FIGHTING FRAUD

Security experts are combating counterfeiters with a new system that can tell fake from genuine at the click of a camera-phone button. Cryptoglyph from AlpVision includes a detection system, sever and software. Unlike image-reliant digital watermarks, the system relies on tiny dots made from regular inks. Camera shots are verified on the server and the code cannot be replicated, claims the Swiss firm. For further information, telephone AlpVision on +41 (0) 21948 6464.

SEMAPHORE MONOGRAMS

Semaphore Monograms is using Neo-Teck's Lab software for its presentation of the new monogram range. The company says that a user can create a personal signature and then see exactly how it will look on a variety of products. For further information, telephone 0207 738 9955.

SUPER STRONG PALLETS

Timber pallets and packaging producers face a tough winter as shortages in the supply of timber began to bite and buyers push up demand for plastic alternatives. However, the latest offering from Goplasticpallets.com is said to be ideal for repeated long-term use and is produced in a super strong one-piece design with open or closed top decks. For further information, telephone Goplasticpallets.com on 01323 744 057.

MANAGING THE BAR

Bar & Restaurant Foods (BAR) is using a Claricom coding management system to eliminate coding and labelling errors at its factory in South Wales. The company provides foods to pubs chains, wholesalers and major multiples. The software, recommended by Videojet technologies, automates every aspect of coding management from origination of the coding information, to designing the look and feel of the codes on the packaging, planning coding information on a production batch basis and automatic feeding of the coding of the coding data to coding and labelling equipment. BAR had already been used by Claricom Clarisoft software to manage the template designs for its Videojet Dataflex printers, and it has been a straightforward extension of the system to add the new Videojet 2330 printers to a Clarinet TCP/IP network. For further information, telephone Claricom on 0115 9555153.

RUSSIA PROVIDES NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPRESS

Impress has announced that it has completed the purchase of Sofrinskaya Banka LLC and the interests of Global Investment LLC, a can maker based in the Moscow area. It is said that this acquisition will provide Impress with a solid base for developing metal packaging in Russia and builds on the strategic alliance and technical assistance agreement in place between Impress and Global Investment over the last three years. The assets purchased by Impress include equipment for the manufacture of two and three piece food cans and steel aerosols. The operation, which is based in a factory in Sofrino, around 40 kilometres northeast of Moscow, will be wholly owned by Impress' Russian holding company Impress Rus LLC. Impress has also acquired a share of Ruusskaya Banka, a recently established can making operation in the southern agricultural region of Krasnodar. The company claims that this is a great opportunity to establish Impress in a market with high growth potential for metal packaging. Please note that the peel & paint and the tie tac are prototypes, which means they are not available for purchase at this time. For further information, telephone Impress on +33 (0) 145 19 18 14 or visit www.impressgroup.com.