

IJJ HITS WARP SPEED!

Okay, so maybe not exactly warp speed, but Industrial Inkjet (IIJ) has created a machine that could give it a run for its money. Due to the success story of a pilot system at one of America's biggest label companies IIJ has been prompted to go for a full commercial launch of a new super fast version of its monochrome range ahead of Labelexpo.

The industrial inkjet pioneer has formally unveiled the new HS range, which runs at an impressive 167 metres per minute, that, as I am sure you know, is double the previous speed! The new range features extremely high speed full variable information software.

In launching the new range, IIJ believes these are now the fastest UV inkjet printers in the world. It is recommended that these cost effective units will be welcomed by security and label printers in many market segments.

IIJ realised the market opportunity for a much faster system – able to print at over 150 metres per minute – following on from the successful launch of its iS range of colour and mono units in 2014. Those used a smaller drop size to give higher quality

print down to two point font.

John Corral, founder and managing director of IIJ, said: 'We were getting a significant number of enquiries from tag, label or security printers, who need UV inks to print onto foils or coated stocks. They told us they can't live with the poor economics caused by the low print speeds of typical one pass UV inkjet systems. When one particular customer in the US challenged us to deliver a truly economic system, we jumped at the chance to deliver for them, and, at the same time add to our extensive product range.'

IIJ has been so committed to the commercial opportunities for its new HS system that it invested over £100,000 in an unwinder/rewinder media transport system capable of 220 metres per minute just to allow realistic and rigorous in-house product testing.

The company is now proud to say that the first HS system (352 mm print width) is in full production at the US customer's site.

With print widths as standard up to 520 mm and enhanced variable information software, it is clear to see that

the new model is ideally suited to printing of variable text, small 2D barcodes and multi-page PDFs at sustained speeds of over 160 metres per minute.

So, with such an incredible machine soon to be on offer, the question is what inks are available? They include low migration inks for food packaging, white, varnish, high build varnish and security inks including UV fluorescent. Spot colours are also available.

As always, IIJ print engines are designed to be easily integrated into the customer's existing production line. The company's products use Konica Minolta inkjet printheads for highest quality and performance and very long lifetime.

John concluded, 'The introduction of the new HS range is the result of market 'pull' from customers who need variable print, but are frustrated with the slow speeds currently available. With the excellent results we have achieved at our first installation, and our ability to demonstrate the speed and quality achievable in-house in IIJ, we see this technology as opening up a new market segment for inkjet printing.' **IP**