

Happy Holidays from FLAAR Reports and FLAAR Mesoamerica



Instead of a "Christmas tree" we show here a *Ceiba pentandra* tree, the national tree of Guatemala, and the sacred tree of the Maya and Aztec for thousands of years.

We have one in our garden, about 5 years old, already the height taller than a 2 storey building. At maturity (about 150 years old) they will reach the height of a 15 to 20 storey office building.

As presents under the holiday tree from Santa Claus, we show our

- Trade show reports
- Textile reports
- Ink reports
- Media & substrate reports
- Distributor reports
- UV and SUV reports

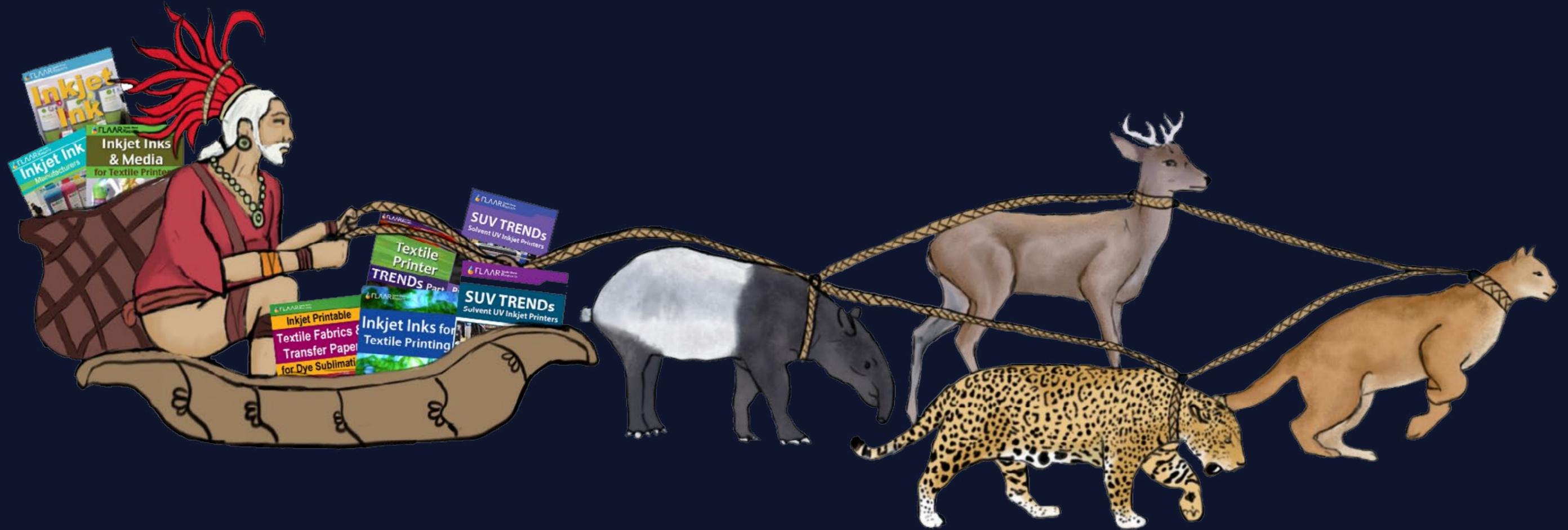
We have many more categories, but not enough space to show them all here.

We appreciate hearing from our readers how the FLAAR Reports helped them.

We wish you a Happy and Successful New Year for 2014.

www.wide-format-printers.org

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We transferred the traditional sleigh to a dugout canoe, since it is widely assumed pre-Columbian people had no wheels. But actually wheeled toys do exist. But not to break the pre-conception, we show a canoe from typical Maya scenes of the Maize Deity.

The Maya did have deer, the identical species as all across the USA. But we added a tapir, jaguar, and puma (mountain lion) as well.

The drawing is a concept by Nicholas but was capably rendered by Rubelsi Chacon, an illustrator working at FLAAR.

Our main sites on Maya culture are:

www.maya-ethnobotany.org

www.maya-archaeology.org

www.maya-ethnozoology.org



On these two final back pages of our Christmas card for 2013 we send three snapshots of our staff. FLAAR Reports is a lot more than just Dr Nicholas.

We show here several sets of test results from toner-based printers (yes, in addition to evaluating wide-format, we also evaluate toner-based printers).

One photo is after we received back test prints from Sign Africa, from the Xerox booth.

We had these test samples printed in Johannesburg (FLAAR is consultant to the expo organizers there).



Then at Sign Istanbul we were able to test another model Xerox printer and compare the results from the HP Indigo. Both were good color but frankly the samples from the HP Indigo were very impressive, probably because it was on nice thick paper stock.

(FLAAR is consultant to the expo organizers in Turkey).

The most recent photograph is after we tested a Xerox DocuColor 5000AP. The results were “too toner like” and actually the Oki from Graphics One had better quality (at probably 90% less cost for the printer).

As soon as we get access to a more recent Xerox DocuColor or a Xerox iGen series printer, we will re-do the test, as we believe Xerox products can do better than the streaked test results we got back.

We also look forward to testing Xeikon, Canon, and other brands.

So even while much of the rest of the world is on vacation, we at FLAAR Reports are busy evaluating printers. The images for the test prints are book covers and frontispiece designs of two new series of coffee table books we are doing fund raising for: four volumes on all the plants used with tobacco among the Maya and Aztec, and five volumes on all the plants to flavor cacao three thousand years ago. Cacao is what we call today cocoa or chocolate.

