NEWS RELEASE

HYBRID SOFTWARE GROUP'S GLOBAL GRAPHICS SOFTWARE GRANTED US PATENT FOR VARIABLE DATA OPTIMIZATION

Method for organizing collections of pages efficiently through a RIP farm.

Cambridge UK, 30 June, 2022: Global Graphics Software, a Hybrid Software Group (Euronext: HYSG) company, has been granted a US patent for "Methods and systems for organizing variable data documents including those with long repeat lengths" (United States Patent No. 11,334,303) by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The patent covers how the control system of a digital printer decides which pages to send to which RIP in a RIP farm – where multiple RIPs are running simultaneously - to optimize their delivery.

Global Graphics Software is a developer of innovative software components for digital print including the Harlequin RIP®, the Direct range, and ScreenPro™, the fastest solutions on the market for driving data through digital presses and ensuring high quality output.

The patent describes a solution to the challenge of scheduling the submission of pages from a variable data job to each RIP in a RIP farm, given the conflicting demands of:

- wanting pages to be delivered in the order required for printing, to minimize memory requirements and the potential for stalling RIPs to wait for late-arriving pages;
- wanting each RIP to receive as many pages with the same re-used elements on them as possible to maximize the efficiency of variable data optimization.

Justin Bailey, Global Graphics Software's managing director, explains, "in combination with several other related patents, Global Graphics Software is continuing to innovate on behalf of our OEM customers by developing technologies and products that can drive their digital presses at speed, but with the minimum bill of materials for their digital front ends.

"Digital print OEMs want get page rasters out of the RIP farm in the order in which they are to be printed. But that competes with the need to process them efficiently at speed by sending collections of pages with reused graphics or elements to the same RIP in the farm. This patent is all about optimizing the scheduling and the way in which variable data is handled in the RIP. Our method is one of the reasons that our Harlequin brand is the fastest on the market.

"We're delighted that this invention has been recognized with a US patent. This method reduces the bill of materials for an OEM building a press because you need less RAM. The risk of starving the press and leaving it idle is reduced because pages are ready in time. Lastly, overall average throughput on the press is maximized because you're maximizing efficiency of the variable data optimization."

This patented method is used by the Harlequin RIP®, Harlequin Core; Harlequin Direct and SmartDFE.

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Notes to editors

About Hybrid Software Group

Through its operating subsidiaries, Hybrid Software Group PLC (Euronext: HYSG) is a leading developer of enterprise software for industrial print manufacturing. Customers include press manufacturers such as HP, Canon, Durst, Roland, Hymmen, and hundreds of packaging printers, trade shops, and converters worldwide.

Hybrid Software Group PLC is headquartered in Cambridge UK. Its subsidiary companies are colour technology developer ColorLogic, printing software developers Global Graphics Software; enterprise software developer HYBRID Software; developers of the industry's largest library of modelling templates for digital packaging design and prototyping iC3D; industrial printhead driver solutions specialists, Meteor Inkjet; and pre-press workflow developer Xitron.

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