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English

ThermoFlex 2630/4045

Quick Start Guide

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5103407	5323248	5481379	5625766	5854883	5998067	6134393
5111308	5325217	5488906	5636330	5861904	6003442	6136509
5113249	5331439	5497252	5649220	5861992	6014471	6147789
5122871	5333064	5508828	5650076	5864651	6016752	6158345
5124547	5339176	5509561	5652804	5875288	6031932	6159659
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5155782	5367360	5532728	5699740	5942137	6063546	
5157516	5367388	5561691	5708736	5946426	6072518	
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Chapter 1

Introduction

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About This Quick Start Guide

The *ThermoFlex 2630/4045 Quick Start Guide* provides you with the basic information you need to begin production with the ThermoFlex 2630 and 4045 platesetters. This guide includes two main parts, as detailed below.

Unless otherwise mentioned, ThermoFlex platesetter refers to both the ThermoFlex 2630 and the ThermoFlex 4045.

When necessary, figures of both the ThermoFlex 2630 and 4045 are shown. If similar, only one machine is shown.

Part 1 - ThermoFlex platesetter and PC controller user interface

- Introduction to ThermoFlex platesetters
- Getting started
- PC controller user interface
- Plate handling

Part 2 - Brisque for CTP

- Configuring the ThermoFlex platesetters from Brisque DFE
- Calibrating the ThermoFlex platesetters from the Brisque DFE
- Processing an Imposition Job on the Brisque DFE

For a complete description of the **Brisque functionality**, see the *Brisque User Guide version 3.0*:

Part 1 399Z50677D
Part 2 399Z50678D
Part 3 399Z51124C
Part 4 399Z51956B

The **safety precautions** that must be followed when using the ThermoFlex platesetter are detailed in a separate document. See *ThermoFlex 2630/4045 - Safety Precautions for User, catalog no. 399Z1N020B*.

Document Conventions

This guides uses the following conventions to quickly convey important information to you.



Note. Provides additional important information relating to the text you are reading. If a note is tagged with “Important” then the note contains information that is essential to the completion of a task.



Reference. Contains links to other related documentation.



Tip. Provides convenient and helpful information to assist you applying the techniques or procedures described in the text.



Caution. Advises against a specific action or lack of one that could result in a loss of data.



WARNING. Advises against a specific action or lack of one that could result in physical harm to the user or to hardware.

Overview

The ThermoFlex 2630/4045 platesetters are CreoScitex thermal imaging platesetters. They represent state-of-the-art technology within all operational systems, and feature a technological breakthrough in the form of a multi-beam, variable resolution thermal imaging head. The The ThermoFlex 2630 platesetter can image a full-size, top quality flexographic plate in less than 24 minutes, while the ThermoFlex 4045 platesetter can image a full-size, top quality flexographic plate in less than 18 minutes. The exposure process is fully automated: image-to-plate registration, drum balancing, and RIP and image queuing. Multi-separation and multi-job placement on a single plate assure that plate wastage is minimal. The ThermoFlex 2630 platesetter can plot any flexographic plate size up to 660 mm x 762 mm (26 x 30 inches). The ThermoFlex 4045 platesetter can plot any flexographic plate size up to 1010 x 1150 mm (40 x 45 inch). Plate thickness range for both the ThermoFlex 2630 and 4045 is 0.7 - 3.2 mm.

The thermal imaging head inside the ThermoFlex 2630 platesetter is comprised of a 24 laser beam array operating at a wavelength of 830 nanometers. The ThermoFlex 4045 platesetter is comprised of a 48 laser beam array. Individual beams are precisely positioned using a self calibrating alignment configuration, and this allows for continuously variable imaging resolutions.

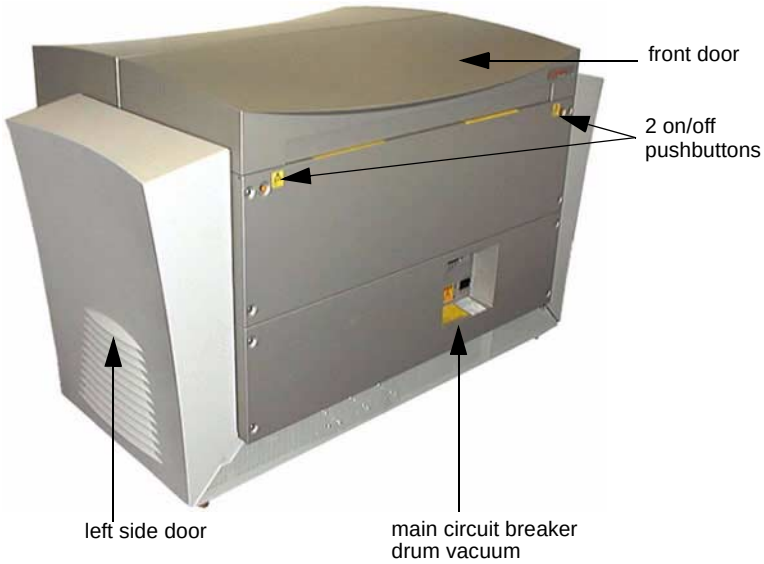
A significant and unique feature of the ThermoFlex platesetters is dynamic drum balancing. This ability guarantees rotational stability of the external drum while imaging any size plate within the specified size range.

To allow for variable resolution imaging, drum rotation speed is programmed to vary proportionally with the output resolution. This particular feature is unique to ThermoFlex 2630/4045 platesetter, and ensures optimized imaging speeds based on output parameters.

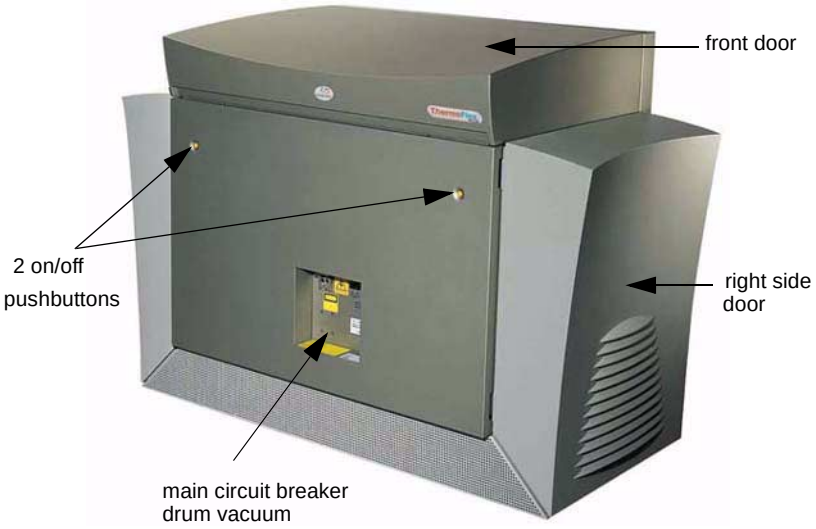
The ThermoFlex 2630/4045 platesetters front end is Brisque Impose, with the addition of special features for CTP users. The ThermoFlex platesetter system can accept data from any standardized digital file format including PostScript™, EPSF, PDF™, TIFF-IT, and Scitex CT/LW files.

Platesetter Front View

A front view of the ThermoFlex platesetters are shown below.



ThermoFlex 4045 platesetter front view



ThermoFlex 2630 platesetter front view

Front door – for plate loading/unloading; door opening is controlled from PC controller monitor.

Left side door – access to Electronic box and PC controller.

On/Off pushbuttons – to power up or shut down the platesetter.

Power Circuit Breakers:

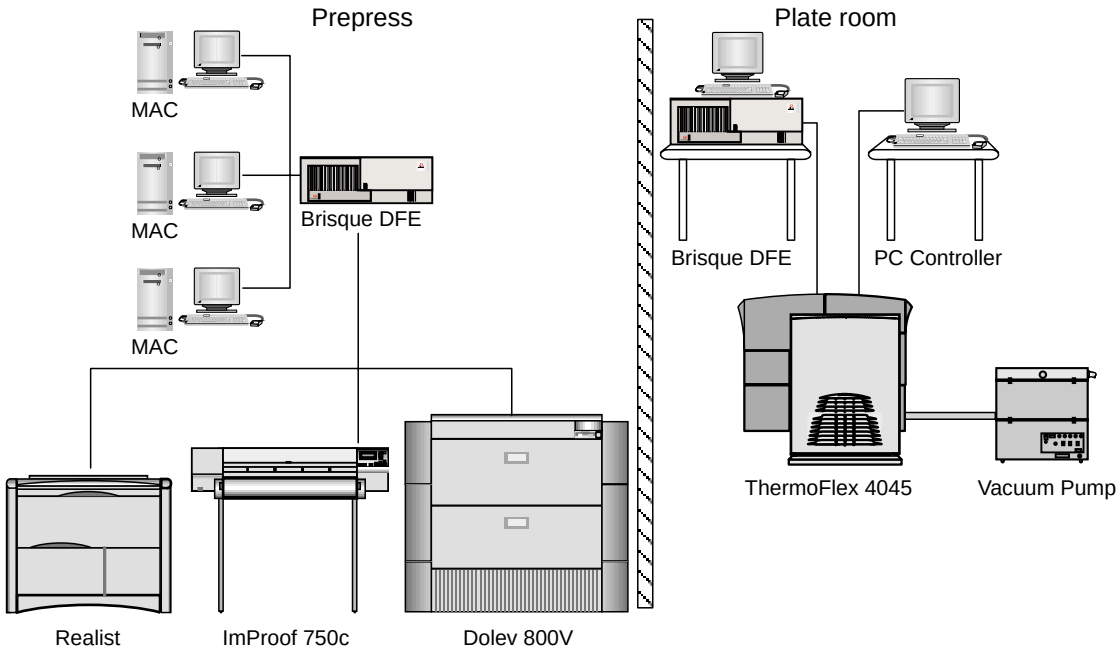
Main Circuit Breaker – before you power on the platesetter, make sure the main circuit breaker is *on* (set to “1”). For total disconnection from the mains supply, set the main circuit breaker to “0”.

Drum Vacuum Power Circuit Breaker - operates the drum vacuum pump.

Drum Power Circuit Breaker - operates the drum control.

Typical Customer Site Configuration

A typical customer site configuration with a ThermoFlex platesetter is shown below.



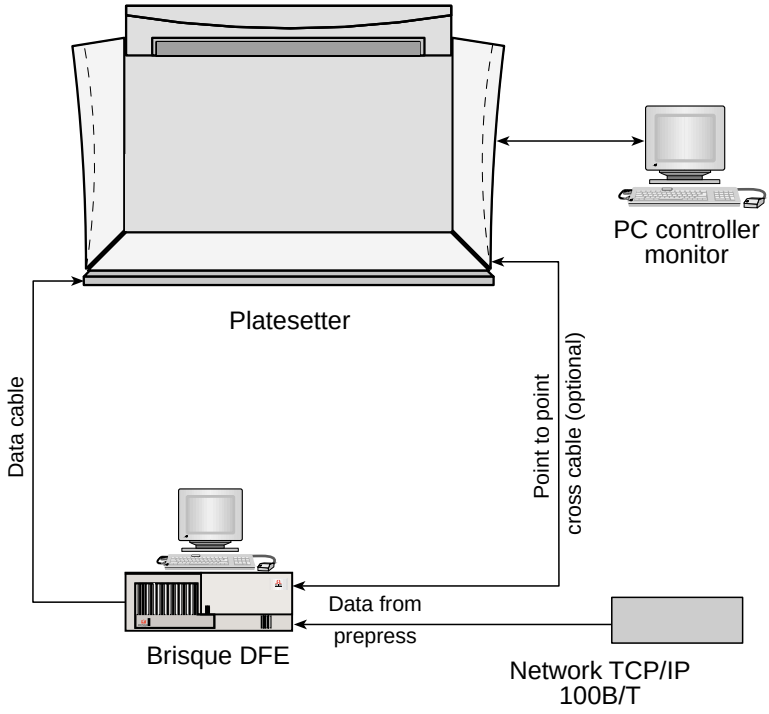
Typical configuration at customer site

The platesetter room may include:

- ThermoFlex platesetter
- PC controller monitor; the user interface of the PC controller that controls the platesetter operation.
- Brisque Digital Front End; jobs for the ThermoFlex platesetter are processed by the Brisque DFE.
- Vacuum pump

Data and Communication Flow

Job data is sent from the Brisque DFE, which is connected to the PC controller. The figure below shows the data and communication flow between the Brisque DFE and the platesetter.



Data & communication flow



Chapter 2

Getting Started

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Platesetter Power up/Shutdown

Power up the platesetter before the Brisque DFE.

To power up the ThermoFlex platesetter:

1. Make sure the **Main circuit breaker** is *on*, that is, set to "1". Also, make sure that the **Drum Vacuum Power** and **Drum Power** circuit breakers are *on* (see figures on *page 5*).

   When the Vacuum pump circuit breaker is *on*, the platesetter can automatically switch on the Vacuum pump whenever needed.

2. At the front panel, press **out** the two (2) **On/Off power** pushbuttons so that they are both lit (see figures on *page 5*).
3. Press the **On/Off** pushbutton of the *PC controller monitor.*
4. Double-click the ThermoFlex icon on the PC desktop. (The icon shown here is for the ThermoFlex 2630).



5. Power on the *Brisque DFE* (see *Brisque Login, Logout and Shutdown on page 11*).

To turn off the ThermoFlex platesetter:

1. At the PC Controller monitor, click on **Routine Functions**.
2. On the *Routine Functions* menu, click on **Shutdown**.
3. In the *Confirm* message, click **Shutdown**.





4. From the *Start* menu of your *Windows*, select **Shutdown**.
5. From the shut Down window, select the **Shut Down** option.
6. When the message: **It is safe to turn off your computer** appears, press the **On/Off power** pushbutton at the platesetter front panel.

Brisque Login, Logout and Shutdown

This section describes the different procedures for starting up and shutting down the Brisque DFE, and the circumstances under which each procedure should be used.



Avoid shutting down the Brisque DFE unnecessarily!

Login

When you turn on the Brisque, the system automatically boots. After a while, the console login prompt appears.

To log into the system:

1. At the console login prompt, type **cdesci** then press <**Enter**>.
2. Press <**Enter**> again to confirm the login; after a short period, message windows appear indicating that the CreoScitex Servers are being loaded.
3. If, during the login procedure, a process/application does not load properly or a board is not detected, then a results window appears detailing the faults. Click **Continue Logon** to continue the login procedure, however report the problem to your administrator to have the problem attended to.

When the login has completed, the Brisque *Launch Pad* is displayed on the Brisque CDE (Common Desktop Environment).

Logout

When you logout from the Brisque CDE, the desktop is saved in its current state (such as open windows), and reappears the same way the next time that you login to the system. We recommend that you logout from the system when you finish work, but stop short of actually switching off the computer.



If you need to switch the computer off, **DO NOT** switch it off until you complete both the logout and shutdown procedures.

To logout from the system:

1. From the Brisque *Launch Pad*, double click the **Exit** button.
2. Click **Continue logout** to continue the process. When the console login prompt appears, you are logged out from the system.

   Or, to avoid logging out, click **Cancel logout**.



Do not switch off the computer until you perform the shutdown procedure (see *Shutdown on page 13*).

Alternatively:

1. Right-click the Brisque desktop, **or** left/right click the *Launch Pad* Window Control box; a popup menu appears.
2. Click the **Log out** option; the *Logout Confirmation* window appears.
3. Click **Continue logout** to out from the system; when the console login prompt appears, you are logged out from the system.

   Or, click **Cancel** logout to avoid logging out.



Important: If the system freezes or does not respond when performing the logout procedure, then you must reset the system. For instructions, see *System Reset on page 13*.

Shutdown

Do not turn the Brisque power switch **off** before properly shutting down the system. Switching the power **off** without performing the shutdown procedure may damage your data and system files.



You might want to perform shut down as a routine maintenance procedure only, any time that the system seems to be processing slowly. However, as a maintenance procedure, **DO NOT** shut down the system more than once a week.

To shut down the system:

1. Perform the logout procedure (see *Logout on page 12*).
2. At the *console login* prompt, type **shutdown**; the system begins the process of shutting down.



Depending on your hardware, a **Halt Completed** prompt may appear and you may then switch off the computer. Otherwise your system will switch off on its own.



Do not turn the Brisque power switch off before properly logging out and shutting down the Brisque. Switching the power off without performing the shutdown procedure may damage your data and system files.

System Reset

If the system freezes, perform the following reset procedure:

1. Simultaneously press the <**Ctrl**>, <**Alt**>, and <**Backspace**> keys; you are returned to the console login prompt.
2. Perform the standard login procedure to restart the system (see *Logout on page 12*).



The reset procedure does not save any changes made to the Brisque CDE prior to the system freezing. Any changes will have to be redone after system restart.



Chapter 3

PC Controller User Interface

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Overview

The PC controller monitor is your interface with the ThermoFlex platesetters; it monitors the platesetter operation, is constantly updated with the machine status and provides machine information. The platesetter is controlled by the PC controller located inside the platesetter; the monitor resides on a nearby table, as shown in *Typical configuration at customer site on page 7*. The job data is sent from the Brisque DFE, that is connected to the PC controller (see *Data & communication flow on page 8*).



PC controller monitor

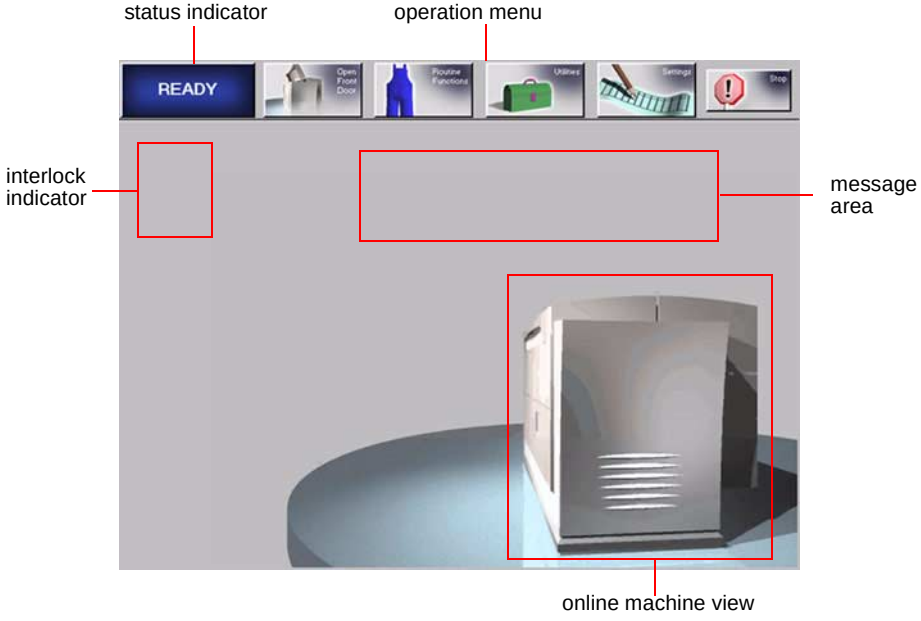
The machine shown in the above figure is the ThermoFlex 4045.

User Interface

The PC controller monitor is your basic working area, where the application indicators, buttons, popup menus and windows appear.

The workflow-oriented user interface is intuitively designed, and minimal computer knowledge is required. The following features support this design:

- Color-coded **Status** indicator indicates the machine status. For example, if a problem occurs while you are away from the monitor checking exposed plates, the problem indications on the screen are visible from a distance.
- Large interface indicators can be seen from a distance, so you can be alerted even when working away from the monitor.
- Monitor screen is divided into functional areas, as shown in the *Main window* figure below.



Main window areas

The machine shown in the above figure is the ThermoFlex 4045.

Status Indicator

The **Status** indicator is fairly large and is color-coded for easy identification. The indicator updates you on machine status even when you are performing tasks away from the monitor. For example, you can easily see when the **Status** indicator changes to **Attention**.



Start up (green) – machine is performing start up. All machine components go to **Home** position.



Off-line (gray) – like **Ready**, but you cannot expose plates or run calibration tests; all other functions are available. After **Start up** and **Stop**, the machine automatically goes to **Off-line**. Click **On Line** button on the *Routine Functions* menu to set machine to **Ready**.



Ready (blue) – the machine is ready for operation and in **On Line** mode; you may load a plate and begin the expose job.



Working (green) – the machine is busy exposing the current job. While the machine is working, you can send additional jobs from the Brisque DFE.



Attention (red) – the machine has stopped working and requires your intervention, or has encountered a problem that requires servicing. An appropriate message appears in the message area and normal operation resumes only after the problem is solved.



Service (purple) – a door is open or a panel was removed (the **Interlock** indicator appears on the *Main window*) or the machine is being serviced. If a door is open, the *Online machine view* shows the open door.

Operation Menu

The *Operation* menu to the right of the **Status** indicator is used to access all the operational options required when working with the platesetter PC controller application. The *Operation* menu includes the **Open Front Door** button, and the **Routine Functions**, **Utilities** and **Settings** buttons used to open the relevant menus, and the **Stop** button, as described below.

Open Front Door



Opening the front door is the most commonly performed operation. For example, for loading and unloading the plate. The plate loading and unloading procedures are described on page 31.

1. Click this button to open the front door.
2. The door locking mechanism is released for 30 seconds. During these 30 seconds, press the door slightly downward.
3. The door releases. Lift the door to open it completely.

You cannot open the door while the machine is working.

When the front door is open, the safety interlocks are activated. As a result, machine systems such as drum motor and laser system do not operate. The machine is in **Service** mode (**Status** indicator is purple) and the **Interlock** indicator appears below the **Status** indicator with the name of the open door.

You can interactively open the door by clicking on the front door on the *Online machine view.*

Routine Functions Menu

Click the **Routine Functions** button to open the *Routine Functions* menu. The menu includes operations that are routinely performed when working with the machine, as described below.

Open Front Door



This option is the same as using the **Open Front Door** button on the *Operation* menu - see above.

Open Rear Door (only ThermoFlex 4045)



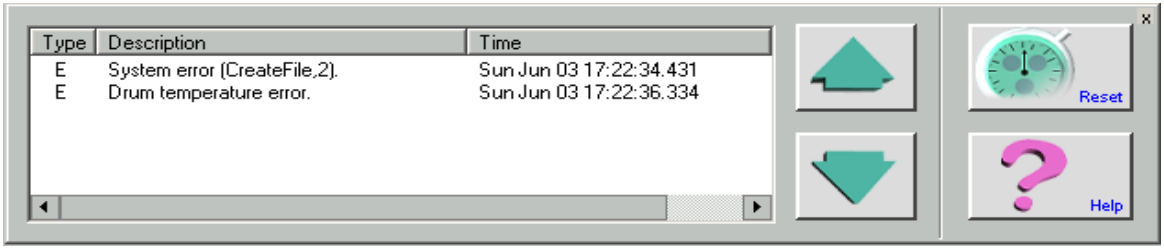
There is no need to open the rear door during normal operation, but occasionally you may have to open it. For example, during maintenance or if the plate fell behind the drum during plate loading or unloading. The rear door opening is similar to **Open Front Door**; see page 19.

Messages



Click **Messages** to open the *Message* window. When problems are encountered during machine operation, error messages are listed in the *Message* window. The window automatically opens whenever an error is recorded and the current error message is highlighted. All error messages recorded during the current run are listed in the window.

To view the full message, double-click the vertical line in Description heading or manually resize the column.



The *Message* window has four buttons: **Up/Down** arrows for scrolling to previous/next messages; **Reset** to reset the machine **after** solving the problem that caused the error message (see *Reset Machine* on next page); **Help?** for instructions for resolving the problem that caused the error message.

Reset Machine



Click this button when there is a need to reset the machine. For example, a problem that caused the machine to stop has been solved. The system prompts you to confirm the reset. The machine then resets to **Ready**, **Off-line** or **Working** status, depending on the status prior to the reset.

Reset machine on the *Routine Functions* menu is the same as the **Reset** button in the *Message* window.

On-line



When the **Status** indicator is **Off-line**, you cannot expose plates. To expose plates, click **On-line** and wait until the machine resets to **Ready**.

Shut Down



Use this option for normal machine shutdown. See *Platesetter Power up/Shutdown on page 10*.

Utilities Menu

Click the **Utilities** button to open the *Utilities* menu. The menu options are described below.

Expose Params



The *Expose Info* window lists important expose-related machine parameters. You may open this window anytime before or during exposure.

Log Files



Four windows open: *Machine task* list, two *Log message* windows (for service usage) and *Expose queue* list (data sent from the Brisque DFE).

Machine Info



PC controller software version.

Hardware



Lists the machine hardware parts.

Setup Tables



The *Plates Setup* tables list the *Intensity* and *Speed* values for each plate. You can change the values. For example, in case of under exposure, you can increase *Intensity* or *Speed* for the *Resolution* value used in the expose.

Diagnostics



Not yet implemented.

Users



Defines the type of user (some application settings and preferences are available only for service and R&D). Click **Users** to open the *Define User* window. In the window, choose user type - user, service engineer or expert. Then enter your password and click **OK**.



Settings Menu

Click the **Setting** button to open the *Settings* menu. The menu options are described below.

Plate Definitions



Media Definitions is used to define the type of plates you will be using (the plate must be defined before it is loaded). This option is also used to edit the parameters of existing plates or to delete plates you will no longer use. For details, see *Media Definition on page 28*.

Preferences



Preferences is used to define various settings. In the *Preferences* window, you can set the following:

Units – choose cm or inch to set units of measurement for all measurements, such as plate dimensions and thickness.

Language – only **English** is implemented.

Stop Button



The **Stop** button on the *Operation* menu is used in case of an emergency stop. The drum and all machine operations are immediately stopped, and the plate remains in its current position.

Online Machine View

The *Online machine view* shows the platesetter during operation; it enables you to see a simulation of machine operation. The main features are described below.

Operational stage

When the machine is in **Working** status, you can see the drum rotating inside the machine. When the drum stops rotating this indicates that the plate expose is finished and you can unload the load. The remaining process time is indicated on the *Progress indicator.*

Interlock indication

When a door is open or a panel is removed, a safety interlock is activated. The **Status** indicator shows **Service** (purple) and the **Interlock** indicator appears below it with the name of the activated interlock. For example, a door is open, a panel is removed or a laser interlock is activated.

📖 For details on safety interlocks see *ThermoFlex 2630/4045 Safety Precautions for User*, catalog # 399Z1N020B.



Main screen with Service status, interlock indicator and open door

The machine shown in the above figure is the ThermoFlex 4045.

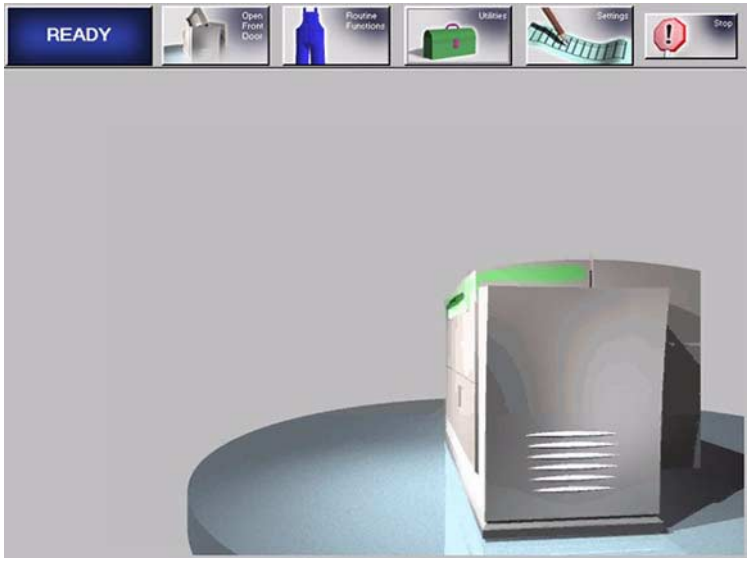
Attention

When the machine status is **Attention**, the *Online machine view* may give some indication as to the cause of the problem. For example, if the vacuum pump did not start to work.

Perform interactive operations

You can open the front or rear door by clicking on the relevant door on the *Online machine view.* (This is the same as using **Open Front Door** and **Open Rear Door** buttons on the *Operation* menu.)

When you move the cursor on the door it becomes green. See the following figure.



Main screen with front door green when the cursor moves on it

The machine shown in the above figure is the ThermoFlex 4045.



Chapter 4

Plate Handling

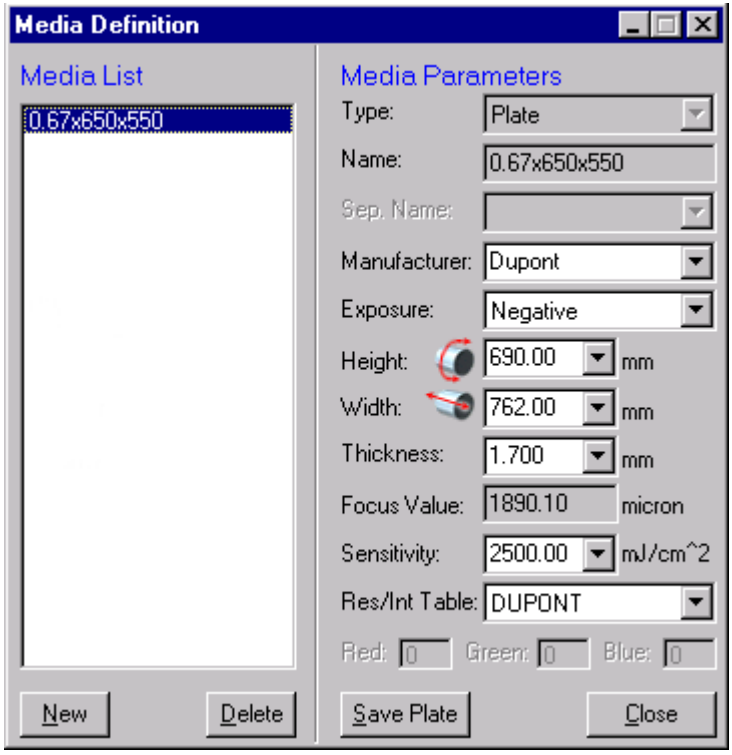
Media Definition 28
Loading/Unloading Plates 31
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Media Definition

You must define the type of plates you will use before loading them into the platesetter. The **Media Definitions** option is also used to edit the parameters of existing plates or delete plates you will no longer use.



Click **Media Definitions** in the *Settings* menu to open the *Media Definition* window. Defined plate types are listed under *Media List.*



Define a new plate:

1. Click **New**.
2. Enter the plate name in **Name** field under *Media Parameters*. Recommended plate name includes the manufacturer name.



Important note: It is recommended that the plate name also include the plate thickness. This will assist you when selecting the correct plate set in the *Plate Expose* dialog on the Brisque DFE, prior to exposure. For example, **Dup_0.030** or **Dup_0.015** indicate a Dupont 3.0 mm or Dupont 1.5 mm flexo plate, respectively.

3. Choose the **Manufacturer** from the pop-up list of the main plate suppliers or enter the manufacturer's name.
4. Make sure plate **Type** is **Negative**. (All plates used in this platesetter are negative plates, that is, a positive exposure is performed.)
5. Enter plate **Height** in mm. Maximum ThermoFlex 2630 plate height is 660 mm. Maximum ThermoFlex 4045 plate height is 1010 mm.
6. Enter plate **Width** in mm. Maximum ThermoFlex 2630 plate width is 762 mm. Maximum ThermoFlex 4045 plate width is 1150 mm.
7. Enter plate **Thickness**, as listed on the plate packaging. It is recommended that you verify the plate thickness with a micrometer. Range: 0.7 – 3.2 mm.
8. Enter the plate **Sensitivity** value. For both ThermoFlex 2630 and ThermoFlex 4045, the plate sensitivity is 2500. This value is important for the adjustment of the optic system.
9. Choose the **Res. Int. Table** for your plate from the pop-up list.
10. Click **Save** to save the new plate. The new plate name will then appear in the *Media list*.

Edit the parameters of existing plates:

1. On the *Media List*, click the plate you wish to edit. The selected plate parameters appear under *Media Parameters*.
2. You can edit all plate parameters, except the plate focus and plate name (**Name** and **Focus Value** are grayed).
3. Click **Save** to save the new parameters.
4. To delete a plate set from the *Media List*, select the requested plate and click **Delete**.



To change the plate name, you must first **Delete** the plate and then redefine it using **New**.

Loading/Unloading Plates

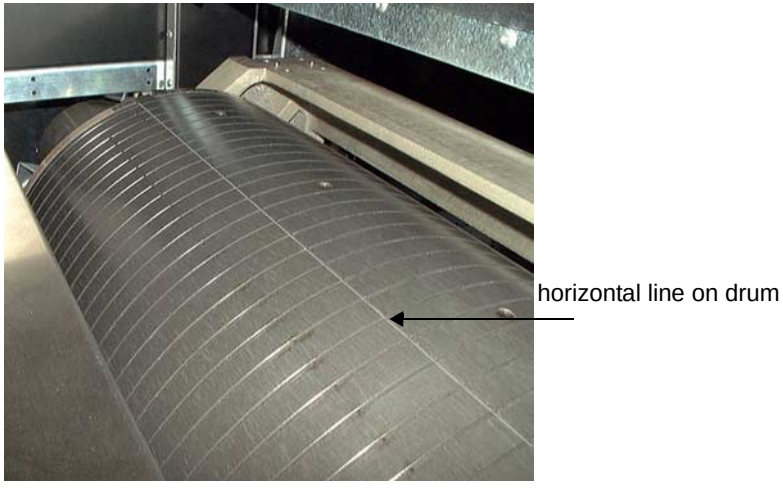
1. An *Expose* job is defined on the Brisque DFE. See details in *Submitting the Job Ticket for Processing* on page 111.
2. A message is sent from the Brisque to PC controller requesting that an appropriate plate be loaded in the platesetter. The message on the application *Main window* specifies the plate thickness and size.



3. Click the **Open Front Door** button on the *Main window* to open the front door of the platesetter. For details *see page 19*.
4. Get the requested plate. Carefully remove the top protective layer of the plate. Note that after the top layer is removed, the plate becomes flexible.

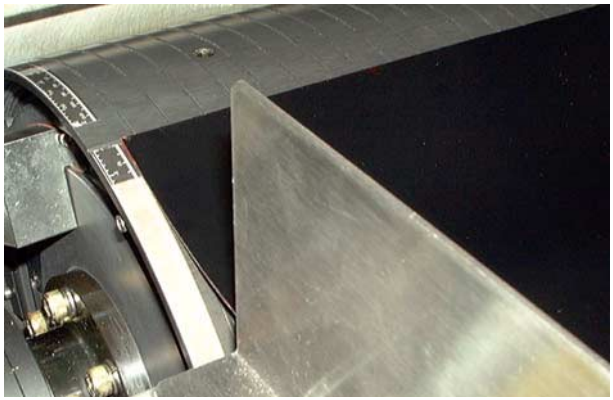
Make sure not to touch the top side of the plate after the protective layer is removed.

5. Tape the top edge of the plate to the drum:
   - Locate the horizontal line marked on drum (*see in next figure*). This line represents the starting point of the exposed area.



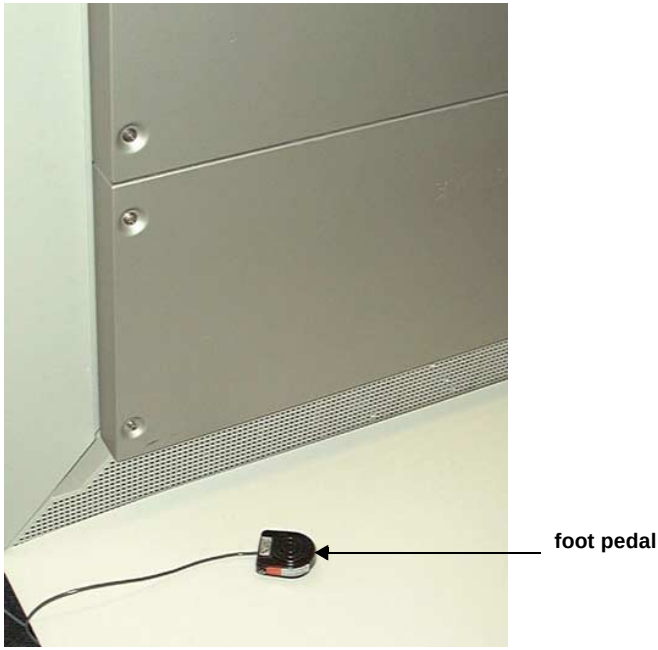
Horizontal line marked on drum (starting point of exposed area)

- Align the top edge of the plate with the horizontal line on drum, starting at the left corner (as shown in next figure).



Loading plate on drum - starting at left side

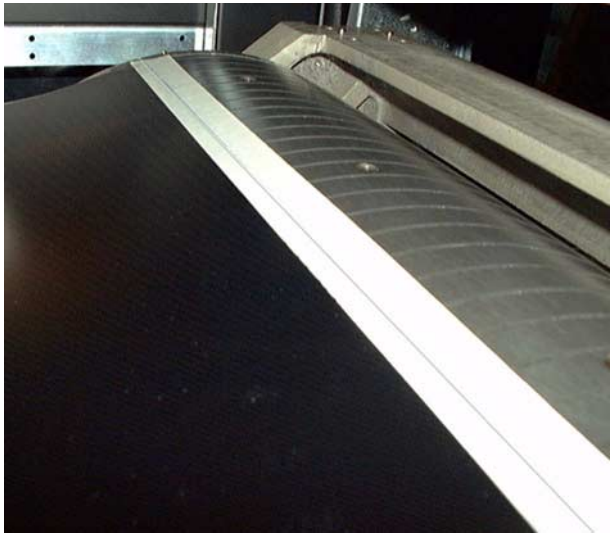
- Press the vacuum pump foot pedal to turn on the vacuum pump. When the vacuum is on, it is easier to secure the plate in position. The foot pedal is shown below.



Foot pedal for switching on vacuum pump

- Tape the top edge of the plate to drum (as shown in next figure). You can use any suitable tape that is up to 0.2 mm thick and that will not leave marks or glue on the drum.

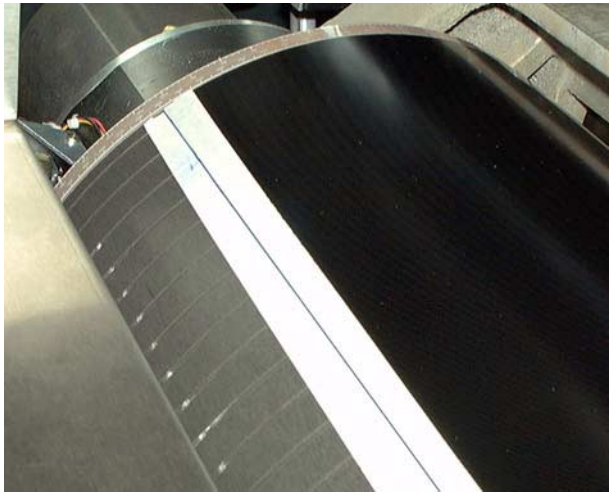
Make sure the tape is placed straight and smoothly.



Taping top edge of plate to drum

Please note that the tape width should be accounted for when defining the image offset in the *Plate Expose* window in the Brisque.

6. Slowly rotate the drum until the bottom edge of plate can be taped to the drum (as shown in next figure). There is no need to tape the plate sides.



Taping bottom edge of plate to drum

7. After both plate edges are taped to the drum, view the plate from the side of the machine. Make sure that the plate surface is smooth.
8. Close the front door.

Please note that the foot pedal cannot be activated **after** the front door is closed. That is, you cannot switch off the vacuum using the foot pedal.

9. Make sure that the plate you have just loaded onto the drum is the correct plate size and thickness, as requested in *step 2*, previously.
10. In the *Loading plate* window on PC controller, click **OK** to confirm that the requested plate was loaded.

Machine status shows **Working** (green) and the expose job begins.

11. When the expose job is completed, an appropriate message appears on the PC controller *Main window* and on the Brisque DFE. The message requests that you unload the plate.
12. Open the front door, same as *step 3*, above.
13. Carefully remove the plate. Make sure not to touch the top side of plate that was exposed.

Releasing Plates

On rare occasions, you may need to release a plate from inside the platesetter. For example, if the plate slipped off the drum. If this happens, you need to locate the plate inside the platesetter and manually release it.



It is recommended to release the entire plate **as one piece**; do not attempt to cut the plate.

To release a plate:

1. Open the front door from the *Main window*. For details on how to open the door, *see page 19*.
2. When the front door is open, rotate the drum forward until you can see the detached edge of the plate.
3. For the ThermoFlex 4045, if you cannot locate the plate, open the rear door of the platesetter. (For the ThermoFlex 2630, you have full access when you open the front door). Opening the rear door is similar to opening the front door. For details *see page 19*.
4. Gently pull the edge of the plate towards you until the entire plate is released.



Released plates must be disposed; you may **not re-use** the plate.



Chapter 5

Platesetter Configuration from the Brisque DFE

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Parameter Categories. 41
Defining the Press Format Parameters. 43
Viewing the Plate Set Parameters 46
Plate Geometry. 48

Configuring your platesetter from the Brisque DFE requires:

- Defining and selecting a **Press Format***
- Viewing and verifying the **Plate Set** parameters.

*If are outputting to a ThermoFlex 2630/4045 platesetter, you will be using a Press Format configuration already predefined by CreoScitex, which is available on the Brisque DFE. You cannot modify this Press Format.

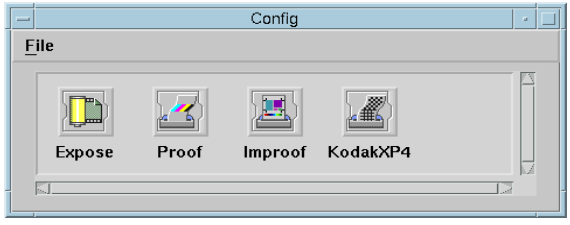
You perform these steps on the Brisque DFE via the *Output Device Configuration* application.

The platesetters support various presses and plates. Those shown in the screen captures in this guide are only examples and should not be taken as CreoScitex recommendations.

Launching the Device Configuration Application

To launch the Output Device Configuration application on the Brisque:

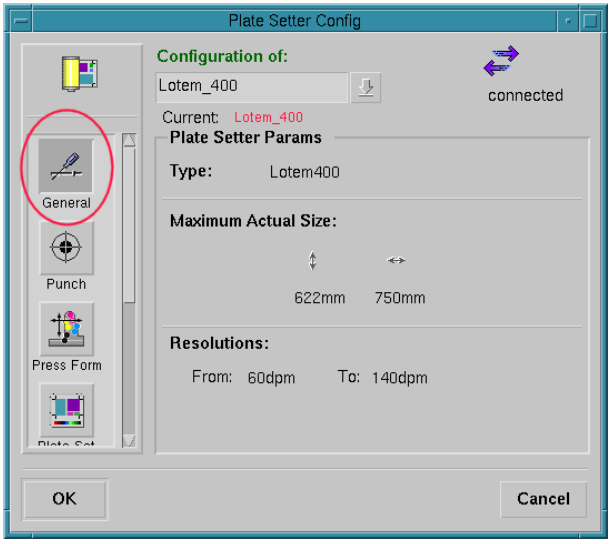
1. From the Brisque *Launch Pad*, open the **Setup** panel, then double click the **Config** icon; the *Config* window appears.



***Config* window**

2. From the *Config* window, click the **Expose** icon; the Brisque automatically connects to your platesetter and displays the *Platesetter Config* window.

Note: In this screen capture, we show a Plate Set configuration suitable for a Lotem 400V platesetter.



***Platesetter Config* window**

The *Current* field displays the "logical" name of the currently selected platesetter.

The status icon in the top right corner, displays the operational and connective status of the selected output device with the Brisque DFE and PC controller (see *the following page)*.

The device parameters in the *Platesetter Config* window vary according to type of Lotem platesetter, for example:

Platesetter	Maximum Plate Size [mm]			Resolution Range [dpm]		
	H	×	W	From	–	To
ThermoFlex 2630	690		762	80 dpm		140 dpm
ThermoFlex 4045	1010		1150	60 dpm		120 dpm

Status Icons

The *Status* icon in the top right corner of the *Plate Setter Config* window displays the connective and operational status of the platesetter and PC controller:

Status	Icon	Description
Connected		A three-way connection between the Brisque DFE, platesetter and PC controller has been securely established. Also known as the "online" mode.
Not Connected		A three-way connection between the Brisque DFE, platesetter and PC controller cannot been established. Also known as the "offline" mode. For example, the platesetter is switched off.
Plotting (Imaging)		The platesetter is exposing or busy with another operation.
Failed		The platesetter is physically connected to the Brisque DFE, but not functioning.

Parameter Categories

When you select a platesetter in the *Output Device Configuration* application, and a successful connection is made (i.e., you are in the online mode), the Brisque DFE automatically retrieves the platesetter parameters from the PC controller database.

Icons in the Platesetter Config window represent the parameter categories that can be defined:



General Provide information about your platesetter, such as minimum and maximum plate dimensions that can be loaded on your press, and the range of resolutions at which you can expose.

Punch Allows you to view the Punch system(s) installed in your platesetter.

Press Format Allows you to define and modify Press Formats. They are configured from the Brisque DFE, not from the PC controller.

Plate Set Allows you to view the customized Plate Sets defined and stored on the PC controller.

Angle Allows you to select, modify and create Screen Angle sets, which define the angle at which each separation is screened.

Boards Displays information about screen processing and (optional) rotation boards installed in the Brisque.

Self Test Allows you to test the CreoScitex fiber link connecting the Lotem platesetter and Brisque DFE.L

Warning: The **Self Test** is intended for VLSI-only systems (that is, ThermoFlex 4045). Do not perform the test on a system that has a CreoScitex TSP connection (that is, ThermoFlex 2630). If you do so, you will cause connectivity and functionality problems on the Brisque, which can be resolved only when rebooting the Brisque.

In this Quick Start Guide we show how to view and define the following platesetter parameters (certain parameters are view-only):

- Press Format
- Plate Set



Refer to the *Configuring the Output Device* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide* for more information on using the other device options.

Defining the Press Format Parameters

Use the *Output Device Configuration* application on the Brisque DFE to define the specific Press Format parameters. Custom Press Formats cannot be created or modified from the PC controller.

Press Formats define the plate-specific attributes of your press, such as *Plate Size, Plate Thickness*.



You must use a generic Press Format configuration predefined by CreoScitex, called ***General***. Select this Press Format from the Brisque DFE. You cannot modify or rename this Press Format, nor can you create new ones for the ThermoFlex platesetter.

To define a new Press Format:

The Lotem 400V, 800V and 800V^2 platesetters use customized Press Formats on the Brisque DFE. The ThermoFlex platesetter, however, requires you use the generic preconfigured Press Format configuration, *General*. To see how to view the parameters of this Press Format, refer to steps 1-3 in the following instructions (you may refer to the steps thereafter to learn about the various Press Format parameters).

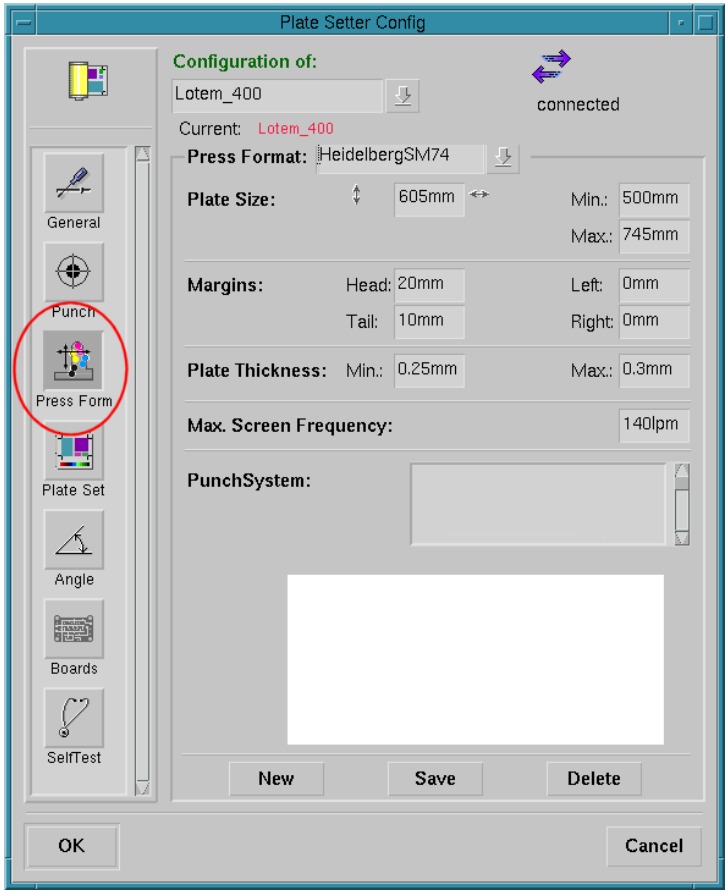
1. Make sure you are in online mode with the PC controller - the status must indicate "connected".

2. Click the **Press Format** icon.

Note: Press format parameters vary according to your platesetter type and press machine:

The **ThermoFlex 2630** uses a generic Press Format configuration, defined as follows: plate width 152 -762 mm, plate height 152 - 690 mm, and plate thickness 0.7 - 3.2 mm.

The **ThermoFlex 4045** uses a generic Press Format configuration, defined as follows: plate width 152 - 1150 mm, plate height 152 - 900 mm, and plate thickness 0.7 - 3.2 mm.



Press Format parameters (for Lotem 400V platesetter)

3. The *Press Format* list displays predefined **Press Formats** stored on the Brisque DFE. When you select a Press Format from this list, its parameters appear in the *Platesetter Config* window.

You must choose the Press Format called ***General***. This Press Format is required for exposing to the ThermoFlex 2630/4045. The Press Format configuration is generic and cannot be modified, renamed or deleted.

4. Click the **New** button.

5. In the *Press Format* field, type the name of the new Press Format. *Do not use* the following characters, \/**:*?"<>|** or <**space**>. These characters are automatically replaced with an underscore (_).

6. Define the parameters for your press:



The **Press Format** you create and select will appear in the *Plate Expose* window as the *default* Press Format. You can change the selected Press Format in the *Plate Expose* window, but you cannot modify its parameters. *See Chapter 7 Processing a Job from the Brisque DFE on page 75.*

Plate Size Defines the size of the plates that can be loaded in your press. Refer to the plate geometry diagram on page 48.



Around the Drum
Defines the plate height.



Along the Drum
Defines minimum and maximum widths of the plate.

Margins The head, tail, left and right margins define the non-exposable areas on the plate defined by your press.

Refer to the plate geometry diagram on page 48 for an in-depth description of these parameters and a diagram illustrating the plate geometry.

Plate Thickness Defines a minimum and maximum plate thickness for your plates. You define this parameter according to your currently selected press.

Do not enter a maximum thickness larger than that defined in the PC controller (this value can be seen in the Brisque *Platesetter Config* window under *Plate Set*). If you do, problems may occur later on.

ThermoFlex 2630 / 4045: The plate thickness range is 0.7 - 3.2 mm, which is defined by the Press Format, ***General***. A specific plate thickness is selected when you choose an appropriate Press Set.

7. Click **Save** to save the new Press Format and its parameters on the local Brisque and the PC controller database. Now you may continue to view the parameters of the custom Plate Sets predefined on the PC controller.

Viewing the Plate Set Parameters

You use the *Output Device Configuration* application on the Brisque DFE to view the parameters of customized Plate Sets. Plate Sets are created on the PC controller.

The available Plate Sets and respective parameters are automatically transferred to the local Brisque from the PC controller database when you invoke the *Output Device Configuration* application on the Brisque DFE. The Plate Set data is transferred to the Brisque DFE for viewing purposes only.

In "offline" mode, the **Plate Set** selected in the *Output Device Configuration* application will appear in the *Plate Expose* window as the *default* Plate Set. However, if you launch the *Plate Expose* application in "online" mode, the Plate Set currently loaded in the platesetter appears as the *selected* Plate Set. See *Chapter 7 Processing a Job from the Brisque DFE on page 75* for more details.

To view parameters of a customized Plate Set:

1. Click the **Plate Set** category icon.

Note: Plate size is defined by the currently selected Plate Set parameters. In this screen capture, we show a Plate Set configuration suitable for a Lotem 400V platesetter.

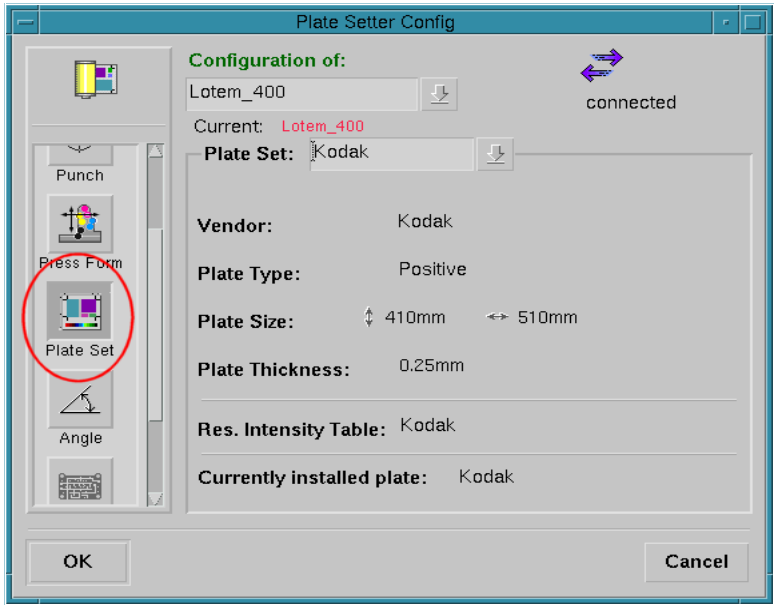


Plate Set parameters (for Lotem 400V platesetter)

The Plate Sets names are read from the PC controller database (created via the *Plate Definition* utility) and appear in the *Plate Set* menu list. The parameters for each selected Plate Set appear in the window, below the *Plate Set* menu list.



The plate vendor listed in the previous window is an example. The platesetters support plates various vendors, and CreoScitex does not promote the products of any specific company.

2. From the *Plate Set* menu list, select a predefined **Plate Set**.

   The following parameters are displayed:

Vendor	The vendor name.
Plate Type	Negative or positive exposure plate.
Plate Size	Dimensions of the plate, which is defined by the currently selected Press Format (*see page 43*).
Plate Thickness	The thickness of the plate.
Res. Intensity Table	Currently defined Resolution Intensity table. Refer to *Intensity Calibration on page 53* for instructions on how to calibrate a Resolution Intensity table.
Currently loaded plate	Plate type currently loaded in your platesetter.

3. Click **OK** to exit the *Platesetter Config* window and to return to the *Config* window.
4. Double click the *Window Control Box* to close the *Config* window and return to the Brisque CDE.

Plate Geometry

Understanding plate geometry is important for defining the plate margins. The various margins around the plate are what define the exposable and non-exposable areas on the plate. Plate margins are defined via the Press Format parameters (see *Defining the Press Format Parameters on page 43*):

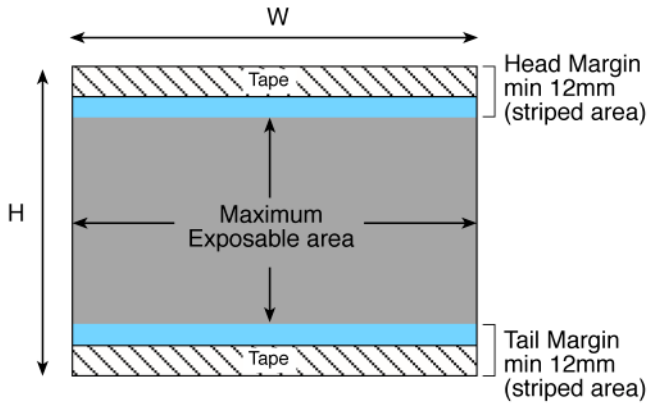


Plate Geometry - negative working plate. Two strips of emulsion remain (striped areas) where the gripper or adhesive tape hold the plates on the drum. For all Lotem platesetters, including the ThermoFlex 2630/4045, a minimum 25 mm head and tail margins are mandatory. Blue (darker) - unexposed areas. Gray (lighter) - Exposed area.

Head/Tail Margin

The head and tail margins are non-exposable areas on the plate that are defined according to your currently selected Press Format and output device type.

ThermoFlex 2630/4045 platesetter - the ThermoFlex 2630/4045 platesetter does not use a gripper system. Use adhesive tape to attach the flexo plates to the drum. A minimum 25 mm head and tail margin are still required. You may make these margins larger if you wish.

Important: To print a slug, define the head margin to larger than (or equal to) 16 mm. Slugs are described in *Chapter 7 Processing a Job from the Brisque DFE on page 75*.

Left/Right Margin

Define the side margins to determine the non-exposable side areas on the plate. Since there are no side grippers or adhesive tape required to hold the plate on the drum, both side margins should be set at 0 mm.

Platesetter	Maximum Plate Size			Maximum Exposable Area*		
	H		W	H		W
ThermoFlex 2630	660 mm	×	762 mm	635 mm	×	762 mm
ThermoFlex 4045	1010 mm	×	1150 mm	990 mm	×	1150 mm

* maximum exposable height = [plate height - 25 mm (head and tail margins)]



Chapter 6

Platesetter Calibration from the Brisque DFE

Intensity Calibration. 53
Excurve Calibration. 58
Tone Reproduction 69

In this chapter we describe how to calibrate your platesetter from the Brisque DFE.

The calibrations described are performed before using the platesetter for the first time, and for periodic verification of output quality. You can create different calibration tables (curves) for different types of media.

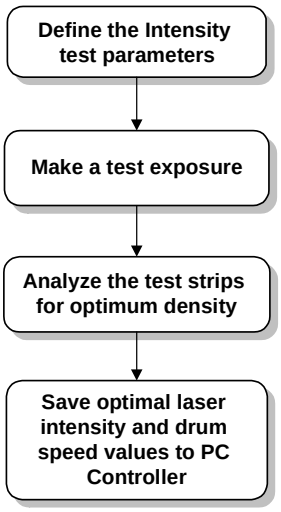
Basic calibration of the platesetter involves two procedures: **Intensity** calibration and **Excurve** calibration.

Following these two procedures, you may also want to create a **Tone Reproduction Curve** and attach it to your output workflow. This curve compensates for press-related effects, like dot gain, and control image tonality.



Important: Your platesetter requires additional tests to be “fully” calibrated (apart from Intensity and Excurve calibrations). See the *Lotem Calibration* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide*. If you are using a ThermoFlex 2630 or 4045, make sure the *Focus* and *Laser Uniformity* tests have been completed, with the correct plate thickness range (normally performed on site by a CreoScitex engineer).

Intensity Calibration



The objective of the **Intensity** calibration is to determine the optimal drum speed and laser intensity for a given plate at your working resolution (60, 80, 100, 120, 140 dpm). The ThermoFlex 2630/4045 platesetters support a resolution of up to 140 dpm.

The *Intensity* test results depend on the type of plate, so this test should be performed for each plate type. Test results are not affected by plate size or thickness.

Once you have identified the optimal *laser intensity* and *drum speed* values, they are transferred to the PC controller database so that they are accessible by the platesetter during output production.

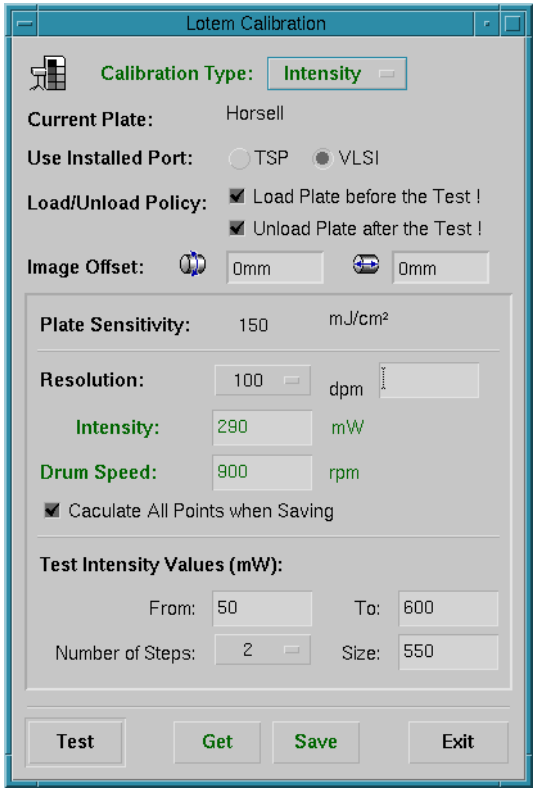
You perform the Intensity calibration:

- The first time the platesetter is used.
- Every time you change media or processing parameters.
- Periodically, to maintain the quality of the exposed output.

Important: You must perform the Intensity calibration before creating an Excurve.

To perform the Intensity calibration:

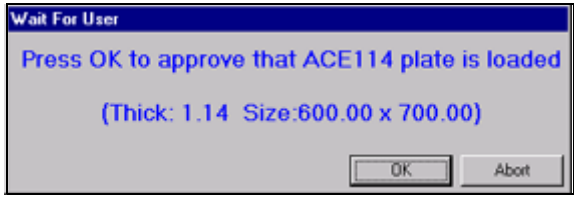
1. Load the plate you intend to use for this test.
2. From the Brisque *Launch Pad*, or from the *Services* panel, double click the **LotemCalib** icon; the *Lotem Calibration* window appears.



3. From the *Calibration Type* menu, select **Intensity**; the *Current Plate* type and *Plate Sensitivity* parameters are automatically read from the PC controller according to the plate currently loaded.

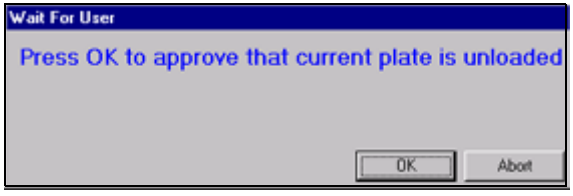
4. Define the **Load/Unload Policy**:

   - Select **Load plate before the test.** The following message is displayed:



   If you click abort, you can use an already loaded plate, or reuse a plate for additional calibration tests.

   - Select **Unload plate after the test.** The following message is displayed:



   You need to load another plate for additional tests. If you select abort, you can reuse the plate for additional calibration tests.

5. Define the **Image Offset** values by entering the vertical offset (along the drum) and horizontal offset (around the drum), in *mm* units. The [0,0] offset reference is located at the upper left corner of the plate.

   Use different offset values for each test when using the same plate for several tests.

6. From the **Resolution** menu, select your desired resolution (in *dpm*).

7. Do not modify the value in the **Intensity** field. After the *Intensity* test is completed, you will enter the optimal Intensity test result in this field, which will be transferred to the PC controller.

Note: ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users are recommended to calibrate only at 600 mW, while testing different drum speeds between 90- 200 rpm.

8. In the **Drum Speed** field, enter the drum speed. If optimal intensity results are not obtained, you should change the drum speed value and repeat the test.



The drum speed depends on many factors, such as plate type and transfer rate of data from the Brisque to the platesetter. Consult with your local CreoScitex engineer for obtaining the recommended drum speed value.

9. Select **Calculate all points when saving** to define at which *resolutions*, the working parameters (*Intensity* and *Drum Speed*) are updated when the *Save* button is clicked. The updated values are calculated according to the results of the current *Intensity* test.

   - Select **Calculate all points when saving** to command the Brisque to update the working parameters for *all* standard resolutions appearing in the resolution table.
   - Deselect **Calculate all points when saving** to command the Brisque to update the working parameters only for the resolution **co-ordinates** defined in the *Resolution* menu field.

Note: ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users are recommended to calibrate only at 600 mW, while testing different drum speeds between 90 - 200 rpm.

10. In the **Test Intensity Values (mW**) **From/To** fields, enter the desired intensity range. CreoScitex recommendations:

    ThermoFlex 2630/4045: use only 600 mW.

11. In the **Number of steps** field, enter the number of exposures desired for the above range of *Test Intensity Values*.

    The Brisque automatically calculates the size of each step interval and displays it in the *Size* field. This value cannot be modified - it is intended as a quick reference for the platesetter operator.

12. Click **Test** to initiate the Intensity test. Several exposures are performed, according to the settings you have just defined.



ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users: Make sure you have a loaded a flexo plate with the correct thickness (as defined by the current Plate Set), so as not to damage the laser mechanism in the machine.

13. When the exposure is completed, develop the plate and examine the results. For first time users, a CreoScitex engineer will advise how to analyze the results and determine the optimum intensity level.

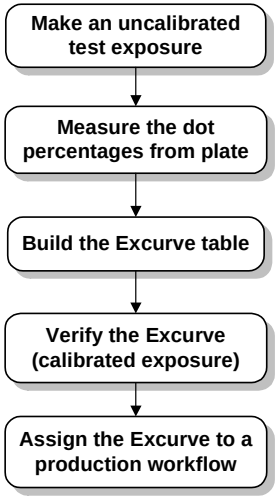
    - If satisfactory results are not obtained, change the *Drum Speed* value and repeat the test.
    - When satisfactory results are obtained, determine the optimal laser intensity that gives the best exposure. Enter this value in the **Intensity** field in the *Lotem Calibration* window.

    The optimal drum speed is the value at which the optimal intensity was obtained.

14. Click **Save** to save the new **Intensity** value and the **Drum Speed** value (according to the **Calculate all points when saving** option selected in *step 9*), which transfers them to the PC controller.

15. Click **Exit** to exit the *Lotem Calibration* window.

Excurve Calibration



Excurve calibration verifies the correct reproduction of dot percentage values on the plate. Different job types require different exposure conditions, therefore Excurves need to be created for each job type. Excurves are attached to Brisque templates via the *Plate Expose* application. (You can also use the *AutoSelect* feature to automatically match appropriate Excurves to specific template types.)

When performing the Excurve calibration, you generate a test exposure to measure dot percentage values on the plate and enter the measured values into a table. The Brisque uses this table to correct the reproduction of dot percentage on the plate. After creating a table, you run a verification test.

After the Excurve calibration, we recommend you verify the Excurve at least daily, depending on the standard of precision required for the plates you are producing.



Remember that before performing the Excurve calibration, you must complete the Intensity calibration; otherwise the Excurve calibration results will not be meaningful.



CreoScitex recommends creating different Excurves to apply to different plate expose conditions including positive and negative exposures, different resolutions, mesh definitions, and dot shapes.

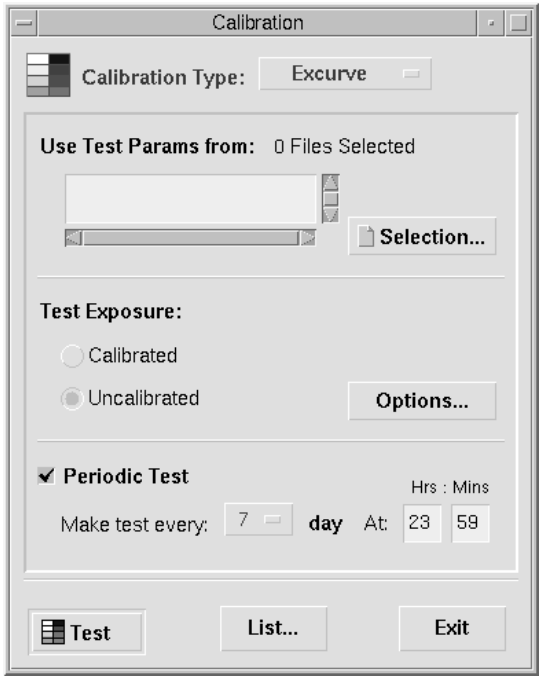
Making a Test Exposure

The first test exposure is performed without using a predefined Excurve. The resulting data (dot percentage values measured on the plate) are produced with no distortions as a result of an Excurve.

To make a test exposure:

1. From the Brisque *Launch Pad*, double click the **Calibration** icon; the *Calibration* window appears.

2. The *Calibration Type* option should already show **Excurve**. If it does not, then select it from the menu. The following options are displayed.



3. Click the **Selection** button; a file browser appears, displaying a list of Brisque templates.



Refer to the *Defining Templates* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide* for more information on Brisque templates.

4. From the browser, select a template(s) with a Plate Expose operation upon which to base the Excurve calibration (such as Press Format and Plate Set).

   CreoScitex does not supply default Brisque templates that include the Plate Expose output operation. Therefore we recommend that first time users consult with a CreoScitex representative to obtain such templates or the required processing parameters for designing one.

   Eventually, you will probably create templates to match your production needs, and may use them for calibration as well.

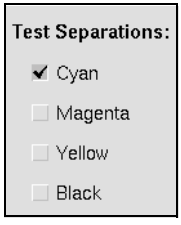
   When you return to the *Calibration* window, the selected template(s) appear in the *Use Test Params from* field.

   If more than one template appears in the field, you get multiple test results when you perform the calibration.

5. Select the **Uncalibrated** *Test Exposure* option.

6. Click the **Options** button; the *Excurve Options* window appears.

7. Define how many separations of the test image will be produced on the plate. Selecting just the Cyan separation is usually sufficient for calibration.



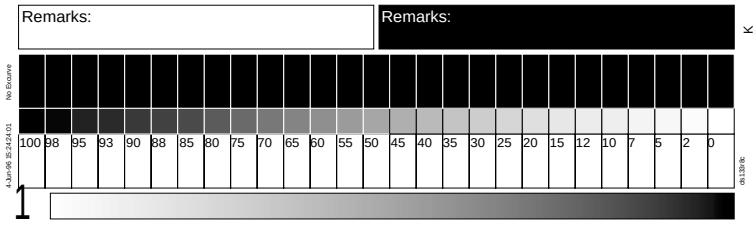
8. At this point, we will not use or define the remaining Excurve parameters, which are optional.

   Refer to the *Calibrating the Output Device* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide* for details.

9. Click the **Test** button; a test exposure is generated for each designated template. If a Job is already being exposed on the platesetter, the test is exposed after the Job finishes.

Important: Remember that if the Intensity calibration was not performed before running this test, the results will not be meaningful. Before the exposure, the Brisque DFE automatically retrieves the *laser intensity* and *drum speed* parameters from the PC controller, which were obtained and saved from the latest Intensity test performed on the platesetter.

10. Develop the exposed test plates.



Excurve test exposure

11. Use a densitometer to measure the dot percentage values of each exposed test strip, and record the results on paper. These results will be used to create the Excurve (see below, *Creating the Excurve*).

To get accurate results, be sure to zero the densitometer to a "ghost" dot area on plate before measuring the dot area.

Creating the Excurve

After you measure the dot percentage values of each exposed test strip, use the data to build an Excurve table to correct the reproduction of dot percentage values on the plate.

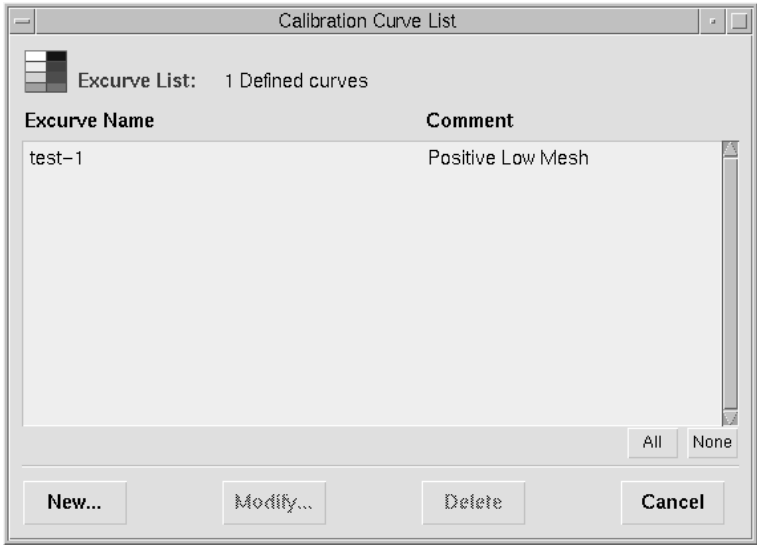
You can create a new Excurve in one of two ways:

- Build a new curve.
- Modify an existing curve, and save it under a new name.

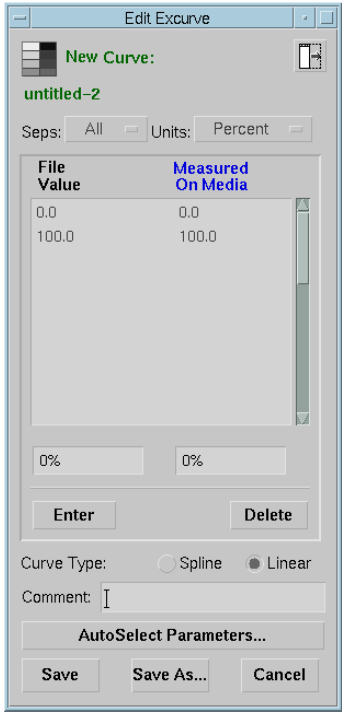
In this Quick Start Guide we show you how to prepare a new calibrated Excurve.

To create a new Excurve:

1. From the main *Calibration* window, click the **List** button; the *Calibration Curve List* window appears.



2. Click the **New** button; the *Edit Excurve* window appears, displaying the default values (0,0) and (100,100), which describe a line.



3. From the test plate exposure performed in the previous section, enter the following values into the Excurve table to create the Excurve.

   - **File values -** values that appear for each test exposure strip on the test plate.
   - **Measured on Media -** dot percentage values measured by densitometer from each test exposure strip on the test plate.

   Normally, your Excurve table contains 21 pairs of co-ordinates, evenly spread from 1-100%. For a more precise calibration, increase the number of co-ordinate pairs. If you have a problem with a range(s) (for example, highlights or midtones) add co-ordinate pairs that correspond to that range(s).

To add co-ordinate pairs to the table:

- Click in the field that appears below the *File Value* column and enter the *File Value*.
- Move to the field below the *Measured on Media* column, and enter the corresponding value that you measured on the test strip with the densitometer.

  Numbers can be rounded to n.0% or n.5%. The end-points (0,0 and 100,100) cannot be changed or deleted.

- Click **Enter**; the new co-ordinate is added to the table.



Use <**Tab**> on the keyboard to move from the field below the *File Value* column, to the field below the *Measured on Media* column, to the *Comment* field, back to the field below the *File Value* column etc. Use <**Shift**+**Tab**> to move through the same three fields in reverse order.

4. Select an option from the **Seps** menu to designate the separation(s) to which this Excurve will apply. Normally this parameter is set to *All*, but you can create an Excurve for a specific separation.
5. Select an option from the **Units** menu to determine how the dot values are displayed in the table.

   Percent values range from 0 to 100%.

   System values range from 0-255, and are the opposite of percentage values (i.e., 0=100% and 250=0%).

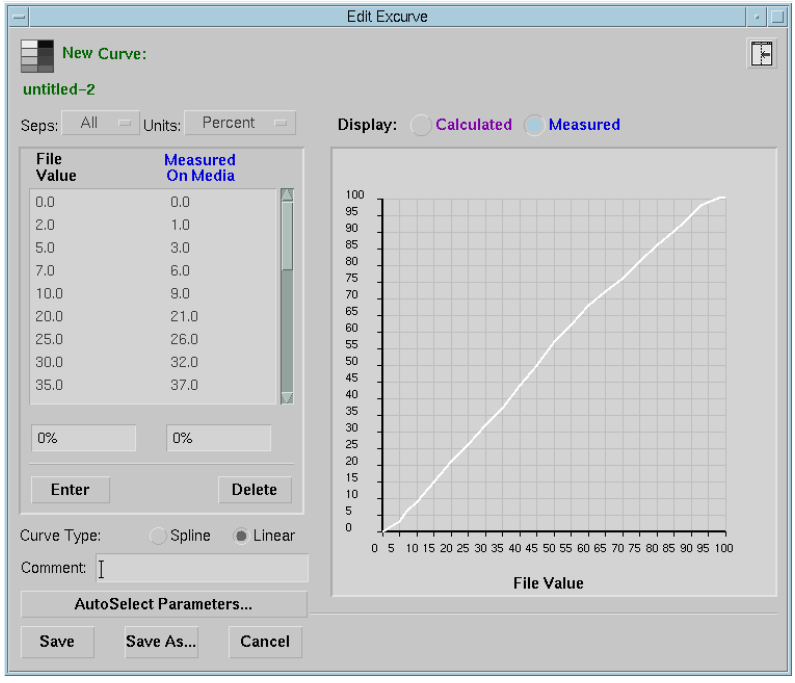
6. Before saving the file, type a comment into the **Comment** field to add a descriptive comment to the Excurve file; this text appears in the comment column of the *Calibration Curve List* and should help you quickly and easily identify different Excurve files.
7. Click **Save as**; the *Save* window appears.
8. Click in the *Save this excurve as* field, then type a file name.
9. Click **OK**; you are returned to the *Calibration Curve List* window where the new Excurve appears in the list.

Viewing the Excurve

The *Excurve* window displays two different curves; the **Measured** curve represents the co-ordinates made up of *File Value* and *Measured on Media* values. The **Calculated** curve represents the Excurve that is automatically created by the Excurve application to correct the disparity between *File* values and *Measured on Media* values. You can view either curve.

To view the Excurve:

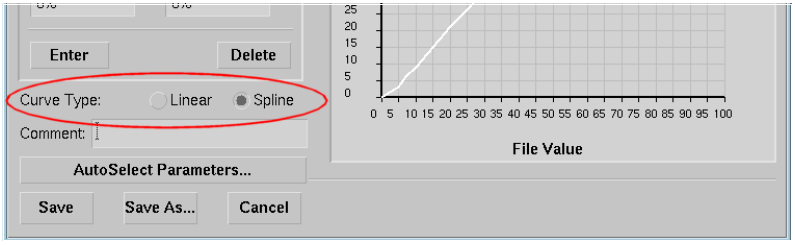
➢ Click the **Expand** icon that appears at the upper right corner of the *Excurve* window. (Click it again to close the display.)



➢ Click the **Measured** or **Calculated** display option to select which curve appears.

- When **Measured** is selected, the data in the right column of the table displays the *Measured On Media* values.
- When **Calculated** is selected, the right column displays the automatically calculated correction values.

- Click the **Spline** option to add computer-generated points between the user-defined input points to smooth out the curve.
- Click the **Linear** option to remove curve smoothing. By default, the *Linear* is activated.



The **Spline** option does not visually affect the *Calculated* and *Measured* curves in the *New/Modify Excurve* window. Its effect is seen on the actual Excurve generated from the input data (not displayed on the screen).

Excurve Verification

Once you have created the Excurve table, return to the main *Calibration* window to verify that the system is calibrated properly.

Important: We recommend that this verification test be performed daily, depending on the standard of precision required for the plates you are producing.

To verify the Excurve:

1. For first time verification of the Excurve, go back to the main *Calibration* window and make sure that the selected *Calibration Type* option is **Excurve**.

   The template listed in the *Use test Params from* field is the template with the Plate Expose parameters used in the calibration.

   (If you are performing a periodic verification, and the correct Brisque template is not displayed in the *Use Test Params from* field, click the **Selection** icon and use the browser to select the Brisque template(s) for the Excurve you want to verify.)

2. Check the defined Plate Expose parameters of the Brisque template to verify that the intended Excurve is attached.
3. Select the **Calibrated** Test Exposure option.

4. Click the **Test** button; a test plate exposure is generated, based on the defined Excurve table attached to the selected template. This time, the test exposure is made using the curve(s) you created previously.

5. Develop the exposed test plates, use a densitometer to measure the dot percentages of each test strip and record the results on paper.



To get accurate results, be sure to zero the densitometer to a "ghost" dot area on film/plate before measuring the dot area.

- If the measured values are within 2% of the corresponding file values, no further adjustment is required.
- If the measured values differ by more than 2%, you need to repeat the Excurve calibration from the beginning. Make sure that you accurately measure the values with the densitometer, and increase the number of co-ordinate pairs in the Excurve table.

6. You can attach the new Excurve to any Brisque template when defining a Brisque template's Plate Expose processing parameters (see *Chapter 7 Processing a Job from the Brisque DFE on page 75*).

Automatic Periodic Excurve Verification:

The *Automatic Periodic Excurve Verification* option allows you to define specific time intervals at which the Excurve Verification test is automatically performed, based on the parameters defined by the Plate Expose in selected templates.



Refer to the *Calibrating the Output Device* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide* for details.

Excurves are created to match specific expose conditions. Instead of manually attaching an Excurve to a template so that every time a file is processed by that template the attached Excurve is applied, use the **Excurve AutoSelect** feature to instruct the system to automatically choose the correct Excurve for each exposure.



Refer to the *Calibrating the Output Device* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide* for details.

When an Excurve is no longer accurate, run an uncalibrated test exposure (not based on an Excurve), measure the dot percentage values from the test strips with a densitometer, and enter the new co-ordinates into the Excurve table. You can either build a completely new table, or you can modify an existing one.

Refer to the *Calibrating the Output Device* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide* for details.

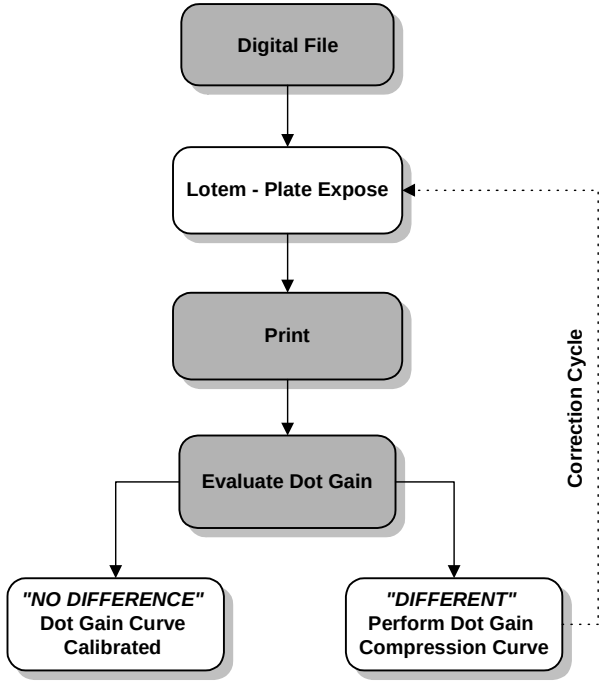
Tone Reproduction

Tone Reproduction curves are created to compensate for **press-related effects**, like dot gain, and to control **image tonality**.

The curves are built according to data measured off the press (printed output) and according to pre-calculated correction tables supplied by the printer. Tone Reproduction curves are not very different from Excurves, except that the measured values are taken from the press and not from the plate.

The *Plate Expose* window on the Brisque allows you to apply a Tone Reproduction curve to your plate exposure. The *Tone Reproduction Curve* application lets you create, modify and delete Tone Reproduction curves from the Brisque.

Important: Before you begin the Tone Reproduction procedure, make sure that the Excurve calibration has been performed and is correct.



Tone Reproduction Curve Calibration Cycle

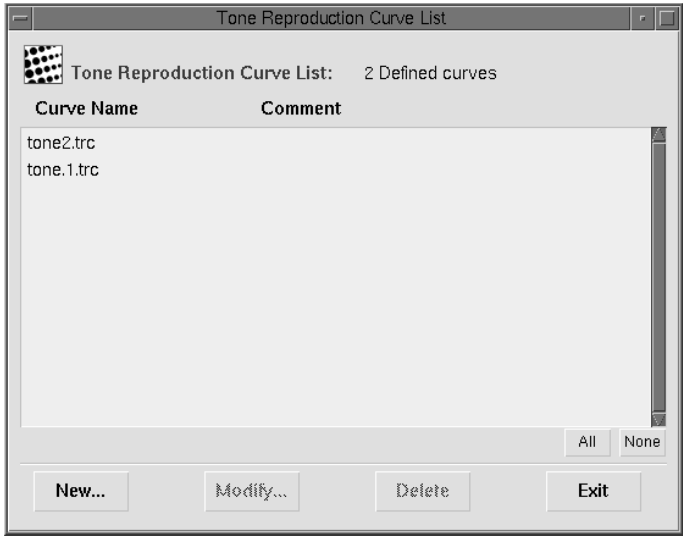
You can create a new Tone Reproduction Curve in one of two ways:

- Build a new curve.
- Modify an existing curve and save it under a new name.

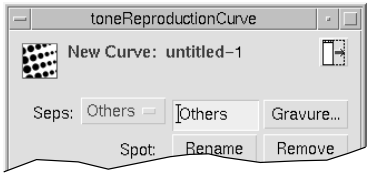
In this Quick Start Guide we show you how to create a new calibrated Tone Reproduction Curve.

To create a new Tone Reproduction Curve:

1. From the Brisque *Launch Pad*, open the **Setup** panel.
2. From the *Setup* panel, double click the **ToneRep** icon; the *Tone Reproduction Curve List* window appears.



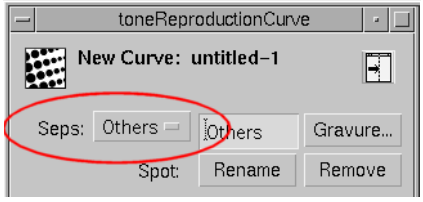
3. From the *Tone Reproduction Curve List* window, click **New**; the *Tone Reproduction Curve* window appears.



4. Before you can build a custom Tone Reproduction Curve for a **Spot** separation, the name of that separation must appear in the *Seps* menu list.

   If you do not wish to create a Tone Reproduction Curve for Spot separations, then advance immediately to *step 5*.

   - **To add a Spot color to the list**, type the exact name of the color separation into the *Seps* field, and press <**Enter**>; the color appears in the *Seps* menu to the left of the field.



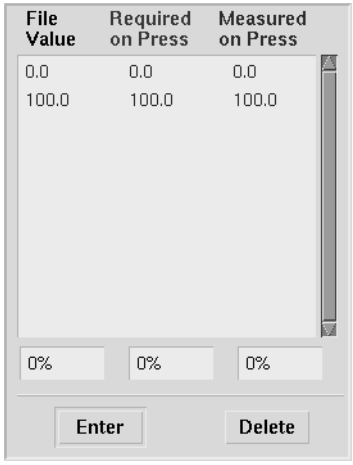
   - **To remove a Spot color from the list**, select a spot color from the *Seps* menu; the name of the selected color appears in the *Seps* field. Then click **Remove**; the color is deleted from the popup list.
   - **To rename a Spot color in the list**, select a Spot color from the list; the name of the selected color appears in the *Seps* field. In the *Seps* field, edit the color name, and then press <**Enter**>; the spot color is renamed.

5. Designate whether the Tone Reproduction curve will apply to a single separation (for example, the Spot Color designated in the previous step) or to all separations.

   From the *Seps* menu, select an option:

   - For all separations, including Spot Colors, select **All**.
   - For a specific separation, select its specific color from the menu.
   - For all Spot Colors that do not appear individually in the menu list, select **Others**.

6. The table that appears in the *Tone Reproduction Curve* window contains three columns into which you enter values for creating a Tone Reproduction Curve:



- **File Value -** contains standard reference values, taken from a test exposure. Scitex recommends using 21 different file values.
- **Required on Press -** contains subjective, user-defined values for the density that is required on press. These values are either an approximation of the correction values, made by an experienced technician, or intentional distortions used for special effects.
- **Measured on Press -** contains the density values measured on the press after the Job has been printed. The *Tone Reproduction* application on the Brisque DFE automatically compares the measured values against the file values and creates a curve that makes the correction for dot gain.

7. Entering values into the three columns results in separate curves, **Required** and **Measured**. The two curves make up one Tone Reproduction Curve file. The exposure that uses the file is affected by both curves.

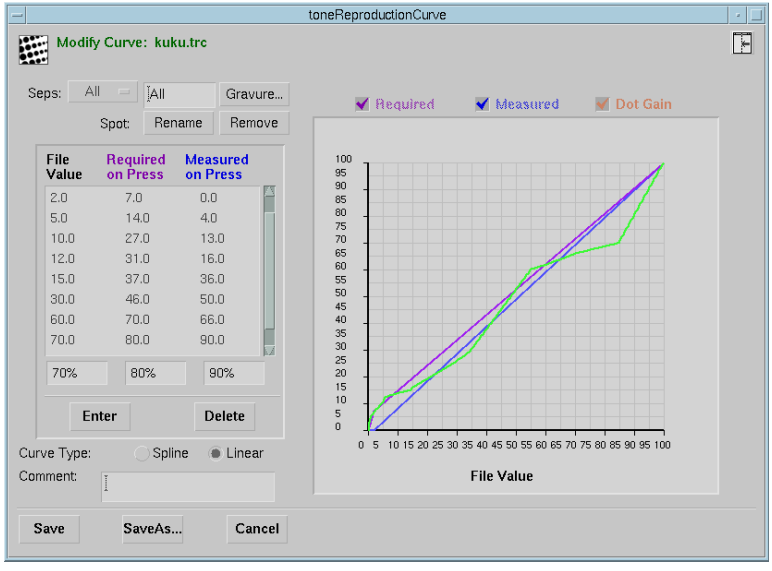
   - **To enter a set of co-ordinates into the table,** place the cursor in the field below the relevant table column and type in a value. Use either the **<Tab>** key or the mouse to move the cursor between fields.

     Once you have entered the co-ordinate values click the <**Enter**> button; the co-ordinates appear in the table.

     Percent values are automatically rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent. The end-points (0.0 and 100.0) cannot be modified or deleted.



8. To display the Dot Gain graph created by the table values, click the **Expand** icon that appears at the upper right corner of the *Tone Reproduction Curve* window.



- **To display the Measured curve or the Required curve,** select either **Required** or **Measured**, *or* both to view both curves on the graph.

Measured	Displays the correction curve that the *Tone Reproduction* application automatically generates based on the *File Value* and the *Measured on Press* data.
Required	Displays the user-defined curve based on the *File Values* and the *Required on Press* data.

- **To view the Dot Gain graph,** click the **Dot Gain** check box.

Dot Gain	Displays the discrepancy between the *Measured on Press* and the *Required on Press* values.

9. To smooth out the *Dot Gain* curve, select the **Spline** option. Otherwise, select the **Linear** option to remove the curve smoothing. By default, the *Linear* option is selected.
10. To add a descriptive comment to the Tone Reproduction Curve file, before saving the file, enter it into the *Comment* field; this text appears in the comment column of the *Tone Reproduction Curve List*.
11. Click **Save As**; the *Save* window appears.
12. Type a name in the *Save this TR curve as* field and click **OK**; you are returned to the *Tone Reproduction Curve List* window, and the new Tone Reproduction Curve appears in the list.
13. Click **Exit** to close the *Tone Reproduction Curve* window.
14. You can attach the new Tone Reproduction Curve to any Brisque template when you define the template's Plate Expose parameters (see the *Processing a Job from the Brisque* chapter).



For information on modifying and deleting existing Tone Reproduction Curves, refer to the *Tone Reproduction* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide*.



Chapter 7

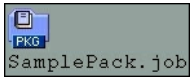
Processing a Job from the Brisque DFE

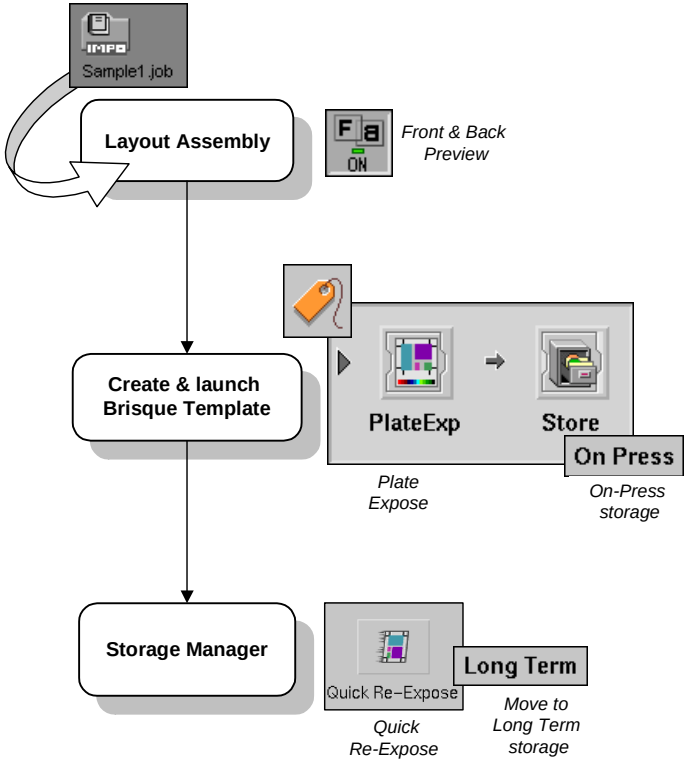
Aligning Signature Elements 78
Launching the Job to a Brisque Template 84
Defining the Plate Expose Parameters 90
Defining the Store Parameters 106
Submitting the Job Ticket for Processing 111
Performing a Plate Remake 114
Sending the Job for Long Term Storage 119

This chapter outlines the basic steps of processing a Brisque Imposition Job on the Brisque DFE, from preparing the alignment Page and Layout elements, to direct plate exposure, and then storage in the Brisque DFE storage database. Also we show how to perform an emergency plate remake using the "Quick Re-Expose" feature.

Note: The workflow illustrated here describes a typical non-flexographic workflow. Certain procedures though are still relevant to a typical flexographic workflow on the Brisque DFE. If you are a **ThermoFlex 2630/ 4045** user, refer only to the following sections:

- *Launching the Job to a Brisque Template on page 84*
- *Defining the Plate Expose Parameters on page 90*
- *Defining the Store Parameters on page 106*
- *Submitting the Job Ticket for Processing on page 111*





Lotem 400V, 800V and 800V^2 typical workflow on the Brisque DFE - *Layout Assembly* → *Plate Expose* → *Store* → *Storage Manager.* See next page for description of flow.

ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users: See note to left of diagram.

Basic operations for Lotem 400V, 800V, 800V^2 users on the Brisque DFE:

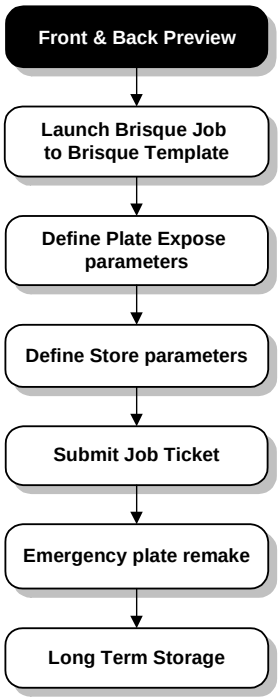
1. Launch the **Layout Assembly** application on the Brisque DFE to view the imposition layout of a single Signature Layout with front and back flats, and verify the alignment of its Page elements on both flats.
2. Design a new **Brisque template**, containing the **Plate Expose** and **Store** operations.
3. Define the *Plate Expose* and *Store* parameters before processing the Job.
4. **Submit the Imposition Job** to the Brisque template, which automates direct exposure to plate on your Lotem platesetter.
5. The Imposition Job is sent to the storage database in the **On Press** mode.
6. If required, perform an emergency plate remake (e.g., one of the plates is scratched) using the **Quick Re-Expose** option in the **Storage Manager** application on the Brisque DFE.
7. After the damaged plate is re-exposed, the stored Job and predefined attachments (pre-RIP and Marks files) are moved to **Long Term storage mode** for archiving.

Basic operations for ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users on the Brisque DFE:

1. Use the **Preview** application on the Brisque DFE to view a Packaging Job, single-Page Brisque Job, or multi-Page Brisque Job. Refer to the *Brisque Quick Start* or *Brisque User Guide* for information on previewing files on the Brisque DFE.
2. Design a new **Brisque template**, containing the **Plate Expose** and **Store** operations.
3. Define the *Plate Expose* and *Store* parameters before processing the Job.
4. **Submit the Job** to the Brisque template, which automates direct exposure to flexo plate on your ThermoFlex 2630/4045 platesetter.
5. The Job is sent to the storage database in the **Long Term** mode.

Aligning Signature Elements

ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users: There is no need to perform the procedures described in this section, as you are not outputting a Brisque Imposition Job to the ThermoFlex 2630/4045 platesetter. Proceed directly to *Launching the Job to a Brisque Template on page 84.*



In this chapter you will launch the *Layout Assembly* application on a single signature Layout with front and back flats to verify alignment of the Page elements on both flats. This is particularly useful in a filmless CTP environment, allowing you to reposition and correct the signature elements on the screen, without having to return to the Imposition file in *Preps*, and thereby preventing the need for wasting test plates to confirm alignment.

We refer to a Brisque Imposition Job as the sample Job in this chapter. Browse the contents of your Brisque volume to find a similar type of file, preferably one that contains two Layouts with either four or eight Pages in each flat (i.e., a 4-up 8 Page Imposition Job for the Lotem 400V platesetter or an 8-up 16 Page Imposition Job for the Lotem 800V platesetter).

You will use the **Front and Back Preview** feature in the **Layout Assembly** application on the Brisque DFE to align the Page elements of front flat with those of the back flat.

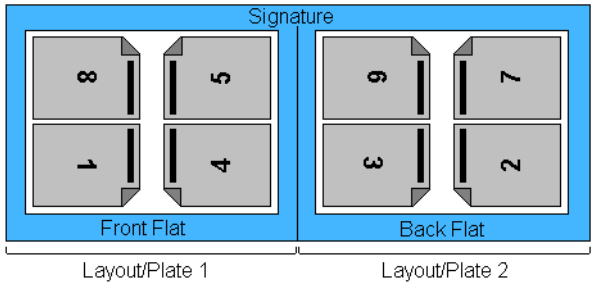
The complete functionality of **Layout Assembly** is described in the *Layout Assembly* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide*.

Use of the *Front and Back Preview* feature requires a password, which you can purchase through your local CreoScitex Care Center.

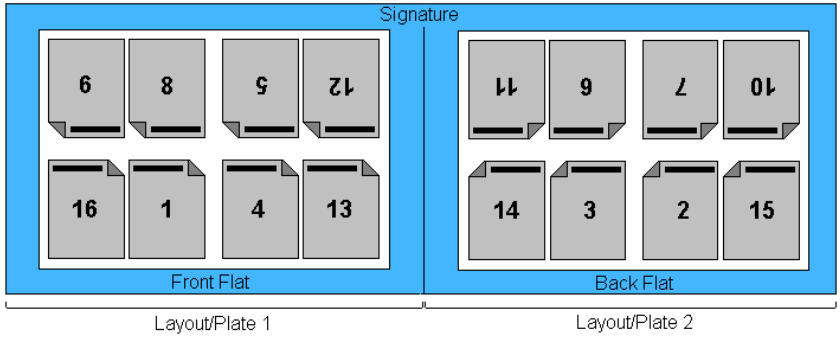
The following terminology describes the way flats are referred to *(see diagram over page)*. Each flat is prepared by a separate Layout on a different plate.

Front Flat Refers to the upper flat of a full Signature.

Back Flat Refers to the lower flat of a full Signature.



4-up 8-Page Imposition Job (full Signature with front and back flats) for Lotem 400V

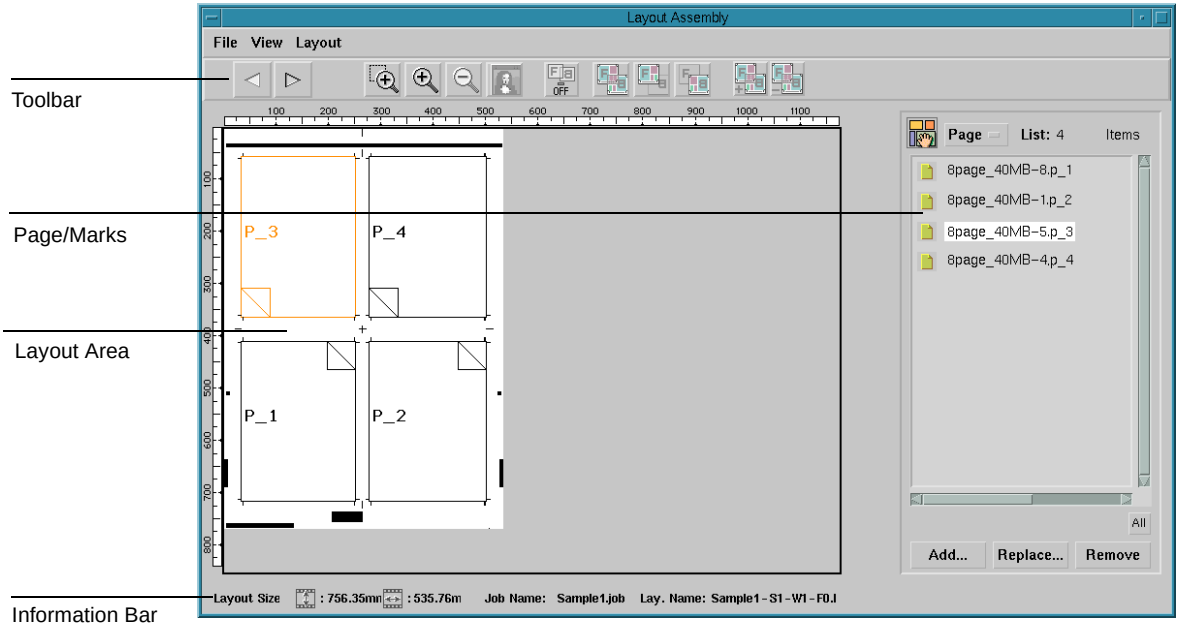


8-up 16-Page Imposition Job (full Signature with front and back flats) for Lotem 800V and 800V^2

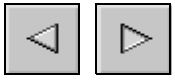
To align the Signature elements with Layout Assembly:

1. From the Brisque *Launch Pad*, open the **Output** panel, and leave it open on the Brisque desktop.
2. From the Brisque *Launch Pad*, double click the **Files** icon to open the Brisque file browser.
3. Locate the Imposition Job to process. In this example we refer to a single Signature 4-up 8-Page Imposition Job called ***Sample1.job***.

4. Drag the Job icon to the **Layout** icon on the *Output* panel; the *Layout Assembly* application opens and displays the front flat of the first Layout of the current Job.



Layout Assembly application. 4-up Imposition Layout.

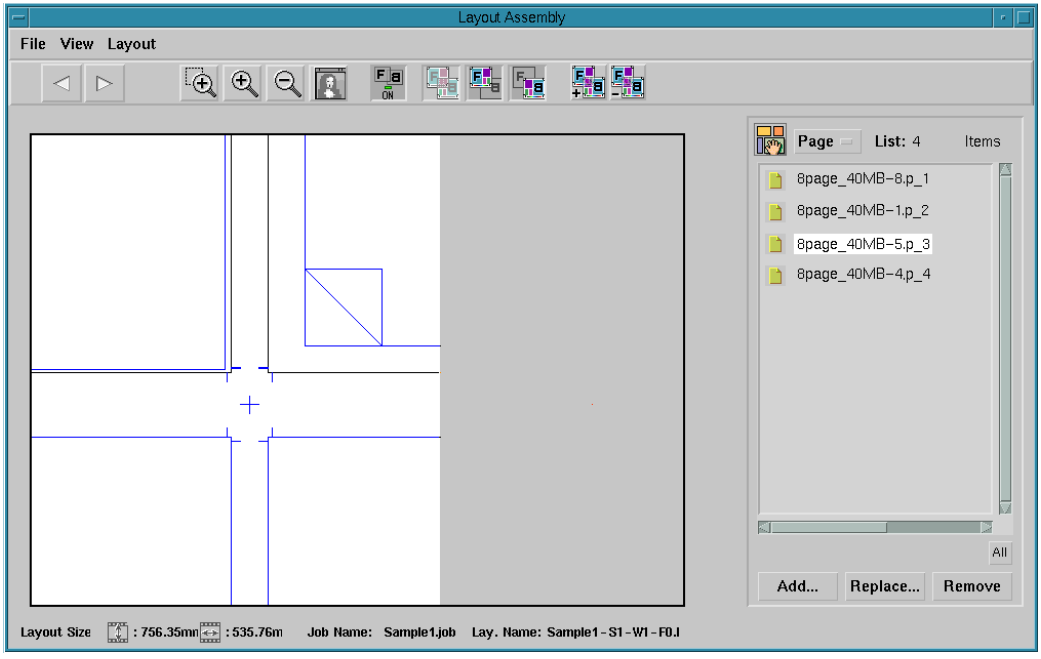


5. In the toolbar, use the **Previous Layout** and **Next Layout** icons to toggle between the Layouts (the front and back flats).



6. Click the **Front and Back On/Off** icon to activate the *Front and Back Preview Mode* toolbar; the *Front and Back Preview* icon itself displays the *ON* status.

   The front flat, bordered in blue, is superimposed over the back flat, bordered in black, which appears as a mirrored or flipped image (depending on the *Working Style* defined in the *Preps* Imposition parameters).



Front & Back Preview **activated. Foreground flat elements (blue) and background flat elements (black).**

To work quickly, use the *Contour* Display Mode for the Front and Back Preview. For work in the high resolution *Preview* Display Mode, use a high zoom-in on the area you are checking for alignment; this decreases the processing time in the Layout Assembly application.



7. Click the **Front/Back** or **Back/Front** icons to view the signature from the front or back flat. The flat you choose is brought to the foreground and overlaps the background flat; any area of a Page from the background flat covered by a Page from the foreground flat cannot be seen.



Remember, the foreground flat is bordered in blue, and the background flat is bordered in black. The back flat always appears as a mirrored or flipped image (depending on the *Working Style* defined in the *Preps* Imposition parameters).



8. Click the **Transparency** icon to activate *ghosting* or *masking* (transparency); to view areas of the background flat covered by the foreground flat.

The activated Transparency mode depends on the view mode (from the *View* menu) you are in:

Masking *Contour* and *Name* view modes. You can view the **borders** of the flat in the background that are covered by Pages of the flat displayed in the foreground. The degree of masking cannot be changed.

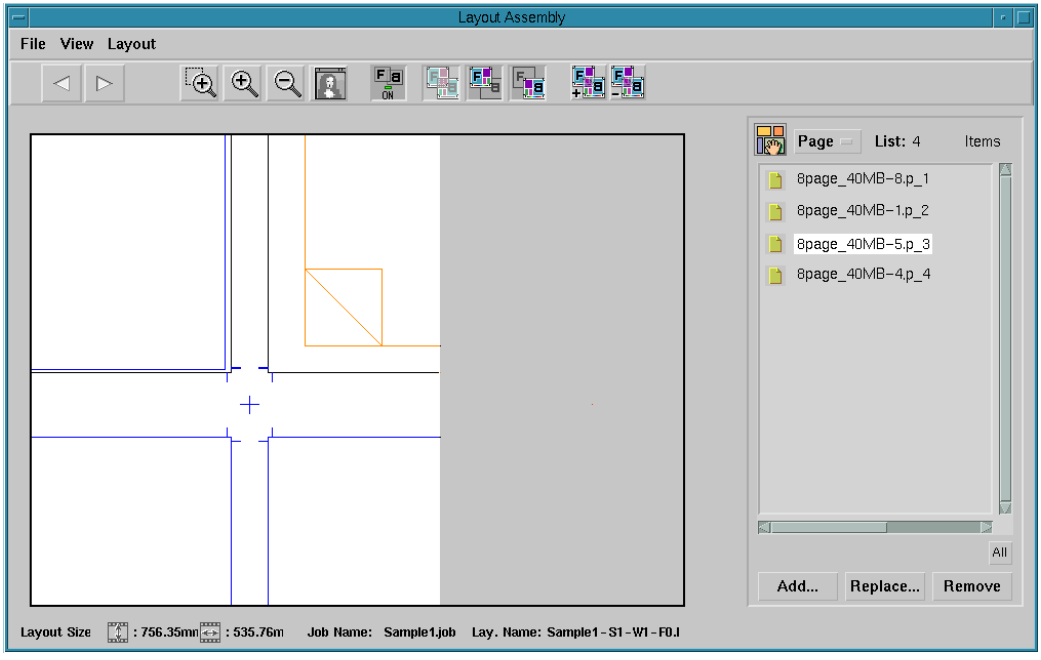
Ghosting *Preview* view mode. You can gradually increase the degree of transparency of the flat displayed in the foreground to view **elements** belonging to the flat displayed in the background. The degree of ghosting can be changed.



Click the **Increase Ghosting** or **Decrease Ghosting** icons to toggle the degree of *ghosting* (in the *Preview* view mode).

9. After you activate ghosting/masking, you can quickly align the Page and Mark elements of the front flat with those on the back flat, and vice versa.

   Repositioning can only be done to elements displayed in the foreground (bordered in gray) and moved in relation to stationary elements in the background flat (bordered in black). A selected element is marked in orange. See following screen capture.



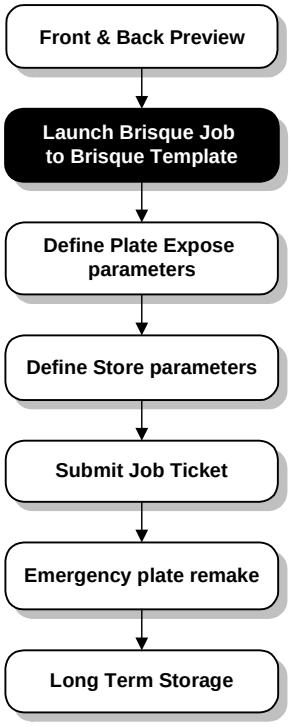
Page and Mark element repositioning for alignment

Refer to the *Layout Assembly* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide* for instructions on element repositioning.

Work in the *Contour* Display Mode when aligning elements. This view has a quicker processing time and therefore speeds up alignment.

For a higher level of accuracy when aligning elements, zoom in very close to your image and reposition the elements by dragging with the middle mouse button. This is much faster than using the *Element Params* window to manually reposition the elements.

Launching the Job to a Brisque Template

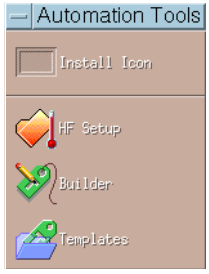


After you confirm the alignment of the Page and Mark elements in the Imposition Job, process the Job via a Brisque template to expose the entire Job directly to plate and to store the Job and its contents in the On Press mode.

Before we show you how to launch your Job to a Brisque template, we will help you create a new Brisque template containing the *Plate Expose* and *Store* operations.

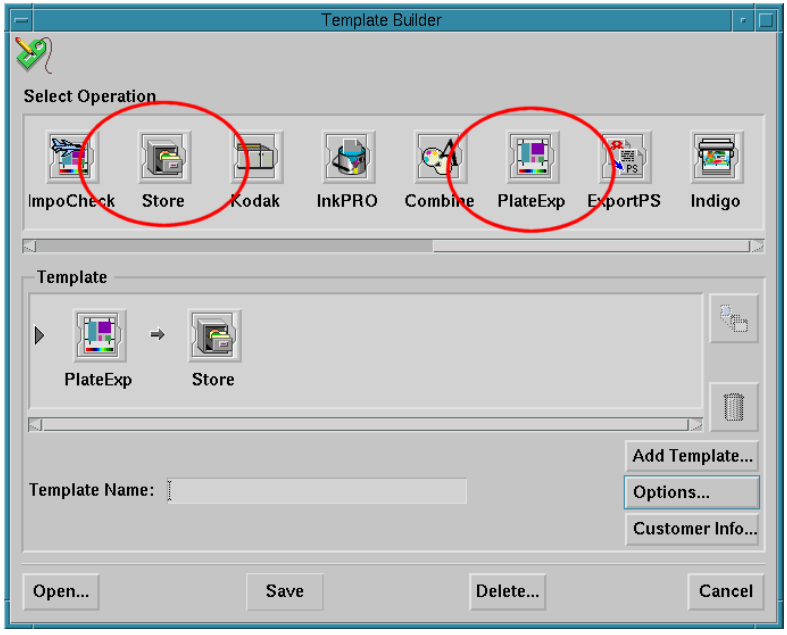
To create a new Brisque template:

1. From the Brisque *Launch Pad*, open the **Automation Tools** panel.



2. Double click the **Builder** icon; the *Template Builder* window appears.

3. From the *Select Operation* pane in the *Template Builder* window, click the **Plate Expose** icon and then the **Store** icon. The operation icons you selected appear in this sequence in the *Template* area.



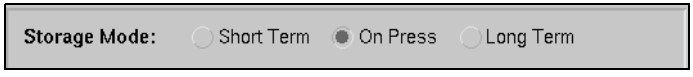
4. The storage location must be defined before the Brisque template can be saved. You will define the remaining *Store* and *Plate Expose* parameters later, *on the fly* (see *page 90* and *page 106*).

   ➢From the *Template Builder* window, double click the **Store** icon; the *Store Parameters* window appears.

5. From the *Store Parameters* window, select the **storage mode**:

   ➢**Lotem 400V, 800V and 800V^2 users:** Select the **On Press** storage mode option. This will allow you to perform an emergency plate remake later on.

   ➢**ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users:** Select **Long Term** storage mode option, since you will not be performing an emergency plate remake.



6. Define the storage device from the **Storage Location** option:

   - **Lotem 400V, 800V and 800V^2 users:** The *Storage Location* **Host** option is automatically selected when the *On Press* storage mode is chosen.
   - **ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users:** Select the *Storage Location* **Host** option.

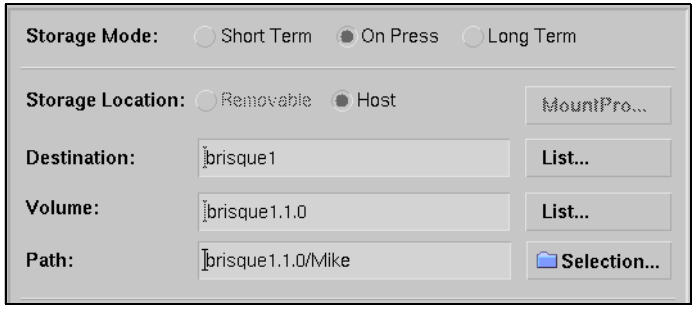


On Press storage allows you to store files on a local or remote Brisque volume (i.e., Host), but not on a Jaz disk. This enables quicker retrieval of the Job elements in the event of an emergency plate remake.

Short Term or **Long Term** storage allows you to store files on a local or remote Brisque volume, or on removable Jaz media (i.e., Removable).

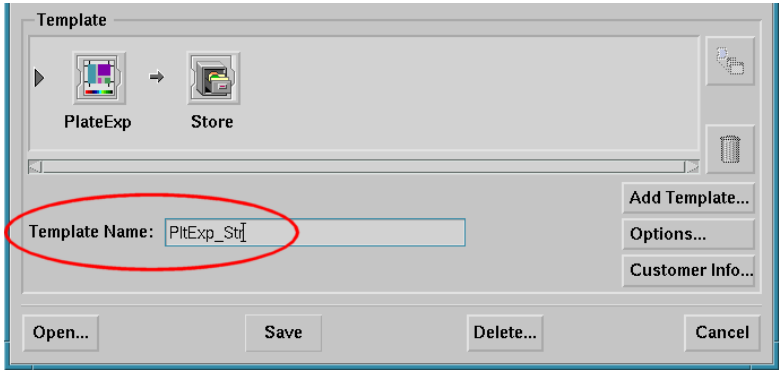
7. Use the *Storage Location* **Host Name**, **Volume**, and **Path** parameters to define the storage location on the destination storage device.

Refer to the *Store* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide* for complete instructions.



Important: CreoScitex suggests you use a Brisque volume that is specifically dedicated for data storage. This folder should have restricted access to general users. Any data, copied to this volume by the Store operation, that is deleted or moved will cause the *Quick Re-Expose* and *Resume to Queue* operations (Storage Manager operations) to fail, since stored file elements are retrieved from the storage Destination Location folder and then copied back to the original Source Location.

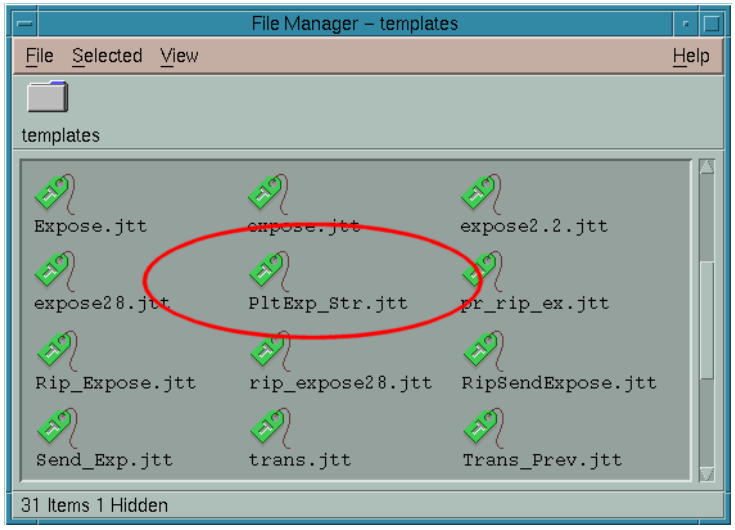
8. In the *Template Name* field, enter the name of the template, <**PltExp_Str**>.



9. Click **Save**; the template is saved and stored in the local Brisque *Template* folder. You will define the final processing parameters for the Plate Expose and Store operations for this template *on the fly* at a later stage (see *page 90* and *page 106*), before processing your Imposition Job on the Brisque DFE.

To launch the Job (Imposition, Packaging, or single-Page Brisque Job) to the Brisque Template:

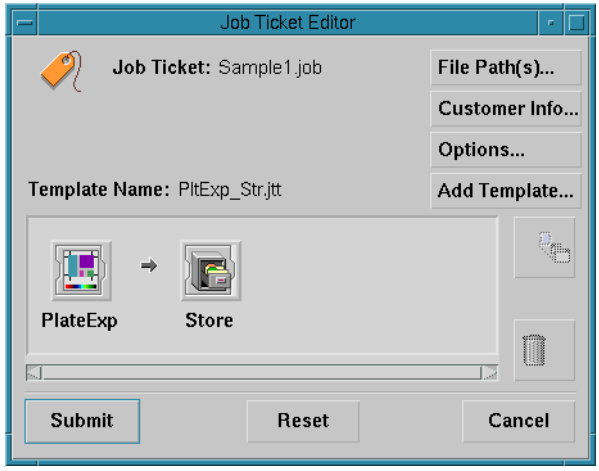
1. From the Brisque *Launch Pad*, open the **Automation Tools** panel.
2. Double click the **Templates** icon; the *Templates* window appears. Notice the template you just designed.



3. Keep the *Templates* window open on the desktop.
4. Locate the Job you wish to process using the Brisque file browser:

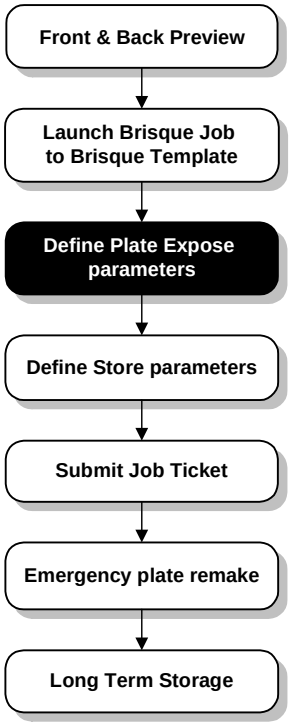
   - **Lotem 400V, 800V and 800V^2 users:** Locate the Imposition Job file you modified using *Layout Assembly.* In this Quick Start Guide, we used the file, *Sample1.job*.
   - **ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users:** Locate a Packaging Job, or a single- or multi-Page Brisque Job. Single-page Jobs can be repeated several times on the same plate using the *Step & Repeat* feature. Multi-Page Jobs can be automatically arranged to fit on the same flexo plate. (These features will be described in the following section, *Defining the Plate Expose Parameters*.)

5. Drag the Job icon to the <**PltExp_Str.jtt**> icon in the *Templates* window; the *Job Ticket Editor* window appears.



You may now continue to the next section, where you will submit the Job to the Brisque for exposure to plate. Before actually exposing, you will modify the Plate Expose and Store parameters, *on the fly.*

Defining the Plate Expose Parameters



The Plate Expose parameters define exactly how a Job is exposed on your platesetter, for example, positive/negative exposure, Layout rotation and orientation, image offset, and separation handling. You will define the Press Format, Plate Set, and Screen Set. Furthermore, you may designate a Calibration Excurve and a Tone Reproduction Curve to be applied to the plate exposure, if you wish.

ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users:

Plate Expose on the Brisque DFE supports the following when exposing to the ThermoFlex 2630/4045:

- Brisque Packaging Job
- Single-Page Brisque Job
- Multi-Page Brisque Job.

When a Package Job is exposed, the Brisque treats it as a single-Page image, which already contains all imposition information, such as Step & Repeat and nesting data. Single-page Jobs can be repeated several times on the same flexo plate if you wish, using the *Step & Repeat* feature. With multi-Page Jobs you can expose either the separations of each Page together on the same flexo plate (Multi-Sep mode) or group the same separation of all the Job's Page together for each exposure (Flat mode).

Lotem 400V, 800V and 800V^2 users:

Plate Expose on the Brisque DFE supports the following when exposing to the Lotem 400V, 800V and 800V^2:

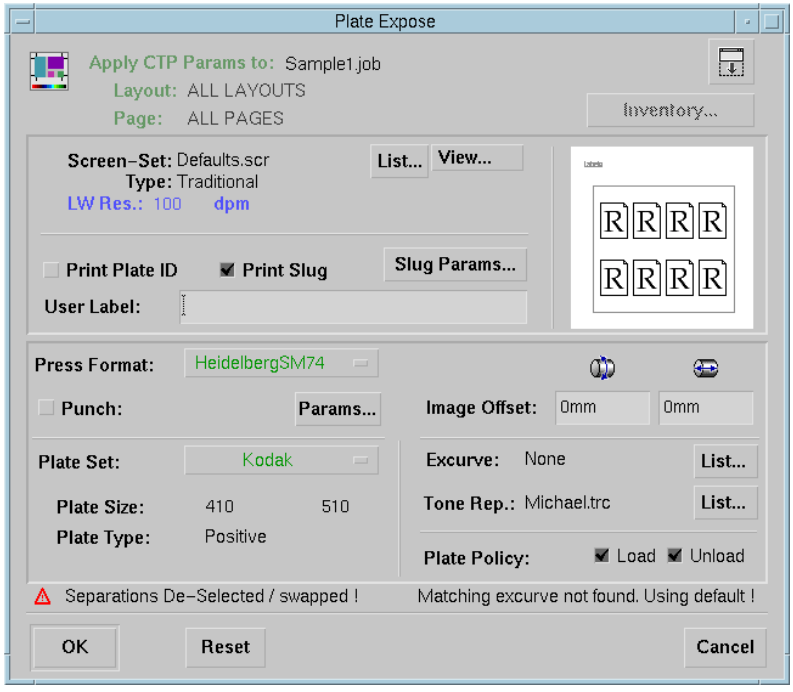
- Brisque Imposition Job
- Single-Page Brisque Job.

When exposing a Brisque Imposition Job, the Plate Expose on the Brisque DFE preserves the relative position of the images, as defined by the Imposition application originally used to design the imposition, such as *Preps*. Single-Page Jobs can only be exposed once per plate; the *Step & Repeat* option is not available for these types of Lotem platesetters.

To modify the Plate Expose parameters on the fly:

1. From within the *Job Ticket Editor*, double click the **PlateExp** icon; the *Plate Expose* window appears.

Note: Press Format and Plate Set parameters vary according to the type of platesetter. The parameters in the screen capture to the right are suitable for the Lotem 400V.



Typical Plate Expose parameters for output to Lotem 400V platesetter

The *Press Format* and *Plate Set* in the window above are examples. The Lotem platesetters support plates and presses from various vendors, and CreoScitex does not promote the products of any specific company.

2. From the *Press Format* menu, select the relevant **Press Format**.

   The Press Formats in the list are defined in the *Output Device Configuration* application on the Brisque DFE (see the *Platesetter Configuration from the Brisque* chapter). The default Press Format in the Plate Expose application, is the one last selected in the *Output Device Configuration* application.

ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users: Use only the Press Format called ***General***.



3. If the parameters of the selected Press Format match the selected Plate Set, its name appears *green*. If they do not match, the Press Format name appears *red*. The criteria for a mismatch between the Press Format and Plate Set are *Plate Size* and *Plate Thickness*.



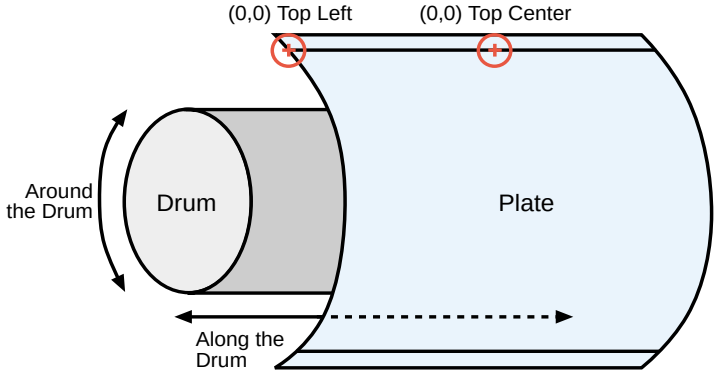
For future work, we strongly recommend you create specific Hot Folders or Job Templates for each Press Format you have configured on your platesetter.

4. Define the [0,0] offset reference point on the plate.

ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users: We recommend using **Top Left** alignment.



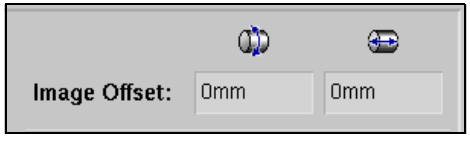
In the *Plate Expose* application on the Brisque DFE, *Middle Center* alignment actually aligns to *Top Center*.



[0,0] reference offset points on plate relative to drum. See *Rotate & Orientation on page 104* for more on image placement.

5. Define the image offset in the **Image Offset** fields.

The *Image Offset* parameter shifts the Layout on the plate from the [0,0] reference point The platesetter begins the exposure from this position.

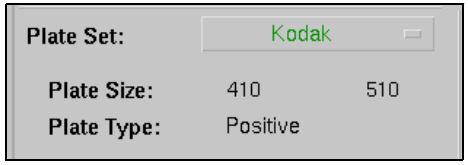


6. When the PC controller and Brisque DFE are online, the **Plate Set** parameter displays the plate type currently loaded in the platesetter. The *Plate Size* and *Plate Type* parameters of the plate are displayed below it.

The **online** mode is achieved when a three-way connection between the platesetter, Brisque DFE and PC controller is secure.

In the online mode, the *Plate Set* is a read-only parameter.

Note: The Plate Set parameters in this screen grab have been taken from a Brisque DFE outputting to a Lotem 400V platesetter.



The *Plate Set* name in the above screen is an example. The Lotem platesetters support plates of various specifications from various vendors, and CreoScitex does not promote plates from any specific company.

If the parameters of the selected Plate Set match the selected Press Format, its name appears *green*. If they do not match, the Plate Set name appears in *red*. The criteria for a mismatch between the Plate Set and Press Format are *Plate Size* and *Plate Thickness*.

Caution to ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users: Select a Plate Set that correctly defines the thickness of the flexo plates you are exposing to.

Tip: When creating Plate Sets on the PC Controller you should save the Plate Set name with a number that indicates the defined plate thickness for that particular Plate Set. For example, "Dup_0.030" indicating a Dupont 3.0 mm flexo plate.

7. The *Screen Set* field displays the currently selected **Screen Set**.

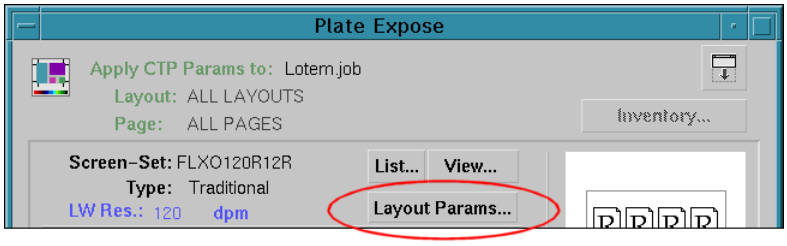
Note: The *LW Res.* field displays the **LW Resolution**, which is defined by the currently selected Screen Set.



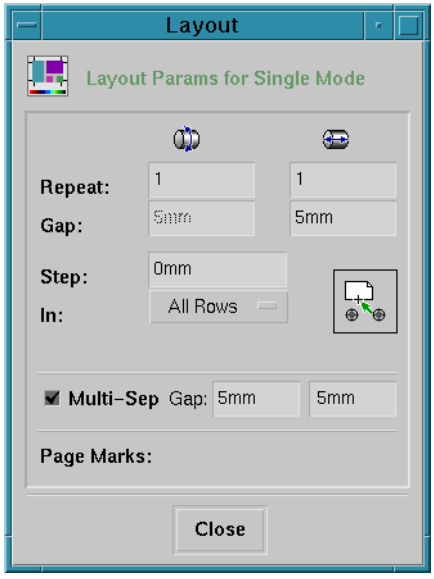
- Click the **List** button to select a different Screen Set from the *Screen Set List* window.

For a detailed description of Brisque Screen Sets, refer to the *Screen Sets* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide*.

8. **ThermoFlex 2630/4045 only.** Define the Layout parameters of the exposed images. Click the **Layout Params** button.



The *Layout* dialog window appears.



Refer to *Defining the Layout Parameters [ThermoFlex 2630/4045 only] on page 100* for instructions on using the *Layout Params* dialog window for the ThermoFlex 2630/4045 platesetter.

9. Select **Print Plate ID** to print the Plate ID.



Each Job exposed to plate is designated a unique Plate ID number. The Separation color is added to the suffix of the Plate ID number.

Using the **Quick Re-Expose** feature from the *Storage Manager* application on the Brisque DFE, the *Plate ID* allows to quickly identify a particular plate you wish to remake in the event of a plate press emergency (for example, one that is damaged, scratched or bent).

See *Performing a Plate Remake on page 114*.

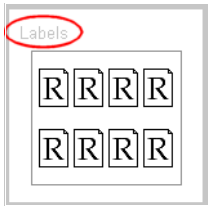
ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users: Since performing quick emergency plate remakes is not practical on the ThermoFlex 2630/4045, you may deselect this option.

The Plate ID is always printed to left of the Slug, however you can reposition the offset of the Plate ID slug in the *CTP Slug Params* window. *See the following step.*

10. Select **Print Slugs** to print slugs (i.e., time, date, Job name, Separation name, flat name, and Screen Set name) together with your exposure on the plate. They appear on the plate within the head margin.



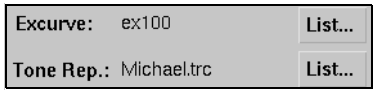
11. When you select the *Print Slugs* option, the word *labels* appears in the R-icon graphic in the upper right corner of the screen.



Note: ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users: We suggest printing the slugs with a slight vertical offset that takes into account any adhesive tape holding the plate to the drum.

- Click the **Slug Params** button to select which slugs to print and to define the *Slug Offset*. Assign the settings from the *CTP Slug Params* dialog that appears.
- Enter text within the **User Label** field to add a descriptive label to the slug (the *Print Slugs* check box must be selected).

12. The *Excurve* field displays the currently selected **Excurve** calibration file, which corrects for density and dot percentage variations.



- To designate a different Excurve, click the **Excurve List** button, then from the *Excurve File List* window select the Excurve file you calibrated in *Excurve Calibration on page 58*.

This parameter is optional. You may expose the image to plate *without* applying an Excurve file.

The Excurve must be selected according to the Plate Expose conditions defined by the selected *Screen Set* and according to the *Excurve Auto Select* parameters that were defined in the *Calibration* application. See *Excurve Calibration on page 58*.

13. The *Tone Rep.* field displays the currently selected **Tone Reproduction calibration curve** to be applied to the exposure.

For information on creating and modifying Tone Reproduction Curves, see *Tone Reproduction on page 69*.

- To designate a Tone Reproduction Curve, click the *Tone Rep.* **List** button, and then from the *Tone Reproduction Curve List* window, select a predefined Tone Reproduction Curve file.

This parameter is optional. You may expose the image to plate *without* applying a Tone Reproduction curve.

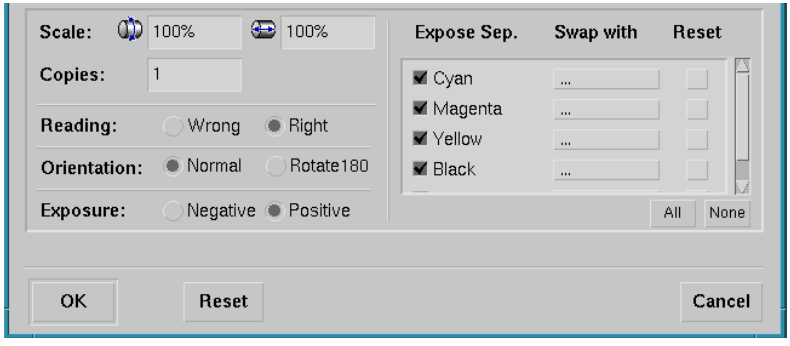
14. Define the **Load/Unload Plate Policy**:



- Select **Load**, the PC controller instructs you to manually load a new plate before the exposure begins.
- Deselect **Load** to instruct the PC controller *not* to load a new plate before the exposure begins.
- Select **Unload,** the PC controller instructs you to manually unload the plate when the exposure is finished.
- Deselect **Unload** to instruct the PC controller *not* to unload the plate when the exposure is finished. This enables you to reuse the plate for additional exposures.



15. Click the **Expand** icon to display additional Plate Expose parameters on the screen.



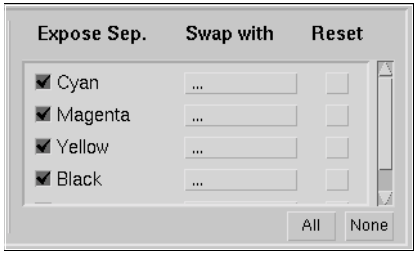
16. Use the **Scale** parameters to increase or decrease the exposure size of each Layout. The range of scaling allowed 95-105%; the default is 100% (no scaling).

17. Use the **No. of Copies** parameter to select the number of times each exposure is output. You can enter up to 10 copies.

18. Define the **Reading**, **Rotate, Orientation** and **Exposure** parameters to determine the geometry and nature of the plate exposure.

Refer to *Defining the Plate Expose Geometry on page 103* for instructions on using the *Layout Params* dialog window for the ThermoFlex 2630/4045 platesetter.

19. The **Separation Handling** parameters let you expose selected separations and to swap screening parameters between separations. Refer to the *Exposing Directly to Plate* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide* for instructions on using these options.





20. Use the **Inventory** option to customize the Plate Expose parameters for selected Pages/Layouts, and/or to exposure specific Pages/Layouts. Click the **Inventory** button to launch the *Inventory* window.

Refer to the *Exposing Directly to Plate* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide* for instructions on using this option.

The *Inventory* option is available only when you are using the **Job Ticket Editor** to define the Plate Expose parameters for a specific Job file that has multiple Pages or Layouts.

Important: You can select different Screen Sets for each Page, however each Screen Sets must have the same resolution.

21. You have completed defining the Plate Expose parameters. From the main *Plate Expose* window, click **OK**; you are returned to the *Job Ticket Editor.*

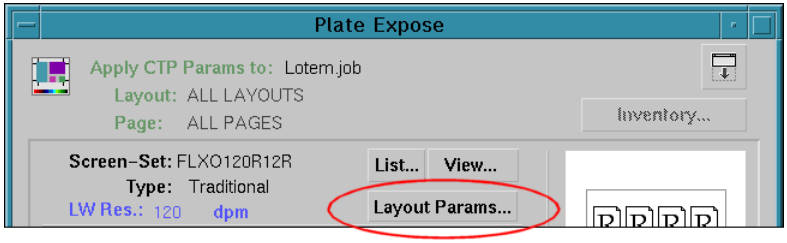
    Continue to the *Defining the Store Parameters on page 106* where we explain how you define the **Store** parameters *on the fly.*

Defining the Layout Parameters [ThermoFlex 2630/4045 only]

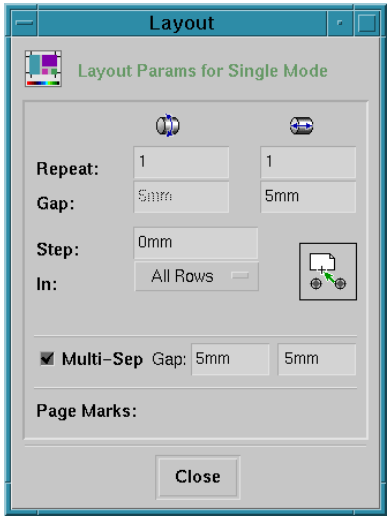
This section explains how to arrange the images in the expose area when outputting to the ThermoFlex 2630/4045 (see *step 9* on page 94).

Single-page images can be repeated several times on the same flexo plate if you wish, using the *Step & Repeat* feature. With multi-Page Jobs you can either expose the different separations of each Page together on the same flexo plate (Multi-Sep mode), or group together the equivalent separations of each Page (Flat mode).

➢ From the main *Plate Expose* window, click the **Layout Params** button.



The *Layout* dialog window appears:



Step & Repeat

Use this option to expose one separation a number of times along the height and width of the flexo plate.

Make sure the **Multi-Sep** check box is cleared if you use the Step & Repeat feature. The Plate Expose operation will fail if you leave the option selected.

Use the following fields to define the Step & Repeat:

Repeat

Determines how many times the separation is repeated around the drum and/or along the drum.

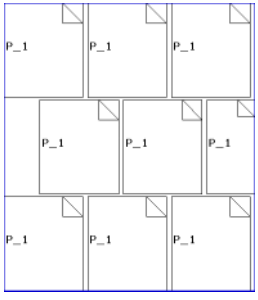
Gap

Determines the space between the repeated elements. You may use a negative gap value when you want images to be “nested”.

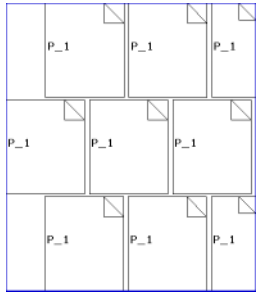
Step

Allows you to create a horizontal indent in all, odd, or even rows. From the **In** menu below the *Step* field, select the rows to be indented. Your options are:

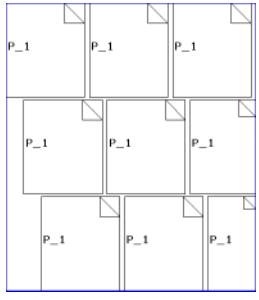
- **Even Rows -** In every even numbered row, the image is indented by the value defined in the *Step* field.
- **Odd Rows -** In every odd numbered row, the image is indented by the value defined in the *Step* field.
- **All Rows -** Every consecutive row is *incrementally* indented. For example, if the *Step* value is 10 mm, the first row begins with a 0 mm step-in, the second row 10 mm, the third 20 mm, and so on.



Even Rows



Odd Rows



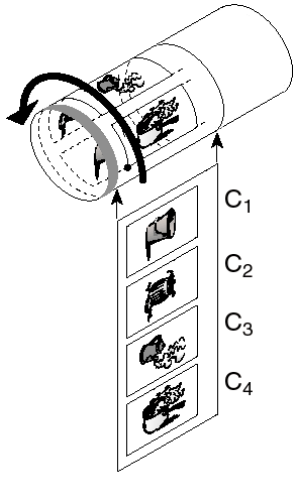
All Rows

Multi-Sep Determines the arrangement of the separations to be exposed. The platesetter arranges the images along the width of the drum, which may lead to some plate media wastage. To arrange the images across the drum, first arrange the images in a single layout using the Layout Assembly application on the Brisque DFE.

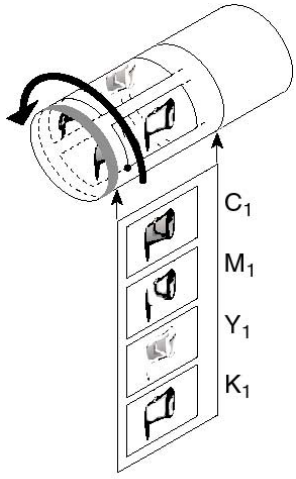
- Select **Multi-Sep** to expose the different separations of one Page (i.e., the CMYK) followed by the CMYK of the next Page, etc. This is known as the **Multi-Sep** mode.

  This option does not work with **Step & Repeat** elements. Make sure the *Repeat* option has a value of 1 in both fields if you wish to use the ***Multi-Sep***.

- Deselect the option to expose a single separation (flat) per expose area (i.e., only the Cyans of the different Pages in the Job would be exposed on one area, followed by the Magentas of the different Pages in the Job, etc.). This is known as the **Flat** mode.



Multi-Sep activated



Multi-Sep deactivated (Flat mode)

Multi-Sep Gap Defines the space between adjacent separations.

Defining the Plate Expose Geometry

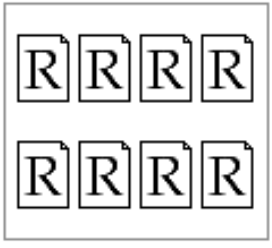
This section explains how to define the geometry and nature of the plate exposure using the following options in the main *Plate Expose* window (see *step 19* on page 98):

- Reading
- Rotate
- Orientation
- Exposure.

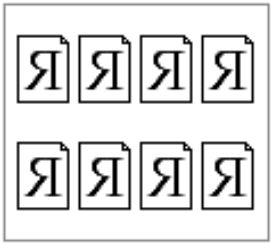
These parameters can be set in any combination; producing different results.

The R-icon below the *Inventory* button in the *Plate Expose* window illustrates the current settings:

Reading Select **Right** to leave the layout unrotated, or **Wrong** to horizontally flip the entire Layout.



Right Reading



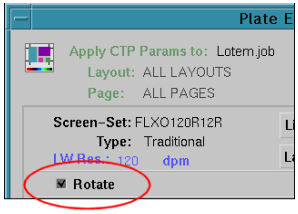
Wrong Reading

Rotate & Orientation

Determines the orientation of the exposed image on the plate (see next page for illustrations):

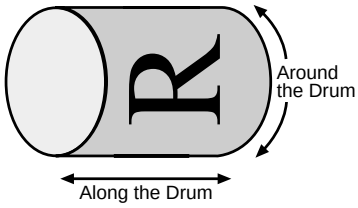
Lotem 400V - exposed images are automatically rotated 90° anti-clockwise in relation to the image layout on the Brisque. You can still rotate the image an additional 180° with the *(Orientation) Rotate 180°* option.

Lotem 800V and 800V^2 - any Layout created in *Preps* and exposed must be rotated 180° to be aligned properly with the punch. This also prevents the color bar from being exposed in the area of the spiral punch. The default *Orientation* setting is therefore set at *Rotate 180°*.

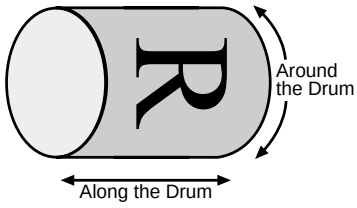


ThermoFlex 2630/4045 - the default *Orientation* setting is set at *Rotate 180°*, meaning the image is rotated 180° just as it is on the Lotem 800V. You may request from your local CreoScitex Care Center to run a script which adds the **Rotate** option to the *Plate Expose* window. This option will rotate the image a further 90° anti-clockwise (in addition to the *Orientation* setting).

Lotem 400V

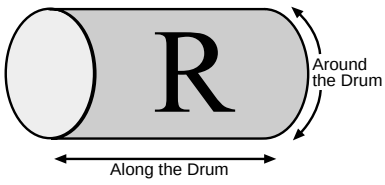


Orientation = Normal

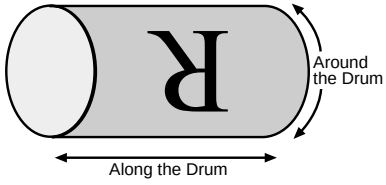


Orientation = Rotate 180°

Lotem 800V/800V^2

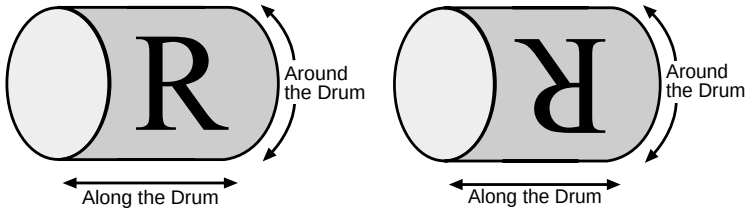


Orientation = Normal



Orientation = Rotate 180°

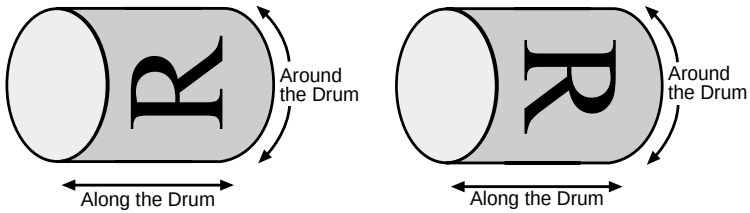
ThermoFlex 2630/4045



Orientation = Normal
Rotate = Off

Orientation = Rotate 180°
Rotate = Off

Note: ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users **may** request from your local CreoScitex Care Center to run a script which adds the **Rotate** check box to the *Plate Expose* window. *Rotate* rotates the image 90° anti-clockwise (in addition to the *Orientation* setting). This option is not available to other Lotem types.



Orientation = Normal
Rotate = On

Orientation = Rotate 180°
Rotate = On

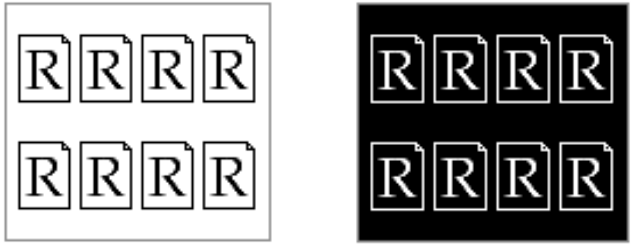
Exposure

The *Exposure* parameter is automatically set according to the plate type so that a "positive exposure/negative plate" or a "negative exposure/positive plate" combination is defined.

Note: The ThermoFlex 2630/4045 exposes to negative flexo plates, i.e., define a positive exposure.

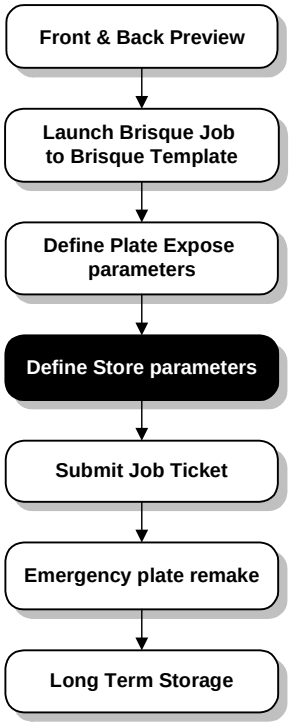
The Brisque DFE allows you to define either a "positive plate/positive exposure" or a "negative plate/negative exposure". If you define one of these combinations, you are prompted to confirm your choice.

- Click **Positive** to generate a positive exposure (normally on a negative plate), or **Negative** to generate a negative exposure (normally on a positive plate).



Positive Exposure **Negative Exposure**

Defining the Store Parameters



In this section we show you how to modify the Store parameters in your current Job Ticket so that the elements of the Job (original pre-RIPped files, post-RIP files, and plate-mark files) are stored in one of the available storage modes:

- **Lotem 400V, 800V and 800V^2 users:** Initially, you will store the Job in the **On Press** mode. This will keep the files available for an immediate plate remake in the event of an unexpected plate emergency. After the entire Job has been successfully exposed, you will move the stored Job to the **Long Term** mode.

  On Press storage normally lasts for several hours to days, and the Job remains in an “on-hold” state until you release it by promoting the stored Job to a higher Storage Mode status or by advancing the Job to the next step in an automated Job Ticket workflow.

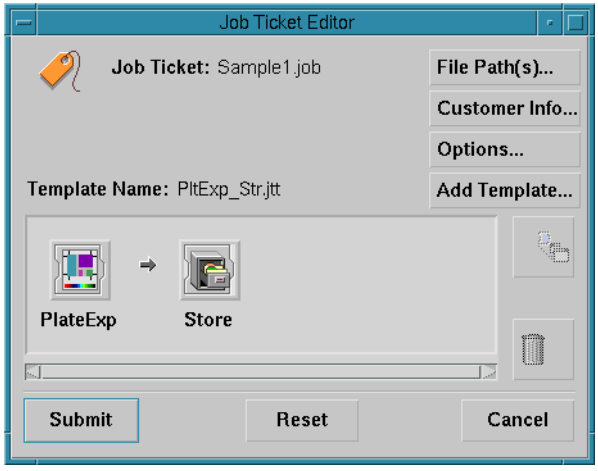
- **ThermoFlex 2630/4045 users:** You will be storing the Job directly in the **Long Term** mode, since performing emergency plate remakes on the ThermoFlex 2630/4045 is not practical.

  Long Term storage lets you store completed Jobs that do not require further processing. You cannot perform a regular Brisque operation on a Job once it has been stored in the Long Term Storage Mode.

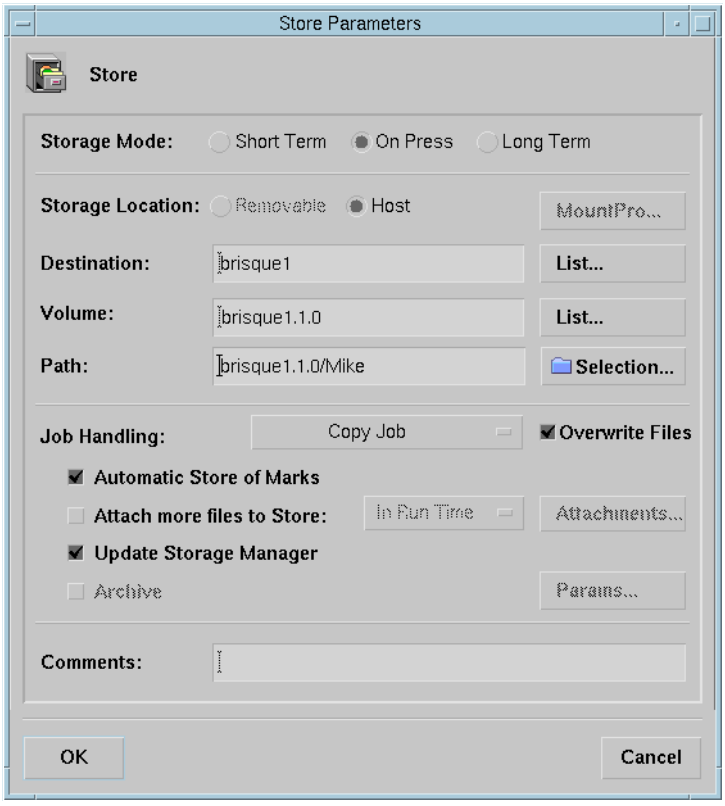
Important: You can only perform a **Quick Re-Expose** on a stored Job that has already been through at least one plate exposure.

To define the Store parameters on the fly:

1. After exiting the *Plate Expose* window, you return to the *Job Ticket Editor* window.

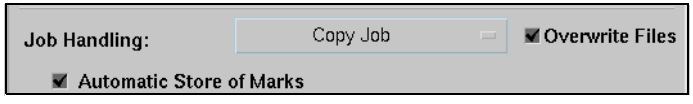


2. Double click the **Store** icon; the *Store* window appears.



3. You already defined the *Storage Mode* and *Storage Location* parameters when you created the Brisque template (see *page 84*). Continue to the next step to define the remaining *Store* parameters.

4. The *Job Handling* parameters control the way the Brisque DFE handles files during the Store operation. The options in the *Job Handling* menu define whether the Job elements are copied or moved to the defined destination location.



Copy Job

Select **Copy Job** to copy all the Job elements to the destination location. The original Job file remains in its source folder.

Move Job

Select **Move Job** to move the Job to the selected destination location. The files are first copied to the destination location and then deleted from the source folder.

The Pages and CT/LW files of an Imposition Job are copied to the destination location, but not removed from their Source folder. To automatically delete these files, use the *Move Job and Original Page* option (see next).

Move Job and Original Pages

Select **Move Job and Original Pages** to move an Imposition Job. The same function applies as the *Move* option (described above), however the Pages and CT/LW files are deleted from the Source Location after the entire contents of the Imposition Job are moved.

Overwrite Files

Select **Overwrite Files** to overwrite files with the same name existing in the destination folder. If this option is deselected, the Store operation fails when files with the same name exist in the destination folder.



The *Copy Job* and *Move Job* options also apply to files or Marks selected with the **Attachments** option (see following step).

The *Automatic Store of Marks* option is currently unavailable.

5. Use the *Attach more files to Store* option to include original pre-RIP (for example, PDF or Postscript files) and/or plate-mark files with the stored elements of the Job.



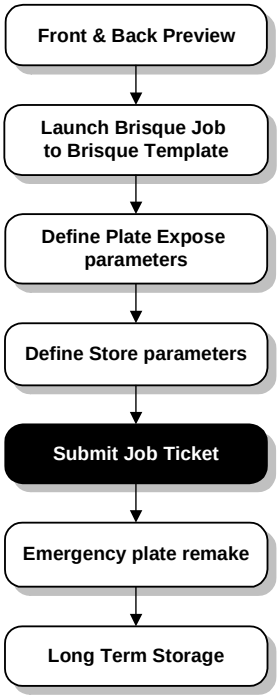
- Select **Attach more files to Store** to enable file attachment handling.
- From the *Attach more files to Store* menu, select **In Run Time**. The *Attachments* button will become unavailable. When the Store operation is activated during the automated Brisque workflow, you will be prompted in real time to select the location and elements to be attached after the Plate Expose is complete.

6. Make sure you select **Update Storage Manager** to command the *Store* operation to update the Storage Manager database on the Brisque DFE.

7. You have completed defining the *On Press* Store parameters. In the main *Store* window, click **OK**; you are returned to the *Job Ticket Editor.*

   Now continue to the next section where we explain how you submit the Job Ticket with the newly defined parameters for processing on the Brisque DFE.

Submitting the Job Ticket for Processing



You have completed defining the *Plate Expose* and *Store* parameters *on the fly*. In the next step you submit the Job Ticket with the modified parameters to the Brisque's Queue Manager for processing.

To submit the Job Ticket for processing on the Brisque:

1. After defining the On Press Store parameters you return to the *Job Ticket Editor.*
2. Click **Submit**; the Job Ticket is sent for processing. According to the current Brisque template, Plate Expose is the first operation in the Job Ticket.

   Follow the plate loading protocol and screen prompt on the brisque DFE according to your Lotem platesetter model. See the *Plate Handling* chapter.

3. Double click the **Queue** icon on the Brisque *Launch Pad* to launch the local Queue Manager; the *Queue Manager* window appears allowing to view the progress of the Plate Expose operation.

   For detailed instructions on using the Brisque Queue Manager, refer to the *Queue Manager* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide*.

4. The *Queue Manager* displays the Jobs *currently* being processed with the following information:

Now Running	The Jobs currently being processed.
Current	The current Brisque operation being performed on each Job.
Start Time	The start processing time and date of each Job.
Next	The next operation the Job will undergo (if there is one).

5. Click the **Expand** icon in the upper right corner of the *Queue Manager*, or press the <**spacebar**>, to expand the *Queue Manager* window.

   The expanded *Queue Manager* displays the following:

   - Jobs waiting to be processed
   - Jobs placed on-hold
   - Failed Jobs
   - Completed Jobs.

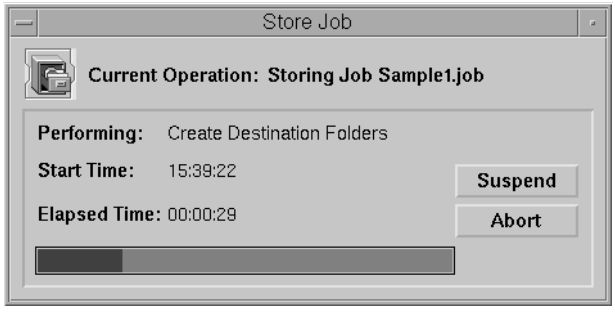
6. Once the entire Plate Expose operation is complete, the Brisque automatically begins the **Store** procedure (in the *On Press* mode).

   You are prompted to define the location of the Files and Mark elements to be attached since you set the *Attach Files* option (in the *Store* operation) to **In Run Time**.

   After you select the elements to attach, the Brisque gathers all the defined Job elements and attached files from their Source Location(s) and stores them in the defined destination location.

   The Brisque stores Job elements in a folder created under the path you defined as the *Destination Storage Location* (from the *Store Params* window). The name of the new folder is derived from the *Job Name* separated by an underscore from the name of its *Brisque Source station*. The folder is also given the ***Store*** extension. For example, the Job, *Sample1.job*, is given the *Sample1.job_Brisque1.store* storage folder. Since file attachments were chosen to be part of the stored Job, subfolders are created within the new Store folder, one for *File Attachments* and one for *Mark Attachments*.

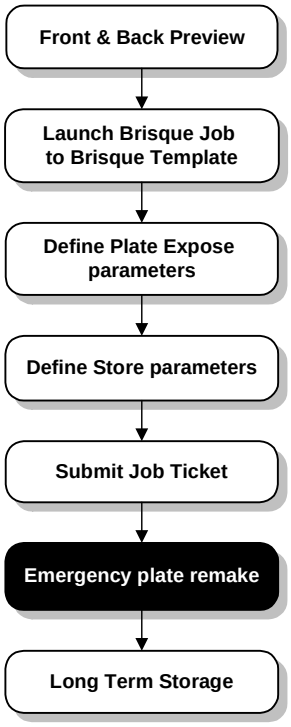
The progress of the Store operation is displayed in the *Store Job* window.



7. After the Store procedure is complete, you have finished processing the Job Ticket on the Brisque DFE.

   Lotem 400V, 800V and 800V^2 users: Proceed to the next section where we perform an emergency plate remake of a single separation using the **Quick Re-Expose** feature.

Performing a Plate Remake



This section is not relevant for ThermoFlex 4045 users.

If your Job is currently stored in the Brisque storage database in the **On Press** mode (see *Defining the Store Parameters on page 106*), you can use the **Quick Re-Expose** feature, from the *Storage Manager* on the Brisque DFE, to rapidly send any separation for a quick plate remake in the event of a plate emergency.

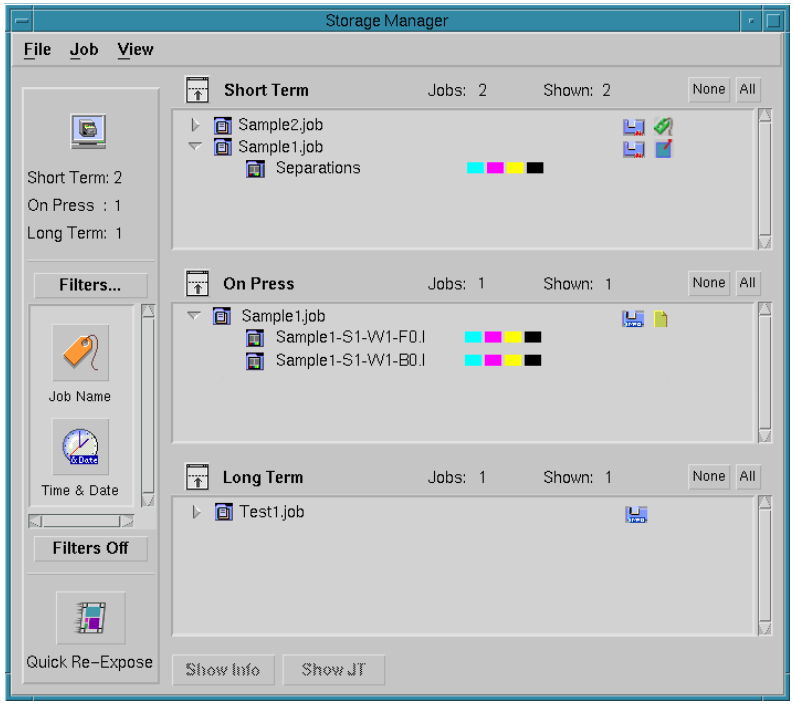
The Quick Re-Expose feature can only be used if all these conditions are met:

- The Job is in the **On Press** storage mode.
- The Job has already been through at least one **Plate Expose** cycle.
- The Job and all of its elements are stored on a **"local" Brisque volume**.

The *Storage Manager* application has additional features that let you monitor and manage Job files in the storage database. Refer to the *Storage Manager* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide* for more details.

To perform an emergency plate remake using Quick Re-Expose:

1. From the Brisque *Launch Pad*, open the *Management Tools* panel, then double click the **Storage** icon; the *Storage Manager* window appears.

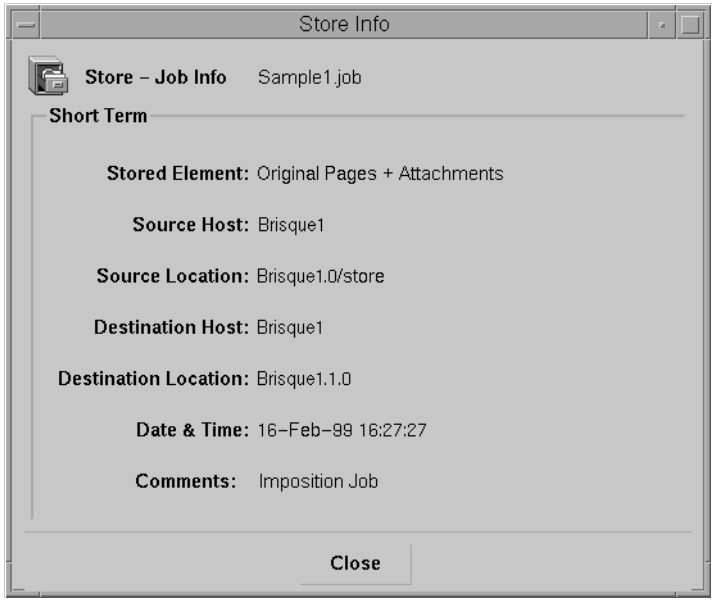


   The *Storage Manager* window displays stored Jobs according to their current storage mode: *Short Term*, *On Press*, or *Long Term*.

2. Select the Job, ***Sample1.job***, from the *Storage Manager* list and click the **Show Info** button to view the Job's storage information.



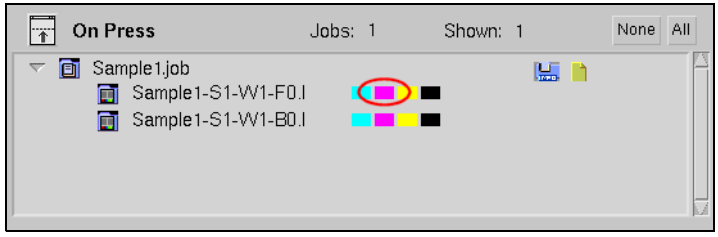
The *Store Info* window displays the Job's storage information. Click **Close** when you are finished.



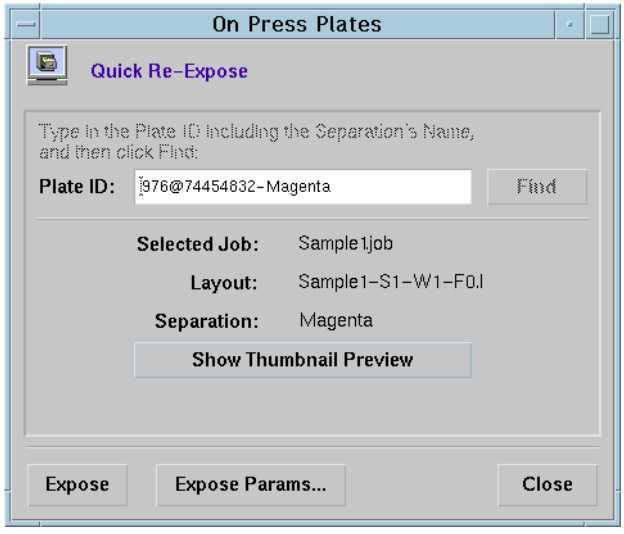
3. Click the triangle to the left of the Job ***Sample1.job*** located in the *On Press* area to display the Layouts and color separations of the Job.



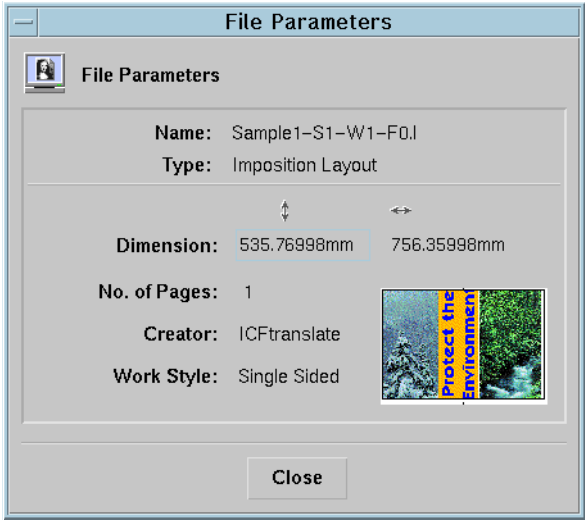
4. Double click the **Magenta** separation box of the Job's first Layout to perform a plate remake of that separation.



The *On Press Plates* window appears with the Plate ID and Layout information of the Magenta separation.



5. Click the **Show Thumbnail Preview** button to view more information about the file and a thumbnail preview of the selected Layout.



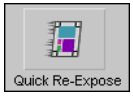
6. Click **Close** when you are finished.

7. From the *On Press Plates* window, click **Expose** to submit the selected separation for re-exposure to plate using the Plate Expose parameters defined by the current Job Ticket. The elements of the stored Job are first retrieved from the storage location and copied to the source location.

   If the Brisque cannot perform the plate remake (i.e., the conditions for a plate remake are not met - see *page 114*) the operation will abort and you will be informed.

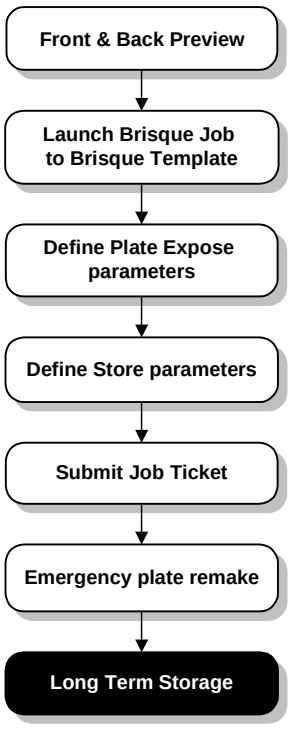
   - To define new Plate Expose parameters before re-exposing the plate, click **Expose Params** instead.

Alternatively:



➢ As an alternative to sending a separation for re-exposure, click the **Quick Re-Expose** icon in the *Storage Manager* window. This however, requires you to manually enter the *Plate ID* of the separation into the *Plate ID* field of the *On Press Plates* window.

Sending the Job for Long Term Storage



After you verify a successful plate remake, you can move your Job from On Press storage to Long Term storage.

Long Term storage collects Job files that do not require further processing and archives them to either a local Jaz drive (removable media) or any mounted Brisque volume (fixed host media). Once a Job has been moved to the Long Term storage mode, you cannot perform regular Brisque operation on it. Only until the entire Job is manually retrieved from the archive and placed in an accessible Brisque volume can the Job be handled again by the Brisque.

The *Storage Manager* application keeps a log file for each stored Job. Each log file contains the storage location of the entire Job and a time log of the storage operation. The log file is stored on a local/remote Brisque volume, a Jaz disk, or on a server. The log file in the Storage Manager lets you rapidly locate and retrieve the storage location of the archived Job and its attached elements.

Modifying the Storage Mode status of a Job is limited by the unique properties and limitations of each Storage Mode. Refer to the *Storage Manager* chapter in the *Brisque User Guide for details*.

To change the storage mode of a stored Job:

1. Launch the *Storage Manager* on the Brisque DFE.
2. In the *On Press* area of the *Storage Manager* window, select the Job ***Sample1.job***.
3. From the *Job* menu, select **Move to Long Term Mode**; a *Move* confirmation prompt appears asking if you want to modify the current storage parameters for the transition.

   Changing the **Storage Location** of the Job is the only parameter you can modify. You *cannot* modify any predefined *Attach Files* or *Job Handling* parameters.

- If you click **Yes** to change the Storage parameters; the *Store Parameters* window appears, allowing you to change the storage location of the Job.
- If you click **No**, the existing Storage parameters for the Job will be used.

4. The Storage Manager stores the Job in the selected Storage Location and updates the *Storage Mode* of the Job in the *Storage Manager* list.



Appendix A

Maintenance Procedures

External Vacuum Pump. 122
Air Nozzle Cleaning. 124

External Vacuum Pump

The external vacuum pump connected to the platesetter contains a filtering device that extracts the black ablation products that appear inside the platesetter during the exposure of flexographic plates. The ablation products include dust, fumes, contaminants and solvent vapors, and these should be removed since they may be toxic. The filtering device requires periodic maintenance. This section only provides maintenance guidelines. For complete operation and maintenance of the filtering device, please refer to manufacturer's *Operating Instructions,* supplied with the vacuum pump.



The filtering device has been constructed according to recognized technical safety regulations. Nevertheless, danger to life and limb of the user or third parties or damage to the filtering device or other property can occur during operation, especially in case of incorrect or improper use and application.

Filtering Device with Belt Turbine

After approximately 100 hours of service, check the drive belts of the turbines. If necessary, re-tension. As a rule, the extraction turbine requires no maintenance. The service life depends on conditions of use and is in the range 3000 - 8000 hours of service.

Regular Maintenance and Checks (at least every four weeks)

- Airtight seating of the hose connection
- Pre-tension of the clamping fasteners
- Seating of the housing seats between filters; in case of damage, replace immediately
- Function of controls lamps
- Air temperature at escape grille
- In case of high temperature (approximately 70° C), check if:
  - the filter monitoring is in working order
  - the extraction lines and hoses are free

Factory Overhaul

In order to ensure continuous perfect functioning, a factory overhaul is recommended approximately every 1000 hours of service or after 2 years at the latest.

Changing Filters

The vacuum pump is equipped with built-in differential pressure measurement that monitors the level of contamination of the particle filter.

Filters need to be replaced when:

- the red control lamp lights up. When this occurs, the extraction turbine is automatically switched off. The filtering device can only be switched on after the filter is replaced.
- a short time after the filter pre-warning lamp (accessory) lights up. This means that 3/4 of the filter capacity has been reached.



Replacing contaminated filters in an improper manner represents a considerable health risk. Therefore, observe the safety rules detailed in the manufacturer's *Operating Instructions*.



A **breathing mask** (fine-dust mask tested at protection level 3) and long disposable **polyethylene gloves must** be used for replacing filters.



Make sure that you use only the correct replacement filters, as specified in the manufacturer's *Operating Instructions*.

For the complete filter replacement procedure, please refer to the manufacturer's *Operating Instructions, Safety Regulations for Changing Filters*.

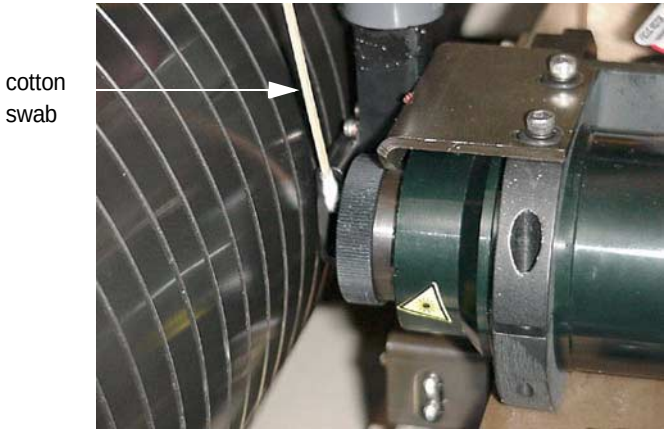
Air Nozzle Cleaning

During plate exposure, black ablation particles are released from the flexographic plate, and these may be toxic. The vacuum pump outside the platesetter sucks up the black ablation particles which then settle in the air nozzle. You need to clean the air nozzle on a weekly basis.

1. From the *Utilities* menu, click **Hardware** to open *Hardware* window.
2. Open the *Expose Systems* directory, then the *Carriage Motor* directory and double-click **Carriage Motor**.
3. In the *Carriage Motor* window, check **Position**. For ThermoFlex 2630 enter **500**; for ThermoFlex 4045 enter **700**. Then click **Start**; the carriages moves to the center of the drum.
4. From the application *Main window*, open the Front door.
5. Switch **on** the external vacuum pump (set the switch to **1)**.
6. Lift the loading / unloading tray.
7. Using a flashlight look inside the air nozzle, between the drum and the loading tray.
8. With a long cotton swab, clean the black dust that accumulated in the air nozzle. See the figure below.



When cleaning, be careful not to damage or dirty the lens!



Cleaning air nozzle

9. Switch **off** the external vacuum pump (set the switch to **0**) and close front door.

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