



INCREASE IN STAFF caused EskoArtwork to relocate

ESKOARTWORK OPENS NEW HEADQUARTERS

US OFFICE needed for staff increase

EskoArtwork has moved its North American headquarters from Vandalia, Ohio, to a new 30,000 square foot facility in Miamisburg, another suburb of Dayton, Ohio. The facility houses the company's software support group, customer training and demo centers, marketing and business development, human resources and finance and administration.

During 2009, EskoArtwork increased its staff number by 40 percent. With plans for continued growth, the new location offers the company more efficient space. EskoArtwork's other offices in the US – including those in Ludlow, Massachusetts, Bensalem, Pennsylvania, and Lake Geneva, Wisconsin – remain open and unaffected by the move.

'This move not only provides a more productive and efficient workplace, it provides our customers, with enhanced and updated training, meeting and state-of-the-art demonstration areas,' said Mark Quinlan, president, EskoArtwork North America. 'Our goal is to create a workflow environment that smartly mirrors how our customers' businesses might operate – and adds enhancements and recommendations to further help them operate more efficiently and grow more rapidly. After months of planning and internal construction, our new facility is a showplace for the direction of graphics communication and packaging. I personally invite anyone to visit our location when in the area.'

MGX EXPANSION FORCES FACILITY INCREASE

Masterpiece Graphix (MGX) has finalized plans to more than double the size of its Fenton, Missouri, facility, and to add a fourth digital coating line. These improvements will give MGX more coating capacity, increased throughput, and the ability to coat materials at higher speeds. This expansion will be complete in September.

The new high-speed coating line counts on the latest coating and curing technology for pristine clean and flawless coatings of all types. Plans for another sheet coating line are underway, as demand for MGX digital sheets 'has increased dramatically', says the company. Larger office space will accommodate increasing numbers of staff in the MGX corporate office. Twice the warehouse space will allow ample storage capacity for stocked digital sheet and roll materials.

LABELS&LABELING

AGFA ACQUIRES PITMAN PORTFOLIO

Agfa Graphics has signed an agreement to purchase the assets of the Harold M. Pitman Company, a US supplier of pre-press, industrial inkjet, pressroom and packaging printing products and systems. The acquisition increases Agfa Graphics' revenue in the US to more than \$500 million, says the company.

Based in Totowa, New Jersey, the Pitman Company counts 502 employees and 16 locations throughout the US. Pitman's large customer base and knowledge of the industry will offer growth opportunities for Agfa Graphics' industrial inkjet and pre-press product lines. Agfa Graphics' addressable market will increase thanks to the addition of numerous product lines to its offering, including flexographic printing platemaking equipment for the packaging industry, pressroom products and value added services. Moreover, Agfa Graphics will be able to complement its own industrial inkjet offering with the addition of a vast range of media, new inks and wide format printing systems.

CHICAGO BASE FOR GRAFISK MASKINFABRIK

Danish label converting equipment manufacture Grafisk Maskinfabrik (GM) has opened a new UK office in Chicago. It will provide sales, service and spare parts support and work with existing distributor GraphixOne in Cincinnati.

Uffe Nielsen, director of the company's Danish operation, said: 'We have seen an increasing demand for our equipment in the USA especially for our DC330 converting lines, core cutters and inspection rewinders. This step will strengthen our position further.'

The office is managed by Mark Rogers who has extensive experience with the US label printing industry. The office also provides demo facilities for in-house demonstration and product trials.

Grafisk Maskinfabrik is a supplier of label converting and finishing machines with facilities in the Denmark and 20 agents worldwide. The company offers a full range of converting lines either standard or tailored to requirements. Recently launched products include the DC330mini compact converting line for labels, PNTS line of core cutters and UCE500 servo-driven sheeter. Specialized applications include solar cell printing, RFID label die-cutting and pharmaceutical converting lines.

EFI REBRANDS RADIUS MIS SOFTWARE

Following the recent acquisition of Radius Solutions, EFI has begun integrating the Radius packaging software into its portfolio of print management products.

EFI has rebranded the product name from Pecos Vision to EFI Radius to align with the naming structure of its other MIS offerings. EFI will continue with the current development structure and product roadmap, while maintaining the Radius offices in the US and Europe.