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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Never Use Fountain Solution, Again!

Valencia, California -- October 10, 2008: Ihara U.S., Inc. will debut their model LB-801 Water Dampening System in North America at the upcoming Graph Expo Exhibition in Chicago, from October 26 to October 29, 2008. The LB-801 is the first and only device in the world which allows the printing press to run with no fountain solution – no more harmful chemicals or reagents.

The LB-801 will revolutionize the printing industry since fountain solution or alcohol is no longer required. Dampening water is used to substitute Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA) or the substitute: the fountain solution in the conventional lithographic printing process. IPA is a VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) and it is detrimental to the environment. Moreover, fountain solution is the chemical additives to control the water's surface tension but it produces water pollution when it is discharged as industrial waste water. The "Chemical-free water printing" is the new printing process which does not use additional agent with the dampening water.

In the past, the surface tension prevents water from being used as the dampening solution. The fountain solution reduces the water surface tension and improves ink's viscosity, but it also makes the ink transfer worse and increase the drying time on the printed paper. With the LB-801, the water's surface tension is reduced without any additives. Only tap water or treated water (reverse osmosis) is needed as the dampening solution.

Since the ink transfer is improved with the LB-801, the ink film thickness will be thinner and the ink color will be clearer. In addition, less spray powder is used as the paper drying time is reduced due to thinner ink film. The fountain solution for the conventional offset process dilutes the ink and causes the printed dots to permeate into the paper and spread. With chemical-less water printing, dot gain is reduced and the dot quality is stable and ink trapping is improved.

Additional information on the LB-801 will be available at Ihara's booth #4446. Visitors can also see a live demonstration on a 4-Color press at booth #4737.

#### About Ihara:

Ihara U.S., Inc. is a subsidiary of Ihara Electronic Industries Co., Ltd. Ihara U.S. Inc. is a master distributor of printing equipments and supplies in North & South America as well as Europe. Ihara U.S. distributes spectrophotometers, color reflection densitometers, digital plate readers, color management devices, color formulation systems, ink formulation scales and light viewing cabinets. For further information, contact Keith Lee at 661.257.5772 or visit Ihara's booth #4446 at Graph Expo.

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