Delta AutoFlow

User´s Guide

Edition October 1999

HEIDELBERG

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Edition October 1999

Table of Contents

1 AutoFlow Overview

How the Prinergy connection works 1–2
Autoflow job handling 1–3
Prinergy process plans for output to AutoFlow 1–4
Output via Prinergy/Delta Technology 1–4
Repeated page output 1–6
Output control via Prinergy alone 1–7

2 Setting up AutoFlow

Access rights for the Delta Technology service 2–1
Network configuration 2–4
Setting up the *Guest* user 2–4
Setting up AutoFlow in the Delta Printmanager 2–8
Defining the spool directory 2–11
Additional tabs 2–11
Resource handling 2–12
Configuring AutoFlow in Prinergy 2–13
Generating a job ticket processor in Prinergy 2–13
Generating a process plan for AutoFlow 2–14
Outputting to Delta Prep Workstations 2–17

3 Working with AutoFlow

Output options at the Signastation 3–1
Maximum exposable area (“Exposing Window”) on final output 3–2
Processing spot colors 3–2
Empty page Delta Lists 3–2
Elements with the attribute “use on all colors” 3–3
Delta Technology: replacement of spot colors with process colors 3–4
Prinergy: replacement of spot colors with process colors 3–4
Spot colors present in marks 3–5

Color management 3–5
CIP3 marks 3–6
Page scaling 3–6
Page alignment 3–6
Trapping 3–8
Cache response to modified trap settings 3–8
Output response on job abort 3–8
The “Mirror” parameter on final output 3–9
Output with “tiling” 3–9

AutoFlow Overview

As of version 6.0, Delta Technology can work together with the Prinergy Workflow Management System. In connection with Prinergy, Delta Technology operates as a RIP while Prinergy provides the server functionality

When operated in conjunction with Prinergy, Delta Technology can provide the following services:

- Generation of page and sheet Delta Lists and Delta Documents. This means that all the advantages of Delta Lists are also available for Prinergy.
- Screening of Delta Lists and output to imagesetter (IS screening/HQS screening).
- Collection (“caching”) of individual pages and merging of multiple page Delta Lists to form sheet Delta Lists and subsequent output. Prinergy passes the sheet print jobs to Delta Technology.
- Trapping of separated data on the basis of Delta Lists.
- Proofer workflow (form and color proofer).
- Connection of high-resolution screening proofers (Kodak Approval, Trendsetter Spectrum).
- ROOM concept (Rip Once Output Many) also available for Prinergy jobs.

AutoFlow supports the following output devices:

- Trendsetter plate exposure device
- Trendsetter Spectrum (screening proofer)
- Signasetter/Signasetter Pro

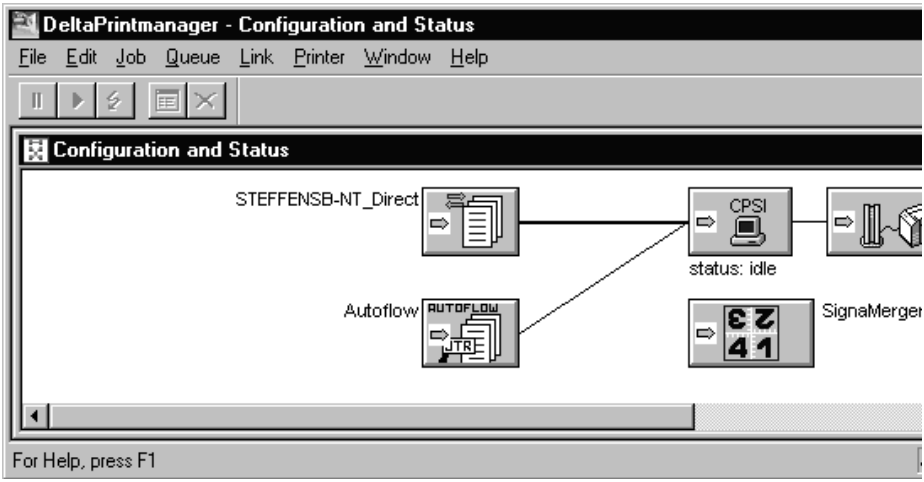
- Herkules (all variants)
- DrySetter
- Quasar
- Kodak Approval (screening proofer)

In addition, the color and form proofers that are supported by Delta Technology can also be controlled within an AutoFlow workflow.

Note: Prinergy is intended for output to a single (plate or film) imagesetter. The final output is therefore always a sheet output. It is therefore always necessary to use a layout scheme which is adapted to the sheet size of the imagesetter.

How the Prinergy connection works

Delta Technology contains a special software module designed to handle Prinergy print jobs: *AutoFlow*. To the user, AutoFlow appears in the form of a special Prinergy icon in the Delta Printmanager Configuration and Status window. To create a process plan for output with AutoFlow, it is necessary to set up a special queue directory in the Delta Printmanager. For information on setting up an AutoFlow queue directory, see paragraph Setting up AutoFlow in the Delta Printmanager, page 2–8.



Autoflow job handling

So-called “process plans” are created to handle print jobs. Process plans are used to gather together the “tools” required for various output options and to set the corresponding parameters. In Prinergy, these tools are the so-called “Job Ticket Processors (JTP)”.

Special Job Ticket Processors can be defined for output to Delta Technology/AutoFlow (see paragraph Generating a job ticket processor in Prinergy, page 2–13). These Job Ticket Processors can then be inserted in the individual process plans in the Process Plan Editor.

Note: It is necessary to create a separate Job Ticket Processor for every Delta Workstation which is set up with a Prinergy primary or secondary server.

Prinergy process plans for output to AutoFlow

Three output methods can be used for output to Delta Technology/AutoFlow: single page proof (color proof), form proof and final output. A separate process plan is required for each output type:

- one process plan for single page output
- one process plan for form proof output, and
- one process plan for final output.

Note: For output to Delta Technology/AutoFlow it is essential that the three process plans for any output have the identical parameters with regard to screening, resolution and the *Trapping* option! Adaptation to the associated output devices, for example the adaptation of the resolution, is performed by Delta Technology.

Output via Prinergy/Delta Technology

Once the required process plans have been set up (see paragraph Generating a process plan for AutoFlow, page 2–14), a single page output is first performed if required, for example with color proof. To do this, Delta Lists are generated from the individual pages of the job and are gathered together in cache memory.

When all the page Delta Lists of a sheet are present, form proof output is started at the Delta Workstation if a form proof print job exists. If present, mark Delta Lists are generated from the marks of the sheet layout. The page and mark Delta Lists are used to create a sheet Delta List and corresponding Delta Document and output is sent to the form proofer.

If the form proof is correct, then the final output process plan can be started at Prinergy. If page Delta Lists are already present in the cache memory of the Delta Workstation then the existing page Delta Lists are used to generate a final output sheet Delta Document and corresponding sheet Delta List. Otherwise, all the necessary page Delta Lists and Delta Documents are generated. Final output is then started.

If the Trapping option is available in Delta Technology then it is possible to activate it in the Process Plan Editor (*Render* section): option *Do Trapping*. If you also want to use the Delta Workstation cache for trapping then the option *Do Trapping* must be activated both for single page process plans and for final output process plans in order to ensure that the trap page Delta Lists required for final output are present in cache memory. If the trap page Delta Lists are not present then all the required page Delta Lists are generated.

If the option *Delta Pressgate CIP3* is available in Delta Technology then this can also be activated in the final output process plan (*Render* section): option *CIP3*. This option enables Delta Technology to create CIP3 ink zone control data.

Note: Mark Delta Lists are not stored in the cache but are regenerated from the job data following generation of a sheet Delta List (form proof or final output). The same also applies to pages which have been scaled.

Repeated page output

If individual pages have already been output, i.e. if Delta Lists have already been generated from them, and if these page Delta Lists are present in the cache memory, then the pages can be re-used for output.

If, for example, in the case of a form or screen proof, it is discovered that certain pages of the form contain errors then these pages can be modified and converted into Delta Lists once more. The newly generated Delta Lists — like the existing delta lists — are stored in the cache. A new cache identifier is assigned to the new Delta Lists in order to differentiate them from the existing ones. If the form is now output again, the existing page Delta Lists are combined into a sheet (by SignaMerger) and the existing, error-free page delta lists are used in exactly the same way as the corrected page Delta Lists.

This procedure can help save a considerable amount of time since only the corrected pages, instead of all the pages in the form, have to be converted into Delta Lists for repeated output.

Note: If page Delta Lists which have already been generated during single page output have to be re-used for sheet output, then they must precisely match the sheet parameterization in all respects, i.e. resolution, screening information, horizontal/vertical alignment, trapping.

Before final output, a check is always performed to determine whether all the required page Delta Lists are present. Any missing page Delta Lists are generated if required.

Note: If on final output any of the output options (screening, resolution, etc.) of the sheet print job differ from the settings of the page Delta Lists present in the cache then all the page Delta Lists of the sheet are automatically regenerated (time-consuming!).

Output control via Prinergy alone

Attention: Output control, i.e. initial output (single page proof, form proof, final output), as well as any repeated output (reprint) should be performed exclusively via Prinergy and not via Delta Technology!

The Prinergy/Delta Technology workflow is designed in such a way that Delta Technology is used simply as a “passive” component for the conversion of job data. Prinergy alone is responsible for job control (parameterizing and starting output).

The reason for this strict division of tasks is that the output options for the print jobs are set in Prinergy. If control tasks, reprints for example, are performed in Delta Technology then certain settings in Delta Technology may overwrite the Prinergy parameters, e.g. screening settings. This can lead to unexpected, and generally unwanted, output results.

Setting up AutoFlow

Prerequisites: The following conditions must be met before you can set up AutoFlow:

- You need Delta Technology version 6.0 or higher.
- The Delta AutoFlow option must be enabled. For this, you need the corresponding release keycode. You can enable options in the program *Set Dongle Options* which you can launch from the Windows Start menu via *Start* > *Programs* > *Delta Technology* > *Set Dongle Options*. For further information on enabling options, refer to the Delta Technology *Release Notes*.
- The Prinergy server and at least one client (*Workshop*) must be installed on a DTP workstation.

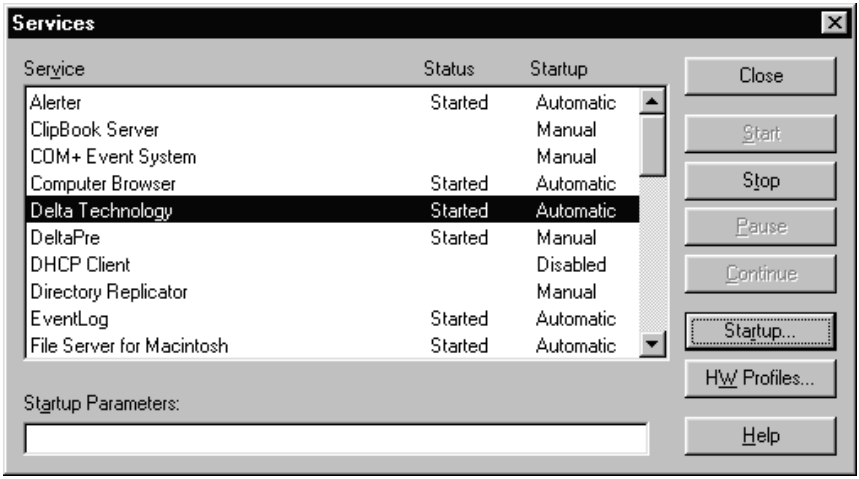
Note: It is essential that Prinergy and Delta Technology are installed on different machines!

For the purposes of this description, it is assumed that both Delta Technology and Prinergy are installed on the corresponding computers.

Access rights for the Delta Technology service

For data exchange between the Prinergy computers and the Delta Workstation to be possible, the access rights for the Delta Technology service must be configured as follows:

Select *Start (Windows Start menu)* > *Settings* > *Control Panel* to open the Windows control panel. Here, you should double-click the *Services* icon. The *Services* dialog box is now opened.



If the *Delta Technology* service is started, select the entry and click *Stop*. Wait until the Delta Technology service has shut down and double-click the *Delta Technology* entry in the list. The *Service* dialog box is now opened.



In the section *Log On As:* activate the option *This Account* and enter the account name *Administrator*. Now enter the Administrator password in the *Password* and *Confirm Password* fields. If you have not set up the *Administrator* user account yourself, ask your system administrator for the password or ask him or her to make the entries for you. Now close the dialog box by clicking *OK*.

Note: If the access rights are not set correctly, the AutoFlow Job Ticket Processor in Prinergy cannot connect to the Delta Workstation and output via Delta Technology does not function.

Network configuration

If Prinergy and Delta Technology are to work together then it is necessary to configure the network settings at the Delta Workstation and the Prinergy server in such a way that an uninterrupted connection between the participating computers is assured.

Note: In order to make the following settings, you must log on to the Prinergy server or Delta Workstation with Administrator rights.

Setting up the *Guest* user

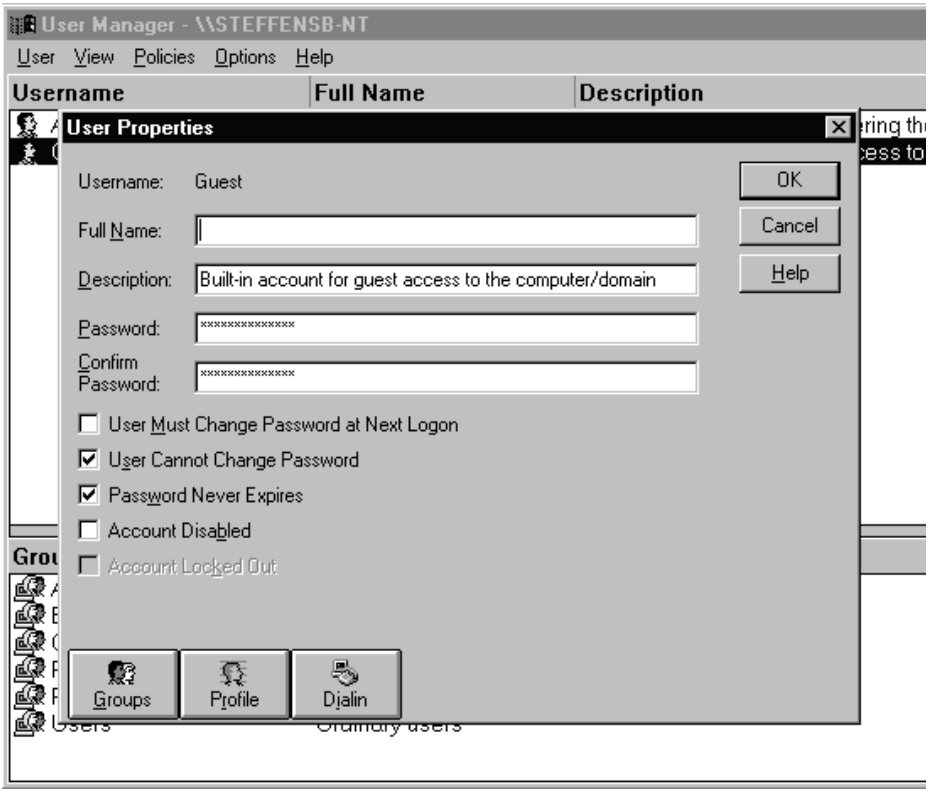
At both the Delta Workstation and the Prinergy server the *Guest* user must be set up as follows:

From the Windows NT Start menu, select *Start* > *Programs* > *Administrative Tools (Common)* > *User Manager for Domains* and start the program *User Manager*.

Select *User* > *Select Domain...* and enter the name of the local machine, e.g. *Delta_NT*. You can now set the user rights at the local machine.

In the upper section of the window, you now see the users who are logged on to the computer. Double-click the entry *Guest*.

The *User Properties* window now opens:



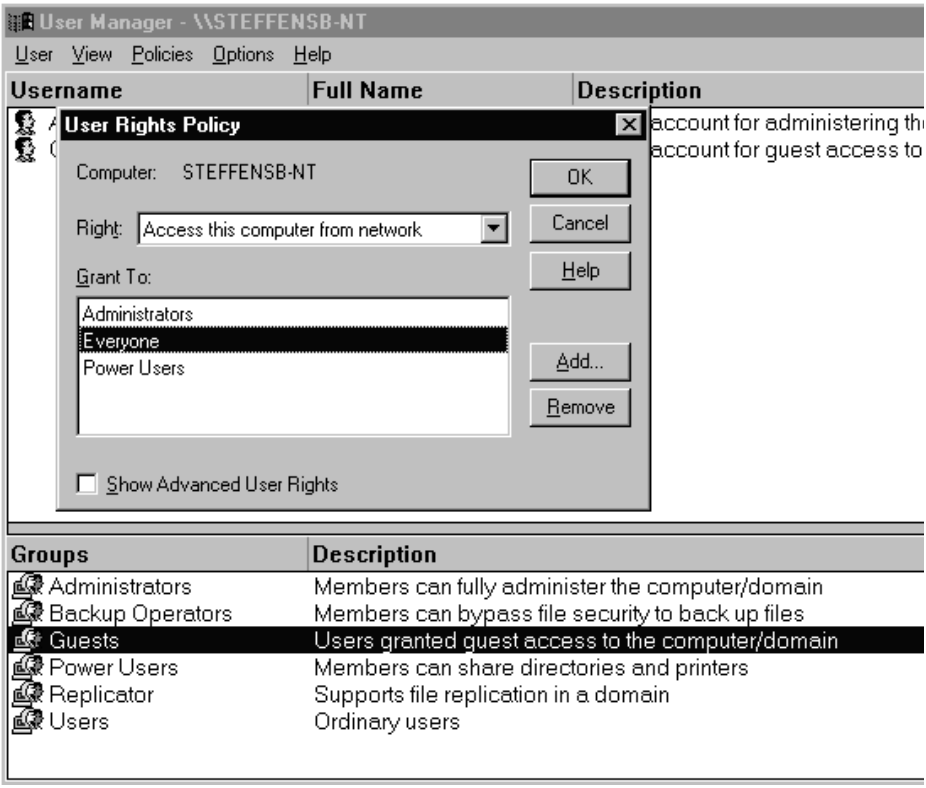
Do not change the values in the fields *Full Name:*, *Description:* and *Password:*. Set the other options as follows:

- *User Must Change Password at Next Logon*: inactive
- *User Cannot Change Password*: active
- *Password Never Expires*: active
- *Account Disabled*: inactive

Note: It is important that the final option is inactive since the Guest account must be enabled for communications to be possible between Prinergy and Delta Technology!

Now call *Policies* > *User Rights* from the menu.

This opens the *User Rights policy* window:



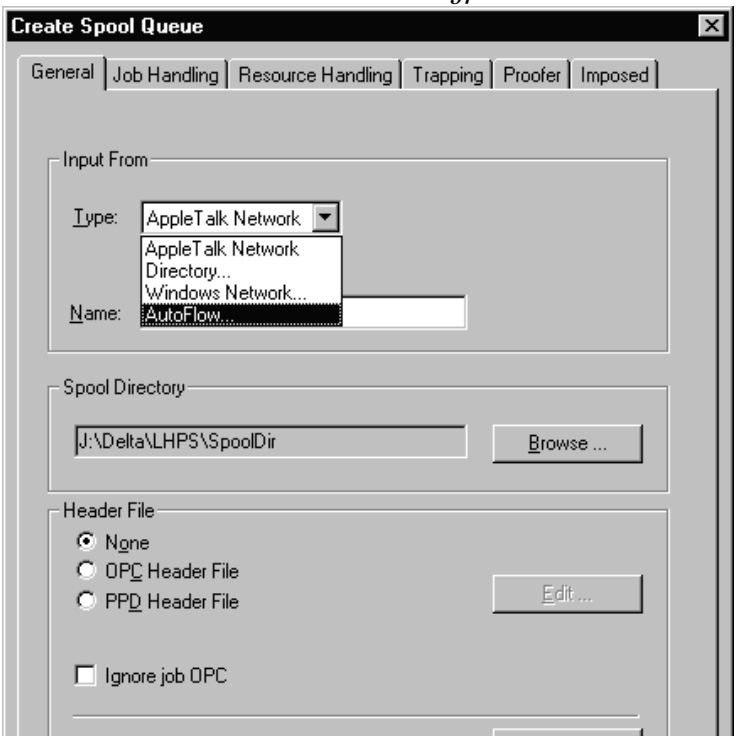
In the *User Rights Policy* dialog box, go to the drop-down list entitled *Right:* and select *Access this computer from network*. Make sure that

Everyone is selected in the *Grant To:* list. If not, click the *Add...* button to open the *Add Users and Groups* dialog box. In the *List Names From:* drop-down list, select the name of your local computer and select *Everyone*.

In the *User Rights Policy* dialog box, click *OK* to confirm and close the *User Manager for Domains* program. Network configuration is now terminated.

Setting up AutoFlow in the Delta Printmanager

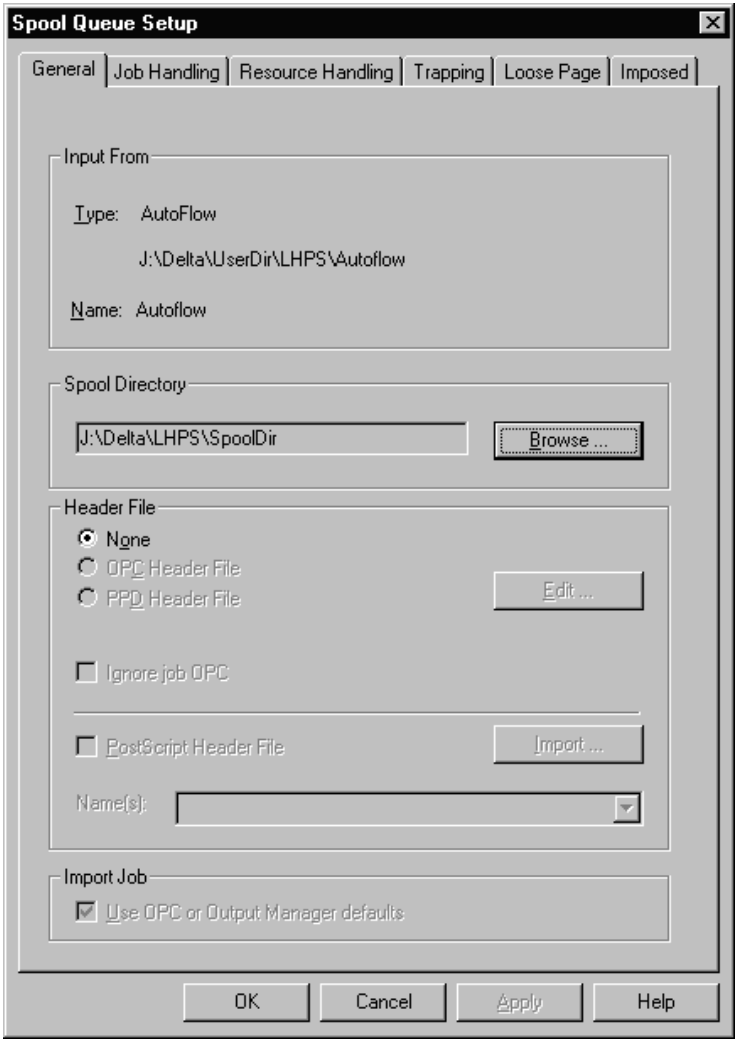
You can set up an AutoFlow queue directory in the Delta Printmanager by selecting the command *Queue > Create...* to open the *Create Spool Queue* dialog box in which you can select the *General* tab and set *AutoFlow...* under *Type:*.



You can set up multiple (maximum 32) AutoFlow queue directories with different configurations.

Note: If you are controlling multiple Delta output workstations you should give the AutoFlow queue directories names which indicate their function, for example “AutoFlow_InDir_TrendSet” or “AutoFlow_InDir_SigSet”.

Certain options which are available in a “normal” queue are locked in AutoFlow; in particular the options in the *Header File* and *Import Job* sections. All output options are controlled by Prinergy and any additional configuration of the queue settings would result in undesired or unpredictable output results. It is, however, possible to use the options for trapping, form and color proofing as well as for CIP3 and configure them for Prinergy output.


Spool Queue Setup
General
Job Handling
Resource Handling
Trapping
Loose Page
Imposed
Input From
Type: AutoFlow
J:\Delta\UserDir\LHPS\Autoflow
Name: Autoflow
Spool Directory
J:\Delta\LHPS\SpoolDir
Browse ...
Header File
None
OPC Header File
PPD Header File
Edit ...
Ignore job OPC
PostScript Header File
Import ...
Name(s):
Import Job
Use OPC or Output Manager defaults
OK
Cancel
Apply
Help

Defining the spool directory

For AutoFlow, the spool directory is used as a cache directory. This directory is used to collect and administer page Delta Lists for sheet output. Under certain circumstances, this may require a large amount of storage space. You should therefore consider whether the preset spool directory on the Delta Workstation possesses sufficient capacity or whether it might be sensible to set up the spool directory on another hard disk on the Delta Workstation. You can assign any name to the spool directory.

Additional tabs

If trapping, form proofing or single page proofing are to be performed in an AutoFlow process using Delta Technology then the corresponding options must be enabled at the Delta Workstation and the required output devices must be set up in the Delta Printmanager. The corresponding tabs can be found in the *Spool Queue Setup* dialog box.

The parameters in the *Trapping* tab should be set in the usual way for Delta Technology (see also the online help on the Delta Printmanager).

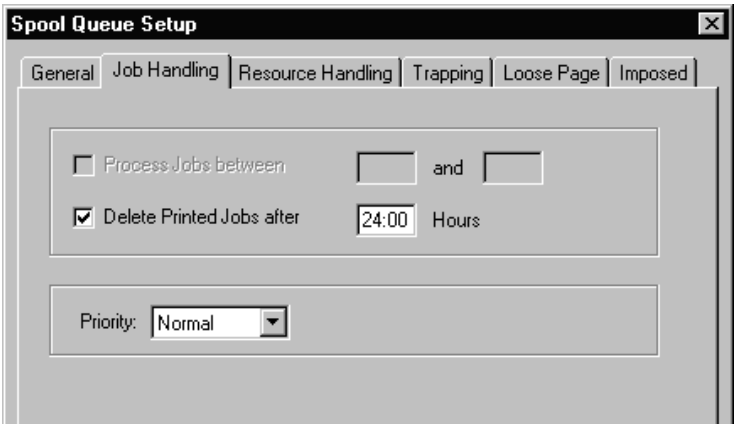
The *Loose Page* and *Imposed* tabs simply allow you to select the required output device and choose the options “Proof On” and “Proof Off”.



Note: Control of the workflow variants (trapping, proof) is the exclusive responsibility of Prinergy! The corresponding functions are simply provided by the Delta Printmanager.

Resource handling

In the *Resource Handling* tab you should either deactivate the automatic deletion of jobs (*Delete Printed Jobs after)* or set the period for automatic deletion to so high a value that no completed jobs are deleted even during the maximum throughput time possible for a customer job.



If you deactivate automatic job deletion then the data is retained in memory until the hard disk is “full” or until the Delta DriveMonitor stops the system. To prevent the hard disk from becoming full you must occasionally delete files which are no longer required from the hard disk by hand.

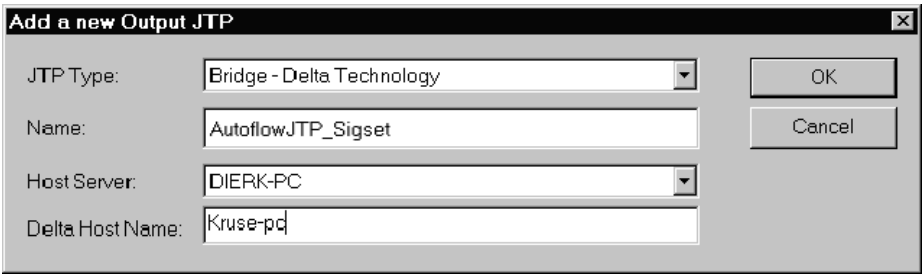
Configuring AutoFlow in Prinergy

Once AutoFlow queue directories have been installed on one or more Delta Workstations, it is possible to set up AutoFlow in Prinergy. This is performed in two stages:

- Generation of Job Ticket Processor for AutoFlow
- Setup of process plan for AutoFlow

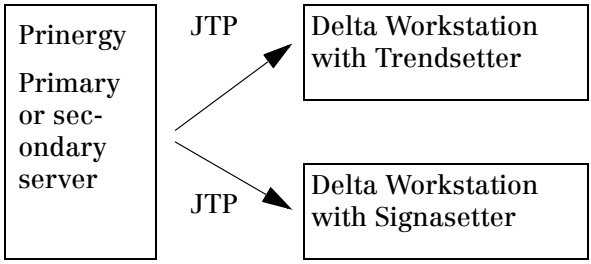
Generating a job ticket processor in Prinergy

At the Prinergy server, open the program *Prinergy Administrator* and select the command *JTP > Add a new Output JTP...* to open the *Add a new Output JTP* dialog box.

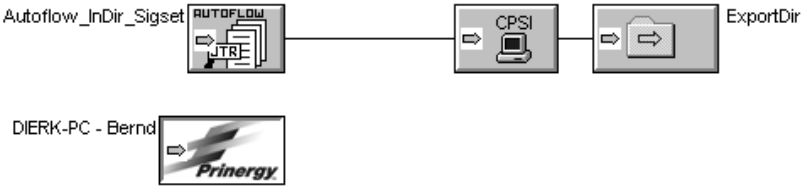


In the *JTP Type:* drop-down list, select *Bridge - Delta Technology.* Under *Name:* enter a name for this Job Ticket Processor. Under *Host Server:* select the Prinergy primary or secondary server on which this Job Ticket Processor is to run. In the *Delta Host Name:* field enter the host name of the Delta Workstation with which this Job Ticket Processor is to work. Now click *OK* to confirm.

Note: A Job Ticket Processor must be set up for each connection between Delta Technology and Prinergy.



The Job Ticket Processor is started immediately. If there is a network connection to the appropriate Delta Workstation and if Delta Technology is started then a started AutoFlow Job Ticket Processor is indicated by a special icon in the Delta Printmanager Configuration and Status window.

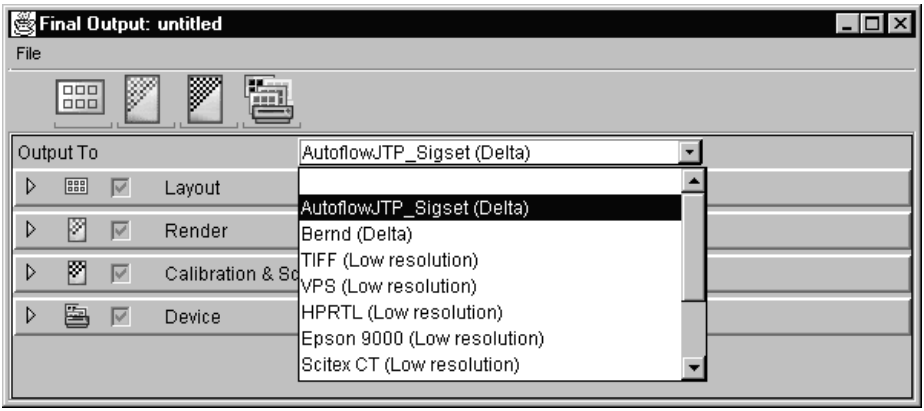


Note: If you double-click the Prinergy icon, then — just as in the case of a queue— a job list is opened.

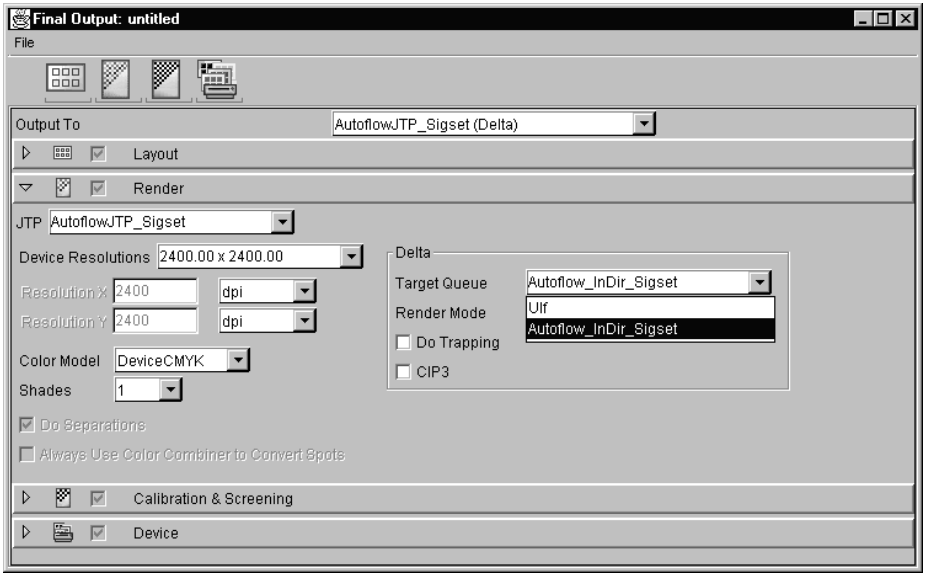
Generating a process plan for AutoFlow

1. Start the program *Prinergy Workshop*.
2. In the *Job Finder* program, choose *Tools* > *Process Plan Editor* to open the Process Plan Editor.

3. In the Process Plan Editor, select the process plan group *Final Output* and then choose *File > New Process Plan* to generate a new process plan (if you wish, you can set up an *AutoFlow* subgroup).
4. In the *Output To* drop-down list, select the created Delta AutoFlow Job Ticket Processor.



5. Open the *Render* section, enter *Delta* and select the required target queue. The names listed here are the names of the AutoFlow queue directories.



Once these settings have been made, then all the properties and parameters of the Delta AutoFlow queue directory are available in the Prinergy Process Plan Editor.

Note: If you have set up the AutoFlow options *Loose Page* and *Imposed* in the Delta Technology queue settings then you can also create process plans for single proof output and form proof output.

Outputting to Delta Prep Workstations

AutoFlow can also be installed in a Delta offline workflow. To do this, you must set up one (or more) AutoFlow queue directories on the Delta Prep Workstation. The queue directory is connected to a Delta output workstation via an export directory. A number of issues should be considered for an offline workflow with Prinergy:

- Proof output:
  If you want to output color or form proofs via Prinergy and Delta Technology/AutoFlow then all the proof devices must be set up as printers at the Delta Prep Workstation. In consequence, only the final output can be performed at a Delta output workstation.
- Configuration of the import queue:
  The import queue at the Delta output workstation should not modify any output settings for the jobs sent by Prinergy. In consequence, it is necessary to deactivate all queue settings in the import queue that could have an influence on the final output (OPC or PPD settings, PostScript header). It is particularly important to deactivate the option *Ignore Job OPC*!
- Differing Delta versions:
  For the offline workflow with Prinergy to be possible, it is essential that the same version of the Delta Tec software (version 6.0 or higher) is installed both on theDelta Prep Workstation and the output workstation. If an older version of the Delta Tec software is installed on the output workstation then it is not possible to guarantee correct output.

Working with AutoFlow

There are a number of things to be borne in mind when using Prinergy with Delta Technology Auto-Flow. In this section, you will find information on the following subjects:

- Output options at the Signastation
- Maximum exposable area (“Exposing Window”) on final output
- Processing spot colors
- Color management
- CIP3 marks
- Page scaling
- Page alignment
- Trapping
- Output response on job abort
- The “Mirror” parameter on final output
- Output with “tiling”

Output options at the Signastation

The *Bottling* function i.e. the rotation of the pages of a sheet by a very small angle, is not available within the Prinergy/Delta Technology Auto-Flow output process.

Maximum exposable area (“Exposing Window”) on final output

The maximum exposable area for final output is defined by the layout scheme used in Prinergy. If, for example, pull lays are created in the sheet layout at the Signastation and if only the signature is subsequently used as the layout scheme in Prinergy then the pull lays are “cut off” at the paper edges on final output.

To avoid this problem, you should assign a plate template to the signature on output (at the Signastation).

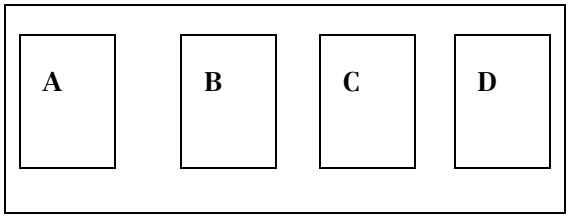
If you perform punching at the final output device, then you must take account of the effect of punching and consider a possible offset to the maximum exposable area when defining the sheet layout. If you create the sheet layout at a Signastation then the punch parameters and offset values can automatically be integrated in the sheet layout.

Processing spot colors

Empty page Delta Lists

If a print job contains spot colors then Delta Lists in all the separations that occur are created for all the pages of a sheet. Empty page Delta Lists are created for pages that have no content of one or more of the occurring colors.

Example:
A print job consists of four pages, A, B, C, D. Page A contains the four process colors C, M, Y, K plus the spot color “Dark red”. Pages B and C contain only the process color K (Black); page D contains only the spot color “Light blue”.



On final output, page Delta Lists are generated for all the pages in the list in all the occurring colors.

As a result, there are the following “empty” Delta Lists for the individual colors:

Page A: The color “Light blue”
Page B: The colors C, M, Y, “Dark red”, “Light blue”
Page C: The colors C, M, Y, “Dark red”, “Light blue”
Page D: The colors C, M, Y, K, “Dark red”

Elements with the attribute “use on all colors”

At the Signastation it is possible to assign the attribute “use on all colors” to certain elements, e.g. marks. If such marks, for example, are positioned on every page of the example layout above, then the “empty” pages also contain the positioned marks. Since this effect is not generally desired, the attribute “use on all colors” should only be used for very specific purposes in a Prinergy/AutoFlow process.

Delta Technology: replacement of spot colors with process colors

For form proofs or single page proofs, process colors (CMYK) can be used to replace spot colors in Delta Technology. When you do this, you can specify how spot color handling is to be performed in the printer settings for the output device in question. In Delta Technology the replacement of spot colors with process colors is usually performed via a “default” color table which you can call and edit using the *File > Ink table...* command in the Delta Printmanager.

For more information on the replacement of spot colors with CMYK, refer to the Delta Printmanager online help function or the manual *Delta Technology – User Guide/Workflow*.

If you want to use the replacement of spot colors with CMYK in conjunction with Prinergy/AutoFlow then you must set the parameter for the replacement of spot colors with process colors in Prinergy Workshop to *Separately* (see next section).

Prinergy: replacement of spot colors with process colors

The menu function *Edit > Color Separations...* in Prinergy Workshop is available only with restrictions. This function can be used to replace spot colors with CYMK colors. If output is to be performed via AutoFlow then no process colors can be assigned to spot colors in Prinergy. For this reason, only the options *Separately* or *Do Not Output* should be set.

If you want to replace spot colors with process colors in the pages of a print job, you must proceed as follows:

1. First perform “refining” in Prinergy Workshop (menu function *Refine* > *Refine* > *Jobxxx*).
2. Next set the required color assignment under *Edit* > *Color Separations...* and activate the option *Map Colors*.
3. Now repeat the refining process (menu function *Refine* > *Refine* > *Jobxxx*).

Spot colors present in marks

The Heidelberg process control strips (these are marks) contain “dummy” spot colors with the names U, V, X, Z.

For output, you can assign these spot color names to “genuine” spot colors which occur in the job. Thus, you can specify, for example, that the “dummy” spot color U is to be printed with the color “Pantone 642 CVC”.

To perform such an assignment you can follow the procedure described above involving the repeated refinement process.



Note: The marks may contain any dummy spot color names. However, these color names may not occur in the pages of the print job.

Color management

The color management used in Delta Technology (ICC color profile) is not supported by Prinergy. It is therefore necessary to make the color management settings in the Delta Printmanager. You do this when you configure printers (color, form proofers) and when you configure the AutoFlow queue directory (tabs *Loose Page*, *Imposed*) in the Delta Printmanager. For further information on

configuring color management in Delta Technology, refer to the Delta Printmanager online help function, the manual *Delta Technology – User Guide/Workflow* and the manuals describing Delta Proof, Delta Formproof and ColorFlash.

CIP3 marks

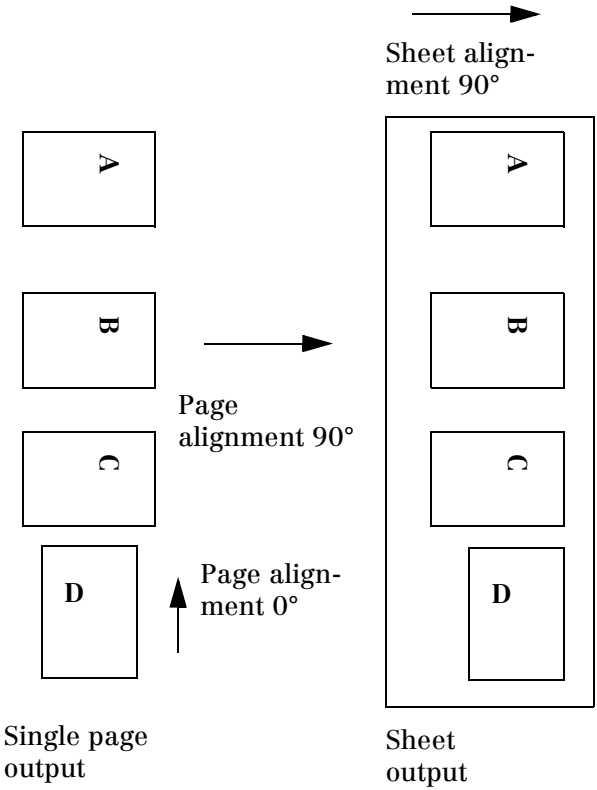
CIP3 fold and trimming marks, generated for example at the Signastation, cannot be processed via Prinergy and Delta Technology/AutoFlow. These CIP3 marks must be transferred directly to the corresponding processing machine (e.g. Polar COMPUCUT).

Page scaling

The scaling of pages and marks (in Signastation/ Preps or in Prinergy) is only supported in the range 50% – 200%. This should be taken into account when positioning pages in Prinergy (Set Page Geometry) or when generating signatures.

Page alignment

In Prinergy Workshop, pages are displayed with the same alignment (vertical, horizontal) that is used on output. The angles of rotation are 0° for vertical and 90° for horizontal. If it is necessary to rotate the entire sheet on the form proof or final output while the individual pages are aligned vertically relative to the sheet, then the pages for single page output and the sheets for form proof or final output must be parameterized with a rotation of 90°.



If, in a rotated sheet, a page is to be output horizontally relative to the rotated sheet, then it must have the angle of rotation 0° for single page output.

Trapping

The Delta Technology trapping functionality is parameterized in the *Trapping* tab of the AutoFlow queue directory in the same way as in Delta Technology. Before trapping can be performed, the option *Do Trapping* must be activated in Prinergy Workshop (*Render* section).

Cache response to modified trap settings

If trapping is performed during single page output, then the page Delta Lists and trap Delta Lists are “held” in the cache. If the trap parameters are modified for the repeated output of these pages, for example for final output or a form proof, then the system is not informed of this change, i.e. the pages from the cache are used for sheet output with the “old” trap settings.

To avoid output using undesired trap settings, the pages which have already been generated with the “old” trap parameters must be deleted manually via the job list of the AutoFlow queue directory. If sheet output is now started via Prinergy all the page Delta Lists are regenerated with the new trap parameters.

Output response on job abort

If output in Prinergy is aborted then the “ripping” of the pages (interpretation and generation of the page Delta Lists) is immediately aborted at the Delta Workstation.

If errors occur during the ripping of pages, job processing is also immediately aborted.

In both cases, any mark Delta Lists that have already been generated are immediately deleted.

If processing is aborted during sheet output, then the generation of the current sheet Delta List and any current sheet output are continued. However, it can happen that job processing is aborted because of the absence of mark Delta Lists.

The “Mirror” parameter on final output

For certain output devices (plate processors) Delta Technology usually sets the parameter *Mirror* (right-reading/mirrored output) automatically depending on the device profile file (IPR file). In a Prinergy/AutoFlow configuration this function operates just as in Delta Technology. If the *Mirror* parameter is deactivated in Prinergy, then mirroring is controlled in such a way that the printed result on the paper is unmirrored. If the *Mirror* parameter is activated then the printed result is mirrored.

When AutoFlow is used, page Delta Lists are always generated as right-reading.

Example: Output is sent to a Trendsetter plate processor. The *Mirror* parameter in Prinergy is deactivated.

Page Delta Lists are right-reading on output.

Sheet Delta Lists are adapted to the Trendsetter and mirrored on output.

Output with “tiling”

Output with “tiling”, i.e. with the possibility of subdividing a sheet layout into multiple smaller layouts, is not currently supported in Prinergy/AutoFlow.