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Agfa Materials Launches SYNAPS, a New High-Quality Synthetic Paper.

SYNAPS, with excellent printability, fast drying time, to be demonstrated at drupa 2008.

Mortsel, Belgium — 18 March 2008 — Agfa Materials announced today that it will launch SYNAPS, a newly-developed, polyester-based, synthetic paper for use on offset printing presses. The material, which is noted for its superior printability and exceptionally fast drying time, will be shown for the first time at drupa 2008.

SYNAPS, which is based on a modified polyester base, enables a print quality that distinguishes it from existing competitive media, even when used with standard offset inks. SYNAPS' fast drying time also allows for the quick turnaround that printers strive for.

As the new synthetic paper can be used with standard inks, it can be used on all offset printing presses, as well as UV inkjet printers. SYNAPS is available in a wide range of weights suitable for a wide variety of applications that have high demands on material robustness, or where the distinct nature of SYNAPS is valued. It can even be used in harsh outdoor environments since it is also resistant to water, tearing, and UV light.

Developed by Agfa engineers, SYNAPS uses a new dedicated and patented formulation and manufacturing process, which creates voids in the polyester substrate to make it white and opaque. The material is coated on both sides with a special ink-receiving layer that not only provides a unique printability, but also gives it a distinct look and feel of a luxury paper.

“Agfa’s expertise and know-how in making film and in coating processes has allowed us to develop a new material that is easy-to-print, with superb image quality and a high-class look and feel,” said Jo Vander Aa, New Business Marketing & Application, Agfa Materials. “SYNAPS will also offer a durability equal to or better than any other synthetic paper on the market today.”

The results of successful pre-marketing tests of SYNAPS at printers in Germany and Belgium will be shown at drupa. The product will be made available in the marketplace immediately after the show.

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About Agfa.

The Agfa-Gevaert Group is one of the world's leading imaging and information technology companies. Agfa develops, manufactures and markets analogue and digital systems for the printing industry (Agfa Graphics), the healthcare sector (Agfa HealthCare) and specific industrial applications (Agfa Materials).

Agfa's headquarters are in Mortsel, Belgium. The company is present in 40 countries and has agents in another 100 countries throughout the world. The Agfa-Gevaert Group achieved a turnover of 3,283 million Euro in 2007.

About Agfa Materials.

Agfa Materials has a leading position as a low cost producer of film and related products and serves not only Agfa Graphics and Agfa HealthCare, but also third parties in the printing and medical sector. It plays a prominent role in industrial markets outside printing and healthcare, such as the printed circuit board industry, aerial photography, movie film and e-consumables (e.g. conductive polymers, identity and security systems). At the same time, Agfa Materials continues to invest in and develop new applications, such as functional foils, membranes and synthetic paper. Agfa Materials has about 3,000 employees worldwide.

Product and company information can be found on Agfa's home page on the World Wide Web at: www.agfa.com.

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