**Canon makes first UK installation of the Océ Arizona 6160 XTS flatbed printer to Contract Sign Systems Ltd**

* ***Contract Sign Systems the first UK company to install the new high production Océ Arizona 6160 XTS wide format flatbed printer***
* ***New machine to deliver more bespoke signage applications with faster turnaround to enter new markets***

**London, 24 February 2015** – The leading UK and European sign solutions specialist, [Contract Sign Systems](http://www.contractsigns.co.uk/), has signalled its intention to significantly increase its production capacity and diversify its service offering by becoming the first UK-based company to invest in [Canon](http://www.canon.co.uk)’s ultra-high production [Océ Arizona 6160 XTS](http://www.canon.co.uk/For_Work/Products/large_format_printers/displaygraphics/Oce_Arizona_6160_XTS/) wide format flatbed printer.

The Cornwall-based company – specialising in parking, town, street and prohibitive signage, as well offering other commercial applications – required a technology that was capable of producing higher volumes of applications with a faster turnaround. The package comes with a Zünd G3 digital cutting table to create new shapes for bespoke signs, enabling the company to enter new markets such as trade signage and retail.

“The core of our business is car park signage, which regularly needs replacing,” explains Leroy Fox, Sales Director, Contract Sign Systems. “Car park operators adjust their prices and change their contractors frequently, which means replacing the signage accordingly. As a result, we have to be flexible to adapt to this demand. We reviewed our manufacturing procedures and recognised we needed to improve efficiencies and deliver to tighter turnaround times. Some of our customer orders have to be delivered within 24 hours.”

Since 2011, a large proportion of Contract Signs Systems’ work has been produced by Canon’s Océ Arizona 550 XT wide format printer. “The Arizona 550 XT is an excellent machine and has been a key driver in growing our business and establishing us a leader in the European and UK sign markets,” says Fox. “The output quality, substrate flexibility and production reliability of the Arizona technology has become the cornerstone of our production line. We want to develop that further and add speed and application versatility into the mix.”

Despite consulting the market, Contract Signs Systems could look no further than Canon’s latest flatbed proposition – the 6-colour Océ Arizona 6160 XTS. “The sheer speed, quality and reliability of the Arizona 6160 XTS – complemented by the value of the training and sales service we’d experienced with Canon following the purchase of the 550 XT model – made the decision a no-brainer. The high-flow vacuum system was also a major factor, as a lot of our work is produced with aluminium composite. The investment will enable us to increase and improve efficiencies, enhance productivity and help expand our UK and global operations.”

Canon launched its new Océ Arizona 6100 Series – which also comprises the 7-colour 6170 XTS model – at FESPA Digital 2014 in March 2014. Capable of speeds of up to 155m2 per hour, the new series gives the high volume rigid printing market access to award-winning Arizona print quality, application versatility and ease of use for the first time. The Arizona 6100 series features the high-flow vacuum system, automated print head maintenance, pneumatic media registration pins and two independent printing zones for non-stop printing. The Zünd cutting table provides highly accurate, automated in-line cutting for consistent finishing of new shapes on a range of substrates.

“The Arizona 6160 Series was developed with customers such as Contract Sign Systems in mind,” comments Duncan Smith, Wide Format Printing Group Director, Canon UK. “Building on the Arizona’s superior output quality, this series focuses on business-changing productivity also. It’s a real enabler for powerful growth and application versatility. Contract Sign Systems has carved out a profitable business niche through its dedication to a quality end product that is produced and delivered efficiently. This investment takes the company to the next level and we’re looking forward to working with the team there to see their business flourish even further.”

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About Canon (UK) Limited

Canon (UK) Ltd is the UK & Ireland marketing and sales operation for the global company, Canon Inc., based in Tokyo, Japan and it employs 2,150 people.

Founded in 1937, with the specific goal of making the best quality cameras available to customers, Canon’s tireless passion for the Power of Image has since extended its technology into many other markets and has established it as a world leader in both consumer and business imaging solutions. Its solutions comprise products ranging from digital compact and SLR cameras, through broadcast lenses and portable X-ray machines, to multi-function and production printers, all supported by a range of value added services.

Canon invests heavily in R&D to deliver the richest and most innovative products and services to satisfy customers’ creative needs. From amateur photographers to professional print companies, Canon enables each customer to realise their own passion for image.

Canon believes that considering the interests of society and the environment is an integral part of good business practice and this is embodied in its corporate philosophy Kyosei - ‘living and working together for the common good’.

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