Kodak Graphic Communications Canada Company
3700 Gilmore Way
Burnaby, B.C., Canada
V5G 4M1
Tel: 1.604.451.2700
Fax: 1.604.437.9891

Request support:
ecentral.creo.com
http://graphics.kodak.com

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Internal Sales FAQ

Brent McDonald
Project Manager, Prinergy Digital Print
Tel: +1.604-676.4589
e-mail: brent.mcdonald@kodak.com

Integrating Digital Printers with Prinergy and Evo

Q: What options are available to print from Prinergy to a Digital Printer?

You can send documents (pages) or imposed output (flats) from Kodak® Prinergy® software to be printed on a digital printer. If it is supported by the digital printer, Prinergy can also send JDF digital print settings to control the job.

Q: So I can send PDF to any Printer – What Digital Print Controllers also accept our JDF?

This list was updated in early 2006. Newer versions of print controllers, in the same product line, will normally also be compatible.

Digital Print Controller	Prinergy Avail.	Prinegy Evo Avail.
Creo Spire (Xerox): with Xerox® DocuColor iGen®, 240, 250, 2045, 2060, 6060, 5252, 7000 and 8000	Prinergy 3.0	Prinergy Evo 3.1
Xerox DocuSP: with Xerox presses that support Xerox DocuSP controller version 4.2 and later	Prinergy 3.0	Prinergy Evo 3.1
Kodak NexStation: version 8.4 and later with the NexPress 2100 & 2500 digital color production press	Prinergy 3.0	Prinergy Evo 3.1
Creo IC-301 (Konica Minolta): with Konica Minolta® bizhub PRO C500	Prinergy 3.0	Prinergy Evo 3.1
Creo Production Stream (HP): with HP® Indigo® 5000	Prinergy 3.0	Prinergy Evo 3.1
HP Production Flow: version 1.0 with All HP Indigo presses	Prinergy 3.0	Prinergy Evo 3.1

Note: The digital print option in Prinergy only works for Xerox DocuColor iGen if you have Xerox FreeFlow® Print Manager software installed.

Q: What are the Part Numbers to add this JDF Digital Print Connectivity to Prinergy and Evo?

632-00293A - Prinergy Digital Print (Prinergy Connect, PowerPack, …)
632-00467A - Prinergy Evo - Digital Print Integration

Q: What things might a customer look for when integrating an offset and a digital workflow?

✓ **The ability to transfer pages from an offset workflows to digital printers**

Prinergy's native PDF support makes it an ideal tool to assemble a job and then transfer imposed or loose page PDFs to a digital printer.

✓ **The ability to automate page transfer and drive out the costs**

Prinergy can print to hot folders and print queues on a digital printer. Prinergy can also set some digital print settings, using JDF job tickets, such as: # of copies, paper selection, collation, duplexing.

✗ **The ability to support new workflows: Document Printing, POD, VI, …**

Specialized digital print jobs like Print On Demand (POD) and Variable Information (VI) may require tools and file formats that are not available in Prinergy or the Synapse Product family. Enhancements to support these file formats and jobs are planned for a future Prinergy Connect 4.x release. It has not been decided if this support is also needed for Prinergy Evo.

Q: Specifically, are Variable Information jobs supported in Prinergy 3.1?

Prinergy and Evo 3.1 do not support the file formats used in Variable Information jobs such as VPS and PPML.

Q: Why is Vector PDF the preferred format to send to a digital printer?

If you rasterize a file in Prinergy, you take away the vector and font information that the digital print color server could use to trap and screen, and you lose resolution-independence (scalability). With vector PDF, files sizes are generally smaller and text will always look sharp.

Q: When would it be preferable to send raster data to a digital printer?

You would send raster data to the digital printer when it is important that the final output from the digital printer is an exact match of how Prinergy will render it.

Q: How many ways are there to send Prinergy pages to a digital printer?

You can send loose page and imposed output from Prinergy to a digital printer. The Prinergy process template allows you to specify the copy count, media selection and a few media handling options.

Q: Digital print DFEs all have imposition software built into them – why would someone want to use Preps for imposition on a digital printer?

Many commercial printers don't buy the in-line finishing add-ons for their digital printer. They tend to use their digital printer to print flats and finish it in a traditional bindery. Using Preps gives them more flexibility to setup the impositions and generate flats with marks, creep and shingling to take advantage of their traditional bindery.

Q: What about proofing an offset imposition on a digital printer?

There are two options for proofing an offset imposition using Imposed Output process plans. You can scale an offset sheet to fit on a digital print sheet to create a mockup of the imposition. Alternatively, you can use the Signature Booklet feature to slice the imposition into reader spreads to fit on a digital print sheet. The advantage of Signature Booklet is that the reader spreads will include the marks, creep, shingling, etc. from the offset imposition.

Q: What are the things to consider when sending output from Prinergy to a Digital Print Controller?

When designing a Prinergy to digital print workflow, you need to determine whether you want to output a vector or raster file from Prinergy and you can choose where to do the imposition, color management and trapping. Imposed vector PDF is new for Prinergy 2.3. Raster PDF is new for Prinergy 3.0.

The following table has some example tasks showing where to do this:

Task	Document Assembly	Vector or Raster	Prinergy Color Management	Printer color Management	Trapping
1. Assemble a document for Digital Printing.	Prinergy	Vector	None	As Calibrated	On Printer
2. Loose Page Proof of an Offset Job.	Prinergy	Raster	Use Offset Press Color	As Calibrated	In Prinergy
3. Signature booklet of an offset job.	Prinergy	Vector	Use Offset Press Color	As Calibrated	On Printer
4. Partial (early) shipment on a digital printer.	Prinergy	Vector	Use Offset Press Color	As Calibrated	On Printer
5. Checking an offset folding dummy.	Prinergy	Vector	Use Offset Press Color	As Calibrated	On Printer

Q: Why trap on Prinergy versus the Digital Print Controller?

Trapping is done to avoid problems with small misalignments when laying down separations. Generally, trapping done in Prinergy will be optimized for an offset or flexo press and trapping done on the digital print controller will be optimized for the digital printer.

Q: Why do color management on Prinergy versus the Digital Print Controller?

Color management is done in Prinergy at the Refine stage so that the PDF masters are in the press color space. All proofing operations will try to match this press color space. Color management is done on the digital print controller to render colors accurately on digital printer. If you want to try to get a close match between our offset and digital prints, then you will want to color manage on both Prinergy and the digital print controller.

Q: Can we get a digital print page to match an offset page?

Due to printing differences, ink vs. toner, 2400dpi vs. 600dpi, different paper stocks supported, there are noticeable differences between the offset and digital output. Customer testing has shown that they can get a pleasing match that meets many printers' needs.

Q: Can the customer impose in Preps/Prinergy to send to a digital printer?

Yes, Prinergy has been optimized to make it easy to print flats on a digital printer for finishing in a traditional offset bindery. Prinergy sends imposed output as a single file with JDF job ticketing to select the number of copies, media size, collation and duplexing options.

Q: Will this work with other digital print color servers?

Yes, you can setup pretty much any digital printer to be used as a printer/proofer from Prinergy. The quality and functionality (e.g. JDF support, imposition, finishing, hot folders, color management, etc.) will depend on the color server and digital print engine. Prinergy has the best integration with the Kodak NexStation and Creo Color Servers.

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