

Electronic Prepress



“Computer-to-plate technology is superior.”

CTP workflow gives you an advantage in three areas. Reproduction is crisper because direct-to-plate lasers image directly to the plate creating the sharpest printing dot possible. CTP produces better detail and inks run at higher densities which provide more intense color. Proofing is supplied without film allowing you to make changes and corrections without the costly commitment to film. Plates are produced just prior to printing allowing changes to be made up to presstime. Even waste is reduced.

Preparing your files

Sending your Files

- We accept files for both Macintosh and Windows.
- Files can be submitted on the following media: Zip Disk, Jaz Disk, CD, Syquest Disk and Optical Disk.
- We can also accept files via ftp and e-mail. Call for details.
- Supply composite and color separated laser proofs. This allows us to be certain that final output matches your file.

Supported Software

- We support all popular desktop publishing software: QuarkXpress, PageMaker, Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, Freehand and CorelDraw.

File Preparation

- Ask for a “die-on-disk”. Compose your artwork on top of the exact cutting die that will be used for your job. Proper formatting of your document (*including all die-cuts, reinforcements, folds and bleeds*) can eliminate extra charges.
- Include the files that are necessary to produce your job. This includes all fonts and image files.

- Do not embed graphics. If graphics are embedded, you must also provide the original graphics.
- Make sure the document is the actual size to be printed.
- All areas that bleed off the page must extend at least 1/8” (.125”).
- Do not set your own trapping.

Fonts

- Type 1 PostScript fonts work best.
- Supply all screen and printer fonts, or truetype fonts. Avoid Multiple Master fonts.
- Avoid stylizing fonts (bold, italic, bold italic). It is best to use the correct font.

Graphics

- Save your images as eps or tif files.
- All CMYK/Grayscale photos must be scanned at 300 dpi at the same size you intend to place them. Line art or bitmap images should be scanned at 900-1200 dpi at the same size to be placed.
- Artwork supplied as RGB will require conversion to CMYK and may give unexpected color results.

Types of proofs

• Laser Proof

We can mail or fax this proof for any last-minute text revisions or layout changes.

• Color-Line

Our imposition proof. This proof is cut down and assembled to represent your finished, folded product. It is not color accurate, but does indicate color breaks.

• Sherpa Proof

This is the contract proof for our computer-to-plate system. It gives a color accurate representation of your printed product. This is the proof we use most for matching color on press.

E-mail or FTP your files for faster service

- We can accept your files via e-mail or FTP (file transfer protocol). Depending upon your internet connection, file sizes of 10 megabytes or less may be e-mailed. Larger files, over 10 megabytes, can be sent using FTP. Extremely large files increase download time and the possibility of data corruption. Contact your representative for information.
- Compress your files for transfer over the internet.

It is very important to supply a hard-copy proof or PDF file.