# GREAT JOBS BIG IDEAS



## Wide-format Impressions

hen it comes to wide-format projects, we often use the pages of Wide-format Impresssions to highlight the latest technologies, software developments, or tips and tricks to help you run your business better. However, the greatest part of wideformat printing is the genuinely incredible projects and installations it can produce.

To celebrate wide-format's amazing projects — and the shops that produced them we asked for submissions from around the country, showing off the best, most interesting, and most unique projects they worked on this past year.

#### **A3 VISUAL**

Los Angeles, California CLIENT: World Surf League (WSL) NAME OF PROJECT: 2023 U.S. Open of Surfing

We had the exhilarating opportunity to take center stage as the wide-format printers and installation team for the electrifying U.S. Open of Surfing, held by the World Surf League (WSL). Our ability to deliver vibrant and durable prints tailored to the unique needs of the surfing competition helped create an immersive experience for participants and spectators alike. From colossal banners rippling in the breeze to sleek signage guiding the way, we transformed Huntington Beach Pier into a canvas of creativity and excitement, capturing the essence of surfing culture.

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#### **ATCHLEY GRAPHICS**

Columbus, Ohio NAME OF PROJECT: Custom Bathroom Wall Covering

Big things do come in small packages! We were working with our client, who is a fantastic muralist, to develop custom wall coverings for their tiny bathroom. We spent a large number of hours recreating a supplied hardcopy-only sample pattern and incorporating the client's favorite elements, such as their dogs and David Bowie. This was a really fun project: developing the artwork and then producing and installing it in their space!

#### **COLOR REFLECTIONS**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania CLIENT: Drexel University NAME OF PROJECT: Electrified: 50 Years of Electric Factory Exhibit Graphics

The "Electrified: 50 Years of Electric Factory" exhibit, a collaboration with Drexel University, is a vivid chronicle of Philadelphia's illustrious music scene. Our role was to meticulously produce and install a wide array of wide-format graphics, including murals, fabric displays, exterior window graphics, directly printed information panels, and framed photo prints, each contributing to a rich, immersive visitor experience. Unique to our contribution was the design and creation of giant T-shirts, printed, sewn, and displayed on custom wire hangers. What sets this project apart is not just the technical excellence of our wide-format printing and installation but also the depth of the musical heritage it celebrates. By bringing to life the vibrant history of the Electric Factory and its impact on the music world, the exhibit stands as a testament to the power of wide-format graphics to enrich and deepen storytelling experiences.







#### **COWAN GRAPHICS**

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada NAME OF PROJECT: Heritage Classic NHL Hockey Game Field Mesh

The 2023 Tim Horton's Heritage Classic was an of Alberta! Spirited competition between the Calgary Flames and Edmonton Oilers, beautiful weather, and an ODR stadium ambience second-to-none will be cemented in the hearts of hockey fans for years to come! Truly, it was a special and fitting celebration of the first Heritage Classic held in Edmonton almost

20 years ago, and highlighted with a performance by unbelievable experience for Edmonton, Calgary, and all Alberta's very own Nickelback, who played for the early 60,000 warm-hearted hockey fans. Cowan Graphics is proud to have played a part in the presentation: all of those colored elements were digitally printed on 16' wide sheets of mesh banner material and intricately aligned to span across the Edmonton Elks' CFL football field (101m x 59m).



#### **ER2 IMAGE GROUP**

Hanover Park, Illinois CLIENT: NATIONAL ACADEMY OF GLOBAL Citizenship (NAGC)

The National Academy of Global Citizenship (NAGC) is the first of its kind in the world -a6-acre campus and public charter school built with fully sustainable materials through a process to meet and preserve complete sustainability. Located in the underserved southwest side of Chicago, the school's approach to education aims to foster systematic change and inspire how society educates future generations. It will include future educational, farming, and workforce development programming. To bring a reliable model for learning in the 21st century to life, NAGC engaged in the construction of a net positive energy campus that will total nearly 90,000 built square feet. Every single product used in this project is recyclable and sustainable.

To bring the mission to life, ER2 Image Group was recommended by global design firm Gensler to handle all creative services, including the design of all environmental graphics, signage, and wayfinding required, as well as the engineering for all design. Each grade is represented by a different biome and color scheme: wetlands, prairie, tundra, and more. ER2 also produced custom magnetic panels within each biome's wall coverings, enabling kids to post artwork. The masterpiece of this project is the "heart," a two-story staircase open on all four sides of the building. ER2 wrapped the entire structure of this stairway with the repeating pattern of a forest. The National Academy of Global Citizenship is our most sustainable project to date.

#### **FASTSIGNS SAN DIEGO**

San Diego, California CLIENT: HITS LLC NAME OF PROJECT: Del Mar, CA Horsepark

We completely transformed a drab, run-down park into a dazzling, spectacular statement for its reopening in July 2023. We printed more than 9,600 linear ft. of mesh banners, hundreds of A-frame signicades, hundreds of horse stable numbers, cutouts for the obstacles the horses jumped over, and countless directory signs for their opening and subsequent seasons.



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#### **GRAPHIX UNLIMITED**

Bremen, Indiana NAME OF PROJECT: IIDA North East Fashion Show

We were asked to print a pattern on Veilish window film to be reconstructed for the IIDA New England Fashion Show last November. The pictures of the design showcase how it was printed, cut down, and sewn together for the show. It also won Best Use of Material.



#### **HEDERMAN BROTHERS**

Madison, Mississippi CLIENT: Jackson Preparatory Lower School NAME OF PROJECT: Lower School Wall and Column Graphics

A new elementary school was built, and the leadership wanted to inspire the students and brighten the interior with wraps on columns and walls.

#### HEDERMAN BROTHERS

Madison, Mississippi CLIENT: Mad Genius NAME OF PROJECT: Southern Ag Credit Conference Room

Southern Ag Credit specializes in financing for land and agriculture needs. The wallcovering visualizes the extraordinary market served by Southern Ag Credit — representing the brand well in its new building.





#### **INFINITY IMAGES**

Portland, Oregon CLIENT: Adidas NAME OF PROJECT: Bespoke Pop-up Store, Miami

In early July, Adidas approached us with an epic opportunity: to engineer, produce, and install a 4,500-sq.-ft. bespoke pop-up store for Major League Soccer and Messi in Downtown Miami. The only catch? We had just three weeks to pull off phase one and only one additional week for phase two! We received pre-approved design renderings from Latitude but had to figure out how to transform the 2D drawings into the 3D world. Our engineering team designed hardware, fixtures, and dimensional components through meticulous, accelerated prototyping, and then scaled them to fit the building specs. Latitude's creative concept, Fútopia, a euphoric soccer dreamscape, featured sunset-like colors with pops of electric light. To achieve this vision, our material experts provided substrate and finishing recommendations. Then, they sourced all the materials needed to create the intended ambiance: metal, plexiglass, acrylic, reflective pink film, Walk and Wall, 3M 180, Sintra, vinyl, and a ton of pink LED lights.

Over just two weeks, our production team came

together to produce everything needed to create the dreamy interior: 3,000 linear ft. of custom wallpaper with spot varnish highlights, branded column wraps, a stepped footwear wall, jersey display cases, a red mirrored archway, lit dimensional double-sided hanging signs, 3D lettering and logos, custom rods and sewn curtains, merchandising displays, and checkout counter wrap. To level up the impact, we created shopper-attracting elements, including LED lighting around the window mullions, edge-lit routedout window displays, window neon tubing, privacy window, and door film to create an element of mystery and mirrored brand logos.

Latitude's design called for five transparent museum-quality cases to house Lionel Messi's gameworn jerseys and cleats from throughout his career. Our engineers and fabrication crew collaborated to create and build the transparent 30x78x20" display cases. The finished product allows viewers to get up close and personal with some real-life Messi memorabilia but still ensures the jerseys will be protected and preserved for years.

#### **MOSS INC.**

Franklin Park, Illinois CLIENT: Gensler NAME OF PROJECT: Corporate Branding for Global Law Firm

For a new office in Washington, D.C., we printed large wallcoverings and installed them in five different rooms throughout the space. Each installed graphic displays a pivotal moment in law and D.C.'s history, honoring the firm's legacy and acting as a source of daily inspiration. We conducted material tests to achieve the optimal look and finish for the wallcoverings before selecting and ordering the custom Dreamscape Taralon. We printed and cut the Dreamscape Taralon graphics inhouse; our team then applied a special coating five days postinstallation, ensuring long-term protection.



Supreme Court of the United States

#### PREMIER PRESS Portland, Oregon CLIENT: Blizzard Entertainment NAME OF PROJECT: The Diablo Kit

The Diablo Kit was done in 2023 and tells an excellent wide-format capability story. We created a "wooden" altar cabinet: Given the weight and cost of shipping actual wood, our designers created a turned-edge construction with added Sintra pieces. The material looks like real wood, thanks to our EFI/VUTEk printer, which applied 18 layers of ink to build a textured surface — in this case, emulating wood grain! The exterior features Lilith, one of the main characters, in a high-quality print that splits open with the box. The wood grain and Lilith line up when the box is closed, accomplishing a realistic design.



#### **ROLAND DGA**

Irvine, California CLIENT: Sherman Elementary School, San Francisco, California NAME OF PROJECT: Staircase of Imagination

In a project aimed to promote inclusivity through innovative interior design, the central threestory stairwell of Sherman Elementary School, a nearly 100-year-old San Francisco Unified School District K-5 school located in San Francisco's Cow Hollow-Marina district, has been transformed into a dynamic space for all backgrounds and learning styles. Sherman has long been recognized for its commitment to academic excellence, socialemotional growth, and equitable access for its diverse community of learners. To create an environment truly representative of this mission, Roland DGA worked with local neurodiverse specialists and educators to combine sensory and educational design components — enabling the project to strike the right balance between youthful creativity and functionality. The mixed media installation includes unique, digitally printed graphics and 3D elements for children to discover — all inspired by the students' ideas. VIVAS Inc. and Lane Displays installed everything. Standout features include sensory elements such as 3D textured details, interactive tactile components, activity panels, and bubble walls. The 3D and textured elements were produced using Roland DG's UV flatbed and DIMENSE textural printers. At the same time, the wallcoverings were printed on a TrueVIS AP-640 latex printer with vinyl and overlaminate provided by Avery Dennison.

#### **TURBO IMAGES**

Saint-Georges, Quebec, Canada NAME OF PROJECT: 2023-24 NCAA FBS College Football Season

Turbo Images started the season by wrapping two buses for the Cheez-It Citrus Bowl between Iowa and Tennessee. Turbo Studio designed the bus wraps for the event. Next on the list was the Pop-Tarts Bowl showdown between Kansas State and North Carolina State. Turbo Images showcased its ability to flawlessly execute in a time crunch by wrapping two buses with eye-catching graphics designed by Turbo Studio. For the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl matchup between Penn State and Ole Miss, Turbo Images quickly transformed regular coaches into team-branded units for player transportation. Turbo Studio designed the bus wraps for the event and then printed and installed them on eight buses provided by Champion Coach, who witnessed Turbo Images' team in action. Craig Dance, founder and president of Champion Coach, praised Turbo Images' work, noting, "Everything was seamless and ran like a well-oiled machine. Juan and Sharon are the best in the business. I highly recommend Turbo Images." Finally, The Rose Bowl, one of the New Year's six bowls, hosted the 2023-24 CFP Semi-Final. Turbo Images wrapped 10 buses for the Michigan versus Alabama semi-final matchup. This time, credit for the designs goes to Sightlines Productions.

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Mercedes





#### WALLACE GRAPHICS Duluth, Georgia

CLIENT: Cady Studios NAME OF PROJECT: Brand Refresh of Cady Studios' Innovation Center

We managed a complete brand refresh of Cady Studios' Innovation Center by helping conceptualize its vision with dynamic multi-media applications such as dimensional lettering, second-surface print acrylics with stand-offs or French cleats, and vinyl wall murals. This also included designing a custom backlit acrylic print prototype to create a dramatic and lasting impression for Cady Studios' larger photography pieces. Subsequently, the Innovation Center was undergoing major construction renovation, so with time and pricing at the forefront of the customer's mind, Wallace Graphics could also fill the installation need by offering a cost-effective and flexible installation schedule during the different phases of their renovation.











### Achievement Discovery Center

Duluth, Georgia

WALLACE GRAPHICS

**CLIENT:** Junior Achievement of Georgia **NAME OF PROJECT:** Augusta's First Junior

Junior Achievement of Georgia was opening its first Discovery Center in Augusta, Georgia. The 30,000sq.-ft. facility is designed with several replicated "storefronts" (United Way, Lexus, Chick-fil-A, etc.) to engage 6th and 7th graders in learning about business and finance. Wallace Graphics produced about 7,000 sq. ft. of vinyl wallpaper, fabric backlit panels, dimensional logos, street signs, directional exterior wayfinding signage, and more. All materials were produced and installed in about 30 days with an in-house installer.









#### **VISUAL MARKING SYSTEMS**

Twinsburg, Ohio CLIENT: Driverge Vehicle Innovations NAME OF PROJECT: Revolutionizing Spaces: Driverge Vehicle Innovations' Headquarters

Visual Marking Systems (VMS) recently embarked on its most ambitious wide-format printing endeavor yet. In 2023, it partnered with Driverge Vehicle Innovations, a leading upfitter of commercial vans serving diversified industries, to transform its new headquarters into a dynamic space that showcases its innovative brand while enhancing navigation throughout the facility. Driverge's move to a new building sparked the need to create a welcoming atmosphere while addressing practical wayfinding challenges across the expansive 150,000-sq.-ft. manufacturing facility. Initially contemplating hanging banners, Driverge turned to VMS for more creative solutions. The outcome was a comprehensive branding strategy that blended aesthetics with functionality. The deliberate use of mixed materials and innovative design elements makes this project stand out.

VMS leveraged its expertise to recommend various solutions, including wall graphics, EPVC for standout letters, Aluminium Composite Panel (ACM) for durability, and banners framed with custom-built wooden frames. This approach fulfilled Driverge's desire to showcase customer satisfaction through large-format imagery and allowed for flexible content rotations, keeping the displays fresh and



engaging. The printed materials themselves, crafted using VMS' state-of-the-art technology, including advanced roll-to-roll and flatbed latex presses for wall graphics and banners, ensured vivid, high-quality visuals that effectively captured Driverge's brand essence throughout their new space. Ultimately, the project represented a notable achievement for VMS, highlighting the company's ability to handle complex, large-scale branding initiatives with precision and creativity. Through thoughtful material selection, innovative design, and client-centered collaboration, VMS demonstrated its commitment to elevating spaces and cultivating lasting client relationships.

# WHO WE ARE

### Wide-format Impressions

*Wide-format Impressions* serves as a resource for senior-level executives, business owners, and managers of printing and signage companies providing wideformat services. It covers industry trends, emerging technologies, and news in the visual communications industry.



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