PDF for Prepress

Updated Version

- **PDF/X**

- **White paper "PDF for Prepress"**

- **White paper – Acrobat 4.0**

- **Conclusions**

- **White paper version 2**

- **The next steps**

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PDF/X

- **CGATS PDF/X proposal only allows CMYK**
  - **"The ICCBased color space may be used provided that its type is ... an N-Component LUT-Based Input Profile where N equals 4"**

- **ISO meeting in St. Gallen/Switzerland**
  - **Resolutions from European Color Initiative (ECI) and German Printers Association (BVD)**
  - **PDF/X should allow device independent color definitions using ICC profiles**

- **Compromise**
  - **"…it was agreed that for the TC 130 work, there will need to be a 2-part standard (essentially as identified by CGATS), but both parts of the ISO standard should be able to send either CMYK data, or device independent data with the appropriate output profile."**

White paper "PDF for Prepress"

- **Published by the PDF Experts Roundtable (Germany/Switzerland)**

- **Presented at Seybold New York in March 98**

- **> 30,000 downloads (http://www.prepress.ch)**

- **Targeted developers**
  - **Listed only requests.**
  - **Didn't acknowledge the positive aspects of PDF.**

- **A lot of positive feedback.**

- **No new requests or arguments that we were wrong.**

- **Long reply from Michael Jahn, Afga.**

- **No reaction from Adobe.**

White paper – Acrobat 4.0 / 1

- ■ **Issue: Trapping (e.g. from Quark XPress)**
  - ■ **settrap operator in composite PS from QXP not defined => *promised by Tim Gill for QXP 5.0 this morning***
  - ■ **Trapping info in PDF 1.3 (PJTF)**

- ■ **Issue: Multitones (duotones etc.)**
  - ■ **DeviceN operator in PS3 recognized by Distiller 4.0**
  - ■ **Adobe PhotoShop 5.0.2 generates DeviceN**
  - ■ **PSL1-Export**

- ■ **Issue: Spot color gradients, colorized TIFFs**
  - ■ **Applications need to generate DeviceN**
  - ■ ***ev. PSL1-Export***

- ■ **Issue: Controllable PDF file-creation**
  - ■ **Distiller 4.0 allows to save/distribute and load settings**

White paper – Acrobat 4.0 / 2

- ■ **Issue: Runtime Distiller** (headless/separate license)
  - ■ **???**

- ■ **Issue: Using PDF in applications**
  - ■ **PDF Library from Adobe**

- ■ **Issue: Color Management**
  - ■ **Tagging with ICC default profiles in Distiller 4.0**
  - ■ **CMS only used for monitor**
  - ■ **No output simulation (softproof)**
  - ■ **No ICC output profile**

- ■ **Issue: Coding for bleed**
  - ■ **Media/trim/bleed/art box in PDF 1.3**
  - ■ **Applications need to include the info in PS**
  - ■ **Access to these boxes through plug-ins (–> Quite)**

White paper – Acrobat 4.0 / 3

- **Issue: Precise page sizes** (smaller than 1 PS point)
  - **Not possible yet**

- **Issue: Page sizes below 1" and beyond 45"**
  - **Acrobat 4.0: 1 mm … 200"**
  - **InDesign: max. 18 feet (= 216")**

- **Issue: Spot color recognition (PSL1)**
  - **No need for prologue.ps/epilogue.ps anymore**

- **Issue: Spot color conversion**
  - **Quite a Box of Tricks (Quite)**
  - **Crackerjack (Lantana)**
  - **pdfOutput Pro (Callas)**

- **Issue: Spot color mapping**
  - **Adobe "Proof of concept"**

White paper – Acrobat 4.0 / 4

- **Issue: Threshold for downsampling**
  - Distiller 3.0: 2.0 / Distiller 4.0: 1.5
  - Expert Options for DistillerTools 4.0 (PrePress-Cons.)

- **Issue: Embed all fonts (incl. Base-14)**
  - Possible in Distiller 4.0

- **Issue: Enforce use of embedded fonts in RIP (without using subsets)**
  - Resolved in Acrobat 4.0

- **Issue: Printer's marks**
  - Crackerjack (Lantana)
  - pdfOutput Pro (Callas)
  - PDF Handshake (Helios)
  - PDF-Separator (PrePress-Consulting)

White paper – Acrobat 4.0 / 5

- **Issue: Convert TrueType to Type 1 in Distiller**
  - **Technically not possible**

- **Issue: Convert DCS, TIFF/IT, etc. to PDF with Distiller**
  - **Technically not possible (?)**

- **Issue: From composite to separation (screen preview)**
  - ***Adobe "Proof of concept"***

- **Issue: From separations to composite**
  - **Impossible without rasterizing**

Conclusions

- **A lot of our requests are solved**
    - **with Acrobat 4.0**
    - **with third party plug-ins**
- ***Some solutions have been promised today!***
- **Some issues remain to be solved**
- **Main problem is the transition from preseparated to composite workflow**

White paper – version 2

- **Second version of the White paper**
  - **Based on Acrobat 4.0 / PDF 1.3**
  - **We decided to wait until we have more experience with the final built and new versions of plug-ins.**

- **Please send your contributions to: sjaeggi@prepress.ch**

- **Will be published on:**
  - **http://www.prepress.ch**
  - **http://www.callas.de**
  - **PDF-Announce list (PDFzone.com)**

Test job

- **Proposal to the PDF Experts Roundtable to create a standard test job**

- **Test job with critical elements**
  - **Duotones (PhotoShop 4.0 / 5.0.2)**
  - **Spot color blends, Colorizied TIFF**
  - **DCS 1.0 / 2.0**
  - **Lab, RGB with ICC profiles**
  - **Trapping**
  - **TrueType fonts**
  - **…**

- **Two versions: composite / preseparated**

- **Everybody can test their workflow and we can learn from each other!**

PDF for Prepress

We are not at the end of the tunnel yet, but I can see the light already…

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Annoncement: DistillerTools 4.0

- **FontNotes 4.0**
  - **Note on first page with information on missing, substituted and available fonts**

- **DistillerNotes 4.0**
  - **Note on first page with information on Distiller settings used for this document**

- **Expert Options for Distiller 4.0**
  - **Access to hidden settings of Distiller like**
    - **Downsample treshold value**
    - **Image depth and antialiasing**
    - **Page Range**
    - **Definition of bleed/trim/art box**
    - **Trapping switch**

Annoncement: PDF-Separator 1.0

- **Automatisation of**
  - **EPSF export (PSL1) of all or a range of pages out of Acrobat**
  - **Generation of a new XPress document with a corresponding page size**
  - **Import of the ESPF files into the Quark layout**
    - **Single pages**
    - **Reader spread**
    - **Printer spread**
- **Separation and imaging (including printer marks) using the well known XPress features**