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Duplo and Ultimate announce an automated finishing system for digitally printed applications.

Full automated process will be shown for the first time at PMA 08

Santa Ana, CA and Montreal, January 22, Duplo and Ultimate announce a partnership to deliver an automated system where the imposition software from Ultimate generates a barcode that is read by Duplo to automatically slit, cut, and crease digitally printed applications on the Duplo DC-645, which comes equipped with a barcode reader. This digital print automation solution for the photo product market will be shown for the first time at the PMA-08 show in Las Vegas.

Ultimate's Imposition On-Demand Digital software with its barcode option can place the necessary barcode on a printed sheet to be read by the barcode reader on the Duplo equipment. Based on that barcode, the Duplo DC-645 automatically sets itself to the precise position. The DC-645 can hold up to 80 job memories; those set-ups can coincide with the Imposition hot folders, enabling customers to simply drop jobs in a hot folder knowing that the finishing will be completed automatically from that point.

The barcode can be generated on each sheet or per individual items on each sheet. The barcode can be used to not only set the Duplo machine for precision cutting, it can also be used to identify and keep track of the items after they have been cut.

At the PMA show, Jan 31 – Feb. 2 the full automated workflow solution, from job submission, imposition, printing and cutting will be shown live in the **Duplo booth (T167)**, focus product presentations and demos it will also be shown with mutual partners: Digilabs (K183) for digital photo printing and as an integrated solution with HP (P131).

"We wanted to present an interactive workflow to clearly demonstrate the power and significant productivity benefits that can be delivered by a complete end-to-end print production," explains Si Nguyen, Head Of Marketing of Duplo USA. "By teaming up with some of our industry partners, we've provided a hands-on opportunity for visitors to experience just how simple it is to automate production, which in turn offers significant cost savings in terms of eliminating manual intervention and potential inputting errors."

The DC-645 is the ideal finishing solution for digital color documents. Unlike any in the industry, the DC-645 slits, cuts, and creases documents in a single pass at an incredible speed of 26 sheets per minute. Unattractive white borders and cracked spines of digitally printed documents are problems of the past as the DC-645 produces a wide variety of professional quality, full-bleed applications such as business cards, greeting cards, invitations, brochures, pamphlets, catalogs, posters, book/CD covers, photographs, and more by simply loading the automatic high-capacity feeder. Features include:

- o Up to 6 slits, 15 cuts, and 10 creases in 1 pass
- o Processing speed up to 26 sheets per minute
- o Automatic image shift compensation
- o Barcode reader for automatic job set up

"Manufacturing automation is what best describes what our digital customers need when referring to prepress," explains Joanne David, Ultimate Executive Vice President. "The objective is to shorten the distance between the order and the delivery. In prepress this responsibility is fulfilled in large part by the imposition task where we automate the manufacturing process all the way to print and now to finishing, bringing each web submitted photo product order to printing and finishing quickly and accurately. This is what Imposition On-Demand Digital is about."

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Impostrip On-Demand Key benefits and value proposition:

- It is all about automation. Impostrip On-Demand Digital expands any workflow to include the imposition step as an automated and hands-off system. This is because it offers unique and simple dynamic automation via a simple, yet powerful hot folder that requires NO intervention after set-up. All customers' preferences for bleed control, templates, marks, barcode for tracking and finishing can be automated.
- It is all about quality. Impostrip On-Demand Digital even at its highest integration and automation level offers all the necessary tools to produce top quality photo products, consistently and in various binding fashions, without the intervention of an operator. Customers can rely on a tool capable of manufacturing products with precision and consistency. That automation and quality is now extended to finishing with the barcode connection to Duplo equipment.
- It is all about profits. Impostrip On-Demand Digital optimizes production for each printer, reducing workflow set-ups considerably - thanks to its dynamic hot folder. It eliminates paper waste due to manual and human errors, thus building customer's confidence in our ability to deliver high level of imposition expertise to capture new business opportunities with the photo product market.

At PMA the partnership between DigiLabs, Duplo and Ultimate is taking the automation of web2print custom photo products a step further. DigiLabs and Ultimate are showing a hands free automation between web job submissions through print production with a special XML interface. This can be combined with barcode production to automatically set up the Duplo equipment to deliver web to finished product automation.

As a next step in the automation of prepress, print and finishing, Duplo and Ultimate will be working on communicating finishing information through JDF.



About Duplo USA Corporation

In 1979, Duplo USA Corporation www.duplousa.com was established in the United States to serve the North, Central, and South American regions, as well as Guam and the Caribbean Islands. In 1998, Duplo USA further expanded its national existence to serve increasing customers with its second world-class facility in Suwanee, GA.

From duplicating to finishing systems, Duplo USA Corporation has been synonymous with being the only distributor dedicated to the supply of a complete line of on-demand printing and finishing equipment. Duplo is attributed as the leader in providing innovative collating, booklet making, perfect binding, trimming, folding, cutting, printing/duplicating, bursting, and creasing solutions in the print marketplace. In response to the digital printing needs of the print-on-demand market, Duplo delivers a rewarding range of automated in-line, near-line, and off-line finishing solutions. Its continual success to maintain such partnerships with leading digital printer manufacturers such as Canon, Hewlett Packard, Kodak and Xerox, lies in the hands of its comprehensive distribution channel. Above the standard, Duplo continues to foresee and meet the rapid changes in duplicating and print finishing technology.

About Ultimate

Headquartered in Montreal, Canada, Ultimate www.imposition.com invented digital imposition 20 years ago with the first release of Impostrip, and has continued to play a leading role in the market ever since in providing the most innovative and progressive imposition products. The company is continually evolving Impostrip to be the first to take advantage of new operating

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systems or DTP applications with over 150 applications supported in PostScript, PDF, optimized PDF, for Mac, Windows, UNIX. Over 30,000 imposition solutions and engines have been sold to date to prepress professionals and digital printers around the world, and the company has a rich history of providing imposition technology into hardware and software workflow solutions for digital print industry providers; including Glun&Jensen, HP Indigo, IBM-Ricoh Infoprint Solutions, Xerox, Xeikon and others.

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