



Press Release

May 30th, 2005.
For Release May 31st, 2005

Mutoh to Première Spitfire 100 Mild Solvent Printer and Viper TX Direct Textile Printer at Fespa.

Fespa, Munich, Germany – 31 May 2005 – At the Fespa show, Hall B2 - booth B 625, the Belgium based wide-format piezo printer manufacturer Mutoh Europe will be featuring for the first time ever two new wide-format piezo printer products, i.e. the **Spitfire 100** mild solvent printer and the **Viper TX** direct textile printer.

Spitfire 100 Mild-Solvent Printer

The Spitfire 100 is an addition to the recently launched Spitfire 65 and Spitfire 90 mild solvent printers. Spitfire 100 is a 102" (260 cm) wide printer tuned for Mutoh's Spitfire mild solvent inks. The unit incorporates 8 drop-on-demand piezo heads and has 16 ink cassette slots.

This new mild solvent printer from Mutoh is targeted at typical sign businesses, focusing on volume production of mid-term outdoor prints. Application possibilities encompass outdoor signage: point of purchase displays, tradeshow graphics, vehicle graphics, publicity banners, window graphics, backlit box signage, etc...

The new Spitfire 100 printer has a totally different look versus the Spitfire 65" and 90" printers. Not only cosmetics are different, but also on the hardware side, the machine is different. Spitfire 100 has been built from scratch and incorporates a set of innovative features, such as a completely new ink supply path (ink supply tubings, head caps, pumps), a new X/Y rail extrusion, a newly developed electrical pump system with one pump per head, a renewed head base, as well as an improved vacuum system. A nice feature on the unit is the big illuminated viewing area with striplights allowing the user to do visual inspection of the outputs during printing.

Spitfire 100 comes with a heavy-duty unwinding/winding unit for media rolls up to 100 kg. The unit delivers real-time production speeds up to 22 m²/h on a wide range of standard available uncoated banners and up to 13 m²/h on uncoated self-adhesive vinyls.

./..

Viper TX Direct Textile Printers

Viper TX will mark Mutoh's entry into the niche market of direct textile printing.

Available in 65" (1653 mm) and 90" (2280 mm) size, the new Viper TX series direct textile printers are a complement to Mutoh's existing family of dye sublimation printers for transfer to fabric or transfer to object, i.e. the Mutoh Viper series printers.

The Viper TX direct textile printer incorporates an ink gutter which is positioned under the printing path to collect all ink not absorbed by the textile. A waste drain collects waste ink and guides it to a waste container. Also incorporated is an additional cylinder assuring a perfect equal tension on the fabric during printing.

The new direct textile printer from Mutoh is able to print directly onto non-stretch textile with open or closed structure, such as PES flag, cotton, silk, ... Viper TX is targeted at short run volumes, varying from sample creation to small lot production. Application possibilities are soft signage, flags, trade show graphics, home furnishings, etc...

The machines incorporate 8 drop-on-demand 360 nozzle heads with 8 colour channels, offering full freedom of ink layout: 8 colours (possible mix of process and spot colours for maximum colour gamut), 6 colours, CMYK CMYK or 2x4 CMYK (speed & ink autonomy set-up). Resolutions up to 1440 dpi are possible. Typical production speeds between 7 and 28 m² can be achieved.

About Mutoh Europe.

Mutoh Europe nv, Oostende, Belgium, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Mutoh Industries Ltd, Tokyo, Japan. Founded in 1991, Mutoh Europe's activities encompass development, manufacturing and distribution of CAS hardware (professional sign cutting plotters, apparel marking/cutting plotters and large-format full-colour piezo-electric printers for commercial inkjet printing and sign making applications). Employing 290 people, the company markets Mutoh products all over Europe, the Middle-East and Africa through its extensive network of authorised distributors. More information on Mutoh Europe and its products can be found on <http://www.mutoh.be> .

PRESS CONTACT

Nick Decock - Mutoh Europe Marketing Dpt. - ndecock@mutoh.be

Mutoh Europe nv, Archimedesstraat 13, B – 8400 Oostende, BELGIUM
Phone : 0032 (0) 59 56 14 00 – Fax : 0032 (0) 59 80 71 17 – E-mail : mutoh@mutoh.be - <http://www.mutoh.be>.

Mutoh to Première Spitfire 100 and Viper TX