

RNI Reg. No. 65957/96

# Print Miracle

The Official Journal of Kerala Master Printers Association



drupa 2024

CELEBRATING THE GLOBAL PRINT INDUSTRY

drupa 2024  
Setting new trends?

Embarking on an Enchanting  
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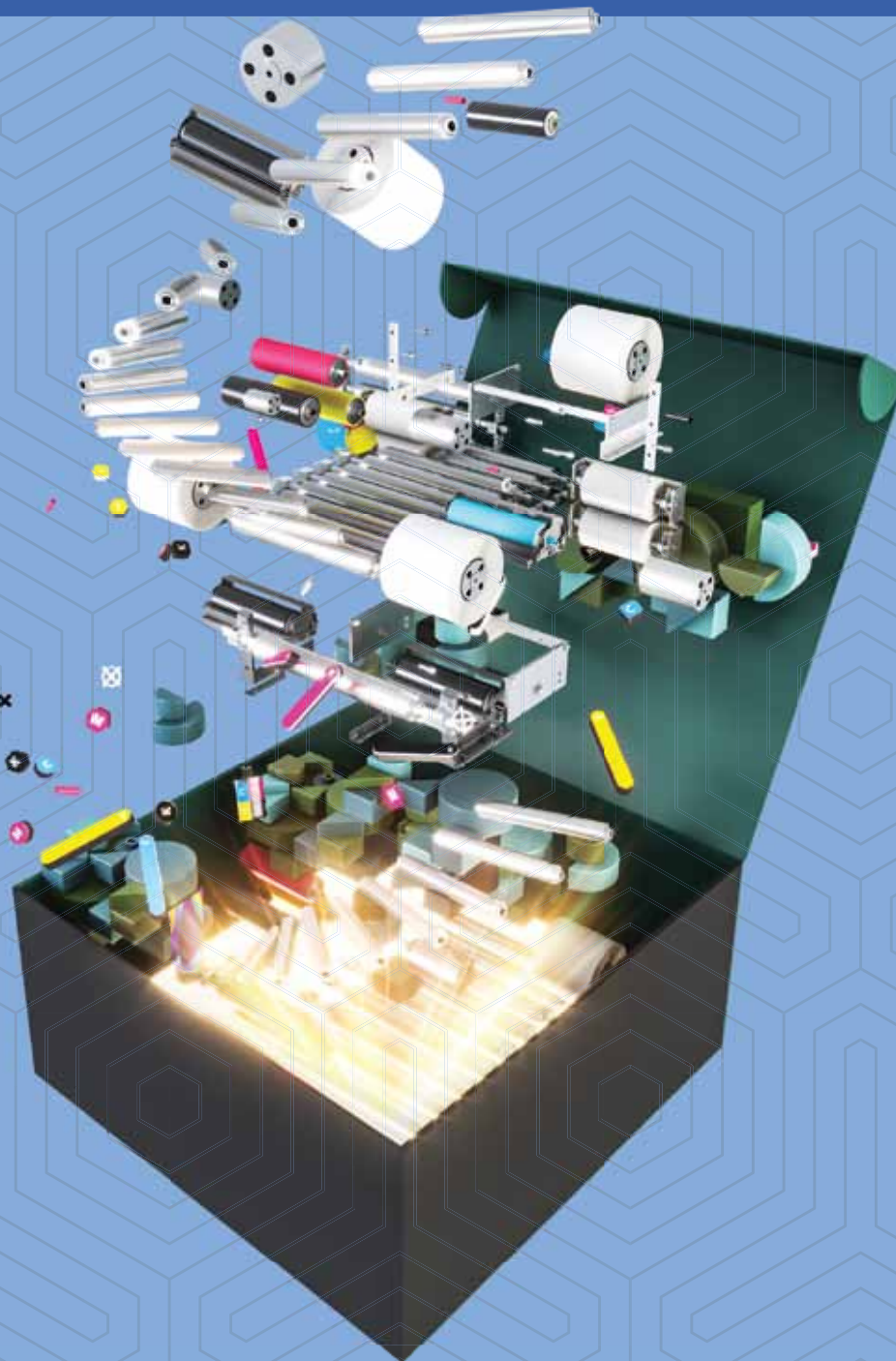
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Dear Friends,

I welcome all our members to the latest issue of *Print Miracle*.

The year 2024 continues unabated in terms of activities for KMPA and its members. A 38-strong KMPA team which included family members embarked on a 11-day tour to Europe, which was an eye opener on several fronts.

The primary focus was to attend drupa 2024 in Dusseldorf, Germany, considered as the largest exhibition in printing technologies. The busy show floor was abuzz with activity, where knowledge, networking, business deals, and entertainment went hand-in-hand with some of the latest state-of-the-art technologies and solutions in the printing sector, including futuristic ones such as AI and robotics. All major companies and industry bigwigs were gathered at Dusseldorf. A moment of immense pride was when we saw Mr. Kulakkada Pradeep, KMPA's honorary member, present with the Fogra team as their official PSO partner in India and being part of such an acclaimed institute.

From there on our team wandered off into the beautiful landscapes in Germany, and from there on to Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. Despite the freezing temperatures, the team was in high spirits, enjoying each and every day, marveling at the some of the most beautiful monuments of European history, its diverse cultures, cuisines, and some of the most breathtaking landscapes ever seen.

I would like to extend my wholehearted thanks once again to all our members who are continuing to put in their best to make the year a successful one. I would also like to thank all members in the editorial team of *Print Miracle* for bringing out such a colourful and informative issue. Happy Reading!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Louis Francis".

**Louis Francis**

President

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The present term of 2022-2024 KMPA office bearers is coming to an end. Under the leadership of President Louis Francis and Secretary G. Venugopal, KMPA has achieved many laurels. The anxieties created by the pandemic on the smooth functioning of the association were set right with their skilful leadership. Today we see better cohesion among KMPA members for most of the programmes. The motivation from the leadership, especially from the President, is exemplary. Mr. Francis has also been very generous in his praise for the committee members' activities.



### **Print & Beyond and Print Miracle Expo**

The standard of the flagship Print & Beyond seminar is a class apart. The meticulous planning and carefully selected topics for the seminar by Raju N. Kutty, Chairman, Print & Beyond, has been top notch. Most of KMPA's members benefitted from attending the seminars. Even industry experts who participated as speakers at Print & Beyond are getting star ratings in the career from the industry. The success of Print & Beyond can easily be gauged by the enthusiasm shown by an impressive list of manufacturers and dealers from the printing and packaging industry to attend the seminar consistently. The manufacturers and dealers of the printing industry are keen to attend Print and Beyond. The keenness shown by Print & Beyond Chairman Mr. Kutty to explain the steps he had taken for a successful seminar in KMPA's Monday meeting was an eye-opener.

Print Miracle Expo was launched on a huge scale, and created a lot of vigour in the printing industry of Kerala after the pandemic. R. Gopakumar, Chairman of the expo played a pivotal role in organising the event which saw huge success. To make a printing exhibiton in Kerala a success needs more effort than in other parts of the country. Mr. Gopakumar played his cards well.

### **KMPA visits drupa 2024 followed by Scandinavian vacation**

A 38-member team of KMPA members flew down to Dusseldorf to attend drupa - the largest trade fair for printing technologies. From their feedback, the visit was an enriching experience where they could witness industry bigwigs with their latest solutions; learn about the latest industry trends, the state-of-the-art technologies including futuristic ones, and a whole lot of knowledge about the latest in the industry. This brief visit was followed by a memorable visit to other parts of Germany, besides 3 Scandinavian countries.

*Print Miracle*, KMPA's official journal, was not regular in the last two years. This is the second issue to be published this year. The revival of *Print Miracle* is due to the keen effort taken by editorial member Biju Jose, and associate editor Sanjeev Varma. As my term as editor is coming to an end, I wish to thank all the readers, management committee members, and advertisers for their support.

**Rajan P.S.**

Editor

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# Celebrating the global print industry: Record number of deals signed at drupa 2024

*drupa 2024 exceeded all expectations. It received top marks from visitors from all over the world, who left the trade fair with new ideas and clear prospects for the future. Numerous contracts signed and technological innovations inspired the print and packaging industry.*



**d**rupa 2024 in Düsseldorf, the world's No. 1 trade fair for printing technologies, drew to a successful close on 7 June after eleven days. It impressively demonstrated the progress of an entire sector and gave proof of the operational excellence of the industry. 1,643 exhibitors from 52 nations presented an outstanding showcase of innovations in the Düsseldorf exhibition halls and thrilled the trade visitors with unforgettable performances. The international share of the visitors was 80%, with attendees coming from 174 countries - a record figure. After Europe, Asia was the most strongly represented region with 22%, followed by America with 12%. Asia as well as Latin America and the MENA region are markets with great growth potential, which was reflected in the significant increase in

exhibitors' presence and order books. Many key players, such as Bobst, Canon, Fujifilm, Heidelberger Druckmaschinen, HP, Horizon, Komori, Konica Minolta,

Kurz and Landa, reported having signed contracts that significantly exceeded expectations. In some cases, the sales targets set were already achieved in the





first few days of the trade fair.

Erhard Wienkamp, Managing Director at Messe Düsseldorf, is highly satisfied with the course of the trade fair: "drupa has underpinned its position as the industry's leading trade fair and its unique appeal in a remarkable way. The impressive international flair and, above all, the high decision-making competence of the visitors ensured in-depth and well-

founded technical discussions at the trade fair stands on the one hand and many direct investment decisions on the other. Our exhibitors told us about large-volume purchase agreements."

Dr Andreas Pleßke, Chairman of the drupa Committee, emphasised the exceptional position and relevance of drupa: "drupa stands for new approaches and new technologies like no other trade

fair. It is not only the largest, but also the most important global platform for our industry, because the entire printing and post-press industry meets at the world-leading trade fair. It has been invaluable for generating leads. Nowhere else offers the opportunity to make so many new international contacts from all over the world in such a short space of time in one place."





**Industry decision-makers highly satisfied**

Exhibitors praised the high level of decision-making competence of visitors. They, in turn, gave top marks to the range of products and services on offer in the 18 exhibition halls. Around 96% of all visitors confirmed that they had fully achieved the objectives associated with their visit. At over 50%, most of them came from the printing industry, followed by the packaging industry, whose share has increased significantly and which was the focus of many exhibitors as a

growth driver. Many well-known brand owners were welcomed at the trade fair stands. In total, 170,000 trade visitors attended drupa 2024.

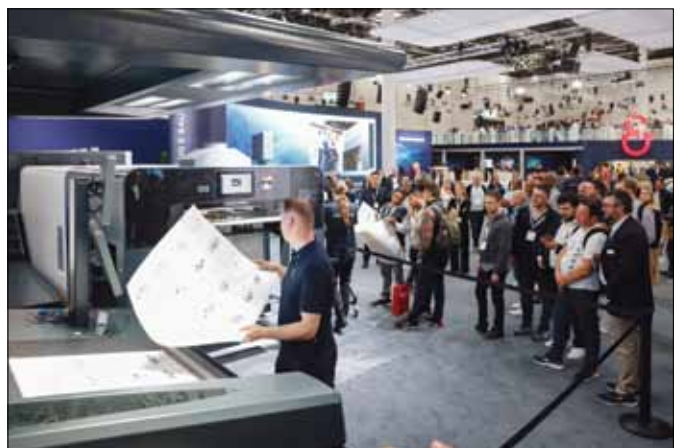
**Digitalisation as a determining factor**

Automation took centre stage at this year's drupa, with a strong focus on AI and smart workflows, including software solutions. It became clear that digital and analogue technologies ideally complement and benefit from each other. Traditional industry leaders presented

a wide range of digital solutions, while digital pioneers integrated conventional components into their offerings. Robotics played an important role in the exhibition halls and illustrated the path towards the smart factory.

**Transformation and growth**

drupa made it abundantly clear that the industry has great potential for the future, even against the backdrop of many challenges, and that the prospects are promising. In the last financial year, the global printing industry achieved





a turnover of around EUR 840 billion (source: Smithers) and continues to develop at varying pace worldwide.

“At drupa 2024, we experienced first hand just how relevant and resilient this industry is,” summarises Sabine Geldermann, Director drupa, Portfolio Print Technologies. “The community is determined to set the course for the future together. Exchanging ideas with people from all continents and from all areas of the industry was extremely enriching and inspiring. We were able to welcome around 50 large delegations from various nations, and numerous globally active associations and organisations chose drupa as the ideal setting for their conferences and board meetings.

Together we are stronger. Many new strategic alliances concluded at the

trade fair reflected the opportunities that are only possible in such a concentrated form at drupa: meeting market players from other countries around the world in person, using core competences as synergy effects, forming networks and driving the market forward together

### Sustainable technologies in focus

Technology is the key to achieving sustainability goals - exhibitors at drupa illustrated this with numerous practice-orientated developments and concrete solutions. Top priority is given to resource efficiency and the path to a functioning circular economy. In addition, Touchpoint Sustainability from the VDMA, the German Machinery and Equipment Manufacturers' Association, showcased current state of the art innovations,

presented best-practice use cases and gave a far-reaching outlook into the future of a sustainable printing industry.

### Valuable knowledge transfer

The extensive supporting programme with its five high-calibre special forums drupa cube, drupa next age (dna) and the Touchpoints Packaging, Textile and Sustainability was very well received. In times of constant change and the resulting new business models, they ensured an intensive transfer of knowledge and provided important guidance. Together with its partners, drupa focused on impressive industry expertise and the future topics of its target groups. Guided tours on various key topics rounded off the trade fair experience.

The next drupa will be held in 2028.



# drupa 2024 setting new trends?

After having the distinction of spending all 11 days at drupa 2024, **Kulakkada Pradeep** gives us a first-hand account of the world's leading event for printing technologies. After a hiatus of 8 years, drupa 2024 was full of expectations. But according to Mr. Pradeep, how much of these expectations were fulfilled remains as questions that were not sufficiently answered. Packed with lots of information, readers may find some of his observations unbelievable.

The 2024 drupa was a much awaited event with huge expectations built around. The reasons were too many - the pandemic which made inconceivable disruptions has kept the printing industries world around at it's toes. And the gap of 6 years were too long for the print industry enthusiast. How much of the expectations were fulfilled remains as a question not sufficiently answered.

After spending all days at drupa, it can be reliably learned that the impact of digitalization, communication breakthroughs, consumer engagement avenues, and global connectivity has reshaped the way industry is looking at these exhibitions. In a nutshell, the visitors were scarce, breakout innovations were lesser, and the overall enthusiasm was





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little muted. It doesn't mean that all is lost or gone with the wind.

There are many silver linings in the air. The most pertinent theme was the Digitalization and Automation which is making huge inroads for some time. And it is going to continue for longer term than expected.

This time, the focus from manufacturers were on increasing the cost efficiency and saving time and labour. This means that to run the printing business profitably we all need to think of ways to control the cost internally and to save the production time. This points towards another conundrum that is a talking point in the industry for long – standardisation. This alone can help the print industry to survive and perform in

the future era. The customers are not going to pay more, the suppliers will not come down on their pricing and the only way out is to save every rupee internally. Most of the stalls were exhibiting solutions that is saving cost and time, by cutting down on labour, set up time, production time etc.

As expected by the print fraternity, the influence of Artificial Intelligence and Circular Economy was immense in drupa. These are integral to the print industry's future, the technologies like Big Data, Digital Twin, and virtual services are going to drive more avenues for artificial intelligence to rule. There were too many manufacturers displayed environmentally friendly chemistries and production technologies which

clearly point towards the emerging need to produce sustainably. The printing industry world over seems to have accepted and moving towards this direction.

drupa 2024 marked a leaner yet significant impact on the global print industry. Visitor numbers were lower at 1,70,000 compared to 2,60,000 in 2016. International attendance was higher this time - 80% of visitors from 174 countries, led by Asian countries (22%) surpassing US representation (12%). This is enough reason to believe that countries like India will play a significant role in the years to come in the global landscape.

The print industry leaders like Bobst, Canon, Fujifilm, Heidelberg, HP, Horizon, Koenig & Bauer, Komori, Konica Minolta,





Kurz, and Landa reported substantial growth in contracts signing. The Komori has reported the most number of machines signing from India. This is again a trend, the love for new machines is sweeping across as more Indian printers are signing for new machines.

drupa 2024 aligned with industry data predicting digital toner cutsheet color leadership across commercial, publishing, and packaging sectors by 2023. Digital inkjet technologies also showed promising growth prospects globally in roll-fed, cutsheet, and wide-format applications.

Exhibitors represented a diverse global landscape, with surprising participation from Chinese (423), German (141), Italian (141), and Indian manufacturers (76) and Israeli innovators with 10 exhibitors.

The Landa from Israel pulled more crowds this time with their landmark technology Nanography and marked its arrival as a new technology. The Landa S11 and Landa S11P Nanographic Printing® presses have received many orders. It will take more time to come to India considering it's initial investments.

Many launches have seen at drupa 2024 and few of them are worth mentioning.

Koenig & Bauer's CorruJET is an offset substitutable press with the power of digital printing on corrugated boards. A modular platform incorporating flexo and offset combining the strengths of digital printing with offset for short runs and fast turnaround.

Komori J-throne 29, the 29" UV Inkjet Digital Press with 6000 sph for single sided printing was getting many eyeballs.

The Jetfire 75 from Heidelberg with a speed of 8,700 B2 sheets per hour, could be a perfect production tool for brochures, books or other commercial work. The larger paper size is the prime attraction - 61 x 75 cm offers wider choices for the printers. This ia water based inkjet technology to print paper thickness from 80 gsm to 400 gsm.

The Speedmaster XL 106 was also there to address the new age realities of print industry - competitiveness and cost pressure, shortage of skilled workers, digitalization and necessity for sustainable production. With an impressive 21,000 sph with its Hycolor

XL – the first good sheet is achieved quickly with a push to stop coating unit.

Bobst showcased how future presses seamlessly integrate flexo, digital inkjet, embellishment and finishing to deliver 1 sheet to 1 million sheets from a machine.

Man Roland Goss Varioman is a packaging printing press which can print on any substrate with solvent free process, lower cost per copy even for short run with 100% automation features.

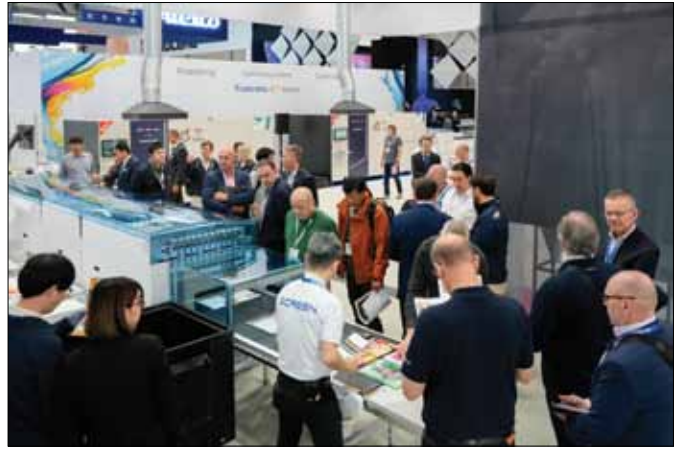
Canon's label printing solution - LabelStream LS2000 – is a water-based inkjet label press with exceptional print quality labels that are ideal for applications involving indirect food contact. With automation, matchless productivity with its 40 M/ min speed, media versatility and ergonomic design, will be a good fit for label manufacturers.

HP Industrial Digital Printers has many innovations and automations. The Electrophotography (LEP) or Thermal Inkjet (TIJ) presses are added with critical automation and advanced AI features.

FujiFilm Revoria Press PC 1120 has another smart machine, a one pass 6 colour press with option to load a







maximum of two Specialty toner stations. TruePress PAC 830F from Screen, Japan is another one that caught my attention. Waterbased Inkjet System for Flexible Packaging With a throughput of 4,500 m/h delivers exceptional time to market production for mixed and small quantity flexible packaging.

Fogra has showcased all their certifications, testing and research services. They have seen major footfalls mainly from countries like India, China, Middle East and many Asian countries. From India alone, Future Schoolz, the official Fogra PSO partner has signed with 4 leading presses for Fogra PSO Certification – Orange Printers, Thiruvananthapuram, Imprint Technopack, Bangalore, Pragati Offset, Hyderabad and DC Books, Kottayam. Kerala leads the pack with 2 players going for this coveted certification marking their intent to raise the print quality standards and consistency.

Konica Minolta has introduced its presses in alliance with MGI. UV INKJET TECHNOLOGY is the smart combination of MGI's exclusive inkjet technology with KONICA MINOLTAs Dropon- Demand Piezoelectric print heads. Its digital varnish technology is something that caters to the requirement for many applications and product segments.

APL Quantum Jet-47, is a real quantum jump for Indian Print manufacturer. This printer can print on any substrate from paper, board up to 300 GSM, PP, PET, METPET, Aluminium Foil, Lami tubes, Label, Shrink Label to Corrugated Paper. An impressive feat for Indian printers who are looking to cater to different market and product

segments at lower TCO.

Another manufacturer from India, Orient has surprised with its Ink jet printer - Orient Jet C – series – which is suited to book production, commercial and newspaper.

Bindwel was another booth that attracted footfalls for their offerings like 1NSTA, Freedom and Ekam. The Bindwel has come around as a strong player in the book binding space and cut out its space. With a benchmark productivity of 1000 Books per hour, it offers less than a minute make ready and dynamic changes.

drupa 2024 also featured advancements in cold foiling technologies by Kurz, setting new standards in packaging embellishments. With their surface decoration series and digital embellishment technologies, the future of embellishments will touch new heights.

Top two global print technology

investment plans by last year can be summed up as Sheetfed offset leads with 29% and Inkjet Toner Cut sheet colour with 20%. Segment wise trend in each category is also interesting – In Packaging, Flexo and sheet fed offset are neck to neck with 35% each. In publishing, again sheetfed offset and Inkjet Toner cutsheet colour sharing 32% share each, in Commercial the Digital Inkjet Wide format leads with 33% and Digital Toner Cut sheet colour is little behind with 31% share. These trends may differ from market and based on nuances of segmentations. But definitely an eye opener for printers who are thinking long and hard before the next investment.

drupa 2024 has reinforced its role as a pivotal event, steering the global print industry towards innovation, automation, and sustainability amidst evolving market dynamics and technological advancements.





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# St. Joseph's Orphanage Press & Bookstall

## A century of excellence and collective togetherness

The St. Joseph's Orphanage Press, established in 1924 under the visionary leadership of Mar Thomas Kurialasserry, has been a beacon of printing services for a century. Originally founded to provide printing solutions of all kinds, our journey has witnessed remarkable transformations. Through the stewardship of Mar Mathew Kavukattu in 1967, the addition of a bookstall marked a significant expansion of our services, catering to the diverse literary needs of our community. Over the years, our commitment to excellence has remained unwavering, thanks to our commendably experienced and dedicated staff who ensure that every print bears the hallmark of quality. With the advent of state-of-the-art technology and stringent quality control measures, we have continued to uphold our promise of delivering nothing short of excellence.

St. Joseph Orphanage Press, located in Changanacherry, Kottayam, operates under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Changanacherry. We are distinguished for our commitment to delivering superior printing solutions, serving as a highly efficient platform for meeting a wide

array of needs. In 2008, a pivotal moment in our history occurred as we underwent reorganization, emerging as a trust dedicated to serving our community with even greater dedication and purpose. This transformation allowed us to further enhance our offerings and extend our reach, reaffirming our commitment to our core values.

St. Joseph's Orphanage Press & Book Stall, we don't just espouse our mission and values; we embody them in every aspect of our operations. Our overarching mission is to harness our full resources for the utmost convenience of our clients. We uphold integrity and excellence at every stage of the process, ensuring that our clients consistently receive top-notch quality and service.

Recognizing the urgency often associated with our clients' projects, we prioritize prompt responses to inquiries, striving to address their needs promptly and efficiently.

At St. Joseph Orphanage Press and Book Stall, our operations are divided into distinct segments to cater to diverse needs:

**Press:** This segment focuses on

printing services, utilizing advanced technology and skilled professionals to deliver high-quality printed materials.

- **Bookstall:** The bookstall offers a wide selection of books, catering to various interests and genres, providing customers with access to literary treasures.

- **Gift Shop:** Our gift shop features a range of products suitable for various occasions, offering unique and thoughtful gifts for every celebration.

- **Syro-Malabar Matrimony:** This segment assists individuals in finding suitable matches for marriage, providing personalized matchmaking services based on preferences and compatibility.

Each segment of St. Joseph Orphanage Press and Book Stall is dedicated to fulfilling specific needs, reflecting our commitment to serving the community comprehensively.

Our printing facility is equipped with cutting-edge infrastructure and machinery, enabling us to cater comprehensively to various printing requirements. From office collaterals to diaries, calendars, and promotional materials, we provide an extensive range





of screen, offset, and digital printing services—all conveniently available under one roof.

Our Experienced Pressmen and Production Engineers utilize Computerized Control Processes to ensure quality and consistency in every offset printing project. Our production process transcends geographical and temporal constraints, allowing us to consistently achieve exceptional quality at competitive rates. This optimistic perspective positions us as a gateway to numerous opportunities for our esteemed clients. At St. Joseph's Orphanage Press, stringent quality control measures are rigorously implemented across all processes and procedures. We meticulously evaluate and adopt the most advanced production methods, guaranteeing the highest caliber of printed materials from inception to completion. Leveraging the expertise of our seasoned pressmen and production engineers, we employ

computerized control processes to ensure unwavering quality and uniformity in every offset printing endeavour. Our printing facility is equipped with cutting-edge infrastructure and machinery, representing the latest advancements in printing technology. This enables us to offer a comprehensive range of printing services, covering various needs and requirements. Whether it's producing office collaterals such as letterheads and business cards, creating personalized diaries and calendars, or designing eye-catching promotional materials, we have the capabilities to handle it all. Our services encompass screen printing for vibrant and durable outputs, offset printing for high-volume projects with precision, and digital printing for fast and efficient production of customized materials.

Behind the scenes, our team of experienced Pressmen and Production

Engineers meticulously oversee every step of the printing process. Utilizing Computerized Control Processes, they ensure that each printing project meets our stringent standards for quality and consistency. This involves monitoring parameters such as ink density, color accuracy, and registration to guarantee that each print product is flawless and uniform.

Our commitment to excellence extends beyond the technology and equipment we use; it's ingrained in our workflow and the expertise of our staff. With a focus on precision, attention to detail, and adherence to best practices, we strive to deliver printing solutions that exceed expectations. From the initial design phase to the final product, our goal is to provide our clients with exceptional print materials that leave a lasting impression. By investing in top-of-the-line machinery and employing





skilled professionals, we ensure that our printing services are not only convenient but also of the highest quality. Clients can trust us to deliver superior results consistently, meeting their printing needs with efficiency and excellence.

Our press offers a comprehensive range of printing services., including but not limited to Annual Reports, Art books, Booklets, Brochures, Business Cards, Calendars, Carry Bags, Catalogues, Holiday Cards, Coffee Table Menu Books, Corporate Printing, Newsletters, Letterhead, Leaflets & Flyers, Magazines, Office Printing, Banners, Presentation Folders, Stickers, Posters, Colour Copies, Wallets, Black and White Copies, Wedding and Social Invite Posters.

Our Design and Pre-Press TEAM is dedicated to bringing your creative visions to life, embodying our motto, "We impress you with impressions." Our team of experts offers comprehensive guidance throughout the design process, assisting in color selection, paper choices, and providing valuable suggestions to achieve optimal results.

With a focus on innovation and excellence, our experienced designers deliver digital print solutions featuring exclusive designs that set your brand apart. Each design is meticulously crafted to convey your message effectively while ensuring unmatched quality every time. Additionally, within our Offset Printing division, we excel in managing a diverse range of printing assignments, from crafting single-page brochures to intricately designed book volumes, with an unwavering commitment to precision and excellence. In our relentless pursuit of delivering superior print

solutions, we have meticulously curated a comprehensive array of cutting-edge machinery. These sophisticated equipment selections include:

- The Komori LA 437 POM 4 Colour D/Demy Machine, renowned for its versatility and ability to handle complex printing requirements with ease.

- The Printmagic Computer Controlled (CPC) 4 Colour Machine, prized for its advanced technology and precise color management capabilities.

- The Manugraph Mark 62 (440 mm cutoff) Web Machine, recognized for its high-speed performance and exceptional print quality on a variety of substrates.

- The Orient (578 mm cutoff) Web Machine, esteemed for its reliability and efficiency in delivering consistent results for large-scale printing projects.

- The HMT Single and D/Demy Machines, esteemed for their robust construction and reliability, making them ideal for handling a wide range of printing tasks with precision.

- The Dominant Single Colour Machine, known for its versatility and reliability in producing high-quality prints consistently.

- The Ryobi Mini Offset, valued for its compact size and exceptional performance, making it ideal for small-scale printing projects requiring precision and attention to detail. Each of these state-of-the-art machines has been carefully selected to meet the exacting standards of our discerning clientele. By leveraging the capabilities of these advanced printing technologies, we ensure that every print job entrusted to us is executed with unmatched quality,

precision, and consistency, reaffirming our commitment to excellence in printing.

We've entered an advanced era empowered by sophisticated machine inputs, marking a significant leap forward in our technological landscape. These advanced machines have revolutionized our capabilities, driving innovation and efficiency across various industries. With their cutting-edge features and functionalities, they propel us into a realm of endless possibilities, streamlining processes, enhancing productivity, and pushing the boundaries of what's achievable. As we harness the power of these advanced inputs, we pave the way for unprecedented advancements, shaping the future of our interconnected world with these new machines we have.

- The Xerox Versant 280 Press offers unmatched flexibility, top-tier image quality, professional finishing and advanced automation for laser work with low quantity output.

- The Canon Imagerunner Advance DX 6855i MFP and its integrated solutions streamline user experience, manage technology effectively, control sensitive data and printing expenses, and adapt to evolving needs.

- The Canon imageRUNNER C3226i prioritizes reliability, delivering top-notch printing and scanning alongside efficient document workflows, enhanced security for device and data protection, and vibrant color printing.

Finally, our Bindery Service offers a comprehensive range of finishing solutions that are widely recognized for their excellence within the industry, ensuring maximum customer satisfaction. Our bindery services encompass a full spectrum of offerings aimed at meeting the diverse needs of our clientele.

Our extensive array of machinery includes The Protech Folding Machine, The Horizon Perfect Binder, Stitching Machine, Gathering Machine, Printograph Lamination Machine, Knurling Machine, Wiro Binding Machine, UV (Spot Lamination) Machine, Foiling and Embossing Machine, Scoring and Creasing Machine, Edge Square Machine, Dye Cutting Machine, Numbering Machine, Programmable Cutting Machine, Shrink Wrapping Machine.

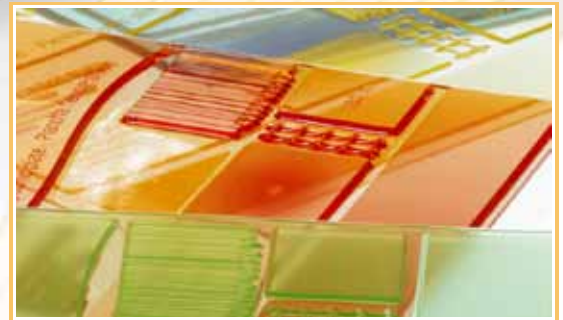


**COMPUTER-TO-PLATE (CTP)  
PHOTOPOLYMER STEREO**  
FOR FLEXOGRAPHY AND  
OTHER RELIEF IMAGE  
PRINTING PURPOSE



**Head Office**

📍 65/412, Joseph's Arcade  
Judges Avenue, Kaloor,  
Cochin - 682 017  
☎ +91 484 2401235, 2401236  
📠 7736287406 | 9446666236  
✉ sales@anams.in



- ▶ Flexible Packaging
- ▶ Label
- ▶ Dry-offset
- ▶ Security Printing
- ▶ Corrugated Board
- ▶ Paper
- ▶ Non Woven Bag
- ▶ Plastic Sac
- ▶ Aluminum Foil
- ▶ Paper Cups
- ▶ VV Varnishing
- ▶ UV Flexo
- ▶ Pad printing
- ▶ letterpress
- ▶ Business forms
- ▶ Balloon Printing
- ▶ Adhesive Tapes
- ▶ Tissue

MANUFACTURERS  
ALL KINDS OF  
**PRINTED & NON PRINTED  
INDUSTRIAL PACKAGING  
AND OTHER TAPES**

📍 XII/260, Kutti Sahib Road,  
South Chittoor  
Cochin - 682 027  
☎ +91 484 2431233  
📠 9446937422  
✉ jamespacktape@gmail.com





Each of these machines has been carefully selected to ensure optimal performance and precision in delivering finished products of the highest quality.

Furthermore, we are proud recipients of the AGMARK Certificate from the Indian government, which authorizes us to print a wide range of agricultural products, further solidifying our commitment to regulatory compliance and quality assurance. These establishments provide a variety of products to cater to different needs and preferences, ensuring a delightful shopping experience for our customers.

Our production process transcends geographical and temporal constraints, allowing us to consistently achieve exceptional quality at competitive rates. This optimistic perspective positions us as a gateway to numerous opportunities for our esteemed clients. At St. Joseph's Orphanage Press, stringent quality control measures are rigorously implemented across all processes and procedures. We meticulously evaluate and adopt the most advanced production methods, guaranteeing the highest caliber of printed materials from inception to completion. Leveraging the expertise of our seasoned pressmen and production engineers, we employ computerized control processes to ensure unwavering quality and uniformity in every offset printing endeavor. Within our printing press, you'll find an impressive array of state-of-the-art infrastructure and machinery meticulously crafted to cater to a diverse spectrum of client needs. From the essential office collaterals like letterheads and business cards to

the more personalized items such as diaries and calendars, and extending to the impactful realm of promotional print materials; our offerings are extensive and versatile. Whether it's traditional offset printing, sleek digital solutions, or vibrant screen printing, we pride ourselves on providing comprehensive and tailored services for all aspects of print communication.

Our commitment to excellence extends beyond mere production—it encompasses a dedication to transcending conventional boundaries. Through innovative processes and technologies, we transcend the limitations of space and time, ensuring that our clients receive their orders promptly and reliably, regardless of location or deadline. This commitment to efficiency not only ensures timely delivery but also guarantees exceptional quality at every step of the production journey.

Moreover, our dedication to quality is matched only by our commitment to affordability. Despite our investment in cutting-edge technology and premium materials, we remain steadfast in offering competitive rates that make quality printing accessible to all. We believe that exceptional print communication should not be a luxury but rather a standard, and it is this belief that drives us to continually optimize our processes to deliver maximum value to our clients.

In embracing this ethos, we recognize that each project represents not just a transaction but an opportunity—a gateway to new possibilities. Whether it's enhancing brand visibility, communicating key messages, or

fostering meaningful connections with target audiences, every print project has the potential to unlock untold opportunities for growth and success. Therefore, we approach each undertaking with a spirit of optimism and enthusiasm, eager to harness the power of print to drive meaningful outcomes for our clients.

In essence, our printing press stands as more than just a provider of print services; it is a partner in progress, dedicated to empowering businesses and individuals alike to achieve their goals through the transformative power of print communication. With our state-of-the-art facilities, unwavering commitment to quality and affordability, and boundless enthusiasm for unlocking new opportunities, we invite you to join us on this journey towards success.

As we reflect on a century of service and storytelling, we extend our deepest gratitude to our devoted staff – 25 personnel in bookstall, 34 in binding, 3 in matrimony, and over 50 press personnel – whose unwavering dedication has been the cornerstone of our success.

Our grand finale on May 4th, 2024, promises to be a momentous occasion, filled with reverence, jubilation, and gratitude is set to be unforgettable, with Shri Louis Francis (President of KMPA) inaugurating the event. Joined by esteemed guests like Mar Joseph Perumthottam, Mar Thomas Tharayil, and Mar George Kocherry, the evening radiates unity and purpose.

Distinguished attendees include Mrs. Beena Joby, MLA Mr. Job Maichil, and Mr. Johnson Joseph Planthottam, adding prestige to our celebration. Rev. Fr. Varghese Thanamavunkal leads us in reflection, while six remarkable individuals are recognized for their valuable contributions: Sebin Mathews, Shaji P Joseph, Robin Joseph, Babu Thomas, Kochumol David and Binny Matthews.

As we mark a century of service and storytelling, we thank our dedicated staff. From dignitaries to staff recognition, our celebration embraces the past, present, and future with optimism. Join us as we raise a toast to a hundred years of service, storytelling, and the enduring power of literature.

# Embarking on an Enchanting European Odyssey

## A Journey with the Kerala Master Printers Association

*In this 3-part series, Biju Jose gives us a well-illustrated, exhilarating account of KMPA's 38-man team heading to Europe, initially as participants in drupa 2024, and later for a family sojourn to discover the historical, cultural, culinary, and natural treasures of Germany, followed by the three Scandinavian nations of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden.*

The Kerala Master Printers Association (KMPA) organized an unforgettable journey to Germany and the Scandinavian countries of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. Conducted by M/s. Tibro Tours Private Limited, this adventure brought together a group of 38 enthusiastic KMPA members and their families, led by the dynamic President of KMPA, Louis Francis, and the Association's Tour Committee Chairman, Mohammed Saju.

This travel was organized primarily to visit the drupa 2024 exhibition in Dusseldorf, Germany, held from 28<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to 7<sup>th</sup> June 2024. drupa is the largest and most important trade fair for printing technologies, attracting industry professionals from all over the world to showcase and explore the latest innovations in printing, media, and packaging. Since the 2020 exhibition was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2024 edition was highly anticipated. Members of the Kerala Master Printers Association saw this as a golden opportunity to reconnect with global trends and technologies in their field.

drupa is known for being a pivotal event for printers across the globe, providing a comprehensive platform for industry networking, knowledge sharing, and business opportunities. It is where the latest advancements in printing technology are unveiled, from digital printing innovations to breakthroughs in packaging and industrial print applications. The exhibition not only highlights cutting-edge machinery and software but also trends that shape the



*The 38 member travel group*

future of printing, making it an essential destination for professionals looking to stay ahead in the competitive printing industry.

Given the significance of the event, KMPA planned the visit well in advance. Many discussions and deliberations took place among KMPA members, office bearers, and the executive committee regarding the journey's organisation and possible extensions. Members also suggested that adding an extension tour to Scandinavia, a departure from the usual itineraries, would be a unique and refreshing experience. The tour committee recommended visiting Denmark, Norway, and Sweden and suggested limiting the group size to under 40 travellers for better management. The proposal was approved by members and the final count was settled at 38 participants. KMPA decided to visit the exhibition for two days, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>

May, 2024 and have the extended tour thereafter.

The travel was superbly arranged by M/s. Tibro Tours, headquartered in Mumbai. Ajayan T., the Associate Vice President from their Chennai office, coordinated with the KMPA tour committee. His proactive and timely actions made organizing the trip a breeze for KMPA. Our tour manager, Vaibhav Godambe, whose impeccable management skills made every aspect of our journey remarkably enjoyable and memorable, ensured that we navigated each day with ease and excitement. His 15 years of service as a crew member with Jet Airways endowed him with good organizational and interpersonal skills, transforming our journey into an exceptional experience.

This travel journal captures the essence of our journey, from the rainy morning departure in Cochin to the



magical evenings in the picturesque city of Stockholm. Each day unfolded with new discoveries, cultural immersions, and breath-taking landscapes, weaving together a tapestry of unforgettable memories. Join us as we explore historic cities, scenic countryside, and majestic fjords, experiencing the rich heritage and natural beauty of Germany and Scandinavia.

**Day 1: 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

The journey began on a rainy morning at Cochin International Airport, Nedumbassery. Despite the early hour, there was an air of excitement among the 38 members of our team. Our Emirates flight, scheduled to depart at 4:25 AM, was delayed by an hour due to bad weather. This delay and the hurried transit in Dubai were a bit nerve-

wracking, but we managed to catch our connecting flight to Dusseldorf just in time. We arrived in Dusseldorf at 1:15 PM local time after a smooth 7.5-hour flight on the impressive Airbus A380. The immigration process was quick and efficient, and soon we were boarding a comfortable 45-seater coach, arranged just for our group, to take us to our hotel in Cologne.

Dusseldorf, the sixth-largest city in Germany, is mostly on the right bank of the Rhine River. It is a central city in the Rhine-Ruhr metropolitan region, the second largest by GDP in the EU. Despite its size, the city's name includes "dorf," meaning "village" in German. Dusseldorf is the largest city in the German part of the Low Franconian dialect area, which is closely related to Dutch. Dusseldorf Airport is Germany's fourth-busiest and

an important international hub for the densely populated Ruhr area.

Renowned as an international business and financial centre, Dusseldorf is famous for its fashion and trade fairs, with Messe Dusseldorf organizing nearly a fifth of premier trade shows. Mercer's 2012 Quality of Living survey ranked Dusseldorf as the sixth most liveable city in the world. The city celebrates the Rhenish Carnival every February/ March, with Dusseldorf's festivities being the third most popular in Germany. Known for its influence on electronic and experimental music (like Kraftwerk) and its significant Japanese community, Dusseldorf offers a blend of cultural richness and modernity.

The 60 km journey from Dusseldorf Airport to our hotel in Cologne took about an hour. The weather was overcast



but pleasant, a welcome change from the humid conditions back home. As we travelled, the lush German countryside rolled by, a picturesque introduction to the beauty of this country.

Our accommodation for the next three nights was at the Mercure Hotel Koln Belfortstrasse, a cosy and comfortable establishment. After checking in, everyone was eager to explore the city of Cologne, despite the long journey. Since we had already been well-fed on the flight, we decided to freshen up quickly and head out.

We took an evening stroll around the Kolner Dom, the majestic Cologne Cathedral. Its Gothic spires seemed to pierce the overcast sky, and the intricate details of its architecture left us in awe. Since we had planned to visit the Cathedral's interior later, we walked around the cathedral and then made our way to the banks of the Rhine River. The serene beauty of the river perfectly complemented the grandeur of the cathedral, creating a truly memorable evening.

Dinner was a delightful experience at the Jaipur Indisches Restaurant, where we enjoyed a mix of local drinks and Indian cuisine. The meal was a perfect blend of familiar flavours and new tastes, reflecting the multicultural vibe of Cologne. Later that evening, several of us took a leisurely walk along the Rhine River. The cool breeze, the twinkling lights of the city, and the gentle murmur of the river created a magical atmosphere. It was the perfect end to our first day, setting the tone for the adventures to come.

### Day 2: 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024

After a good night's sleep, we woke up early, thrilled about our upcoming visit to drupa 2024, renowned as the largest printing exhibition globally. Excitement was sky-high as drupa was happening after an 8-year hiatus. Many members were eager to hit the trade fairgrounds early. After a lavish breakfast at the hotel, all members boarded our exclusive coach punctually at 9:15 AM. The best feature of this travel was time management; every member adhered to the specified schedule throughout the 11-day tour, avoiding any delays.



The travel to the drupa trade fair in Dusseldorf took 45 minutes. Despite a slight drizzle along the route, the beautiful sights along the autobahn made the journey feel short. After a quick photo capture in front of Messe Dusseldorf GmbH, members dispersed to visit the exhibition. Having taken passes online, the check-in process was smooth. Members spent the whole day at the exhibition arena, breaking only for a mid-day lunch, which was well-arranged by Tibro Tours.

During the day, an official program was held at drupa. The All India Federation of Master Printers (AIFMP) celebrated India Day at the International Lounge in Messe Dusseldorf. B.S. Mubarak, Honourable Consul General of India in Frankfurt, was the chief guest. Other dignitaries included Manoj Mehta, president of FAPGA; Raveendra Joshi, who had just stepped down as president of WPCF; and Sabine Geldermann, director of Messe Dusseldorf.

BS Mubarak highlighted the strong





trade relationship between India and Germany, noting a trade transaction of USD 30 billion. He also mentioned other significant trade shows in Germany, such as Anuga Food Fair. Raghendra N. Dutta Baruah, President of AIFMP, thanked Mubarak for attending and shared a brief history of the Federation, emphasizing its role as the world's largest printers' Association, representing over 250,000 printing companies in India. He provided insights into the growth of India's commercial printing industry, projecting a market size of USD 41.6 billion by 2028, driven by innovative solutions and e-commerce.

KMPA was officially represented by its President Louis Francis at the event, which was attended by several industry leaders from India.

drupa 2024 in Dusseldorf set new benchmarks, exceeding all expectations and inspiring new ideas and future prospects for the print and packaging industry. The mega event showcased operational excellence and featured 1,643 exhibitors from 52 nations, captivating trade visitors with groundbreaking innovations. The event saw a record 80% international attendance, with visitors from 174 countries. Asia was prominently represented with 22% of attendees, followed by America with 12%, highlighting growth potential in these regions.

Key industry players like Bobst, Canon, Fujifilm, Heidelberg, HP, Horizon, Koenig & Bauer, Komori, Konica Minolta, Kurz, and Landa achieved sales targets that exceeded expectations.

Over 50% of attendees came from the printing industry, followed by the growing packaging sector. The event attracted 170,000 trade visitors from across the globe. Both exhibitors and visitors were highly satisfied with the event, praising the extensive range of products and services on display in the 18 exhibition halls.

Notably, 76 companies from India exhibited their products at the event, making it a point of pride for Indian visitors, including us. There was also a significant increase in the number of visitors from India, showcasing the growing importance of the Indian print industry on the international stage.

Digitalization and automation were focal points, emphasizing AI, smart workflows, and robotics, illustrating



the path toward smart factories. The integration of digital and analogue technologies highlighted the industry's evolution. Sustainability was a key theme, with exhibitors showcasing resource-efficient technologies and solutions for a circular economy. The comprehensive supporting program,

including drupa cube, drupa next age (dna), and Touchpoints Packaging, Textile, and Sustainability, provided valuable knowledge transfer and industry insights. This exceptional trade fair experience solidified drupa's status as the industry's leading event.

At 5 PM, as decided earlier, all travel

members gathered at the D-Sportpark Nord, a sports complex opposite the parking grounds for the exhibition, for evening tea and snacks. The hour-long journey back to Cologne was filled with members excitedly sharing their experiences at drupa 2024. Since the summer evenings were bright and long,



hosts numerous trade shows, including the famous Gamescom, the world's largest event for computer and video games. Cologne Bonn Airport serves as a regional hub, while Dusseldorf Airport is the main airport for the region.

The city's architecture is a mix of traditional and modern styles, reflecting its medieval past and significant post-war rebuilding. The medieval Hahnen Gate stands as a reminder of the city's old fortifications, while the modern crane houses in the Rheinauhafen district showcase contemporary design. The Rheinauhafen area, a redeveloped port district, is now a vibrant area with offices, restaurants, and residential spaces, highlighting the city's ability to blend the old with the new.

Cologne's rich history, cultural diversity, and economic prowess make it a significant city in Germany and Europe. Our evening walk through Cologne

the team decided to take a city tour of Cologne before dinner.

Cologne, the largest city in North Rhine-Westphalia and the fourth-most populous city in Germany, is steeped in history and culture. Having been occupied by the French and British

galleries, and notable institutions like the University of Cologne, the Technical University of Cologne, and the German Sport University Cologne. The Museum Ludwig is renowned for its collection of modern art, including works by Picasso and Warhol. The Romano-Germanic



before World War II, the city endured heavy bombing during the war. The post-war rebuilding restored many historic landmarks, resulting in a cityscape with around 25 percent pre-war buildings and approximately 9,000 historic structures.

As a major cultural centre, Cologne hosts over 30 museums, hundreds of

Museum offers insights into the city's Roman heritage with artifacts like the Dionysus mosaic and the tomb of Publius.

Cologne is also a research hub for the aerospace industry and home to Lufthansa's main corporate headquarters. The Cologne Trade Fair

offered us a glimpse into the daily life of its inhabitants. We felt the city's pulse as we passed through bustling areas filled with locals and tourists alike. The charm of Cologne, with its rich history, cultural diversity, and economic significance, made our visit memorable. Our tour of Cologne was a delightful blend of

historical exploration and contemporary experiences, making it a highlight of our journey.

After the tour and a sumptuous dinner, many members decided to retire early, tired from the long walks at the exhibition centre. Despite the temperature falling below 10 degrees Celsius, some group members took a stroll through the city to experience the nightlife of this lively city, ending the day on a high note.

### Day 3: 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024

The day dawned with early sunshine and beautiful weather, enticing several members of our group to take a morning walk. Observing the morning routines and activities of the locals provided a fascinating insight into everyday life in

Germany. After a hearty breakfast, most members boarded the coach for their second day at Messe Dusseldorf, while a few chose to explore the charming city of Cologne.

Those who stayed back in Cologne immersed themselves in the city's rich history and sparkling atmosphere, while at Messe Dusseldorf, it was our group's last day at drupa 2024. Members had a hectic day exploring the exhibition, with some finalizing deals with manufacturers and exhibitors.

At drupa 2024, the exhibition halls were meticulously organized into thematic zones, making it easy for visitors to navigate and find specific exhibitors showcasing cutting-edge printing technologies. Clear signage

and interactive maps were strategically placed throughout, aiding attendees in planning their routes and maximizing their time. Inter-hall coach transport provided seamless connectivity between different sections of the sprawling exhibition grounds, ensuring us efficient movement and minimizing travel time. This service was especially beneficial for us, as we were looking to explore all facets of the industry showcased across multiple halls within our limited time.

At 11 AM, several of us visited the Fogra Research Institute for Media Technologies stall to witness a significant moment—two Indian printing companies signing a contract with the German institute. Fogra is an internationally renowned graphic arts institute that plays a crucial role in certifying display colour accuracy within the design and print industry. Future Schoolz, Fogra's official PSO partner in India, had its CEO, Kulakkada Pradeep, present with the Fogra team throughout the 11 days of the drupa exhibition. As an honorary member of KMPA, Pradeep's presence in the stall of such an acclaimed institute was a point of immense pride for us. The signing ceremony, though simple, was a significant milestone for the Indian printing industry on the international stage.





Overall, drupa 2024 excelled not only in the breadth of its exhibits but also in the thoughtful amenities and logistics that enhanced the visitor experience, setting a high standard for global trade fairs in the printing and packaging sectors. The venue featured a variety of food stalls and cafes conveniently located for grabbing a quick bite or drink, providing ample options to recharge and network. Amidst the bustling fairgrounds, many group members were seen enjoying relaxed moments under the canopies, savouring local German delicacies such as Schnitzel and Currywurst.

Our visit to the drupa exhibition was both exhilarating and informative. Over two days, we managed to browse through the diverse exhibitors and halls, yet it became evident that a more thorough exploration of each exhibition hall would easily require an

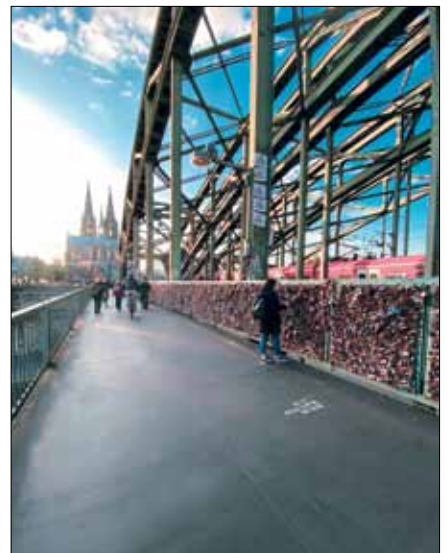
additional three days at minimum, given the vastness of the exhibition centre. Fortunately, many of our group members had meticulously targeted specific exhibitors well in advance of our journey to Germany, ensuring that everyone departed satisfied with their experience. The event not only showcased the forefront of printing technologies but also underscored the importance of strategic planning and anticipation in making the most of such a monumental industry gathering.

At 6 PM, as scheduled, all members convened in the courtyard of the Cologne Cathedral. It was a moment to share experiences and reflections on the day's exhibitions and the city itself. The towering cathedral provided a picturesque backdrop as conversations flowed, enriched by shared interests and newfound knowledge. Members

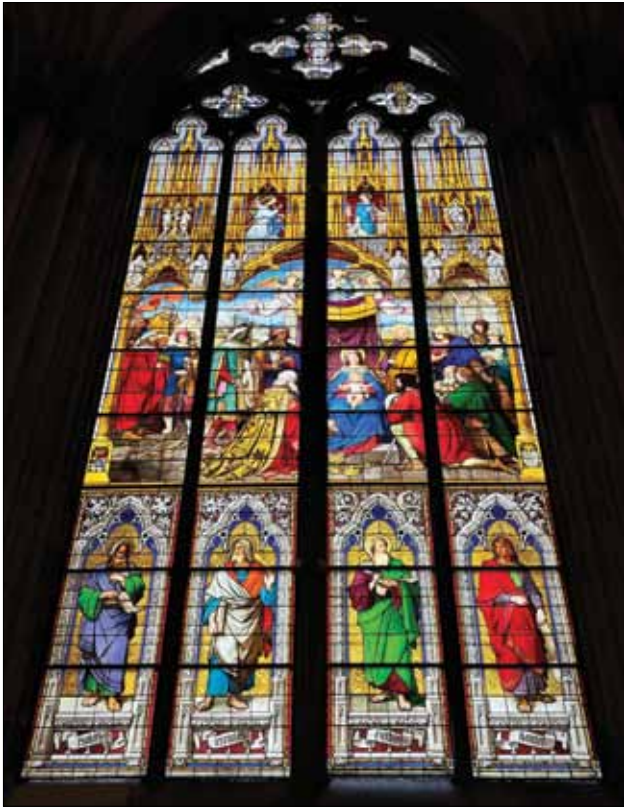
also took the opportunity to explore the cathedral's interior, marvelling at its stunning stained glass windows, ornate chapels, and the revered Shrine of the Three Kings.

The Cologne Cathedral, known locally as the Kolner Dom, is an iconic landmark with profound historical and cultural significance. Once the world's tallest building from 1880 to 1890, it remains the tallest cathedral today. The Cathedral houses the Shrine of the Three Kings, making it a major pilgrimage destination. Notably, Cologne is renowned for its Twelve Romanesque churches and for producing Eau de Cologne since 1709.

As a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of Europe's largest cathedrals, the Cologne Cathedral features magnificent Gothic architecture. Its construction began in 1248 and was completed in 1880, spanning over six centuries. The







Cathedral's twin spires, soaring to a height of 157 meters, dominate the city skyline and leave a lasting impression on all of us. The facade is adorned with intricate sculptures and detailed stonework, while the interior boasts stunning stained glass windows and impressive vaults. Beyond its architectural grandeur, the cathedral plays a central role in Cologne's cultural and religious life. It hosts various annual events and festivals that celebrate its historical and spiritual significance. The cathedral's preservation and continued importance highlight its enduring legacy in both local and international contexts.

Before dinner, the team ventured into the nearby streets for shopping, selecting souvenirs and gifts to commemorate their visit for friends and family. After an enriching day, the group enjoyed a few drinks and concluded with a sumptuous dinner, reflecting on the highlights of their time at drupa 2024 and in Dusseldorf and Cologne. It was cold and windy that night, and those who went out for a nightcap at the local bars truly felt the chill. We couldn't prolong our last night in Germany, as we had to check out early the next day and travel to Frankfurt Airport for our next destination: Copenhagen, Denmark.

*to be continued...*

# Relentless Pursuit of Excellence in Packaging Innovation

**C. J. James, James Pack Pvt. Ltd., Ernakulam**

*Born in 1962 in Annanad, a small, picturesque village near Chalakkudy in Thrissur district, C. J. James was, from a very young age, ambitious about starting his own business. A Diploma in Printing from Anna University, Chennai, made printing his choice field. Speaking about diversification, it was his wife Rosemary, who introduced a new business idea of trading tapes and customized packaging materials under the registered trademark of Tapehouse. James's son Joseph James is the Chief Operating Officer at Jamespack Pvt. Ltd., overseeing the production facilities for both tapes and flexography.*

*C. J. James speaks in depth about his journey in the printing and packaging industry to Print Miracle.*

## **When was James Pack Pvt. Ltd. established? Give a brief history of your company?**

I began my entrepreneurial journey with the establishment of Anams Graphic Images in 1989, pioneering the first flexo trade shop in Ernakulam. Initially specializing in conventional flexography plate processing, the company quickly gained recognition for its commitment to quality and customer satisfaction in the burgeoning packaging industry.

As technology advanced, Anams Graphic Images embraced digital flexography plate processing, a pivotal shift that enhanced operational efficiency and enabled more intricate and precise printing capabilities for packaging materials. This adaptation to digital technology positioned the company at the forefront of innovation within the printing sector.

In 2001, leveraging its expertise and market presence, James Pack Pvt. Ltd. was founded, incorporating Anams Graphic Images under its umbrella. This strategic move facilitated the expansion into manufacturing cello tapes under the brand name Jamespack. The introduction of cello tapes marked a significant milestone, allowing the company to offer comprehensive packaging solutions while maintaining stringent standards of quality and reliability.

Since its inception, James Pack Pvt.



*C.J. James and his son Joseph James*

Ltd. has continued to evolve, combining traditional craftsmanship with modern technological advancements to meet the diverse needs of its clientele. Today, the company remains dedicated to delivering innovative packaging solutions, driven by a commitment to excellence and a deep-rooted passion for continuous improvement in the printing and packaging industry.

## **What prompted you into the line of packaging?**

The decision to enter the packaging industry stemmed from a keen observation of market needs and opportunities. Early in my career, while

serving small customers in Kerala, I noticed a growing demand for effective packaging solutions. Many businesses were struggling to find reliable and efficient ways to package their products. This gap presented a significant opportunity to not only meet a critical market need but also to innovate within the packaging sector.

Moreover, my initial ventures into printing plastic covers using a treadle machine provided invaluable insights into the packaging process and its impact on product presentation and protection. Recognizing the importance of packaging in branding, product safety, and consumer appeal, I was

inspired to delve deeper into this field. This journey led to the establishment of Anams Graphic Images, where we initially focused on flexography plate-making - a crucial component in high-quality packaging printing.

Overtime, as packaging requirements became more complex and diverse, our commitment to delivering innovative packaging solutions only grew stronger. The transition to digital flexography plate processing further empowered us to meet evolving customer expectations for precision, customization, and efficiency in packaging design and production.

Today, our company, James Pack Pvt. Ltd., serves a national clientele, leveraging decades of experience and a relentless pursuit of excellence in packaging innovation. Our journey into the packaging industry has been driven by a passion for addressing customer needs, pioneering advancements, and making a lasting impact in the world of packaging solutions.

### **How did the pandemic affect your business? What were the challenges you faced and how did you overcome them?**

The pandemic presented unprecedented challenges for our business, particularly in the manufacturing and packaging sectors. Like many others, we faced disruptions in supply chains, fluctuations in demand, and operational restrictions that impacted our production and distribution processes. The initial lockdowns and restrictions significantly affected our ability to operate at full capacity, leading to delays in fulfilling orders and managing inventory.

One of the major challenges was ensuring the safety of our workforce while maintaining operational continuity. We implemented strict health and safety protocols, including social distancing measures, sanitization procedures, and remote work arrangements where possible. Adapting our operations to comply with evolving government regulations was crucial in mitigating risks and ensuring the well-being of our employees.

Another significant impact was the fluctuating demand for packaging

materials. While certain sectors experienced a decline in demand, others, such as food and pharmaceuticals, saw increased needs for packaging solutions. This necessitated agile responses in adjusting our production schedules and inventory management strategies to meet shifting market demands.

Innovation and adaptation were key to overcoming these challenges. We accelerated our digital transformation initiatives, enhancing our e-commerce capabilities and virtual customer engagement platforms. This allowed us to maintain communication with clients, address their evolving needs promptly, and streamline our supply chain operations.

Collaboration with our suppliers and partners also played a crucial role. Building resilient relationships and ensuring transparent communication helped us navigate supply chain disruptions effectively. We diversified our supplier base where possible and explored alternative sourcing options to mitigate.

### **What is happening in the packaging industry? What are the future trends?**

The packaging industry is experiencing rapid evolution driven by several key trends. There's a noticeable shift towards sustainability, with increased demand for eco-friendly materials and recyclable packaging solutions. Digitalization is also playing a pivotal role, enabling advancements in digital printing, smart packaging, and supply chain transparency through technologies like blockchain.

Looking ahead, I foresee continued growth in personalized packaging solutions that cater to diverse consumer preferences. Health and safety concerns, heightened by the pandemic, will drive innovations in hygienic packaging and antimicrobial materials. Moreover, regulatory pressures will encourage further innovations in reducing packaging waste and enhancing recyclability.

Overall, the future of the packaging industry is promising, characterized by innovation, sustainability, and a focus on meeting evolving consumer expectations while addressing global challenges.

### **Can you talk about your products (BOPP self adhesive tapers, etc.) and their applications?**

James Pack Pvt. Ltd. specializes in manufacturing two primary product lines: cellotapes and flexographic plates. Our cellotapes are versatile adhesive tapes renowned for their strong adhesion, durability, and ease of use, serving critical roles in packaging, sealing, and various industrial applications. They are indispensable for securing packages and bundling items efficiently.

In the printing industry, our high-quality flexographic plates are essential for printing intricate designs, logos, and information on packaging materials such as cardboard boxes, labels, and flexible packaging films. These plates ensure precise and consistent printing results, enhancing brand visibility and consumer appeal.

Our products cater to a wide range of applications across the packaging, printing, and industrial sectors. They are integral to ensuring packaging integrity, enhancing product presentation, and meeting diverse customer requirements in industries requiring robust adhesive solutions and precise printing capabilities.

### **What are the innovations happening in your field of business?**

In the realm of flexographic plate processing, significant innovations are driving efficiency, quality, and sustainability. Digital flexography plate processing has revolutionized the industry by offering faster turnaround times, enhanced precision in printing, and the ability to handle complex designs with greater ease. This advancement not only improves printing quality but also reduces waste and setup times, making it a preferred choice for modern packaging needs.

Moreover, advancements in plate materials and imaging technologies have led to the development of environmentally friendly flexographic plates that minimize environmental impact while maintaining high performance standards. These plates are designed to be more durable, reusable, and recyclable, aligning with the industry's sustainability goals.

In the realm of BOPP (Biaxially



Oriented Polypropylene) adhesive tapes, innovations are centered around enhancing adhesive properties, durability, and environmental sustainability. Manufacturers are increasingly focusing on developing tapes with improved adhesion on various surfaces, including recycled and sustainable packaging materials. Innovations in adhesive formulations also aim to offer tapes that are resistant to extreme temperatures, moisture, and UV exposure, ensuring reliable performance in diverse applications.

Furthermore, there's a growing trend towards biodegradable and compostable BOPP adhesive tapes, catering to the rising demand for eco-friendly packaging solutions. These tapes provide strong bonding capabilities while minimizing environmental impact throughout their lifecycle, supporting sustainable packaging practices.

Overall, these innovations in flexographic plate processing and BOPP adhesive tapes reflect our industry's commitment to advancing technology, improving product performance, and meeting the evolving needs of a sustainable and competitive market.

**What have been your investments in terms of machinery / equipment?**

**Can you give a brief description about their features and applications?**

As part of the modernisation process, Anams Graphic Images required more space and technology. Hence the unit was shifted in 2011 to another industrial building with enough space and convenience. As the years went by, a significant improvement in printing was recognized. So it was necessary to grow on the pre-press side too. The modernization of flexography processing started with the elimination of films and the introduction of CTP (computer to plate). In 2017, Anams purchased a CTP as part of the expansion. A XEIKON Thermoflex 48 x 35 inch CTP was followed by a new Flint Group inline processing purchase.

With increase in production, we found the necessary investment in prepress software. In 2022, we also invested in an ESKO Graphics 42 x 60 inch CTP. Both of them helped in achieving high quality prints at up to 5000 dpi. This helped in achieving better results than offset and gravure printing. This latest investment paid off well as it helped Anams Graphic Images to expand to international markets in Gulf and African countries.

As part of diversification, we also introduced all kinds of tape conversion units under the registered trade name of Jamespack.

**Are there any new business plans for the near future?**

As part of our ongoing diversification strategy, we are planning to expand our tape conversion unit under the registered trade name of Jamespack. This unit has been instrumental in meeting the specific demands of a niche market where both quality and quantity are paramount. Our goal is to further enhance our capabilities in tape conversion, ensuring that we can cater to a wider range of industries and customer requirements.

In addition to expanding our tape conversion operations, we are focusing on scaling up our customized printed tapes segment. These tapes have proven effective for branding purposes, allowing businesses to enhance their visibility and brand recognition through customized packaging solutions. We plan to invest in advanced printing technologies and expand our design capabilities to offer even more tailored solutions to our clients.

By strengthening our tape conversion and customized printed tapes offerings, we aim to solidify our position as a leader in the packaging solutions industry. These initiatives align with our commitment to innovation, customer satisfaction, and meeting the diverse needs of our growing client base.

# Insight Print Communications ranked 41<sup>st</sup> among India's great mid-size workplaces 2024



Insight Print Communications, an organization which continues to be a major player in the Indian printing industry, has been ranked 41<sup>st</sup> among India's Great Mid-Size Workplaces by the Great Place to Work Foundation which evaluates great places to work in more than 100 countries across the world. This achievement marks a historic milestone as they become perhaps the 1<sup>st</sup> organization in our Printing industry

to secure a position in the top 50, instilling pride within the entire print community.

This prestigious recognition highlights Insight Print Communications' unwavering commitment to exceptional people management and exemplary organizational practices. It reaffirms their status as industry leaders, dedicated to cultivating a culture of trust and respect that sets a high standard for others to follow.

## Great Place to Work Rank Announcement

There is a clear correlation between being a great place to work and achieving remarkable success. Since its inception, Insight has dominated the prepress segment with Scitex imagesetters and high-end scanners, later excelling with Kodak CTPs. The company started Komori's new machine sales from scratch, transforming it into a market





leader with over 60% market share.

Today, Insight leads the market with the HP Latex range of wide-format presses for the signage industry and the Mimaki range of textile printers, boasting over 3,000 installations. Recently, they have generated significant buzz with Fujifilm POD solutions. Clearly, a great workplace is essential for sustaining success over multiple decades.

### Team IPCPL celebrating post award ceremony

The announcement was made during the recent Great Place to Work India awards ceremony, held at The Westin, Powai, Mumbai. The event

celebrated the top 100 organizations excelling in workplace culture, featuring industry giants such as Coca-Cola India, RadioCity, Amara raja group and Symphony, among others.

### Companies from Rank 26-50

The Indian print industry is undergoing a transformative phase, embracing advancements not only in technology but also in the adoption of global standards including the well-being of employees. Insight Print Communications stands at the forefront of this revolution, leading the way as one of the early adopters in India, setting benchmarks for excellence and innovation.



### Team IPCPL with Great Place to Work award

"I firmly believe that a shared belief and a clear vision motivates people to align together as a team and contribute their best. Added to that an atmosphere of Trust and Respect and a sense of purpose contributes to creating a healthy work environment. Plus the leadership at all levels plays a key role. Transparent communication, Sharing the fruits of success with all team members, an open culture wherein everybody's free to share their views with the management and a clear growth path for every employee are some of the key areas that need attention." commented Ajay Aggarwal MD & CEO of Insight Print Communications.

Founded in 1991, Insight Print Communications recently celebrated its 33rd anniversary. Over the past three decades, the company has expanded from a modest team of 13 employees in a single office to a robust workforce of 250 employees across 12 offices and 9 service locations throughout India, serving over 5,000 customers across various segments.

Insight's philosophy centers on collaborative growth: nurturing the development of its employees, empowering leaders, fostering strong partnerships, and ensuring a win-win formula in all its transactions. This commitment to mutual success has been the cornerstone of their journey and continues to drive their vision forward i.e. Collaborative Growth.

"This remarkable accomplishment is a testament to our collective effort, and we owe it all to our dedicated Insightians. This milestone is theirs to celebrate." Further added Mr. Ajay.

"As an HR team, our goal has always been to cultivate a workplace where every Insightian feels valued and heard. We prioritize transparency and inclusivity, striving to create an environment where everyone can thrive. Achieving the Great Place to Work certification reflects our commitment to these principles." Said Sonia Puri HR Manager at Insight Print Communications.

# Registration opens for Labelexpo India 2024

Labelexpo Global Series has announced that registration is now open for Labelexpo India 2024, the only dedicated event in the South Asia region for the labels and package printing industry. The show takes place between 14 – 17 November at India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida, Delhi NCR.

Labelexpo India 2024 is set to be the largest edition yet with this year's show securing 16,000 sqm of floorspace, an increase of 20% from the 2022 edition.

Over 250 exhibitors will be participating including HP & Technova, UV Graphic, Avery Dennison, Multitec, Monotech, RK Label Printing Machinery, Jindal SMI, Vinsak, Weldon, Domino, Konica Minolta and Maxcess.

Suppliers exhibiting for the first-time include Cosmo Films, Siegwerk, The Printer House, Rasik Products, Rational Business Corporation and Xsys.

Jade Grace, Managing Director, Labelexpo Global Series said: "We're looking forward to welcoming exhibitors and visitors, both existing and new, back at India Expo Centre & Mart in November. We can promise an exciting four days filled with the latest trends and technologies impacting the South Asia label and package printing market. Everything from flexo presses to new digital printing and embellishment technology and much more. The Indian packaging industry is expected to reach US\$ 204.8 billion by 2025, creating a perfect business op-

portunity for label and package printing converters across the region."

Pradeep Saroha, Event Director, Labelexpo India commented: "We are excited about the return of Labelexpo India. This is a unique opportunity for the South Asian print and package printing industry to reconnect and experience the future of print technology firsthand. The industry is undergoing significant evolution, with exciting trends such as the shift to digital technology, automation, and enhanced workflow capabilities. As one of India's fastest-growing sectors, packaging is driven by expanding markets for processed foods, personal care products, and pharmaceuticals, spurring technological innovation across various fields, including e-commerce and FMCG."

Rajesh Nema, President of the Label Manufacturers Association of India (LMAI) said: "Labelexpo India 2024 is

set to be an extraordinary event, bringing together industry leaders, innovators, and enthusiasts. This edition will deliver the latest technologies, unparalleled networking, and immense growth prospects. We are delighted to lend our support and look forward to the entire Indian label and package printing industry coming together for the show."

Harveer Sahni, Chairman of Weldon Celloplast Limited New Delhi, who is exhibiting at the show, said: "Labelexpo India, is the showcase of India's evolving label industry. The event was where global equipment were displayed to India's label converters. In the last few years, it has transformed to become a global arena where Indian capital equipment, tooling and consumable suppliers are rubbing shoulders with the best in the world to display their technical prowess."

To register, visit: [www.labelexpo-india.com](http://www.labelexpo-india.com)



*Glimpses from Labelexpo India 2022*

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[1] Compared to alternative B2 digital commercial solutions as of November, 2019.





# Kodak sells the first KODAK MAGNUS Q3600 Titan Platesetter to Imprimerie Pollina

Kodak is delighted to announce the world's first sale of the new KODAK MAGNUS Q3600 Titan Platesetter at drupa 2024. Imprimerie Pollina, based in Luçon, France, has opted for Kodak's innovative VLF platesetter with Multi-Pallet Loader (MPL) automation.

The MAGNUS Q3600 Titan Platesetter will replace the two oldest of three existing MAGNUS VLF Platesetters at the print shop, which is one of the leading book printers in Europe and also produces magazines and catalogs. Imprimerie Pollina also has a MAGNUS Q800 Platesetter with MPL automation and operates six B1 and VLF sheetfed offset presses and two web offset presses. A Kodak CTP and plate customer for more than 20 years, Imprimerie Pollina produces around 400 printing plates per day. In early 2024, the company switched its sheetfed offset printing from wet processed plates to KODAK SONORA XTRA

Process Free Plates.

Imprimerie Pollina has ordered the MAGNUS Q3600 Titan Platesetter with the 3-segment MPL configuration for 4 plate pallets and with the fast W-speed option. The MAGNUS Q3600 Titan is the most versatile VLF CTP system on the market, offering eight different plate sizes online at once (max. 5 pallets plus 3 cassettes). With a 1/3 smaller footprint than the closest competitor, print shops can maximize their floor space. It features the new Fusion Drive, which provides faster and more accurate positioning of the KODAK SQUARESPOT imaging head.

"By investing in the new MAGNUS Q3600 Titan Platesetter, we are significantly modernizing and streamlining our platemaking. We have long been impressed by the consistency and precise reproducibility of KODAK SQUARESPOT Imaging Technology. What we particu-

larly like about the new VLF platesetter is the speed of the imaging and punching system. And the new, easier pallet loading process of the Multi-Pallet Loader is also a very welcome improvement," commented Laurent Pollina, President, who runs the company together with his brothers Stéphane and Paul-Alain. "Our renewed decision in favor of Kodak was also influenced by our excellent experience with the local Kodak Service & Support team and Kodak's plate experts."

"We are very pleased that our long-standing customer Imprimerie Pollina will be the first to benefit from the high productivity, automation and plate size flexibility of the MAGNUS Q3600 Titan Platesetter. Our latest CTP system is a perfect solution for print shops with large plate size and volume requirements and sets a new benchmark in the VLF category," said Denisse Goldbarb, CMO and Head of EAMER Sales, Kodak.



The new KODAK MAGNUS Q3600 Titan Platesetter at drupa 2024



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# HEIDELBERG starts the 2024/2025 financial year with a strong order volume from drupa

Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG (HEIDELBERG) has started the new financial year 2024/2025 with strong growth in incoming orders. Thanks to the highly successful drupa industry trade fair, the technology company's incoming orders in the first three months (April 1 to June 30, 2024) exceeded its own expectations of around € 650 million at € 701 million (previous year: € 591 million). The best order value since 2016 thus forms a strong basis for the entire financial year with a high order backlog of € 923 million (March 31: € 652 million). The regions of Europe (+25%) and the Americas (+30%) recorded particularly strong growth. Growth was only slightly weaker in Asia (+3%), as the previous year had been particularly strong due to the important industry trade fair Print China.

"The strong recovery in our order intake allows us to look to the full financial year with great confidence," said Jürgen Otto, CEO of HEIDELBERG. "The pleasing order backlog from the drupa trade fair will lead to rising sales in the following quarters compared to Q1. At the same time, we are working on our cost situation and personnel costs, which are generally too high."

## Forecast confirmed despite after-effects of the order slump

As expected, sales in the first quarter of € 403 million were below the previous year's level (€ 544 million) due to the reluctance to invest ahead of drupa. The adjusted operating result (EBITDA) fell by around € 51 million to € -9 million compared to the adjusted figure for the same quarter of the previous year. The corresponding EBITDA margin was -2.3% (previous year: 7.7%). Net result after taxes fell to € -42 million (previous year: € 10 million). As expected, free cash flow was negative at € -103 million (previous year: € -27 million) due to the quarterly loss, the increase in inventories because of the high order intake and seasonal effects.

"HEIDELBERG felt the after-effects of the slump in orders from the third quarter of 2023/2024 in the first quarter," said Tania von der Goltz, CFO. "Despite the expected improvements in sales and earnings in the second half of the year, we will continue to work on our costs and efficiency. We expect to achieve the previous year's result in the current year."

In the Print Solutions segment in particular, HEIDELBERG recorded strong drupa-related growth in incoming orders of around 21 percent. In contrast, sales declined by around 23% from April to June due to the low order intake in the third quarter of the previous year. Incoming orders in the Packaging Solutions segment improved by 17 percent, while sales in this segment fell by 29 percent as expected.

HEIDELBERG presented itself at drupa as a total solution provider for the printing industry with offset and digital. In particular, the cooperation with Canon is intended to open up the growing market in digital industrial commercial printing.

HEIDELBERG aims to significantly increase its sales in this area in the medium term.

The forecast for the 2024/2025 financial year is confirmed against the backdrop of the strong order intake. Assuming that the global economy does not grow more slowly than predicted by economic research institutes, HEIDELBERG expects stable earnings development with sales remaining the same.



Jetfire 50 from HEIDELBERG: The cooperation with Canon will further expand business in digital industrial commercial printing.

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# PRINTPACK INDIA 2025: Record-breaking response as 95% of exhibition space already sold out

The Indian Printing Packaging & Allied Machinery Manufacturers' Association (IPAMA) is excited to announce an unprecedented response from the industry for its upcoming flagship event, PRINTPACK INDIA Exhibition 2025. Scheduled to take place at the modern venue India Expo Centre in Greater Noida from February 01-05, 2025, the event has already witnessed an overwhelming demand, with 95% of the exhibition area already sold out.


IPAMA, a premier organization established in 1988 to promote the Indian Printing and Packaging Industry, has reserved all available ground floor halls at the India Expo Centre for the event. Following the success of IntraPac India, IPAMA is dedicatedly working towards making the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of PRINTPACK INDIA a resounding success.

With 436 companies already securing their space by depositing a token amount of Rs. 25,000/-, the response from the industry has exceeded expectations. Due to the high demand, IPAMA anticipates utilizing additional space, including a hangar, to accommodate more exhibitors. IPAMA is expecting more than 600 exhibitors in the forthcoming edition.




To ensure transparency and fairness, IPAMA has implemented a priority system for allocating exhibition space. Priority numbers are generated based on bank statements, certified by chartered accountants, containing the date and time of token amount receipt. This system ensures exhibitors are allotted space in a sequential manner, with some halls reserved segment-wise for the convenience of both exhibitors

and business visitors like Hall No 1, 3, 9A, 9B, 9C for Pre Press, Press, Post Press and Converting, Hall No 5 & 7 for Label Industry, 9D is for Paper and Screen Printing, Hall No 14 & 15 are for Corrugation and Signage & Second hand machinery are in 15 B.

The India Expo Centre, equipped with modern facilities for international exhibitions, conferences, and seminars, provides a convenient and accessible venue for PRINTPACK INDIA 2025. Situated in Greater Noida, the center is well-connected by road and rail, with nearby historical monuments offering recreational opportunities for attendees during recess periods. IPAMA is committed to providing complimentary facilities to exhibitors, further enhancing the experience and value of participating in PRINTPACK INDIA 2025.



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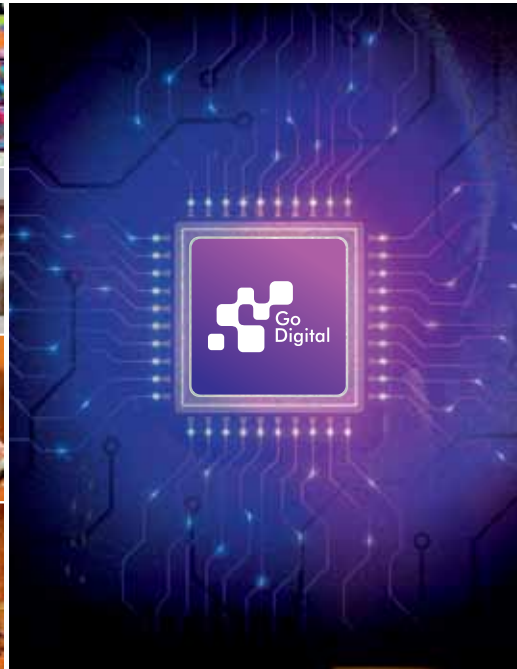
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