

# Beacon acquires Vision for a bright future

On June 1, 2007 Beacon Graphics acquired Vision Print & Design, a Buckinghamshire print and design company. With its roots planted firmly in the print industry, Beacon has evolved into a design and marketing services company with a broad portfolio of specialist skills and expertise.

Over the past year the company has secured a number of high-profile clients including L'Oreal, the Fourfront Group, one of the UK's leading commercial interior specialists, Ercol Furniture and AutoDesk, the third largest software company in the world. Joining Beacon's 12-strong team are Stuart King and Andrew Bush, both with a wealth of expertise in design, artwork, printing and finishing.

Their arrival further extends the Beacon customer base of local, national and multinational organisations who benefit from a wide range of services, including SRA3 Digital Print, B3

– 2 & 4 colour and B2 – 5 colour print, in-house design, artwork and plate making, web design, branded promotional products and marketing support services.

Stuart King founded Vision Print & Design more than five years ago. He believes the new venture will benefit both companies: "I think it's a great move. I have known the team at Beacon for some years and I'm really excited about teaming up with them. I felt it would be in the best interest of the company, myself and my staff to make this move in order to secure a bright future with a dynamic, forward-thinking business."

Jeremy Cuthbert, managing director of Beacon added: "The values of the Vision Print & Design staff will naturally complement our team's commitment to excellent service, superior quality, competitive pricing and reliable delivery. We look forward to working with them."



Jeremy Cuthbert

## Long hours rife in UK

More than 600 million people worldwide work excessively long hours and Britons are the worst offenders among rich nations.

An International Labour Organisation report on working trends in 50 countries, showed that more than a quarter of British workers put in more than 48 hours a week. The growth of service industries, such as tourism and transport, and an expanding informal economy, where workers are not under contract, contributed to longer hours.

Peruvians came top with more than half (50.9%) working more than 48 hours a week, followed by South Koreans (49.5%), Thais (46.7%) and Pakistanis (44.4%). In developed countries, where working hours are generally shorter, 25.7% of British workers put in more than 48 hours a week followed by Israelis (25.5%), Australians (20.4%), Swiss (19.2%) and US workers (18.1%).

The ILO maintains shorter working hours benefit workers' health and family lives, reduce workplace accidents and make staff more productive overall.