CreoScitex

Prinergy TrapEditor
version 2.0

What is Trapping?

Trapping is a term that for some time has been widely used in the graphic arts industry. This term refers to the spreading and choking performed between two abutting colors.

Why Trap Colors?

Despite the greatest of care taken when printing colors, misregistration may still occur. Slight shifts (flashes, fringes) can occur at the contours of two abutting colors. To avoid such undesirable effects, minimal overlaps (traps) are created between objects and colors in the various separations.

For example, flashes occur if the films are mounted inaccurately or if the printing presses are not adjusted precisely. Flashes are also likely to occur if the paper used is affected by the machine or by temperature, air humidity and the moisture content of inks. If the abutting colors are relatively dark, even a very narrow flash is noticeable and cannot be overlooked.

Prinergy Trapping

The Principle of Prinergy Trapping is based on vector data. With this type of trapping, you can trap against other vector data and images. Trapping the inside of an image is not supported. The Prinergy trapper creates traps based on its internal rules controlled by the settings provided by the user. It evaluates the abutting colors and decides whether to trap or not, and, if so, the direction and color of the trap.

General guidelines

Only composite PDF pages are trapped. Copydot and large 1-bit raster images are not trapped.

Default trap direction: The lighter color moves under the darker color.

The following embedded fonts are trapped: Type 1, Type 3, TrueType

The following fonts are not trapped: Multiple Master fonts, Kanji-Fonts. Note that Multiple Master fonts are usually converted to Type 1 by the printer driver.

For further information on Prinergy Trapping and use of the Prinergy TrapEditor please refer to the CreoScitex Tech Library:
http://intranet.creo.com/support/docs/Prinergy/TrapEditor_Online_Help.pdf

Overview

- *What is Trapping?*
- *Why Trap Colors?*
- *General Trapping Rules*
- *Prinergy Trapping*

Troubleshooting

- *Get a description*
- *Trap JTP or TrapEditor*
- *Getting the file*
- *Released vs. Beta*
- *Still not working?*
- *Bug reporting*

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Prinergy TrapEditor Troubleshooting Guide

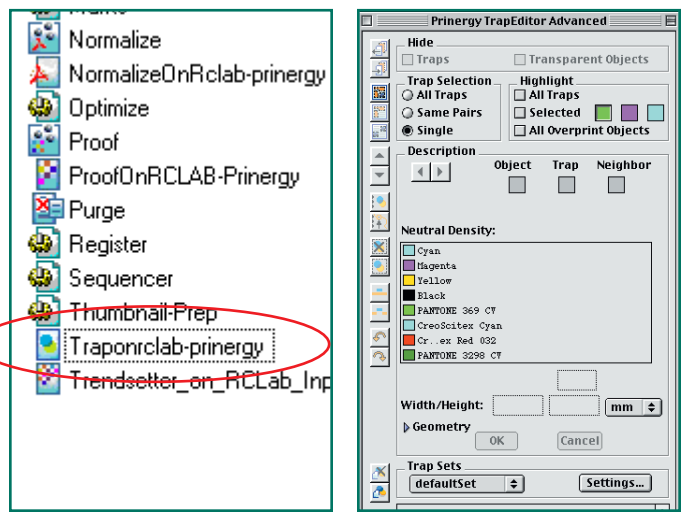


figure 1.0

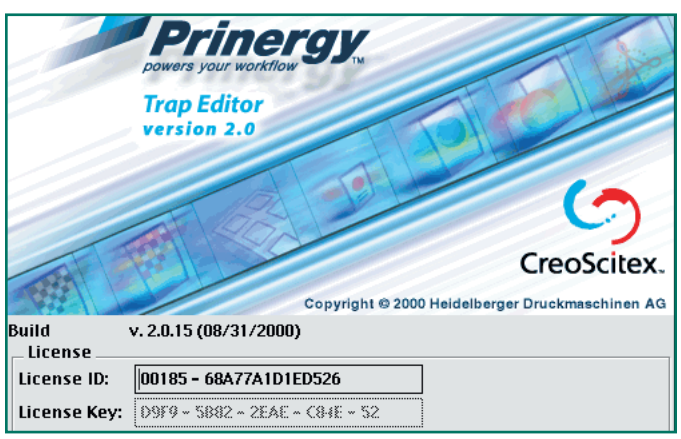


figure 1.1

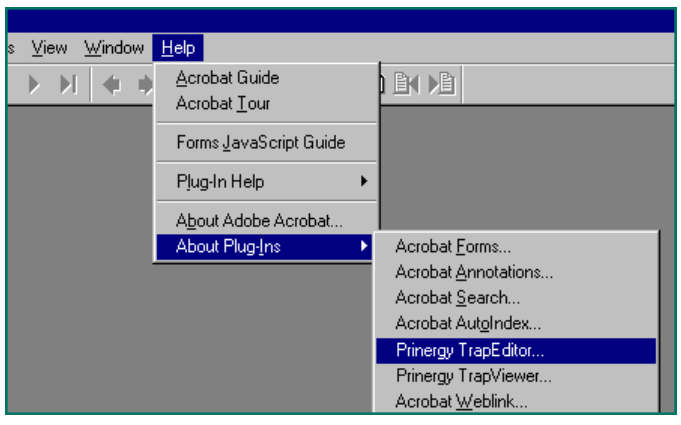


figure 1.2

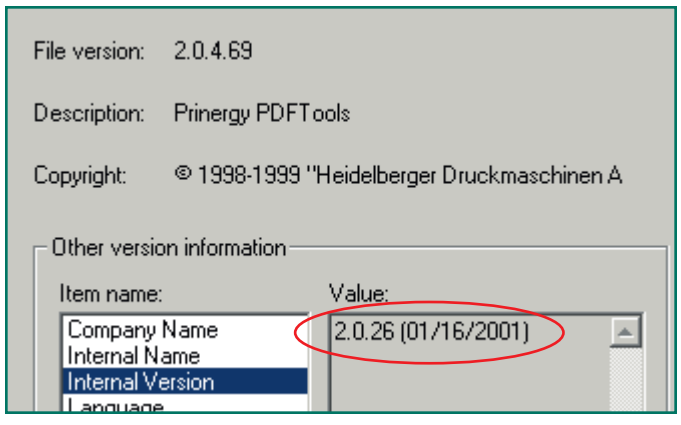


figure1.3

Step by Step troubleshooting

1 - Get a detailed description of the problem

If the customer is having trouble describing their problem, have them send a screenshot, or a VPS file, that shows the problem.

Check to see if the Colormatching step was ON in the Refining process plan. It should always be on when trapping. The color-matcher does a lot of cleanup work behind the scenes to make trapping work correctly.

2 - Trap JTP vs. TrapEditor

Find out if the problem is with the Trap JTP, the Trap Editor, or both. *see figure 1.0*

Find out what version of the trapper they are using.

There are a number of way to find out:

Trap Editor (MacOS): Open Acrobat. From the Apple menu, select About Plug-Ins, then select Prinergy Trap Editor on the submenu. You will get a dialog box, displaying the version e.g. "Prinergy TrapEditor v2.0.39". It also lists the version date. *see figure 1.1*

Trap Editor (WinOS): very similar to mac version, but select About Plug-Ins from the Help menu. *see figure 1.2*

Trap JTP (WinOS only): Go to the Prinergy Trap DLL, found here on the Prinergy server: **..\AraxiHome\AdobeExtreme\bin\HDAGTrap.dll**

Right-click on it, and select Properties. Select the Version panel, and read the Internal Version number in the Other Version information section. It will have a value something like this: 2.0.39 (03/29/01). *see figure 1.3*

3 - Get the problem file.

Get the PDF that illustrates the problem - don't worry about the original PostScript or source documents. 99% of all trapper problems can be reproduced with just the PDF.

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4 - Try to reproduce the problem with the latest Patch version.

Try trapping the PDF with the latest released trapper Patch (which you should have on your RC Prinergy server, or at least on your Macintosh or PC).

If it fixes the problem, upload the Patch to the customer's server and install it. Make sure the customer copies the new Trap Editor to their client systems.

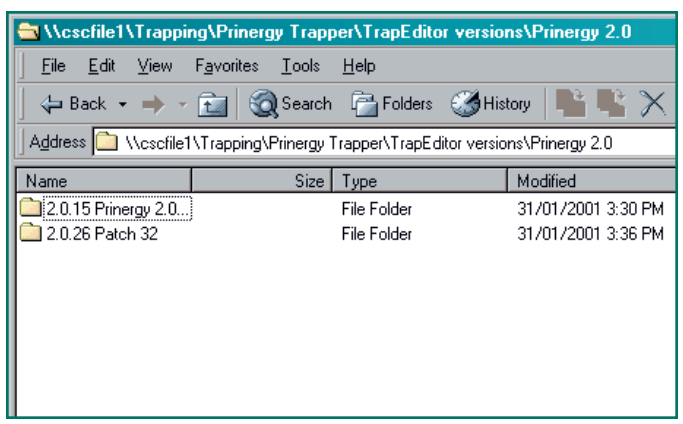


figure 2.0

5 - Try to reproduce the problem with the latest non released version.

Fails in latest Patch version? Try trapping with the latest unreleased Trap Editor. If that version fixes the problem, make sure you contact Gordon Miller (gordon_miller@creoscitex.com) for permission to manually install the latest version at the customer site.

If you are given permission to manually install an unreleased version, only give them the Trap Editor. It is easily installed by the customer, and doesn't wreak havoc with the Prinergy Patch database.

New Trap Editor (WinOS) versions will be downloaded to:
\\Cscfile1\Trapping\Prinergy Trapper\Trapeditor versions\Prinergy 2.0
see figure 2.0

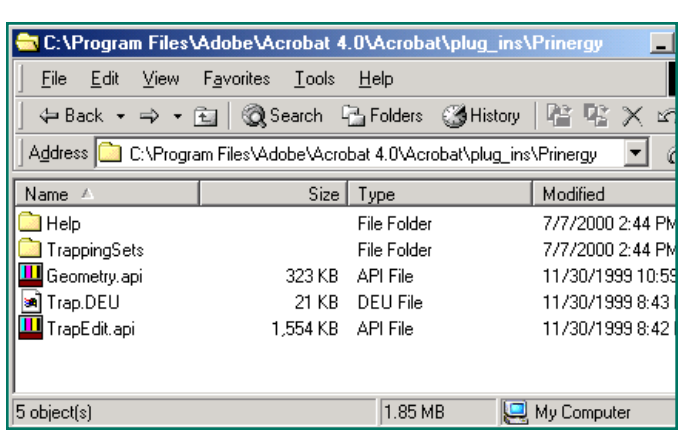


figure 2.1

Trap Editor (WinOS) is in a zip file. Extract the TrapEdit.api, PDFCMM.api, files to **\Acrobat 4.0\Acrobat\plug_ins\Prinergy**. Overwrite the files already in that directory (backing them up is optional).
see figure 2.1

New Trap Editor (MacOS) versions will be downloaded to zone:
2nd_Floor : Cscfile1 : Trapping : Prinergy Trapper : Trapeditor versions : Prinergy 2.0 :
see figure 2.2

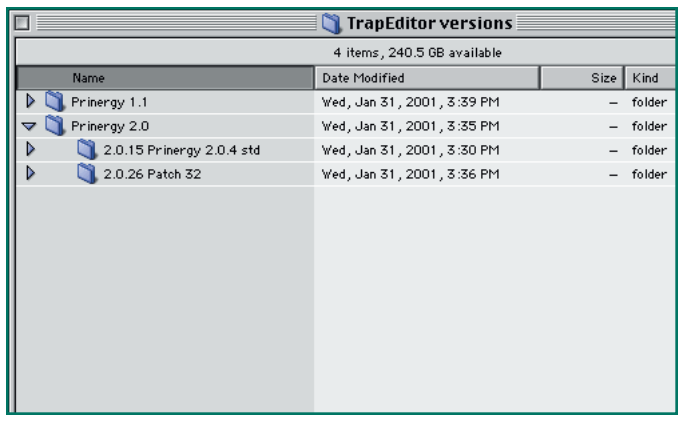


figure 2.2

Trap Editor (MacOS) is in an .hqx file. Extract the TrapEdit plugin to **..:Acrobat 4.0:Plug-ins:Prinergy Plug-Ins:**. Overwrite the files already in that directory (backing them up is optional). *see figure 2.3*

Please keep track of which sites have what unreleased versions.

We only want to install unreleased versions if we “really” have to. It's better to wait for an official patch if the customer has a workaround, or isn't in a hurry for a fix. Trapper Patches are usually released every two to three weeks.

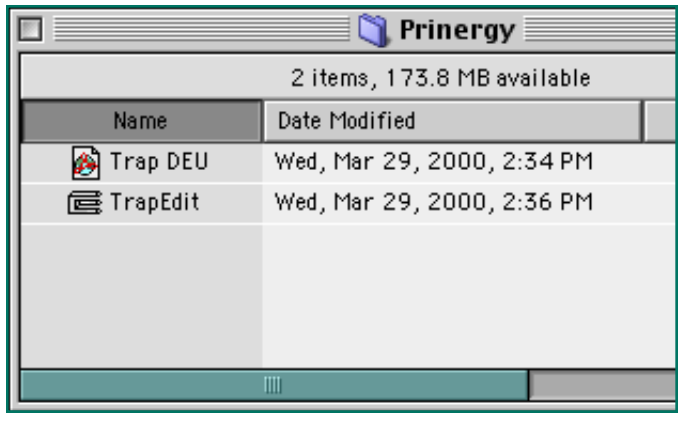


figure 2.3

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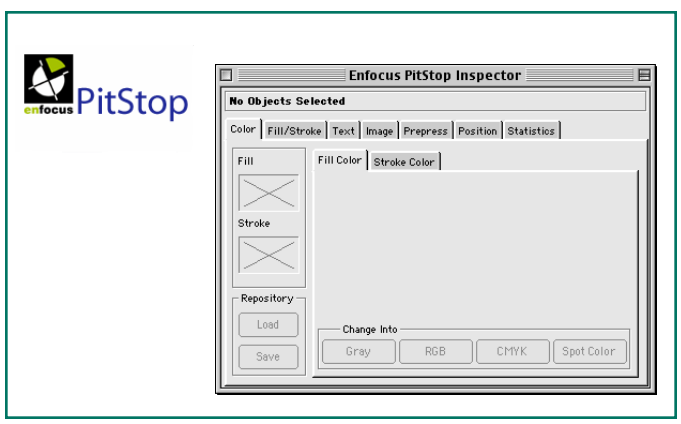


figure 3.0a

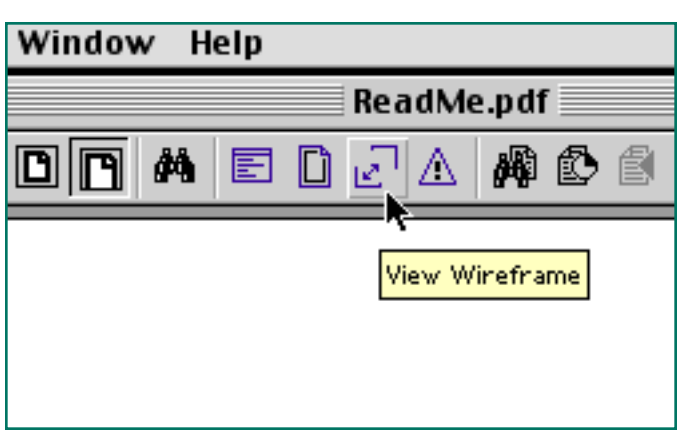


figure 3.0b

6 - Problem Analysis

Still not fixed? Here's some tips:

- Use **PitStop** plugin for Acrobat to examine the file. You can look for overprinting objects. View the file in Wireframe mode. Learn to use it. It's handy. *see figure 3.0*
- ***Note*** that the Trap Editor will have trouble reading or displaying it's traps after you start fiddling with **PitStop**. Just close the file without saving and re-open it.
- Try generating a high res (1000 dpi) VPS file. Acrobat has some problems displaying trapped objects correctly (e.g. doesn't display overprints, some trapped text looks bold, etc). You can double check everything with a high res VPS. If the problem doesn't show up in the VPS, it isn't going to show up on plate.
- Double check the trap parameter settings. If the customer has sent you the trapped file, you can open up the Parameters dialog box and have it display all the current trapping settings. *see figure 3.1*
- Check the Workarounds for the trapper on the Intranet. See if any apply to your problem.

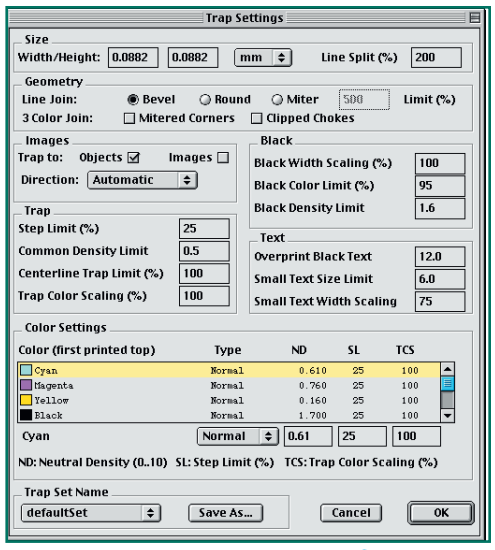


figure 3.1

7 - Bug reporting

Still no resolution?

Congratulations! You've found a real bug!

Copy the problematic PDF to new folder in:

\\Cscfile1\Trapping\Prinergy Trapper\Trapeditor versions\Prinergy 2.0\Problems

(suggestion: use the Clarify call number as the folder name) and email **Gordon Miller** (gmiller@creo.com) with the Clarify number, details of the problem, and what you've tried.

If you don't receive an acknowledgement within a day, contact **Simon Chen** (schen@creo.com).