

KipColor 80 brings massive time saving benefits to VINCI Construction

VINCI Construction UK Limited, with a turnover exceeding £1 billion, incorporates the heritage and experience of major UK construction companies to provide a fully integrated service in the building, civil engineering, air facilities technology and regional contracting sectors.

Colin Woods has been the print room manager for a number of years. He has a long relationship with KIP as a mono digital plotter/folding system purchased in the 1990's was still going strong. Colin manages huge quantities of print jobs, which are mainly CAD drawings to go into sub-contractor enquiries or responses to tenders.

Colin has been receiving more and more drawings from various contractors on CD. These CDs can hold hundreds of different images. Within the print room were various output devices, including the KIP system for mono large format, an inkjet for colour large format as well as a number of small format devices.

To ensure that each drawings was printed on the most relevant system, Colin was opening all the files on every CD, deciding which machine they needed to be printed on and then manually sending to the appropriate output device. This took hours of his time. Additionally, he's seen the demand for colour output grow dramatically in recent years which has resulted in jobs taking longer to produce and a higher workload for the inkjet printer. If drawings needed to be folded, this was done manually.

Colin sought to make his print room more efficient, with the idea of having one piece of equipment that would consolidate his work. His brief was that the device should be able to take all files, whatever the format and output size, process them, whether they were mono, colour, A0 through to A3, and then output them, folded or not. Ideally, he wanted to achieve this at a speed that was no slower than his current large format mono production system.

A number of products were looked at including the KIP Color 80. Initially his buyer had chosen an alternative system



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but Colin was positive that the KIP Color 80 would best fill his brief. With a continuous output speed of 200 square metres per hour regardless of image coverage, it gave him the speed he needed with the highest quality of output.

By also choosing the on-line folder he can automatically produce A4 packets from all his CAD prints, removing the laborious hand folding previously needed. An additional benefit is that Colin can produce full colour posters for use on building sites. As the KIP Color 80 is toner based it is already UV stable and heat and water resistant, output can be mounted if necessary for outdoor use or laminated with complete confidence.

In summary, the KIP color 80 has revolutionised the print room at VINCI, saving huge amounts of time and making the whole operation more efficient. Colin is delighted with the difference it has made, saying "For a recent job I had to provide 4,000 A1 prints for a tender. Having the KIP Color 80 saved me hours and hours of time. I now know that the KIP color 80 was absolutely the right decision for Vinci".

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KIP is the UK subsidiary of the KIP European Operation, a subsidiary of Katsuragawa Corporation Japan, one of the reprographic industry's most renowned innovators in digital scanning and printing systems.

The UK company was formed in 1988 to specialise in the area of wide-format image capture, storage and retrieval solutions. The KIP product range now covers everything from low volume budget priced digital copiers through to fully integrated and networked digital scan-to-file and print systems, in both mono and full colour. The latest product addition is the world's fastest wide format, toner based colour printer, the KIP COLOR 80.

KIP is the only major supplier of digital reprographics systems in the UK dedicated entirely to the wide format market. This gives them a unique focus on wide format technology.