

## PROOFING

Proofing is the all-important process of checking the content and colour of your job before going to the press.

There are a number of proofing options available to you, for that all important check before going to the press. With the introduction of CTP however, digital proofing is by far the most cost effective and appropriate.

Proofs should be viewed as if they are the finished printed product. Once the job reaches the press and then mistakes are spotted the practice of correcting these can be an expensive process.

It is possible that files output through different computers can cause text to reflow, so its always worth checking for this also.

### **Digital Proofing**

Digital proofing is the process of proofing which is generated by computer rather a physical object such as film, plates or bromides.

### **Low Resolution Sherpa Proof**

An imposed, digital, wide format, 360dpi low resolution proof used for checking the content of a job. If there are no changes and the proof is signed off the data used to produce the proof is then imaged by the laser, with no re-rendering, to produce the 2400dpi high resolution plate.

Low-resolution proofs will give you an accurate indication of exactly what goes where but is not used to give an exact replication for colour, however colours will be run on the press to preset process standards as will PMS colour standards.

### **Hi Resolution Sherpa Proof**

This is a 720dpi, high resolution imposed digital proof and is great to use as a guide for colour and as an accurate indication of exactly what goes where. Although the colour in a high resolution proof is a far more accurate guide than that produced by a low resolution proof, if exact colour replication at the proofing stage is critical (such as for colour correction) then you may wish to consider a Hi Resolution Direct to Sherpa Proof.

If there are no changes and the proof is signed off the data used to produce the proof is then imaged by the laser, with no re-rendering, to produce the 2400dpi high resolution plate.

### **Hi Resolution Direct To Sherpa Proof**

We can also produce a 720dpi, high resolution imposed digital proof which is run through our ColourTune colour management software and gives a superb indication of what can be reproduced on our presses.

This process is excellent for scatter proofing images and high quality print jobs but is specifically for colour only, as with all current industry high resolution proofing devices a level of re-ripping is always required when outputting to plate. A 360dpi low resolution proof for content should be output also.

**Laser Proof**

A toner based digital proofing system, produced in A4 and A3 format. Suitable for checking file compatibility between your system and ours. If files are perceived as having potential problems, the first step is generally to produce lasers for client checking before imposing proofs for shepva output.

**Film Proofing**

Film proofing involves the process of creating proofs from the same film which is in turn used to create plates for offset printing. With the introduction of Computer To Plate (CTP) however, the requirement for film and therefore film proofing has become much of a process of the past. Film proofing has generally been replaced with digital proofing means, the fact that no film is required for digital proofing can effectively result in reduced proofing costs.

**Chromalin Proof**

A type of colour proof, produced from colour separated film, used to give an indication of how the full colour printed page will look for both colour and content.

Chromalins are capable of producing proofs in both process and special colours (PMS). As special colours for chromalin proofing are generated via a process of mixing powders to achieve the desired special colour, they are indicative only and are not an exact simulation.

With the introduction of CTP technology, chromalin proofs have been superseded by digital proofing processes.

**Dyeline**

A printer's photographic proof from film where all colours show as shades of a single colour on white paper. All authors corrections should have been made prior to seeing a dyeline. Also referred to as a copy art, blueline, or dylux.

The use of dyelines has been superseded by digital proofing processes.

**Colourart**

A colourart is a proof for process colours, using thin plastic films which replicate CMYK inks, produced from colour separated films, used to give an indication of how the full colour printed page will look for both colour and content.

Colourart proofs have generally been replaced with digital proofing processes.

**Scatter Proof from Film**

Proofs of illustrations where the subjects are arranged in a random order for accurate colour checking. The same process as that used for a chromalin or colourart is used to produce this proof.

With the introduction of CTP, a high resolution digital proof would generally be produced in the place of a scatter proof from film.

**Wet Proofing**

A press simulated proof produced from final plates, printed onto the intended stock to be used for the main production using inks and showing exact colour reproduction. This process will not however allow for all processes which occur during the main print production such as dot gain, paper stretch etc.