

How to do Soft Proofing?

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Overview

- What is Soft Proofing?
- What is needed for Soft Proofing?
- Why monitor is important?
- How to choose a good monitor?



WHAT IS SOFT PROOFING?











What is the Advantage of Soft Proofing?

No Guesswork Anymore!

- You can get a good estimation of what will come out from the printer.
- Avoid unexpected result from mass production.
- Save time and consumables.
- Good solution for global collaboration.





WHAT IS NEEDED FOR SOFT PROOFING?



Checklist:

- **1.** Have an electronic version of the artwork ready.
- 2. Have a stable printer to print out the artwork.
- 3. Have the ICC profile for the correct printer, ink set, and paper combination.







Checklist:

- 4. Have a standard viewing condition ready.
 - Viewing booth with D50 is preferred.

5. Have a calibrated monitor ready.

Calibrated to the light source in the viewing booth.







Checklist:

- 6. Open soft proofing application with printer ICC profile applied.
 - Acrobat
 - Photoshop
 - Other soft proofing software



In Acrobat...

Color Print Test Image.pdf





Enabling Soft-proofing Feature

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1 / 1 I		Tools Sign Comment
	 Click on "Print Production". (If "Print Production" tab is not shown in the dialogue, then go to "View->Tools-> Print Production".) Select "Output Preview". 	Content Editing Pages Interactive Objects Forms Action Wizard Text Recognition Protection Protection Preflight Output Preview Edit Object Flattener Preview Convert Colors More Production More Production Set Page Boxes Add Printer Marks Fix Hairlines Ink Manager Trap Presets Acrobat Distiller



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Select Device to Simulate

Image: Create → Image: Create → <t< th=""><th></th><th>Customize -</th></t<>		Customize -
 Select the printer profile generated in previous section. Check "Simulate Overprinting". Check "Simulate Paper Color". The PDF file will be shown the soft-proofing result. 	Output Preview Simulate Simulate Overprinting Page has Overprint: No Simulate Paper Color Simulate Black Ink Ink Manager Show Show Show Show All Stow Show art, trim, & bleed boxes Set Page Boxes Preview: Separations Preview: Separations Process Plates Process Cyan Process Sugerta Process Plates Process States OK Total Area Coverage Sample Size: Point Sample Sample Size: Point Sample Page has Transparency Blending Color Space: None Transparency Blending Color Space: None	Content Editing Pages Interactive Objects Forms Action Wizard Text Recognition Protection Protection Print Production Convert Colors More Production Flattener Preview Flattener Preview Convert Colors More Production Set Page Boxes Add Printer Marks Fix Hairlines Add Printer Marks Fix Hairlines Add Printer Marks Acrobat Distiller



In Photoshop...





Enabling Soft-proofing Feature





Select Device to Simulate





WHY MONITOR IS IMPORTANT?

Color Management Workflow



Is There a Big Influence from Monitors?

- Yes! Because human relies heavily on eyes to judge colors.
- Monitors tend to be the most widely used display device to view images/colors.



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CONSORTIUM



Why do We Need an Accurate Monitor?





Expectations...



Why Colors are Different on Monitors?

 Colors appeared differently not only for human eyes, but also on monitors, printed papers, camera images, and all sort of imaging display / capture / reproduction systems.

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- Components affecting color for monitors:
 - Backlight

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- Color Filter
- LC Layer
- Glare type or Non-Glare
- Polarizer
- Mass production variation contributes the most variation in color performance. ^{Pola} axis





Global Collaboration





Standard Platform





How do We Achieve This?

CALIBRATION!



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What is Monitor Calibration?

• Monitor Calibration means:

- 1. To define a set of targets for the monitor to achieve.
- 2. To adjust the monitor to match the set targets.
- For example, we would like to match the images viewed under the viewing booth, then we need to:
 - 1. Know the color of the light (color temperature, luminance, etc.,..) from the viewing booth.
 - 5000K, 160 cd/m²
 - 2. Adjust the monitor to the specified color light.



What do We Need?





Before Calibration





After Calibration





HOW TO CHOOSE A GOOD MONITOR?



What Monitor to Look for?

• Color Management Monitor should be utilized where color

critical work is conducted.



What Monitor to Look for?

• Color Management Monitor:

- a monitor which is able to be calibrated accurately by instrument (measuring devices), and
- conforms to industrial standards so the monitor could be fit into the workflow easily.





What are We Looking for?





Must Have's...

1. Adobe RGB Color Gamut:



sRGB is a standard for monitors, digital camera, scanners. However, most monitors in the market today DOES NOT cover 100% sRGB.

Adobe RGB are designed to cover CMYK press colour gamut, and extending into green and cyan area. Best for press printing.



Must Have's...

2. Hardware Calibration Capability:

-Two types of calibration are available for displays:

- 1. S/W calibration is heavily depended on graphics card.
 - Using a high-end graphics card delivers good performance.
 - On-board graphics card delivers only mediocre performance.
 - Do NOT have consistent performance across different units.
- 2. H/W calibration performance is not limited by graphics card.
 - More parameters could be adjusted.
 - Finer adjustments could achieve more accurate result.





Must Have's...

3. Shading Hood:

Minimize the effect from ambient light which impacts the color reproduction.

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Conclusion

- Explained soft proofing scenario and advantages.
- Explained what is needed for soft proofing.
- Explained why monitors are important, and how to choose a good one.
- Now is the age for soft proofing!
 - —Technology is ready for soft proofing.
 - -Graphic Arts industry has gone global.

ICC is here to Help.



Thanks for your attention!

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