

# XY Flatbed Cutters and CNC Routers



## Exhibited at FESPA 2010



*Konsberg XP EskoArtwork at FESPA Munich 2010*

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## Contents

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>ARISTO</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>ATC/TRIMALCO (X/Y CUTTERS)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>ASCO B.V.</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>AXYZ</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>DYSS</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Engineering SMRE</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>EskoArtwork</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>GCC</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>GERBER</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>INGLET (X/Y CUTTERS)</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>MultiCam</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Océ</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Summa</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>TECHNOPLOT</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>vhf</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Zünd</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>XY Flatbed Cutters and CNC Routers Exhibited at FESPA 2010</b>	<b>4</b>

## Introduction

The FLAAR Reports started to evaluate flatbed cutters about three years ago by spending several days at the Zünd factory in Switzerland. We were in the factory to study their two models of UV-curing printers: the Zünd 215 and Zünd 250. But as long as we were there, we decided to also look at the cutters.

Then in 2009, while undertaking a site-visit case study at a large and successful printshop in Illinois, we noticed they had a Kongsberg cutter. So after evaluating the Drytac UV-curing coater and several printers, we took notes on the Kongsberg cutter.

This led to a project to evaluate Kongsberg cutters in more detail, and that in turn led to evaluating the workflow production software of EskoArtwork.



*EskoArtwork Kongsberg XP at FESPA Munich 2010*

So since 2009 and especially now in 2010, FLAAR is engaged in making inventories of the flatbed cutters that are available at major trade shows.

At present we evaluate primarily cutters made in the US and Europe. There are too many brands and models in China to make listing them realistic. Yet only one or two of the Chinese brands has a distributor in the US. One Chinese brand was brought to the US by the distributor of a European roll-fed cutter. I had the impression that the Chinese cutter had serious issues with reliability and components failing. The roll-fed cutter, in distinction, is considered one of the better brands around. The only reason we don't list the nice FOTOBA cutters is because they are not flatbed: but FOTOBA has a good reputation.

It is possible that perhaps some of the cutters in our list are made in China; if so, please notify us. We know that one brand listed here is made in Korea; products made in Korea tend to be well made (though we have never visited this particular Korean company).

The complete list was compiled by Pablo Martinez and staff of FLAAR at FESPA in Munich. Seven of us from FLAAR were there, which is why this year there are so many reports, each one that lists a different category of the wide-format printing workflow. The introduction was written by Nicholas Hellmuth. Photographs are by the FLAAR team who were at FESPA 2010.

There are also laser cutters and other kinds but we list here the brands that are more related to flatbed cutters that are viable in today's world of digital printing and digital workflow. Just realize that some brands are more traditional than other brands (this is a polite way of saying that some are old-fashioned).

## ARISTO

- Aristomat TL 1625-8

There was also an Aristo cutter in the GRAPO booth

## ATC/TRIMALCO (X/Y CUTTERS)

## ASCO B.V.

- ASCO CNC

## AXYZ

- AXYZ 4010

## DYSS

- DYSS X7 SUPER HEAD

## Engineering SMRE

- SM-380-TA

## EskoArtwork

- Kongsberg XP
- Kongsberg I-Xe10

## GCC

- BG-Cam Pro

## GERBER

- GERBER M Series

## INGLET (X/Y CUTTERS)

## MultiCam

- MultiCam Digital Express

## Océ

- Pro Cut 2500 L

This is a rebranded Zünd cutter.

## Summa

- F1612 CNC

They said this was made by Summa in Belgium and not made in China.

## TECHNOPLOT

- CNC Comagrav Zonda
- CNC Comagrav Mistral

## vhf

- Cam 2030 Active Pro
- Cam 1520 Active Pro

## Zünd

- G3 L-2500
- G3 3XL-1600
- M-800 CV

The Kongsberg cutter has a major advantage that one company (EskoArtwork) makes the entire workflow: i-Cut vision guidance system, the flatbed table itself, and all the workflow software (recently put into their new package as i-Cut Suite).

Zünd dropped their nice UV-cured inkjet printer lines so they could return to concentrating on their flatbed cutters.



Aristo and XYZ would also be considered potential competitors.

Gerber has experience making cutters for textiles and then bought another company to be able to offer their M-series.

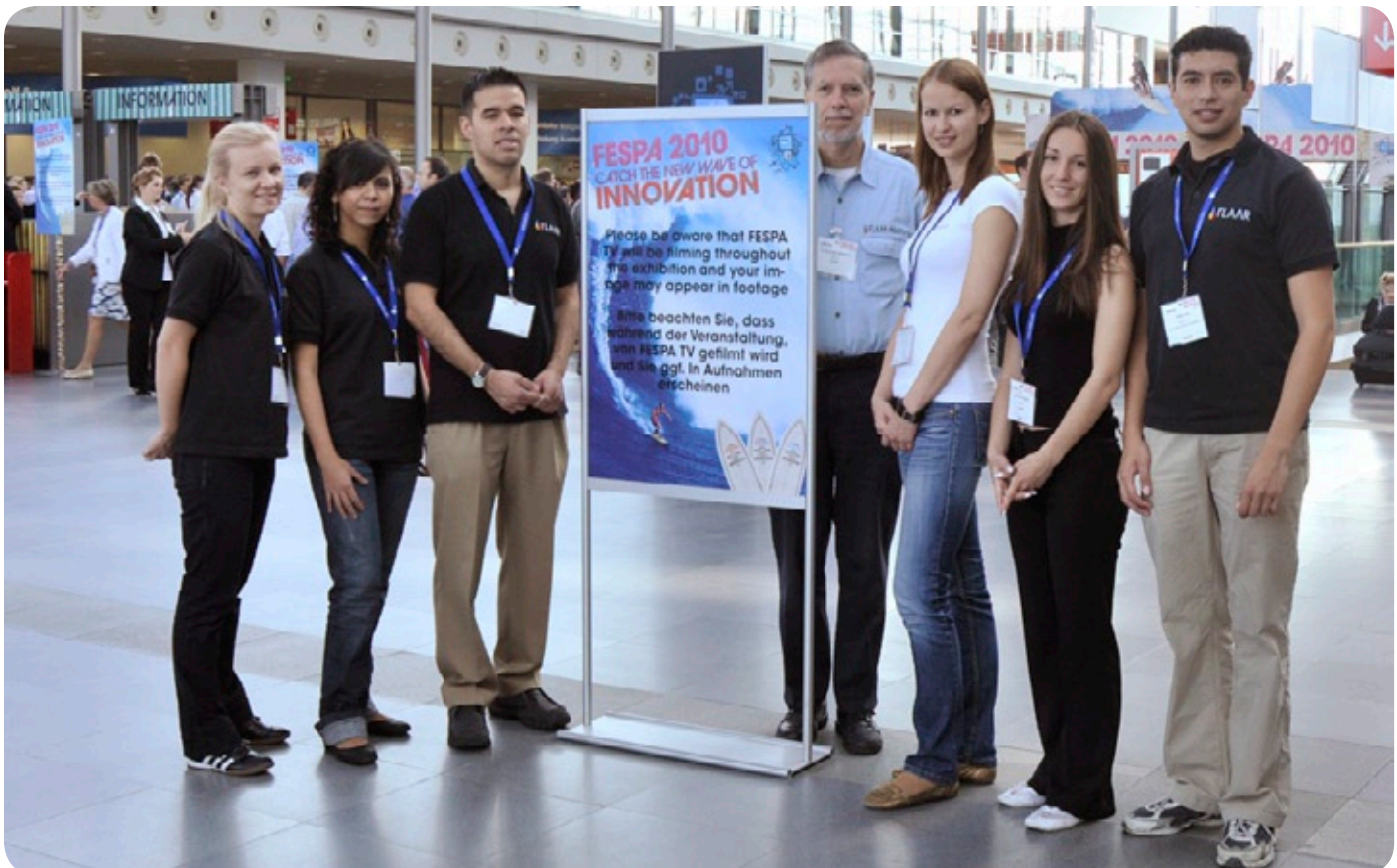
MultiCam is a long-time manufacturer of traditional CNC routers. They are new to the world of digital flatbed cutting. These machines are made in the USA. I have visited their factory in the Dallas area and have visited a nearby end-user who had the old cross-over model (the old fashioned model that has an add-on digital system; one manager in the printshop said it was not as successful as they would have wished). Then MultiCam started to make an improved digital generation system and we hope this newer model is better.

I would also add that after-sales tech support is crucial. The manager in Dallas said that service was poor for the brand of CNC router-cutter that they had. The owner of the printshops that have Kongsberg have not complained about lack of service. So there is more to evaluating a printer than just looking at the spec sheet. But obviously tech support will vary by country and vary by how the end-user handles the cutter.

In China the JFH Vista company is well known. But I would need to visit their factory and then visit end-users to learn about the reliability of their flatbed cutters.

• JHF Vista V3312F

• JHF Vista S8 1804FN



***FLAAR technical evaluating staff from our different offices around the world, FLAAR Meso-america Guatemala, FLAAR Europe (Slovenia) and Russian-speaking volunteer student from Ukraine University at FESPA Munich 2010.***

XY Flatbed Cutters and  
CNC Routers Exhibited at FESPA 2010



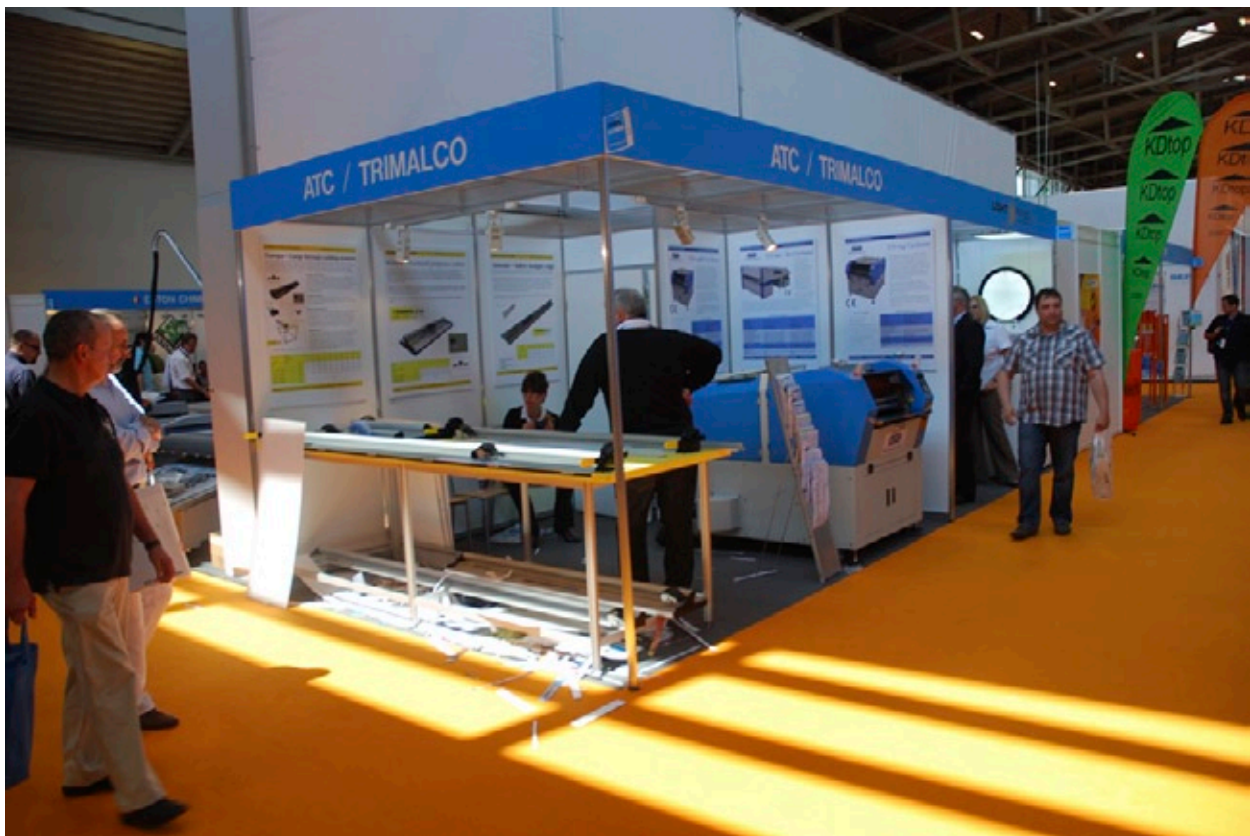
*ARISTO Booth at FESPA 2010*





*Cut samples of the Aristomat TL 1625-8 exhibited at ARISTO booth at FESPA Munich 2010.*





*ATC TRIMALCO booth at FESPA Munich 2010.*





*ASCO B.V. booth at FESPA Munich 2010.*



*ASCO single axis ultrasonic cutting table at FESPA Munich 2010.*



*AXYZ booth at FESPA Munich 2010, where they exhibited the AXYZ 4010*



*DYSS booth at FESPA Munich 2010.*





*Engineering SMRE booth at FESPA Munich 2010.*





*SM-380-TA from Engineering SMRE at their booth in FESPA Munich 2010.*



*Cut samples from Engineering SMRE at their booth in FESPA Munich 2010.*





*SM-380-TA from Engineering SMRE at their booth in FESPA 2010.*



*Cut sample of the SM-380-TA Engineering SMRE at their booth in FESPA 2010.*





*EskoArtwork booth at FESPA Munich 2010.*

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*EskoArtwork Kongsberg XP at FESPA Munich 2010.*





*EskoArtwork Kongsberg I-Xe10 at FESPA Munich 2010.*



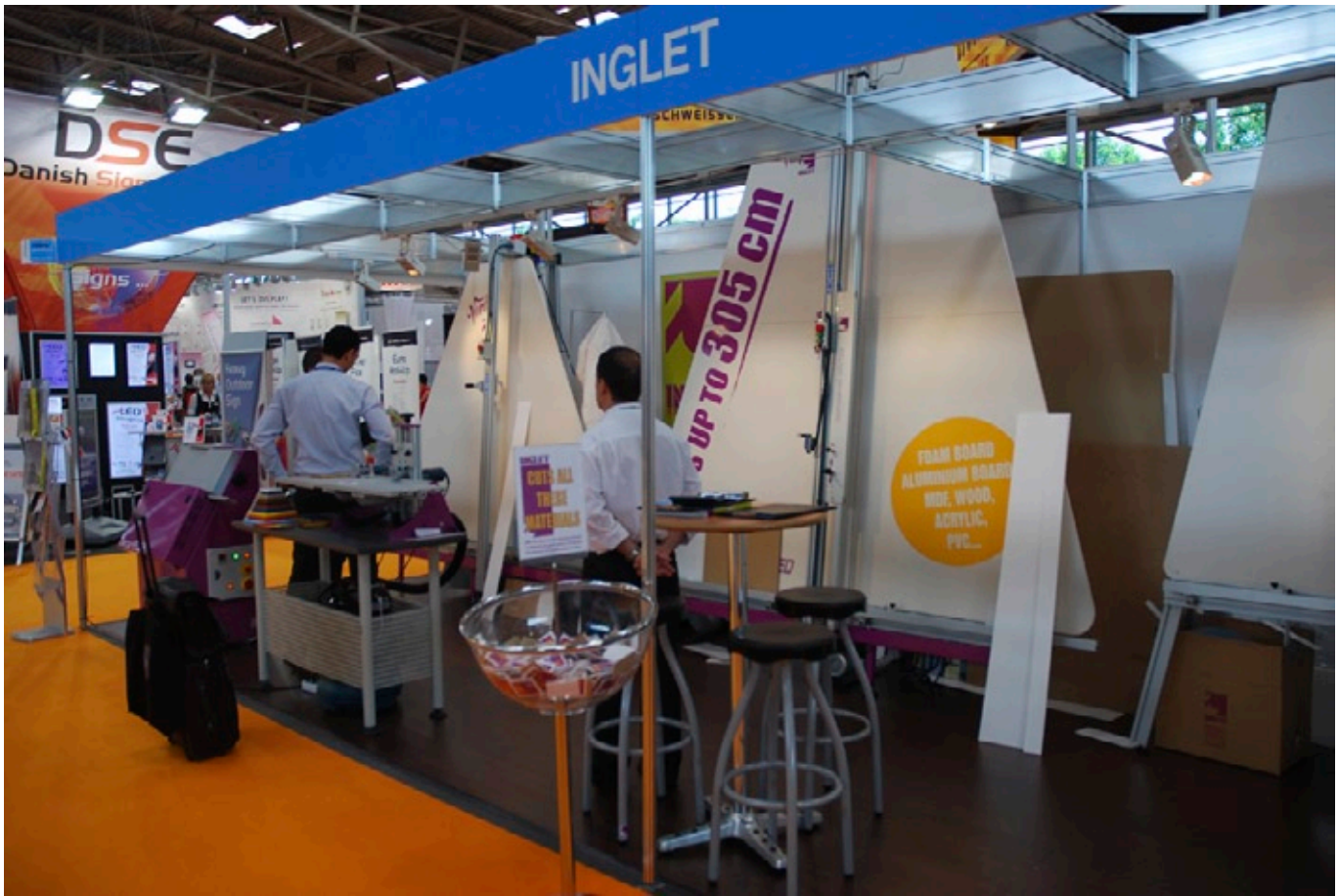
*GCC booth FESPA Munich 2010 where they exhibited the BG-CAM Pro.*





**GERBER M Series at GERBER booth at FESPA Munich 2010.**





*INGLET (X/Y Cutters) booth at FESPA Munich 2010.*





*Océ booth at FESPA Munich 2010.*



*Océ Pro Cut 2500 L at FESPA Munich 2010.*



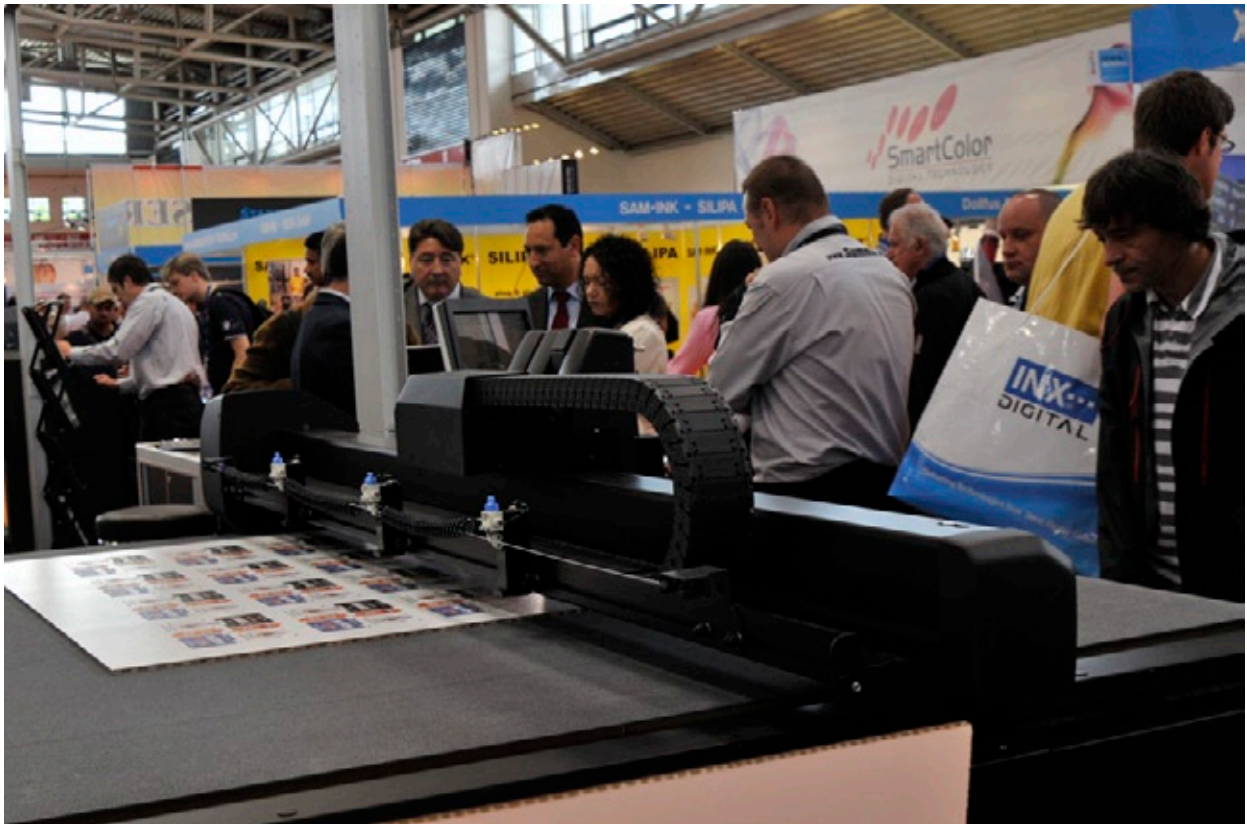


*Summa booth at FESPA Munich 2010.*

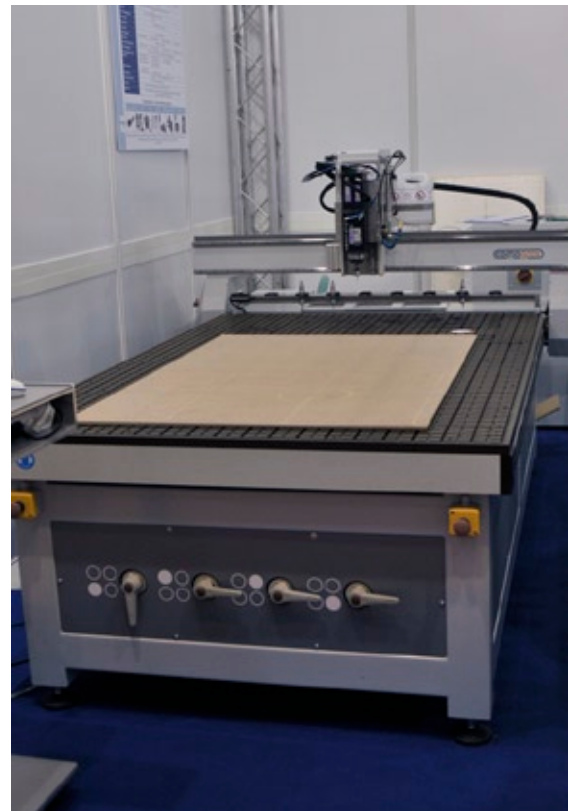
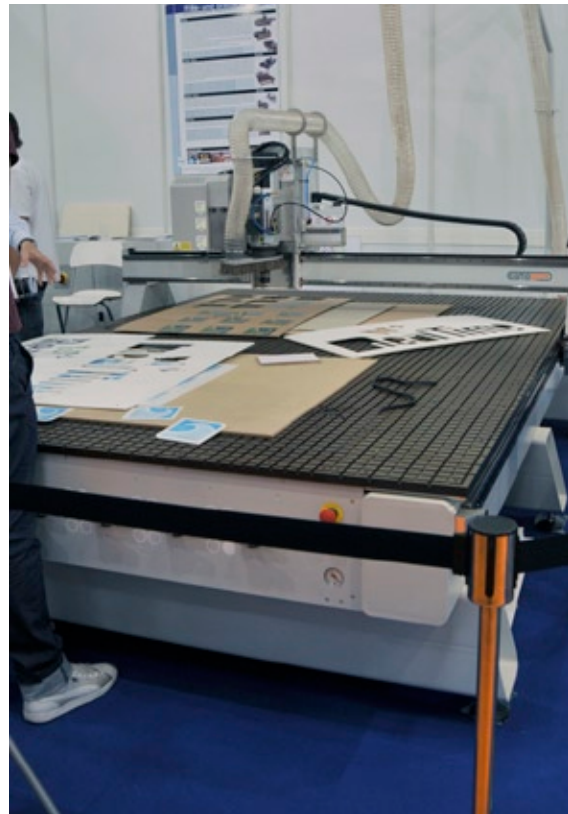


*Summa F1612 CNC at FESPA Munich 2010.*





*Summa F1612 CNC at FESPA Munich 2010.*



***TECHNO PLOT booth where they exhibited the: CNC Comagrav Zonda & CNC Comagrav Mistral at FESPA Munich 2010. We do not yet have information on what country manufacturers these cutters.***



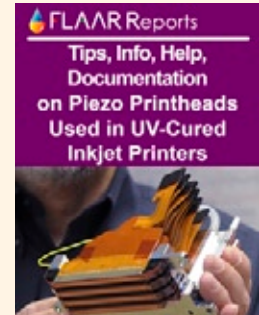
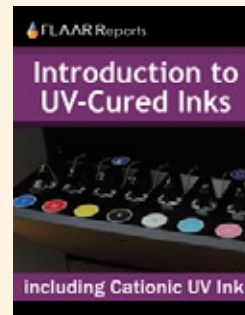
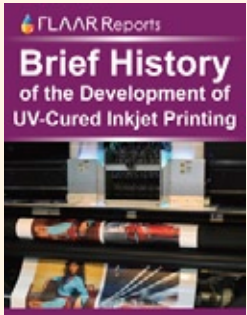
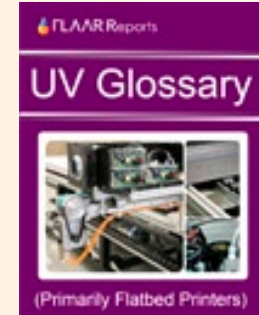
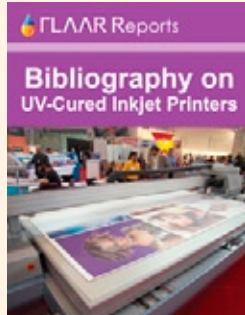
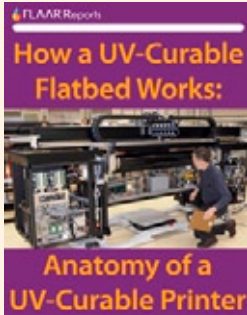


*Zünd booth at FESPA Munich 2010.*

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UV Printers Manufactured in China, Korea and Taiwan

