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Technical bulletin

Generating a Signature Booklet

Signature Booklet (digital blueline proofing) is a licensed feature in Prinergy Connect® that enables you to create a 1-up or 2-up reader-order proof of the page set positions from an imposition plan layout. This process is an integral part of Prinergy®, enabling you to create a signature booklet simply by starting a process template. To purchase a license for Signature Booklet, contact your Creo sales representative.

Signature Booklet offers similar functionality as iMPAct Digital Blueline. The output proof is the same reader-order booklet, but the method to achieve it is different. As shown in the following illustrations, Prinergy creates the signature booklet by "deimposing" the imposition plan layout into individual pages, RIPing the pages, and then outputting them—in reader order—to a duplexing laser printer or file. If outputting to a PDF raster or vector file, you can choose to output in a multipage format where the complete signature booklet is in one file, or you can output in a single-file format where each 1-up or 2-up page is saved to its own file.

Figure 1 shows the process of creating a 1-up signature booklet. Figure 2 shows the process of creating a 2-up, folded signature booklet.

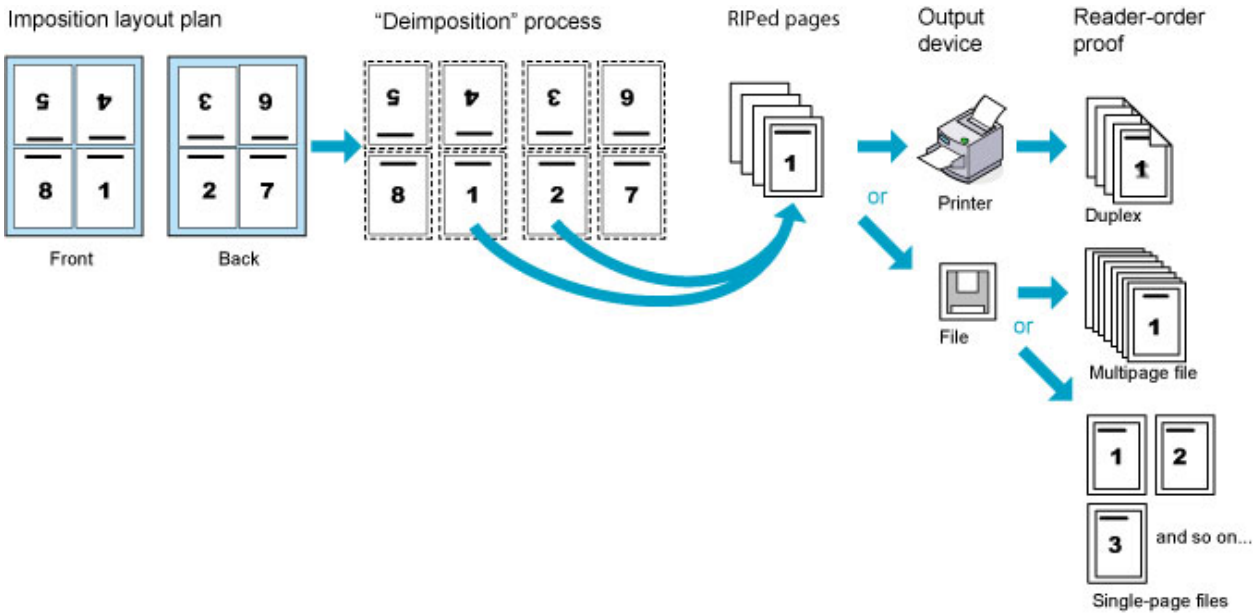


Figure 1: Process of creating a 1-up signature booklet

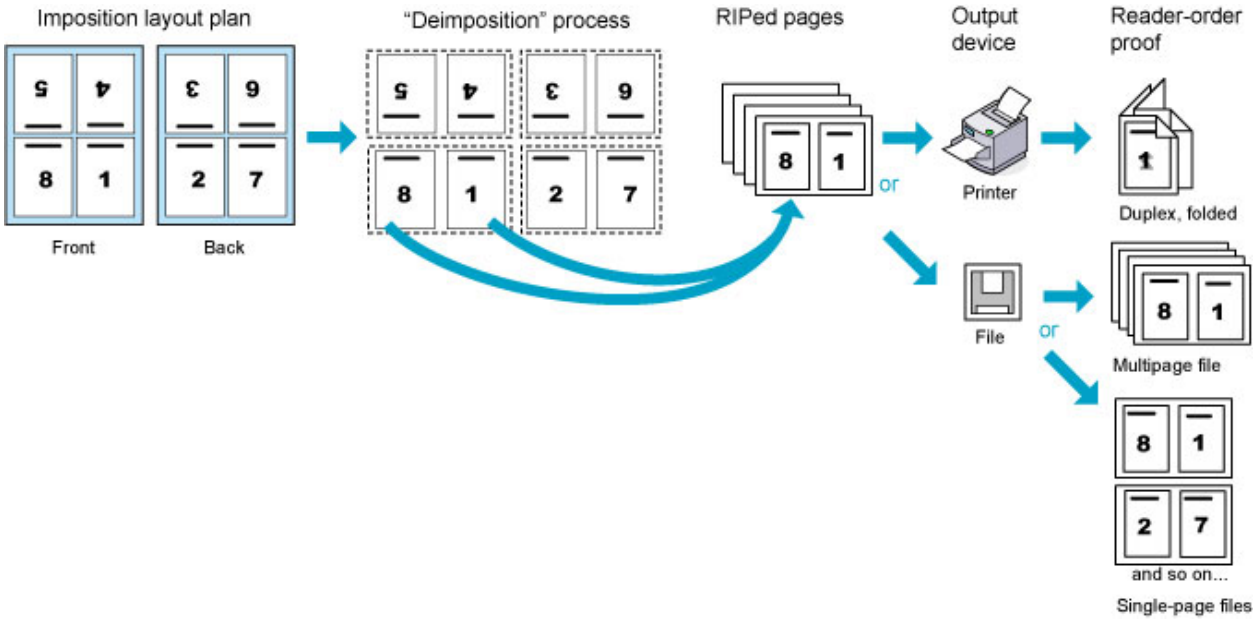


Figure 2: Process of creating a 2-up signature booklet

You can output a signature booklet to any file type listed in the **Output To** list in the imposition proof process template.

Summary of Procedures

The steps to generating a signature booklet are listed below and described in more detail in the remainder of this technical bulletin:

Step A—Determining the Signature Booklet Format
Step B—Connecting the Laser Printer
Step C—Configuring a Process Template for a Signature Booklet
Step D—Confirming the Default Laser Printer Settings
Step E—Generating a Signature Booklet

Step A—Determining the Signature Booklet Format

Before configuring the imposition proof process template, determine the signature booklet output format, and collect the necessary information.

If Outputting to	Determine
A printer	The name and location of the printer The paper orientation: portrait or landscape? The duplexing style: turn or tumble? The signature booklet format: 1-up or folded 2-up?
A file	The page orientation: portrait or landscape? The signature booklet format: 1-up or 2-up?
A PDF file	All pages output to one file? Each page output to its own file?

Step B—Connecting the Laser Printer

If you will be outputting to a duplexing laser printer, be sure you know the correct name of the printer, and that you connect the printer in one of the following ways:

- Mount the laser printer on the Prinergy server using Prinergy Administrator. For more information, see Prinergy Administrator online help.
- Configure the printer in a Windows® print queue.

Step C—Configuring a Process Template for a Signature Booklet

If you are printing signature booklets on more than one duplexing laser printer, you must create an imposition proof process template for each printer. The settings in the process template are device-specific, so you cannot share imposition proof process templates among several printers. Be sure to test each process template on its specified printer. Because there is only one Windows® Print Manager document for each signature booklet, you cannot load-balance printing signature booklets among several printers.

To configure a process template for a signature booklet:

1. Start and log in to Prinergy Workshop.
2. In any window, from the **Tools** menu, select **Process Template Editor**.

3. In the Process Template Editor dialog box, right-click the Imposition Proof Output group and select **New Process Template Group**. Name the new imposition proof group Signature Booklets.

4. Open an existing imposition proof process template from within the Mockup group. From the **File** menu, select **Save As** and save it in the new Signature Booklets group. You may want to name it according to the output format or output device—for example, **1-up_8.5x11_Turn_HP5Si** or **2-up_Digital_PDFRaster_100dpi**.

5. In the Imposition Proof Output dialog box, in the **Output To** list, select the output format of the signature booklet.

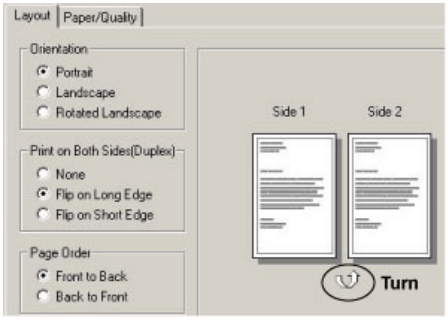
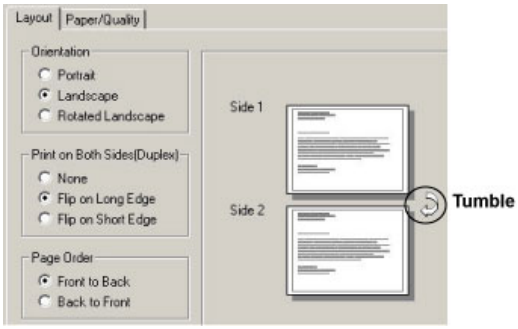
6. If you are outputting to a black-and-white printer, open the **ColorConvert** section and configure the following options.

Option	Instructions
Match Colors in Page Content check box	Clear the check box. No input profiles are required.
Proof Process (Destination) profile box	Select the output ICC profile as follows: 1. Click **Browse**. 2. In the File Browser dialog box, browse to the ICC profile: **\\<Prinergy server>\AraxiHome\CreoAraxi\data\ ICC-Profiles\gray\GenericGray.icm**

7. Open the **Layout** section and configure the following options.

Media area

Option	Instructions
Size list	Select the paper size: • If outputting to a printer, select **Cut Sheet**. • If outputting to a file, select **Digital**.
Max Width and **Max Height** boxes	These options apply only if you are outputting directly to a printer. 1. In the **Max Width** box, type the width of the paper and select the unit of measure from the list. 2. In the **Max Height** box, type the length of the paper and select the unit of measure from the list. The values you type in these boxes must match the laser printer's paper orientation (portrait or landscape).

Option	Instructions
	Portrait: Landscape:  • For example, for a 1-up portrait orientation, you would type 210 mm (8.5 inches) in **Max Width** and 297 mm (11 inches) in **Max Height**. • For example, for a 2-up landscape orientation, you would type 420 mm (17 inches) in **Max Width** and 297 mm (11 inches) in **Max Height**.
Duplexing list	This option applies only if you are outputting to a printer. Match the laser printer's duplexing style as follows: • If the paper orientation is set to portrait and the duplex style is set to flip on the long edge, select **Turn**.  • If the paper orientation is set to landscape and the duplex style is set to flip on the long edge, select **Tumble**. 

Placement area

Option	Instructions
Orientation list	Select **0º**.
Center Along Width check box	Select this check box to center the page horizontally. This check box must be selelcted for the signature booklet to output correctly.
Center Along Height check box	Select this check box to center the page vertically. This check box must be selelcted for the signature booklet to output correctly.

Scaling area

Option	Instructions
All options	Clear all options in this area.

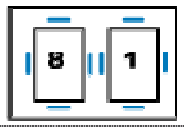
Marks area

Option	Instructions
Draw Trim and Bleed Marks options	Select the **On Content** option.
Locate Crop Mark of Length box	Type the length of the crop mark, and select the unit of measure from the list.
at Distance box	Type the distance of the crop mark from the trim box.

Signature Booklet area

Option	Instructions
Enable Signature Booklet check box	Select the check box to make the signature booklet options available.
Type list	Select how many pages will output on the sheet: • To output two PDF pages per sheet (one front and one back) in reader order by signature, select **1-up** • To output four PDF pages per sheet (two front and two back) in reader order by signature, select **2-up**

Option	Instructions
Document Folding Style list	This list becomes available when you select **2-up** from the **Type** list. Select how the signature booklet will be folded. • If you want a vertical fold, select **Book-fashion**. • If you want a horizontal fold, select **Calendar-fashion**.
Trim Offset box	Determines how much of the area around the page's trim box to include when printing. You can increase the offiset amount to see the bleed area, gutters, imposition and page marks, and parts of neighboring imposed pages. Be sure the output sheet is large enough to accommodate both the pages and the trim offset amount. • To print only the final trimmed pages, type `0.0` • To image content outside the page's trim box, type a positive value and select a measurement from the list. The offset amount you choose depends on the size of the gutter, but typically 6 to 13 mm (0.25 to 0.5 inches) is sufficent. • To image content inside the page's trim box, type a negative value and select a measurement from the list.
Duplex Offsets boxes	This option applies only if you are outputting to a duplexing laser printer. Adjust for the mechanical misalignment in the laser printer's duplexing unit. There are alignment test targets that you can run that directly measure how far off the front and back are from center. Use the **Front X** and **Y** and **Back X** and **Y** values to compensate for any misalignments. Select the units of measure in the list.
Page Marks box	Identify the name and location of a PDF file containing the page marks. Click **Browse** to locate and select the marks file. For more information on preparing and using variable marks in Prinergy, see the Workshop online help. A new variable mark **$[PagePositionNumber]** or **$[PPN]** can be used to verify that the pages are in the correct page set positions in the imposition.
Calibrate check box	Select this check box to apply calibration curves to the marks. The calibration curve is set in the **Calibration Curve** list in the **Calibration and Screening** section.

Option	Instructions
Locate Page Marks Adjacent To list	Select where to place the page marks in relation to the page's trim box. When you select **Right** or **Left**, the page marks rotate as follows: • **Left**—rotates the mark 90º counterclockwise • **Right**—rotates the mark 90º clockwise • **Bottom**—no rotation • **Top**—no rotation 
at Distance box	Place the page marks just outside the bleed box. Otherwise, the page mark may get associated with an adjoining page, or it may overprint onto another page. You may need to increase the **Trim Offset** amount to see the page marks.

8. Configure the following options in the **Render** section.

Option	Instructions
JTP list	Select a proofing job ticket processor (JTP).
Resolution X and **Y** lists	Select the output resolution for both the X (horizontal) and Y (vertical) axes.

9. Complete any remaining options in the **Render** section according to the output device.

10. Configure the **Calibration and Screening** section according to your output device.

11. Open the **Device** section and configure the following options:

Option	Instructions
Output Type options	Select the output type and specify its location: • If outputting to a printer, select **Absolute File or Printer** and either type the printer name or click **Browse** and browse to the printer location. (See *Step B—Connecting the Laser Printer* on page 3.) • If outputting to a file that will be stored on a mounted volume, select **Absolute File or Printer**, click **Browse** and browse to the location.

Option	Instructions
	• If outputting to a file that will be stored in the job folder, select **Job-Relative File** and type the folder name. **Important:** *Do not* select **Submit as Multiple Print Job**. If this check box is selected, the signature booklet will output one page at a time.
File Naming area	• If outputting to a printer, select **Use Prinergy-defined File Naming** and leave the remaining options at their default settings. • If outputting to a file, do one of the following: - Select **Use Prinergy-defined File Naming** and leave the remaining options at their default settings. - Select **Use Custom File Naming** and in the **Filename Template** box, type the file name tags. For more information about file name tags, see Workshop online help. **Exception:** If you are outputting to *single-page* PDF files (see step 12), you must select **Use Custom File Naming** and include the variable tag **%outputsheetnum%** as part of file name template. Otherwise, the pages will overwrite each other.

12. If you selected a PDF file format in the **Output To** list (for example, **PDF Raster** or **PDF Vector**), configure the following option:

Option	Instructions
Document Format list	Select how you want the PDF files saved: • If you want all pages of the signature booklet in one the file, select **Multi Page**. • If you want each page in the signature booklet saved as a separate file, select **Single Page**. **Important:** If you select **Single Page**, include the variable tag **%outputsheetnum%** in the **Filename Template** box. (See the exception in step 11.) Otherwise, each page will overwrite the previously saved page.

13. Complete the remaining options in the **Device** section according to the requirements of the output type selected in the **Output To** list. (The available options in the **File Format** section change depending on what you select in the **Output To** list.)

14. From the **File** menu, select **Save**.

15. From the **File** menu, select **Close**.

Step D—Confirming the Default Laser Printer Settings

If you are outputting the signature booklet to a networked printer, before you print the signature booklet be sure to verify the printer's default settings against the process template you configured for that printer. For example, check the default paper tray, the paper orientation, and the duplexing style (turn or tumble).

The following table summarizes the critical settings that must match between the printer and the **Layout** section (**Media** area) of the imposition proof process template.

Output Style	Example of Duplexing Printer Settings	Example of Prinergy Process Template Settings
1-up	Portrait orientation, flip on the long edge (turn)	**Max Width**: 210 mm (8.5 inches) **Max Height**: 297 mm (11 inches) **Duplex**: Turn
2-up	Landscape orientation, flip on the long edge (tumble)	**Max Width**: 420 mm (17 inches) **Max Height**: 297 mm (11 inches) **Duplex**: Tumble

Step E—Generating a Signature Booklet

To generate a signature booklet, do the following:

1. In the Imposition Plans pane in the **Signatures** view, select the imposition or signatures you want to generate as a signature booklet.

2. Start the imposition proof process template you configured for signature booklets. Output can be sent directly to a printer or to a file.

3. Wait while Prinergy processes the signature booklet.

   While it may appear that Prinergy has stopped responding, between the color match and render processes, it has not. This is part of the process where the system is deimposing the imposition plan.[1] Depending on the size and number of signatures being processed, this step may take some time.

   Current iMPACT Digital Blueline users who make the switch to Signature Booklet might experience different performance results between the two products due to their different technologies and integration with Prinergy Workshop.

[1] You can view the processing time in the job's **History** view.

About Creo

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