Kodak

Prinergy DotShop Composer Help

English

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About Prinergy DotShop Composer

The Kodak® Prinergy® DotShop Composer software is a Kodak plug-in for the Adobe® Acrobat® software that lets you apply halftone screening to objects, as well as entire pages in Portable Document Format (PDF) files. It is the companion software to the Kodak Prinergy® DotShop software. DotShop screening is a licensed option of the Kodak Prinergy software.

Using DotShop Composer

Using DotShop Composer, you edit a Screen Instance File (SIF) that is used by DotShop. The SIF file contains a number of screen instances that are supported by your system and that you can choose from and apply to objects in your PDF file using DotShop.

A screen instance can consist of one or a combination of the following:

- A specific screen system
- Dot shape
- Screen (line) ruling
- Dot size
- Angle set
- Angle orientation
- Curves created in the Kodak Harmony® tonal calibration software

Depending on options you chose when you created a screen instance, you can also edit some of the screen instance properties within DotShop.

DotShop Screening Workflow

A typical DotShop screening workflow may include the following steps:

1. Create a series of screen instances using DotShop Composer.

   For each screen instance, choose whether to enable modifications of the screen angles and calibration curves from within DotShop by selecting or clearing the following check boxes:

   - **Allow Plug-in to change CMYK screen angles** (as well as spot colors)
   - **Allow Plug-in to change Print Curve (Calibration)**
2. Refine a file in Prinergy with or without trapping.
3. Apply screen instances to selected objects or to the entire page using DotShop. If enabled, modify the screen angles or calibration curve as required.
4. Add or adjust traps, as required.
5. Output in Prinergy to proof, plate, or film, setting screening and calibration as required.

   You can choose one of the following screening modes:

   - **Override All Screening** (use process template screening)
   - **Keep DotShop Settings** (use DotShop screening, and then use process template screening)
   - **Use Document's Screening, if present** (use DotShop screening, and then use **unknown** screening from creation software and then use process template screening).

Updating DotShop Composer

Updating the DotShop Composer

DotShop Composer updates are included in the Prinergy server software updates.

DotShop

The DotShop is installed when Acrobat and the Kodak Prinergy® Workshop software are installed on Prinergy servers or on Microsoft® Windows®-based and Apple® Mac® client computers.

Getting Technical Help

Finding Help Information

From the DotShop Composer main menu, select **Help > DotShop Composer Help** to open the PDF file containing the DotShop Composer Help document.

Viewing the About Dialog Box

From the DotShop Composer main menu, select **Help > About DotShop Composer** to display the About dialog box and check which version of the DotShop Composer software is installed on your Prinergy server.

Calling Customer Support

Call a service representative at 1.877.788.2727 (toll free).

Setting Up Your DotShop Composer Workspace

Starting DotShop Composer

DotShop Composer is available on the primary server in a Prinergy System.

To start DotShop Composer:

- From the **Start** menu, select **Programs > Prinergy > DotShop Composer**.

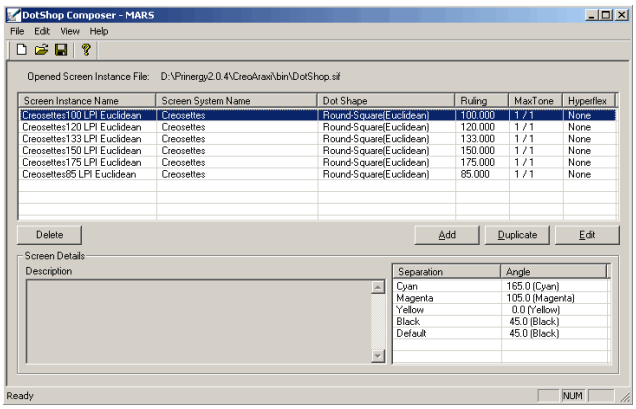


Figure 1: Contents of the SIF file in a DotShop Composer window

Opening or Creating a SIF File

When you first open DotShop Composer, a screen instance file (SIF) called **DotShop.sif** is automatically created in the **%ARAXIHOME%\CreoAraxi\bin** folder. It is populated with the screen systems and calibration curves that are licensed for your system. When next opened, DotShop Composer looks in its folder for the saved SIF file and displays its contents.

You can do any of the following:

- Edit the SIF file
- Overwrite the SIF file
- Copy and rename an archived SIF file
- Manage several SIF files

Note: The SIF file is always called **DotShop.sif** so that DotShop can recognize it.

To edit the SIF file:

1. Add, edit, and delete screen instances in the file. See Adding, Editing, and Deleting Screen Instances on page 7.
2. From the DotShop Composer **File** menu, click **Save**.

To create a new SIF file:

1. From the DotShop Composer **File** menu, click **New**.
2. Add and edit screen instances. See Adding, Editing, and Deleting Screen Instances on page 7.
3. From the DotShop Composer **File** menu, click **Save**.

To open another SIF file in another location:

1. From the DotShop Composer **File** menu, select **Open**.
2. In the Specify Location of DotShop Screen Instance File dialog box, browse to the location of the **DotShop.sif** file you want to use.
3. Click **Open** to open the SIF file.
4. In the DotShop Composer dialog box, make any changes that you want to the screen instances. See Adding, Editing, and Deleting Screen Instances on page 7.
5. From the DotShop Composer **File** menu, click **Save**.

Managing Several SIF Files

You can create several SIF files and either rename them or store them in another folder. The only SIF file that DotShop uses is the one named **DotShop.sif** in the **%ARAXIHOME%\CreoAraxi\bin** folder.

To use a stored SIF file:

1. Rename the existing **DotShop.sif** file.
2. Perform one of the following actions:
   - Copy a stored SIF file into the **%ARAXIHOME%\CreoAraxi\bin** folder.
   - Rename the SIF file that you want to use to **DotShop.sif**.

Delivering Screen Instances to DotShop

The SIF file in the default **%ARAXIHOME%\CreoAraxi\bin** folder on the Prinergy server is automatically available to a licensed installation of DotShop on the Prinergy client computer. There is no need for the user to mount a server or copy the file.

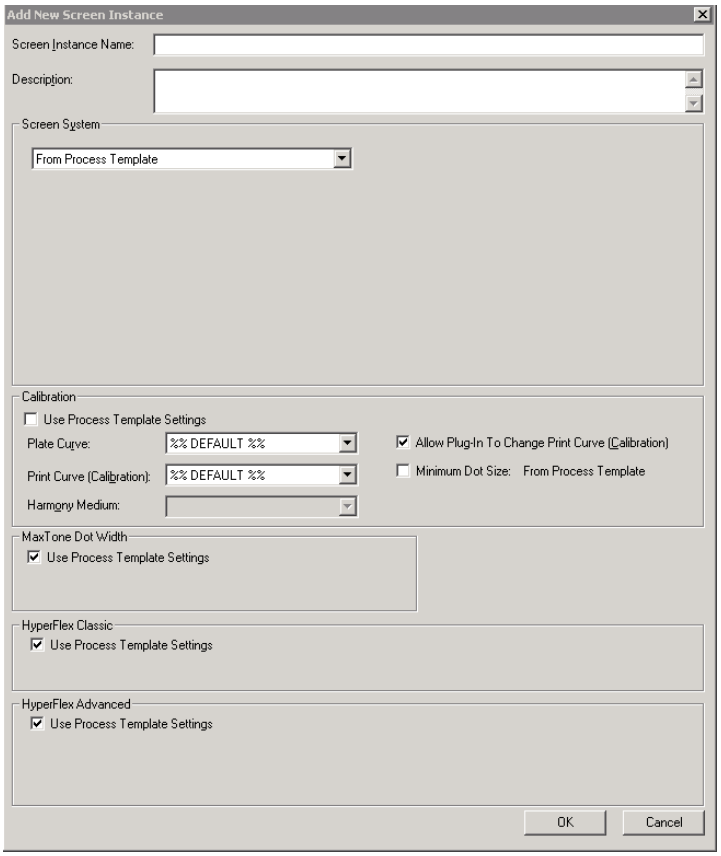
Adding, Editing, and Deleting Screen Instances

Adding a Screen Instance

You can open a new or existing SIF file in the DotShop Composer window and add screen instances to it. These screen instances are available to the DotShop user on the client computer.

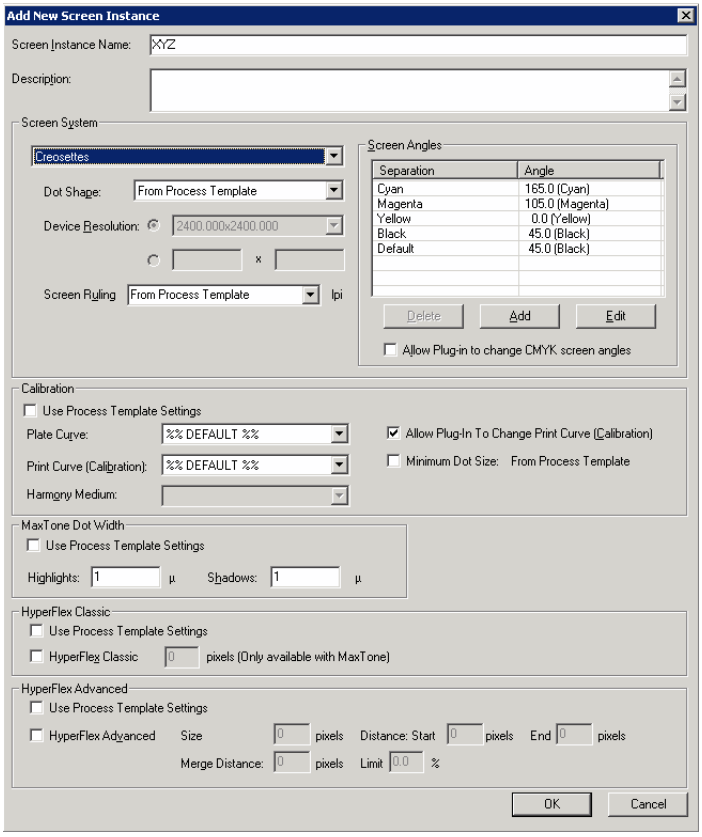
To add screen instances to a SIF file:

1. In DotShop Composer, perform one of the following actions:
   - From the **File** menu, select **New** to create a new SIF file.
   - From the **File** menu, select **Open** to open and modify an existing SIF file.
2. Click **Add**.



When the Add New Screen Instance dialog box first opens, all settings are set to their default values. To see additional functionality, you must clear the default settings to expose attributes.

Figure 2: Add New Screen Instance dialog box, showing default settings



In this Add New Screen Instance dialog box, all attributes are available for selection.You now have the flexibility to add functionality by specifying only a minimum number of attributes. The rest of the attributes can be picked up by the process template.

Figure 3: Add New Screen Instance dialog box, with attributes showing

3. Select from the following properties to create a new screen instance.

Screen Instance Name box	Type a unique name for the screen instance. After this screen instance is saved, this name appears in the list of screen instances in DotShop.
Description box	Describe the contents of the screen instance, or when to use it.

Screen System area

For more information about screen systems, see the Prinergy Workshop Help.

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Screen System list

The default setting is **From Process Template**.

If you have a predefined screen system, select a screen system in the list.

Screen systems contain predefined screening information:

- AM (conventional) screen systems include screen angles, screen rulings, and default screen assignments for colorant separations.
- FM (stochastic) screen systems identify a stochastic screening family, such as Kodak Staccato® screening.

Screen systems contain an optimal set of screening characteristics for a particular screening requirement. You can reduce screen artifacts by predetermining the relationship among screen angles, screen rulings, and the screens to which these are assigned.

Separation and Angle columns

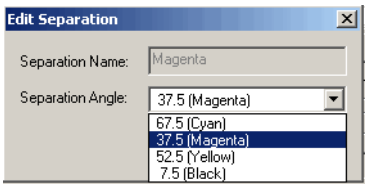
Each AM screening system comes with a set of screen angles.

Shifting Moiré Susceptibility

Depending on the situation, however, screen systems may be susceptible to moiré—for example, between smooth tints of two separation pairs such as cyan-yellow (greens) and magenta-yellow (flesh tones).

You can change angles to shift moiré susceptibility from one of these separation pairs to the other.

1. In the Separations and Angles table, select the separation that you want to change, and click **Edit**.
2. In the Edit Separation dialog box, in the **Separation Angle** list, select an alternate screen angle for the separation.
3. Click **OK**.



Adjusting spot color angles

By default, spot colors are mapped to the **Default** angle. To adjust the default angle, follow the preceding procedure for separations.

To add a named spot color to the list:

1. Click **Add**.
2. In the Add Separation dialog box, in **Separation Name**, type the name of the spot color exactly as it appears in the input file.
3. In the **Separation Angle** list, select a screen angle.
4. Click **OK**.

To delete a spot color from the list:

1. In the **Separation Angles** area, click the spot color that you want to delete.
2. Click **Delete**.

Allow Plug-in to change CMYK screen angles check box	Select this check box if you want to modify the screen angles within DotShop.
Dot Shape list	The list of dot shapes varies, depending on the screen system selected. For a complete description of dot shapes, see the Prinergy Workshop Help.
Device Resolution list or boxes	The device resolution refers to the resolution of the output device for the selected screen setting. Typically, you select one of the predefined values in the list as the Prinergy server obtains this list by querying the available devices. Occasionally, you may require a custom setting; you can enter any device resolution that you need here. It is important that you match this resolution to your output device, or RIP errors may result. The output process template setting for resolution overrides this setting. **Note**: Changing the device resolution in DotShop Composer does not affect the output resolution in Prinergy. It only affects the line-per-inch (lpi) value that shows in the DotShop Composer screen instance. To adjust output resolution, you must edit the output process template in Prinergy Workshop.
Screen Ruling list	Available when an AM screen system is selected in the **Screen System** list. The list of available values depends on which screen system and device resolution you selected.

Calibration area

For more information about calibration curves, see the *Advanced Flexo Implementation User Guide*.

Use Process Template Settings check box	Select this check box to accept the default template settings. When selected, all other options are unavailable.
Plate Curve list	Select this option when you need to compensate or adjust for nonlinear plates or devices. You can do one of the following: assign a plate curve to your screen instance, assign no curve, or assign a default curve. • If you assign a plate curve, it will be the only curve available for this screen instance in DotShop, unless you enable changes in DotShop by selecting **Allow Plug-in to change print curve (calibration)**. • If you select **%%DEFAULT%%**, the plate curve set in the output process template is used. If a file can go to several output devices, this is a good option. • If you select **%%NONE%%**, no plate curve is applied to the output. • You cannot select **%%AUTO%%** because it is unavailable.
Print Curve (Calibration) list	Select this option to compensate or adjust for dot gain or TVI (tone value increase) on the press. You can do one of the following: assign a print curve (calibration) to your screen instance, assign no curve, or assign a default curve. • If you assign a print curve (calibration), it will be the only curve available for this screen instance in DotShop, unless you enable changes in DotShop by selecting **Allow Plug-in to Change Print Curve (Calibration)**. • If you select **%%DEFAULT%%**, the print curve (calibration) set in the output process template is used. If a file can go to several output devices, this is a good option. • If you select **%%NONE%%**, no print curve (calibration) is applied to the output. • If you select **%%AUTO%%**, **Allow Plug-in to Change Print Curve (Calibration)** is unavailable and **Harmony Medium** becomes available. **Note**: When you select **%%Auto%%**, Prinergy picks the right print curve based on the medium, resolution, dot shape, frequency, and color.
Allow Plug-in to Change Print Curve (Calibration) check box	Select this check box to enable changes to the print curve (calibration) while in DotShop.
Harmony Medium list	This option is available when **Print Curve (Calibration)** is set to **%%AUTO%%**. You can enter a Harmony medium to correspond with a particular screen set for output to different media as determined by the process template. For example, you can have two screen instances with 133 lpi round dots, one appropriate for output to film and the other to plate.
Minimum Dot Size box	Type the lowest tint percentage at which dots will be imaged. Type a value with up to one decimal place—for example, 10 percent or 10.5 percent. This feature is typically only used when outputting flexo plates.

MaxTone Dot Width area

For more information about Kodak Maxtone™ Screening software, see the *Advanced Flexo Implementation User Guide*.

Use Process Template Settings check box	The selected check box is the default setting. Clear the check box to make the other settings available.
Highlights box	Type the size, in micrometers, of the Maxtone dot for the highlights.
Shadows box	Type the size, in micrometers, of the Maxtone reverse dot for shadows.

HyperFlex Classic area

For more information about the Kodak HyperFlex™ Resolution-Enhancement software, see the *Advanced Flexo Implementation User Guide*.

Use Process Template Settings check box	The selected check box is the default setting. Clear the check box to make the other settings available.
HyperFlex Classic check box	Select the check box to enhance Maxtone dots with HyperFlex Classic technology. Type the HyperFlex dot size in pixels. To determine the proper HyperFlex dot size, you must perform a series of exposure tests. For more information, see the *Advanced Flexo Implementation User Guide*.

HyperFlex Advanced area

For more information about the HyperFlex software, see the *Advanced Flexo Implementation User Guide*.

Use Process Template Settings check box	The selected check box is the default setting. Clear the check box to make the other settings available.
HyperFlex Advanced check box	Select the check box to enable HyperFlex Advanced, which places light valves around halftone dots to strengthen and support individual dots.
Size box	Type the size of the light valve, in pixels. (The minimum value is 1 and the maximum value is 8.) If feathering is being applied, this specifies the starting size of the light valve. The light valve size is scaled back, in a linear fashion, to zero (as defined by the **Limit** percentage).
Distance: Start/End boxes	These boxes set the distance between the center of the light valve and the center of the dot. Recommended settings: Make the **Start** and **End** values the same, and greater than the **Merge Distance** value. For example, type `2` in both the **Start** and **End** boxes, and type `1` in the **Merge Distance** box. If you are not using the recommended settings, perform the following actions. In the **Start** box, type the distance from the light valve to the center of the smallest dot. In the **End** box, type the distance, in pixels, from the light valve to the centre of the largest dot. HyperFlex Advanced is placed only around dots in the tonal range between 0% and the dot size defined in the **Limit** box.
Merge Distance box	This value determines where the light valves will be positioned in relation to the halftone dots. To position the light valves equidistant between adjacent halftone dots, see the recommended settings in the **Distance: Start/End** description.
Limit box	Type the tint percentage after which HyperFlex Advanced is no longer applied.

3. Click **OK** to add the new screen instance to the screen instance file.

Adding a Screen Instance By Duplication

You can also add a screen instance to your SIF file by duplicating, and then editing an existing screen instance.

To add a screen instance by duplication:

1. From the DotShop Composer **File** menu, select **Open** to open and modify an existing SIF file.
2. In the DotShop Composer window, select the screen instance you want to duplicate from the list of screen instances in the file.
3. Click **Duplicate**.
4. In the Edit Screen Instance dialog box, change the properties. The properties are described in About Prinergy DotShop Composer on page 1.
5. Click **OK**.

Editing a Screen Instance

You can open an existing SIF file in DotShop Composer and change the screen instances it contains.

To edit a screen instance:

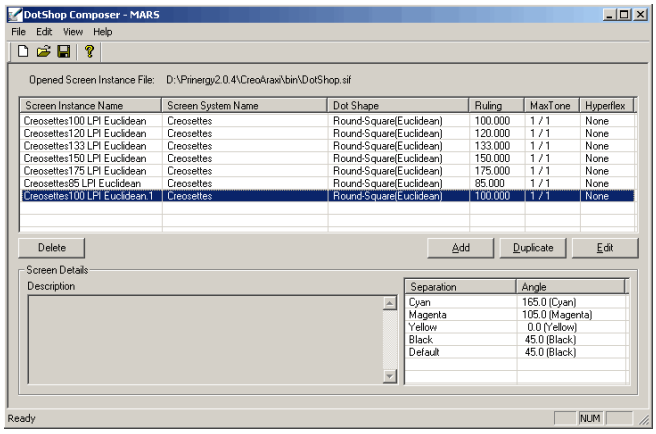
1. From the DotShop Composer **File** menu, select **Open**.
2. In the DotShop Composer window, select the screen instance you want to change from the list of screen instances in the file.
3. Click **Edit**.
4. In the Edit Screen Instance dialog box, change the properties. The properties are described in About Prinergy DotShop Composer on page 1.
5. Click **OK**.

Deleting a Screen Instance

You can open an existing SIF file in the DotShop Composer and delete the screen instances that it contains.

To remove screen instances from a SIF file:

1. In the DotShop Composer window, select the screen instance that you want to remove from the list of screen instances in the file.



2. Click **Delete**.

Using This Document

Cross-references: Cross-references appear in a different color than the rest of the text, for example, see Starting DotShop Composer. Click a cross-reference to go to that section.

Table of Contents: Click a heading in the table of contents to go to that section.

Index: Click on the page number for an entry to go to that page.

Navigation pane and bookmarks: The navigation pane on the left side of the window (unless you've hidden it), includes a complete list of the headings in the document. Click a bookmark to go to that section.

Search: To search for a specific word or phrase from the **Edit** menu in Acrobat, select **Search**.

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