Sensor Films Inc. announces roll-to-roll printing capability in Starlight manufacturing platform for high throughput digital inkjet deposition of decorative and functional materials

ROCHESTER, NY, May 24, 2016 – Sensor Films Incorporated (SFI) has announced a new, high speed roll-to-roll configuration of its award-winning Starlight® digital manufacturing and printing system, enabling high volume digital deposition of decorative graphic and functional inks on flexible substrates.

The new Spitfire® Digital Manufacturing and Printing Platform is a roll-to-roll ink jet deposition system that uses industrial ink jet technology to pattern materials such as UV inks, resists, conductors and dielectrics serving the digital display, specialty graphics and printable electronics industries.

The announcement was made during the 2016 Society for Information Display (SID) Display Week International Symposium and Exhibition in San Francisco, CA. (May 24th-26th), where the Starlight platform is being demonstrated (Booth #541) as a means for the mass production of the next generation of flexible, low cost devices for rapid prototyping and high throughput manufacturing.

“The Spitfire, like its sheet-fed sister product – the Starlight – offers numerous advantages,” said Peter Hessney, President, Sensor Films Inc. “Spitfire’s digital manufacturing capability delivers rapid prototyping and improved workflows, and allows for quick changeovers, reduced physical inventory and economical short run jobs.”

“The Spitfire’s versatility enables the mass production of everything from high-value electronic components to full-color decorative graphics,” Hessney said.

Among Spitfire’s other features:
- High resolution deposition of functional, decorative and stretchable inks
- Printable textures to 200 microns
- Print speeds of 200-feet per minute

The core of the Spitfire system is rugged piezo ink jet head architecture, Hessney said. Utilizing stainless steel construction, Spitfire’s print heads are compatible with virtually any type of ink chemistry including solvent, aqueous, and UV inks.

“This opens up new opportunities to formulate functional materials for digital deposition to create components and devices that were previously cost prohibitive. Such new materials and processes will enable new products that are fast and efficient to produce and can be done so at low cost,” Hessney said.

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About Sensor Films

SFI designs additive manufacturing and printing systems to enable rapid, efficient deposition of functional materials on flexible plastics, transparent conductive films, glass and metal substrates. SFI launched the Starlight Digital Printing Platform that applies industrial ink jet deposition technology with scalable equipment that enable rapid prototyping, economical short-run production and efficient high volume manufacturing in cut-sheet and roll-to-roll configurations - all tailored to existing operations and workflow. Starlight is configured to integrate robotic material handling operations for precision placement of components. We serve the specialty graphics and printable electronics industries with production solutions to implement new technologies enabling rapid access to new markets and customers. SFI provides a digital printing path to rapid prototyping and high volume production of assemblies useful in wearable devices, consumer electronics, appliances, health, automotive and other applications.


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