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ImTech Announces UV Inks for HP Thermal Inkjet Technology

New formula prints on virtually any surface

CORVALLIS, Ore., April 4, 2006 - ImTech today introduced UV-curable inks for HP thermal inkjet technology (TIJ), creating an easy-to-use and maintain ink system that adheres to virtually any surface. This marks the first time that the world's leading inkjet technology can be used for printing on porous and non-porous surfaces like metal and plastic.

"This breakthrough means thermal inkjet technology now can be used to print on any kind of packaging – from foil sheets and aluminum cans to food container lids, metal bottle caps and plastic magazine wrappers," said Bill Buskirk, president of ImTech. "We've developed a better alternative to continuous inkjet technology -- the primary system now used by manufacturers – that can save companies time and money."

As an HP OEM (original equipment manufacturer) inks partner, ImTech provides its UV inks in new, original HP inkjet cartridges, which are designed to work in most HP-licensed print engines for the industrial coding market. These are used, for example, to print mailing labels, manufacturing codes, expiration dates and other product-unique information on products or shipping materials.

Today's announcement significantly expands the market for TIJ technology to include surfaces previously considered too difficult to print on. "Until now, TIJ technology was only being used for about 5% of all industrial print packaging. Thanks to our innovation, TIJ can now address the other 95% of the industrial print packaging market," Buskirk commented.

Imtech's new UV inks offer several key advantages:

- **Easy to use and maintain.** TIJ cartridges are inherently simple to insert and remove from the printer, which reduces training, maintenance and line downtime for lower overall cost of ownership. Most maintenance involves simply changing the disposable print head.

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- **Ability to customize ink formulas.** ImTech's expert engineering team can create customized inks to meet specific customer or application needs. ImTech also can develop individualized ink formulas that enable distributors to offer their own unique products.
- **High-quality, waterproof output.** Imtech's new TIJ inks are waterproof and cure instantly for fast-drying, durable results. With print resolutions of up to 600 dpi, ImTech's inks also produce sharp, easy-to-read letters and numbers on all types of printed surfaces, at speeds of over 200 feet per minute.

ImTech is publicly demonstrating the new ink system and its diverse printing applications this week at the IPEX trade show in Birmingham (United Kingdom). The company is taking orders now, and plans to begin shipping the new UV ink products in April.

ImTech will sell its products exclusively through distributors to companies in the pharmaceutical, packaging, mail sorting and other industries that need to print on non-porous materials.

“We have built our sales channel around third-party distributors who then sell directly to integrators and customers, rather than compete with the channel,” explained Buskirk. “We believe this distribution channel is the most effective way to reach a broad and diverse target audience, and frees us to concentrate on our greatest strength – developing innovative inkjet products.”

About ImTech

Headquartered in Corvallis, Oregon, ImTech provides specialty inks, printing systems and related consulting and engineering services for inkjet applications. Its products are available worldwide, ranging from piezo and thermal inkjet development and characterization tools to HP industrial coders, bulk systems and inks. As an OEM inkjet partner with HP's Specialty Printing Systems Division, ImTech is licensed to fill new, original HP 45 cartridges with its own inks. The company's ink solutions include UV-curable inks for use in TIJ products, as well as application-specific and custom inks to address unique needs. ImTech's engineers are recognized industry experts who were instrumental in developing thermal inkjet technology, and collectively have more than 200 years of inkjet and imaging experience and over 70 patents.

For more information, contact ImTech at (541) 757-2047 or visit the company's website at <http://www.imtech-or.com>