UV-curing Printers at APPPEXPO 2019

To recognize the benefits of attending APPPEXPO

Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth and Jose Melgar
Contents

UV-curing Printers at APPPEXPO 2019 1
International UV-curing printer brands 2
Prominent Local UV-curing printer brands 5
Super-wide Format Roll-to-Roll UV-curing printers 7
Workflow technology and innovation 9
UV-curing printers of all sizes 11
Original Equipment Manufacturers 13
Printhead Technology 15
UV-curing Printers at APPPEXPO 2019

The APPPEXPO printer and visual communication trade show in Shanghai is about twice to three times larger than any other inkjet printer trade show in the world.

APPPEXPO is the ideal opportunity to network with key people from prominent printer manufacturers, and to get a deep understanding of the printer industry. This event is attended by many owners of printer companies, distributor companies and thousands of owners of sign shop businesses.

The APPPEXPO show is held in the NECC (National Exhibition and Convention Center), which according to some sources, is one of the 10 largest exhibition complex in the world, since it is conformed by the exhibition area, the commercial area, the office buildings and hotels.

The exhibition halls are organized by type of printers. For example, it is clear that some halls are especially focused on UV-curing printers, whereas other halls had an emphasis on textile printers.

But besides type of wide-format printer, the halls at the APPPEXPO show are also based on the preference of the exhibiting companies. In this and the following FLAAR-REPORTS publications, you will see that some halls are dedicated to international brands, and other halls focused on new printer companies that want to find a place in the domestic market.

In the international halls, you can find renowned brands which are based in EU, USA, Japan, India, etc., such as
- EFI VUTEk
- AGFA
- ColorJet
- EPSON
- Mimaki
- SwissQprint
and other European and North American brands. But also you can find the Chinese brands which have reached “international level”. In other words, these are Chinese companies that are already well established in China, and are currently growing their presence in other markets such as Europe, the Middle East, North America, and the Americas. Among these companies are
- JHF
- Teckwin
- Handtop
- RTZ Flora

Equally important are the booths of brands which seek to expand worldwide. They are often looking for a distributor in your country. So if you are a distributor, anywhere in the world, it is essential to attend APPPEXPO.

Plus, even if you already have plenty of brands that you are already distributing, it is all the more crucial that you attend APPPEXPO in order to see and understand all the brands that you are competing with.

Coverage of FLAAR-REPORTS at APPPEXPO
APPPEXPO is one of the milestones of the year in the sign industry; this is a must among the dozen sign and print trade shows organized around the world every year.

Since APPPEXPO is being held early in the year, when you attend this event, you can get a deep understanding of the trends, technology and brands that will be dominating the printing industry around the world during that year.

This is so because the Chinese printing industry is the strongest in the world in terms of manufacturing capabilities, and usually the Chinese products that meet international standards, are highly looked after in several parts of the world, especially due to their competitive price.

This is why FLAAR-REPORTS flies a team of six individuals with years of experience in the world of large format inkjet workflow who document the ins and outs of the interesting printing technology, market trends and emerging companies in China.

During the five days of the show, our team of analysts go hall by hall, aisle by aisle taking notes and interacting with the companies of all sizes, some of which are setting trends in the printing industry, or launching innovative products to the sign and print market.

In this report you will have a preview of what you can find at APPPEXPO 2020, the people you can meet, and the technology you can see.

In the following weeks we will have other publications, in our international TRENDs series, with a complete list of every UV-curing printer exhibited at this show, with specs, charts and market analysis.
What you can find at the APPPEXPO Trade Show

With 95 printer brands, and 310 printer models, APPPEXPO is one of the biggest inkjet printer, flatbed cutter, ink, printable media and substrates, sign, and visual communication trade shows in the world, and the biggest in Asia.

Notice that the number of printer brands and printer models accounts only for UV-curing printers. The numbers easily double or triple if we count the total number of inkjet printers including solvent, textile and waterbased printers.

In the following pages, we share some of the interesting highlights of this important event.

International UV-curing printer brands

At APPPEXPO, you will find dozens of international printer brands made in Japan, Korea, Europe or North America, such as EFI, AGFA, SwissQPrint, Epson, Mimaki, Roland, Mutoh, Dilli, and many others.

EFI is one of the most recognized printer brands in the wide-format printer industry. At APPPEXPO their printers produced among the best print samples in terms of image quality and color accuracy.
The EFI printers are designed to achieve both productivity and color accuracy.
SwissQprint makes high-quality UV-curing flatbed systems. The brand is already positioned in Europe and the United States, but is looking to grow its presence in China.

Mimaki is one of the most recognized printer brands around the world. This Japanese company has exhibited at APPPEXPO for several years.
Prominent Local UV-curing printer brands

You can also find the most prominent Chinese printer manufacturers and thriving brands such as Handtop, Teckwin, JHF, MAGICJET, Docan, Plamac, and dozens more.

JHF is one of the Chinese companies that has gained popularity in several markets around the world.

Plamac is a printer brand that is consistently exhibiting interesting UV-curing printers.
Teckwin had two industrial-size printers; one, the JetBox, is now able to handle decor.

MAGIC JET had a nice booth with sturdy flatbed printers. However we have not been to their factory, nor done test prints during an expo.
Super-wide Format Roll-to-Roll UV-curing printers

A total of 13 brands of 5-meter roll-to-roll super-wide UV-curing printers were exhibited at APPPEXPO 2019. No other trade show in recent years has featured the amount of super-wide format printers exhibited at this show. Examples of these printers of substantial width include EFI, SKYJET, JHF, Plamac, Blue Print, Teckwin, and several others.

With so many brands of 5-meter superwide UV-curing printers, any European brand, which failed to exhibit their printers at APPPEXPO, was in effect giving sales opportunities to all the brands that did exhibit.

SKYJET SDH 5000, a 5-meter roll-to-roll UV-curing printer.
BluePrint is a company that has several super-wide printers. This is the UV V4, a 5-meter roll-to-roll UV-curing printer.

JHF showed their new Mars 8R, an improved 5-meter UV-curing printer.
Workflow technology and innovation

Automation solutions, such as robotic arms are among the impressive technologies you can find at APPPEXPO. A number of companies exhibited interesting robots especially designed to load/unload boards to their flatbed printers. Wanlida and REVOTECH were among the companies that had robotic systems to load and unload boards from their flatbed printers.

A number of years ago, SwissQprint showed a similar system for their flatbed models. Although the Swiss brand did not have this automated mechanism at APPPEXPO, it is highly likely that SwissQprint will sell this option in China and elsewhere in Asia.

Our forecast is that by APPPEXPO 2020, the number of printer manufacturers offering these automated systems will increase. Especially considering the number of attendees attracted to the printer models featuring this option.
Wanlida is one of the printer manufacturers that implemented a loading/unloading robotic arm at APPPEXPO. Currently these automated systems are only available for dedicated flatbed printers, but in the future, it is easy to imagine there will be robotic solutions to load rolls on a dedicated roll-to-roll printer. Especially because the number of super-wide roll-to-roll printers at APPPEXPO grew considerably in the last year.
UV-curing printers of all sizes

When you think of a trade show the size of APPPEXPO, it is easy to associate it with wide and super wide-format printers. But at this event you can find UV-curing printers of all sizes. From 5-meter systems, down to printers with a maximum print width of 40 centimeters. In fact, a company called Dawenxi had a model with a print width of 30 centimeters.

These are some of the interesting UV-curing models at APPPEXPO which are not wide-format printers.

MUTOH ValueJet 626UF, a desktop-sized UV-curing printer.

MyJet also had two small UV-curing printers. The number of desktop UV-curing printers is increasing.
FD EEC Tech is one of the several companies that have printers for specific applications. The model shown here comes with a fixture to print on cylindrical objects.

Plamac Morpho 6090UV. This type of printer is normally used to print on souvenirs, smartphone cases, promotional products, and other small applications.
Original Equipment Manufacturers

At APPPEXPO, you can interact with the managers of Chinese companies whose printers are also being rebranded by major printer brands around the world. Chinese printer manufacturers like Handtop, JHF, Flora, SKYJET and AOJet exhibit every year at APPPEXPO and are known for being the original printer manufacturers of some of the most renowned printer brands in the world.

Some of the rebranding agreements have not yet been officially announced, but you get this type of information when you attend APPPEXPO.

SKYJET SDH 5000, a 5-meter roll-to-roll UV-curing printer.
AOJet has manufactured the flatbed printers for an international printer brand. It is not clear whether the Chinese company continues with the agreement, but it sure has the manufacturing capacity.

RTZ Flora has also rebranded printer models for several printer brands.
In this show you can find several of the major printhead brands for UV-curing printers, and learn first-hand, the newest technologies being implemented. At the recent APPPEXPO show you could see these printhead companies, or their official distributors:

- RICOH (by far the most used in UV-curing printers)
- Toshiba Tec (had their own booth)
- Seiko
- EPSON

Konica Minolta and Kyocera were also being used by UV-curing printers.

In the upper left corner, a Toshiba Tec CE4M printhead model. The distributor company also exhibited the whole printhead circuit board (above). The model shown at the left is a Ricoh printhead. In the booth of Ricoh you could see several printhead models, including the newest Ricoh Gen6 printhead.
FY-Union is the official distributor of the SEIKO printhead brand. In their booth you can find several printhead models and their specs.

APPPEXPO is an excellent opportunity to learn the ins and outs of the printhead technology directly from the managers of each brand.
APPPEXPO is definitely a trade show worth attending; this is an event where you can network with key people of the printer companies, but also with distributors from different regions. APPPEXPO is an event to acquire deep knowledge of the current status of the printer industry, and the trends to come.

There are more brands of UV-curing printers at APPPEXPO than even DRUPA. Plus the hotels in Shanghai are not as overpriced as hotels in Duesseldorf.

So for 2020, to learn about textile printers, UV-curing printers, T-shirt printers, and solvent printers, consider attending APPPEXPO 2020 in friendly Shanghai.

**APPPEXPO 2020, Shanghai International Ad & Sign Expo 2020**
March 6, 7, 8, 9, 2020

National Exhibition and Convention Center

The FLAAR-REPORTS team will be at APPPEXPO 2020 and we look forward to seeing you there.
Check Out Our Latest Videos

SGI Dubai 2019 Highlights

FESPA Mexico 2018 interviews

FESPA Mexico 2018

FLAAR Reports at ISA 2018

Printing test by OKI at ISA 2018

FESPA Global Print Expo 2018 in Berlin (European experience)

Printing test by COLORJET at APPPEXPO 2018

FESPA Berlin 2018 interviews

FLAAR Reports at APPPEXPO 2018 (Shanghai, China)

FLAAR Reports at ISA 2018 (Orlando, Florida)
Since a good quality print, in addition to a well made printer, good quality ink, appropriate printable material, knowledgeable color management, also needs a high quality original photograph, we at FLAAR-REPORTS also cover digital photography, especially what equipment and what techniques produce the kind of image that will make your printer, your ink, your media look even better: www.digital-photography.org

You can obtain FLAAR-REPORTS straight from our websites, however TRENDS level reports are by Subscription. To learn the subscription cost, please contact FrontDesk@FLAAR.org

www.FLAAR-Reports.org    |    www.large-format-printers.org    |    www.wide-format-printers.net

© Copyright 2019

Follow us: