Deimposition

Overview

The deimposition module allows you to check an impostion signature against a job to verify that it is correct. There are a number of steps for this to take place. The signature that you used to create the job that is going to press is imported into the system and adjustments made to suite the job and the output method. The Job itself is then submitted for deimposition which involves matching the imported signature and selecting the output. The complete imposed pages image with the assigned signature and can be viewed in the SoftProof when complete. During the Rendering stage the imposed pages are separated out according to the assigned signature. Page numbers are taken from the signature and given to the deimposed pages. These page numbers are then used for duplexing and the FlipBook generation.

This section will take you through the various stages needed to deimpose a job using a signature. We will work through a practical example that can be used as a tutorial so you have a better understanding. Each stage will be explained in detail with the various options available. Tips on how to check signatures, common pitfalls and to fix them for the desired output. The various output options will also explained.

The job we will use in the tutorial will be in Serendipity Blackmagic Image format with signatures generated in Dynastrip. Various signature types will be tested and output to a Xante CL30, PDF and a Quicktime movie. The job, signatures and Pagesetups can all be downloaded from the website so you can work through the tutorial as you go.

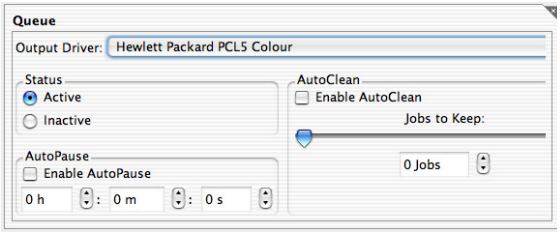
It is expected that you have the server and client installed and running. And that you have a basic understanding of the operation of the software.

Configuring the Pagesetup and Output

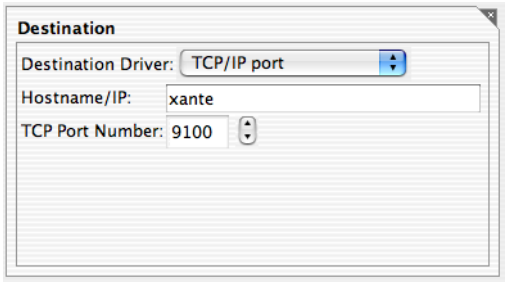
The first stage it to configure the Pagesetup and Output that we are going to use. Because you can generate the PDF and Quicktime movie form the QueueManager we will configure a Pagesetup for the Xante CL30 so that we can print a duplexed job out. You can just as easily create a Pagesetup for PDF output as this has all the configuration functionality that allows duplexing. If you do not wish to duplex the job then any Pagesetup will do, for example to a JPEG output.

1. Select Output from the Workbench and create a new output called Xante Duplexing Out.

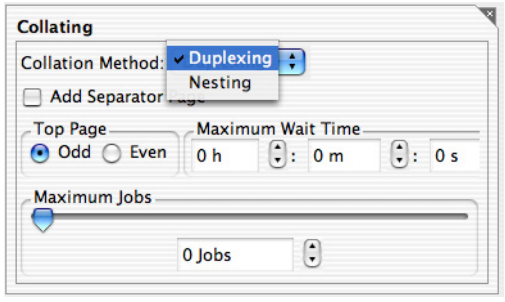
2. Select the output driver as Hewlet Packard PCL5 Colour.



3. Select a destination driver of TCP/IP and enter the IP address and port number of the printer.



4. In the collating section select Duplexing.



5. Save the Output.

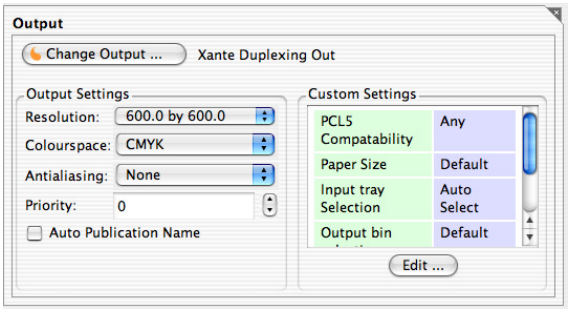
If you have another laser printer capable of duplexing then you can configure the output for this. The driver is probably the same but the destination driver may be different. Select the one appropriate to your printer. The other duplexing controls we will adjust later.

Now that you have the output you need to configure the Pagesetup to point to the output.

1. Select Pagesetup from the Workbench and create a new Pagesetup called Xante Duplexing.

2. Select the Output “Xante Duplexing Out”. Set the resolution to 600 x 600 dpi and output colour space to CMYK.

Note: 600 x 600 will produce better quality but will take longer to process and print. For performance and fast production you should set the resolution to 300 x 300dpi.



3. Make sure that the Output ICC profile is a CMYK one.

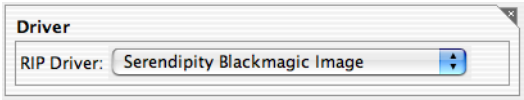
4. Save the Pagesetup.

Configuring a RIP

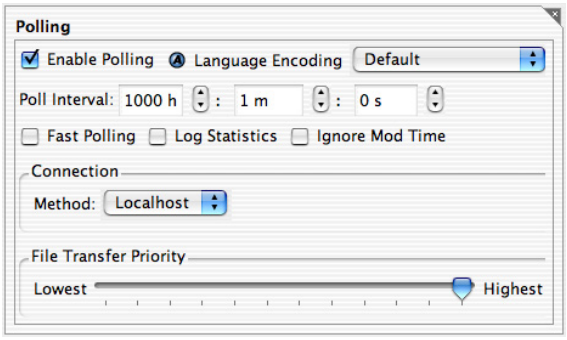
The next stage is to configure a RIP setup to poll the files. You do not have to do this for the Serendipity Blackmagic Image files as you can submit the jobs from the Application Menu. But for any RIP job that uses a dedicated input filter you need to use a RIP setup.

1. Select RIP from the Workbench and create a new RIP called BMImage Local.

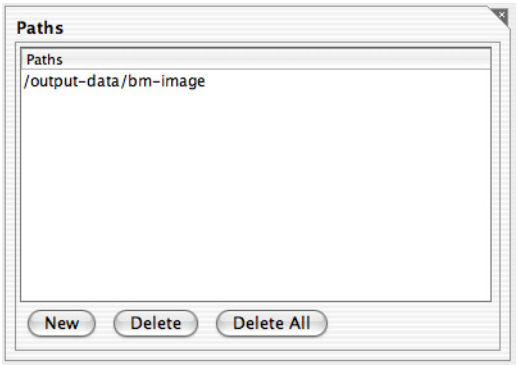
2. Select Serendipity Blackmagic Image from the list of available RIP drivers.



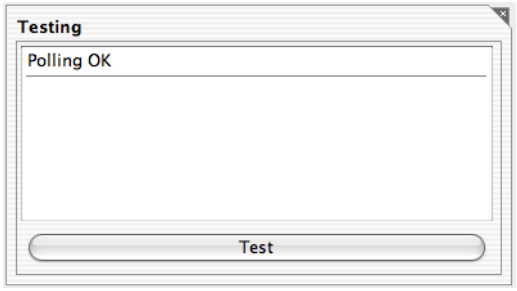
3. Under the polling section choose Localhost as your method and set the poll interval at 1000 hours (we do not need to continually look for new files so a long poll time is fine).



4. Create a new path to the folder where you have the RIPed image files.



5. Click Test and then select “Save and Test” when prompted. Make sure that the test returns Polling OK. If not correct the errors until the polling test is successful.

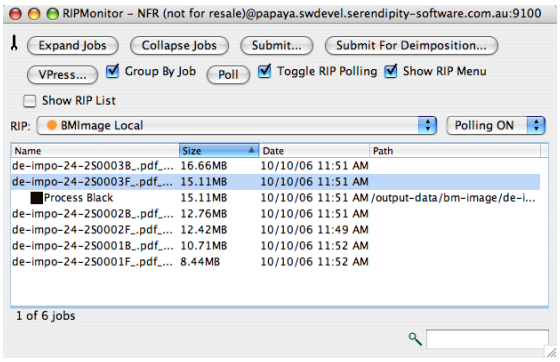


Now that the RIP is configured to look at our RIPed pages we can poll them to be sure they view correctly.

1. Select your RIPMonitor from the monitor or launch a new one.

2. Choose the RIP “BMImage Local” and make sure that polling is turned on.

3. Click on the “Poll” button three times.



The jobs should appear in the RIPMonitor after the three polls have completed. If they do not then there must be a problem with the configuration which you will need to correct and try again. The jobs will only show a single black plate as the input filter does not parse the job looking for plates. Once you see the jobs you are ready to move to the next stage.

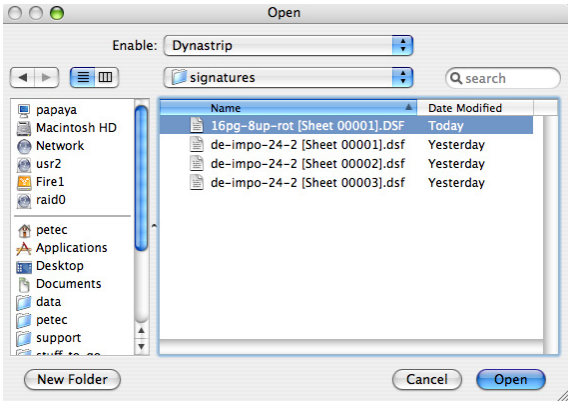
Importing the Signature

The next stage is to import the signatures that we are going to use to deimpose the job. The Signature Group has a number of import filters for the various imposition packages that we support. To import your own signature choose the filter that matches (see the relevant section in the manual for more information). For this tutorial we will select the Dynastrip import filter.

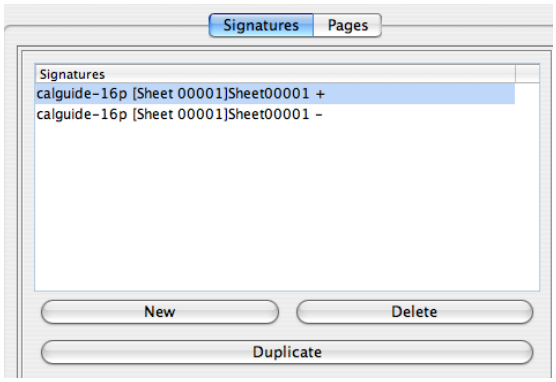
1. Select the Signature Group from the Workbench and create a new Signature item called “Deimposition Tutorial 1”.

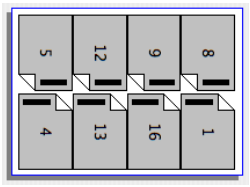
2. Make sure that the “Selective Import” is not checked and click on the DynaStrip button.

3. Browse to the location of the signature, select it and click Open.

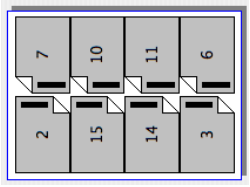


This should import two signatures, each as an 8up, one for the front (indicated by the plus + sign) and one for the back (indicated by a minus - sign).





Sheet 1 + (front)



Sheet 1 - (back)

4. Save the Deimposition Tutorial 1.

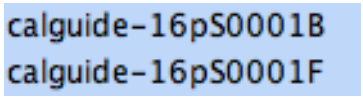
We now have a system ready to deimpose RIPed files. Quite often the signatures will need some adjusting so that deimposition is achieved in the desired way. This may involve rotation of signatures, head direction change or pairing. Rotation usually needs to be performed due to the orientation of the job which has been rotated by the RIP for output to the film/plate setter. Therefore it is no longer in the same orientation as the signature was created. Pairing would be required if you are printing paired outputs e.g. Printing two A4 pages on one A3 sheet. Once you have an understanding as to how your jobs and signatures match you will probably make the same adjustments each time you import. We will not make any adjustments at this stage but will be making some corrections later.

Submitting for Deimposition

Now that we have the job in the RIPMonitor and the signature imported into the Signature Group we are ready to submit our first job.

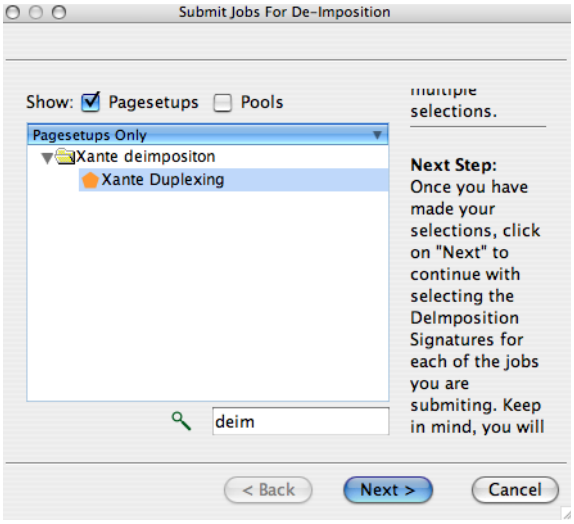
1. Select your RIP BMImage Local in the RIPMonitor where your jobs are displayed.

2. Select the two jobs called calguide-16pS0001B and calguide-16S0001F.

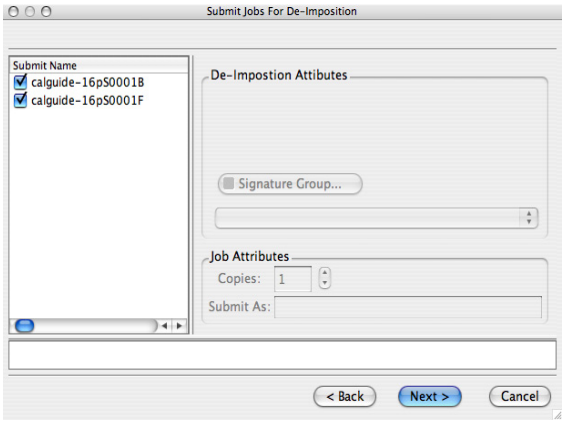


3. Click on the “Submit For Deimposition” button. This will show the first stage of the deimposition wizard.

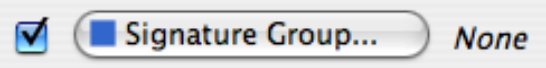
4. Select the Pagesetup called “Xante Duplexing” and click next.



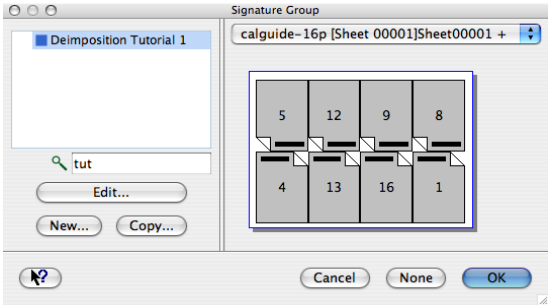
This will show the next stage where you allocate the signature group to use for the deimposition.



5. Select both of the jobs in the list and click on the “Signature Group” button.

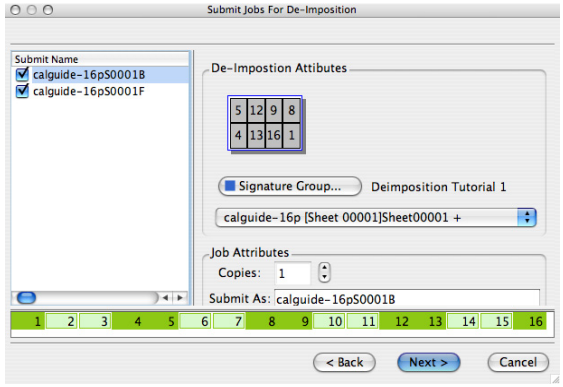


6. From the list of Signatures select the group called “Deimposition Tutorial 1” and click OK.



This will assign the signature you imported earlier to the job you are submitting. The pages from the signature are shown in the page area.

They should all display in green and be complete from page 1 to page 16. Selecting each signature in turn will display the pages for that job in dark green and the other job(s) in light green.



Currently selected jobs pages show in dark green

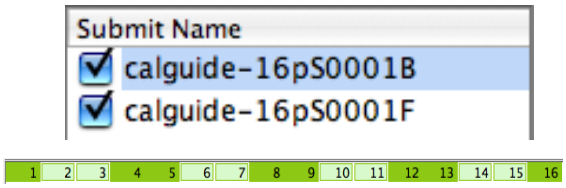
But these page number come from the signature, not the job. Therefore it is easy to get the wrong signature assigned to the wrong job.

Check to make sure that the correct signature is allocated to the correct job. The order they are assigned is the order of the jobs in the list. i.e. the first one in the list is given the first signature in the group. So it is important that the signature group is in the correct order for the book you are deimposing, and that the order of the jobs are also in the correct order. By making sure that they are you can save a lot of time and the potential to make mistakes.

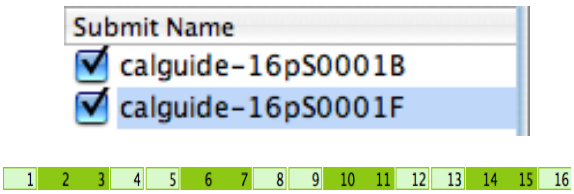
Select the first job in the list and check the signature that is assigned to it. The one marked with the F (for front) should have the signature with the + on it. The pages should be 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 16 and the B

(back) should be the other pages i.e. the signature with the - sign.

Here we show in our example the signatures have been allocated incorrectly. This was because the order of the jobs in the list had the Back sheet job first which was assigned the front sheet + signature.

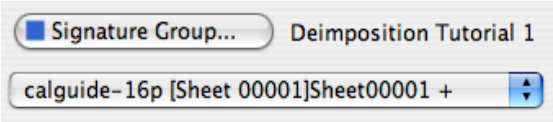


S0001B (back) shows pages 1 and 16
i.e. the front signature

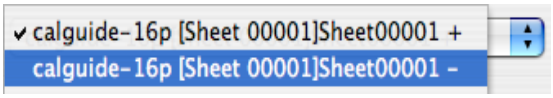


S0001F (front) shows pages 2 and 15
i.e. the back signature

To fix this select the first job in the list (Back). On the right you will see the signature that is allocated to it.

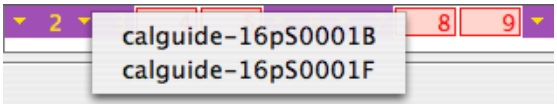


Click on the signature sheet pull down list and select the other signature from the group which is the - one.



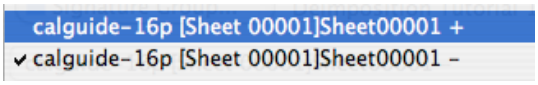
At this point both jobs will have the same signature allocated to it and this will initially change the colours of the pages to Purple and Red.

This indicates that there are some pages missing from the job (red) and some that have duplicates (purple). If you click on one of the purple pages you will see the jobs that have that page allocated.



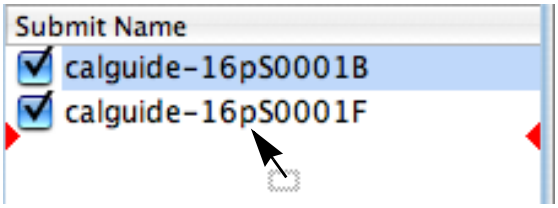
Click on page2 to reveal that jobs F and B have a page 2 in them

Select the other job in the list now and click on the drop down menu to change its signature.



All of the pages should change to green again. The front job should include the pages 1 and 16 and the back job should include the pages 2 and 15.

You can reorder the jobs in the list into the correct order by selecting one of more jobs and dragging to another position. If you do this before you select your Signature Group then the correct signatures should be allocated when assigned.



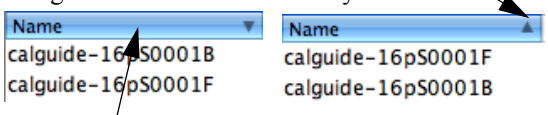
Drag the jobs into the correct order

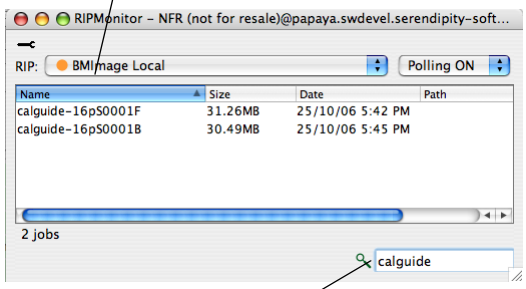
Now that we have the correct signature assigned to the correct job we can continue to submit the job. Click Next to move to the final screen.

Note: The best way to get the jobs into the correct order is to do so in the RIPMonitor. You can do this by clicking on the "Name" column in the RIPMonitor to sort them alphabetically. Repeated clicks switches the order between descending and ascending order. This can be used in combination with the search box to find and sort your jobs easily. But it is still a good idea to check them in the deimposition window to ensure that the signatures match the jobs.

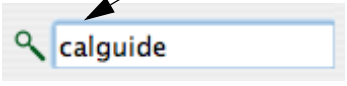
Click the header to change the sort order.

Sort order indicated by the arrow

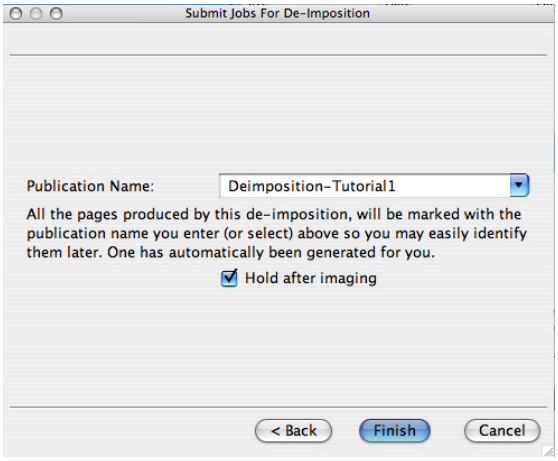




Use the search box to filter jobs



The final stage of the submission phase is to allocate a publication name. All the jobs that are part of the same publication need to have the same publication name. You can use the default one or enter your own. The drop down menu shows the last 5 publications used.



1. Enter a publication name of “Deimposition Tutorial 1”.
2. Click on the “Hold after imaging” check box
3. Click “Finish”

Once you are familiar with the whole deimposition process, your own signatures and jobs then you will probably not wish to hold after imaging. But for this example it will give us a chance to see if we have it right or if corrections need to be made by viewing the file in the softproof.

Checking the Imaged File

Once the two jobs have passed through the imaging process they will then be held in a “Held (Rendering)” state (because we checked the “hold after imaging” check box). This gives us an opportunity to view the file against the signatures to see if they fit.

First we need to reduce the resolution of the imaged preview. This will make it faster for viewing and the pages will display smaller.

For finer adjustments you probably want to leave the preview resolution set to the output resolution. Although viewing the page positions in SoftProof can only be used as a guide as there are limitations to the accuracy.

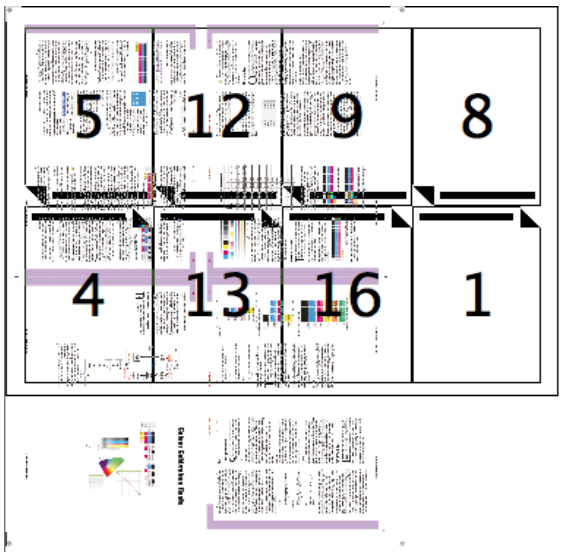
1. Select “System Settings” from the Application menu.
2. Select “Client Settings” and enter 96dpi for the “Maximum Preview Resolution.
3. Click OK so save the settings and dismiss the window.

Now we can look at the files. Select both the jobs in the QueueManager and select View Imaged (either from the toolbar or right click). This will open the files in the SoftProof tool.

Depending on the version of software you have it will either open both the files in the same SoftProof window under separate tabs, or open two SoftProof windows.

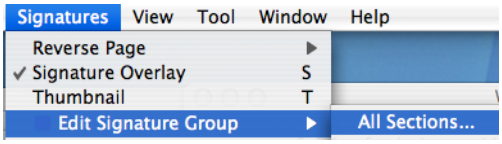
When the jobs have loaded, make sure that you can see the whole job. You may have to zoom out. From the Signature Menu select Signature Overlay (or press S). This will overlay the signature that is assigned to the job you are currently viewing.

For our example you will see that the signature overlay is in a different orientation to the job.



This is a common problem. The Job is RIPed in the correct orientation for the output device i.e. an imagesetter or platesetter but this is a different orientation for the Signature. There are two ways that you can correct this. One is to rotate the job to match the signature and then submit the job again from the SoftProof application. While this works it would probably require this be done for every job. The best method is to rotate the signature. If you look at the other page you will see that it too is in the wrong orientation. So all signatures need to be rotated.

You can edit the signature from within the SoftProof so that you can see the changes. From the Signature Menu item select Edit Signature Group > All Sections.

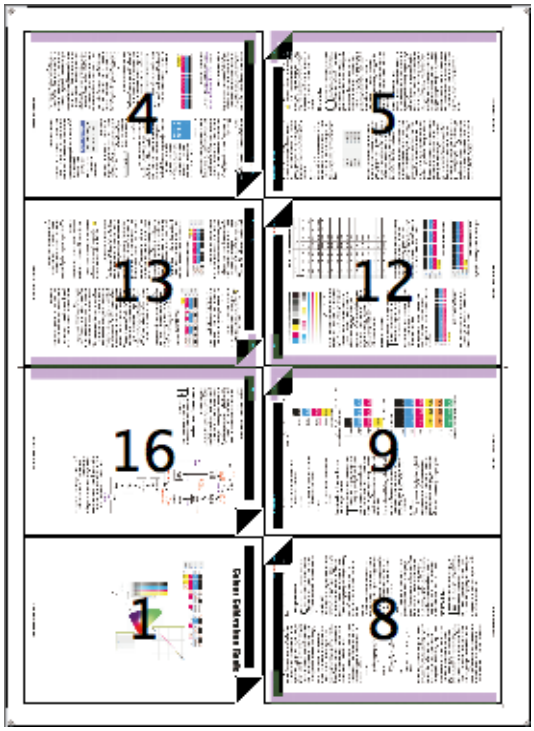


This will display the Signature Group edit window for the group “Deimposition Tutorial 1”. Here you can adjust the signature and apply the changes and see them directly in the SoftProof window.

1. Select both signatures in the list.
2. Click 90° Clockwise

3. Select each signature in turn and check they are rotated.
4. Click Apply to save the changes. (OK this will apply and close the window).

Click back to the SoftProof and check to see that the change has applied and now looks correct.



5. Click OK to close the window.

Close the SoftProof window(s) and release the jobs held in the queue so that they can pass through the rendering queue.

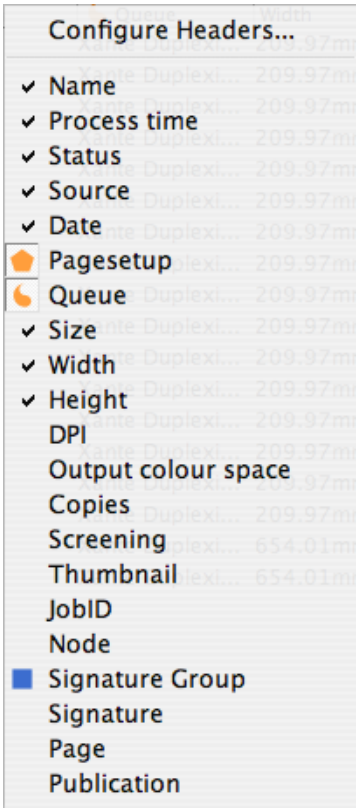
The Rendering Process

The rendering phase has two stages. First the complete job (each 8 page imposition) is rendered. The last part of this process is to split the job into the pages according to the signature and pass them into the rendering queue. The second stage is the rendering of the individual pages into the output format.

Once the rendering of all the pages is complete, run a QueueManager and view the “Xante Duplexing” queue. Because of the way we configured the output in terms of the “Collating” section, you will see that the single pages are in a state of “Waiting to duplex”. The full 8up imposed jobs are “done”.

You can view the job info about these (double click a job) and see their previews. You will notice that the imposed pages (8ups) do not have a rendered preview only an imaged because the rendered section of these are the individual deimposed pages. These imposed pages can be viewed (Imaged Preview) in the SoftProof as we did earlier. You can make further adjustments to the signature and render the files again.

The other important sections in the QueueManager is the signature and publication information. Right click the mouse on the column headers to display the header option.



You will see at the bottom there are four options which are important to signatures.

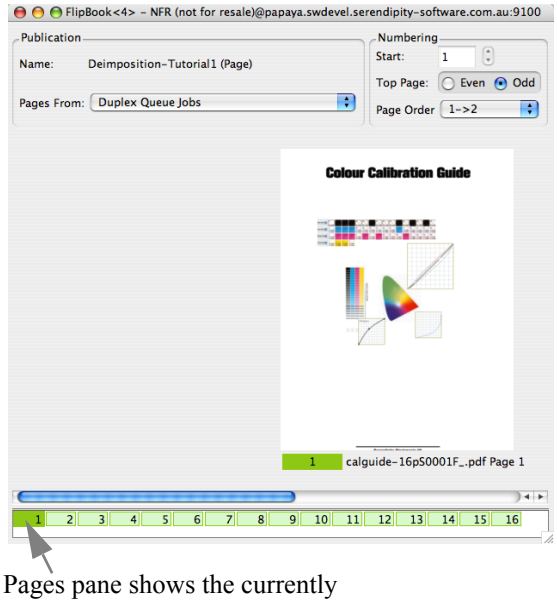
You can turn any of these on to get the relevant information for each job. If you turn on the Page and Publication options you will see that the each of the deimposed pages have a page number. The page number has been extracted from the imposition signature and applied to the page in the job. The Publication name is the name we gave it in the final stage of Submitting for deimposition. This is useful when you have a number of publications that are in production. You select all the jobs in any given publication by right clicking (or from the Toolbar menu) and choosing “Select Publication”

Viewing and Exporting

Once the jobs have been deimposed and are in a “Waiting to duplex” mode you can then view the completed publication and export it in various formats.

FlipBook

The FlipBook is a viewing tool that assembles the pages into a virtual book based on the page numbers extracted from the signature. Select one of the pages in the publication, right click (or choose toolbar option) and choose “View FlipBook”.



Pages pane shows the currently selected page from the publication

When you first open the FlipBook it launches in 2D mode (otherwise it remembers the previously used mode). The Page pane at the bottom shows the pages that make up the publication. These are shown as green if all the pages are present. Dark green indicates the currently selected page(s). You can navigate through the publication by clicking on any of the pages. You can also use the space bar, arrow keys, scroll bar, mouse wheel or clicking on the page image. See the FlipBook for more info.

Exporting as PDF

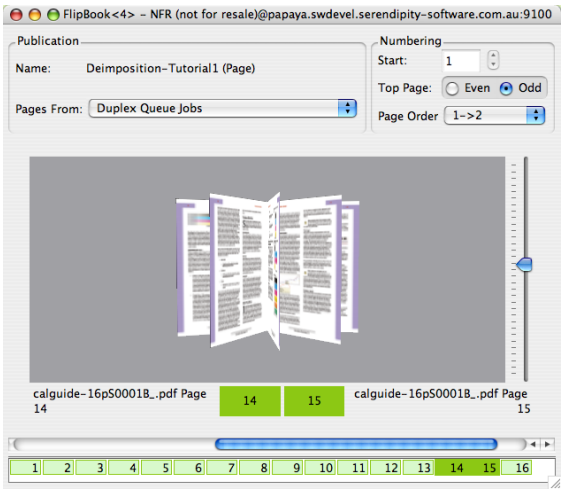
With the publication loaded as a book you can export the publication as a whole. This allows you to view the book in a PDF reader and makes it easily transportable. There are two options when exporting as a PDF. First is to export as single pages i.e. each output PDF page is one page from the publication. The second option is to “Export as spreads”. This outputs a single PDF page for every 2 adjoining pages from the publication i.e. a spread. For each option you can choose either the whole publication or a page range and are asked to choose resolution, compression type and filename.

Export as movie

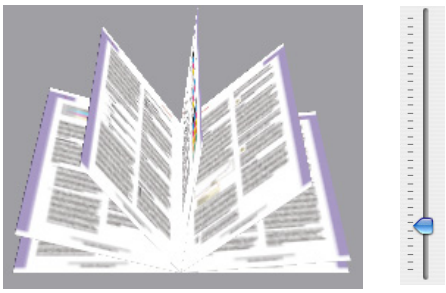
A further option allows you to export the publication as a QuickTime movie. For this you need to be in 3D

mode. This is a virtual FlipBook with animation of the pages turning as you flip through the publication.

Select “View 3D” from the menu (or right click) to change the book into 3D mode.



This has all the same functionality as the 2D mode but displays the book in 3D. You can flip through the pages and same and see the pages turn. Use the slider to orientate the book in the desired view.



Move the slider to change Orientation

Now you are in 3D mode you can select Export as movie (QuickTime). You have options to choose the format the video is encoded in and level of compressions for them. To control the speed of the pages as they turn you need to change the Flip Time under the View Preferences. Size the window to a reasonable viewing size prior to exporting as this produces better output when viewing.

For more information on the FlipBook see the relevant section of the User Guide. There are some other useful tools which we will use later in the tutorial. But for now we are finished with the FlipBook so you can close it.

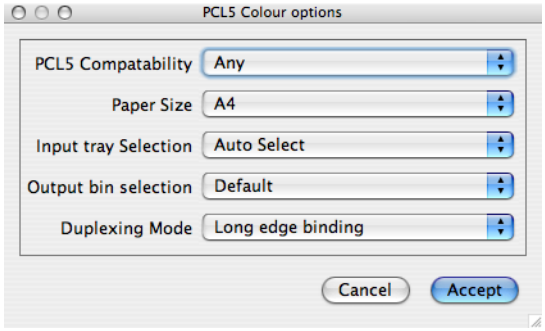
Printing the job

The next stage is to print the job to the printer. Currently the jobs are held in the print queue in a “Waiting to duplex” state. This was because the criteria that we specified for the output under the Collating section was such that the manual duplexing of the jobs would be required. Later we will see how to set the output to automatically duplex the job when pages are ready.

Duplexing a job manually occurs on a publication basis. You select one page from a publication and press the “Duplex now” button and all pages from that publication that are in a “Waiting to duplex” mode will be duplexed. At this stage we are unsure if we have the printer setup in the correct duplexing mode. So we will only duplex a few pages as a test.

From our publication of 16 pages we will duplex the first four pages only. Select the QueueManager that is looking at the Xante printer and make sure that the column header titled Page is turned on. (Right click in the headers and select page from the list). Locate the page column and click on the header to order the job in page order starting at 1 and descending to 16. Select pages 5 - 16, right click and select Hold. This will prevent these pages from duplexing. Then select one of the first 4 pages, right click and select “Duplex now”. This will duplex the first 4 pages and prepare it for printing. If you double click on the print job you will see the pages that make up the print job.

Printers will vary depending on the setup of the individual printer e.g. how the duplexing unit works, what trays you have and the paper loaded. Most common problems relate to the duplexing side and paper tray selection. This is all controlled in the Custom settings of the Pagesetup.



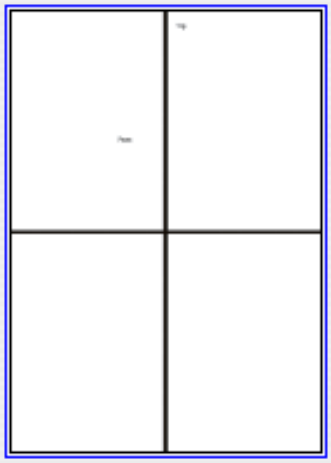
If the paper size is correctly configured then the input tray should automatically select the correct tray. Unless you have two different types of media loaded that are the same size, in which case you will need to explicitly set the input tray. The other common mistake to make is the type of binding used between short edge or long edge. The effect of choosing the wrong one is that turning the page in the book, the back side will be upside down. i.e it duplexed it on the

short edge of the page. For single page deimposition the correct one is usually the long edge binding.

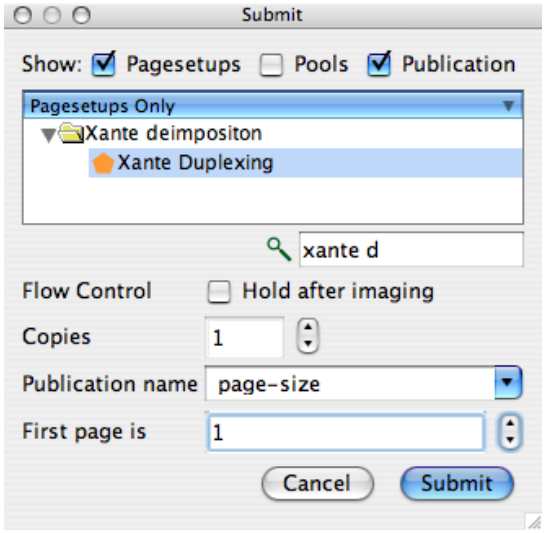
Once you have the pages duplexing correctly the only other thing to worry about is the page positioning. Different printers have different print margins. These will generally differ from left side to right side so we must accommodate these differences.

We do this by using the centering option in the sheet panel of the Pagesetup. But we cannot centre on the print page size e.g. A4 because this does not take into consideration the margins of the printer. Therefore we need to find the printable area. The easiest way to do this is create a job with the same pagesize of your duplex job. In this case it is an A4 job so we create a job 210mm x 297mm. Then draw a cross from edge to edge to go through the middle in both the horizontal and vertical direction. i.e. if this prints exactly centred then the crosses should be directly on top of each other when held up to the light.

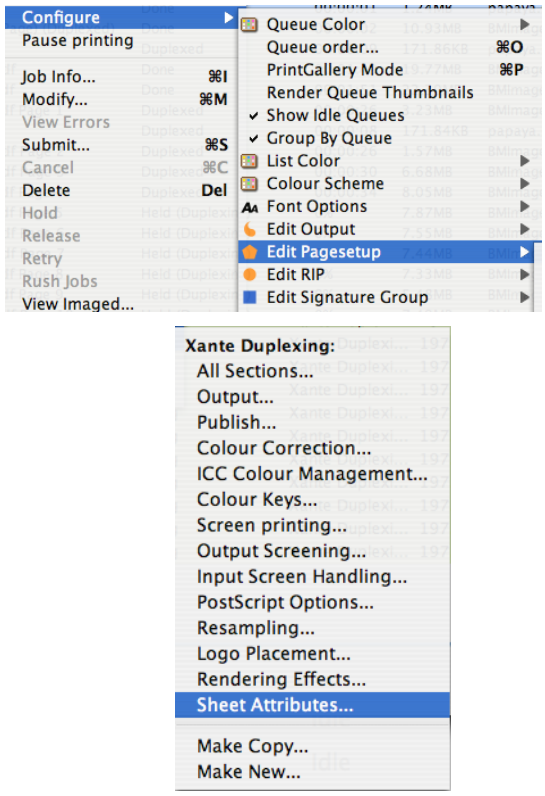
You can create your own or print the A4-cross.tif job in the Tutorial.



Print the job to the "Xante Duplexing" queue twice. The first time assign it a publication and enter a page number of 1.

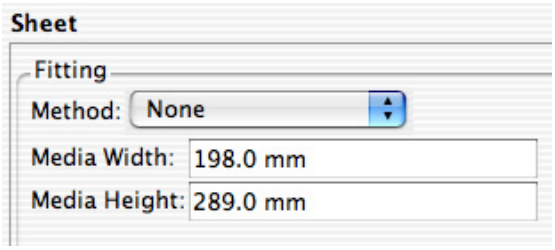


The second time select the same publication but give it a page number of 2. When the job passes to the printing queue it will also be in a "Waiting to duplex" mode. Select one of the pages and choose "Duplex now". When the job has printed measure the length of both lines. This indicates the printable area. Go to the Sheet panel in the Pagesetup and enter the width and height of the printable area. A quick way to do this is select one of the pages from the cross job, right click and choose Configure > Pagesetup > Sheet Attributes.

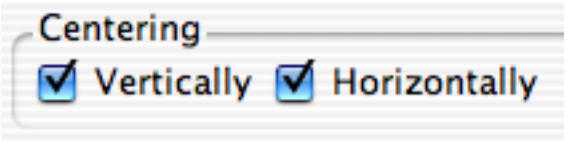


Right click on the job to Edit the Sheet Attributes for the job

Note: When you edit an attribute from within the QueueManager you are editing the Pagesetup that was used to process the job not an individual job ticket. All job processed there after will be affected by the change.



Then select the Centre Horizontally and Vertically check boxes.



Render both jobs again and duplex them to see the results.

Accuracy will depend on the printer itself and this may vary. There is no setting available to accommodate skew. This is purely down to the paper loading and feeding and problem may be a factor of the printer, paper or environment. If they are still slightly out then try increasing the dimension that is out by 1mm and re test.

Once you are happy with you have the positioning correct you can print the whole job. To do this you need to render all the pages again. First cancel the jobs currently waiting to duplex. Then select one of the pages from the job, right click and choose “Select Publication” from the menu. All pages from the publication will be selected as well as previously duplexed jobs i.e. the pages 1 - 4 we duplexed and printed earlier. Hold down the apple key (control key) and de-select these duplexed jobs (named Deimposition-Tutorial1) and then click on the Render again button (or right click and select Render again). All the pages will be moved to the render queue and processed with the new sheet attributes. Once completed they will again be in a “Waiting to duplex” state. Select one of the pages and choose “duplex now” from the contextual (right click) menu. Check that the job print correctly in page sequence order. You have now completed the first deimposed duplexed job. For the next Tutorial we will take the same job but print it on A3 sheets.

Paired Deimposition Output

The following tutorial will build on the previous tutorial using the knowledge gained and add some extra functionality. We will use the configurations created in the first tutorial so if you have jumped straight to this point but want to follow the tutorial you will need to go through the first section for the configuration or install them from the tutorial archive.

For saddle stitch and perfect bound jobs we can print paired pages and folded them. For the A4 job in Tutorial 1 this means printing on an A3 sheet and folding them in 16 page sections.

Output and Pagesetup

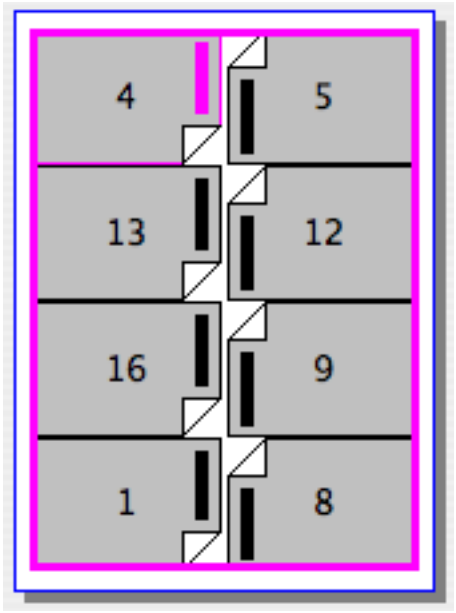
As before we will begin with the output and Pagesetup. Because the output configuration does not change we can use the same one created for the previous example and create a new Pagesetup to use it.

Go to the Workbench and select the Pagesetup we created in tutorial 1 and duplicate it. Change the name to Xante Duplexing A3 and make sure that it is pointing to the output to the “Xante Duplexing Out”. Change the paper size in Custom settings to A3 and then in the Sheet section set the media width and height back to 0 and un-check the centering options. Save the Pagesetup.

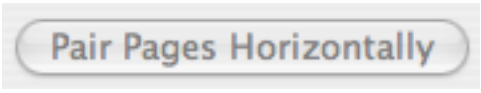
The Signature

In the Workbench select the Signature Group “Deimposition Tutorial 1”, duplicate it and change the name to “Deimposition Tutorial 2”. This signature has the correct orientation for the job because we edited the signature from within the SoftProof and saved the changes.

Select the first signatures from the group and select page 4.

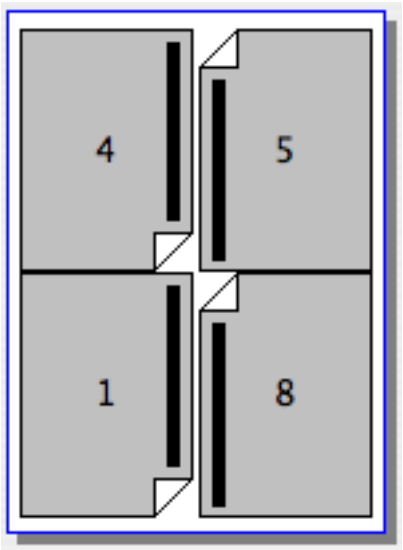


The first thing you will notice is the pink line around the whole signature and selected page. This means that the pages are all grouped together. For pages to be grouped certain criteria must be true. Most importantly they must be the same size and positionally in line with each other. Grouping is important because pages must group for pairing to occur. With the page still selected you will also notice the page pairing buttons.

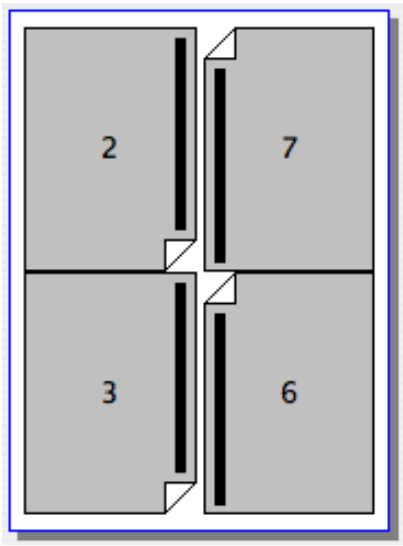


You will see that the Pair Pages Vertically button is available but the Horizontal button is not. This is due to the head direction being in opposite directions. Heads must be the same direction within a pair. Select a page from the other signature in the group and you will notice this is the same.

Our test job is a 16 page 8up A4 imposition. By pairing the pages within the Signature and forming one page from two we are changing the deimpose area of the job. With Page 4 selected in the first signature press the “Pair Pages Vertically” button.



The pages pair and take the lowest page number from the pair and assign it to the new page. Once we have paired the pages once there is nothing more to do with this signature. We then need to repeat the procedure for the other signature which will look like this.



With just two signatures it is fairly easy to select each one in turn and pair the pages. But when the publication consists of a large number of signatures then this can be quite time consuming. If all the signatures in the group obey the rules and the pages are part of a group then we know that they should all pair the same way. You can do this easily by selecting all the signatures in the group and then clicking the “Pair Pages Vertically” button. You can try this with these signatures. Either undo the changes or click on the Signature Group name (Deimposition Tutorial 2) again and this will load the previously saved version. Just click “Don’t Save” when prompted. Then select both signatures. The diagrams disappear but you can

see the pairing button is available. Once paired check each signature in turn and then save the group.

Submitting for deimposition

We are now ready to submit the jobs again.

1. Select the RIP "BMImage Local" from the RIP-Monitor to view your jobs again.
2. Select the same two pages and submit for deimposition.
3. Select the new Pagesetup "Xante Duplexing A3" and click Next

The job (in our example) is displayed with the first page as the Back sheet and the second page as the front sheet. This is the wrong way around so we will change them before we allocate the signature.

4. Select the job called calguide-16pS0001B and drag it to the bottom of the list. (If your's is already at the bottom of the list then you do not need to do anything).
5. Select both Signatures and click Signature Group.
6. Select "Deimposition Tutorial 2" from the group list and click OK.

You will see that there are only 8 pages in the publication this time but they should still all be green.

7. Check each signature in turn and ensure that the front job has pages 1, 4, 5, and 8 and the back job has pages 2, 3, 6 and 7. Click Next to continue.
8. Enter a Publication Name of Deimposition-Tutorial2. Make sure the "Hold after imaging" is selected and click finish.

The process is the same as for the first tutorial. The jobs are submitted for imaging with the respective signatures assigned. Once they have passed through the imaging queue they will be "Held Rendering" so that we can check the signatures are correct.

9. Select both the signatures in the queue and click "View imaged"
10. Zoom the pages to fit the window and press "S" to view the assigned signature.
11. Once you are happy with the jobs, release them to be rendered ready for duplexing.

In the print queue for the A3 output select pages 3-8 and hold them. Then duplex and output pages 1 and 2. (Make sure that you have some A3 paper in your printer).

Check the printed output. Depending on your printers duplexing module you may have the correct output. But for the Xante you will notice that the orientation is incorrect. This is easily fixed.

1. Select the one of the pages from the job you just printed e.g. page 1.
2. Right click and select Configure > Edit Pagesetup > Sheet Attributes.
3. Change the orientation to 90° and click OK. (OK will apply the change and close the window).

When you have the page dimensions set (which we will do next) you can actually set the rotation mode to Auto. If you like for now you can simply add default height and width settings and enter auto rotation.

4. Select both the jobs (page 1 and 2) click "render again".

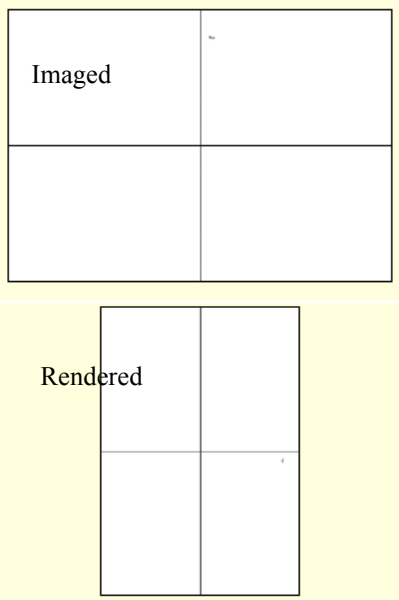
This will now rotate the pages during the rendering phase. Once rendering has finished, duplex the jobs and check the output. The pages should now be in the correct orientation. But you now may find that the back side is 180 degree to the front page. This is again caused by the duplexing mode (binding) which is set in the Pagesetup custom settings.

1. Choose the first page from the job again, right click and select Configure > Edit Pagesetup > Output.
2. Click Edit on the Custom settings and change the Duplexing mode to be Short edge binding.
3. Click accept and then OK to save the changes and dismiss the window.
4. Select both the pages again and render once more.

You should see the pages now back up correctly. The one thing left to do is check the centering for the A3 pages.

Again from the previous example we know that we need to find the printable area. This may be the same as it was for the A4 pages (the margins may be the same so you would subtract the margin value from the page size) it is still a good idea to check this. Create another job as before on an A3 sheet and draw lines across the middle. Duplex the job and measure the lines (you only need to print one side really as they are

generally the same and are only using the one Pagesetup for front and back sides) and enter the values for the page width and height. The important thing to remember this time is that we are rotating the page. Rotation occurs before centering so the width and height are transposed. Check the job info from the job the first time you printed it to get the page dimensions. These are printed in W x H order so you can use it as a guide.



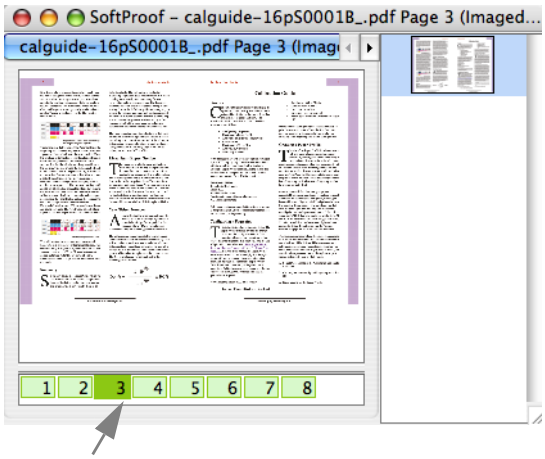
Page Dimensions	284.48mm x 411.99mm
	Width Height

Once you have job centred you can print the whole publication. You can either submit the job again for deimposition or you can select the pages in QueueManager and render them again. Remember that you can only re-render done jobs so any jobs "Waiting to duplex" need to be cancelled and then submitted for rendering again.

SoftProof features for Signatures

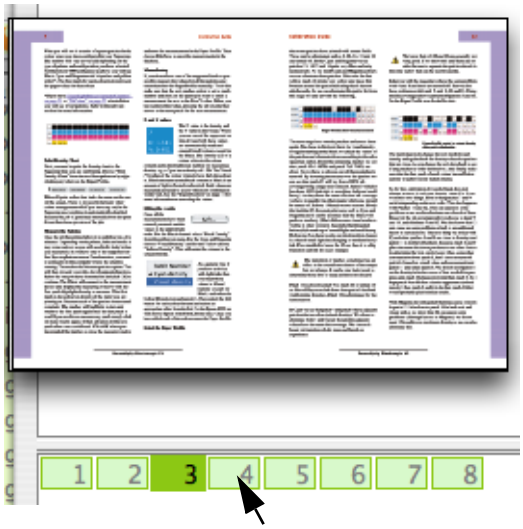
There are a couple of other features in the SoftProof tool that are available when viewing jobs with signatures that we have not looked at. For this we will use the A3 pages that we have just deimposed.

In the QueueManager choose one of the pages e.g. page 3 and select View Imaged. You will see once the page has loaded that there is also a pages pane at the bottom of the SoftProof window. You get this when you view a job that belongs to a publication.



Pages Pane

The pages pane works in the same way as it does for the FlipBook. Click on another page (light green) from the publication to load it in the SoftProof. Because you are viewing the Imaged Preview then all other pages you load will also be the Imaged Preview. To make selection of the pages easier we can turn on the Thumbnail preview. This is available from the Signatures menu or you can simply press the letter T in the SoftProof window. Now when you hover the mouse over a page in the pages pane you will see a thumbnail of the page you are currently over.



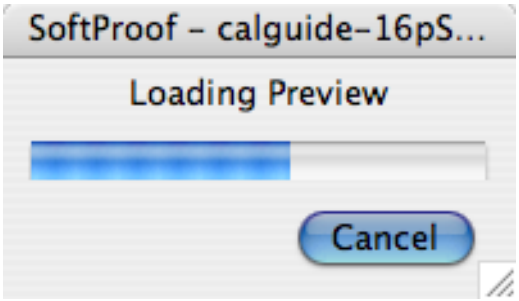
With the mouse pointer over page 4 the Thumbnail from page 4 is displayed above.

To turn the Thumbnail viewing off simply deselect the option in the menu or press T again.

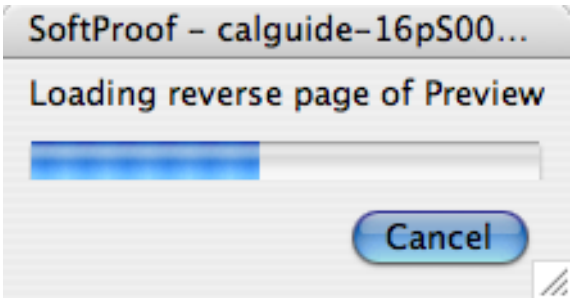
The other useful feature is "Reverse Page Viewing". This allows you load a page in the SoftProof and then see its revese or back side as a show through effect,

just as if you held the printed sheet up to the light. You can enable this by selecting the Signatures > Reverse Page > Show, or by pressing the letter B (Back) in the SoftProof. This will load the front page and then load the back page. The amount you show through is controlled by the Transparency setting. This can be changed very quickly so you can see the effect of different transparency settings.

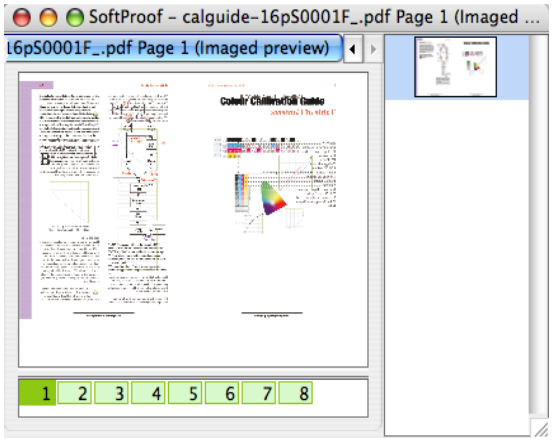
First, click on Page 1 load it and then press B to load the back (page 2).



Loads the front side

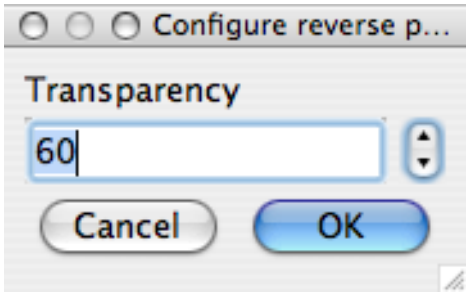


Loads the Back side



SoftProof window showing the reverse page loaded

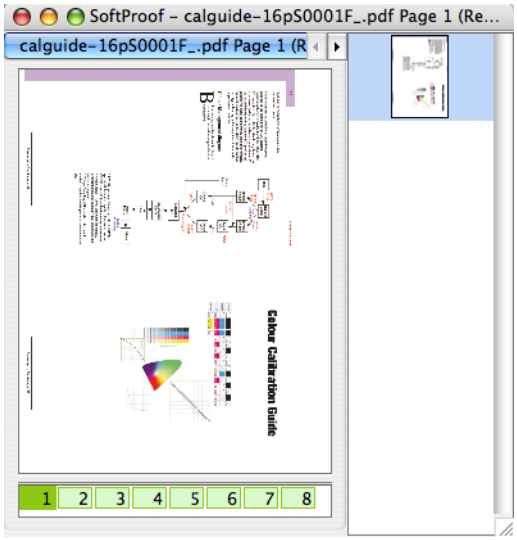
To change the Transparency level either select Signatures>Reverse Page>Transparency, or simply press O.



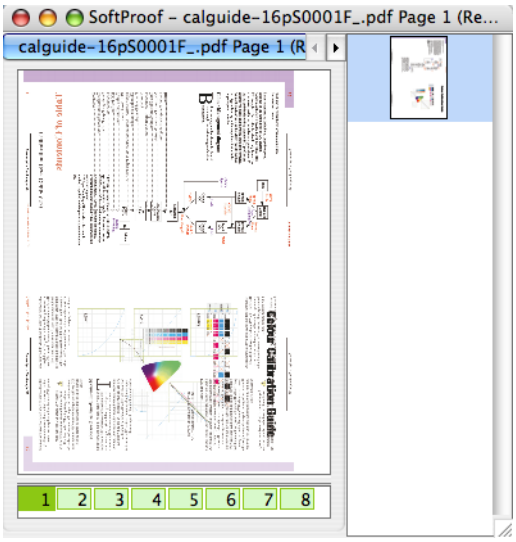
Change the transparency value and press OK to the change instantly in the currently loaded jobs.

There is one more setting to be aware of which is the effect of rotation in the job. Currently we are looking at the Imaged Preview that does not have any rotation applied to it. But for this job we had to rotate the output for the printer so the rendered job is different.

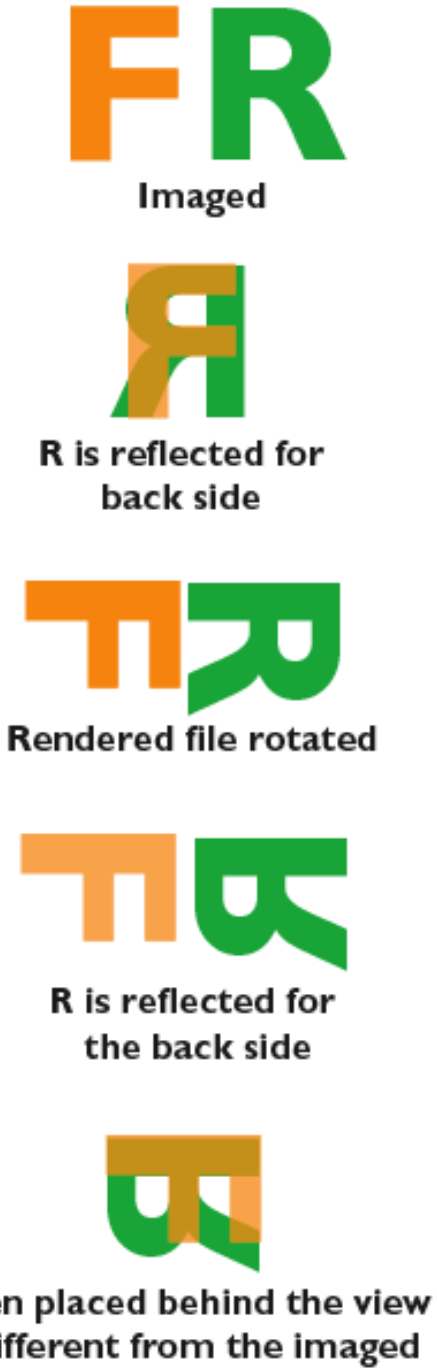
Reduce the size of the SoftProof window so that you can open another next to. Zoom out (press apple - or ctrl - key) so that you can still the page OK. Then select the same job (page 1) in the QueueManager again and select View Rendered.



Because of the rotation this loads in a different orientation. But now look what happens when we look at the reverse page. (Press B to load the back)



We can see that the rendered preview for the back looks different than the imaged preview for the back. One appears to have been spun a different way. In fact they have both been spun in the same direction but the SoftProof is currently not allowing for this. To compensate for the change in orientation you need to rotate the back page. Select Signatures>Reverse Page>Rotate 180 and this will change the back in to the correct orientation for viewing. The setting is remembered so viewing all subsequent rendered pages will be correct. But if you look at the Imaged preview then you will need to select No rotation from the menu. See the diagram below for an explanation why this occurs.



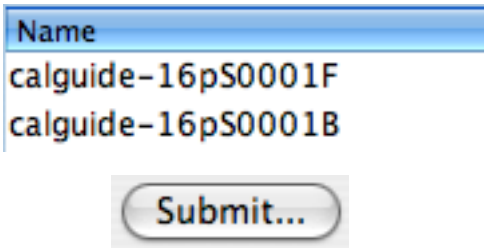
Creating a Folding Sheet - Tutorial 3

When using the deimposition feature the resultant output is a completed publication e.g. a book or magazine. To get to that stage we have imported the signature templates used to create the job and we have used the RIPed job as the incoming data. But some users still like to have the imposed sheet, backed up in their hands so that they can fold it themselves. This is

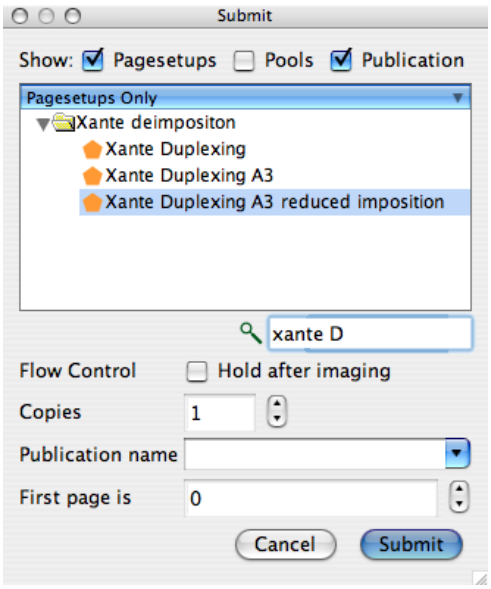
very easy to produce. For our next tutorial we will take the same job and signature and print them on the Xante in a reduced format.

First we need to create the Pagesetup to shrink the job. We have already created one for the A3 printer that is backed up nicely so we can use this one. Select it from the Workbench and duplicate. Change the name to Xante Duplexing A3 reduced imposition. Scroll to the Sheet section and change the fitting method to "Fit Width & Height". We already have the width and height settings from the previous configurations. This will now shrink the page proportionally to fit in the defined area. Then select rotation of None because the job is imaging in the correct output orientation so no need to rotate it. And finally we should still have the centering options enabled so that the pages back up correctly. When complete save the Pagesetup.

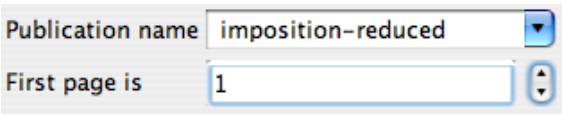
Now in the RIPMonitor, select the RIP list with our jobs in and make sure that the sort order has the front sheet above the Back sheet. Select both jobs and click "Submit".



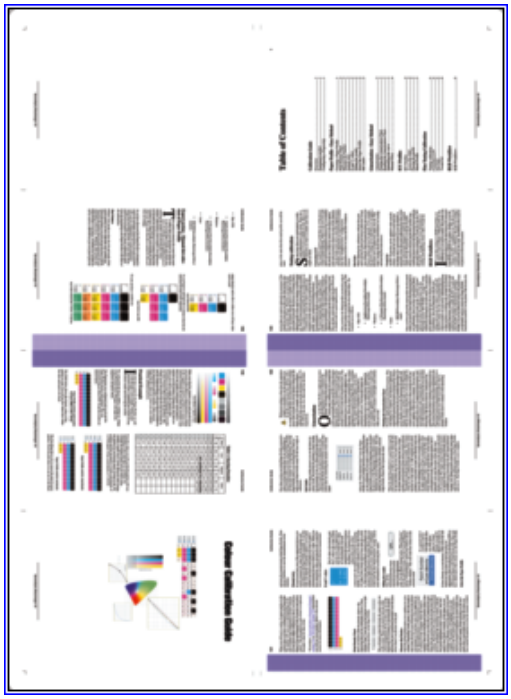
This will display the standard Submit window.



Make sure that the publication check box is ticked at the top of the window. This will show the publication drop down selector at the bottom. In this area enter a publication name of imposition-reduced and set the first page as 1.



Because we ensured we had the front sheet first in the list then this will be assigned the first page number which in this case is 1. All subsequent pages are numbered accordingly in order. Click Submit to finish and send the jobs for processing. The jobs will follow the same course as before only this time no deimposition takes place. They will fall through to the print queue and go into a "Waiting to duplex" state. Duplex the jobs and print them out to see the output. It should look something like this on an A3 sheet.

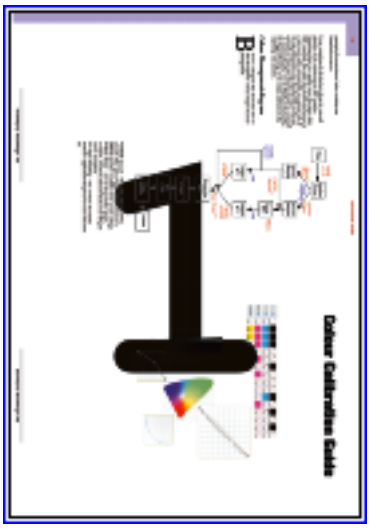


Because this is part of a publication you can open the image in the SoftProof and view the back page as a show through just as you can on a single page. You can also send this out to an A4 size sheet just as easily following the same principles. Make sure that you view the rendered output prior to duplexing and printing to make sure that you have the correct orientation. If you do not then you rotate the page and submit the job again.

If you do need to rotate the page then you will need to submit the job again from the RIPMonitor otherwise the size will be smaller. This is because the imaged file has already been reduced in a fit width and height so the rotated output will then be smaller.

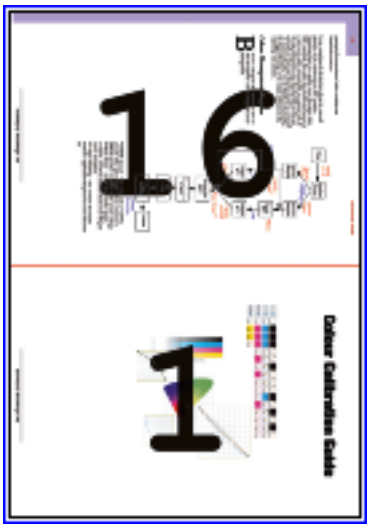
Rendering Effects

There are a couple of rendering effects that can be applied to the job which can be quite useful. The first is called Pagenumber. As the name suggests this adds a page number on the job. You can choose the scale factor and colour of the number as well as its properties i.e. merge (overprint) or knockout. Providing there is a page number assigned to the job then the effect will work. But this effect has limitations. Only one number is printed per print job so if you are pairing pages then the resultant page number for the pair is the number that is printed.



Here you can see that the two pages paired which resulted in page numbering of 1 and this was the number used to print.

The other rendering effect is called Signature decoration. And this has two parts to it. One is draw a line around the pages according to the applied signature. The other is to print the page number similar to the above. But this time the number printed is from the signature and not the page number assigned to the job. An example of the previous page is shown below with the signature decoration enabled.



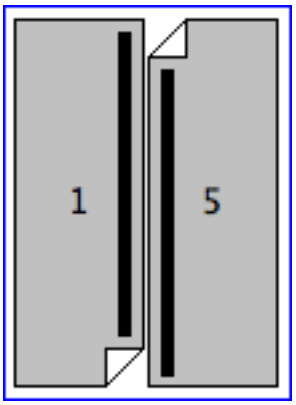
Here you can see the page numbers have come from the Signature. The page numbers are preserved despite being paired.

Tutorial 4

For the next tutorial we will create a reduced output of the 16 page imposition with page numbers and page lines printed on the output. The first place to start is with the Signature. When we printed the reduced size version of this job before we did not apply any signature to it as no deimposition was taking place and we were only shrinking it. However this time we need to apply a signature to the job so that we can extract the page sizes and numbers for the rendering effect.

Select the Signature Group in the Workbench and choose the group called Deimposition Tutorial 1. This was the original imported signature with only a rotation applied. Duplicate the group and call it Deimposition Tutorial 4. Currently the signature is set up for separate A4 pages. When we printed spreads on the A3 sheet we paired the pages making a single page from the two adjacent pages. This time we are printing the whole imposed page so we need to make the whole imposition signature as a single page. We do this by continually pairing until it becomes one.

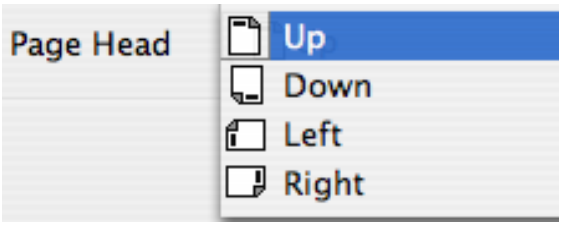
Select the two signatures in the group. The diagram should disappear and the pair buttons (Pair Pages and Pair Pages Vertically) should become available. Click on the “Pair Pages” button twice. (You can click on the Pair Pages Vertically as it has the same effect here). After this you will notice that the Pairing buttons are no longer available. Select the first signature in the group and you should see the following.



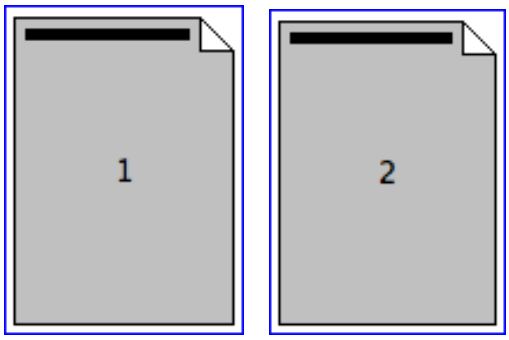
You cannot pair these pages any more because their heads are in opposing directions. Select both the signatures again and click on the Pages tab.

Then scroll to the bottom where you will see the Page Head button.

From the pull down menu select page head up. It may currently display up because this is the first item on the list it chooses by default. Simply select up again. The page head direction will affect the orientation of the imaged job. If we selected left or right then we need to rotate the job in the rendering stage and seeing as rotation adds processing time then this would be inefficient. We could use a Page head direction of down and although there is no rotation necessary for output there is some internal rotation taking place which also increases processing time, so the best orientation is up. If you find your printing direction is such that you have to add a rotation when the page head is up, then try a different head direction with no rotation in rendering. Finding the most efficient method will be a benefit and one that is unlikely to change.

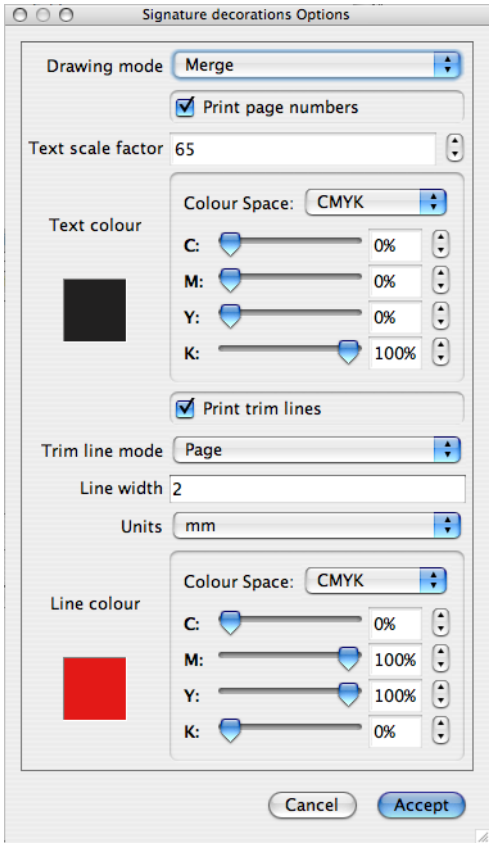


Now the page heads are all in the same direction you can select the Pair Pages again. Select the Signatures tab again and choose each signature in turn. You will see that they are now a single page numbered page 1 and 2.



Save the Signatures and select Pagesetup from the Workbench. Choose the previous Pagesetup called Xante Duplexing A3 reduced imposition and ensure that the rotation is set to “None”.

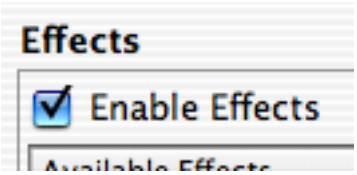
In the Effects section you will see on the left a list of available render effects. Find the effect called “Signature decoration” and double click it to move it to the right list (the applied effects). You can also click the “Add” button. Then select it on the right list and double click (or select edit) again to display the available configuration options.



In this option window there are two sections, each of which can be turned on or off. The first section covers the printing of the page numbers. You can choose

your colour, a scale factor (proportionate to the page area, so 100 is the full page area) and whether to merge or overprint the numbers. (In fact the Merge or Overprint applies to both sections, page numbers and lines).

The second section handles the trim lines. Again you can choose your own colour, the thickness of the lines and whether the should be applied to the page or the spreads. Applying to Spreads will place a line around the paired signature pages. So for this tutorial this would place a line around the whole job. Choosing Page places a line around the original individual page in the signature which means for this tutorial each of the 8 pages on each side will have a line around it where it will be trimmed. For our tutorial select Page for the Trim lines and leave the rest on default. Ensure that both sections are ticked and click Accept. Then make sure that the "Enable Effects" button is ticked and save the Pagesetup.



This is where the other rendering effect called Pagenumber is located. It has the same configuration attributes as the Page number in the Signature decoration effect. But the page number would only apply the paired signature page number which is this case would be 1 for the front and 2 for the back. See above for more information.

Find your RIPMonitor again and select the same jobs as before. Choose the submit for deimposition button, select the A3 reduced imposed Pagesetup and then select our new Signature Group "Deimposition Tutorial 4". Make sure that the front and back pages match signature 1 and 2 respectively, give it a publication name of imposition-reduced-with-pagenum (next screen) and then Finish. When the jobs have passed though to the output queue, check that they are correct, duplex them and check the printed output. It should look something like the picture below.

Creating PDF Configuration

If you don't have a printer to send jobs to then you can create a Pagesetup to output to a PDF which will allow you to experience all the functionality previously described apart from the actual printing of the jobs. You can still see the effects by viewing the rendered previews.

You start by creating a new Output and then a Pagesetup.

1. Select Output from the Workbench and create a new one called PDF.
2. Select PDF as the output driver.
3. Choose Local Folder as the destination and enter the path to a folder to store the PDF outputs.
4. In the Collating panel choose Duplexing.
5. Save your new Output.
6. Select Pagesetup from the Workbench and create a new one and call it PDF Deimposition.
7. Select the PDF Output and choose a resolution of 300dpi.
8. Select CMYK as the colour space and choose ZIP compression under custom settings.
9. Make sure that the Printer ICC selected is a CMYK one.
10. Save the Pagesetup.

This is all you have to do for a PDF configuration. All of the previous examples described will work in the same way with this configuration. There will obviously be no need to position the pages on the printed output.

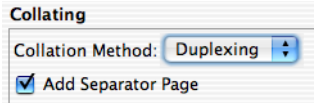
Adding Separator Page

When proofing a complete booklet or magazine as paired pages that is perfect bound it can be useful to find each section easily so that they can be folded ready for the final assembly. Each section is usually 8 or 16 pages and a book will contain a number of these sections which need to be folded.

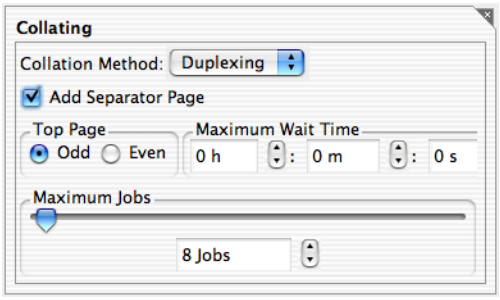
To help find the sections you can use the function called “Add Separator Page” under the duplexing section of the Output. To achieve this follow the steps below.

1. Select the output of your paired pages example above.

2. Select the “Add Separator Page” check box.



3. Enter the Maximum number of jobs that make a section. For example if your sections are 16 pages, then the number of jobs for a section would be 8 because they are paired.



4. Save the Output.

This means that for each group of 8 pages that are sent to the printer an additional blank page will be added at the end. You can then collect your job from the printer, locate each section, fold it and discard the blank separator page.