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Technical bulletin

Using QuarkXPress 5.0 and Adobe InDesign 2.0 with Prinergy 2.0.x

Both QuarkXPress™ 5.0 and Adobe InDesign® 2.0 were released recently. This document provides a brief description of the changes to each product and how this might affect Prinergy users.

Internal Creo testing has shown that, overall, neither QuarkXPress 5.0 nor InDesign 2.0 have major compatibility problems with Prinergy 2.0.x. However, early adopters, as always, should proceed with caution.

QuarkXPress 5.0

With regards to PostScript output, QuarkXPress 5.0 contains little new in the way of improvements over previous versions. No major new problems are introduced, but neither is an overhaul of composite PostScript output. In other words, if it was a problem in QuarkXPress 4.1, chances are it will remain a problem in 5.0. Some minor PostScript fixes are introduced, for example, stroke overprints in composite PostScript. However, the Creo Color TIFF XTension (formerly the Prinergy Print XTension) is still required to output colorized TIFFs in composite PostScript.

Some new features have been introduced, including forms, AppleScripting, and web page creation.

However, a new Prinergy-specific problem regarding the OPI XTension™ has also been introduced. The OPI XTension allows QuarkXPress to output OPI 2.0 comments. If using this extension with Prinergy OPI, the Usage dialog box has an OPI pane that enables you to turn off specific images for OPI. When printing thin PostScript, QuarkXPress creates PostScript with the OPI 2.0 comment “IncludedImageQuality: 3.0", which indicates that the OPI system should NOT attempt to merge the image. However, Prinergy will still incorrectly attempt to perform the OPI merge. To work around this problem, remove the OPI XTension, or do not disable specific images for OPI in the Usage/OPI dialog box.

It is also worth noting that if the OPI XTension is active, you cannot create a CompositeThin or CompositeFat Print Style in QuarkXPress.

Adobe InDesign 2.0

InDesign 2.0 improves Quark document conversion over InDesign 1.5.2. As well, the Print dialog box is new, enabling you to print to file from a single dialog box.

As with InDesign 1.5.2, when placing a DCS and printing composite fat PostScript, the DCS is made composite (similar to Prinergy's "recomposite of DCS for thin composite PS" feature).

One potential new problem with InDesign 2.0 is regarding transparency. InDesign 2.0 enables the creation of transparency, similar to Illustrator 9. Some of the new features that designers are likely to use frequently, such as drop shadow effects, make use of this transparency. As such, an InDesign 2.0 document will be subject to the same limitations as an Illustrator 9 document. For example, if the document is saved as PDF 1.4, it will require flattening; if printed or saved as PDF 1.3, it will have InDesign's flattening settings applied. The Print dialog box has a Transparency Flattener setting, set to Medium Resolution by default. This could be potentially problematic, unless the user specifies High Resolution.

On the positive side, the "Press" PDF style is PDF 1.3 with the Transparency Flattener set to High Resolution by default.

About Creo

Creo is a world leader in solutions for the graphic arts industry. Core product lines include image capture systems; inkjet proofers; thermal imaging devices for films, plates and proofs; professional color and copydot scanning systems; and workflow management software. Creo is also an Original Equipment Manufacture supplier of on-press imaging technology, components for digital presses, and color servers for high-speed, print-on-demand digital printers.

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