



FAQ: World of Fiery Webinar – Best Practices for Preparing Files for Digital Print

If you have a CMYK image, should you convert it to RGB for an InDesign file?

CMYK image files should not be converted to RGB. The image will not benefit from converting to CMYK and you could potentially get unexpected results in the final output.

What's the cost of the Graphic Art Package and is it a plug in or software?

You can purchase it through your copier/printer deal or through the EFI eStore at: <https://estore.efi.com/shop/default.aspx>. Suggested retail is \$7000 USD.

Which application should I use to print? InDesign or Photoshop?

You can print directly from either application. Photoshop will print one image/page at a time. You can also make a PDF file from either application if you wish to download the image to the Fiery server using Command WorkStation or Hot Folders. You can also save the file as a TIFF or EPS file to submit it to the Fiery server using Command WorkStation or Hot Folders.

Does Preflight work with native files?

Fiery Preflight works with any supported file format submitted to the Fiery server, including PostScript (PS), PDF, TIFF, EPS. Native files can be printed to the Fiery server to generate PostScript that will be sent or create a PDF file using Adobe Acrobat Distiller's Printer Driver.

Fiery Hot Folders and the Microsoft Office filter can be used to submit Microsoft Office files to the Fiery server. The files will be converted to PDF and Fiery Preflight can be used to check the document.

Other file formats such as JPG, DCS, 1-Bit TIFF, TIFF/IT-P1, CT/LW, ExportPS and DF2GO can be submitted to the Fiery server with the Graphic Arts Package, Premium Edition, using Hot Folders. Fiery Preflight can be used to check the document after it has been submitted using the Hot Folder filters for these formats.

How can we check the printed document is the one we see on monitor?

1. Make sure the monitor you are using is a high quality monitor, such as the Eizo ColorEdge CG245W LaCie 324i.
2. Calibrate and Profile the monitor using either Fiery Color Profiler Suite or the built in monitor calibrator.
3. Set your RGB Working space to the use either the sRGB or Adobe RGB profile.
4. Set the CMYK Working space within Adobe Creative Suite to one of the industry standards such as GRACoL 2006 Coated. Embed the profile when creating PDF files or EPS files from Adobe Create Cloud/Creative Suite applications.
5. When printing the document make sure to enable the Fiery Color Expert setting: "Use embedded profile when present" for both CMYK and RGB Color Settings.

You can also create a Soft Proof PDF file using ImageViewer, part of the Graphic Arts Package, Premium Edition. Soft Proof PDF files contain the RASTER data created by the Fiery server to print, and contain the Printer Profile that was used. When opened on a



workstation with a high quality monitor, as mention previously, calibrated and profiled monitor, into Acrobat Profession the on screen representation. The file size will be quite large, 40-50 MB per page is common.

We often receive PDF files that look fine on screen or when proofed but when we print, we will have thin hairlines (no ink) running through the image that appears to be following bounding boxes that make up the image.

When submitting the PDF files, turn on the Composite Overprint Job Property option. Also set the Image setting “Image Quality” to “Best”.

How often would you recommend running printer calibration to ensure that colours are not off?

Calibrating the printer is dependent on factors such as changes in temperature, humidity, paper, and toner usage. We recommend calibrating at least once per day, after the printer/copier has printed 50-100 test sheets to bring it up to operating temperature.

For color critical jobs, you may wish to calibrate immediately before printing the job. If the job is reprinted in the future, recalibrating before reprinting it will produce the most consistent results.

Can Preflight check if elements are in the RGB color space when CMYK is needed?

Preflight will not indicate if an element or object is in the wrong color space.

The Fiery Graphic Arts Package, Premium Edition feature Postflight will create a color coded conclusion page for each page in the document to help identify the color space each object is in.

- Red objects use RGB color space
- Cyan (blue) objects use CMYK color space
- Yellow objects use Spot Colors color space
- Gray objects use Black only.

Does that PDF file of the Preflight show the customer exactly what is wrong?

The PDF file created by the Preflight contains the same information that was displayed in the report.

What is the advantage to get open documents (InDesign) vs. PDF from customers?

Having the native documents enables changes and fixes such as replacing low-resolution images. It is typically used when multiple teams are collaborating on a design concept.

What is the maximum datasheets you can have the document when working with Image Enhance Visual Editor?

Fiery Image Enhance Visual Editor allows you to work with documents as large as 100 pages and a maximum of 50 images per document.

We send an InDesign file to the Fiery and it crashes. The InDesign preflight is green. What is wrong?

The InDesign document cannot be sent directly to the Fiery server. It must be printed using the Fiery server’s printer driver or a PDF file must be created from the document using a PDF Preset such as Fieryoptimize2. Many InDesign workflows create a PDF file of the document that will be sent to the Fiery server using Fiery Command WorkStation or Fiery Hot Folders.



Could you tell us where we could find the image enhancement functions?

The Image Enhance Visual Editor can be applied to a job in the Held queue by right-clicking the mouse and selecting “Image Enhance Visual Editor”. It can also be found under the “Action” menu.

What product do you recommend for calibrating monitors?

Fiery Color Profiler Suite 4 using the ES-2000.

I noticed that you used a PNG file when showing how to fix missing/modified links. Are PNG files an acceptable file format for print? I was under the impression that we should avoid them.

The PNG file was used for the file to create a sample file with a number of issues, including low resolution and the incorrect Spot Color. PNG files do not support Spot Colors.

PNG files can be used if they have adequate pixels per inch (300 PPI final print size). Generally, we recommend that you only use PNG files for screen shots that require a transparent background.

Sometimes our prints (from PDF files) will come out with thin white stripes on the images. Why does this happen?

When submitting the PDF files, turn on the Composite Overprint Job Property option. Also set the Image setting “Image Quality” to “Best”.

Is there a way to ensure that color profiles are preserved and kept consistent when using Acrobat Pro 'Combine files into PDF'?

When combining multiple files, use “Combine Files into a Single PDF”. Use the Setting “Single PDF”. The resulting PDF file will retain the original embedded profiles. The PDF Portfolio files cannot be directly imported into the Fiery server.

In Command WorkStation, I sometimes get a box on top which says "Adobe PDF Engine Preferred". Why does this happen? What does it do?

The option “Adobe PDF Engine Preferred” will be available on PDF documents imported to the Fiery using Command WorkStation or Hot Folder. PostScript, TIFF and EPS jobs will not have this option available.

The Fiery Server can be configured to use the Adobe PDF Print Engine to process PDF files

APPE 2.5 provides support for the newest use cases of transparency from the latest design applications. Designers often invoke these features unintentionally when using effects such as drop shadows and others. APPE 2.5 enables users to print files that use the latest transparency effects. With APPE 2.5 and the FS100 Pro implementation of it, users can print all transparency effects or layers properly.

I have the Fiery Graphics Arts Package. Does this give access to preflight to the Command WorkStation or do I have to purchase another software?

Fiery Preflight is included with the Fiery Graphic Arts Package, Premium Edition. This is required in addition to the Fiery Graphic Arts Package. You can purchase it through your copier/printer deal or through the EFI eStore at: <https://estore.efi.com/shop/default.aspx>.

Are the settings on a packaged file available to the customer if they do not have the full adobe suite?

The settings in the Packaged file will be available for the application they have. They will not be able to edit elements created using applications that they do not own.



When there are raster transparencies around spot colors, what are some ways to treat that? Composite overprint does not always yield what you see on the screen--using print preview in Acrobat "output preview".

If your Fiery server includes Fiery System 9 you can use the Adobe PDF Print Engine to address Transparency issues in PDF files.

To check your version of Fiery Server software, open Fiery Command WorkStation, select the "Device Center" tab. In the General area the Fiery System version will be listed.

If your Fiery system software is version 9 or later, you must enable the Adobe PDF Print Engine. While still in Command WorkStation, select "Configure" in the "Device Center" "General" tab. In the Configure window, select "PDL" and choose "Adobe PDF Print Engine". Select the option "Enable Adobe PDF Print Engine (APPE)". You will need to restart the Fiery server.

After the Fiery server restarts, select the PDF Job that you are having difficulties printing the transparency and open Properties. A new option will be list "Adobe PDF Print Engine Preferred". You should also enable "Composite Overprint". Reprint the job and this should resolve your transparency issue.

If I get a PDF in which the original indd file link to a picture was missing before the PDF was created, will it still print okay?

If the linked picture was missing when the PDF was created, the printed output will be low resolution. The missing link must be fixed before the PDF is created.

What color temperature do you use when calibrating monitors?

Use the 5000 K white point. When proofing with this setting, you should use a 5000 K viewing condition.

Use the 6500 K white point if you feel 5000-Warm white is too yellow.

Is the preflight function able to process combined PDF files?

When combining multiple files, use "Combine Files into a Single PDF". Use the Setting "Single PDF". The resulting PDF file will retain the original embedded profiles. The PDF Portfolio files cannot be directly imported into the Fiery server.

The new single PDF file created from the combined PDF files can be preflighted to check for issues.

We have a lot of customers using Photoshop only, no InDesign or Illustrator, and even Pagemaker. Are there any specific recommendations for "that situation"?

Have the customers save the Photoshop document as a PDF file when it is ready to be printed. Use the Fiery Optimized2 PDF Preset.

What are the links that were mentioned IE the Adobe printing guide?

All the resources mentioned are available on <http://w3.efi.com/Fiery/dm/webinars/World-of-Fiery-Webinars/Preparing-Digital-Files>.

If we are working with an older version of InDesign, does it still allow you to work in RGB/CMYK/Spot colors and preserve the color profiles as is?

Yes, you can preserve the Color Profiles using older version of Adobe InDesign. CS3 can be used to create documents and preserve the Color Profiles.



Sometimes my PDF file has text that looks fine but when I print it, it substitutes some letters with square boxes.

These square boxes usually indicate that the selected font is using a character that is not supported with the “Character Set”. Fiery servers have two Character sets, Macintosh (Default) and Windows. To change the Fiery server’s character set:

1. Open Fiery Command WorkStation.
2. From the Server menu, select “Configure”.
3. In the Configure window, select “Server”. Next select “General”.
4. Select the “Use Character Set” menu and switch the setting.
5. Restart the Fiery server.
6. Reprint the job.

Also when creating the PDF file, make sure the Fonts setting is set to “Embed all fonts”.