

MEDIA & SUBSTRATES



APPEXPO 2015

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*All items on this list are hotlinks.

INTRODUCTION

In early 2015 we attended two different printer expos:

- One had not one single booth focused entirely on media
- The other had perhaps a dozen booths on media

Then at APPPEXPO 2015 we found over 170 booths of media:

- Half of the giant Hall 3 had lots of media
- Hall 4 was solid media from front to back and side to side (and also ink and other signage products, but was primarily media and substrates for wide-format inkjet)
- Hall 5 had more media.
- And the desktop and offset printer hall had more booths of printable paper than the other expos.

It is rather easy to calculate: you can find more booths, more brands, and more kinds of inkjet media at APPPEXPO than all other expos put together.

So attending APPPEXPO is essential if you are:

- A distributor of printers or supplies anywhere in the world
- A print shop owner or operator
- A manufacturer of printers, inks, or media (so you can see what is available already.

At every signage or printer expo in the world people ask me, what have you seen that is new? They imply they want to know new printers and new printheads. If there is some remarkable new ink chemistry, everyone is excited.

But almost never does anyone ask about media or substrates. Yet the printable materials are crucial to learn about. This is why we sent 6 people from FLAAR to APPPEXPO 2015, because there are so many kinds of media and substrates it takes one person full time the entire four days to see everything.

- Flex banner
- Frontlit
- Self-adhesive vinyl
- One way Vision
- Perforated vinyl
- Mesh
- Tarpaulin

Most Chinese companies make PVC, vinyl, but it this PVC comes in every weight and surface finish you can imagine (and many styles one has not seen before).

BGS (Best Graphics Solution) of Zhenchang Adhesive, is another good example of diverse material from a single company. Often the manufacturers of PVC also offer clear lamination material.

Magnetic material is also available for printing.

MEDIA & SUBSTRATES

3H REFLECTIVE MATERIAL



3H Reflective Sign Media booth

Thick rigid material: Metal

ACM comes either for printing, or for installation on the walls of buildings with the color you order. We are most interested in the ACM that can be printed on.

7C



7C booth

ABT DIGITAL PAPER



ABT Digital Paper

BINYUAN



Binyuan booth

D-BOARD



D-BOARD booth

CELESTIAL FLEX



Celestial Flex booth

DER



DER booth

DING TIAN



Ding Tian booth

FX FLEX



FX Flex booth

FLEX/BANNER FLAGS



FLEX/BANNER FLAGS booth

G-BOARD



G-BOARD booth

JINMAO



JinMao booth

KK LABEL



KK Label booth

JUTU



Jutu booth

MACTAC



MACTac booth

MGB



MGB booth

POTENTECH



Potentech booth

NEWAY DECORATION



NeWay Decoration booth

QREX FLEX



Qrex Flex booth

RITRAMA



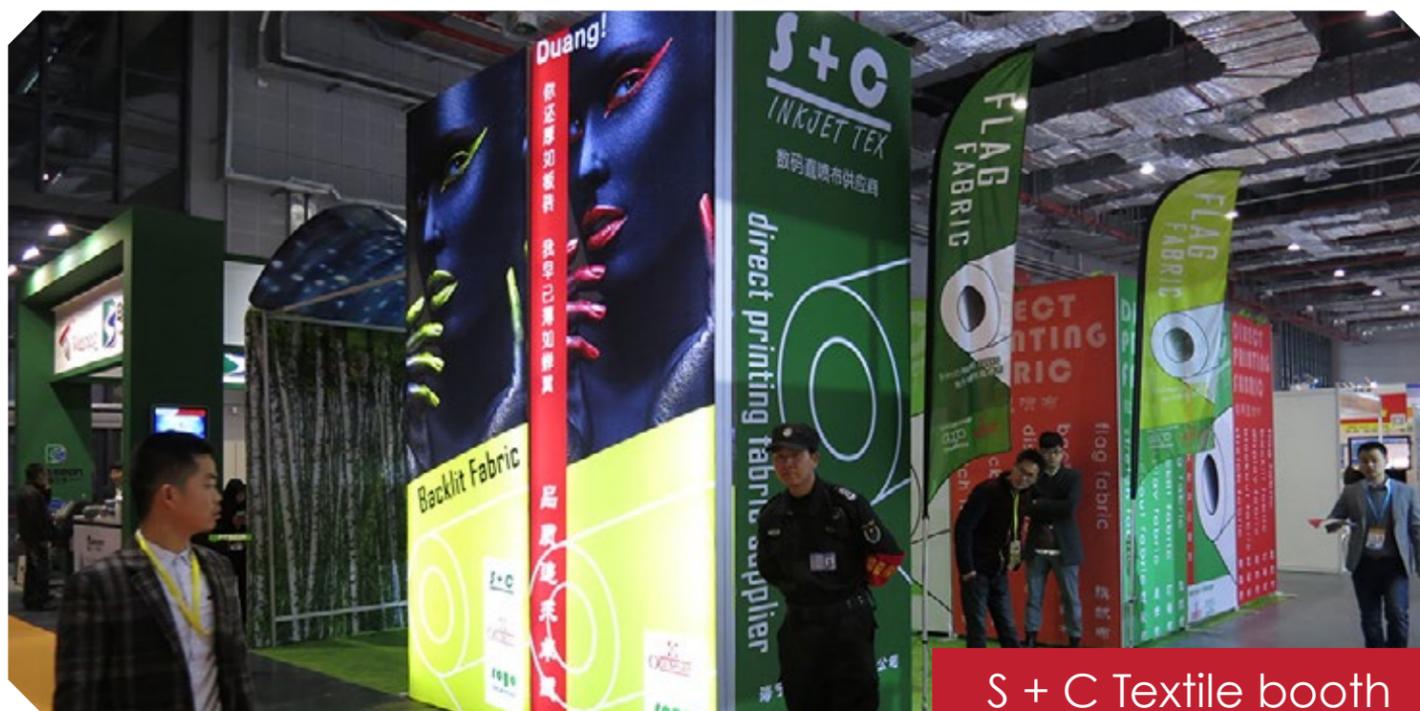
Ritrama booth

SIHL



Sihl booth

S + C TEXTILE



S + C Textile booth

SOYANG



Soyang booth

STARFLEX



Starflex booth

ULTRAFLEX



UltraFlex booth

TAYA



Taya booth

WONPOONG



Wonpoong booth

HONEYCOMB BOARD

D-BOARD



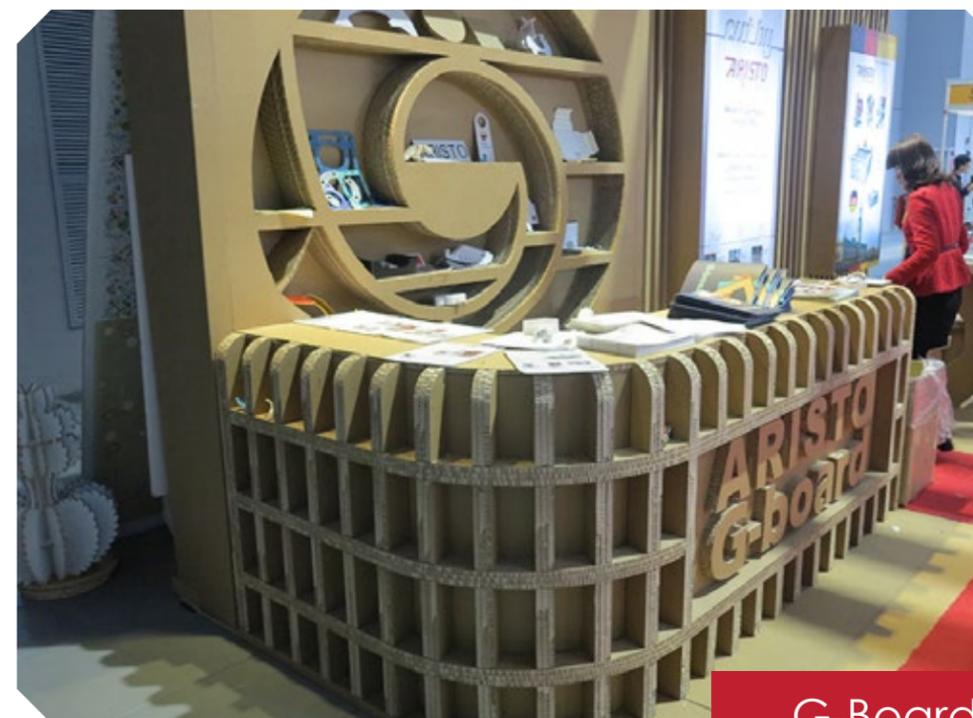
D-Board sample



Thick rigid material: Honeycomb and Corrugated

We discuss this in our FLAAR Report on three-dimensional signage since you can print on this kind of thick rigid materials and then cut them with a digital flatbed cutter and create remarkable results.

G-BOARD



G-Board sample



G-Board booth

TENGDAR CARDBOARD



Tengdar Cardboard sample



Thick and rigid material: Foamcore

One of the major causes of success of UV-cured flatbed printers was the fact that now you could print directly onto foamcore and all the other brands and variations. Fifteen years ago you had to print on PVC and then glue it to the foamcore.

Foamcore brands are well known but it always helps to find an economical source so shopping here in APPEXPO is a good idea.



GICLEE, FINEART & WALLPAPER

7C



7C booth

Media for Fine Art Photos and Giclee

Although most of the Chinese media factories focus on traditional signage, there are many factories which produce art canvas and poly-cotton canvas, plus scores of material to print photos onto. So you can get cotton canvas, polyester canvas, and poly-cotton canvas. Plus matte and glossy (and often intermediate, such as satin).

HM (Shanghai) Humai Composite Materials, offers an enticing range of remarkable surfaces, textures, and colors. We cover their entire list in the separate total list of every brand and every kind of media.

There are companies which offer primarily canvas, which means that from a single factory you can obtain every variety, every surface texture and color, every unique kind of canvas (as well as traditional canvas). But if all the other photographers and giclee ateliers are using the same old canvas, if you come to APPEXPO you can find so much more (so your printed photographs or paintings are unusual).

Wallpaper and Wallcoverings

You can print wallpaper, wall covering, murals and other wall decoration with UV-cured ink, water-based ink, eco-solvent ink, and latex ink.

Since every year more signage goes to LCD or LED digital signage technology, it is essential for print shops (especially "sign shops") to learn new applications.

The company EcoMedia had an impressive quality of print samples on a really diverse range of materials (in their sample book).

GIORO



Gioro booth

MSD



MSD booth

PRIME SIGN



Prime Sign booth

Summary:

You can find (at APPPEXPO 2016 in Shanghai, in March)

- printable media for water-based ink
- Media for eco-solvent ink
- PVC in every kind and flavor for full solvent ink
- Lots of materials for UV-cured ink
- Diverse range of material suitable for HP latex ink

Plus all the printable fabrics for using with dye-sublimation ink (we cover textiles, textile inks, and printable fabrics in a separate report).

So any applications that you need to print:

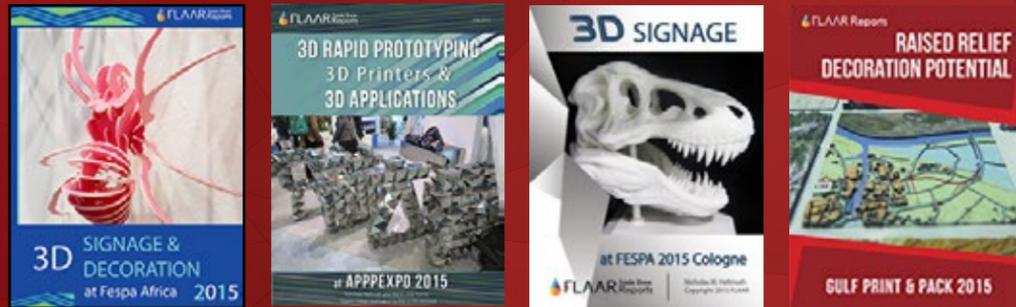
- Flags
- Banners
- Backdrops
- Backlit
- Highway and safety signage
- Soft signage
- Lenticular
- Displays
- Booths
- Overhead banners

The place to find the MOST OPTIONS, and to buy direct from the factory, is at APPPEXPO, in March 2016.

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

To ask to be invoiced, write FrontDesk "at" FLAAR.org. You can ask for a full year's Subscription to Media & Substrates and 3D reports all year long (ISA, FESPA, etc).

3D REPORTS



TEXTILE REPORTS



MEDIA & SUBSTRATES REPORTS



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