

REPORTER

"THE WINDOW ON IMAGING"

Vol. 25, No. 6 November/December 2010

HIGHLIGHTED PAPERS: NIP26 / DIGITAL FABRICATION 2010

Eco-Friendly Prepared Chemical Toner with Mixed Polyester Resin

Eui-Hyun Ryu, Sung-Yul Kim, Il-Hyuk Kim, and Kyung-Yol Yon, Samsung Fine Chemicals (South Korea)

Abstract: Mixed polyester resins are fascinating materials in toner development because of the possibility to tune the toner properties by the simple mixing of different resin components. But the miscibility of two different components with quite different properties is still a challenge in both pulverized and chemical toners. For chemical toners, one alternative is to use organic media to dissolve both components, but this still generates environmental problems because of the increasing level of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) used on during production and released during usage.

We have developed an eco-friendly process to reduce the amount of VOCs in toner. Every process was performed in a water-based condition. This technology was also applied to mixed polyester resins to cover a wide range of properties of Mw, Tg, T1/2, and gloss. The resulting eco-friendly prepared toner is tunable in its basic properties according to the balance of polyester resin components and has a low level of VOCs.

To view the full papers of these abstracts for no fee go to www.imaging.org/ist/publications/reporter/index.cfm

* These papers were presented at the NIP26 / Digital Fabrication 2010 conferences, held September 19-23, 2010, in Austin, Texas.

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Permanence and Color Stability in 3D Ink-jet Printing

Maja Stanic and Branka Lozo, University of Zagreb (Croatia)

Abstract: In recent years, the possibility of color three-dimensional printing has been introduced. The process described in this work is by ZCorporation, and is currently the only process enabling full color printing. The basic materials are in the shape of powder and binders, clear and/or colored. In order to obtain final mechanical and surface properties, 3D prints are almost always postprocessed with a selected infiltrant. Since color printing was made possible, the use of 3D printing was further broadened to specific application areas, e.g. AEC, archeology and cultural heritage preservation, fine arts and design, spatial planning and publicdisplay of models. As the application in these emerging areas requested potentially more durable 3D prints than in the native RP /CAD applications, the color stability, an integral part of the prints permanence properties, was raised as a topic of interest for both, the researchers and the users of 3D technology. This work will discuss emerging research issues in 3D printing for selected applications, as well as describe and present examples of our current and developing work on permanence and color stability in 3D ink-jet printing.

Evaluating Environmental Sustainability of Digital Printing

Merja Kariniemi, Minna Nors, Marjukka Kujanpää, Tiina Pajula, and Hanna Pihkola; VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland (Finland)

Abstract: Concern about climate change and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions has created pressures also for the digital printing industry. The previously published papers are based on assump-

tions of energy consumption on the press and during the pre and post press operations. We have collected the material flow and measured the energy consumption on different electrophotography printing presses from several Finnish printing houses. This enables us to present the results in reliable way.

This paper will focus on new, unpublished, results of the life cycle assessment case made for a 4-colour photo book printed with production scale electrophotography. The life cycle is studied from cradle to the customer, starting from the forest and covering the paper manufacturing, printing and distribution to customer. The life cycle inventory (LCI) phase results are concerning the main emissions to air and water. The impact assessment phase was left out. Furthermore, the carbon footprint information was seen important to evaluate properly.

The results are presented in a form to highlight the points were different actors in the value chain can affect the overall environmental load of the final product. The aim of this paper is also to provide guidance on improved environmental performance, focusing especially on energy and material efficiency in the printing phase.

Mask-less Patterning Technology for the Printed Electronics Market

P. Blom, A. Stevens, A. van Schijndel, T. Huiskamp, L. Huijbregts, N. van Hijningen, and H. de Haan, InnoPhysics (the Netherlands)

Abstract: Non-impact printed electronics is an expanding market with a large variety of applications where printing technology will be used to produce devices or components on glass or polymer films such as organic LED's, (organic) solar cells, displays and RFID tags. We will describe a unique and new printing technology which enables maskless patterning of surfaces or coatings on thin (insulating) substrates. For volume production of many applications in printed electronics, very thin, patterned layers of (semi-) conducting and/or insulating polymers need to be created with high precision and extremely uniform thickness. Printing of such layers can result in significant cost reductions compared to other techniques. InnoPhysics is developing a micro plasma printing system, which can be installed on existing (inkjet) printing platforms. It can be used for substrate surface energy controlled inkjet printing but also for direct etching and deposition of thin layers. To be more specific and valuable many emerging applications demand hybrid manufacturing utilizing both slotdye coated forms and inkjet for which etching and activation in one machine are mandatory. Deposition is under further research. We will describe the technology behind 'plasma printing', developed applications for surface energy contrast patterning and selective ink wetting and planned future developments, making use of the new technology for the creation of functional materials on flexible substrates.

Effects of Fluid Viscosity on Drop-on-Demand Ink-Jet Break-Off

Stephen D. Hoath, Graham D. Martin, and Ian M. Hutchings, University of Cambridge (UK)

Abstract: Simulations of the jetting of Newtonian fluids from drop-on-demand print heads show that the radial jet pinch-off region, which may lie inside the nozzle, is strongly affected by the fluid viscosity over the range of values that are commonly used. Jet profiles beyond the nozzle exit predicted in these simulations match previously published high resolution images very well and validate the code used. The simulations show that the radial velocity at the minimum radius in the pinch-off region falls exponentially soon after neck formation but then approaches a speed near that predicted theoretically for filament rupture.

The overall jet length is primarily controlled by the slow speed of radial pinch-off. Towards the final break-off time, competition between the original radial minimum and a developing second radial minimum can alter the flow conditions towards symmetry. The simulations also explain why visible jets are shaped like truncated cones. Pinch-off occurs typically within one nozzle radius of the nozzle exit, and while it may be located within the nozzle region, another radial minimum also forms outside the nozzle, close to the exit for low viscosity fluids but well beyond it for higher viscosity fluid. The radial collapse follows a power law with time, with the power-law index n varying between the value of n=2/3 expected for an inviscid fluid and n=1 law expected for a viscous fluid. The transition in behavior occurs at a viscosity of ~20 mPa s, which is within the range of ~10–40 mPa s typical of most DoD inks formulations. ▲

IS&T REPORTER

Executive Editor: Peter Burns Managing Editor: Donna Smith Standards Editor: David McDowell

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Digital Printing and Digital Fabrication in Austin—A Long Way from the Gutenberg Bible

By Gerhard Bartscher and Devon J.V. Strain

n Austin, Texas-the same city that holds one of five complete copies of the Gutenberg Bible—the long standing tradition of innovation and synergy between disciplines continued at this year's 26th annual International Conference on Digital Printing Technologies (NIP26) and 6th annual Digital Fabrication conferences. General Chairs Gerhard Bartscher (NIP26) and Reinhard Baumann (Digital Fabrication 2010), along with their respective Conference Committees, hosted 516 participants from around the world this September. The conferences offered approximately 185 oral and interactive papers within four tracks; Print Gallery displays and 37 company exhibits provided additional opportunities for informative discussion.

The papers, presented within twenty-five sessions, covered advances in fundamental imaging technology, and the latest in adjacent technologies. In addition, the conference committees organized two panel discussions—Open Innovation and High Speed Digital Printing: 2015. A total of six keynote talks covered a wide range of topics of interest to the digital print industry.

Keynotes

Monday morning started with "Kodak's Stream Inkjet Technology and the Future of Digital Printing" presented by Douglas Bugner (Kodak). "Stream" is a continuous

ink jet technology with micro mechanically fabricated and highly integrated print heads as well as a special ink. Stream

claims to attack Offset as well as Electrophotography with respect to speed, quality, and costs. A monochrome impression unit running up to a speed of 1,000 feet/min has been introduced into the market for applications such as an impression unit for offset printing. First full color printers are in beta tests. Commercial availability is expected for early 2011. Stream and other technologies are expected to play an important role in the ongoing transfer from analog to digital, a development that is clearly not limited to printing.

A second keynote on Monday— "Printed Electronics: The Next High Growth Market for the Printing Industry" given by Andrew W. Hannah (Plextronics)—highlighted the fact that the world is

NIP26/DIGITAL FABRICATION 2010 STATS

Attendees: 568
Oral Papers: 168
Short Courses: 22
Dates: September 19-23, 2010

Interactive Papers: 16
Exhibitors: 37
Location: Austin, Texas



Gerhard Bartscher (left) and Xavier Bruch served as this year's NIP26 General and Publications Chairs, respectively.

getting more and more interactive, which he expects to be the most important trend for the future. An example is the increasing number of RFID tags, as well as their applications. Printed electronics are predicted to play an important role in this

trend. IdTechEx forecasts US\$1 billion in 2010, increasing to US\$70 billion within less than 10 years. Related to more interaction is an increase in energy consumption. Here printed photovoltaic cells are potentially an important new source and many companies are investing heavily in these technologies.



Above: Digital Fabrication General Chair Reinhard Baumann (center) enjoys a laugh with colleagues at the Conference Reception. Left: Keynote speaker Kohei Iwamoto displays a realistic image he discussed in his talk. Right: Detlef Schulze-Hagenest and Tanja Schaffer plan which talks to attend.

The Exhibit, which featured 37 companies/organizations this year, and its evening happy hour are perennial favorites of attendees.

Gonzalez







Dimath: Indiget Systems for Materials Reposition

of scientific characterizations of art are given. Not surprising, only rather

limited aspects of what we humans consider art can be scientifically described, at least so far.

On Wednesday Kohei Iwamoto (Seiko Epson) presented "Appearance Analysis Research on Surface Quality in Reproduction of the Work of Fine Art by Ink-Jet Printing Technology." He talked about special scanning devices used to capture not only the image, but also the texture of images, especially for various types of artwork. Ink jet printing is used to reproduce the image including texture (somewhat simplified and summarized) in shadows. The result is astonishing. The author showed several samples and it was not possible to say which was the original and which was the reproduction. This technology could bring "original-like" artwork to many individuals at an affordable cost.

The technical program of the conference was concluded Thursday afternoon by Neil Hopkinson (Loughborough University) and "Printing in the Third Dimension: Industry Status." A fair summary of the talk would be from "rapid prototyping" to "rapid manufacturing." Various technologies are used for these applications, with ink jet being an impor-

tant one. Typically 3D objects are printed by superimposing a big number of layers. Whereas rapid prototyping started more than 20 years ago, Rapid Manufacturing is still in the beginning. The high potential of such technologies comes especially from the possibility to manufacture a large number of single pieces at the same time, thus enabling competitive costs and typically arbitrary shape "at will."

Panel Discussions

The panel discussion, "Harnessing the Power of Open Innovation" included engaging and enlightening presentations from three corporations on their unique experiences with open innovation. W.L. Gore & Associates shared their model, which encourages employees to collaborate internally and spend time focusing on fundamental understanding of their fluoropolymer based products. Sun Chemical Corporation also utilizes collaborative innovation, but uses this to create tailormade solutions for their customers. Xaar shared several factors that influenced their interest in open innovation, including the potential to reduce development costs. The panel discussion was followed by a "speed dating" event, allowing conference attendees to explore potential areas of collaboration.

"High Speed Digital Printing: 2015" was a unique panel discussion experience. Projecting themselves into a talk given in 2015, panelists "looked back" over the last five years (2010-2015) and noted:

• that the paperless office has become reality in the US, Western Europe, and Japan with the young working population influencing acceleration in growth of electronic and soft media business. Print pro-

"Commercialization of Inkjet Printing Technology as an Alternative Fabrication Route for Large Area Devices" was presented by Seong Jin Kim (Samsung) on Tuesday morning. He explained advantages of ink jet and other printing methods compared to other manufacturing methods. These advantages are lower manufacturing costs at high precision, and often more flexibility with materials. Ink jet is already in use today for manufacturing of large area LCDs. Commercial gravure printing of MLCCs (Mulit Layer Capacitors) is close to introduction. Clearly more applications are to come.

In the afternoon Josef Schneider (formerly with Manroland) talked about "Visual Information-From Printing Physics to Art." He gave unconventional and deep insight into connections between information and entropy. Interestingly information density and entropy can be characterized with a formula with the exactly the same structure. He also discussed various possibilities of coding and the implications of the choice of a certain coding. There is, for example, the binary system with only zero and one typically used for computers. An extreme example on the other end is kanji with more that 20000 characters. Finally some examples

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SPECIAL PULL-OUT SUPPLEMENT TO THE REPORTER

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Above left: Akira Suzuki, Gutenberg Award recipient Koji Hirakura, Masaaki Yokoyama, Service Award recipient Andronique Ioannidis, and IS&T President Rita Hofmann after the IS&T Awards presentations. Above right: Takashi Hirtsuka and Hiroyuki Kawamoto receive the Charles E. Ives/Journal Award from IS&T President Rita Hofmann. Below: NIP/Digital Fabrication attendees in front of the Gutenberg Bible at the University of Texas.



duction and consumption are still growing in Asia, South America, and Africa where interest in hard copy remains. The move to use of electronic imaging in a soft form will take a significant amount of time because of the need to invest and build infrastructure to support those devices.

- significant growth in the use of bio-derived materials for consumables, motivated by raw material costs as well as green initiatives.
- the development of packaging markets, addition of personalized copies, single item tagging is expected to see significant growth.

Technical Sessions

The conference's traditional technical sessions included many informative reports from a wide array of industry experts. The following are just a few highlights.

In *Toner-based Printing: Materials*, Morimura Chemicals provided an interesting presentation on the Preparation of Core-Shell Particles with dual shells. A tribocharge comparison shows that addition of a protective shell layer stabilizes charge over mixing time for all colors.

During *Toner-based Printing: Processes*, Canon presented a simulation model used to model a print quality defect due to AC current leakage from the fuser to transfer area. The banding severity level is predicted using the AC transmission rate and found that for AC transmission rates less than 30%, banding is not observed.

The Ink Jet Printing Materials session included many talks that focused on improvements related to colorant technology. George Cernigliaro (MircoChem) discussed the structure/property relationships of epoxy resins in photoresists using electrochemical impedance spectroscopy. These photoresists have applications in MEMS, digital fabrication, and ink jet printheads. The Material Science Institute of Barcelona gave a very interesting and exciting presentation on the printing of superconductor materials using ink jet technology.

In the Modeling of Printing and Related Processes, Armen Joworski (CIM-mes Projekt) presented a joint project with Xennia Holland BV on a CFD based model that identified important factors affecting ink jet printing, ink deposition, and print quality. Margaret Sturgill (Hewlett-Packard Company) presented a cost prediction model for a printing oriented security and forensics system. This study highlights interesting interactions between imaging and economics.

The Printing Technologies: Technical Reviews and Notes session opened with a review of Toner-Based Digital Color Presses at IPEX by Detlef Schulze-Hagenest of Kodak. Although many ink jet printers were shown at IPEX, electrophotography leads in print quality and paper latitude, with simplex or single-path duplex web presses and B3+ sheet fed presses offering internal two path duplexing. Gary Dispo-



This year's the IS&T Honors and Award Committee chose two recipients for the prestigious Gutenberg Award. Above: Steve Temple (right, formerly of Xaar) receives his award at Archiving 2010 in June from IS&T Executive VP, Robert Buckley, "for invention of shear mode-shared wall piezo inkjet."

to and Nathan Moroney (Hewlett-Packard Company) presented data on the distributions of color, tactile, gloss, and fluorescence properties of available substrates that showed a truly amazing range of possibilities for graphic designers, but also significant challenges for proofing, cross-media reproduction, and in-line or near-line process control. Kasper Nossent (Xennia) described a web press for textile printing at 6 to 8 m/min that uses continuously oscillating ink jet printheads moving diagonally over a web.

The *High Speed Ink Jet* session gave a good insight into the progress and challenges for developing high speed ink jet printing. Breakthroughs in printhead design and use were reported by Xaar and Kyocera. However, complete system design is necessary, as explained for HP T300 Web press and the Xerox hot melt printing systems. Because the combination of high speed with high quality is often the market demand, precise control of all system parts and interactions is needed. Data management, registration of multiple printheads, as well as optimal performance of each printhead are all key components.

Overall, NIP26 and DF 2010 provided attendees with an excellent synopsis of the current world of digital printing and a glimpse into a very bright future. Papers from the conference proceedings are available at imaging.org at no additional charge for IS&T members.

NIP27/Digital Fabrication 2011 will be held in Minneapolis, October 2-6. ▲

STANDARDS UPDATE:

David Q. McDowell, Editor

his issue of *Standards Update* is drawn, in part, from material provided by Betsey Fanning, Director of Standards and Member Services of the Association for Information and Image Management (AIIM). AIIM is Secretariat of ISO TC 171, Document management applications, and of TC171/SC2, Application issues.

The second of these two mini-articles is very appropos in light of the recent introduction of the Adobe XMP metadata specification as an ISO Fast Track Standard in ISO TC130.

Open Standards in an Open Source World

Is anything really open? Trade publications, including Infonomics, have been dealing with the topic of Open Source a lot lately. Open Source provides many advantages such as allowing anyone to use the technology however they want. However, Open Source cannot be what it is without open standards. In fact, Open Source and Open Standards go hand-in-hand with each other.

Typically, standards can be classified into a couple of categories including standards that are developed according to an established process or de jure standards, those that are market driven or de facto which through adoption by the industry become a standard, open standards which are controlled by an organization and are typically made available for free or at a nominal cost and organizational standards which provide specific guidance to an organization. Some sources say that only open standards enable interoperability and the development of technology implementations. In actuality, all standards enable interoperability and interchangeability which help to protect an organization's technology investment.

All standards open or otherwise, document agreed upon requirements that enable technologies or parts of technology to work together. The American National Standards Institute, ANSI (www.ansi.org), define open standard as "a standard that may be copied, used and distributed for no fee and/or whose embedded technology is irrevocably available on a royalty-free basis." Most standards work is based on openness which enables collaboration and the achievement of consensus where every member of the committee has an equal vote and all opinions may be expressed and listened to regardless of the size of the organization that the individual is representing.

According to ANSI, some of the characteristics of open standards include:

- Consensus by a group of representatives of interested parties
- Public review and comment as well as consideration of comments on all ballots for draft standards
- Incorporating the changes into the standard
- Ability to appeal a decision

Within standards work there is always the question of power especially when large technology organizations begin to participate. The perception is that the big companies like to dominate or control the development or direction the standard takes. Openness within standards development enables all organizations to have the same power or control on the standard regardless of size.

AIIM initially entered into the open standards area in 2000 by placing the work from the Document Management Alliance (DMA) and the Open Document Management API (ODMA) into open source under the name of DMWare. This transfer allowed more companies to implement the standard within their product and continue the maintenance and development of the standard.

Open standards does not mean that they are free. You may have to pay for the standard—the document—but you should not have to pay to use the standard or to incorporate it into your technology. Pro-

prietary products support open standards whereas some open source products do not. Therefore, open standards do not equal open source but when teamed together they make a good product even better. A good open source project is based on open standards. As the open source product is adopted in the industry the open standard will gain adoption as well. When evaluating open source products and open standards, it is important to understand if an open process was used in the development of both. This means that anyone can participate and share ideas as well as develop product.

In our complex business world, it is good to know that open standards are available and can be implemented royalty free by anyone who agrees to adhere to the requirements of the standard. The next time you are evaluating technologies for your organization, look for products, open source or otherwise, that are based on standards. You will be protecting your technology investment by acquiring a product that you can expand and change as needed to meet your ever-changing needs.

Finding the Right Information at the Right Time

When we need information, typically, we need it NOW. We do not have the time to search through every folder and read every document to find the document that we need. In a paper centric world, the information the organization used to conduct its business was kept in folders and the folders were kept in file rooms, file cabinets or file drawers. The paper centric world required that we know the general location of the documents we needed. As long as we knew the right file room, file cabinet or file drawer in which the document we were seeking was located, it was relatively easy to locate the document. The general nature of a good file room or filing system allowed us to segment our documents in a hierarchial manner by placing folders within larger folders. The folders could be arranged via topics or via dates or other subject area.

Despite the fact that we now have most, if not all, of our information in electronic format and stored in our organization's repository, it may continue to be difficult to locate the exact documents that we need in order to do our work. The repositories that contain our information may not be in the same building where we are working, in fact, the repository may not even be in the same country. It is difficult if not impossible to know the exact location of the information we are looking for in an electronic environment. Therefore, it is imperative that we organize our information. Simply replicating the paper centric file folder model, while helpful, is not enough to truly make finding documents easier.

In the electronic document centric world that we are in, there are at least three elements that we need to make finding information easier. These elements are metadata, taxonomies or classification schemas and thesauri.

Probably the most well known of the metadata standards is ISO 15836, Information and documentation—The Dublin Core metadata element set. This standard establishes a set of elements that may be used to describe a document but is not limited to documents. The Dublin core metatdata can be used to describe virtually anything. Many years ago, AIIM produced a technical report, ANSI/AIIM TR40, Suggested Index Fields for Documents in Electronic Image (EIM) Environments. This technical report establishes index fields or metadata that may be used when indexing electronic image documents or any other type of document for that matter. When documents are identified through the use of accurate metadata, the documents are more easily retrieved from the repositories.

While the Dublin Core Metadata Element Set is probably the most widely used metadata schema, there are many metadata schemas available. Additionally, an or-

ganization may determine that it is necessary to modify an existing metadata schema to meet the specific needs of their organization or industry. Often a translation between metadata descriptions and schemas is necessary. A crosswalk it used to provide that translation or bridge between the metadata schemas. There is an ISO standard that is under development, ISO/CD 11864, Guidelines for the creation of a metadata crosswalk that will define a method by which an online metadata crosswalk may be designed, built and implemented.

In addition to metadata, a taxonomy will improve the metadata by establishing parent child relationships between the topics that are included in the schema. There are several standards which are available to help in this area including:

- ISO 2788, Documentation Guidelines for the establishment and development of monolingual thesauri, provides recommendations to provide a consistent practice in indexing documents. This standard focuses on monolingual thesauri.
- ISO 5964, Guidelines for the establishment and development of multilingual thesauri, is an extension of ISO 2788 and builds on the guidance provided in ISO 2788 to apply it to multilingual thesauri.

A thesauri improves the use of metadata and taxonomies by adding value to the terms through the relationships that they identify.

It is important to remember the better the metadata and the more structured the taxonomy and thesauri the easier it will be to find the specific information that is needed. Determining the metadata that is appropriate for your organization and structuring the taxonomy are not easy tasks to undertake and are not able to be completed quickly. As you are determining these for your organizations make sure you consult the standards and get the information owners and stakeholders involved in the process so that the metadata and taxonomy will suit their needs. Once you have identified your metadata and

defined your taxonomy, make sure that you educate everyone in the organization on them and enforce their use.

Adobe XMP becomes ISO 16684-1

At the recent ISO TC 130 it was announced that the Adobe XMP Specification has been placed in ISO Fast Track ballot as ISO 16684-1, Graphics technology — Extensible metadata platform (XMP) specification — Part 1: Data model, serialization and core properties.

TC 130 has created WG2/TF4 to support the XMP work and TC42 has created a Joint Working Group between TC 42 and TC 130 to develop the photographic applications of XMP. Other ISO TCs are expected to initiate work to develop application specific standards for the use of XMP as defined in ISO 16684-1.

Library of Congress and PDF/A-1

The Sustainability of Digital Formats: Planning for Library of Congress Collections site has updated their guidance for PDF/A-1.

Their summary of the history of PDF/A-1 states: Developed to address the issue that large bodies of official documents and important information are maintained in PDF, but that PDF is not suitable as an archival format. The Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts was a driving force in forming a U.S. Committee to initiate an ISO standard based on PDF. The activity has been under the joint auspices of AIIM and NPES (National Printing Equipment Suppliers). Part 2 of ISO 19005 (as of September 2010, an ISO Draft International Standard) extends the capabilities of Part 1, described here. The newer version is based on PDF version 1.7 (as defined in ISO 32000-1) rather than PDF version 1.4.

More information is available at http://digitalpreservation.gov/formats/fdd/fdd000125.shtml

For questions about the activities of TC 130, for suggestions for (or input to) future updates, or standards questions in general, please contact the editor at mcdowell@npes.org.

Beijing Hosts Successful ICIS2010

By Fan Zhigang

he 31st International Congress on Imaging Science (ICIS 2010) was held from May 13 to 15, 2010 in Beijing, China (see related story in v25 #4 July/ August issue of The Reporter). The conference was sponsored by ICIS and Chinese Society for Imaging Science and Technology (CSIST), co-sponsored by the Beijing Institute of Graphic Communication (BIGC), China Lucky Film Corporation and the Chinese Technical Institute of Physics and Chemistry (TIPC). IS&T was one of the cooperating organizations, together with the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain (RPS), the Imaging Society of Japan (ISJ), the Society of Photographic Science and Technology of Japan (SPSTJ), the Korean Society for Imaging Science and Technology (KSIST) and German Society for Photography (DGPh). I attended the conference and served as the program co-chair for North America.

The conference was well attended, with more than 240 papers given and 308 participants, approximately 80 of whom came from beyond China. All of these figures are much higher than for comparable conferences held in the country, and well beyond expectations, particularly given the current worldwide economic difficulties.

The content of the conference was solid. A strong set of plenary and keynote presentations composed of 11 talks were given by leaders and experts from both industry and academic institutes, covering the latest developments, and trends in various aspects of the imaging sciences and technology. The conference was organized in four parallel tracks of oral presentations, along with an interactive poster session. Attendees remarked on significant progress in the presentations by local participants, compared to a couple of years ago in similar conferences.

Plenary and Keynote Talks

The conference clearly demonstrated the further development towards digital imag-

ing. This was not only indicated by the conference's sub-title, "Imaging Science and Technology in the Digital Era," but also reflected in its plenary and keynote talks:

- Stephen Hoover (Xerox), "The Future of Print and the Digital Printing Revolution"
- Shinpei Ikenoue (Fujifilm),
 "Challenge to Digital Imaging: Past,
 Present and Future"
- Eric Hanson (Hewlett-Packard Company), "The transformation of Commercial Printing by Digital Printing Process"
- Qian Lin(Hewlett-Packard Company), "Mobile Image Capture and Consumption"
- Phil Green (London College of Communication), "Requirements for Digital Colour Reproduction"
- Gerhard Bonnet (Spheron VR),
 "Full Spherical HDR Photography and its Application in Computer Graphics, the Automotive Industry, and Entertainment Markets"
- Werner Zapka (XAARJet AB), "History and Outlook of Industrial Inkjet Printing"

 Koji Hirakura (Ricoh), "Hardcopy Technologies and the Carbon Footprint"

Among the four oral presentation tracks, two were dedicated to digital and color imaging technologies, and one to digital and on-demand printing/publishing. A significant portion of papers of the fourth track ("Novel Imaging and Related Functional Materials") also dealt with digital devices. Another hot topic was sustainability. One of the plenary talks was entirely dedicated to green printing. In addition, almost all other plenary talks touched on this topic.

The conference was generally well organized, and the conference venue—the China National Convention Center—is modern, and can compete with any world-class facility. Its location has a good balance between convenience and quietness (not too close to the business centers). The banquet, with excellent food and live performance, was certainly memorable. Overall, it was a successful conference, in large part due to the tremendous efforts made by the conference organizers, particularly those local to Beijing. •

UPCOMING IS&T EVENTS

January 23-27, 2011; San Francisco Airport Hyatt Regency **Electronic Imaging 2011**

Symposium Chairs: Sabine Süsstrunk and Majid Rabanni

May 16-19, 2011; Salt Lake City, Utah Archiving 2011

General Co-chairs: Wayne Metcalfe and Kate Zwaard

October 2-6, 2010; Minneapolis, Minnesota

NIP27: 27th International Conference on Digital Printing Technologies/Digital Fabrication Processes 2011

General Chairs: Xavier Bruch (NIP27) and Shinri Sakai (DF2011)

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