

by [TCI]²

Industry News



Technology Press Releases

FootWorks Software and Barcoding Inc. Form Strategic Alliance To Meet Labeling Needs Of Footwear & Apparel Companies

New Britain , CT – Comprehensive Computer Services, Inc. (CCSI), the developers of FootWorks Software announced today a joint agreement with Barcoding Inc. to market CaptureSoft Color Label System to the footwear industry. CaptureSoft is designed to meet many of the unique problems associated with footwear labeling, including strict retailer requirements, VICs label standards, and the multitude of compliance issues many footwear vendors have trouble with. “The ability of CaptureSoft to import data from FootWorks allows customers to upload information virtually anywhere in the world via FTP site to generate case pack, make-up, or open stock labels for box and cases, eliminating any delays waiting for labels to be produced and shipped” said Tipton Clark, Marketing Coordinator for CCSI. “The digital color printing component from VIPColor Technologies lets footwear companies to print their unique styles, colors and sizes as they are needed”.

Barcoding's CaptureSoft allows the production of UPC and UCC 128 labels that can be printed on demand with variable text, barcodes and color pictures loaded from FootWorks database. “This is a great opportunity for increasing brand recognition while complying with retailers color coding requirements” said Jay Steimetz, President of Barcoding Inc. “Meeting retailer requirements without getting chargebacks is becoming a fulltime job for some vendors, and CaptureSoft can help alleviate many of these problems”, continued Steimetz.

8/18/04

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Gerber Technology Expands Advanced Technology Center in China : Poised to Serve Global Customers in Face of WTO 2005 Phase-Out of Trade Quotas

Connecticut, USA – [Gerber Technology](#) announced the grand opening of its newly-relocated and expanded Advanced Technology Center (ATC) in Shanghai, China to take place on September 7, 2004, with government representatives from the United States and China officiating. In celebration of the event, the company will host a gala dinner for over 400 guests on September 9, 2004 at the Shanghai Grand Theater, a renowned landmark of the region and a window of cultural exchange between China and the world.

Gerber Technology has invested more than \$2 million in the new 2,500-square-meter (27,000-square-foot) ATC located in the ultra-modern Caohejing Hi-Tech Park in Shanghai . In addition to the ATC, the Center will also accommodate Gerber's Engineering Technology Center and its Shanghai-based sales and service operations. The Advanced Technology Center houses Gerber's state-of-the-art automated spreading systems and cutting systems for multi-ply, single-ply and leather cutting, in a factory-simulated environment. It also showcases the company's complete line of plotters, computer-aided design and WebPDM™ product lifecycle management systems. The facility serves as a center for product demonstration, software testing, system training, customer telephone support, local product development, engineering and strategic purchasing and includes a laboratory for research and development with some of the industry's most advanced equipment. Gerber's Advanced Technology Center was originally established in May, 2000, when it was the first of its kind in Asia .

“We are in the midst of one of the most profound transformations in the history of the apparel industry,” said James Arthurs, President of Gerber Technology. “On January 1 st 2005 when the World Trade Organization abolishes trade quotas, it will be the first time in over 40 years that the industry will be unfettered by quotas: it will cause a disruption of volcanic proportions and many countries and companies will be unprepared for it. Apparel manufacturers will be compelled to automate in order to survive. With our updated state-of-the-art Advanced Technology Center and established network of offices

throughout the country, we can offer unmatched customer service and support to the China market.”

“For the last three years China has been our second largest market after the U.S.,” he added. “The region is an important one, particularly for apparel, furniture and automotive manufacturers. More recently, we have begun serving aerospace companies. So, with a total of 24 locations, we can be where our customers need us. We expect to have approximately 200 personnel in China by the end of this year, an increase of over 50 percent in 12 months.”

Steven Tang, Regional Vice President of Asia-Pacific, said, “Gerber Technology has grown up with China . For nearly 25 years we've worked side-by-side with hundreds and hundreds of manufacturers to help them become more productive and more profitable. Our customers know they can count on us to recommend the right solutions to suit their individual business model.” In May, 2002 Gerber Technology launched its first product designed specifically for China : AccuMark™ Advanced Edition (AE). This Microsoft® Windows®-based software system has helped manually-driven organizations throughout China automate pattern making, grading, marker-making and pre-cutting operations.

In May of 2004 the company again proved itself a pioneer in China as it took the leap to manufacture its first product there. Gerber Technology designed and engineered the Infinity™ AE, a state-of-the-art inkjet plotter, at its world headquarters in Connecticut , U.S.A. , and built it locally in China through its wholly-owned subsidiary , Gerber Scientific (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. “Our customers are pleased they no longer have to incur freight expenses, shipping costs, and import duties,” said Arthurs. “We designed the Infinity AE specifically for our customers in China . We source many of the parts in country and assemble it locally, so our customers receive the best technology at the best price.” Gerber plans to launch additional locally-manufactured models for the Chinese market later this year.

Recently Gerber Technology was chosen as a partner in the “Size China” project being carried out by the Apparel Cyber Tech Center (ACTC) at the College of Textile & Garment of Guangzhou University . The ultimate goal of the “Size China” project is to manufacture better fitting garments. Body data is captured by 3D laser scanner and transformed into real-size Alvaform® models made by Alvanon of Hong Kong/USA. The students participating in the project are being trained by a team from Institut TPC Hong Kong/Paris. They will use Gerber's AccuMark™ V8 software installed on 110 CAD workstations. The study is supported by the central government in Beijing which has declared the profession of fashion designers to be important for China 's future economy.

8/12/04

BenchMark Announces New Test Marketing Campaign

Searcy , AR - [Benchmark Clothiers, Inc.](#) announced today the implementation of a new test marketing program. Kevin Lewis, president of Benchmark, revealed today the much anticipated program for the initial deployment of the 3D body scanning technology that is changing the Made-to-Measure business across the world.

Beginning August 1st, 2004 the body scanning system will begin appearing in men's clothing stores around the country. “We will begin with deployment of 5 scanners in August in select markets across the country and then each month we will be placing more scanners in this program until the end of the year. “ said Lewis, “Our goal is to provide a real-time history of the success of the scanner for our potential clients to see. Up until now the body scanning system has been very cost prohibitive, but with the innovation of our partners at [\[TC\]²](#) and the hard work and dedication of our staff at Benchmark we will be able to provide the scanners during this test marketing program for as little as \$800 per month.”

Benchmark has also been able to get concessions from their vendors to provide “spiffs” on the sale of each suit that can be credited to the retail outlets scanner lease. According to Mike Hulsey, Senior Vice-president of BenchMark, “We want to make this a ‘win-win’ situation for the vendor and for the retail affiliates who choose the 3D scanning system. Every venue in which we have placed the scanner to date the sales have been robust to say the least. We believe the retail partner could possibly reduce his scanner lease to virtually nothing by producing the volume of sales through the scanner that we believe are achievable.”

BenchMark is looking for a wide variety of types of stores to be involved in the test marketing. Men's stores that sell both OTR and MTM, stores that sell to both men and women, and stores that sell men's clothing but have never ventured into the custom market are welcome to apply to be in this test marketing program. All they need to do is go to the BenchMark website designed for retailers <<http://www.benchmarkretailer.com>> to get more information.

8/06/04

Digital Textile Printing Conference - October 26-28, 2004

Cary , NC USA — [\[TC\]²](#) is offering a Digital Textile Printing Conference at its Cary , NC facility October 26 -28, 2004. Technology developments, application requirements, color and image management, user experiences, and market opportunities will be highlighted in the program. Speakers include representatives from organizations such as Reggianni Macchine, CIBA Specialty Chemicals, Cotton Incorporated, and Nedgraphics.

The main conference program has been developed for an audience including technology officers/decision makers, product developers, print designers, print manufacturers, and digital print technology users. Pre-conference workshops combining theory and practical application on The Basics of Inkjet and Color and Print Quality have also been scheduled.

Conference Sponsorships are available and include a table -top display, participation in a panel discussion, and free conference registration for one attendee.

To become a sponsor, register as an attendee, or for more information, visit

www.tc2.com/conference/.

8/04/04

[TC]² Announces Participation in MAGIC

Cary , NC USA - [\[TC\]²](#) will present SizeUSA data analysis and demonstrate its 3D to 2D automatic pattern generation software in the Info Hub of the Sourcing Zone at MAGIC, in the Las Vegas Convention Center , August 30 – September 2, 2004.

Better fit applications from SizeUSA, a national sizing survey, and an in-depth look at the 3D to 2D automatic pattern generation tool will be presented in seminar offerings by [\[TC\]²](#)'s staff on Monday, August 30 th . SizeUSA includes body measurement statistics on over 10,000 of the U.S. population divided into gender, six age ranges, and four ethnic groupings. Special show pricing on specific data sets is available. The 3D to 2D automatic pattern generation package converts 3D scan data into a flat pattern for slacks, and prepares slopers for skirts and blouses. This product is available as an extension of [\[TC\]²](#)'s 3D Body Measurement System software.

For more information on these products or other [\[TC\]²](#) offerings, visit www.tc2.com.

8/04/04

TUKATECH Launches TUKACAD.Net suite, A Product Development System

Los Angeles, CA USA - TUKACAD.Net suite is fully integrated, seamless software that inexpensively permits the user to: Develop fabric prints, color-ways, and storyboards, use prints, plaids or graphics on 2D flat patterns, print fabric digitally (focusing only on the covered area), grade patterns, and make costing and production markers This seamless integration provides the speed and accuracy essential to reduce Product Development time. The flexibility to toggle between print design and pattern design has never been more fluid than in the innovatively designed TUKAcad.Net Suite. Patterns and Prints developed on TUKAcad.Net Suite can be used to view garments three dimensionally via off-the-shelf, low cost 3D packages in HTML format. 3D images may be submitted by Email via Internet Explorer. This allows for fit approval BEFORE expensive samples are produced, saving time and money and speeding up the entire process.

Tukatech's CEO Ram Sareen commented: "Our mission is to provide complete solutions, this new and vastly improved system developed by TUKATECH has far more functionality than any existing CAD system, yet the application and use is simplified by focusing on "Self-learning" via video tutorials and voice lessons in multiple languages."

8/04/04

Lori Coulter, LLC Files Patent Application and Launches Made-to-Measure Website

St. Louis – Lori Coulter, LLC announced today that it has filed a patent application and launched its web site which features a demonstration of the TrueMeasure software. Inspired by the frustration associated with purchasing a swimsuit, Lori Coulter TM has streamlined the process and created a swimwear collection. Through the use of patent-pending software, swimsuits are recommended for each customer based on the customer's lifestyle, measurements and proportion. The line has been designed to accommodate numerous body types and style objectives, making fashionable swimwear available for women of all shapes and sizes and subsequently revolutionizing the buying process.

“We believe that TrueStyle is personal, mandated by individuals, not by the runway,” said entrepreneur and CEO Lori Coulter. Until now, women have endured the humiliating and unsanitary process of trying on swimsuit after swimsuit, while never finding a suit that actually meets their fashion and fit expectations. TrueMeasure enables women to view and customize multiple suits via a virtual dressing room that features a 3D body image similar to their own. The customer chooses the basic suit, color, fabric, straps, leg, lining, and bra. “Our primary objective is to help women feel comfortable with their bodies and to empower women to express their own sense of style. Fashion and fit should not be mutually exclusive,” stated Coulter.

8/03/04

New Pigmented Ink Offers Cost-Effective Digital Desktop Textile Printing

Brookfield, CT. – Trident introduces a desktop textile printing application for FabricFast™ ink, a new pigmented water-based ink for Epson inkjet printers. From the comfort of a cost-effective desktop printer, FabricFast provides lightfast, color intense textile printing that matches the color and fastness properties of production screen inks.

The FabricFast desktop application revolutionizes textile designing, sampling and proofing and can also be used for printing fabric labels and tags. FabricFast ink is now available in cartridges compatible with the full range of Epson desktop printers

Textile samples can be printed on ink jet ready fabrics as well as fabrics with paper backing. There are several brands of “Textile Paper” that can be used with desktop printers including Avery Printable Fabric. Cotton, Tyvek and other fabrics with paper backing can be obtained from textile suppliers.

“Textile designers can now print quality digital textile samples from the comfort of their own desktop,” explains Dr. Deverakonda Sarma, Ink Development Manager. “Epson printers and FabricFast ink provide a simplified, inexpensive, flexible means of printing fabric designs, samples and proofs.”

8/3/04

OptiTex Opens Los Angeles Office

New York - With its NA headquarters in NYC, [OptiTex](#) will soon open an office in Los Angeles CA to support and work closely with its west coast clients. Both offices will offer training sessions as well as technical support available through its new web portal CRM system that ensures customers receive the highest level of customer care and fast turnaround time on email support questions.

Development is now underway for Optitex version 10 which is a major release, enhancing the look and structure of OptiTex software. Among other new features this release will offer OptiTex users the ability to exchange information seamlessly across platforms such as PDM/ERP/PLM systems, as well as between OptiTex old and newer version.

Through its alliances, OptiTex is no longer the classic PDS, Grade, and Marker Making system solutions provider but now offers an umbrella of solutions ranging from textile design, product development, and merchandising capable of 3D to 2D design. PDM solutions will be available through OptiTex as well.

8/3/04

Tail Implements Escape WebSuite™ to Launch New B2B Site

San Diego -- [Indra Technology Inc.](#), a provider of order management business solutions for the apparel, footwear, and sporting goods industries, announced that Miami-based Tail, Inc. is offering their customers a new B2B sales channel through Escape

WebSuite, a module of Escape.

Tail embraced Escape for its sales force automation solution over four years ago. By launching their new B2B site through Escape Websuite, Tail is now able to offer online ordering and account management to their customers "around the clock." Customers have the ability to browse their products online, place and review orders online, and check product availability.

Mike Skidd, CFO of Tail, stated, "The Escape Websuite is a convenient way for our customers to place orders to Tail, 24/7. Additionally, with the functionality of Escape, our customers can view orders placed by their sales rep, giving our customers complete account visibility. Our customers find it is easier to do business with us and it helps to drive sales."

Added Don Fleming, MIS Director of Tail, "As a completely integrated module, content management is seamless. As changes occur within our product catalog, the system automatically updates this information on our website, saving us programming costs."

8/03/04

Original Penguin Clothing Selects Escape™ for their Sales Force Management Software

San Diego -- [Indra Technology Inc.](#), a provider of order automation business solutions for the apparel, footwear and sporting goods industries, announced that Original Penguin, a subsidiary of Perry Ellis International, has gone live with Escape for their sales force.

Two divisions of Perry Ellis International, including Ping Collection and Jantzen have already gone live with Escape, with more divisions in line for the near future. Luis Paez, Chief Information Officer of Perry Ellis, acknowledged Escape's great versatility in managing so many of his company's product lines. "Escape is a powerful tool for our sales reps to enter and manage orders in the field. Not only do our sales reps report on Escape's ease of use, they also feel empowered through its centralized catalog management and detailed order visibility features. From a corporate standpoint, we are able to exercise and maintain control of the entire order management process while increasing sales, reducing order processing costs and increasing our customer's overall satisfaction."

Jim Beavers, Indra Technology's Chief Operating Officer, added "Escape is so effective in streamlining the order management process and reducing errors that our customers typically see a return on their investment in less than six months."

8/03/04

Terra Technology Oversubscribed in First Funding Round

Ridgefield, CT - Terra Technology, a provider of Real-Time Forecasting (RTF) solutions for consumer goods companies, today announced the closing of \$1 million in funding from several high technology investors. The round was oversubscribed, reflecting strong investor support for the company's innovative solution, compelling value proposition, and market acceptance. The capital will be used to fund ongoing product and business development initiatives.

"Terra Technology has developed a superior solution to reduce forecast error, an expensive and critical business problem," according to investor Maarten Van Buren. "As a former senior manufacturing executive with several consumer goods companies, including Unilever and Sara Lee, I can appreciate the significance of Terra's product. Given the ringing endorsement from customers and the value of the solution, I am convinced that Terra will continue to lead this new and exciting market."

Robert F. Byrne, President and CEO of Terra Technology, said, "We appreciate the strong support and confidence that our investors have placed in Terra. With this round of funding, we will be able to focus our energies on continuing to enhance the product, expand point-of-sale integration capabilities and support entry into new markets such as retail and pharmaceutical."

7/28/04

[TCI]²'s NX-12 3D Body Scanning System Purchased by London College of Fashion

Cary, NC USA - [\[TCI\]²](#) announces the selection of its newest body scanning technology, the NX-12, by London College of Fashion for research and industry projects.

Jeni Bougourd, Senior Research Fellow, comments, "The SizeUK team (experts from London College of Fashion, the Ministry of Defense and DeMontford University) began working with [TC]² in December 2000. Following an international benchmarking exercise which reviewed available scanning technologies, a [TC]² whole body scanning system was selected for the UK sizing survey. [TC]²'s NX-12 scanner has now been acquired by London College of Fashion as a key component of three dimensional technology systems being assembled. A multi-disciplinary group - designers, technologists, artists and scientists - will use the new scanner to enhance the curriculum, continue three-dimensional research and provide a scanner bureau for industry."

Following the success of the SizeUK project, [TC]² conducted SizeUSA, a national sizing survey of the U.S. population, which was completed in September of 2003. Additional information on survey data can be found at www.sizeusa.tc2.com.

"Since our first scanner installation at Levi Strauss in 1999, [TC]²'s team has continued to develop white-light 3D body measurement systems that require less floor space and are lower in price, without sacrificing system accuracy. Also, the new system has no moving parts, making it extremely reliable," says David Bruner, Director of [TC]²'s Technology Development group. "While the scanner was originally developed for custom and best-fit apparel, it has also been recognized as a valuable tool in health and fitness management and for medical applications."

7/22/04

400 Chinese Producers Expected for Apparel's China Symposium & Sourcing Fair

Columbia, SC — More than 325 Chinese apparel and textile producers have signed on to participate in *Apparel's* Sourcing Fair, part of the magazine's China Symposium & Sourcing Fair, set to debut September 13-16 in Shanghai, China. The Sourcing Fair, now projected to attract a minimum 400 exhibitors, will be held September 14 and 15 at the Shanghai Exposition Center.

"The response from the Chinese apparel industry has been phenomenal," said *Apparel's* Publisher, Susan Black. "In just a matter of weeks, we've added well over 100 exhibitors. For sourcing executives, it's an opportunity to see a vast number and variety of potential Asian sources and partners, all face-to-face, in one location."

Apparel's China Symposium & Sourcing Fair is designed to help apparel executives maximize their opportunities in the exponentially growing Chinese textile and apparel industry, particularly in light of quota expiration in 2005 as well as a changing retail landscape. Attendees will benefit from in-depth industry knowledge from leading experts, and personal connections with potential partners relative to the sourcing of both raw materials and apparel, as well as licensing and retailing opportunities. The complete four-day event includes a full-day Symposium, focused on high-level, practical market information and headlined by Kurt Salmon Associates (KSA), including KSA's "China Consumer Economic Outlook." Networking highlights include private matchmaking sessions, facilitated by pre-arranged information exchange, and tours of area apparel and textile facilities.

In other news, both [Gerber Technology](#) and EGL Eagle Global Logistics have signed on to sponsor the event. Other sponsors to date include [Lectra](#), China Direct Trading Co. and Orient International Holding Co. Ltd. Supporting organizations include the China National Garment Association and [ITCI 2](#).

Registration for *Apparel's* China Symposium & Sourcing Fair includes all Symposium sessions, followed by a networking reception and dinner; facilitation of private, pre-arranged meetings with potential partners; two days' admittance to the Sourcing Fair; a day of tours; and some meals. To register, visit <http://www.apparelmag.com/china>.

7/22/04

Freeborders and Invista Launch Largest Hosted Catalog For Fibers And Fabrics

San Francisco, CA, and Wilmington, DE - Freeborders and [INVISTA](#), formerly DuPont Textiles & Interiors, today launched FAST™, a global online catalog of fibers and fabrics, that will immediately link 500 mills in 50 countries with over 1,600 brand and retail buyers. The new service, which is open to all textile producers and fiber types, will allow mills to increase their sales by quickly, easily and inexpensively providing online fabric catalogs directly to brand and retail decision-makers. Brands and retailers will be able to search, sample, and cost new fabrics as well as communicate with mills 24

hours a day, seven days a week, to cut lead times and speed innovation.

“FAST will help us streamline the processes we use to source fabrics for our brands,” said Jeff Streader, vice president of global sourcing at VF Corporation. “We see big advantages in being able to instantly initiate swatch and sample yardage requests and track status. FAST will help reduce costs and cycle time and ensure superior product quality.”

FAST will incorporate INVISTA's existing On-Line Fabric Library, a current standard, as well fiber and fabric products from other suppliers.

“The INVISTA On-Line Fabric Library was a highly successful concept that grew to include over 27,000 mill products and was used regularly by buyers from many of the world's foremost brands and retailers,” said Jon Penrice, INVISTA vice president of marketing, global apparel. “We knew this service would ultimately be of even greater value to retailers and brands if it included fabrics of all types. We're confident about the appeal of our products and brands and believe that a one-stop open resource like FAST can be a powerful driver of the innovation the industry needs to revitalize its consumer connections. When that happens, we all win.”

Gordon Yen, assistant to chairman of Fountain Set (Holdings) Limited, agrees. “As a leading textile producer, we see enormous value in adopting this common method of servicing our brand, retail and garment manufacturing customers. We believe noticeable communication accuracy and efficiency improvements could be achieved by the supply chain partners in working on product development and sampling. FAST would enable our supply chain to react more effectively to market needs.”

Registered buyers can access innovative fabrics and request swatches from the FAST online catalog around-the-clock, shaving four to five weeks off lead times and speeding new products to market. They can easily access all mill databases with one search by fabric type, construction, geography, and other parameters and then communicate directly with the mills, at no cost.

Registered sellers can display catalogs of fabrics online to thousands of brands and retailer decision-makers, resulting in increased sales and deeper customer relationships. Mills will be able to speed marketing of innovative designs and fibers via secure proprietary areas within the FAST solution and thereby accelerate their ability to meet retailers' purchasing needs. These private channels allow textile producers the capability to choose the brands and retailers that can view and sample their fabrics.

7/22/04

Perry Ellis International's Perry Ellis Menswear Division Goes Live While Perry Ellis Continues to Streamline its Operations Using the Jesta I.S. Vision Suite

New York, NY - Jesta I.S. a supplier of visionary business solutions to the apparel, footwear and soft goods industries announced today that Perry Ellis International's Perry Ellis Menswear division has gone live on Jesta I.S.' Vision Sourcing and Demand Management 7.2. Perry Ellis International, a designer and manufacturer of high quality menswear, anticipates that by implementing Jesta I.S.' Vision Sourcing and Demand Management it can improve productivity and profitability, while at the same time reducing risk in their supply chain.

Perry Ellis International also announced the successful upgrade to Vision Sourcing and Demand Management 7.2 across all its divisions. “Jesta I.S.' proven solutions have helped us manage the growth of our organization and improve our results,” said Luis Paez CIO for Perry Ellis International. Leslie Belcher, president of Jesta I.S. added, “We are committed to ensuring that all implementations and upgrades are seamless to our customers. This is especially important during the post acquisition stages. We have worked very closely with Perry Ellis through various system enhancements and have extensive knowledge of their needs. Jesta I.S. is proud to be working with an organization of Perry Ellis' caliber we appreciate the company's commitment to our Vision solutions.”

Perry Ellis made it necessary for PEI to merge these business units into its corporate infrastructure. Jesta I.S.' Vision Sourcing and Demand Management allowed Perry Ellis to smoothly integrate its acquisition of Salant Corp. (now Perry Ellis Menswear) and its Axis and Tricots St. Raphael divisions in June 2003. Mr. Paez commented “Merging new business units is always a difficult process. We have worked with Jesta I.S. in this scenario before and expect the integration process to be seamless.”

7/12/04

Apriso Joins IBM'S ISV Advantage Initiative To Bring Real-Time Operational Flexibility To Manufacturing Industries

Long Beach, CA – Apriso Corporation, a pioneer in real-time, event-driven enterprise execution software, has joined IBM's ISV Advantage Initiative, a program designed to provide independent software vendors with technical and marketing support to help meet the specific real-time information technology needs of small and medium businesses. Companies in this category are increasingly seeking solutions that allow them to quickly respond to changing market opportunities on demand.

Apriso has developed a new type of enterprise software that is focused entirely on the execution of supply, production and distribution processes. Apriso's software, marketed under the FlexNet® brand, uniquely provides a real-time, event-driven software applications suite that permits companies for the first time to institutionalize increasingly critical business initiatives such as lean supply, six-sigma quality, portable processes, in-line production sequencing, real-time inventory management, and demand pull.

The FlexNet application suite can be used to define, optimize, and operate – in conjunction with existing enterprise resource planning systems, or on a standalone basis – any or all of a business's internal and external manufacturing or supply execution processes. It is used in many vertical industries, particularly gaining widespread acceptance in the aerospace, apparel, automotive, consumer products, electronics, industrial machinery, medical devices, metals, pharmaceuticals, printing, and the pulp and paper sectors.

“We are pleased that Apriso has joined ISV Advantage and is dedicated to IBM as a partner of choice,” said Buell Duncan, general manager, ISV & Developer Relations, IBM. “Medium sized business customers are seeking open solutions tailored to meet their needs, and IBM is committed to working with Apriso to deliver this.”

7/12/04

China Direct Trading Corp., Lectra, Orient International to Sponsor Apparel's China Symposium & Sourcing Fair

Columbia, SC — China Direct Trading Corp., [Lectra](#) and Orient International Holding Company Ltd. have signed on as the first major sponsors of [Apparel magazine's](#) China Symposium & Sourcing Fair, set to debut September 13-16 in Shanghai, China. Additionally, 215 Chinese producers have signed up as Sourcing Fair exhibitors to date.

The event is designed to help apparel executives optimize their opportunities in the exponentially growing China textile and apparel industry, particularly in light of quota expiration in 2005 as well as a changing retail landscape.

Tim Copeland, Lectra's director of marketing, North America, said: "We decided to partner with *Apparel* magazine because it fits perfectly with our strategy. In 2003, we accelerated our efforts for transnational sales, particularly with China. We conducted an industry seminar, "Climbing the Great Wall of Globalization," an inside look at how to do business in China. ... Phase two of our initiative involves taking companies to China to visit local manufacturing operations and to meet with sourcing companies. *Apparel's* China Symposium & Sourcing Fair adds additional value for our visitors."

China Direct Trading Corp., a global trader of products to and from Asia, joins the event on the heels of announcing that it has launched a division that will source apparel and textiles from China. It has created a joint venture with Tower Associates LLC, which has developed expertise in the international sewn products industries, apparel manufacturing and trade with China. The business will concentrate on sourcing as well as creating joint ventures with U.S. and Chinese apparel manufacturers and retailers.

Orient International Holding Company Ltd., based in Shanghai, is one of the largest import & export enterprises in China, having imported and exported more than 5,000 types of products. It represents China's second experimental unit of comprehensive business establishments, with a scope that ranges from foreign trade to financing to logistics support.

Apparel's China Symposium & Sourcing Fair will have high-level market information and networking at its core. Attendees will benefit from in-depth industry knowledge from leading experts, and personal connections with potential partners relative to the sourcing of both raw materials and apparel, as well as licensing and retailing opportunities.

The Symposium program will include a full day of insightful, practical market information — six sessions in total — on subjects ranging from “The State of China's

Apparel Industry” to “China 's Retail Future.” It also will include private meetings with potential sourcing partners, facilitated by a pre-arranged information exchange; admission to the two-day Sourcing Fair; and complimentary tours of area apparel and textile facilities.

Registration and sponsorship information for *Apparel 's* China Symposium & Sourcing Fair us available at www.apparelmag.com/china.

7/12/04

BCBG Max Azria Adopts the NScan Automatic Digitizing System

New York, NY / Los Angeles, CA - BCBG Max Azria, a producer of women's clothing, has replaced its digitizing tables with the Nhega NScan automatic digitizing system in its Los Angeles design and production facility.

"The NScan has lived up to all our expectations," said Mario Weissenberg, Manager of Marking and Grading at BGBC Max Azria. "It is creating great efficiencies, allowing us to significantly improve the speed and accuracy of our digitizing."

The NScan, developed by Nhega, is a faster, more accurate alternative to digitizing tables. Using a wide format scanner and intelligent software, the NScan allows users to digitize up to 5 times faster than with a digitizing table. Furthermore, the NScan delivers accuracy up to 1/100th of an inch and virtually eliminates digitizing errors.

"We look forward to helping BCBG Max Azria speed product delivery and stay on the cutting edge of fashion," said David Geiger, President and CEO of Nhega.

7/12/04

SDL Atlas To Spotlight 14 New And Updated Products During Joint ATME-I/AATCC Show

Charlotte, NC – A new digital microscope with automatic fiber identifying and measurement software as well as the latest DIGIEYE grading and color management system are among 14 products SDL Atlas will highlight at September's ATME-I/AATCC show in Greenville, S.C.

Innovative software for the new digital microscope performs fiber identification, measurements and fabric thread counts. Other products on display during the exhibition will include the ATLAS Ci 3000 Fade-Ometer®, LINITEST+ Lab Dyeing System, WASHRITE Precision Washing Machine, NEW MARTINDALE Pilling and Abrasion tester, VERIVIDE Color Viewing Booths and QuickWash, QuickView and QuickCondition fabric testing systems.

"For SDL Atlas, the Greenville show has proven to be an effective way to interact with long-time customers and reach new prospects, particularly those from Latin America" said Russell Crompton, Director, Global Marketing. This year's textile show will be the last in Greenville. The show moves to Atlanta in 2006.

7/12/04

Tharo Systems Announces A New Version Of EASYLABEL® Featuring An RFID Wizard

Brunswick, Ohio -- With the newest version of EASYLABEL® software, Tharo Systems, Inc. has added an RFID Wizard. Currently supported printers are the RFID enabled Zebra and Printronix thermal transfer label printers; with more printer drivers being added as other printer manufacturers add RFID capabilities to their printers. The EASYLABEL RFID Wizard takes the worry out of creating and printing smart labels with its extensive support for EPC (Electronic Product Code) specifications.

EASYLABEL also features an EAN/UCC-128 Wizard that makes creating EAN/UCC-128s a simple 4-step process. The Wizard simply prompts you for the required information and then builds the bar code automatically! Even codes with multiple Application Identifiers are quick and easy to create with EASYLABEL's EAN/UCC Wizard.

EASYLABEL includes several other exciting features to make printing labels faster and easier; like support for USB printing with its super fast bi-directional data transfer, compliance tools for the FDA 21 CFR Part 11 regulation, European multi-lingual Risk and Safety phrases for Hazardous Chemical labeling regulations and much more. EASYLABEL 5 supports Microsoft's ActiveX® Data Objects (ADO) providing the fastest, easiest and most productive means for accessing all kinds of data sources.

7/2/04

AATCC Announces UV Calibration Program

Research Triangle Park, NC - AATCC has launched its UV Calibration Program. This program will distribute textile materials that can be used to adjust the UV calibration standard supplied with a spectrophotometer to be more sensitive to textile materials.

Many spectrophotometers have a UV cutoff filter that may be adjusted either manually or automatically to adjust the amount of UV energy in the light that illuminates the sample. Other spectrophotometers use multiple light sources with different amounts of UV energy to accomplish the same result.

In either case, controlling the amount of UV energy is critical in achieving inter-instrument agreement when measuring samples that contain fluorescent whitening agents (FWAs, otherwise known as optical brighteners). Because of the differences in the light absorption properties of FWAs used in plastics and those primarily used in textiles, it is necessary to use textile materials as primary UV energy calibration standards to establish the required inter-instrument agreement.

7/2/04

The Open Group Announces Release of Interconnect Transport Application Programming Interface (IT-API)

San Francisco, CA - The Open Group announces the release of the Interconnect Transport Application Programming Interface (IT-API) developed by the Interconnect Software Consortium, a forum of The Open Group. The IT-API provides an open, industry-standard application programming interface for RDMA (Remote Direct Memory Access) applications that is both interconnect-independent and enables "pedal-to-the-metal" performance. The IT-API enables distributed applications to take advantage of the performance and horizontal scale-out benefits delivered by RDMA-based interconnects.

IT-API version 1.0 currently supports both InfiniBand and the Virtual Interface Architecture (VIA) standards, which are ready for deployment today. It also provides support for the RDMA over TCP/IP standard specified by the RDMA Consortium (iWARP). The IT-API will be extended to complete support for the iWARP and IETF RDMA over IP (RDDP) specifications through a specification update currently under development.

This new industry standard API is not only an excellent example of industry working together in the spirit of true open standards," said Allen Brown, the President and CEO of The Open Group. "But it will also demonstrate the benefits of open standards by opening new opportunities for the utilization of RDMA applications, resulting in enhanced performance and reliability, optimized scalability, and reduced total cost of ownership."

"Hewlett-Packard is excited to see the completion of the IT-API standard and the benefits of providing an open industry-standard API for multiple RDMA-capable technologies such as InfiniBand," noted Vish Mulchand, Director, Server Marketing at Hewlett-Packard. "This industry standard API will enable a number of applications in the technical computing and distributed database server markets to exploit the benefits of RDMA on HP's platforms."

7/1/04

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