



WorkMates™

Digital workflow for commercial printers

Automation Without Complication

ECRM®
imaging systems

All prepress workflows

deal with the same basic processes: handling PDF files, preflight, imposition, proofing, and making plates. While today's powerful and very expensive digital workflow solutions might seem like the best way to automate repetitive tasks, those solutions can be very complex and are often overkill for many of the day-to-day jobs of small- to medium-sized commercial printers.

Driven primarily by cost, many of these printers have opted to create their own prepress workflows by knitting together various off-the-shelf software applications. Unfortunately, this results in islands of production that introduce new manual steps into what should be a seamless digital prepress process.

That's where we come in. ECRM's WorkMates is a digital prepress workflow that offers prepress automation without complication. WorkMates delivers all the basic prepress processes and streamlines your entire production workflow at a cost-effective price.

WorkMates is not a scaled-down version of an existing high-dollar solution. In fact, WorkMates was built from the ground up exclusively for small- to mid-sized commercial printers who want to save time, reduce errors, improve output quality and lower operating costs.

PDF File Management

Many of your customers provide a PDF file they have already created. In WorkMates, that PDF file gets dropped into a hot folder and automatically enters your workflow. Should your customer provide a PostScript or EPS file, simply take that file and drop it in a hot folder...WorkMates will generate a PDF automatically.

Automatic Preflighting spotlights errors in seconds

Not all PDF files are created equally. WorkMates analyzes every PDF file for potential errors in fonts, colors, image resolution and color space. The analysis is documented in a report—you'll know right away if you can proceed with proofing and plating. No more waiting for the proofing stage to catch file errors and troubleshoot.

Imposition is not optional, but the manual labor is

Every job that comes into your print shop needs to be configured to work on your presses. WorkMates lets you eliminate manual imposition and the extensive time it can consume. With automatic in-RIP imposition, an easy and intuitive wizard helps you create templates based on the presses in your shop. After passing the preflight stage, a job is automatically imposed based on the number of pages in the document and the size of your press. It's as close to hands-off prepress as you can get. WorkMates in-RIP imposition enables you to:

- Combine various PDF files into a single job
- Combine like spot colors to a single plate
- Create custom imposition to gang different jobs onto a single press sheet
- Impose complicated step-and-repeat jobs



PDF File Management

Drop your customer supplied PDF file into our hot-folder based workflow. Even if your customer provides an EPS or PostScript file WorkMates will generate the PDF automatically.

Preflighting

WorkMates analyzes every PDF file for potential errors in fonts, colors, image resolution and color space.

Imposition

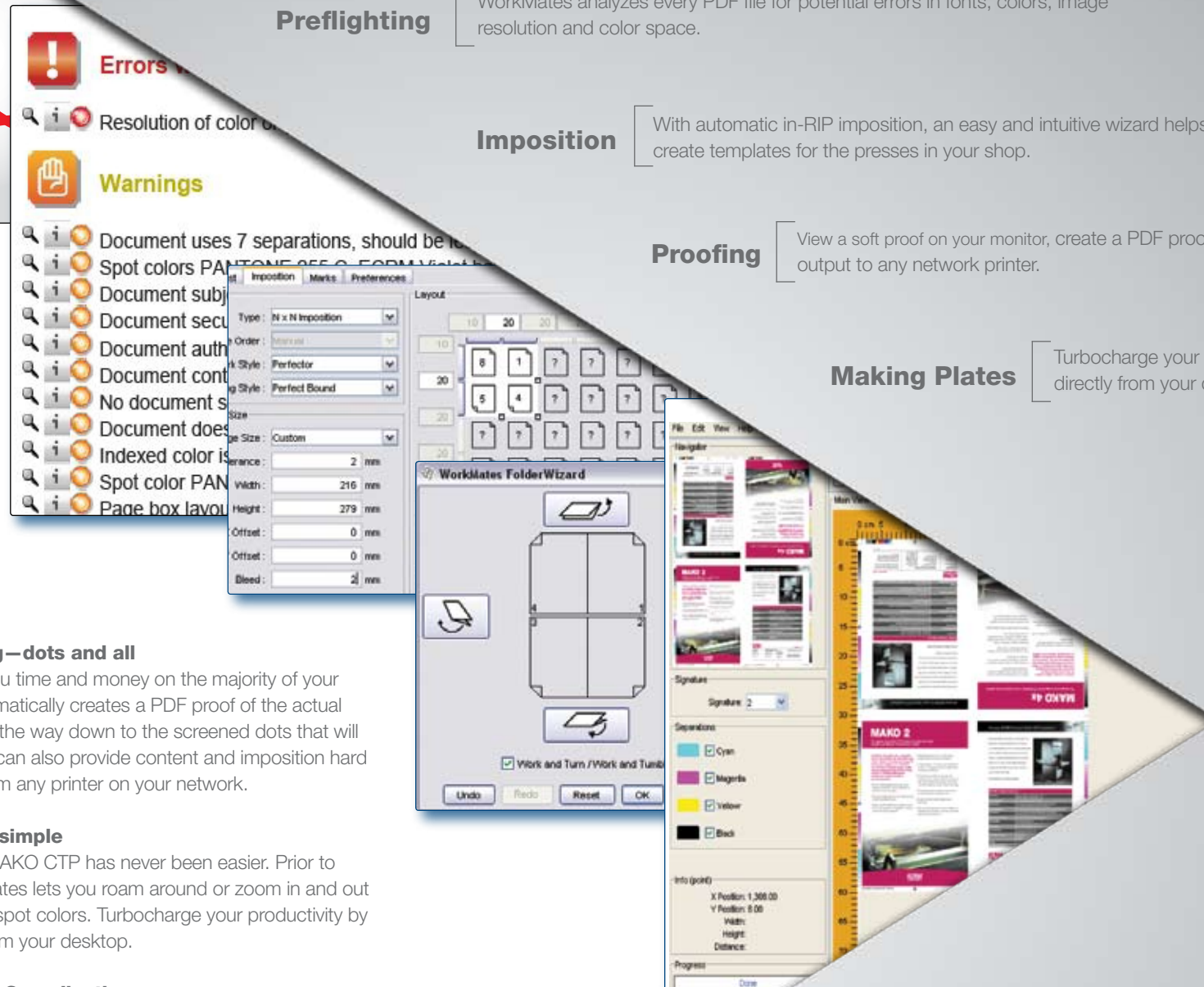
With automatic in-RIP imposition, an easy and intuitive wizard helps you create templates for the presses in your shop.

Proofing

View a soft proof on your monitor, create a PDF proof or output to any network printer.

Making Plates

Turbocharge your productivity by plating a job directly from your desktop.



WorkMates Proofing—dots and all

WorkMates will save you time and money on the majority of your proofing needs. It automatically creates a PDF proof of the actual job that was ripped, all the way down to the screened dots that will be plated. WorkMates can also provide content and imposition hard copy proofs printed from any printer on your network.

Plate Making made simple

Sending jobs to your MAKO CTP has never been easier. Prior to making plates, WorkMates lets you roam around or zoom in and out to check on traps and spot colors. Turbocharge your productivity by plating a job directly from your desktop.

Automation without Complication

WorkMates is the ideal digital prepress workflow for commercial printers. You will increase efficiency, accelerate productivity, improve output quality and reduce your business expense. Best of all, WorkMates gives your prepress "Automation without Complication".

To learn more or schedule a demonstration email us at workmates@ecrm.com.



WorkMates is a digital prepress workflow that delivers all the basic prepress processes and can scale as your business grows. Streamline your entire production workflow and get "Automation without Complication".

WorkMates™

WorkMates™ Modules

Powerful add-ons that can grow with your business

“WorkMates is far easier to use and far more reliable than anything we have used before. We now have a smoother workflow, with less mistakes. Of all the issues facing print buyers, it is inevitable that service becomes the one area that creates a lasting business relationship. And service simply means doing what you promised, with the least amount of hassle, no matter what it takes.”

GREGORY CATANESE, PRESTIGE ENVELOPE AND LITHOGRAPHIC

“With improved automation, we can also take on more complex and higher-margin jobs. It’s also easier to keep track of what’s going on (or going wrong) in the production process. Through WorkMates, Jaffa Printing has realized all these benefits and more. Workmates has been an excellent investment. It makes the whole system easier to manage.”

GREG JAFFA, JAFFA PRINTING

TrapMate

Trapping is a valuable timesaving tool for printers. As today’s competition grows, so does the pressure for cutting make-ready time on press. TrapMate uses object-based/vector-based rules to determine where traps are applied. This in-RIP trapping has full n-color support – both CMYK and spot colors and shaded fill support, and easily accommodates special inks. Trap sets are created in RIPMate’s TrapPro Management dialog where specified parameters are configured and saved in the RIP for reuse. The Highlight Trap feature allows for soft proof preview of trap placement, eliminating surprises on press.

CIPMate

One of the greatest timesaving features for offset printing is automatic ink control on press. To be highly productive and competitive, this ability is a must. By adding CIPMate to RIPMate, the printer saves make-ready time and ink. PPF files are created at the same time the plate is produced, eliminating the need to print the file twice. Simple set-up is handled through the Device Dialog.

ScreenMate

The ability to supply printed jobs with FM and hybrid screening gives print providers a strong competitive advantage. ScreenMate is based on Harlequin® HDS screening, offering increased sharpness over conventional screening methods. Additionally, HDS has corrected many of the deficiencies in other stochastic screening techniques to provide a robust and high quality screening solution for a wide variety of printing applications.

ProofMate: Canon, Epson, and HP

ProofMate supports a wide variety of proofing options, including the most popular ink-jet proofers from Epson and HP. Adding the ProofMate module to WorkMates closes your color proofing loop, as using the same RIP for proofing and making plates ensures data integrity. ProofMate includes Harlequin Error Diffusion

Screening designed specifically for inkjet devices, thus avoiding image artifacts in color proofs. ProofMate also comes with preset ICC color profiles, including calibration sets and full color profiles optimized for a variety of ink/media/resolution combinations, providing an excellent “out-of-the-box” color proofing tool.

ColorMate

ColorMate provides tools for color process control, delivering accurate, consistent and predictable color reproduction, and full support for industry-standard ICC profiles (including device ink profiles). By using in-RIP Color Management, decisions about color and output devices can be targeted (or re-targeted) to a particular printing process or proofer at the last moment without requiring any changes in the job itself.

ICCMate

ICCMate (SetGoldPro) is a wizard-based color utility tool that creates high quality gray balance or “Golden State” input, emulation, and output profiles optimized for RIPMate to satisfy today’s color-accurate proofing requirements. Color-accurate proofing is only possible if devices can be calibrated and profiles can be optimized for a given ink, substrate, screening and resolution combination. ICCMate draws from the latest Graphic Arts Community research to deliver solutions for color profile making, resulting in greater color accuracy.



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