

PrintConsole

Print Console 2.0 Installation

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Print Console 2.0 Installation

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1. INTRODUCTION

If you are familiar with the installation of Print Console 1.0 or 1.1, be aware of the following differences with Print Console 2.0:

- Print Console 2.0 supports all ex-Creo devices (output devices from the portion of the company formerly known as Creo).
- Print Console 2.0 supports Intel platforms; it does not support Alpha platforms.
- Windows 2000 is the preferred operating system for Print Console 2.0, though it will support Windows NT SP4 for a short period of time (approximately one year).

2. SCOPE

This document explains the various installation options for Print Console 2.0 output device control software. This document does not cover the use of Print Console: please refer to the Print Console 2.0 user documentation listed in the "Related Documentation" section below.

The following topics are covered:

- Related Documentation
- Requirements
- Installation, including:
  - Clean installation
  - Migrating setting from existing workstation software to Print Console 2.0
  - Installing Test Files
  - Installing Print Console on a system where a version of Workstation Software already exists
  - Updating an existing installation of Print Console
  - Uninstalling Print Console
- Configuration

3. RELATED DOCUMENTATION

Print Console now has a context-sensitive Online Help system. It contains reference material and procedural information for all features and functions of Print Console.

Other documentation:

- Print Console 2.0 Migration Guide (77-0128A-A-PR01)
- Print Console 2.0 Quick Start Guide (03-4160A-A)
- Print Console 2.0 Release Notes (06-3287C)
- For Prinergy 1.1 installations, Prinergy Hardware Configuration and Windows NT Installation (72-3294A), and Prinergy Installation Guide (03-4121A)

- For Prinergy 2.0 installations, Prinergy Hardware Configuration and Windows NT Installation and Prinergy Installation Guides (approximate availability: October 2000).
- For ThermoFlex installations, TIFF Front End Server Installation Procedure (73-3344A)

4. REQUIREMENTS

Print Console 2.0 requires a workstation/server preferably running Windows 2000 (Print Console currently supports Windows NT SP4, but may **not** support it in the future). NetBEUI and TCP/IP network protocols must be installed and configured. If Unix network connectivity is required, Hummingbird NFS must also be installed and configured.

Note that Print Console is installed on different workstations depending on the output device and workflow. For a ThermoFlex workflow, Print Console is installed on the TIFF Front End server; for Prinergy, Print Console is installed on the Prinergy Render Station (secondary server); for integration with a third-party RIP (including Brisque), Print Console is installed on a CRI Workstation; for Delta, Print Console is installed on the Delta Workstation provided by Heidelberg.

Workstations/servers that Print Console is to be installed on should include high-resolution, 24-bit video cards, optimized for the Windows Graphics Device Interface (GDI), with a minimum of 4MB of video RAM. The workstation's video display must be set to a minimum of 800 by 600 pixels and a minimum of 65536 colors in order to install and run the Print Console software; however 1024 by 768 resolution and true color (24-bit) display are recommended.

Because Print Console resides on a workstation that is connected to an output device, Print Console shares, by default, the same system environment requirements as similar workstations (an Allegro Workstation, for example) and the various output devices that they can control. For more information, refer to the Allegro Workstation Installation Procedure (73-2085A) and to the site requirements documents for any of the Print Console 2.0-qualified output devices.

Disk space requirements for a Print Console installation are as follows:

Print Console directory	~92.3MB (includes full set of animation images for one output device and online help files)
CreoSupt directory	~8.7MB
PDF directory	~10.8MB
TestFiles directory	~20.1MB
Service directory	~1.5MB
Spool directory	Data dependent
Total	Approximately 133MB*

*This figure represents the amount of disk space needed to install Print Console. Since the disk space required for the Spool directory fluctuates, you will need more disk space to actually operate Print Console once installed.

5. INSTALLATION

In order to install Print Console you must be logged on to the workstation/server as a user with administrative rights to that computer.

The Print Console 2.0 install CD includes a single install program for the Intel platform (the Alpha platform is no longer supported). The installation program's main screen (Figure 5.1), which features a number of options down the right side of the dialog box, should automatically display shortly after you insert the install CD into the workstation's CD drive. If the install screen doesn't automatically appear, manually start the program by running **autorun.exe**.



Figure 5.1

The installation program offers the following options:

- **Print Console**–installs Print Console control software for the selected device model, with the Sample RIP (RIP simulator software)
- **Test Files**–installs a number of test files (note that additional device-specific test files will be provided on separate CDs)
- **Configure Software**–installs/configures Print Console options that you may have skipped during the initial installation
- **Print Console Utility**–backs-up and/or restores Print Console settings (from a previous installation)
- **Select Device**–add/removes animation images for additional output devices, and to configure Print Console to interface with a different device
- **Migrate Settings**—migrates certain settings from existing CreoScitex device control applications.

The installation program makes a number of checks to determine what type of installation it will do. For each different type of installation, the location of directories, files, and registry entries are different. The screens and prompts displayed also vary depending on the type of installation being performed. The first time you run the Print Console installation program, the clean install option is automatically selected (refer to the following "Clean Install" section). If you have previously installed Print Console, the installation program instead offers several upgrade options (see "Updating an Existing Installation of Print Console" on page 15).

5.1 Clean Install

The first time you run the Print Console installation program, the clean install option is automatically selected.

5.1.1 Installing Print Console

Selecting the installation program's Print Console option installs Print Console control software for the selected device model, PDF documentation, and a number of other folders and files. After the installation, Print Console will be configured in the registry to run in production mode with the chosen output device.

Note that Print Console is installed on different workstations depending on the output device and workflow:

- For a ThermoFlex device, Print Console is installed on the TIFF Front End server (TIFF Front End includes TIFF Assembler, Copydot Toolkit Viewer, and Print Console). Install Print Console according to the instructions that follow, and ensure that the TIFF Downloader option is enabled, that the Auto Logon option is *disabled*, and that the Spool Drive points to T (DATAOUT drive) during the install.

  CAUTION! DLL conflicts can occur during a TIFF Front End/Print Console installation! Ensure you install Print Console before installing TIFF Assembler. For more information, refer to the TIFF Front End server installation documentation.

- For a Delta system, refer to the Delta installation documentation, as the Delta installation includes Print Console. For information about configuring Print Console for Delta, refer to "Delta Configuration" on page 27.

- For integration with other third-party RIPs, Print Console is installed on a CRI Workstation.

- For a Prinergy system, Print Console is installed on the Prinergy Render Station (secondary server):

  1. Install and configure the Prinergy Render Station according to the "Prinergy Hardware Configuration and Windows NT Installation" document (72-3294A).

  2. Install Print Console according to the instructions that follow, and ensure that the TIFF Downloader option is enabled during the install. (Note that a Prinergy installation of Print Console requires different install locations: the Print Console drive should be D: and the Spool drive should be E:).

  3. Follow the "Setting Up Output Devices" instructions in the "Prinergy Installation Guide" document (03-4121A).

To perform a standard installation of Print Console with the TIFF Downloader enabled:

1. Close any running applications.

2. The main screen, which features several installation options down the right side of the dialog box, should automatically pop up when you insert the install CD into the workstation's CD drive. If the install screen doesn't automatically appear, manually start the **autorun.exe**.

3. Click the **Print Console** option button.

4. The Welcome dialog box appears (see Figure 5.2). Click **Next >** to proceed (or click **Cancel** to exit the setup program).



Figure 5.2

5. The Output device dialog box appears (see Figure 5.3). Select the appropriate device and port, and click **Next >** to proceed. Some device models have "+" versions, for example, Trendsetter 3244+. The "+" refers to devices that have alternative color shells. Make sure to select the output device image that matches the actual device.

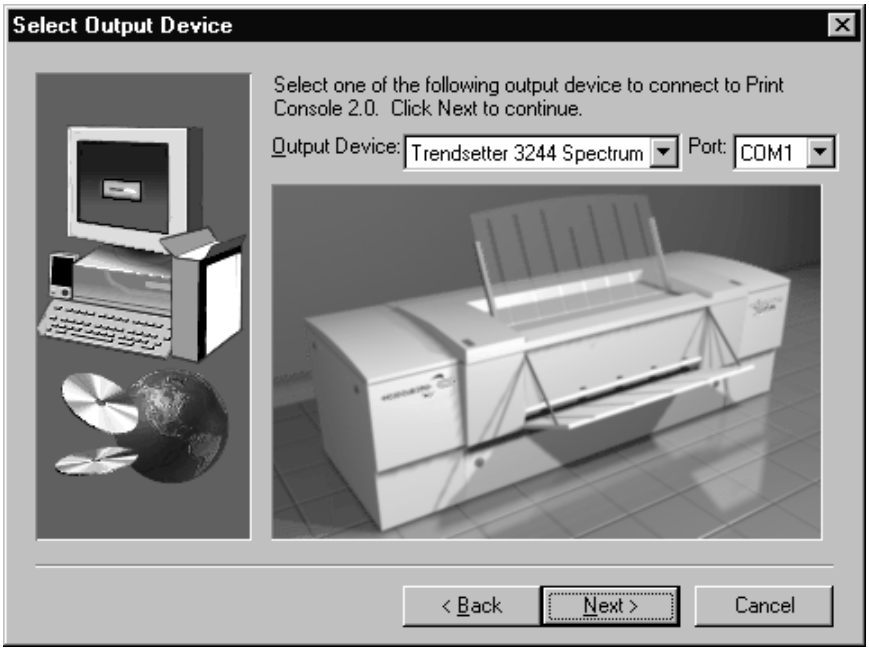


Figure 5.3

6. The Destination location dialog box appears (see Figure 5.4). Select a location for the Print Console software (the default is E: drive) and a location for the spool folders (the default is D: drive), and click **Next >** to proceed.

Note: for best performance, ensure the Spool drive and the Print Console drive are on different physical drives (although the install program should choose the best option depending on the application server).

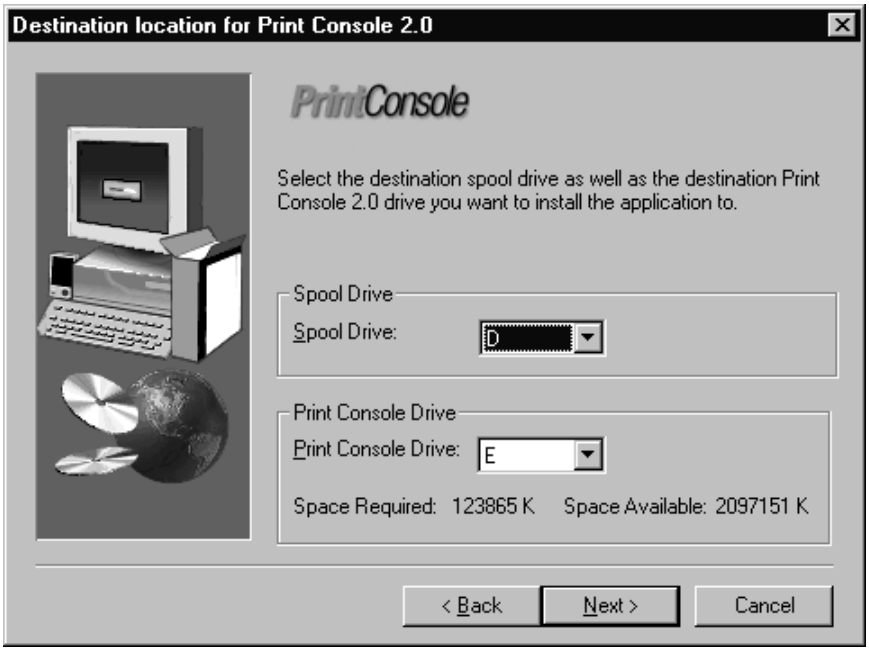


Figure 5.4

7. The Configure Print Console dialog box appears (see Figure 5.5). Select the TIFF Downloader option if you want TIFF Downloader to be installed and enabled. Select the Auto Logon if you want the workstation to automatically log onto the network as “PCOperator”. Select this option if it is appropriate for your workflow configuration. Select English or German depending on the language you want for the Online Help system.

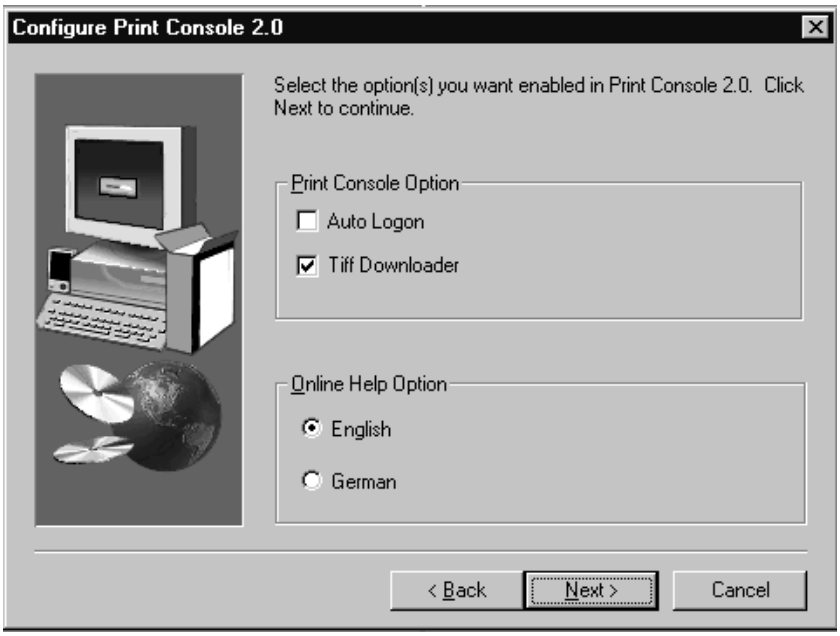


Figure 5.5

8. The Confirm Installation dialog box appears (see Figure 5.6). Review the choices you have made, then click **Next >** to proceed (or click **< Back** to return to previous screens in order to change installation options and settings).

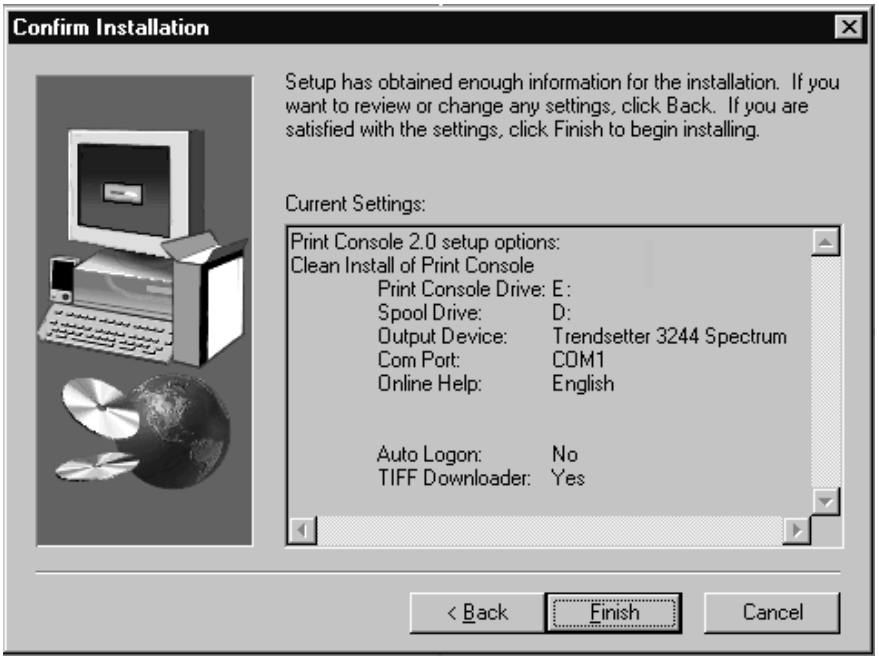


Figure 5.6

The Print Console installation begins, and the various executables and DLLs are copied to the **\PrintConsole\bin** directory.

9. When the installation is complete, a readme.txt file appears warning you to make sure the gc mss value (geometric correction main scan shift) in the device firmware matches the value in the Clip for Leading Edge Clamp in the Device Margins tab in the Print Console Service pane. If these values do not match, you much **change the value in the firmware**; otherwise, image shifting may occur. Follow the directions in the Readme document to ensure this does not happen.

Note: this step is not necessary for the Trendsetter 400 because the gc mss value is passed to Print Console automatically via a binary connection.

10. Close the Readme.txt file. If the installation detects existing CreoScitex device control software on the workstation, it displays a dialog box prompting you to migrate the settings to Print Console. For more information on the Migration Utility, refer to the Migrating Existing Workstation Software to Print Console 2.0 section on page 10 (next section).

Note: You can run the migration utility during the installation process by selecting “Yes” when prompted, or at any point in the future by clicking the Setup.exe file on the Print Console installation CD and choosing the Migrate Settings option.

11. A message box appears: click the **OK** button.

5.1.2 Migrating Existing Workstation Software to Print Console 2.0

If you installed Print Console on a system that has other CreoScitex Workstation Software (Print Console 1.x, Allegro Workstation 1.2/1.7, or PCS/TCS 2.0), the Installation program will launch the Migration Utility after the installation is complete. This utility allows you to automatically copy some settings, such as Print Setups, Media Sizes, Preferences, and so on, from existing Creo device control software to Print Console 2.0. You can migrate certain settings from these applications:

- Allegro Workstation 1.2
- Allegro Workstation 1.7
- Platesetter Console Software 2.0
- Trendsetter Console Software 2.0
- Print Console 1.0
- Print Console 1.1

This section shows how to use the Migration Utility. For a list of settings that can be migrated from each workstation application, refer to the Print Console 2.0 Migration Guide (77-0128A-A-PR01—not yet available). You can either run the Migration Utility from during the installation of Print Console 2.0, or at any point in the future from the Print Console 2.0 CD.

To run the migration:

1. If you are starting the migration during the Installation of Print Console, click OK when presented with the Migration prompt box.

   If you are starting the migration from the CD, double-click the Setup.exe file and select the Migrate Settings button from the Print Console Setup screen.The Migration Welcome screen appears. Click **Next >** to proceed.

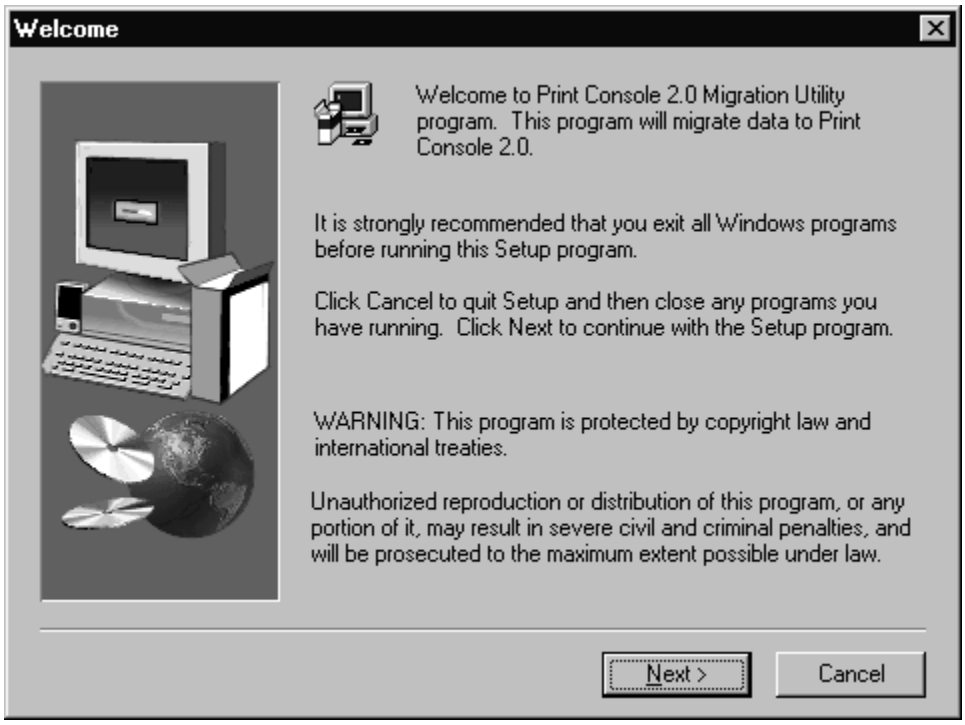


Figure 5.7

3. If the Migration Utility recognizes one or more Creo Workstation applications, it lists them on this screen. Select the appropriate software and click **Next >** to proceed.

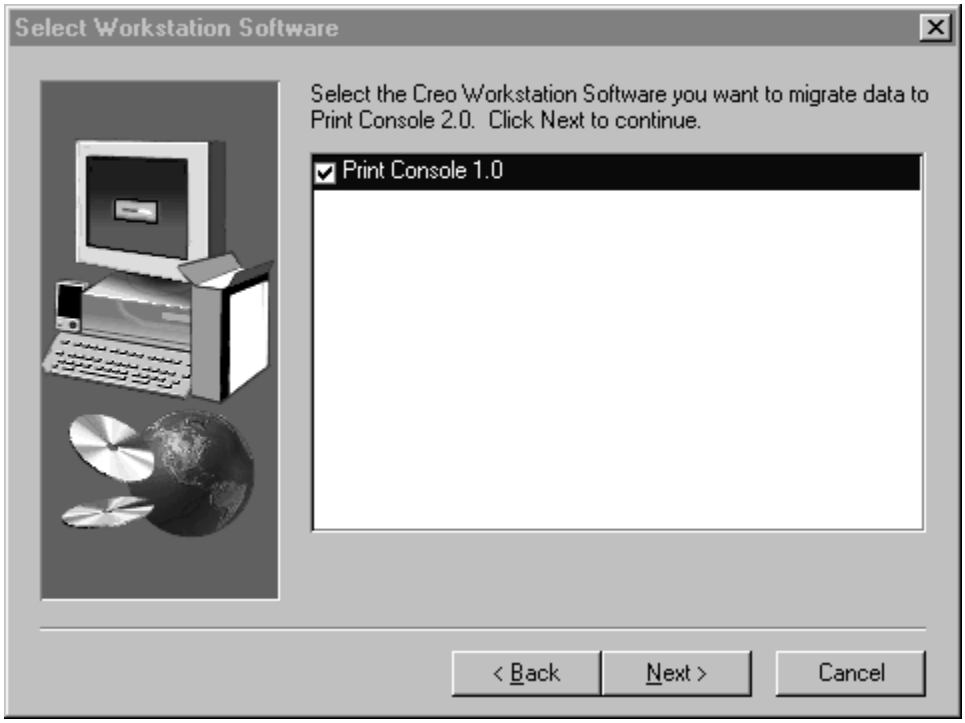


Figure 5.8

4. The Select Components screen appears with a list of settings in that software. Select the settings you want to migrate to Print Console 2.0 and click **Next >** to proceed.

   Note: this list differs depending on the Creo Workstation Software selected. For example, the list of settings to be migrated for Allegro 1.2 is different from that of Print Console 1.0.

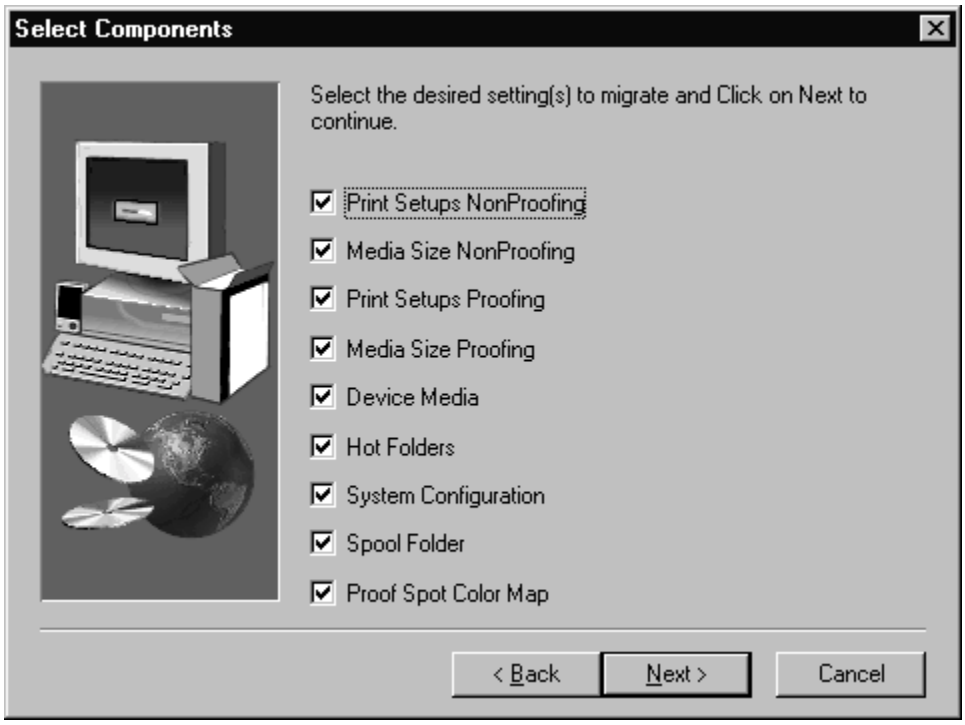


   Figure 5.9

5. Confirm the settings to be migrated on the Confirm Installation screen and click **Next >** to proceed. The Migration Utility then installs these settings in Print Console 2.0.

6. Press OK when the migration is complete.

Because of functional differences between the other device control software and Print Console 2.0, certain settings from the previous device control software do not have equivalents in PC 2.0 and cannot be migrated. For example, in AWS1.7/PCS2, you can attach a hot folder to an output media. In Print Console 2.0, you can only attach a hot folder to a print setup. Likewise, there are Allegro RIP-specific imposition modifiers available in AWS 1.7/PCS2 that do not have equivalents in PC2.

Therefore, whenever performing a migration to PC 2.0, check the PC 2.0 configuration carefully to ensure that all settings are appropriate to your workflow configuration. Again, for a comprehensive list of which settings can be migrated from each workstation software application, refer to the Print Console 2.0 Migration Guide (77-0128A-A).

5.1.3 Installing Test Files

The Test Files option installs a number of test files. These are a series of simple TIFF files that you can output, using TIFF Downloader as the RIP, to ensure that the workstationand the

device are communicating properly. CDs with additional, output-device-specific test files are also available.

To install the Print Console Test Files:

1. Close any running applications and open the Print Console installation program (if not already open).
2. Click the install program's **Test Files** option button.
3. The Test Files Installation dialog box appears (see Figure 5.10). Select a location for the files (the default folder is **TestFiles**) and click **Next >** to proceed (or click **Cancel** to exit the setup program).

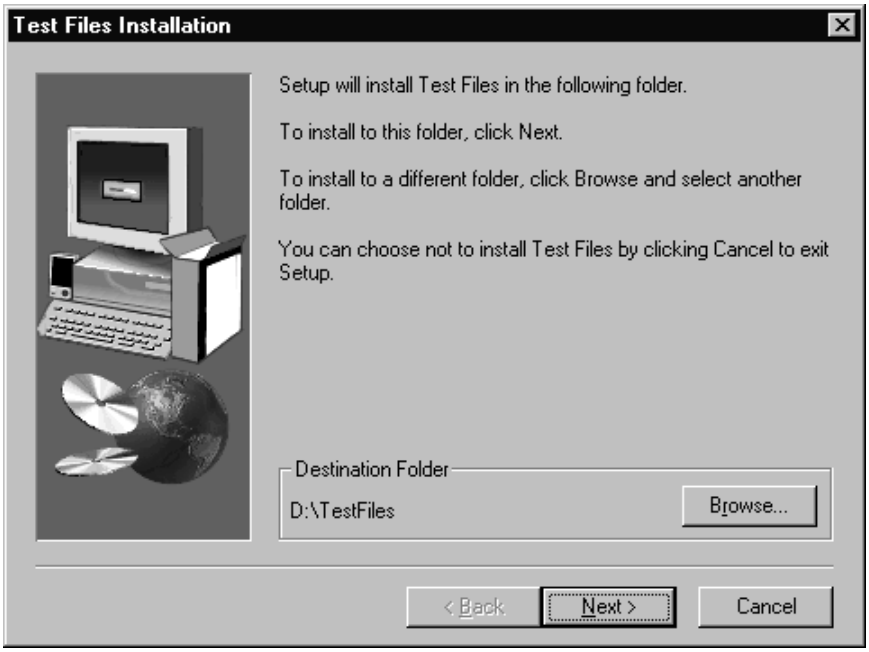


Figure 5.10

4. The Confirm Installation dialog box appears (see Figure 5.11). Click **Next >** to proceed.



Figure 5.11

5. The Test Files installation begins. When the installation is complete, a message box appears, indicating that the files installed successfully: click the **OK** button.

5.2 Installing Print Console on a System Where a Version of Workstation Software Already Exists

Although you can't upgrade a workstation to Print Console from the 1.2b (or any other) stream of Workstation Software, you can install Print Console on a different logical drive on a system where a version of Workstation Software already exists.

To create a virtual drive that you can install Print Console to:

1. Create a folder on the drive you wish to install to. For example, **E:\VDrive**.
2. Create a batch file called **DriveSubst.bat**.
3. Include the following text:

```
subst V: /d
subst V: E:\VDrive
```

   ...where /d deletes the drive mapping/substitution if already present.

4. Save **DriveSubst.bat** and move it to the **Winnt\Profiles\All Users\Start Menu\Programs\Startup** folder so that it is run when each time the workstation is rebooted.

You can now install Print Console to the new virtual drive (V drive in this case), as described in “Installing Print Console” on page 4.

Note that when Print Console is installed on a system where a version of Workstation Software already exists, the Auto Logon feature works a bit differently. When you first log on to the workstation, the Auto Logon feature will automatically choose the new Print Console PCOperator user account (which triggers the new **PCop.bat** file). To start the old Workstation Software, log off and log back on using the old CTPOperator user account (which triggers the old **CTPop.bat** file).

5.3 Updating an Existing Installation of Print Console

5.3.1 Backing-Up Print Console Settings

Before updating an installation of Print Console you may use the install program’s Print Console Utility option to backup the configuration settings of your present installation. If the upgrade does not work, you can restore the earlier Print Console version and settings. Settings that are backed up include print setups and input channels (the entire Print Console registry key is backed up). A copy of this utility is also installed along with the Print Console control software and accessible from the Windows Start menu in the “Print Console 2.0” program grouping.

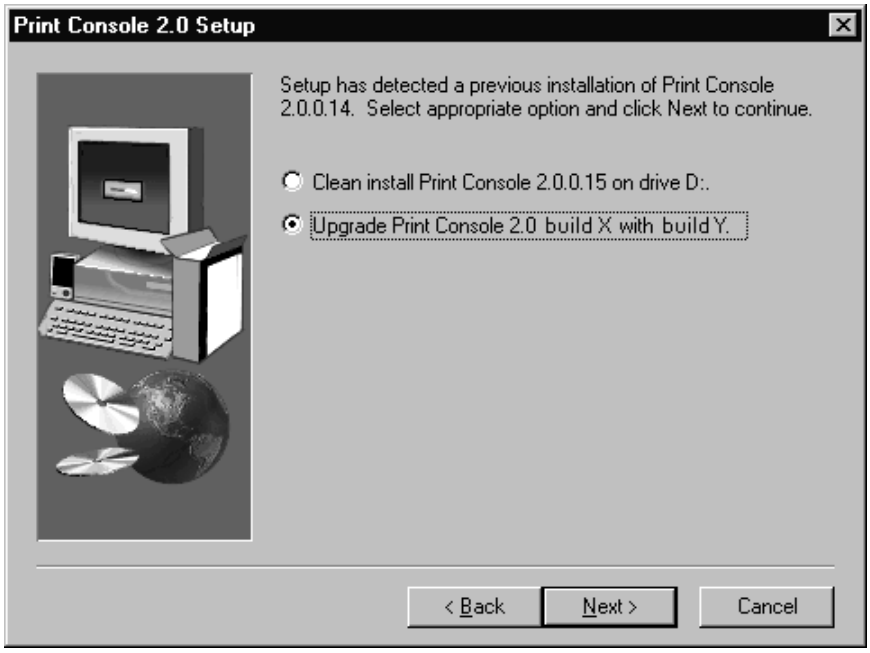
CAUTION! Restoring from these backed-up registry settings is only guaranteed to work for the same release of the Print Console software, i.e. if you plan on backing-up, refreshing, and restoring *the same build version*. (Unfortunately there is no guarantee that the registry settings for an older build will be compatible with the registry settings of a newer build.)

To backup the Print Console registry settings:

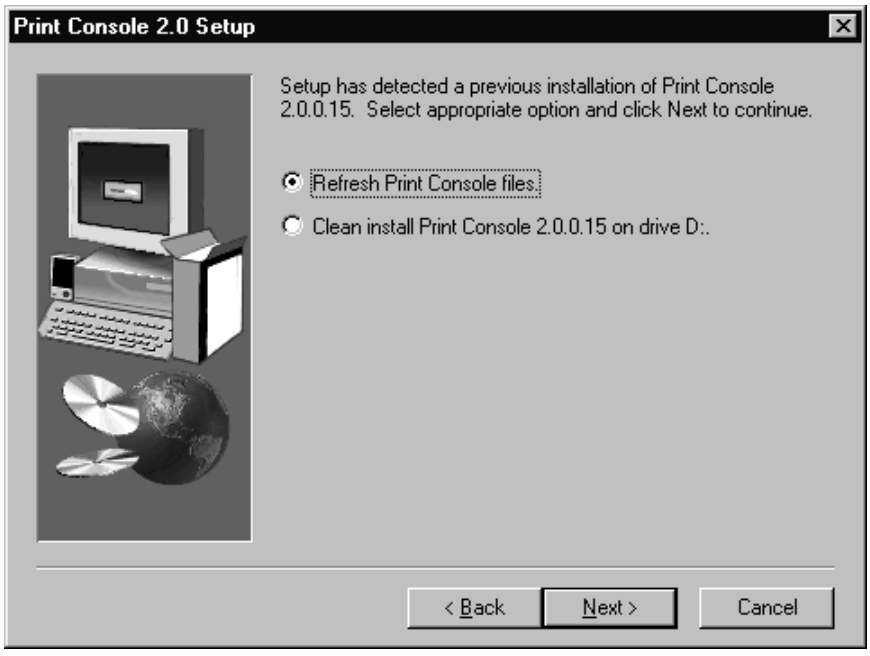
1. Click on the install program’s **Print Console Utility** button, or launch the utility by going to Start -> Programs -> Print Console 2.0 and choosing Print Console Utility.
2. Choose “Save Print Console settings” and click **Next >** to proceed.
3. Enter the path and registry filename you want to save to (the default is **backup\PC2.0_M_D_YYYY.reg**, where M is the month, D is the day, and YYYY is the year). Click **Next >** to proceed.
4. The backup process begins. When it is complete, a message box appears, indicating that the Print Console settings were saved successfully: click the **OK** button.

5.3.2 Updating Print Console

When run, the Print Console installation program will automatically detect an existing Print Console installation; it will provide 2 of the 3 possible update/upgrade options, depending on the state of the workstation:



...or:



- Refresh Print Console files– refreshes the Print Console executables and DLLs. This option is only available when installing the same build number/version of the software.
- Clean install of Print Console 2.0 in the same location–automatically promps you to backup the existing installation of Print Console, the existing version is uninstalled,

then a new, clean installation of the Print Console software is created in the same location as the original install.

- Update the existing install with a newer build–replaces the existing directories (CreoSupt, Print Console, TestFiles, Service, Spools, PDF), but does not change the device you've selected. If you have changed a file in one of these directories, you can restore it from your backup after installing the newer build. This option is only available when installing a newer build than what already exists on the workstation. The program will *not* overwrite an installation of a newer build.

To update a Print Console installation:

1. Close any running applications and open the Print Console installation program (if not already open)..
2. Click the **Print Console** option button.
3. Select one of the 2 install options and then follow the onscreen prompts.

   Note: If you choose "Clean install of Print Console 2.0 on drive D:", you will be prompted to backup the software configuration settings from the previous installation. This is optional, and is similar to the process described in "Backing-Up Print Console Settings" on page 15. However, there are a couple of differences: the Print Console registry key is automatically saved as **printconsole.reg** in the backup directory that you specify; the **creosupt**, **pdf**, **printconsole**, and **service** folders from the original Print Console installation are copied to the backup directory that you specify.

4. If you chose "Upgrade Print Console 2.0 build *X* with build *Y*", you have the option of restoring the software configuration settings from the previous installation (*if* you backed them up) using the Print Console Utility option. This step is optional; for more information, refer to the "Restoring Print Console Settings" section on page 17.

   CAUTION! Restoring the registry settings is only guaranteed to work for *the same build* of the Print Console software.

5. Open **printconsole/bin/begin.inf** and **printconsole/bin/begin.dat** and ensure that the TIFF Downloader lines in each file are as follows:

   ```
   # The following line should be uncommented to start the TIFF
   Downloader
   #"tiffdownloader" /unique /newconsole /min /exit 0
   ```

   ...if you *do not* want the TIFF Downloader enabled.

   If you *want* the TIFF Downloader to be enabled, uncomment the line:

   ```
   # The following line should be uncommented to start the TIFF
   Downloader
   "tiffdownloader" /unique /newconsole /min /exit 0
   ```

   For more information about the TIFF Downloader, refer to "Configuring TIFF Downloader" on page 23.

5.3.3 Restoring Print Console Settings

After updating *the same build* of Print Console software you can use the Print Console Utility to restore the previous configuration/settings (*if* you backed them up), which will save you from having to go back and completely reconfigure Print Console.

CAUTION! Restoring the registry settings is only guaranteed to work for *the same build* of the Print Console software.

To restore these settings:

1. Exit the Print Console software if it is running. (If you were to attempt to restore these settings while Print Console was running, everything would appear to work but no changes would be made to the registry.)
2. Start the Print Console install program and click the **Print Console Utility** button, or launch this utility by going to Start -> Programs -> Print Console 2.0 and choosing Print Console Utility.
3. Choose "Restore Print Console settings" and click **Next >** to proceed.
4. Enter the path and registry filename you want to restore from (the default backup file is **backup\PC10_M_D_YYYY.reg**, where M is the month, D is the day, and YYYY is the year). Click **Next >** to proceed.
5. Confirm (or cancel) your choice.
6. If you choose to proceed, the registry restoration process will begin. When it is complete, a message box appears, indicating that the Print Console settings were restored successfully: click the **OK** button.

5.4 Uninstalling Print Console

An uninstall script is included as part of the Print Console installation.

To uninstall Print Console, go to Start -> Settings -> Control Panel and double-click on Add/Remove Programs. Select Print Console 2.0 from the list of installed components, click the **Add/Remove** button, and follow the on-screen instructions.

Note: *Do not* delete the **uninst.isu** file found in the **PrintConsole\bin** folder, as it is required (not only) by the uninstall script.

6. CONFIGURATION

The Print Console installation program will configure most of what is needed for you to start using the software, however there are some minimum settings that must be made via the UI so that Print Console is able to process files via the **Job** menu's **Submit File** option.

To configure Print Console so that you can process a 4-up proof test file using the **Job** menu's **Submit File** option, refer to the following sections. These sections, however, are provided as general examples only. For more detailed information on configuring Print Console, refer to the Print Console Online Help, or to the appropriate workflow-specific Technical Bulletin.

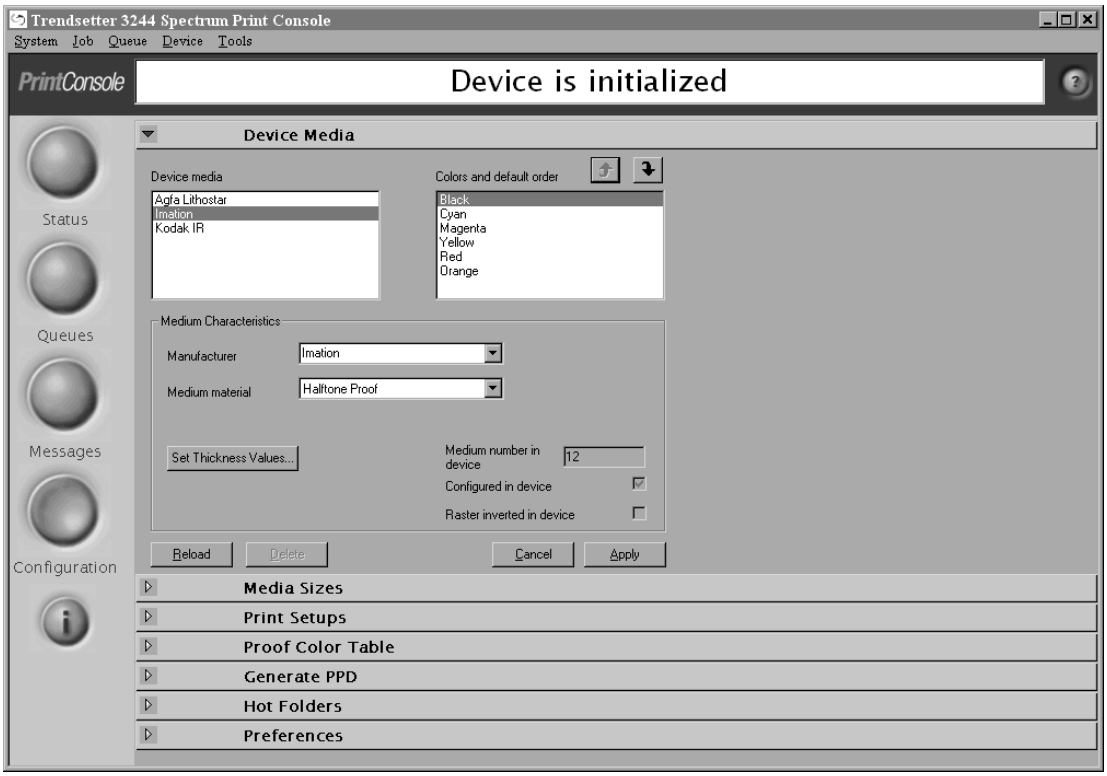
Note: Choosing the installation program's Configure Software option merely allows you install/configure the features from section 5.1.1, step 7 (see page 8).

6.1 Configuring Device Media

Verify that Print Console recognizes the device media settings from the output device.

1. If it is not already running, start the Print Console software.
2. Open the Device Media pane (press the **Configuration** button, and then select **Device Media** option) and verify that the expected device media characteristics are displayed. (These values are read from the output device firmware and stored in the Print Console workstation's Registry.)

   Device media characteristics for Imation halftone proof media appear as follows (note that the screen shot below shows the list of device media from the Trendsetter Spectrum simulator software; the list you would see for an actual output device may be different:

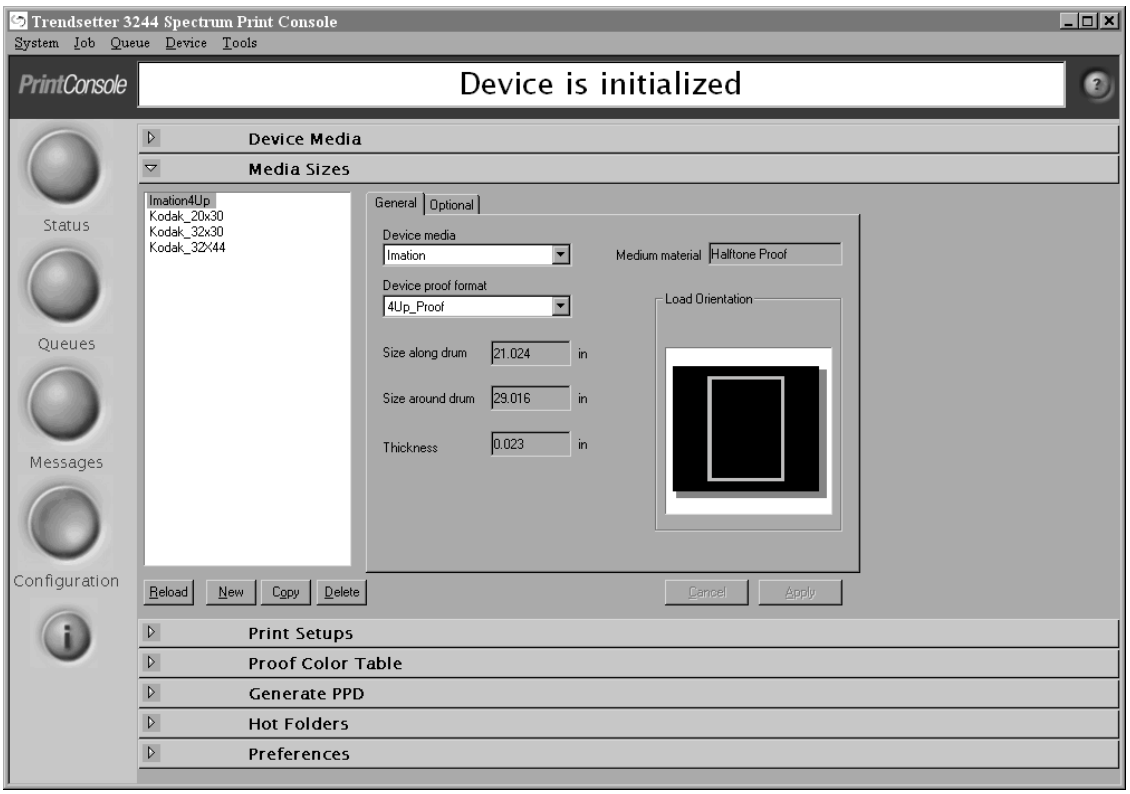


Note: The Imation-recommended order for color separations is now K, C, M, Y.

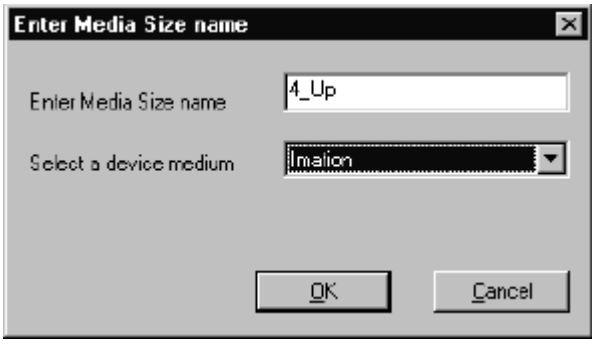
This change can be made in 2 different places. If the change is made here, via Print Console's Device Media pane, this separation order becomes the default order that appears in the second place that this change can be made, Print Console's Print Setups pane.

6.2 Configuring Media Sizes

1. Open the Media Sizes pane (press **Configuration** button, and then choose **Media Sizes** pane). Note that there are no default media size names installed with Print Console: *device media* values are read from the output device firmware (and stored in the Print Console workstation's Registry); these device media are used when creating Print Console media size names.



2. Click the **New** button to create a new media size name; the Enter Media Size name dialog box appears:



Enter a medium size name (use "4_Up"), select a device medium from the drop-down list (choose Imation media), and click the **OK** button. Note that the name of the medium size cannot be the same as the name of any print setup.

3. Select the appropriate device proof format from the Device Proof Format drop-down list (“4Up_Proof” in this case). The media dimensions are read-only.

4. Click the **Apply** button.

5. Repeat steps 1-4 for all other media sizes you would like to configure.

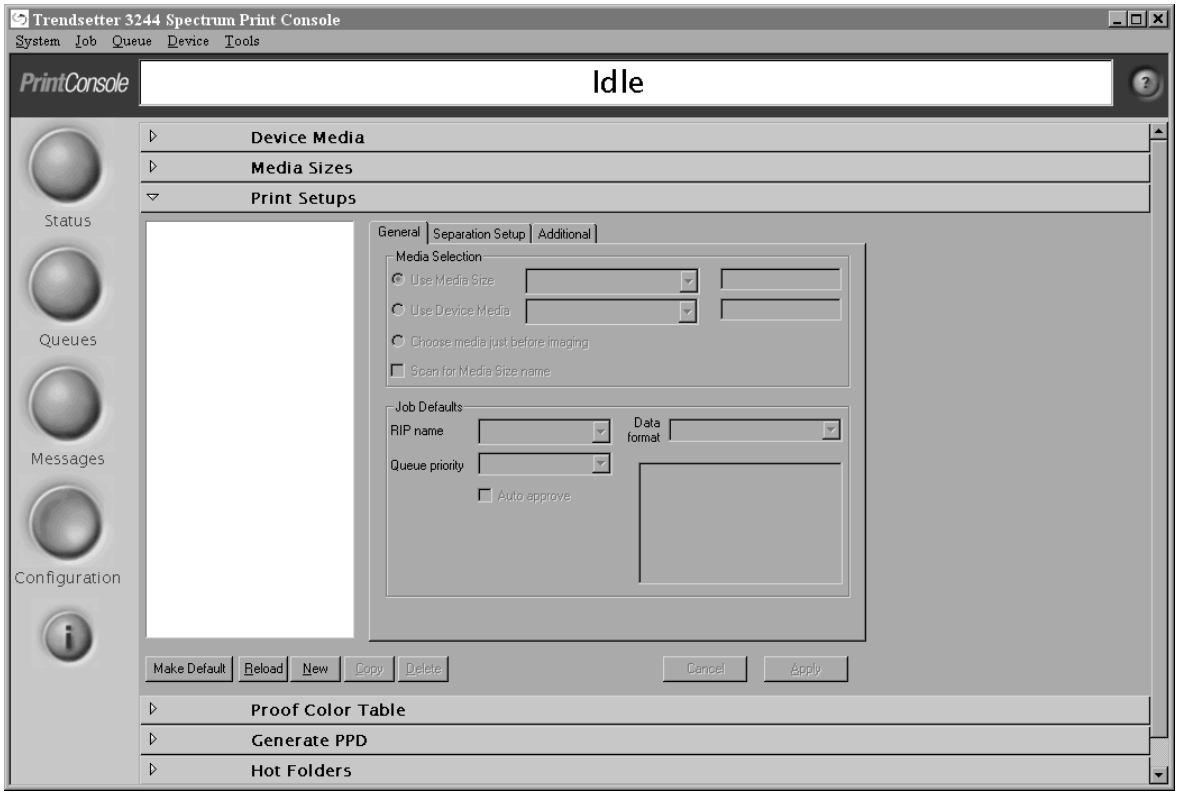
CAUTION! If the device medium is a plate, be sure to enter the correct thickness value.

Note: Previous versions of output device control software (i.e. Allegro and Platesetter Workstation software) used a factor of 25.402 to convert inches to millimeters. The correct value, though, is 25.4, which Print Console uses for the conversion. Due to rounding effects, Print Console PPD files may reflect a 1-point difference in media sizes. If you use Print Console’s equivalent of the plate-matching feature in Workstation Software, the matching tolerance should be adjusted to take this difference into account.

6.3 Configuring Print Setups

If you did not migrate print setups from existing workstation software, you will have to create your own.

1. Open the Configure Print Setups dialog box (**Configuration** button, **Print Setups** pane).



2. With the General tab selected:

a). Create a new print setup by clicking the **New** button.

b). In the **Enter Print Setup Name** dialog box, type a name for the print setup (PSforTIFFs, for example), and click the **OK** button. Note that the name of the print setup cannot be the same as any media size name.

c). Select either the appropriate media size name *or* the appropriate device media. If it's a thermoflex device and you want to use dynamically-sized media, select the "Choose media just before imaging" option.

d). Enable or disable the Scan for Media Size name option.

e). Select a RIP (TIFF Downloader in this case).

f). Select a Queue Priority.

g). Select a Data Format (TIFF in this case).

3. (The need for this step is rare and depends on the workflow: you do not have to worry about this for a separation-based workflow, which includes a TIFF-based workflow, or for a GDAPI workflow. Consult the workflow-specific documentation to determine the necessity of this step)

   Change the imaging order of the color separations. With the Separation Setup tab selected:

   a). Press the **Add Process** button.

   b). Reorder the separations so that Black is first (i.e. at the top) by selecting the Black separation row and pressing the **up arrow** button three times.

   Note: This may be required due to a recent change to the Imation-recommended imaging order of color separations. The required order is now K, C, M, Y.

4. Select any appropriate options available via the Print Setups pane's RIP-specific tab (TIFF Downloader in this case, which allows you to select either the Mirror print option or the Transform option: for information about these TIFF Downloader options, refer to the "Configuring TIFF Downloader" section, which starts on page 23).

5. Set the new print setup to be the default by right-clicking on the print setup name and left-clicking on the **Default Print Setup** popup button:



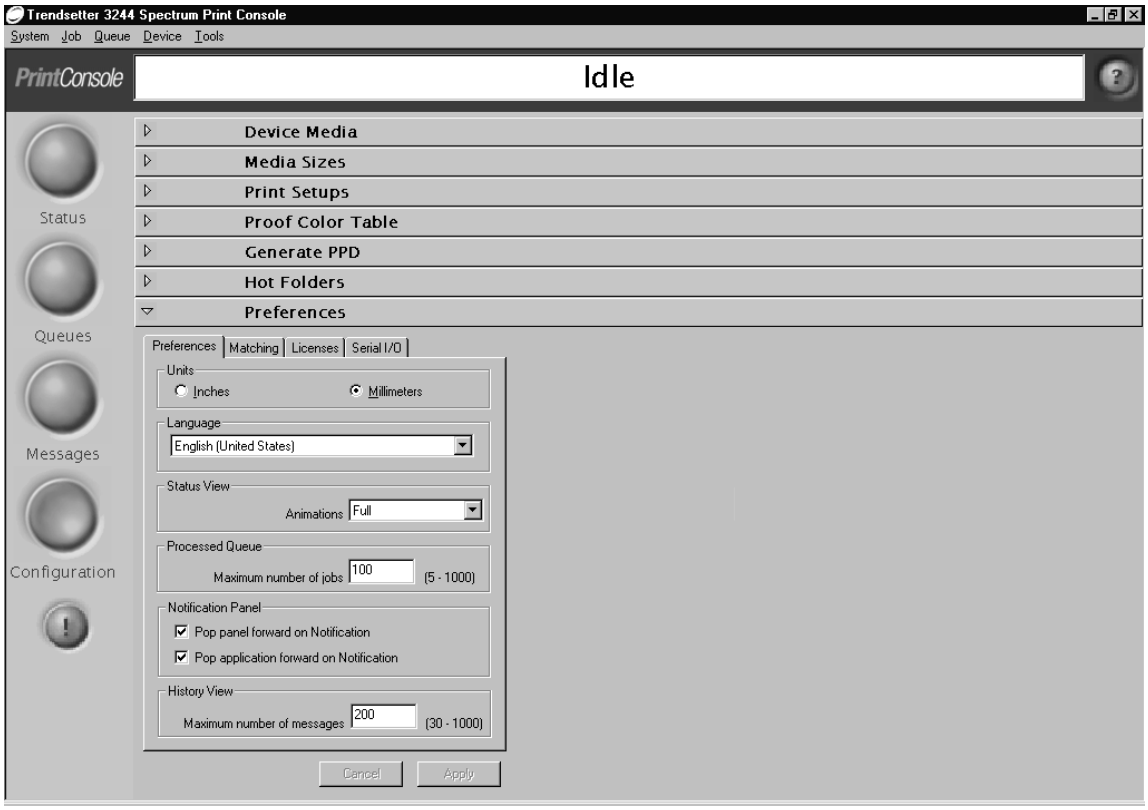
   ...or by clicking the **Make Default** button in the lower-right corner of the Print Setups dialog box.

6. Click the Print Setups pane's **OK** button to save the new, default print setup.

6.4 Configuring CRI

This step is only necessary if connecting a 3rd party RIP directly to Print Console via CRI (not via the GDAPI). It is not necessary for Prinergy or TIFF Downloader connectivity.

Enter the CRI license key via the Licenses tab in the Preferences pane (**Configuration** button, **Preferences** pane, **Licenses** tab):



6.5 Configuring TIFF Downloader

Print Console 2.0 is accompanied by a new version of the TIFF Downloader executable (**tiffdownloader.exe**)—version 2.1.

In general, users of TIFF Downloader 2.1 will notice a few differences in operation from the old TIFF Downloader executable, such as improved image transformation (section 6.5.5, page 26). For more information, refer to the TIFF Downloader Reference Guide.

TIFF Downloader v2.1 supports:

- Support for ThermoFlex “digital masking” mode (introduced in TIFF Downloader v2.0)
- Improved image transformation (introduced in TIFF Downloader 2.1)
- Support for mirroring of the image about the drum axis (introduced in TIFF Downloader v2.0)
- Supports for clipping of all four sides of the plate (introduced in TIFF Downloader v2.0)

For more information about these features, refer to sections 6.5.1 to 6.5.6.

If you selected the TIFF Downloader option when you installed Print Console, TIFF Downloader will already be enabled, as the necessary command line will appear in the Print Console **begin.inf** file:

```
"tiffdownloader /testscsi" /noconsole /unique /min /exit 0
```

However, you may want to add the G4 decompression parameter, in which case you would change the line (note the placement of the quotation marks) to:

```
"tiffdownloader /testscsi /dhg4" /noconsole /unique /min /exit 0
```

Parameters are as follows:

- /le<float>—no longer valid in the command line; now specified in the Configure System dialog box's Margin tab (accessed via Print Console's Service menu)
- /te<float>—no longer valid in the command line; now specified in the Configure System dialog box's Margin tab (accessed via Print Console's Service menu)
- /transform—no longer valid in the command line; now enabled via the Configure Print Setups dialog box's TIFF Downloader tab
- /ib<int>—force input buffer size in MB
- /tib<int>—force transform input buffer size in MB
- /ob<int>—no longer valid
- /noxymatch—X & Y resolutions do not have to match or be defined
- /dhg4—new and improved G4 decoder; note that this switch does not have to be entered on the command line, as this is the default decoder that will be used if no other decompression scheme is selected
- /originalg4—use original libtiff G4 decoder (fixed version)
- /bitmap—write output to a bitmap file instead of SCSI port (for testing)
- /tiff—write output to tiff file instead of SCSI port (for testing)
- /simscsi—do not output to SCSI port, delay approx. transfer time (for testing)
- /testscsi— test scsi connection between TIFF Downloader and device on start-up. If the Tiff Downloader cannot locate the device via SCSI, Print Console displays the "Unable to locate Creo output device on the SCSI bus. Please turn on the Creo output device or check the SCSI cabling" message every 30 seconds until the device is found.

Many of these command line switches are not normally used; however, they may be useful for testing or for special cases. For more information, refer to the TIFF Downloader Reference Guide.

6.5.1 Licensing

The TIFF Downloader requires a license key, which is generated by submitting the TIFF Downloader System ID and the customer's sales order number to the TIFF Downloader Licensing web page. Enter the license key via the Licenses tab of the Preferences pane (**Configuration** button, **Preferences** pane).

Note that if the license key is not entered, a one-inch by five-inch "Creo Diagnostic Tool" label will be superimposed (up to 3 times, depending on the media size) across the top of the imaged output media. Once entered, the license key will take effect on the next image.

6.5.2 Compression

TIFF Downloader 2.1 includes improved (optimized) G4 decompression, and imaging times for files compressed with G4 now match those compressed with LZW. (Although LZW compression is often optimal, because of a licensing issue with LZW we no longer recommend using it with the TIFF Downloader.) The switch for including the optimized G4 decompression feature is **/dhg4**.

It is recommended that all image files be compressed, and at this time G4 compression is recommended whenever possible. Unfortunately, some types of files, like those with stochastic screening, may not compress properly with the current G4 compression scheme, in which case an alternative compression method will have to be used. An alternate G4 decoder can be enabled from the **begin.inf** file command line with the "/originalg4" switch (do not include the extra quotes in command line):

```
"tiffdownloader /testscsi /originalg4" /newconsole /unique /min
/exit 0
```

If the new G4 decoder cannot process a particular file, this alternate decoder may be able to.

Note that the TIFF Downloader cannot process any file that is larger than 4GB. However, the uncompressed image size *can* be larger than 4GB, therefore, large images (like larger VLF images) *must* be compressed.

6.5.3 ThermoFlex Digital Masking

TIFF Downloader 2.1 supports ThermoFlex "digital masking" mode (previously called "tinting") for certain media via the Print Console software, although this option is not available to regular users/operators. Digital masking is selected for a device media by first selecting the media via the Digital masking tab in the **Service** pane's **Configure System** dialog box, and then selecting the Digital Masking Scheme in the Device Media pane (the Digital Masking Scheme box only appears once the media is correctly set up in the Digital Masking tab). Tinting (Digital Masking) schemes must be entered directly in **TintingSchemes** under the **PrintConsole\Vx.x** registry key.

Digital Masking will significantly increase the amount of processor time required by the TIFF Downloader. A single processor can tint a typical file at a rate that is barely fast enough to keep up with the output device. A dual-processor machine will perform much better because the tinting algorithm is executed in a thread separate from the main TIFF Downloader threads.

Note that if the TIFF Downloader detects an error with the any of the tint parameters, the image will fail and a message that begins with “Tinting Library Error…” will be displayed in the Print Console History window. This message *should* contain enough information to fix the problem.

6.5.4 Image Mirroring

TIFF Downloader 2.1 supports mirroring of images about the drum axis. Mirroring is necessary to support the Spectrum digital halftone proofing devices, or for TIFF files that are incorrectly mirrored for the intended media. This feature is selected via the TIFF Downloader tab in the Print Setups pane. Note that an image cannot be mirrored and transformed at the same time.

TIFF Downloader can mirror the image data around the drum axis with little degradation in performance. Note that the image is mirrored around the center of the plate, not the center of the image. The leading and trailing edge clips are applied after the image is mirrored. In other words, the leading edge clip still applies to the leading edge of the plate.

6.5.5 Image Transformation

TIFF Downloader 2.1 rotates/transforms images faster than TIFF Downloader 2.0. Tiled files can now be transformed, which can be useful if the image has not been pre-rotated by the RIP, with little or no noticeable performance degradation.

Stripped files, though, will take longer to transform since they must first be re-written to a temporary tiled file. Stripped files will therefore be delayed at the start while the TIFF Downloader writes the temporary file. The delay will be approximately 2 to 5 minutes for a gigabyte image (i.e. 32”x44” at 2400dpi). If possible, the temporary file will be placed in a temporary directory in the image file’s path. If this path is across a network or does not have enough free space, the temporary directory will be created in the TIFF Downloader’s executable path. The image will fail if adequate free space is not found.

The Transformation feature is still selected via the TIFF Downloader tab in the Print Setups pane. Please note that an image cannot be mirrored and transformed at the same time.

6.5.6 Image Clipping/Margins

TIFF Downloader 2.1 supports clipping of all four sides of output media via the Print Console software, although this option is not available to regular users/operators. These clippings can be entered for each device media via the Material Margins tab in the **Service pane’s Configure System** option.

The margins define areas of the media that cannot be imaged. The output device will not allow imaging in these areas, and therefore the TIFF Downloader removes these areas from the image file before it is output. The exact handling of the margins depends on the sizes of the image and the media. The TIFF Downloader always removes the leading and home edge margins from the image. The trailing and away edge margins are removed from the image only if it extends into these regions on the plate.

For example, assume the following material margins are set:

Leading edge: 240 mils

Trailing edge: 300 mils
Home edge: 100mils
Away edge: 100 mils

If the 32" by 44" version of a file is to be imaged on a 32" by 44" plate, all margins would be applied and the TIFF Downloader would output an image that is 31.45" by 43.8". If this same file were to be imaged on a 22" by 33" plate, the TIFF Downloader would produce a 21.45" by 32.8" image.

There is a minor limitation, however, in the way the TIFF Downloader handles the leading edge clip (for the normal case where there is no transformation). The leading edge clip is converted to pixels and rounded down to the nearest multiple of 8. For example, if a leading edge clip of 115mils is specified for a 2400 DPI image, the actual leading edge clip will be 113.3 mils (corresponding to 272 pixels instead of 276). The image position on the plate will be shifted by the rounded off amount, but the overall image size will not be adjusted (i.e. the trailing edge clip is increased by the rounded off amount). The same type of rounding will occur with the home edge clip for transformed files.

6.6 Delta Configuration

In the Delta configuration, the system's default print setup will enable the **Auto Approve** and **Scan for Media Size name** options. The default device medium is set to the proofing media type, the RIP name is set to Delta Tech, and the Data Format is set to Delta Job Ticket.

There will be only one hot folder. The Delta installation script configures this hot folder in the registry. Furthermore, the Delta system will use the old **splfold.exe** hot folder program, *not* the new **spoolers.exe** program. The Input Queues configuration dialog is *not accessible* in Delta mode. Jobs dropped into that hot folder by the Delta system are initialized using Print Console's default print setup. As described above, the default print setup enables Auto Approve and file scanning.

A media size name is created for each plate size and for each proof size. Additionally, a print setup is created for each proof size—the print setup for each proof size specifies the corresponding media size name. Additionally, these proofing print setups specify a separation list on the separation setup tab. Therefore, a print setup must be created for each proof size & separation list combination. Print Console scans the Delta job tickets that enter the single hot folder for a media size name or a print setup, and initializes the jobs according to the rules in Figure 1. A plate job will enter the hot folder with a plate media size name. The job will be initialized as a single separation plate job (Delta plate jobs are always a single separation). A proof job, on the other hand, should enter the hot folder with a *proof print setup name*. The job will be initialized as a multiple separation proof job (Delta proof jobs always contain multiple separations; therefore, a print setup must be used to initialize the separation list).

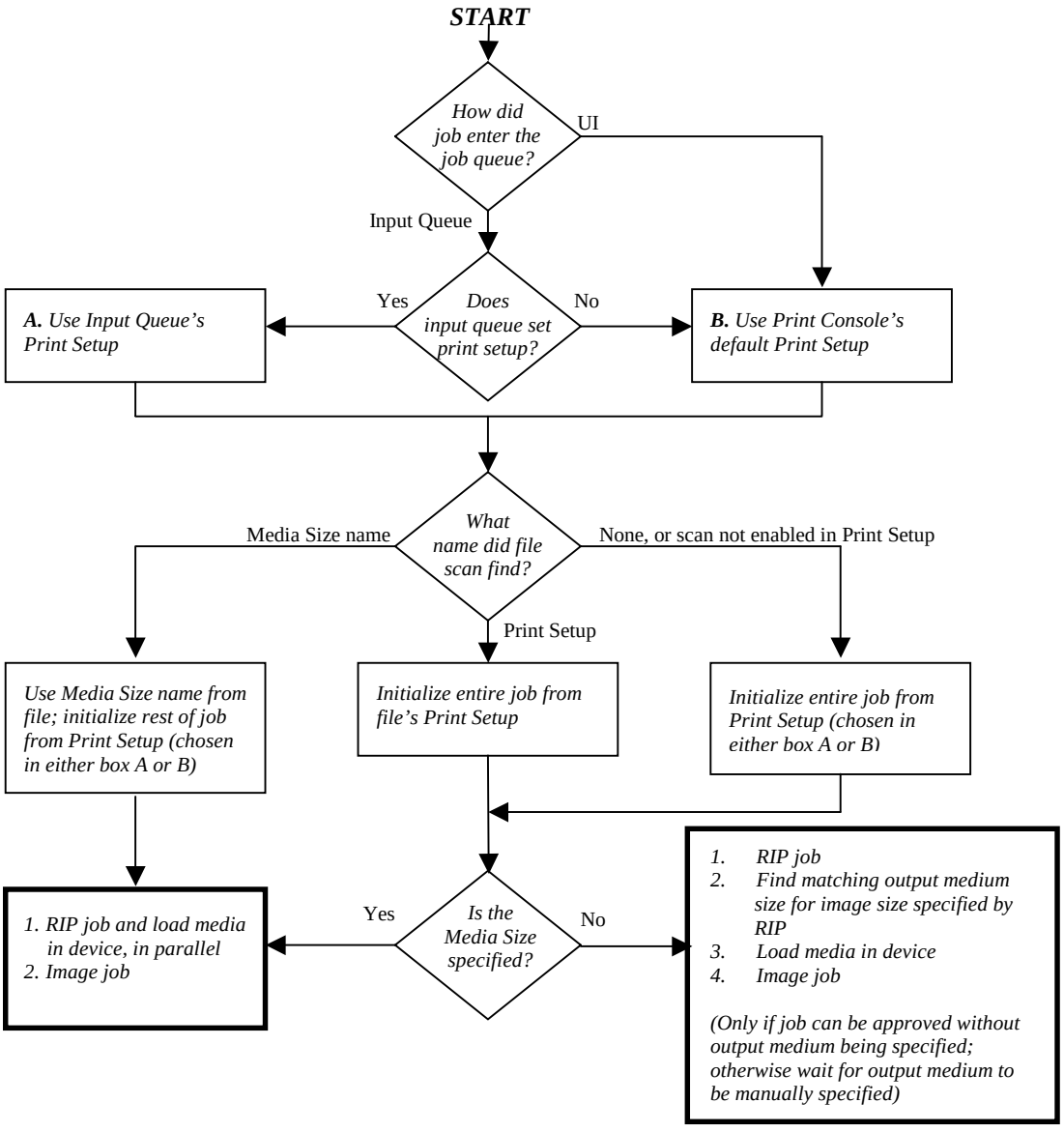
The key point here is that Delta plate jobs are not initialized with a separation list, while Delta proof jobs *are* initialized with a separation list. This is because Delta plate job tickets contain only one separation, while Delta proof job tickets contain all the separations required for the proof.

All print setups that specify a Media Size name (as opposed to a Default Device Medium) are written to the PPD file. Therefore, in the Delta configuration, all plate media sizes, proof

media sizes, and proofing print setups are written to the PPD file. The separation lists for the proofing print setups are also documented in the PPD file for the Delta system (see the end of a PPD file that includes such print setups). The Delta system parses the separation list information in order to generate the correct separations in the required order for the proofing device. In the Delta System, the operator chooses job media as follows:

- For plate jobs, the operator chooses a plate media size name.
- For proof jobs, the operator chooses a proof print setup name (*not* a proof media sizes name).

Note: These choices are essential for proper initialization of Delta jobs, because only one hot folder is used, and because the separation list for plate jobs should not be initialized from a print setup, while the separation list for proofs jobs *should be* initialized from a print setup.



***Note*:** the most common and recommended workflow is the leftmost path through the flowchart: scan an output medium name from the job file and initialize the rest of the job using a print setup tied to the input queue.

Figure 6.1

6.7 Configuring Animation Settings

You have the option of turning the animation on or off, or setting it to Single-Frame mode. Select Print Console's **Configuration** button and choose the **Preferences** pane. In the Preferences tab, select Single-Frame, Off, or Full in the **Animations** drop-down list.

6.8 Other Configurations

6.8.1 Configuring New Users on Windows 2000 for Print Console

When you install Print Console 2.0 on any operating system, the installation automatically creates a default user name called PCOperator with given set of permissions. In a Windows 2000 environment, a user name requires more permissions than in a Windows NT environment. The installation, therefore, adds the necessary "Increase Scheduling Priority" permission to the user (in this case, PCOperator). Be aware, then, that any new user must have the "Increase Scheduling Priority" permission in order for TIFF Downloader to function correctly.

6.8.2 Specific Configurations

For more detailed information about configuring Print Console, refer to the Print Console 2.0 Release Notes (06-3287A-C), or to the Print Console Online Help system.