

PROCEEDINGS



WHAT THE FLEXO!
POSSIBILITIES | PROFITS | PEOPLE

Flexo Summit Asia opened on a high note with an electrifying response and a blockbuster debut that set the momentum for what promises to be a landmark summit for the flexographic industry. From the moment the doors opened, the energy on ground reflected the anticipation, enthusiasm, and scale of what was to unfold over the next two days.

The summit kick-started with an inspiring keynote address that brought together vision, industry realities, and the road ahead for flexography. This was followed by two power-packed knowledge sessions that immediately set the intellectual tone for the day. The Flexo Economy offered a comprehensive view of the evolving global landscape of flexography, highlighting market shifts, growth opportunities, and the strategic importance of India's role in the future of the industry. The second session, Creating a Flexo Business Mindset, explored what it truly takes to build resilient, profitable, and future-ready operations—going beyond production to focus on leadership thinking, operational excellence, and long-term value creation.

The intensity of learning continued as the summit moved into the first leg of the Possibilities segment, where advanced discussions around ECG (Expanded Color Gamut) revealed how technology is redefining quality, consistency, and efficiency. The audience engaged deeply as speakers unpacked real-world scenarios, best practices, and implementation frameworks that showcased how innovation is no longer optional, but essential.

The day concluded on a truly uplifting note with an inspirational session that resonated deeply with the audience, reflecting the spirit of growth, resilience, and transformation. It left participants motivated, energized, and eager for the insights and experiences that Day 2 would deliver.

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DAY 1

ANIL ARORA

President - ReEnvision Events Pvt. Ltd.



Anil Arora is Director at ReEnvision Events Private Limited, where he plays a central role in shaping strategic industry forums and knowledge-driven platforms. With deep experience in conceptualizing and executing business-critical events, he is known for connecting industry stakeholders through thoughtfully curated summits and conferences. Anil's commitment to fostering dialogue, collaboration, and learning has helped elevate platforms like Flexo Summit Asia into meaningful spaces for professional growth and sector advancement.

"Opening Address"

Evolution of the Flexo Summit Asia



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DAY 1

KAUNAIN SHAHIDI

Sustainability & Packaging Expert -
Almarai Group, UAE



Kaunain Shahidi is a strategic leader with over 25 years of expertise in packaging development, sustainability, and supply chain management. He has a strong, hands-on understanding of the complete packaging ecosystem, from innovations and technologies to emerging trends. He is an active presenter at industry seminars and conferences, where he shares his perspectives on this dynamic field. Kaunain believes that despite its complexities, packaging holds significant potential to drive brand and business growth in today's digital economy.

"Keynote Address"

Flevo Adoption - A Global Packaging User Perspective



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DAY 1

ALEKSANDER KUSMIERCZYK

Head of Analytics -
Polish Chamber of Printing, Poland



He is the Chief Analyst at the Polish Chamber of Printing and co-author of editions 8, 9, and 10 of the "Printing Industry and Printed Packaging Market" report. He has advised major global corporations such as Deutsche Telekom, Deutsche Bank, and Taghleef. With deep expertise in big data and strategic consulting, he designs high-impact systems tailored to industry needs. Known for his analytical clarity and sector insight, he delivers solutions that drive strategy and sustainable growth.

"Flexo Economy"

Evolution of the Flexo Worldwide with a focus on the size and outlook of growth in India



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DAY 1

SANTE CONSELVAN

President FTA-
Global Alliance, FTA Europe, CEO - GAMA
Group, Italy



Sante Conselvan, an Industrial Chemistry graduate, has led a distinguished career in prepress, printing, and packaging, holding senior roles at Crosfield Italia, Scitex Italia, and later founding I&C to promote innovative technological solutions. He has served on Gama's management board since 2002 and became CEO of GAMA Group S.r.l. in 2012. A prominent global flexography leader, he is President of FTA Europe and Chairman of the FTA Global Alliance. His contributions have earned numerous international honors, including the FTA US President Award and the title of Chevalier de Gutenberg.

“It All Starts with the Mindset”

Creating a Flexo Business Mindset. A Global Experience



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DAY 1

DR. KAI LANKINEN

Senior Lecturer -
Tampere University of Applied Sciences,
Finland



Dr. Kai Lankinen brings over 25 years of expertise in packaging printing and serves as a Senior Lecturer at Tampere University of Applied Sciences, as well as a Docent at DHBW University of Karlsruhe and Stuttgart Media University. An internationally recognized consultant, he advises printers and brand owners on efficiency and sustainability through Expanded Gamut (ECG) printing. He founded Dr. Lankinen Graphic Innovations Ltd, co-owned a leading Nordic repro house, helped establish the Finnish Packaging Printing Committee, and strengthened industry knowledge with his 2021 doctoral thesis on ECG flexography.

“ECG- The Flexo Heart Beat”



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PANEL DISCUSSION

“Cracking the ECG Code”

Leveraging Technology to Enhance Productivity and Reduce Wastage

**Dr. Kai Lankinen****Chathura Jayatissa****Steve Smith****Jai Chandra**

The “Cracking the ECG Code” panel offered a clear, practical look at how Extended Colour Gamut printing can reshape flexo performance. Moderated by Dr. Kai Lankinen, the discussion brought together Steve Smith, Chathura Jayatissa, and Jai Chandra, who shared hands-on experiences from their global and regional markets.

They highlighted how ECG improves productivity through faster makereadies, fewer ink changes, and more consistent colour across long runs. The panel also underscored the need for aligned workflows, advanced plate technology, and precise calibration to achieve stable results.



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PANEL DISCUSSION

“Clearing the FOG (Flexo, Offset, Gravure)”

Integrating Flexo in The Technology Mix: Why should Converters Adopt Flexo?



Ranesh Bajaj

Manish Desai

Sanjay Ghosal

Kaushik Nag

The discussion on “Clearing the FOG (Flexo, Offset, Gravure)” offered a sharp, comparative look at why flexo deserves a stronger place in today’s packaging technology mix. Led by moderator Ranesh Bajaj, the panel brought insights from Manish Desai, Kaushik Nag, and Sanjay Ghoshal, each presenting distinct perspectives from labels, flexible packaging, and brand operations.

The speakers pointed to flexo’s rising strengths—faster changeovers, consistent quality, substrate flexibility, and noticeable reductions in waste and operating costs. They also noted how evolving print demands make flexo increasingly attractive for converters looking to scale efficiently.



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INSPIRATIONAL SESSION

SURESH GUPTA

Ex-Chairman – Huhtamaki India Ltd., (Formerly PPL)
Ex-EVP Global Flexibles, Huhtamäki Oyj Finland,
Chairman – IFCA.



Suresh Gupta, former Executive Chairman of Huhtamaki-PPL, is credited with transforming the company into India's largest flexible packaging producer. Joining in 1987, he grew its turnover from ₹24 crore to nearly ₹2,300 crore, driving scale, talent expansion, and pioneering technologies like shrink sleeves. A Hindu College and JBIMS alumnus, his early roles and disciplined upbringing shaped his strategic, people-focused leadership. His journey reflects visionary growth and industry-defining innovation.

“In Search of Excellence”

A Story Powered By Purpose - Scaling Operations, Conquering Challenges, and Defining Global Success.



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INTERACTION SESSION



Suresh Gupta

Benjamin Daniel

Benjamin Daniel and Suresh Gupta come together in a thoughtful and inspiring conversation that reflects on Mr. Gupta's life journey. Through personal experiences, challenges, and defining moments, the discussion highlights the values, resilience, and vision that shaped his path. It offers meaningful insights drawn from real life, making the exchange both reflective and motivating for listeners.

“Interaction Session: Benjamin Daniel × Suresh Gupta”



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Day Two began with a renewed sense of energy and purpose as the summit shifted from high-level possibilities to the practical realities of building a profitable, future-ready flexographic business. While Day One ignited the conversation with strategy, mindset, and vision, Day Two grounded the discussion in execution. Speakers, panelists, and delegates arrived with clear intent—to explore what it truly takes to transform ideas into measurable business outcomes.

With sharp focus on the evolving demands of modern packaging, day two featured four immersive breakout tracks on Flexible Packaging, Labels, Corrugated Packaging, and the widely appreciated “Future of Pack” session. These sessions offered participants a 360-degree view of the ecosystem, blending market expectations with production realities. Day Two marked a turning point for the summit, signalling the industry’s readiness to treat every stakeholder – makers and owners alike – as equal contributors to packaging’s future.

Each breakout session offered deeper technical conversations and practical takeaways, supported by a dedicated expert panel. By encouraging open debate on print feasibility, sustainability, regulatory pressures, and future technologies, the breakouts developed into knowledge rooms where real challenges were unpacked and real solutions were shaped.

Within the overarching theme of Profitability, day two featured the session titled “Sasta, Sundar, Tikau, Surakhit”, which presented a practical and highly relevant framework for remaining affordable, attractive, sustainable, and secure in a rapidly shifting market.

Transitioning from operations to human capital, Day Two also delved into the summit’s third foundational pillar – People. The leadership-focused session “Building the A-Team” examined how strong teams are crafted through culture, clarity, and conviction. Through honest insights and grounded leadership philosophies shared by distinguished panellists, the session reinforced a universal truth: technology may set the pace, but people determine the trajectory.

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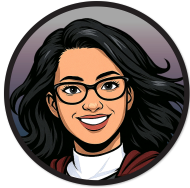




PANEL DISCUSSION

"Flexo Avengers"

Success Stories of Flexo Converters that have made it big



**Dr. Dipshikha
Banerjee**



Sanjeev Sondhi

Murtaza Akbarally

Amit Banga

The "Flexo Avengers" session set the room buzzing as real success stories took centre stage. Moderated by Dr. Dipshikha Banerjee, the discussion showcased three industry powerhouses who have redefined what's possible in flexo printing.

Sanjeev Sondhi, Murtaza Akbarally, and Amit Banga shared how they scaled their businesses through bold investments, operational discipline, and an obsession with innovation. Each "Avenger" spoke about challenges faced, turning points, and the strategic decisions that propelled their companies to leadership positions in India and Sri Lanka



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PANEL DISCUSSION

“Smarter Skills for Smarter Flexo”*Aligning Education with Industry 4.0***Jacek Kuśmierczyk****Prof. Madhura P. Mahajan**

The session “Smarter Skills for Smarter Flexo: Aligning Education with Industry 4.0” highlighted the urgent need to bridge academic training with real-world flexo demands. Moderated by Prof. Madhura P. Mahajan, the discussion explored how the next generation of talent must be equipped for automation, data-driven workflows, and rapidly evolving technologies.

Panellist Jacek Kuśmierczyk offered global insights, sharing how progressive print economies are reshaping curriculum to meet Industry 4.0 expectations. He stressed the importance of interdisciplinary learning, hands-on exposure, and stronger collaboration between institutes and industry.

[Click here to watch the full session](#)



FIRESIDE CHAT

“Brand Protection and Value Addition”

Ranesh Bajaj

Manoj Kochar

With decades of experience in the printing industry, Steve has been a key driver of major technological shifts, particularly in color reprographics. In recent years, he has focused on packaging, championing Miraclon’s Flexcel plate technologies that elevate flexographic print quality to rival gravure, offset, and digital processes in the FMCG sector. As an advocate of Miraclon’s “Modern Flexo,” he promotes practical, cost-efficient solutions across Asia Pacific. He often quotes Benjamin Franklin: “Well done is better than well said.”

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PANEL DISCUSSION

“AI - Devil or Deva”

Opportunities and Challenges with the Advent of AI

**Petr Blasko****Tappan Patel****Joachim Barthelme**

The session “AI – Devil or Deva: Opportunities and Challenges with the Advent of AI” brought a balanced, thought-provoking look at how artificial intelligence is reshaping the flexo ecosystem. Moderated by Tappan Patel, the discussion featured global experts Petr Blasko and Joachim Barthelme, who explored both the promise and the pitfalls of AI-driven automation.

The panel examined how AI can elevate consistency, reduce human error, and accelerate decision-making, while also highlighting concerns around workforce readiness and data dependency. Their insights offered a realistic roadmap for converters preparing to adopt intelligent systems.



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BREAKOUT SESSION

FLEXIBLE PACKAGING



Hersh Lulla

Kirti Panchal

Steve Smith

Rutul P Zaveri

Parag Koradia

Jainam K Shah

The first Breakout Session on Flexible Packaging brought together a strong mix of technical and operational expertise. Moderated by Hersh Lulla of Miraclon, the discussion focused on the evolving demands of flexible packaging and the practical steps converters can take to enhance efficiency and print performance.

Panelists Kirti Panchal, Steve Smith, Rutul Prashant Zaveri, Parag Koradia, and Jainam K. Shah shared insights on pressing industry topics—precision in prepress, advancements in press technology, anilox and roller engineering, and the growing need for workflow optimisation.

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DAY 2



SESSION 3
PROFITABILITY

BREAKOUT SESSION

LABELS



Lee Stephanie

Nagaraja R Alagani

Manoj K Manjunath

Parul Goel

Jai Chandra

Dr. Sreenivas Goud

Moderated by Manoj Kopparam Manjunath of Avery Dennison, the panel assembled a strong cross-section of expertise spanning machinery, materials, graphics, and ink systems. Panelists Nagaraja Ranganathan Alagani, Lee Stephanie, Jai Chandra, Dr. Sreenivas Goud, and Parul Goel provided a 360-degree view of the label ecosystem—from global machinery trends and plate innovation to adhesive science, ink performance, and evolving procurement expectations.

The discussion highlighted key shifts in sustainability, speed-to-market, and quality consistency, emphasising how converters can adapt through smarter material choices, efficient workflows, and closer supplier collaboration.



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DAY 2



SESSION 3
PROFITABILITY

BREAKOUT SESSION

CORRUGATED PACKAGING



Deepanshu Goel

Rohit Kapoor

Dr. Ainain Shahhidi

Alok Agarwal

Vikas Gupta

Venugopal Menon

The Corrugated Packaging breakout brought together a powerhouse panel of industry leaders, moderated by Dr. Ainain Shahhidi, Director, 4 Sixes Packaging & Marketing. Deepanshu Goel, Founder & MD of Creative Graphics Solutions India Ltd., shared insights on evolving prepress excellence, while Venugopal Menon from Bobst India unpacked technology trends shaping the future of converting. Rohit Kapoor, MD, Meghdoot Packaging, highlighted real-world production challenges and innovations. Vikas Gupta, Director – Sourcing & Development, Asia at L&E International, offered a global brand perspective, and Alok Agarwal, BU Head – Paper & Board, Siegwark India, emphasized sustainability and ink innovation driving next-gen corrugated solutions.



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DAY 2



SESSION 3
PROFITABILITY

BREAKOUT SESSION

FUTURE OF PACK



The Future of Pack session brought together visionary leaders shaping the next era of packaging, guided by moderator Pawandeep Sahni, Managing Director, OMET India Pvt. Ltd. Amit Taneja, COO of Parksons Packaging, outlined how scale, automation, and design innovation are redefining packaging excellence. Saurabh Newaskar, MD of San Printech, highlighted advancements in press technology driving efficiency. Sahil Sheth of Kris Flexipacks shared insights on flexible packaging evolution, while Sanjeev Sondhi, MD of Zircon Technologies, emphasized smart, secure, and premium label solutions. Harveer Sahni, Chairman of Weldon Celloplast, and Sundeep Adivishnu, VP at Moldtek Group, spotlighted sustainability, materials innovation, and future-ready manufacturing.



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INSPIRATIONAL SESSION

INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER

DR. PREETI JAIN

Director - Finance Forecasting and Planning
Reinvention - Accenture



Dr. Preeti Jain, Director – Finance Reinvention at Accenture, is a technology strategist and transformation leader driving innovation at the intersection of technology, strategy, and purpose. With nearly 20 years of global experience across Accenture, American Express, Amway, and P&G, she integrates strategy, analytics, and emerging technologies to build agile, future-ready enterprises. A Doctorate in Industry 4.0 Strategic Operations Management and Harvard Leadership Excellence alumna, she architects GenAI and Agentic AI-driven ecosystems. Founder of D!SRUPT Deliberately, Dr. Jain is a two-time Encore Award winner for Innovation Accelerators and Passion Pursuits, recognized for delivering impactful enterprise transformation.

“When Mindsets Become Machines”

The Leadership Courage to Disrupt. Deliberately in shaping a Profitable Flexo Future!



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PANEL DISCUSSION

“How to get Wiser when it gets Wider”

Challenges a Converters Face as they Expand from Narrow to Mid or Wide Web Technologies



Vinay Nalawade

Amit Ahuja

Tinku Sharma

Roman Dresler

Suhask Kulkarni

Rajendra Mehta

Richard Birch

How to Get Wiser When It Gets Wider was a power-packed discussion diving into the real challenges converters face when transitioning from narrow web to mid and wide-web technologies. Guided by moderator Suhask Kulkarni, Country Head (South Asia), SOMA, the panel brought together seasoned leaders who've lived this transformation on the shop floor and in the boardroom.

Vinay Nalawade of Parakh Agro unpacked scale-up complexities in flexible packaging. Amit Ahuja of Multitec highlighted operational shifts and mindset changes required for wider presses. From the OEM perspective, Roman Dresler (SOMA) and Tinku Sharma (Sandon Global) addressed technology readiness, tooling precision, and print quality challenges. Adding a formulation and inks lens, Richard Birch of Flint Group emphasized consistency, efficiency, and process control at expanded widths.



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PANEL DISCUSSION

“Sasta, Sundar, Tikau, Surakshith? (Sustainable, Beautiful, Affordable, Secured):”

Challenges a Converters Face as they Expand from Narrow to Mid or Wide Web Technologies



Amit Taneja

Peter Pereira

Pawandeep Sahni

Sanjeev Sondhi

Hyuma Mahadevia

SASTA, SUNDAR, TIKAU, SURAKSHITH? — the ultimate question every packaging leader is trying to solve: How do you stay affordable, attractive, sustainable, and secure, while still boosting profitability and discovering blue-ocean opportunities? Moderated by Pawandeep Sahni, Managing Director, OMET India Pvt. Ltd., this powerful session brought together innovators who are redefining value creation in packaging. Jan Willem Boers (Polymount International BV) shared transformative approaches via Tarak to reduce waste and improving cost efficiency. Peter Pereira (Kris Flexipacks) highlighted design-driven attractiveness without compromising budgets. Amit Taneja (Parksons Packaging) unpacked the real economics of sustainability. Hyuma Mahadevia (Yamir Packaging) offered insights on balancing innovation with affordability, while Sanjeev Sondhi (Zircon Technologies) decoded the role of brand protection and security enhancements.



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PANEL DISCUSSION

“Building The A Team”

Stories of Business Mavericks that have led Organisations to the Next Level



Prof. Madhura P. Mahajan

Subodh Kulkarni

Sanjeev Popli

Dr. Gita Bajaj

Building The A-Team brought to the stage the leaders who've transformed organisations through people, culture, and direction. Moderated by Dr. Gita Bajaj, Director – VINSAK India, Rotatek Printing & Packaging Technologies, the session explored what it truly takes to build teams that win.

Subodh Kulkarni (Tetra Pak India) shared how operational excellence is impossible without a strong, empowered workforce. Prof. Madhura P. Mahajan (PVGCOET) highlighted how industry-ready talent is shaped through future-focused education. Sanjeev Popli (Popli Graphics) brought real-world insights on nurturing teams that innovate, adapt, and drive growth.



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"Get Set GROW"

How to Build for Scale with Fundraising



Deepanshu Goel

Amit Kumar

Amit Kumar, SME IPO Coach and Founder of MSMEEx & Growbiz Fund, shares expert insights on scaling businesses through strategic fundraising. The session features Deepanshu Goel, Founder & Managing Director of Creative Graphics Solutions India Ltd., as a case study, illustrating practical approaches to growth and investment. Participants explore how businesses can prepare for expansion, structure deals effectively, and align with investor expectations. Through real-world examples and actionable strategies, this session equips entrepreneurs and business leaders with the tools and knowledge needed to build scalable, sustainable ventures in today's competitive market.



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SANTE CONSELVAN

President FTA-
Global Alliance, FTA Europe, CEO - GAMA
Group, Italy

Sante Conselvan, an Industrial Chemistry graduate, has led a distinguished career in prepress, printing, and packaging, holding senior roles at Crosfield Italia, Scitex Italia, and later founding I&C to promote innovative technological solutions. He has served on Gama's management board since 2002 and became CEO of GAMA Group S.r.l. in 2012. A prominent global flexography leader, he is President of FTA Europe and Chairman of the FTA Global Alliance. His contributions have earned numerous international honors, including the FTA US President Award and the title of Chevalier de Gutenberg.



“Key Takeaways From the Event”

Special announcements for the Flexo Summit Asia 2026



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SUHAS KULKARNI

Country Head (South Asia) - SOMA

Suhas Kulkarni is an accomplished leader with 30+ years in flexographic printing, paper, and pulp industries, holding senior roles across Asia. As Country Head & Director – South Asia at SOMA, he drives sales, operations, and market growth. Formerly MD – Technology at DKSH and senior leader at Solenis, DuPont, Kodak, and Windmüller & Hölscher, Suhas specializes in business strategy, operational excellence, CI Flexo adoption, and mentoring, combining technical expertise with people-centric leadership.



“Vote of Thanks”



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