



Media Information

Release date: Immediate

Leach Colour wins top honour at FESPA 2007 Awards

Huddersfield based large format digital imaging company, Leach Colour has just landed not one but two top printing awards at the inaugural FESPA 2007 Awards at a ceremony held in Berlin.

The Platinum Award in the European Classification was given for the company's magnetic display system Stik and its innovative use in George Boutiques at Asda stores across the country. The panel of expert judges drawn from across the continent, rated this work to be the best submitted in the Interiors category and worthy of the prestigious accolade.

The judges said, ' Stik offers an approach that provides an innovative solution to retailer problems with broad application possibilities'.

Leach Colour also received a Bronze Award for the range of work it did for The Arsenal Experience, the football museum at Arsenal's new Emirates Stadium. Receiving the awards on behalf of Leach Colour at a glittering ceremony in Berlin were managing director Richard Leach and production director Jim Parkin.

Leach Colour's Sales and Marketing Director, Graham Evans said, 'A FESPA Award is widely regarded as being the most significant recognition of excellence a company can obtain and carries with it considerable prestige in both the UK and throughout Europe. It is particularly pleasing that the Platinum award was given to a product developed by Leach Colour. In a fast moving, dynamic industry like ours, we are continually looking for new and innovative ways to meet the demands of our customers and Stik is just one of over ten such new products we have recently introduced.'

He went on to say 'Since moving to new 30,000 sq. ft. premises in 2005 the company has made great inroads into the large format market and is now recognised as being one of the major players in the industry. Proof of this is the number of high profile projects that Leach has been involved with in the past 12 months and we are finding that we are now being routinely asked to quote on most major new contracts in both the retail and heritage sectors.'

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FESPA Background Information

Founded in 1962, FESPA is a not-for-profit federation of trade associations and an organiser of exhibitions and conferences for the screen and digital printing industries. FESPA's dual aim is to promote screen printing and digital imaging and to share knowledge about screen and digital printing with its members throughout the world, helping them to grow their businesses and learn about the latest developments in their fast growing industries.

FESPA member organisations include 28 separate National Associations in Europe and 4 Associate Member Associations in Australia, China, Thailand and India.

Leach Colour

It was in 1891 that Arthur Holdsworth Leach, Great Grandfather of the current management, had the imagination to create the very first professional photographic laboratory to meet what he forecast would be an increasing demand from the fledgling photographic industry.

6 years on that same foresight saw him producing full size 8'x4' enlargements for the emerging display market. For over a hundred years that spirit of innovative thinking continued as the company grew and prospered, gathering information and expertise in other areas such as litho print, repro and screen print.

Today sees the company focusing far more strongly on large format digital imaging and doing so has invested heavily in state of the art technology to the tune of over two million pounds in the past five years.

In the spring of 2005, the company relocated to its impressive new, purpose built headquarters that is ideally sited just a few miles from both the M62 and M1 motorways. It boasts 30,000 square feet of space encompassing a spacious suite of offices and conference facilities plus a single floor production unit capable of producing over 2000 sq metres of graphics a day!

Information on FESPA 2007 Platinum Award Project

GEORGE CHOOSE LEACH STIK – THE MAGNETIC GRAPHICS SYSTEM

GEORGE needed to implement graphics within their high street and ASDA stores. They also needed the highest quality achievable in a graphics system that could be easily and quickly changed by the in-store colleagues, without the need for ladders, platforms or expensive installation teams. Sounds easy until you consider the fact that there are up to six, 3 metre square graphics in every outlet! Leach Colour's STIK magnetic graphic system solved the problem immediately. Delivered to every outlet in re-useable tubes, the store colleagues found it simple to install graphics that previously required professional installation.

Digital Print Advantage

Leach use a successful blend of cutting edge digital technology and traditional screen printing techniques to manufacture the STIK graphics system. We firmly believe the future of large format print lies in innovative answers to everyday retail problems. Traditionally large format POS graphics are difficult to transport (especially to multi-outlet retailers) and even harder to install. STIK allows the retailer to implement seasonal or campaign lead POS changes without the inhibitive costs usually associated with this process. The STIK application system also negates the need for any stepladders or platforms that may endanger store colleagues – a fact that was at the top of GEORGE'S priority list!

Substrate/Ink/Printer Used

Leach has worked hard to source and modify a German brand of PVC base material. This is printed using direct UV technology through the first Vutek UV320 machine in the UK. We also print the product through our Durst RHO 160, giving us a kilometre of STIK print capability every day. These 250 metre reels of print are then back-printed with the STIK system – a blend of treated ferrous ink and a flexible additive. This process happens on an in-house developed and engineered rotary screen print press. The product is also imaged with i-cut registration marks, allowing the printed and coated reels to be robo-cut on our 3 metre Esko Kongsberg machine. Each graphic is tubed and packed with visual and full instructions, along with our STIK-stick, the secret to ladder-less installation!

In the meantime, we print direct to magnetic material coated with a high-bond adhesive. Our installation teams apply this permanent fixture in-store so that the STIK face graphics can be changed easily and quickly.

Information on FESPA 2007 Bronze award project

DYNAMIC GRAPHICS FOR ARSENAL EMIRATES STADIUM

Project Description

Arsenal needed a brand new museum for their state - of- the - art new Emirates stadium. They also needed the highest quality achievable in a graphics system that had been designed with future success in mind and could be easily and quickly changed as new players are introduced or the Club has fresh successes.

Sounds straight forward but the space is awkward – one long room in the basement of the Emirates Stadium’s Northern Triangle building – and with the entrance in the middle!

Digital Print Advantage

Leach used a successful blend of cutting edge digital technology and traditional screen printing techniques to produce the graphics for Arsenal Football Club Museum.

We Screen Printed Text onto Concrete, applied digitally printed vinyl to glass and applied digital graphics to the reverse of acrylic panels and glass. One of the graphic panels features an illustration of manager Arsene Wenger’s head made up the results from the 49 unbeaten games, screen printed onto a steel panel and installed by our own installation team.

We firmly believe the future of large format print lies in innovative answers to everyday customer problems. Traditionally large format graphics are difficult to transport and even harder to install.

The digital advantage for the Arsenal Museum is that we can replace any one off graphic which can then be easily installed and colour matched, thus keeping the integrity of the original design.