Print Console

Release 2.3.2
Release Notes

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Revised February 2005

creo™

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4,558,302	5,339,176	5,561,691	5,764,374	5,998,067	6,159,659	6,366,339
4,743,091	5,343,059	5,568,595	5,764,381	6,003,442	6,164,637	6,371,026
4,992,864	5,355,446	5,576,754	5,771,794	6,014,471	6,180,325	6,377,739
5,049,901	5,359,451	5,579,115	5,785,309	6,016,752	6,181,362	6,387,597
5,079,721	5,359,458	5,592,309	5,813,346	6,031,932	6,181,439	6,396,422
5,103,407	5,367,360	5,594,556	5,818,498	6,043,865	6,186,068	6,396,618
5,111,308	5,384,648	5,600,448	5,854,883	6,060,208	6,189,452	6,407,849
5,113,249	5,384,899	5,608,822	5,861,904	6,063,528	6,191,882	6,414,755
5,122,871	5,412,491	5,615,282	5,861,992	6,063,546	6,204,874	6,422,801
5,124,547	5,412,737	5,625,766	5,875,288	6,072,518	6,208,369	6,435,091
5,132,723	5,420,702	5,636,330	5,894,342	6,090,529	6,214,276	6,441,914
5,150,225	5,420,722	5,649,220	5,900,981	6,096,461	6,217,965	6,450,092
5,153,769	5,459,505	5,650,076	5,934,196	6,098,544	6,260,482	6,456,396
5,155,782	5,473,733	5,652,804	5,942,137	6,107,011	6,266,080	6,476,931
5,157,516	5,481,379	5,680,129	5,946,426	6,112,663	6,266,134	6,477,955
5,208,818	5,488,906	5,691,823	5,947,028	6,115,056	6,267,054	6,509,903
5,208,888	5,497,252	5,691,828	5,958,647	6,121,996	6,268,948	
5,247,174	5,508,828	5,696,393	5,966,504	6,130,702	6,283,589	
5,249,067	5,509,561	5,699,174	5,969,872	6,134,393	6,295,076	
5,283,140	5,517,359	5,699,740	5,973,801	6,136,509	6,299,572	
5,291,273	5,519,852	5,708,736	5,986,819	6,137,580	6,318,266	
5,323,248	5,526,143	5,713,287	5,995,475	6,147,789	6,352,816	

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Introduction

We are pleased to send you the latest revision of Print Console software. These release notes highlight the changes and improvements that were made to release 2.3.2 of Print Console software. Where appropriate, they refer you to the Print Console online help for more information.

What Is in These Release Notes

The release notes include the following sections:

New Features—describes new menu commands, options, windows, or dialog boxes that were added to Print Console software.

Problems Fixed—lists problems in the previous release of Print Console that are now resolved.

Known Problems—lists problems that are not yet resolved.

Conventions Used

A reference number for each fixed problem and known problem is indicated in the left margin.

New Features

This section lists features that were added in the new release of Print Console software.

Media Inventory Connectivity

Inventory Assist (IA) is a Creo application that collects information about plate consumption on an output device and sends it to a Creo database. When Creo account managers combine consumption data with customer plate shipment data, they can accurately measure a site's plate inventory and use this information to proactively ensure that customers do not run out of plates.

The Inventory Assist feature has three components that must be installed at the customer site:

- Print controller (such as Print Console)
- Inventory Assist Service
- ServicePort

For information about setting up Print Console as the print controller component of an Inventory Assist system, see the technical bulletin titled *Setting Up Print Console for Inventory Assist*, part number734-00162A-EN.

For information about the entire Inventory Assist system, see the *Inventory Assist Administration Guide*, part number 719-00389A-EN.

Variable Mainscan Resolution (VMR)

This feature allows operators to make a mainscan scaling adjustment to stretch or shrink the image for lenticular imaging.

Operators enter a percentage of the image's current resolution. The device will either stretch or shrink the image in the mainscan direction to achieve the target resolution, which simulates the fractional resolution for lenticular imaging.

The VMR feature requires a license key. The license key is entered in **Configuration>Preferences>Licenses>Variable Mainscan Resolution**.

Please contact a Creo service representative for help.

Display Device Image ID in Active and Processed Queues

If you enable this new feature, the separation information in the **Status** columns in the **Active** and **Processed** queues will include the device image command ID. This is useful for debugging workstation/firmware issues or for quickly mapping Print Console jobs and separations to firmware image tasks.

This feature is disabled by default. You can enable it in the **Preferences** panel.

Problems Fixed

This section lists problems that are resolved in the current release of Print Console software.

Print Console sometimes sent too many active images to the device, causing it to hang

This happened if a processor was used.

This now works as expected.

Automatic devices such as VLF AL could not use auto media selection

Print Console now provides support for auto media selection for automatic devices.

For auto media selection, Print Console compensates for rounding errors by adding a "tolerance" value. If the image is larger than the plate size by less than this tolerance value, Print Console will consider it a match. The default tolerance value is 1.32 inch. It is stored in the registry in microns. It can be changed to a smaller value if necessary.

Banding on press can be avoided

PR 8137

When TIFF files are submitted for imaging, Print Console maps the separations to the correct color name. This can prevent banding on press, as Print Console uses the color information to set a different stroke shift value (where the laser image swath begins) for each of the colors Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, and Black.

To map separations to the correct color name, Print Console first reads the image description in the TIFF tag that contains a color definition. If the TIFF tag does not contain a color definition, then Print Console will use the file name to determine the correct color to map to. The rules (in order of checking) that Print Console uses to determine color from the filename are shown below.

File names (in order of checking) that map to:						
Cyan	***.c**	***.M01**	***-c.***	***_c.***	***.c.***	**cyan** appears anywhere in the filename
Magenta	***.m**	***.M02**	***-m.***	***_m.***	***.m.***	**magenta** appears anywhere in the filename
Yellow	***.y**	***.M03**	***-y.***	***_y.***	***.y.***	**yellow** appears anywhere in the filename
Black	***.k**	***.M04**	***-k.***	***_k.***	***.k.***	**black** appears anywhere in the filename

For example, if the TIFF file 'YellowTropicalBird.c.tif' is submitted for imaging and has no color definition in the TIFF tag, it will be mapped to cyan and not yellow — the *.c rule applied before the word yellow rule.

Problems with image cancel for VLF Platesetter

This now works as expected.

Print Console stops processing jobs

GDAPI jobs that were cancelled in the Active queue did not send a cancel message to the client (Brisque or Prinergy). This meant that the workflow would not move to the next job.

This now works as expected.

SCSI access problems

Windows 2003 and some Windows 2000 service packs have security features that restrict access to the SCSI device. Print Console now has a utility that will change access to the SCSI port so that Power Users can image on the device.

An operator prompt has been added that will let the user know if they don't have access to the SCSI port. The operator prompt cannot be dismissed. It will tell the user that they need to run the Set SCSI Access utility.

GDAPI race condition

PR 6455

A GDAPI client queues multiple images with Print Console. Print Console groups these images according to different rules, one of which uses a front/back tag on each image. When the front/back tag does not match the previous image, Print Console starts a new group. There was a problem when:

GROUP_1

Image 1 - front imaged

Image 2 - front imaged

GROUP_2

Image 3 - back imaged

Image 4 - back pending and stuck

The GDAPI client was able to start processing Image 3 before Print Console had created GROUP_2, which meant that the job would become stuck.

This now works as expected.

Bay problems

PR 6730

Bay GUI flashes when it shouldn't

If an operator remakes a job, but decides to perform a manual bypass and use a plate type that is not loaded in a bay, the bay GUI flashes when the load prompt appears.

PR 6740

Operator prompted to load bay after submitting a two-separation job on two

bays loaded with same plate, where the first bay is empty

If an operator submits a two-separation job on a bay that is empty, the firmware will send the bay to the next available cassette. The firmware will then pick a plate and start to image the first separation. The second separation will suspend with the message `Bay empty. Please load cassette`. The operator must load the cassette twice after this point to have the firmware load from the cassette that was not empty in the first place.

Both of these bay issues now work as expected.

Device narrow mode is mapped to imaging mode Normal instead of imaging mode FM

PR 7075

The imaging mode was set up backwards. A print setup that was configured for narrow mode before a Print Console upgrade should become a print setup for FM imaging mode after the PC 2.3 upgrade.

Mainscan scaling due to incorrect plate thickness in print setup

PR 7181

It was possible to create a print setup with an invalid plate thickness.

Print Console now checks that the value entered for plate thickness is within a range of plate thicknesses that the device is approved to image.

Unable to remake jobs if multiple copies and File Grouping used

PR 7392

The Job Remakes feature was not supported for MPE devices if multiple copies and file grouping were used.

The remake of jobs with multiple copies is now supported. The remake of grouped jobs is not.

PCOperator account not created when workstation is member of a domain

PR 7400

Print Console now creates the PCOperator account with a default password that complies with most password policies. See *Password Changes for Print Console Accounts* (719-00298A) on TechPlanet for more information. If you do not have access to TechPlanet, call your Creo service representative.

Color identification issue in Print Console for Trendsetter Spectrum

PR 7407

TIFF files sometimes do not have color tags, even though the color was identified correctly in the **Pending** queue. For TIFF files with undefined color tags, Print Console will no longer add “Untitled” to the proof color table. This will prevent Print Console from generating operator prompts for each separation or messages about mismatched RIP and device colors.

Red cross in jobs when files in working folder before Print Console starts up

PR 7440

If you sent files to a hot folder and then exited Print Console while the files were still in the working folder, then the next time that you started Print Console the jobs appeared in the **Pending** queue with a red cross. This indicated that the device medium were not configured.

Print Console now blocks job submission until the device is ready (that is, initialization is complete). At that time, Print Console has finished querying the device and has information about what device media are configured.

No error checking of image size for VMR

PR 7443

When using the Variable Mainscan Resolution (VMR) feature for lenticular printing, the device stretches the image if the target resolution is less than the file's mainscan resolution.

Previously there was no warning if the scaled image became larger than the plate. There is now a warning generated in the **Pending** queue if the scaled image exceeds plate size. The job will not be auto-approved when this error is detected unless you allow oversized images in the print setup.

Insufficient feedback to operator when job cancelled while picking

PR 7476

If a job was cancelled while the plate was being picked on an automatic device, the device loaded the plate and then suspended. The job, however, moved to the **Processed** queue, because no suspend was displayed in Print Console. The operator had no feedback from Print Console about what to do next.

This now works as expected.

Intermittently, Print Console did not send media type to media inventory

7631

This was a problem for systems using the Inventory Assist feature.

This now works as expected.

Problem cancelling a job while imaging a test job

PR 7678

When operators tried to cancel a TPA job while imaging the second series, the job remained in the `Plotting Power Series [100% complete]` state and didn't do anything. If the operator tried again to cancel, they received the message `Test plot job failed due to the following error`, but no explanation of the error.

This now works as expected.

While running TPA, a suspend displayed during loading and the abort command was ignored

PR 7679

When a submitted TPA test job was loading, the operator received a suspend message that the LEC actuator was on the drum with resume and abort options. When the operator tried to abort, the abort command was ignored—the plate was loaded and imaging was successful.

This now works as expected.

TPA started querying data while plate being imaged

PR 7680

This took a long time, and resulted in problems flushing the device. The operator needed to perform a reset.

This now works as expected.

Known Problems

This section lists known problems in Print Console software. They may be outstanding issues from a previous release or new problems. When a problem listed here is resolved, the solution is described in the *Problems Fixed* section of the release notes for the next version of Print Console software.

Jobs pointing to Failed folder get stuck in Active queue

PR 6956

A job that had been previously cancelled and then remade may sit indefinitely in the **Active** queue with the status bar reading **Ready**. If you cancel the job, it reports that it is cancelled in the **Active** queue, but the status bar continues to read **Ready**.

Problems caused by a suspend during a flush

PR 7049

If a suspend occurs during a flush, Print Console will wait indefinitely for the device to finish initialization.

MPE Spectrum devices don’t receive FM imaging mode parameters

PR 7103

If you specify **Override Imaging Mode to FM** in the **Imaging Options** tab for a print setup, Print Console doesn’t send FM imaging mode parameters for MPE Spectrum devices when Media Manager is enabled. When Media Manager is disabled, the device does receive the FM imaging mode parameters.

The same problem occurs with GDAPI jobs.

Problem cancelling jobs

PR 7658

A cancelled job may get stuck in the **Active** queue. Its status is reported as cancelled, but it does not move to the **Processed** queue and the load prompt continues to display. The operator must reset to recover.