

Digital textile

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A woman is shown from the back, her hair in a bun. She has a tattoo of several small stars on her upper back. She is wearing a vibrant, multi-colored dress with shades of red, orange, and yellow. The dress has a large, abstract, organic shape that covers her back and extends downwards.

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HIGH TECHNOLOGY + CREATIVITY
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DIGITAL TEXTILE PRINTING



M&R Introduces Improved DTG Printer

M&R has announced the launch of the M-Link X direct-to-garment digital textile printer, an enhanced version of the M-Link printer launched in 2014. The main improvement, when compared to the original M-Link printer, is in the speed.

The company said that the M-Link X is able to print white shirts in 30 to 45 seconds and dark shirts in less than a minute. The previous version of the printer had a similar capability printing on white shirts but took two to three minutes to print on dark shirts.

M&R is marketing the product as a high-speed DTG printer that competes with printers costing more than three times as much.

Other than the speed, the M-Link X is identical to the previous model. The 36cm x 52cm (14in x 20.5in) pallet can be used to print images up to 33cm x 48cm (13in x 19in) on 100% cotton, 50/50 cotton blends, and some polyester fabrics, says the company. M&R recommends the use of DuPont's Artistri BRITE digital-textile inks with the M-Link X and says this produces a high-quality image, in conjunction with the company's i-Color RIP Software and Absolute Position Technology (APT).

Print modes include conventional two-pass printing; bi-directional Y-axis printing; and One-Pass Express Printing. On black garments, Black Color Mode prevents the printer from laying down both a white underbase and black ink on black image areas. On coloured garments, Economy Color Mode prevents the printer from laying down white underbase where black will be printed. This is designed to save ink and increase print speed.

"M-Link X sets a new standard for speed, price, and image quality," said Geoff Baxter, director of M&R's Digital Products

Division. "It isn't the only printer for high quality images. And it isn't the only high-speed printer. However, it is the only affordable high-quality, high-speed printer. M-Link X is incredible value."



M-Link X offers improved printing speed

New Solvent Ink Suitable for Textiles

Textile printing is among the applications proposed for the new MaraJet DI-SX solvent-based inkjet inks from Marabu.

MaraJet DI-SX inks are a range of plug-and-print inks developed especially for ECO-SOL MAX2-generation Roland printers. The new offering is said to represent a cost-effective alternative to the OEM product. The line can also be used with other devices of the same build. Lightfastness is said to be high and colour profiles do not need to be adjusted, as the ink's properties have been specifically tailored to the print head.

The ultrafine pigment extends the life of the print heads, according to Marabu, and can be applied to various substrates, including PVC-coated banners, plastic sheeting, self-adhesive foils, and textiles. The ink dries quickly as the solvent evaporates, making it ideal for fast printing and roll-to-roll print jobs. In addition, Marabu said, the pigments are of very high

quality, enabling the production of a brilliant, nickel-free yellow, plus metallic colours such as silver, gold, and bronze.



MaraJet DI-SX inks can be applied to various substrates including PVC-coated banners

Paper Company Targets Sublimation Market

Felix Schoeller, a division of German speciality-paper company Felix Schoeller Group, is expanding its portfolio to include sublimation papers.

New S-RACE sublimation paper uses a microporous colour-receiver layer to offer what the company claims are significantly shorter drying times. Felix Schoeller says that, unlike many other papers already on the market, this coating has an innovative composition that gives the product higher air permeability, making it ideal for sublimation printing on to both textiles and hard plastic-coated substrates.

The company adds that the new papers are also able to absorb water far more quickly, which means they can be used on the latest and fastest sublimation printers without problems and without the need for an additional drying unit. It says the special coating can also significantly shorten the sublimation process deliver a transferred image with excellent line sharpness.

"With our S-RACE sublimation papers, we are developing an entirely new product segment for the Felix Schoeller Group," said Guido Hofmeyer, executive vice-president of the Felix Schoeller Group and chief operating officer of the Felix Schoeller Division. "The new segment is an excellent fit for our expertise and competencies and we are delighted to be able to offer the market such high-performance products."

S-RACE products will initially be available in three different basis weights: 75, 100 and 130 gsm. Both plotter and large-diameter rolls are available.



Felix Schoeller's S-Race quick drying sublimation paper



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