



PPInk

Solution for Calculating Ink Density Values



PPInk is a software module that automatically calculates ink density values and sends them to the press control system. These values are used to preset ink keys/ink duct blades on the printing couples before printing starts. They are also used to optimize the characteristic curves of the self-learning press control system. PPInk is therefore the key to a significant reduction in startup waste.



Operating principle

Depending on the press configuration, the printable area of the printing plates on the individual press sections is divided into 8 to 12 ink zones. These are required for precise ink metering during printing. In order to achieve optimum ink quantities for the individual zones before printing starts, PPInk calculates the corresponding ink density (as a percentage) from the available production bitmap files for each zone of the color forms. The following systems also supply bitmap files:

- OM – the ppi solution for controlling the production of printing forms
- Output systems of other suppliers of TIFF G4 files

ppi's output management system OM or other systems transfer the TIFF G4 files of a product to a PPInk input direc-

tory. PPInk defines the ink density values for each of these files and transfers them to the server of the press control system. PPInk currently supports the following press control systems:

- manroland PPM on the basis of CIP3
- EAE Print/A-VE3 on the basis of CZD files
- ABB MPS in accordance with the CTP interface

PPInk automatically calculates the digital ink density values. This rules out any inaccuracies and/or operating errors that can occur if ink density values are calculated with film or plate scanners. The names of the bitmap files are used for identifying the ink density values in the press control system. This means a considerable reduction in startup waste.

System requirements/ full software package

- PPInk software; individual or package, including the following hardware:
- Linux PC with Intel Core2Duo 2.4 GHz; 2 GB RAM (min.); 120 GB HD (min.)
- OS: SUSE Linux Enterprise 10 and 11 (SLES 10 / SLES 11)

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