Blackmagic

Blackmagic is a colour management system designed to produce precision, colour-matched proofs from bitmap and postscript CTP RIP, PDF, composite and separated postscript files.

A stand-alone software proofing solution for demanding press and print environments, Blackmagic is made to work alongside any existing production workflow.

Colour Management

Blackmagic performs all functions and processing in true 16-bit, providing users with increased colour depth and finer colour control.

- Colour management system is ICC v4.2 compliant and adept at reproducing press process and spot ink colours within the gamut of CMYK or RGB printers.
- Import press ICC profiles to match any CMYK or multi-colour press standard.
- Device independent profile connection space processes files with halftone, stochastic, hybrid or other screening.
- RDT (Real Dot Technology) delivers proofs with exactly the same dot structure as source platesetter RIP files.
- Press ink and platesetter dot gain compensation normalises plate files for proofing.

Press RIP Integration and Workflow

Blackmagic polls and interprets the native file format, directory structure, plate assembly and imposition data of all major manufacturer propriety RIPs.

- Configure automated RIP polling and proofing workflows.
- Virtual Press allows users manage job plates. Reorder or remove plates, merge plates from other jobs, change plate colours, or assign unallocated plates.
- Operating system integration allows files to be submitted or previewed directly from the desktop.
- Place jobs into Drop Folders for automatic processing.
- Use Client interface DropZones for simple drag-and-drop job submission.
- Submit directly from design applications.
- Jobtickets precisely control colour, size, fit, rotation, effects and other print and processing options for each job. Tickets can be generated on the fly, saved for later use, and stored within jobs for exact-match reprints.
- Display, monitor and manage submitted files during processing and printing with the Jobs application.

Colour Verification

Blackmagic features an integrated system for creating and measuring verification charts to certify colour accuracy.

- Generate charts from imported CGATS data, directly from press ICC profiles or create custom charts.
- Print standalone charts or attach charts to jobs.
- Charts are auto-formatted to be read by a wide range of supported spectrophotometers.
- Measure against Δe(CIE76,CIE94,CIE2000), ΔH and ΔC tolerances using M0, M1 or M2 illuminant conditions.

Spot Colours

Spot/Special colours are handled in an Lab colourspace to maintain accurate and consistent proofing output.

- Advanced spot merging accurately reproduces the interaction of process and spot inks.
- Create or import unlimited spot colour libraries in Lab, CMYK or multi-colour colourspaces.
- Define spot colour paint modes (overprint, knockout, primer, transparent & opaque), tint levels and individual dot gain curves.
- Match and replace process and spot colours, by name or plate position, as they pass through the system.

Printer Control

Serendipity's Advanced Screening Engine utilises Paper Profiling to individually characterise print media.

- Ink channel dot selection and intelligent ink limiting optimise the printer to achieve required colour densities using the least amount of ink.
- Linearise your output based on a configurable set of gradation curve points.

De-Imposition

A built-in function allows press sheets to be de-imposed and proofed as individual pages or page pairs, at published size. Imposition signatures can be created, or imported from jobs in standard industry formats including JDF.

Server/Client Interface

Blackmagic is a Server/Client based system supporting an unlimited number of local or networked clients at no additional cost.

- Client interface settings can be shared or customised to individual users.
- Secure mode option uses login accounts to grant users selective access to functions, applications and job information.
- Server, client and database backups allow all settings and printer configurations to be copied to other sites, or quickly restored in the event of a hardware failure.

Hardware Utilisation

Blackmagic fully utilises the power of current CPU hardware to achieve unparalleled processing speeds.

- 64-bit (or 32-bit) software runs on all current Mac OS X, Windows and Linux (CentOS) platforms.
- Multi-core CPU support allows multiple jobs to be processed simultaneously.
- Multi-threading ensures all CPU cores are fully utilised even on single jobs.
- Distributed processing uses cluster nodes (available separately) to share job processing across multiple networked computers.
- One Blackmagic software server can drive an unlimited number of printers.

Unlimited Printers

Output Driver suites allow users to print to an unlimited number of supported printer models on a per manufacturer basis.

- Blackmagic installs ready to run an unlimited number of local or networked printers.
- Additional Output Driver suites available separately.
- Printer Status Monitoring tracks printer ink levels, warnings and error messages.
- Load Balancing uses job size, number and print time to manage efficient output across multiple printers.

Softproofing

The client SoftProof application uses monitor ICC colour management to display colour accurate previews at full output resolution before committing to print.

- Multi-resolution previews allow real-time zooming of large print files.
- Use the Loupe tool to magnify page areas for quality checks and to view accurate ink coverage percentages.
- View spreads, signatures, back-page show-through, or cycle through single ink channels.
- Ink Key Viewer aids the press operator in the setup of press ink ducts and can calculate ink use for a print run.
- Softproofing Add-on package (available separately) adds all the functions of Veripress, making Blackmagic two complete products in one.

Serendipity software

For more information visit www.serendipity-software.com.au