

*News & tips for designers, production artists and desktop publishers. Please pass this sheet along to those involved in creating your electronic files, camera ready copy or plate-ready films. Additional copies of this sheet or PressLines back issues are available on request!*

**Software we support at Ripon Community Printers\***

- Macintosh & Windows**  
 '95/'98SE/XP Professional  
 Adobe Illustrator 8.x, 9.x & 10.x  
 Adobe InDesign 1.5 & 2.x  
 Adobe PageMaker 6.x & 7.x  
 Adobe Photoshop 5.x, 6.x & 7.x  
 QuarkXPress 3.x, 4.x & 5.x  
**Macintosh only**  
 Macromedia FreeHand 8.0 & 9.0

*If a program you use is not on this list, please call.*

\*Current as of May 15, 2003

**Welcome Spring! It's time for some prepress renewal!**

**Create your document in the actual ink colors**

There is variation inherent in any printing method. If two colors simply butt up against each other, gaps could become apparent due to this variation. Printers apply **trapping\*** – a controlled overlapping between the two colors – based on the relationships of the colors.

If a text box has a dark colored border and a light color fill, the fill is spread (*trapped*) into the border. If the text in the box is the dark color or even black, the light color fill will spread into the darker text or we can set this type to overprint the fill.

At RCP we can apply custom trapping item-by-item or let our Rampage RIP\* do the job. When Rampage does the trapping as we RIP the job, it works with the **luminance\*** of each color.

- If you select different colors after seeing the proof, in some cases the job may need to be reprocessed depending on the color choices.
- If you build your document with a process color and plan to select a **Pantone\*** color after reviewing the proof, again the file may need to be reprocessed.
- If you create your document with

process *and* Pantone colors, we can merge these colors to a degree. This process is known as “mapping.” We can map, for example, Pantone 185 to magenta but we cannot map magenta to Pantone 185.

- If you create your document with process colors, say magenta and cyan, we *cannot* simply map process colors to print as one color. The document would need to be reworked or an additional unit on the press would be needed.

*To save additional costs, create your document in the colors you intend to print with.*

**Work in one “color space”**

One place where “mix and match” is not a good thing is when documents include graphics in **RGB\*** and **CMYK\*** or when a black + spot color job includes graphics in either RGB or CMYK.

- If a CMYK job is supplied with color graphics in RGB, we can set the Rampage RIP to do the CMYK conversion automatically.
- For all black jobs, graphics supplied in CMYK or RGB can be converted to grayscale in the RIP.
- For black + spot color(s) job, graphics should not be built in RGB or CMYK. These graphics cannot be processed in the RIP.

*We recommend you do the RGB-*

\* We now include a glossary of terms you may not be familiar with... please see back.



to-CMYK conversion so you can see if any undesirable color shifts occur.

## Managing fonts in Macintosh OS X

OS X incorporates a new type of system font that Apple calls a Dbase font. They are basically a TrueType font in a different file wrapper.

The Dbase version of some commonly used fonts, such as Helvetica.dfont, Times.dfont and Zapf Dingbats.dfont to name a few, will show up in your font list. Since Dbase fonts won't RIP, we encourage you to use the Adobe Postscript Type One versions which are supported by our Rampage RIP.

Apple has created several different locations where fonts are stored in OS X. Fonts can be located in the

system folder or one of five library folders. It is possible that each font folder can contain the same fonts which may cause font conflicts. Due to these multiple locations, it is suggested that you use a font management program.

We use Extensis Suitcase 10 which gives us the ability to create different font sets and only turn on the sets we need. This is the way we manage fonts for each customer or a customer's specific job.

- We recommend that you place the fonts you want to manage in a separate folder on your local drive and name it "Resources." Make sure not to place them in the system folder.
- Make sure you have "allow Suitcase to override system fonts" turned on in the Preferences dialog box within Suitcase.

## Create your document at the final trim size stated on the estimate

One of the points on our "Clean Files Discount" checklist is that the document is built to final trim. Our standard trim size is 8-3/8" x 10-7/8" – not the 8.5" x 11" that we often see.

- If there is 1/4" margin between

live copy and trim, we may be able to use the document as created at 100%.

- In other cases, we need to reduce the pages at 98.5% to fit the final trim. If the bleeds extend 1/8" past final trim, they will need to be extended.

*To save additional costs, create your document at the final size it will be produced at.*

## "Bleeds" that don't need bandages

Again, the variance inherent in printing also affects the relationship between design elements and the final trim. For photos or color blocks that want to end at trim, these picture and colored text boxes *must* extend beyond the final trim size.

- Open picture and colored text boxes to extend 1/4" past the trim.
- If you plan to send PDF\* files, you need to select a larger page size when postscripting the pages. For example, center your 8-3/8" x 10-7/8" page in a 8-7/8" x 11-3/8" page – that will maintain the bleeds.

*Keep creative control by extending the bleeds on your own.*

## Prepress Equipment at Ripon Community Printers

### Input:

Power Macintosh workstations (20)  
Windows '95 workstation  
Windows '98 SE workstations (3)  
Windows XP Professional workstation  
Iomega Zip 100 & Zip 250 drives  
Iomega Jaz 1gb & 2gb drives  
Linotype-Hell S3400 4/color high-end drum scanner  
Purup-Eskofot EskoScan 2636 copydot scanner  
Heidelberg Nexscan F4100 flatbed scanner  
CD-R with photo CD compatibility

### Output:

Kodak Approval XP 2-up dot-based digital proofing system  
Epson Stylus Pro 10600 ink-jet proofing system  
TechSage SpinJet 1000 imposition proofer (2)  
ImpoProof 800x2 imposition proofer (2)  
CreoScitex Trendsetter 3244+V platesetter  
Creo Trendsetter 800 Quantum platesetter

## G · L · O · S · S · A · R · Y

**CMYK:** Represents the ink colors used to print 4/color images – Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and black. These letters also represent *subtractive* color – where reflected light and colorants (such as pigments or dyes) create the colors that we see in nature and on the printed sheet.

**Luminance:** A numerical value used to define lightness of a color. Black has the luminance value of 0; pure white has the luminance value of 255.

**Pantone:** The Pantone Matching System® is used to communicate ink colors between designer and printer. Using standardized premixed inks in exacting formulas, a variety of spot colors can be created.

**PDF (Portable Document Format):** Is a universal file format that allows a user to distribute a document to anyone for the Internet or print.

**Raster Image Processor (RIP):** The computerized process that results in an electronic bit map which indicates every spot position on a page in preparation for an actual printout. **Rasterization:** converting the document on screen into data that can be used by high-end imaging equipment is the raster (image) process – placing miniscule dots in position on the page.

**RGB:** Represents the additive primary colors – Red, Green and Blue. Lights of these colors create the images on monitors. These screen colors are not for printing. Images submitted in RGB must be converted to CMYK.

**Trapping:** The overlapping of different colored elements to eliminate white lines between colors in printing.