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The Balkan Print Forum and InPEQ Annual Events 2012 October 18 – 19, 2012, Sofia, Bulgaria

The Seventh Balkan Print Forum (7th BPF) event and the Second meeting of the Initiative for Printers' Education and Qualification (2nd InPEQ) will take place on October 18–19, 2012 in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Hosts of the 7th BPF are the Printing Industry Union of Bulgaria (PIUB); manroland Bulgaria, Billboard JSC, Bulgaria. The 2nd InPEQ will be hosted by PIUB; the University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy (UCTM), Sofia; the Technical University – Sofia, Branch Plovdiv; the State University of Library Studies and Information Technologies, Sofia.

Sponsor of the 7th BPF is manroland web systems GmbH; co-sponsors are Muller Martini Austria, Océ Printing Systems, UPM, Sappi and Procemex; sub-sponsors – KURZ and Baumüller. The event is supported by Agfa Graphics, manroland sheetfed GmbH, PrintCity Alliance and Agressione Group.

Invited to the 7th BPF and the 2nd InPEQ are: managers and members of the National Printers Federations of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia and Turkey; professionals, experts and managers from the printing industry of the BPF member and partner countries; sponsors' and supporters' customers; partners from the National Printers Federations of Russia, Ukraine and Moldova; representatives of the print media schools and universities from the Balkan countries, Germany, Russia, Ukraine and other European countries; members of Intergraf, the International confederation for printing and allied industries; the Balkan trade press and the local press.

On 18th of October speakers from manroland web systems GmbH, Muller Martini Austria, Océ Printing Systems, UPM, Intergraf, Sappi, Procemex and Agressione Group will present interesting and innovative information under the motto: “Higher quality, profitability and competitiveness of print products”. manroland web systems, Océ Printing Systems, KURZ and Baumüller will participate in the discussion panel of the 7th BPF: “Print is reality and future, not cyber space! *You can touch it, you can feel it, you can enjoy it ...*” Information materials will be presented also by Agfa Graphics, manroland sheetfed GmbH, PrintCity and some other companies.

Representatives from European High Schools and Universities will exchange information under the motto of the 2nd InPEQ: “Improving Printers' Education and Qualification”. Professors from the Sofia University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy; the Technical University – Sofia, Branch Plovdiv; the State University of Library Studies and Information Technologies, Sofia; the University of Travnik, Bosnia and Herzegovina; the University of Zagreb; the University of St. Kliment Ohridski in Bitola; the Munich University of Applied Sciences, the Stuttgart Media University, the Athens TEI and the Hellenic Open University, the Óbuda University in Budapest, the Media Technical College Bucharest, the Moscow State University of Printing Arts; from Belgrade Polytechnic and the University of Novi Sad; the University of Ljubljana; the Marmara University in Istanbul and the Ukrainian Academy of Printing are invited to discuss about different possibilities for collaboration and knowledge exchange.

During the 2-day events the participants will have the possibility to receive up-to-date information, to establish new direct contacts to the suppliers, to discuss important professional issues and to visit the Bulgarian printing company Billboard JSC, Bulgaria.

The event sponsors and supporting companies will present the latest print industry information on table-tops in front of the event hall. This is another very good possibility for the participants to get acquainted with technological novelties and innovative solutions.

The Balkan Print Forum development

The Balkan Print Forum is an initiative of the Printing Industry Union of Bulgaria and manroland AG. It was founded on October 26, 2006 in Velingrad, Bulgaria. The second BPF took place in Athens, Greece; the third – in Istanbul, Turkey; the fourth – in Bucharest, Romania; the fifth – in Budapest, Hungary; the sixth – in Belgrade, Serbia.

Member countries of the Balkan Print Forum are Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia and Turkey. Partner countries are Austria, Germany, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine. The main targets of the Balkan Print Forum are to share experiences and know-how, to initiate and intensify contacts, to support joint projects in the Balkan region. The annual meeting is one of the main activity of the Balkan Print Forum at which the participating companies are given the possibility for presentations, discussions and the exchange of information and know-how in the field of modern print technology.

During the last years the Balkan Print Forum has developed to an institution for providing daily contacts with members, partners, manufacturers and suppliers. Participating in this institution ensures useful contacts and gives the possibility for answering questions, discussing ideas and finding appropriate solutions. As a matter of course the Balkan Print media community is expanding beyond the geographic borders which proves the importance and the need of more communication in the printing industry of the region.

InPEQ activities

The Initiative for Printers' Education and Qualification InPEQ of the Balkan Print Forum was founded in October 2010. Its aim is to support professional education and qualification in the BPF member and partner countries. Partners are European printers' federations, schools and universities. The main target of the initiative is to establish a professional communication network of the print media schools and universities, the printing industry and the manufacturers of printing systems and printing materials from the Balkan countries, Germany, Russia, Ukraine and other countries. The InPEQ annual meeting is providing a platform where participants have the possibility to present, discuss and exchange information and know-how in the field of printers' education and qualification.

Info: Balkan Print Forum

*For more information please visit: <http://www.balkanprintforum.org> and www.inpeq.org
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186 participants from 17 countries attended the Sixth Balkan Print Forum event on October 27-28, 2011 in the Serbian Chamber of Commerce, Belgrade.
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Discussion panel of the Sixth Balkan Print Forum.
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Participants in the First InPEQ Meeting.
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