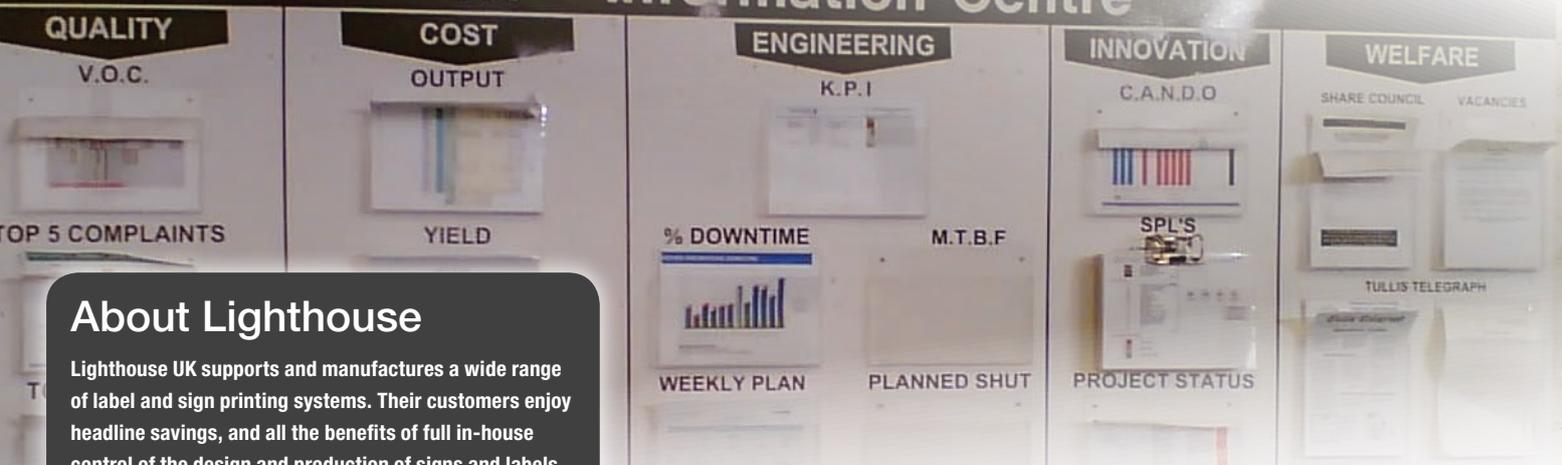


R1 - Information Centre



About Lighthouse

Lighthouse UK supports and manufactures a wide range of label and sign printing systems. Their customers enjoy headline savings, and all the benefits of full in-house control of the design and production of signs and labels. It's a very tailored service: Lighthouse works closely with clients to provide the best possible response to their needs, while the machines provide a money saving, process improving reaction to printing signs and labels the old fashioned way.

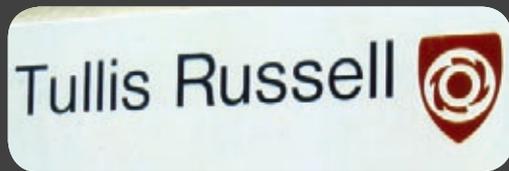
Press contact:
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About Tullis Russell

The Tullis Russell Group comprises four manufacturing companies producing a wide selection of papers for the domestic and world markets. To customers in over 50 countries, Tullis Russell is synonymous with the finest quality products, service and technical expertise. The company innovates in other ways too: in 1994, ownership of the company was transferred in full to its employees under a pioneering capital reorganisation programme.

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Continuous improvement made easy – Lighthouse and Tullis Russell show how it's done

When leading papermakers Tullis Russell acquired a CPM-100 sign and label making system from Lighthouse UK they were looking to cut the cost of outsourcing to third parties. But its impact has been much further reaching. It is now seen as a key tool in the implementation of continuous improvement processes across the site at Glenrothes – so much so that they have had to purchase a second CPM-100 unit and a CM-200 to keep pace with demand from managers across the site.

Tullis Russell has a worldwide reputation for the excellence of their products and services. And the company works hard to maintain its position – always pushing ahead with new production processes and paper stocks to meet consumer need. They take their environmental requirements very seriously too. And that means all efforts to reduce wastage and improve efficiency are highly prized. The impact of such process improvements can be considerable – both with regard to their green operating credentials and their baseline costs and bottom line.

Key to the successful deployment of the CPM-100 has been its adaptability and the trust invested in it by Continuous Improvement Manager, Tom Galloway. "Rather than simply sticking to what we knew the machine was designed for: asset management, site marking, Health & Safety signage applications etc, we wanted to keep innovating. In effect, having seen what it could do, we resolved to do even more."

This innovative approach has enabled Tullis Russell to make significant savings – and, in the spirit of continuous improvement, to develop the capacity and resourcefulness in-house to take on tasks that would otherwise have had to have been outsourced. Tom and his team have utilised the kit in the most imaginative ways. Now, instead of outsourcing the production of large format planning boards, Tullis Russell is producing them internally. For a few hours effort, and the cost of the materials, they're saving the company the thousands

of pounds it would have cost to have had the boards specially commissioned and made.

Over the last four years, Tullis Russell has seen the CPM-100 become a key part of their continuous improvement strategy. The company no longer has to make the choice of outsourcing custom requirements at considerable cost, or of having to do without the board or sign altogether. Tom Galloway is full of praise: "It's a really flexible system; easy to use and very effective. Continuous improvement on this scale used to be a real headache – now it's all part and parcel of a day's work."

The CPM-100 enables Tullis Russell to make signs in-house with a big benefit to cost and efficiency. Not even the fact that users have to design and produce their own templates slows the process – the system boasts a large, easily accessible archive of pre-set templates. Furthermore, any design time incurred can be weighed against the proofing and approving time that used to be such a time consuming part of outsourcing.

According to Simon Pratt at Lighthouse, "This has been an easy relationship for us to maintain. Following on from some initial guidance, Tom has really embraced the machine – and we're always keen to see what he's going to do with it next!"

