PRINT CONSOLE SPECIFICATIONS

Current Revision

3.1

Product Description

Print Console is software that connects a Digital Front End (DFE) to Creo's thermal Computer To Plate (CTP) devices. It provides a user interface for the CTP operator, software interfaces for a DFE to submit jobs to the CTP, and logic to control the operation of the CTP.

Prerequisites

- One of the following CTP models. Contact your sales representative for details on specific models supported:
  - Trendsetter
  - Platesetter
  - ThermoFlex VLF
- A DFE to supply jobs. Presently qualified DFE connections include the following. Contact your sales representative for details on which devices are qualified with a given workflow.
  - Prinergy (direct connection for plating; TIFF for proofing),
  - Brisque (TIFF or Direct connections),
  - Certain 3rd Party Workflow vendors
- A Creo server running Windows 2000. The DFE must be approved for use on the server.

Available Configurations

- Prinergy:
  - Prinergy Connectivity option, which includes server and software. Refer to Prinergy specification.
- Brisque:
  - Print Console Workstation, which includes server and software.
- TIFF Front End:
  - TIFF Front End, which includes server and software. Refer to TIFF Front End specification.
- 3rd Party DFE:
  - Print Console Workstation, which includes server and software.
- Software only:
  - Print Console Software (for use on an existing approved server).

Components

- Print Console Low-Cost Workstation
  - Dell Optiplex Workstation
  - Print Console Software (see below)
- Print Console Dual CPU Workstation
  - Dell 2500H Server
  - Print Console Software (see below)
- Print Console Software
  - Print Console application software
  - Connection to one DFE (controlled by License Keys) via:
    - Direct Connection (software interface), or
    - TIFF Downloader for imaging 1-bit TIFF files.
  - Quick Start Guide
  - DFE connectivity technical bulletin
  - Operator training as part of on-site installation

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Options:

- NFS software if TIFF files are submitted from a Unix DFE.
- A second DFE connection (e.g. TIFF Downloader).
- Copydot Toolkit Viewer for TIFF connections. Refer to Copydot Toolkit specifications.

Input

- Jobs submitted via direct connection or as 1-bit TIFF files.
- Status messages from the CTP.
- Job control from the CTP operator.

Output

- Job processing status to the DFE. Available with direct connection only.
- Commands to control the CTP
- CTP status and prompts to the CTP operator.

General Functions

- Provides a connection from the DFE to the CTP.
- Sequences the operation of the CTP to image thermal plates, film, digital halftone proofs, or blueline proofs according to the CTP's capabilities.
- Displays the operational state and history of the CTP to the operator.
- Allows the operator to control the operation of the CTP.

Specific Functions

- Direct Connection
  - Responds with the capabilities of the CTP.
  - Accepts jobs for imaging on the CTP. Jobs include information about how the separations are to be processed.
  - Responds with the status of submitted jobs.
  - Accepts requests to cancel jobs that have been submitted.
- TIFF Connection
  - Generates a PPD file, conforming to Adobe's 4.2 PPD specifications, to identify the capabilities of the CTP to the DFE.
  - Hot folders provided automatic input of TIFF files.
  - Print Setups may be associated with hot folders. Each file becomes a job with processing information defined by the Print Setup.
  - A pending job queue provides the ability to view, edit, cancel and remake TIFF jobs.
- Sequences the operation of the CTP
  - Directs the CTP to load/unload media appropriate for the job.
  - Directs the CTP to image the media with settings that are derived from the job's properties (e.g. imaging mode).
  - Synchronizes the release of raster, from the DFE or the TIFF Downloader, with the imaging process on the CTP.
  - Coordinates the operation of 2 TIFF Downloaders for a CTP with 2 imaging heads.
  - Directs the CTP to image raster according to device-specific options (e.g. shift image origin)
  - Coordinates the recovery of errors detected in the CTP.
- Displays the operational state and history of the CTP to the operator.
  - Displays the current state of the CTP graphically.
  - An active job queue provides the ability to view the status of the jobs that are currently being processed by the CTP.
  - A processed job queue provides the ability to view the results of previously processed jobs.
  - Prompts the operator for action to complete processing of a job or to recover from an error.

- Displays a history of significant events related to the processing of jobs and status of the CTP.
- Allows the operator to control the operation of the CTP.
  - A configuration interface allows the operator to define system, media usage, print setup and hot folder options.
  - A pending job queue provides the ability to view, edit (TIFF jobs only) and cancel jobs before they become active.
  - A processed job queue provides the ability to remake a previously processed job if the TIFF files are still available.

Performance Consult a Creo Representative.