If your printing facility is driven by a CTP system, we can save you time and money. Whether you have sheet-fed, web offset or flexo presses, Compose Plate Controller will reduce your production costs and contribute to the profitability of your business year after year. Plate Controller's high precision job placement mode allows you to do special jobs such as step-and-repeat and special shape labels as well as precision alignment for double-sided printing. Plate Controller supports both PDF as well as post-RIP file formats such as 1-bit TIFF, Harlequin PageBuffers and Compose NetFlow Raster files.

Production Family

Step-and-repeat for the packaging industry

Plate Controller V2

Highlights

- Auto and manual job placement
  - Absolute or relative placement supported *NEW!*
- Enhanced step-and-repeat features
  - refined auto mode with horizontal and vertical offsets between columns and rows. *NEW!*
  - comprehensive placement styles to choose from. *NEW!*
  - provides WYSIWYG tools in setup
- User definable placement Template to cut short job setup time.
- Enhanced files input format for PDF or 1-bit workflow*
  - PDF files; or *NEW!*
  - 1-bit Tiffs, Harlequin PageBuffers, Compose NetFlow Raster
- Selectable file output formats *NEW!*
  - 1-bit Tiffs, Harlequin PageBuffers, Compose NetFlow Raster
- Comprehensive job alignment toolbox. *NEW!*
- Enhanced Mark Manager
  - Plate Marks & Page Marks *NEW!*
- Supports both pre-separated and RIP-separated jobs
- Automatic alignment of front and back surfaces
- Preview of jobs by thumbnail, dimension and job name

Overview

Plate Controller is a comprehensive job placement solution for sheet-fed, web offset and flexo printing in the market. It is an ideal tool for performing placement on jobs requiring step-and-repeat with complexity, as well as double-sided printing where alignment with precision is a must. It also accepts both PDF and post-RIP formats file* as input for user to expand their workflow productivity.

With Plate Controller, user can define templates for easy and quick placement of jobs. On-screen preview ensures that all mistakes can be spotted before the plate is exposed. Proofing can be done before the final output by such as StarProof (An Actual Dot proofing product), one of our many solutions.

Plate Controller therefore offers all the functionality, flexibility and precision you will ever need in a busy prepress environment.

* Only one formats is offered in the standard version, the second format is available as an option.

compose

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Features and Benefits

Offset, Sheet-fed, and Flexo Printing

The plate layout functions of Plate Controller are designed for web offset, sheet-fed, and flexo printing. User definable plate size can be stored for easy retrieval.

Enhanced job input for PDF or 1-bit workflow

Plate Controller supports both PDF and post-RIP 1-bit raster files input. User can choose the Plate Controller in either the PDF or the 1-bit Tiff raster version when first purchasing the product and add extra option when the need of expanding their workflow capability is required.

Advanced Job Management

The job management of Plate Controller applies hot folder and queue concept. Users can classify their jobs based on queue characteristics. In addition, jobs can be easily located in the input queue by thumbnail viewing or name searching.
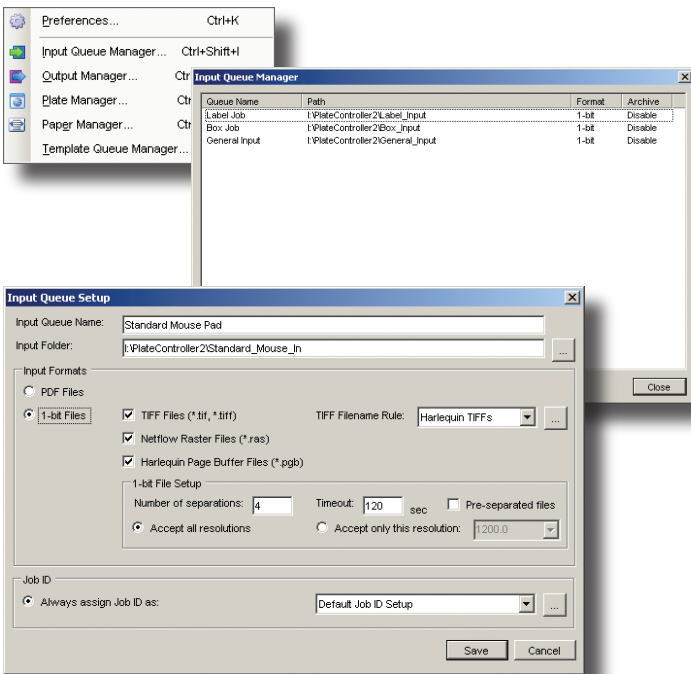

Plate Controller provides Input Queue Manger, Output Manager, Plate Manager, Paper Manager, and Template Queue Manager for advanced job management.

Instant Preview in job input

Plate Controller offers instant preview for all input job formats. Besides thumbnail viewing, full screen preview up to 200% enlargement are also provided.

Jobs placement with ease

The Job Placement tools enables users to place jobs on the plate automatically or manually using x-y coordinates, snap-to-grid, or simply mouse drag and drops. Placed jobs are detailed with name and dimension, and can be viewed as thumbnail.

WYSIWYG graphical user interface

Plate Controller provides a WYSIWYG graphical user interface for accurate placement of jobs as well as automatic alignment of front and back jobs. It allows user to graphically set the offsets between repeats. User can also fine tune the offsets by varying parameters in the step-and-repeat setup.

Alignment Toolbox

Comprehensive alignment tools with different align and distribute options. User can also limit the movement of jobs on the sheet to horizontal only, vertically only, or in 45 degrees only, making it easier to move a jobs without changing the alignment of other jobs.

Enhanced step-and-repeat functions

The step and repeat function allows jobs to be placed in automatic or manual mode. Automatic mode will fill up an area, or the entire sheet; while manual mode allows user to specify the number of repeats horizontally and vertically. Horizontal and vertical offsets can be applied to both. Multiple step-and-repeat styles are also provided for irregular shaped jobs such as box die-cuts and round labels to ensure economical plate output.

Comprehensive Template Handling

Plate Controller now offer powerful features to setup TEMPLATE for regular jobs handling. The template function help to guide job placement onto preset placeholders.

Selectable file output formats

When input 1-bit TIFF, Harlequin PageBuffer, or NetFlow Raster files, Plate Controller allows user to generates output files one of the selected output formats (1-bit TIFF, Harlequin PageBuffer, or NetFlow Raster) for appropriate TIFF Downloader or application.

Integration into workflow

Plate Controller is a plug-in for the popular Compose Express RIP, it can be easily integrated into existing Compose workflow systems. It can also work as a standalone unit working in tandem to most workflow systems in the market.
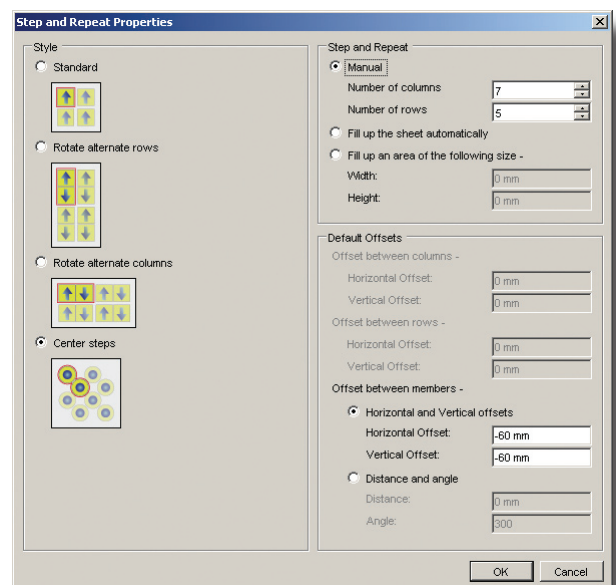

Plate Controller enables accurate placement of jobs via co-ordinates input, also enables easy front-and-back alignment and step-and-repeat jobs

Plate Controller provides a WYSIWYG graphical user interface for accurate placement of jobs, step-and-repeat jobs, automatic alignment of front and back jobs, and job template modeling.

Queues Control

Jobs List

Jobs & Templates Preview

Template Setup

Colorbar & Print Queue Control

Smart double-sided placement

Plate Controller offers precise page positioning for double-sided printing. By dragging a job onto another job, user has the choice of placing the second job on the other side of the first job, with adjustment according to the work style, allowing the front and back jobs to be aligned perfectly. If the job on the front side is moved, the corresponding job on the back side will move simultaneously.

For regular job's step-and-repeat, Plate Controller will fill-in the job automatically by simply drag-and-drop the job to pre-defined template.

Enhanced Marks Manager for Plate Marks, Plate Label, Page Marks, Page Label, & Step-and-Repeat Marks

Plate Marks...	Ctrl+7
Page Marks...	Ctrl+8
Step and Repeat Marks...	Ctrl+9

Plate Split

Layout: job-work-turn-1

Virtual Front Plate

Virtual Back Plate

Plate Controller support working in Single Sided, Sheetwise Turn, Sheetwise Tumble, & Work-and-Turn Style layout. For example in Work-and-Turn Style, the plate is split vertically down and the left/right are treated virtually as the front/back plates,

Specification

Versions
- PDF
- 1-bit Raster

  Only one format is offered in the standard version, the second format is available as an option.

File Input Formats
- PDF (PDF Version)
- 1-bit Raster (1-bit Raster Version)
  - any 1-bit Tiff created by RIPs
  - Harlequin PageBuffer
  - Compose NetFlow Raster

File Output Formats
- PDF (PDF input)
- 1-bit Raster (any 1-bit Raster input)
  - 1-bit Tiff
  - Harlequin PageBuffer
  - Compose NetFlow Raster

Recommended Options for Flexo Printing
- RIP: Express RIP
- Trapping: Express Trap (Enhanced i-Tone screening)
- Proofing: Star Proof (Advanced flexo dots reproduction)
- Output Management: Raster Print Station

System requirements

Recommended:
CPU: Intel Dual Core 2.0GHz or above
Memory: 2GB RAM
Hard Drive: 160GB SATA Disk

Recommended Operation System:
Windows 2000 Professional or Server
Windows XP Professional SP2
Windows 2003 Server

Plate Controller Workflow

1-bit Tiff Workflow

Express RIP — 1-bit Tiffs, Harlequin PGB, Compose NFR — Plate Controller — StarProof Actual Dot Proofing / Output Device CTP

PDF Workflow

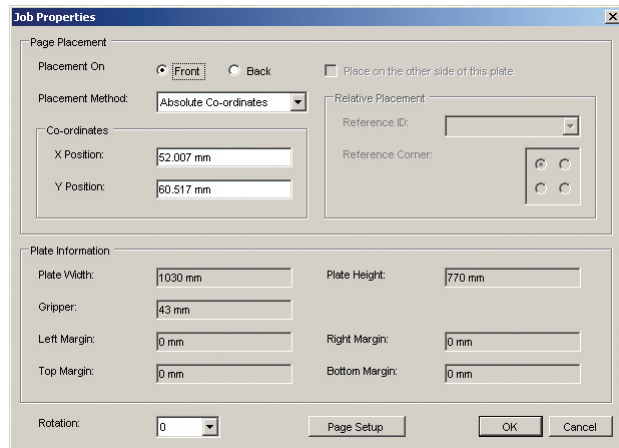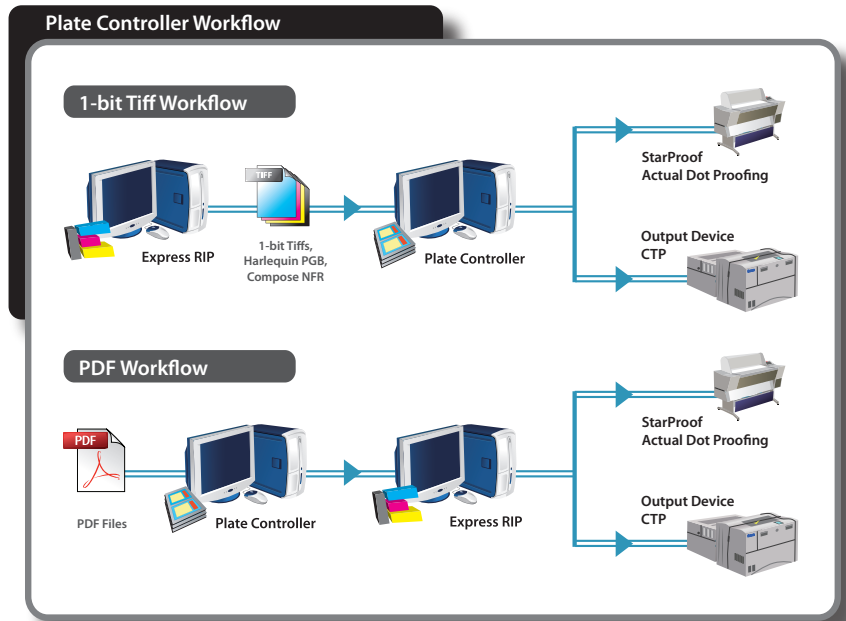PDF Files — Plate Controller — Express RIP — StarProof Actual Dot Proofing / Output Device CTP

Plate Controller enables accurate placement of jobs via co-ordinates input, also enables easy front-and-back alignment, and step-and-repeat jobs.
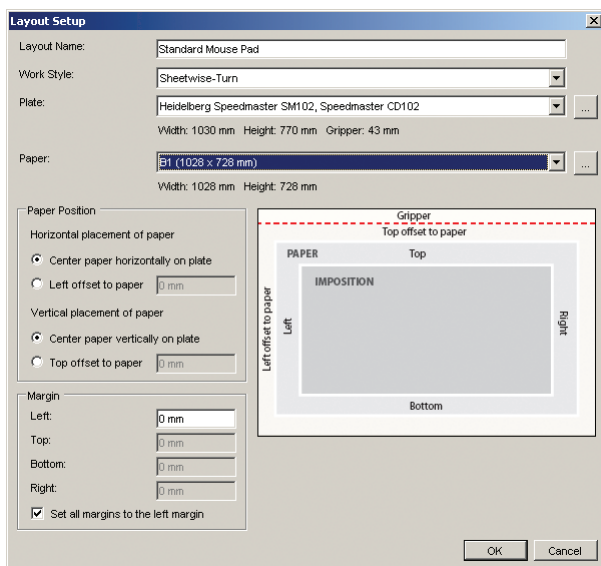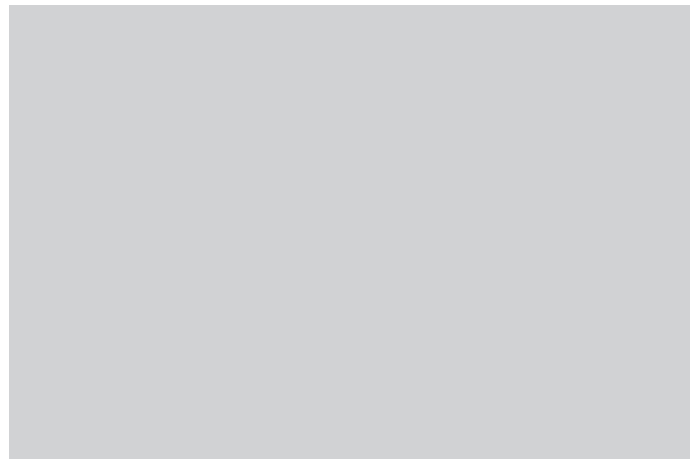
Plate Controller provides custom layout setting for accurate job management