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Technical Bulletin

Automating UpFront-to-Prinergy Workflow Using Smart Hot Folders

Background

This document describes how to use smart hot folders in Kodak® Prinergy® software to automate the export of Kodak Preps® jobs and MIS JDF files from UpFront software into Prinergy. Using the smart hot folders feature in Prinergy, in conjunction with the Automated Imposition license, you can automate the following three workflows:

- Export a Preps job or MIS JDF file from UpFront and automatically create a Prinergy job and imposition based on the exported job's file name.
- Export multiple Preps jobs or MIS JDF files from UpFront and automatically create a single Prinergy job with multiple impositions based on the exported job's file name.
- Re-export an altered Preps job or MIS JDF file from UpFront and automatically create a new imposition in an existing job, rather than creating a new job.

Requirements

To configure the automated workflow described in this document, you need:

- Prinergy 3.0 software or later with a Prinergy Automated Imposition license
- UpFront 4.x
- If you are running Prinergy version 3.1 or later, or UpFront version 4.0.4 or earlier, then you may need to edit the **UpFront40.ini** file for proper file naming to use with smart hot folders. For details, contact the Response Center or your local service representative.
- UpFront JDF MIS Export Site License (for JDF only)

Note: This procedure assumes that you are familiar with Prinergy and UpFront functionality and does not describe how to use Prinergy or UpFront in general or in conjunction with any other software. For general information about using Prinergy or UpFront, see your Prinergy or UpFront documentation. For more information about Preps integration with Prinergy, see the "Preps Integration for Prinergy 3.0 User Guide".

Procedure

The procedure consists of the following main steps:

- Step 1—Copy Preps templates, marks, and printer folders to the Prinergy server (see page 2)
- Step 2—Customize an import process template (see page 2)
- Step 3—Create a template job with hot folders (see page 4)
- Step 4—Create a smart hot folder (see page 5)
- Step 5—Export the template and job files or MIS JDF file from UpFront (see page 9)

Step 1—Copy Preps templates, marks, and printer folders to the Prinergy server

If you haven't already done so, manually copy all Preps templates, marks, and printer files into the **Templates**, **Marks**, and **Printers** folders on the Prinergy server in **Prinergy 2.0.4\CreoAraxi\AraxiPreps**.

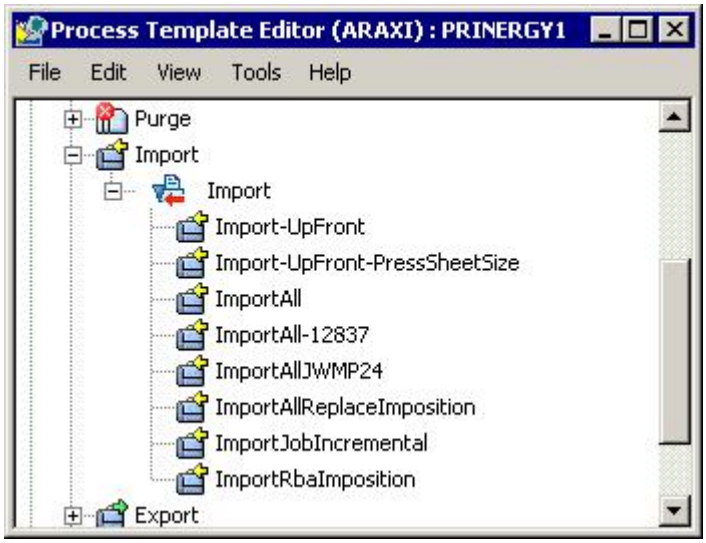
Step 2—Customize an import process template

In Prinergy Workshop, create one custom import process template for each media/plate size. For example, if you have different plate sizes in your shop, you would customize a Prinergy import process template for each size. The available media sizes in Prinergy are dependent on the Preps printer files you copied to the Prinergy server in *Step 1—Copy Preps templates, marks, and printer folders to the Prinergy server*.

Notes:

- Media size is the Preps device setups for plates or press sheet.
- If you are using UpFront 4.0.4 or later, you only need one import process template but you must define the **Target Device** setting in the **Preps** tab of the press library in UpFront. See UpFront 4.0.4 Release Notes for details.
- If you are exporting a JDF file from UpFront, you will need an import process template for each media size.

1. In Prinergy Workshop, from the **Tools** menu, select **Process Template Editor**.



2. In Process Template Editor, navigate to the **ImportAll** process template. Right-click and select **New Process Template**.
3. In the new import process template, open the **Import raw imposition files** section and follow these steps:

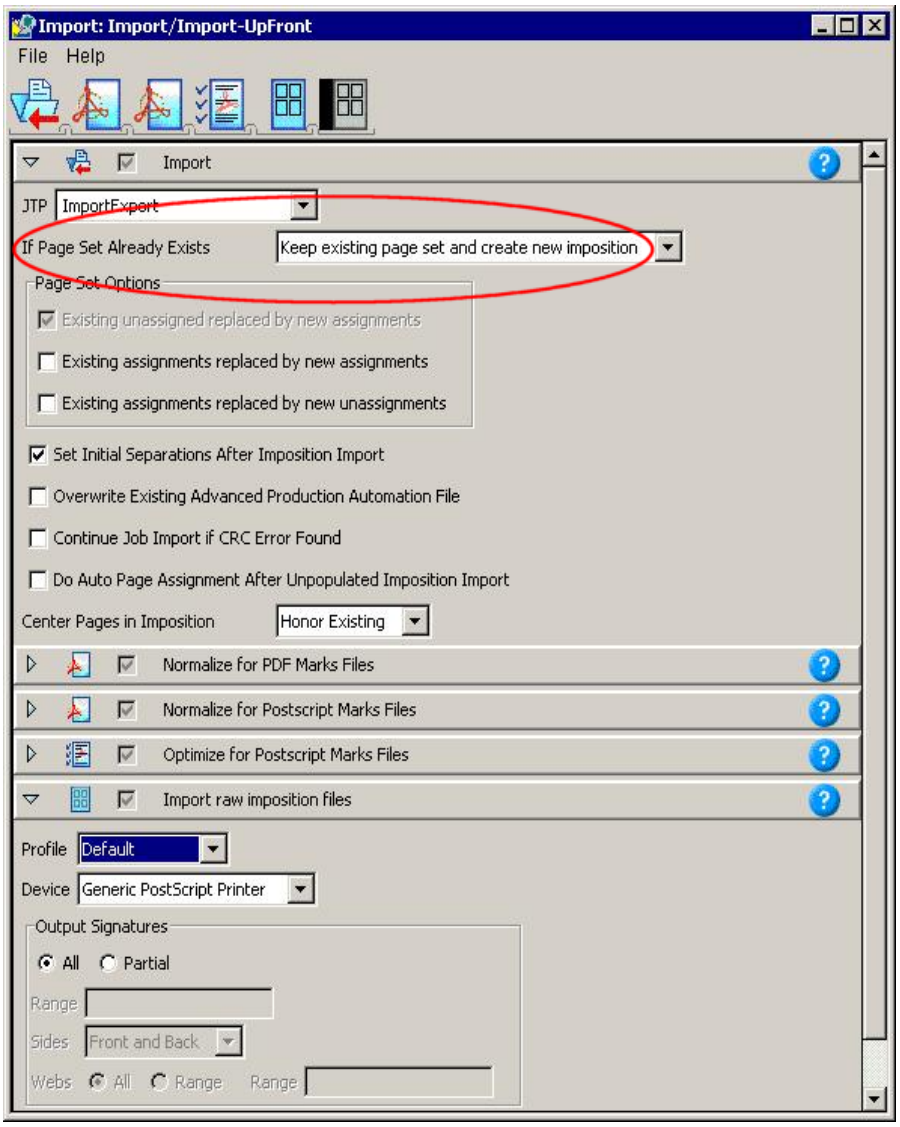
   a. In **Profile**, select **Default**.

   b. In **Device**, select the media size or output device. For example, select **18x25Portrait**.

   Note: If you are using UpFront version 4.0.4 or later, select **Generic PostScript Printer**.

   c. Under **Output Signatures**, select the **All** option.

d. Open the **Import** section and from the **If Page Set Already Exists** list, select the **Keep existing page set and create new imposition** option.



4. From the **File** menu, select **Save As** and type a name for the process template, for example, **Import-UpFront**.
5. Repeat steps 2 through 4 for each media size required in the UpFront Preps jobs.
6. From the **File** menu, click **Close**.

Step 3—Create a template job with hot folders

Next, create a template job that contains one hot folder for each customized import process template.

1. In Prinergy Workshop, in Job Finder, create a new job (or find an existing job) to use as a template job.

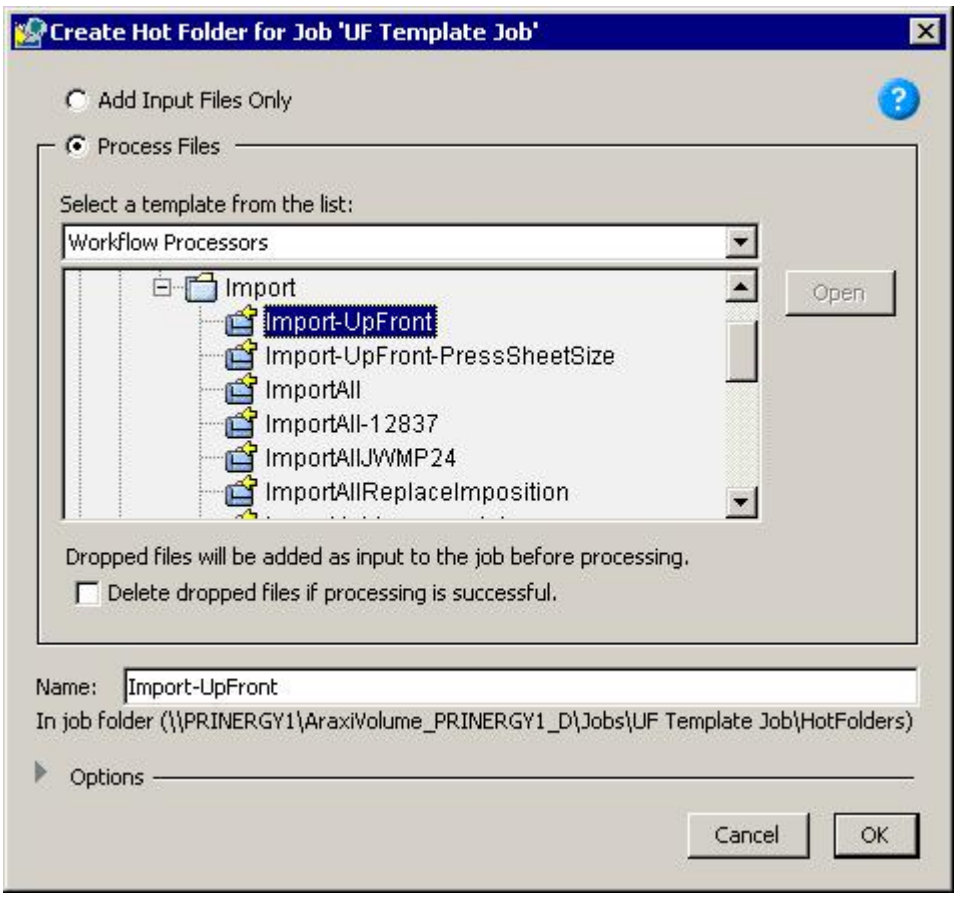
   Important: It is highly recommended that you select a job or create one in a location that will NOT be removed or destroyed.

2. With the template job open in Job Manager, from the **Job** menu, select **Manage Hot Folders** and follow these steps:

   a. In the Manage Hot Folders dialog box, click **Add**.

   b. In the Create Hot Folder dialog box, select the **Process Files** option.

   c. Under the **Workflow Processors** list, navigate to and select a custom import process template you created in *Step 2—Customize an import process template*. For example, select the **Import-UpFront** process template.



   d. Click **OK**.

e. Repeat steps a through d until you have one hot folder for each of the customized import process templates.

Note: If you are using UpFront 4.0.4 or later, you only need one hot folder if you are only exporting Preps jobs and not JDF files.

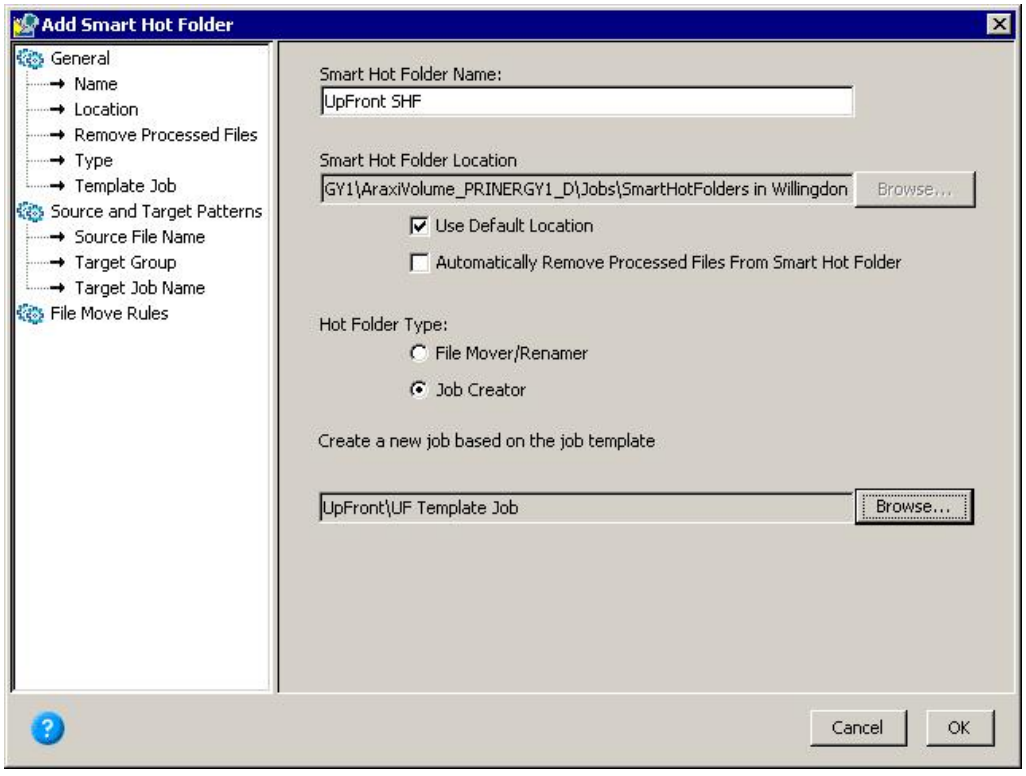
f. In the Manage Hot Folders dialog box, click **Close**.

Step 4—Create a smart hot folder

The smart hot folder uses the file name pattern of the UpFront Preps job or JDF file to: (1) create a new job (or find an existing job) in Prinergy and (2) move the source files to the correct hot folder to import the templates. The UpFront job file is referred to as the *source file*. For more information about file name patterns in smart hot folders, see the Prinergy Workshop online help.

1. In Prinergy Workshop, in Job Manager, from the **Tools** menu, click **Smart Hot Folder Manager**.
2. In the Smart Hot Folder Manager dialog box, click **Add**.

   Note: for MIS JDF files you may choose to setup a separate smart hot folder with different source and target patterns, and/or to accommodate multiple media sizes.



3. In the Add Smart Hot Folder dialog box, follow these steps:

   a. In the **Smart Hot Folder Name** box, type a name for the smart hot folder, for example, **UpFront Import**.

b. In the **Smart Hot Folder Location** box, do one of the following:

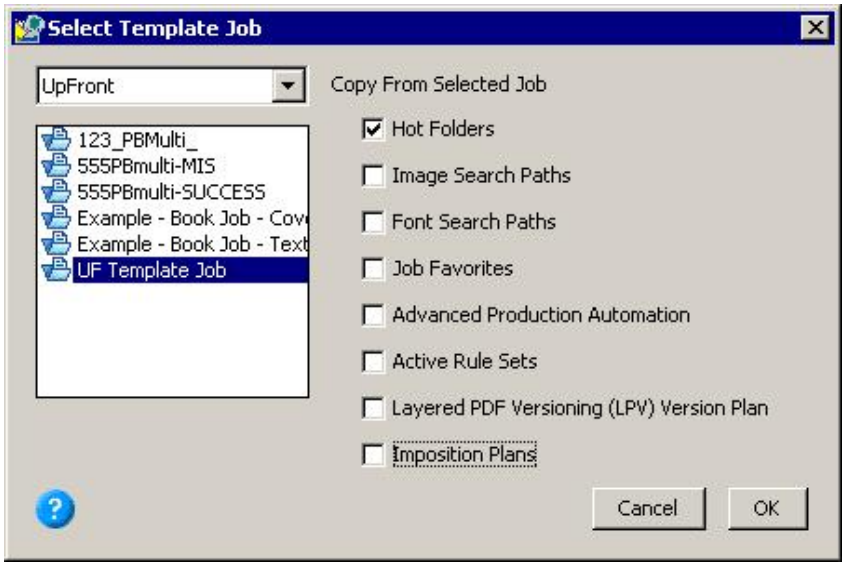
- Click **Browse** and navigate to a location that is convenient for you to drop the UpFront Preps job file.
- Click **Use Default Location**.
  On installation, the default location is the **Jobs\SmartHotFolders** folder on the Prinergy server.

c. Under **Hot Folder Type**, select the **Job Creator** option.

d. In **Create a new job based on the job template**, click **Browse**. In the Select Template Job dialog box, follow these steps:

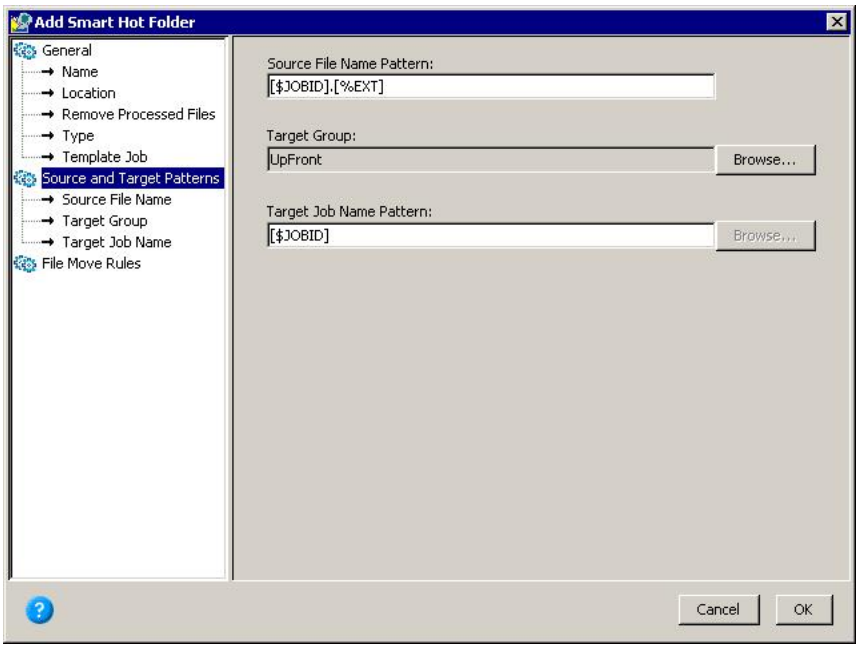
i. Navigate to and select the template job you created in Step 3—Create a template job with hot folders.

ii. Under **Copy from Selected Job**, ensure the **Hot Folders** check box is selected.



iii. Click **OK**.

e. In the left-hand pane, click **Source and Target Patterns**.



f. In **Source File Name Pattern**, type `[$JOBID].[%EXT]`.

This setting tells the smart hot folder which source files to accept. The wild card [$] back-references to the text and numbers in the source file name, and the [%] wild card back-references to the letters in the extension. This pattern assumes a file name convention of numbers and letters with an extension. For example, **123Filename.job**. Files that do not fit this file naming convention are rejected. Rejected source files are stored in the smart hot folder's **Rejected** folder.

Note: If you change the file naming convention, you will need to change the source file name pattern. For more information about source file name patterns, see the Smart Hot Folders topic in the Prinergy Workshop online help. If you are using UpFront version 4.0.4 or earlier, you will need to identify a naming convention along with source and target patterns that will accommodate multi- part jobs.

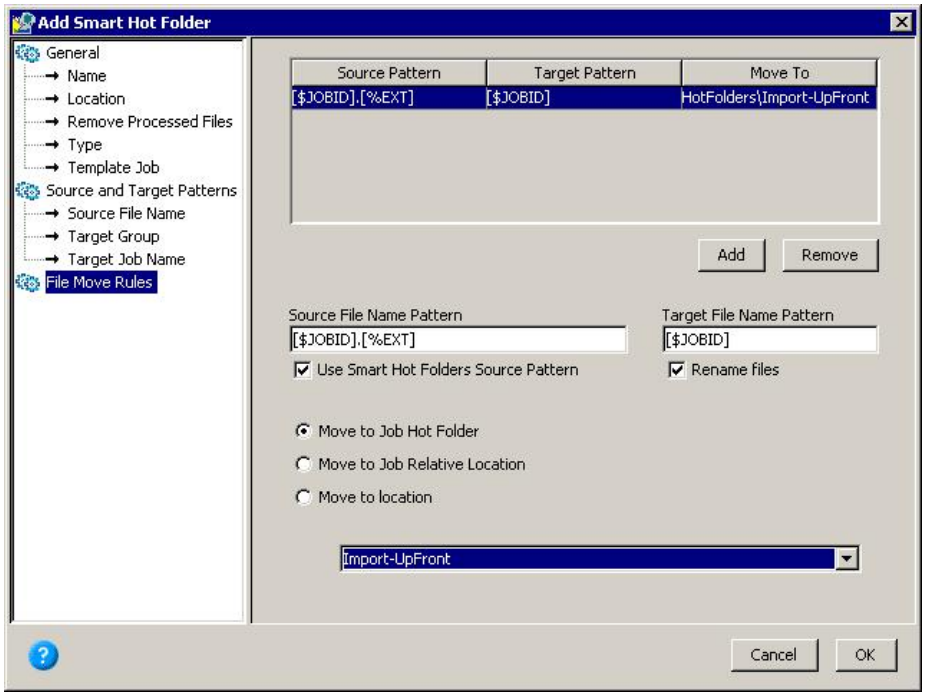
g. In **Target Group**, click **Browse**, and select the location that the newly created jobs should go to.

h. In **Target Job Name Pattern**, type `[$JOBID]`.

This setting tells Prinergy what to name the job or which job this source file belongs to. The [$] wildcard back-references to the text and numbers in the source file name. In the example in this procedure, Prinergy searches for a job named **123Filename**. If Prinergy cannot find a job with the name **123Filename**, it creates one.

i. In the left-hand pane, click **File Move Rules** and follow these steps:

i. Under the table, click **Add**.



ii. Under **Source File Name Pattern**, select the **Use Smart Hot Folders Source Pattern** check box.

The **Source File Name Pattern** box is automatically populated.

iii. Under **Target File Name Pattern**, select the **Rename files** check box and in the **Target File Name Pattern** box, type `[$JOBID]`.

iv. Click the **Move to Job Hot Folder** option. From the list, select the import process template that was created in the job hot folder in step 3.

v. Click **OK**.

Note: If you're using UpFront version 4.0.3 or earlier, or importing UpFront MIS JDF files, you'll need a smart hot folder for each media size that uses the same source and target pattern, but that accesses a different job hot folder in the template job.

The file move rule created in this example moves the source files into the job hot folder. Because the files are not renamed during the move, the impositions retain the source file name **123Filename**.

4. In the Smart Hot Folder Manager dialog box, click **Close**.

Step 5—Export the template and job files or MIS JDF file from UpFront

In UpFront software, follow these steps when you are ready to export the job.

For Preps templates and jobs:

1. Write the template files to the **Prinergy 2.0.4\CreoAraxi\AraxiPreps\Templates** folder on the Prinergy server.

   If the template and signatures referenced in the UpFront Preps job are not in this folder, the import will fail.

2. Write the Preps job file to the smart hot folder.

   Note: You can also copy the Preps job file into the smart hot folder using Microsoft® Windows® Explorer.

For MIS JDF files:

1. Write the JDF Intent file to the smart hot folder.

   Note: Make sure that the **Include Stripping Process** check box is selected otherwise the import process will fail.

   Note: You can also copy the JDF file into the smart hot folder using Windows Explorer.

Test

Use the following table to determine whether the smart hot folder worked.

To Determine Whether	Do This in Prinergy
The source file was processed	Display the system history and click **Group by Category**. The system history displays the hot folder error and the location where the failed file has been moved.
The source file was moved to a job's hot folder	View the job history.
The source file name matches the source file naming pattern	If file naming patterns do not match, the file is moved to **<Smart Hot Folder Name>\Processed\Rejected**

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