level of printer trade show for 2019, it helps to have a list of what we will be looking for:

- Digital PRINTERS
- Water-based printers
- Textile printers
- T-shirt printers
- UV-curing printers (both roll-to-roll and flatbed)
- Solvent printers
- Latex printers
- Short run digital presses
- Office copiers-printers

FINISHING EQUIPMENT
- Cutters
- Flatbed cutters
- CO2 laser cutters
- CNC routers
- XY digital flatbed cutters
- Roll-to-roll cutters
- Laminators and Coaters

SOFTWARE
- RIP software
- Color management tools and software
- Web to print software
- Software to keep track of your business

INKS
- All kinds of inks for all kinds of applications
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