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3 May 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

New UV Product Announcements at IMI Event

Miniaturisation – The Latest Trend in UV Lamps

The market for UV cure inks keeps growing, but the lamps are getting smaller. At the IMI Ink Jet Developers Conference in Geneva, two of the industry's major suppliers, UV Integration Technology and Nordson UV unveiled new small format lamp products to an audience of over 150 ink jet system developers.

MicroZero™ is a new micro lamp™ from UV Integration Technology with a 190W, 25mm cure width. "Weighing only 130g, the MZero concept model is the smallest, lightest high power UV system in the world," said Clayton Sampson, Joint Managing Director speaking at the IMI event. The Mzero™ is available with conventional mercury lamps or with the company's broadband™ A bulb.

The MZero™ complements Integration Technology's existing products – the highly successful Vzero™, which has almost 2,000 units in operation on ink jet platforms worldwide and the SubZero™, already popular with smaller wide format systems, which was launched at an IMI event last year. Integration Technology also launched the latest generation of stepless power supply for these existing lamps.

Nordson UV, supplier of lamps to Inca Digital, Dotrix and Sun Chemical, launched TinyCure™; a compact, high-powered, water-cooled lamphead with a small footprint of 50mm x 56mm. TinyCure™ is available in low power for 'pinning' applications or high power (200W/cm) for final cure. Compatible with all types of lamp fill including mercury, iron & gallium, TinyCure™ offers easy lamp change, is lightweight at <500g, and generates a very low temperature output.

Alan Mills, Business Development Manager commented that "Nordson has anticipated the trend towards miniaturisation in the market, driven by smaller machine footprints, smaller ink jet printheads and the need for UV between printheads," and added, "TinyCure's lamphead provides an intense, focused band of UV energy to the material being cured. The innovative design incorporates several technologies to

deliver high intensity UV without the high-pressure airflows or infrared energy that is undesirable to ink jet applications and substrates.”

Other New Lamp Technology

Another important UV lamp supplier at the event was IST Metz, who launched their new Electronic Lamp Control. The ELC® unit provides compensation for mains voltage fluctuation, high power, reduced energy consumption and reduced heat load to the shutter system, enabling new possibilities in shutter design. Following the growth of single pass printing, IST Metz also showed the BLK-3® for wide single-pass ink jet applications offering widths from 400mm to 1400mm and up to 200W/cm.

A further product introduction from IST Metz was the ACS – Airless Curing System, which has a lamp length of 100mm to 400mm and combines a lightweight and compact design with high UV output (200W/cm). The ACS also features the company’s FLC® (Fast Lamp Change) system for greater user convenience.

UV Integration Technology also premiered their high power LEDZero II™ concept. The new model is capable of delivering 1000mW/cm² of intensity, matching many conventional mercury arc systems for flux density. The company reported that two major development projects were agreed during the IMI Ink Jet Developers Conference involving LEDZero II™.

UV Curable Ink News

Many leading UV cure ink suppliers presented at the IMI event, including SunJet, Sericol, Triangle Digital and Tetenal. Sericol now offers custom ink development for specific integration projects; Aellora Digital demonstrated their hybrid UV cure inks, launched last year at Drupa; and the industry welcomed a new UV cure ink supplier – Konica Minolta Medical & Graphic.

Aellora’s hybrid UV curable inks, often referred to as semi-solid or paste inks, are highly viscous at room temperature and are jetted at elevated temperatures to lower the viscosity to the levels required by piezo printheads. The ink cools rapidly on contact with the substrate offering drop control without the need for pre-setting or ‘pinning’ the ink. Describing the benefits of the inks, Mario Carluccio, Business Development Manager said, “These inks offer the broadest substrate reach at highest print quality on untreated plastics, glass, metals & ceramics and give the option for either in-line or off-line curing.”

Konica Minolta manufactures ink jet printheads through its IJ Technologies division and now another division, Konica Minolta Medica & Graphic revealed at the IMI event that it is manufacturing cationic UV



curable inks. Tamotsu Wako, New Product Unit Manager, announced the availability of sample KMMG UV-IJ inks in CMYK & W.

The IMI Ink Jet Developers Conference 2005 was the fourth in this annual event, which focuses on bringing key industry suppliers and product developers together. This year over 150 system developers attended from 24 countries. Next year the IMI Ink Jet Developers Conference will be held in Las Vegas, USA.

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PHOTOS

- Clayton Sampson, Joint Managing Director – UV Integration Technology
- Alan Mills, Business Development Manager – Nordson UV
- Mario Carluccio, Business Development Manager – Aellora Digital
- Tamotsu Wako, New Product Unit Manager and Takeo Arai, Staff Manager – Konica Minolta Medical & Graphic
- LEDZero II™ from UV Integration Technology

High-resolution images are available for download from the Press Centre on the IMI web site www.imieurope.com



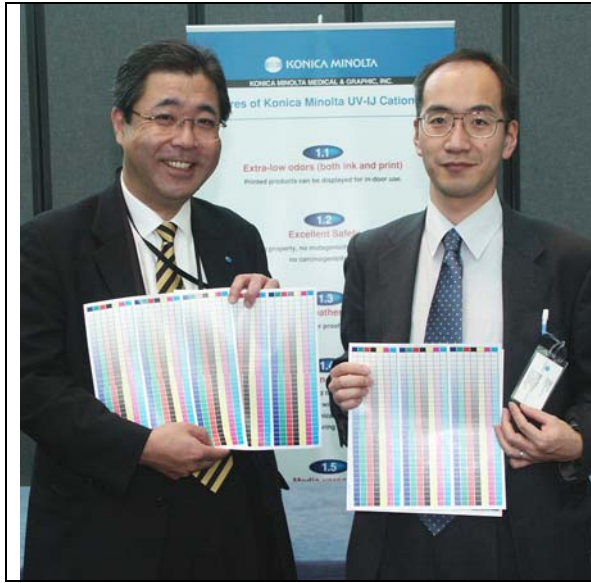
Clayton Sampson, Joint Managing Director - UV Integration Technology holding the SubZero™ (on the left) and the new, even smaller, MZero™ (on the right)



Alan Mills, Business Development Manager – Nordson UV holding the new TinyCure™ lamphead.



Mario Carluccio, Business Development Manager – Aellora Digital with a glass bottle printed with Aellora's hybrid UV inks.



Tamotsu Wako, New Product Unit Manager and Takeo Arai, Staff Manager – Konica Minolta Medical & Graphic showing print samples of their new UV cure inks.



The new LEDZero II™ from UV Integration Technology. Two major development projects for the new lamp were agreed during the IMI Ink Jet Developers Conference.

About IMI

The Information Management Institute runs the largest and most comprehensive conference and seminar programme in the digital printing industry. Each year over 2,000 industry technical and management personnel from over 600 companies attend around 20 events covering all forms of digital printing.

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