FirstPROOF

User Guide

v6.2

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Introduction

About FirstPROOF

FirstPROOF is a new generation ‘across the LAN’ **Post-RIP Pre-Press Soft-Proofing** solution designed to seamlessly integrate with modern production systems. Its easy to use interface, speed and accuracy have established it as one of the most indispensable tools in a modern reproduction environment.

Designed in co-operation with Print Shops and Trade Houses, FirstPROOF aims to deliver powerful functionality into the hands of the quality-conscious.

FirstPROOF is available in 3 versions:

- FirstPROOF Standard

  Supports PGB, TIFF, LEN and PDI based workflows.

- FirstPROOF Professional [Pro]

  All the features offered by the Standard version plus additional functionality.

- FirstPROOF Lite

  FirstPROOF Lite is a free reduced functionality version of FirstPROOF that becomes operational once the 28 day trial period has expired.

Some of the features covered in this guide are applicable only to FirstPROOF Professional, or available as Options. These will be indicated with a [Pro].

Conventions used in this reference manual

- Menu items and functions that you must select are indicated using Bold Italics, e.g. ***Tools*** menu or ***OK***.
- Instructions may be indicated by a numbered paragraph or a (•) bullet point.
- The 🕮 icon is used to identify important information.
- Screen Shots are always laid out with the Windows version preceding the Macintosh version.
- Mouse clicks always refer to the left button on a PC unless otherwise stated.

Differences between Mac and PC versions

While every effort has been made to keep the PC and Mac versions the same, there are some minor differences that cannot be avoided. The most noticeable differences are as follows:

- The PC version uses the ***Ctrl*** key for certain functions whereas the Mac version uses the ***Command*** (Apple) key.
- The PC version makes use of two mouse buttons whereas the Mac version does not (and all references to clicking a mouse button imply clicking the left mouse button unless otherwise indicated).

This manual will always explain the procedure for both platforms where they differ from the above.

🕮 While interfaces have been kept as similar as possible across the two platforms, Hamillroad has opted to follow the interface style of the platforms which will lead to some minor differences.

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Type of Files supported by FirstPROOF

FirstPROOF is compatible with most PGB, TIFF, LEN and PDI files. In addition, Other File Formats may be supported by particular OEMs.

PGB Files

PGB or Page Buffer files are a format that is unique to The Harlequin RIP from Global Graphics Software Ltd.

> 🕮 FirstPROOF's RIP Inputs will work with Harlequin RIP's version 3.2 onwards. The Hold Job functionality is only supported in RIP's versions 5.0 and later.

TIFF Files

TIFF files have become a standard format for the pre-press industry. Most of the modern workflows have the ability to create and process TIFF files and a number of CTP devices use TIFF as their standard file format.

> 🕮 JBIG, 2/4/16 bits and YCbCr/CIE-L*a*b* TIFFs are not supported at this time.

LEN Files

LEN files are a format that is unique to EskoArtwork RIPs.

PDI Files

PDI files are a format that is unique to Presstek DI RIPs.

Other File Formats

Other File Formats may be supported in versions supplied by certain OEMs. See any additional documentation for details.

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Installing and Activating FirstPROOF

Please refer to the document titled ‘Installation and Activation’ for detailed instructions on how to install and activate FirstPROOF.

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System Requirements

Operating system:

PC	Windows 7 / 8 / 8.1 / 10
Mac	OS X - 10.2 to 10.10

Hardware (recommended):

PC	Intel Core i3 / i5 / i7 2.5GHz Processor 1Gb RAM 20Gb free disk space CD-ROM Drive
Mac (Intel)	Intel Core i3 / i5 / i7 2.5GHz Processor 1Gb RAM 20Gb free disk space CD-ROM Drive

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Configuring FirstPROOF

Accounts

User Accounts

User accounts in FirstPROOF are closely tied to site accounts and are used to control the viewing and management of files within FirstPROOF.

FirstPROOF ships with a default 'Administrator' user account. This account can be modified but cannot be deleted.

If user access control is not required and an Administrator password is not set, FirstPROOF will not prompt the user to login at start-up.

Editing the 'Administrator' User Account

- Launch FirstPROOF.
- Select ***User Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.

- Select the ‘Administrator’ Account.
- Click the Edit Button or double click the Account Name.

- Enter a new Password.
- Re-enter the Password.

Click the ***OK*** button once you are happy with the settings, or ***Cancel*** to discard the changes.

Adding Users

- Select ***User Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.

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- Click the Add button.

- Enter a unique ***User Name***.
- Enter a ***Password***.
- Re-enter the ***Password***.
- Choose the ***Site*** that the user belongs to or create a new site (See Site Management later in this guide).
- Assign the ***User Privileges***:
  - Delete Jobs
  - Output Jobs
  - Admin

Click the ***OK*** button once you are happy with the settings, or Cancel to discard the changes.

In order to Modify, Merge, Crop, Rotate, Knockout or Clean separations the user will need to have ***Delete Jobs*** privileges.

Editing a User Account

- Select ***User Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the ***User Account*** you want to edit.
- Click the ***Edit*** button or double click on the ***User Account*** name.
- The ***Configure User*** screen will launch.
- You may now edit the information.

Click the ***OK*** button once you are happy with the settings, or ***Cancel*** to discard the changes.

Deleting a User Account

- Select ***User Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the ***User Account/s*** you want to delete.
- Click the ***Delete*** button.

Click the ***Yes*** button to confirm the deletion.

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Logging In

Once an Administrator password has been set, FirstPROOF will prompt for a user login instead of going straight to the main screen.

In order to login the user must click the ***Login*** button or choose ***Quit*** to close FirstPROOF. Once the user has clicked the ***Login*** button the ***Login Authentication*** screen will be displayed and the user will need to:

- Enter their ***User Name***.
- Enter their ***Password***.

- If the User Name and Password is correct, they will be taken to the Main Screen. If the User Name or Password is incorrect, the user will be notified and asked to try again.

- Once the user name and password have been entered correctly the user will be logged into FirstPROOF and taken to the Main Screen.

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Site Accounts

Site accounts in FirstPROOF are used to control the access to certain jobs offering protection for confidential jobs.

This is designed for sites that have multiple FirstPROOF terminals where clients may view jobs themselves, or sites running FirstPROOF over a remote terminal application.

> FirstPROOF ships with a default 'Local Installation' site account. This account can be modified but cannot be deleted.

Editing the 'Local Installation' Site Account

- Launch FirstPROOF.
- Select ***Site Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.

- Select the '***Local Installation' Account.***
- Click the ***Edit*** Button or double click on the ***Site Name***.

The user may now choose to enable password protection when:

- Jobs are ***Deleted***.
- Jobs are ***Output***.

It is also possible to restrict what jobs are available on a site by site basis. This is done by selecting an input source and choosing the type of access that is allowed.

Once an input has been selected from the list box; in the case of ***RIP Inputs*** a list of the available Page Setups for this RIP Input will be displayed and in the case of *TIFF and LEN Inputs (and Other File Formats)*, all the sub-directories in the ***Input Folde***r will be displayed. By selecting the corresponding check box, the system can be configured to allow the following access types for a particular Input:

- ***Allow Root Access***.
- ***All Page Setups (RIP) / All Sub-Folders (TIFF, LEN, PDI and Other File Formats).***
- ***Selected Page Setups / Selected Sub-Folders.***.

The list of Page Setups or Sub-Folders will only be updated when you do a refresh. For a RIP Input, the RIP must be idle with its inputs enabled for this to work.

Adding Sites

- Select ***Site Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.

- Click the ***Add*** button.

- Enter a unique ***Site Name***.
- Select the options that should be password protected.
- Configure the access rights for the available inputs.

Click the ***OK*** button once you are happy with the settings, or ***Cancel*** to discard the changes.

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Editing a Site Account

- Select ***Site Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the ***Site Account*** you want to edit.
- Click the ***Edit*** button or double click on the ***Site Account*** name.
- The ***Configure Site*** screen will launch.
- You may now edit the information.

Click the ***OK*** button once you are happy with the settings, or ***Cancel*** to discard the changes.

Deleting a Site Account

- Select ***Site Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the ***Site Account/s*** you wish to delete.
- Click the ***Delete*** button.

Click the ***Yes*** button to confirm the deletion.

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Inputs

Before you can start viewing data, you must set up connections to the ***Input Source*** that you want FirstPROOF to service.

> 🕮 Please refer to the document titled ‘Configuring Inputs’ for detailed instructions on how to create and maintain Inputs.

It is possible to view TIFF jobs in a folder by using the Open function instead of using an Input Source.

To do this:

- Select ***Open*** from the ***File*** menu.
- ***Browse*** until you find the folder that contains the TIFF job that you wish to view.
- Select a TIFF ***File Name Filter*** from the list of available filters.
- Click ***OK***.

The TIFF Open option will be shown in the Input List and the jobs in the folder will be shown in the Job List.

> 🕮 The Open function is a quick method for creating a TIFF Input but does not offer all the functionality that can be set when creating a normal TIFF Input. The Open TIFF Input will remain in the Input List until a new Open TIFF Input is created or FirstPROOF is restarted.

> 🕮 The Units of Measurement that will be used for reporting Job Information and the Measurement Tools are those set in the Configure FirstPROOF dialog (Units section).

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FirstPROOF

The Configuration Settings enable you to modify settings that are applicable to the whole application.

Modifying the Configuration Settings:

Click ***Configure FirstPROOF*** from the Tools menu.

These are divided into five sections:

System Settings

- ***Work Space*** sets where FirstPROOF will place all temporary files created during the processing of job zoom levels.
- ***Allocate for use*** field sets how much disk space FirstPROOF may use. This value should be at least 1Gb for small files but will need to be increased for larger files.

  Note that too large a value can cause slow start-up times.

Job Settings

- ***Alert when new Jobs*** checks for the arrival of new jobs when a Refresh is done. If a new job is encountered, FirstPROOF hilites it in the Job Name list by displaying the job name in **bold** and <u>underlined</u> - e.g. '**<u>NewJob'</u>**. Once the job has been selected (and so presumably checked), FirstPROOF then displays it as normal ('NewJob'). FirstPROOF also alerts the user in the standard way, so that if FirstPROOF is running in the background, the user is alerted to this situation.

- ***Ignore Output Jobs*** hides any jobs in the Job Name list that have been Output, therefore allowing the user to concentrate on those jobs which are still left to check and output. A job that gets Output, will initially be shown as such (marked with the usual icon) and will then be ignored (removed) on the next Refresh operation.

- ***Automatic Refresh*** allows FirstPROOF to automatically refresh the Job Name List at a user definable interval. Once this is enabled, it can be temporarily turned off using ***Ctrl / Command*** **+ K**,

and can then be temporarily enabled or disabled by further use of ***Ctrl / Command* + K**.

- ***Alert when old Jobs*** periodically checks that jobs in FirstPROOF have been dealt with and not forgotten about. When a job is found to be older than the specified amount of time, FirstPROOF hilites it in the Job Name list by displaying the job name in *italic* and <u>underlined</u> - e.g. '*<u>OldJob'</u>*. FirstPROOF also alerts the user in the standard way, so that if FirstPROOF is running in the background, the user is alerted to this.

- ***Disable Job Notes*** both hides the Job Notes at the bottom of the Control Box, and stops adding job log information to a job's 'notes file', thus stopping these files from being created.

- ***Down Sample when Idle*** allows FirstPROOF to process new jobs when the user is doing nothing and create specified zoom levels so that they are immediately available on View. The two options are:

  - Thumbnails.
    This produces the zoom levels required to generate the thumbnails for the Thumbnail Page View, but doesn't spend any extra time (or disk space) producing other zoom levels that might not be used (for example if the job is not viewed).

  - View Setting.
    This produces the zoom levels as per the Down Sample setting in the View section (if that is set to All factors, Screen resolution or Best Fit - if not it behaves as if it were set to Thumbnails). This means that all zoom levels are immediately available on viewing, as well as allowing FirstPROOF to generate the thumbnails required for the Thumbnail Page View.

If Down Sample when Idle is not selected, jobs are down sampled on first view, one separation at a time and this will be reflected in the navigator window. This also applies to the main view in the case where an unprocessed zoom level is selected (or if a previous zoom level is deleted).

View Settings

- ***Default View*** allows you to specify the zoom level of the image that will be displayed after selecting the View button. The options are:
  - Actual Pixels.
    Views the 100% zoom level; that is the actual bitmap data that will be output.
  - Best Fit (in view window).
    Views the zoom level that will fit best in the main view window; this may be slightly larger or slightly smaller than the window.
  - Custom.
    This option allows you to choose a specific level that will be initially viewed. This is most useful when outputting images of a certain fixed size.

- **Extended Views** increases the number of zoom levels that are available to give a more progressive zoom in / out. The increased number of zoom levels may take slightly longer to process, but the significantly smoother zooming is well worth it.

- **Down Sample** allows you to control FirstPROOF's down-sampling. The options are:

  - Screen resolution & below.
    Only the zoom level closest to the screen resolution and those below it will be down-sampled.

  - All factors to view.
    This option will process all the possible zoom levels from 100% to the level that best fits in screen (excluding 50% and 25%) when the View button is selected.

  - Best Fit (in view window).
    This option will only down-sample the zoom level that best fits into the View window.

  - Don't down sample.
    No down sampling will occur.

  - Custom.
    This option allows you to choose a specific level that will be down-sampled.

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Color Settings [Pro]

- ***Color Method*** allows you to choose which method FirstPROOF uses to mix & reproduce colors; the methods give increased color accuracy at the expense of increased computation time. The six options are:

  - CMYK (Faster).
    This is the default method. It provides the highest level of performance, but with no color matching whatsoever. The RGB view color for a separation is taken from the Color Manager.

  - CMYK (Better).
    This method mixes the separations being viewed at 100% and then down samples that, but with no color matching whatsoever. The result produces a consistent view color at different zoom levels for all high-density overprinted areas. The RGB view color for a separation is taken from the Color Manager.

  - CMYK (XYZ) - *not recommended*.
    This method mixes the separations being viewed at 100% and then down samples that, with color matching of individual separations. The result produces a consistent view color at

different zoom levels, with color accurate viewing of single-ink areas. The RGB view color for a separation is calculated using the Spectral Manager (together with the Standard Observer and Monitor Profile selected).

- CMYK (Spectral) - *not recommended*.
  This method mixes the separations being viewed at 100% and then down samples that, with color matching of the original 100% view and of individual separations. The result produces a consistent view color at different zoom levels, with color accurate viewing at 100% and single-ink areas. The RGB view color for a separation is calculated using the Spectral Manager (together with the Standard Observer and Monitor Profile selected).

- CIE (XYZ).
  This method mixes the separations being viewed at 100% and then down samples that, with color matching of all view levels. The result produces a consistent view color at different zoom levels, with color accurate viewing at all levels. The RGB view color for a separation is calculated using the Spectral Manager (together with the Standard Observer and Monitor Profile selected). Furthermore, since color accurate data is retained at all zoom levels, the Gamut Check Tool can be used to determine which colors being viewed are ‘out of gamut’ for the monitor.

- CIE (Lab) - *not recommended*.
  This method is the same as “CIE (XYZ)”, except that Lab data is used instead of XYZ. It was added more for experimentation and so should not be used.

- ***Monitor Profile*** allows you to select the ICC profile that you created for your monitor.

- ***Standard Observer*** determines which CIE Standard Observer function is used to convert color spectral data to CIE XYZ. The two options are:

  - CIE 1931 2°.
    Uses the CIE 1931 XYZ color matching functions, with a 2 degree field of view.

  - CIE 1964 10°.
    Uses the CIE 1964 XYZ color matching functions, with a 10 degree field of view.

  For further information on this visit www.cie.co.at.

- ***Rendering Intent*** determines which colorimetric method is used to convert out of gamut colors to those that can be viewed. The two options (which only differ in how they handle the white points) are:

  - Relative.
    Maps any out of gamut view colors to the boundary of the monitor color gamut, with those colors that are inside the monitor color gamut being precisely reproduced, but skews the view colors so that their white point aligns with that of the monitor.

  - Absolute.
    Maps any out of gamut view colors to the boundary of the monitor color gamut, with those colors that are inside the monitor color gamut being precisely reproduced, whilst preserving the white point of the view colors. This can sometimes result in color shifts (so is not often used).

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Unit Settings

- You may set the default Unit of Measurements that will be used when creating new Inputs (in the Input Manager) and when using the Open function.

  Used in reporting Job Information:

  - Page Dimension
  - Image Resolution

  Used in the Measurement Tools:

  - Screen Frequency Pro
  - Color / Density Pro

Using FirstPROOF

Screen Layout

PC

Mac

The Menu Bar

The Menu Bar contains menu items for almost all the operations in FirstPROOF. Most of the menu items have keyboard accelerators or shortcuts, which enable them to be used quickly. The following lists all the Menus and Options.

File Menu

Menu Item	Windows	Macintosh
Open	Ctrl + O	Command + O
Close	Ctrl + W	Command + W
Import » Pro		
Color Data		
Dot Gain Data		
Spectral Data		
Export » Pro		
Color Data		
Dot Gain Data		
Spectral Data		
Page Setup Pro		
Print Pro	Ctrl + P	Command + P
Print One Pro		
Print Best Pro		
Logout [user]		
Exit		

Edit Menu

Menu Item	Windows	Macintosh
Copy	Ctrl + C	Command + C

View Menu

Menu Item	Windows	Macintosh
Show Negative	Ctrl + S	Command + S
Trap Black	Ctrl + T	Command + T
Trap Color Pro	Ctrl + Shift + T	Command + Shift + T
View Black Pro	Ctrl + B	Command + B
Ink Limits Pro	Ctrl + L	Command + L
Dot Gain Pro	Ctrl + Shift + D	Command + Shift + D
Tone Curve Pro	Ctrl + Shift + E	Command + Shift + E
Gamut CheckPro	Ctrl + Shift + K	Command + Shift + K
Compare Seps Pro	Ctrl + Shift + P	Command + Shift + P
Hand Speed »		
Slow	Ctrl + 1	Command + 1
Medium	Ctrl + 2	Command + 2
Fast	Ctrl + 3	Command + 3
Dock Navigator	Ctrl + N	Command + N
View Magnifier	Ctrl + Shift + M	Command + Shift + M
Rulers	Ctrl + R	Command + R
Grid Lines	Ctrl + Shift + G	Command + Shift + G
Control Box	Ctrl + Shift + C	Command + Shift + C
Tool Bar	Ctrl + Shift + Q	Command + Shift + Q
Toolbars »		
Inputs		
View Tools		
Zoom Tools		
Rule Tools		
Page Tools		
Ink Tools		
Status Bar	Ctrl + Shift + Y	Command + Shift + Y
Full Screen	Ctrl + Shift + U	Command + Shift + U

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Options Menu

Menu Item	Windows	Macintosh
Actual Pixels	Ctrl + Shift + A	Command + Shift + A
Best Fit	Ctrl + Shift + B	Command + Shift + B
Zoom In	Ctrl + Shift + I	Command + Shift + I
Zoom Out	Ctrl + Shift + O	Command + Shift + O
Rotate Left	Ctrl + Shift + L	Command + Shift + L
Rotate Right	Ctrl + Shift + R	Command + Shift + R
Mirror Flip	Ctrl + Shift + F	Command + Shift + F
View Selection	Ctrl + Shift + S	Command + Shift + S
Duplex View Pro	Ctrl + Shift + X	Command + Shift + X
Cylinder Seam » Pro		
None	Ctrl + Shift + N	Command + Shift + N
Vertical	Ctrl + Shift + V	Command + Shift + V
Horizontal	Ctrl + Shift + H	Command + Shift + H
Proportional View		

Tools Menu

Menu Item	Windows	Macintosh
Input Manager	Ctrl + Alt + I	Command + Alt + I
Filter Manager	Ctrl + Alt + T	Command + Alt + T
Color Manager	Ctrl + Alt + C	Command + Alt + C
Site Manager	Ctrl + Alt + S	Command + Alt + S
User Manager	Ctrl + Alt + U	Command + Alt + U
Hold Manager	Ctrl + Alt + H	Command + Alt + H
View Tools »		
Hand Tool	Alt + Shift + H	Command + Ctrl + H
Selection Tool	Alt + Shift + N	Command + Ctrl + N
Measurement Tool Pro	Alt + Shift + T	Command + Ctrl + T
Measurement Tools » Pro		
Object Measurement Tool (1D)	Alt + Shift + 1	Command + Ctrl + 1
Object Measurement Tool (2D)	Alt + Shift + 2	Command + Ctrl + 2
Screen Measurement Tool	Alt + Shift + S	Command + Ctrl + S
Screen Measurement Tool (Auto)	Alt + Shift + A	Command + Ctrl + A
Color Measurement Tool	Alt + Shift + C	Command + Ctrl + C
Density Measurement Tool	Alt + Shift + D	Command + Ctrl + D
Barcode Measurement Tool	Alt + Shift + B	Command + Ctrl + B
Zoom In Tool	Alt + Shift + I	Command + Ctrl + I
Zoom Out Tool	Alt + Shift + O	Command + Ctrl + O
Zoom Area Tool	Alt + Shift + R	Command + Ctrl + R
Refresh Jobs »		
Incremental	Ctrl + I	Command + I
Full	Ctrl + J	Command + J
Automatic	Ctrl + K	Command + K
Find Job	Ctrl + F	Command + F
Find Job Again	Ctrl + G	Command + G
Output Mode »		
Direct Mode	Ctrl + D	Command + D
Held Mode	Ctrl + H	Command + H

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Map Pages	Ctrl + M	Command + M
Configure FirstPROOF	Ctrl + Alt + F	Command + Alt + F
Selection Manager	Ctrl + Alt + N	Command + Alt + N
Dot Gain Manager Pro	Ctrl + Alt + D	Command + Alt + D
Tone Curve Manager Pro	Ctrl + Alt + E	Command + Alt + E
Spectral Manager Pro	Ctrl + Alt + P	Command + Alt + P
Light Manager Pro	Ctrl + Alt + L	Command + Alt + L
Purge Workspace	Ctrl + Alt + W	Command + Alt + W

Security Menu

Menu Item

Register FirstPROOF

Activate FirstPROOF

Upgrade FirstPROOF

FirstPROOF Options

Product Key Details

Upgrade Key Details

Registration Details

Activation Key Details

The Toolbar

The Toolbar contains several toolbars of icons that mirror menu items of commonly used functions and add additional user functionality.

Toolbars may be moved anywhere in the Toolbar area, floated, or hidden (if not required).

The Toolbar may also be hidden, so as to increase the amount of space available for viewing. To hide or show the Toolbar, select ***Toolbar*** from the View menu or use the shortcut **Ctrl / Command + Shift + Q**.

The 'Inputs' Toolbar

Input Manager

Launches the Input Manager screen.

Refresh

Incremental Refresh

Updates the list of jobs for the Current Input.

Full Refresh

Reloads the list of jobs for the Current Input.

The 'View Tools' Toolbar

Hand Tool

Switches the cursor back to Hand Mode.

Selection Tool

Allows for the selection of areas of a page.

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View Selection

Switches the view to only show the selection area.

Measurement Tools Pro

Opens the Measurement Tools window.

Zoom Tool

Zoom In Tool

Switches to Zoom In Mode where the user can click multiple times to zoom in.

Zoom Out Tool

Switches to Zoom Out Mode where the user can click multiple times to zoom out.

Zoom Area Tool

Switches to Zoom Area Mode where the user can select an area to zoom to best fit in the main view.

The 'Zoom Tools' Toolbar

Actual Pixels

Displays the image on screen at a ratio of 1 image pixel to 1 screen pixel.[1]

Best Fit

Calculates the best Zoom Level to display the image in the View window.

[1] This is not necessarily the same size as the printed image.

Zoom Level Box

The Zoom Level box allows you to select a Zoom Level at which to display the image in the View window.

The and icons on the left and right of the Zoom Level box let you zoom in and out to the next Zoom Level without having to select an entry from the list.

Down sample All Remaining Levels

Processes all Zoom Levels that have not been processed.

Magnifier Window

Opens a floating magnifier window that enlarges the viewed image by 8x.

The 'Rule Tools' Toolbar

Rulers

Switches the Ruler display On and Off.

Grid Lines

Switches the Grid Lines On and Off.

The 'Page Tools' Toolbar

Paper Color

Allows you to change the color of the background to simulate a particular paper color. The 'F' in the icon also indicates the orientation of the displayed image. (Background paper color only works for CMYK Images.)

Rotate Left

Rotates the displayed image Left in 90° increments.

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Rotate Right

Rotates the displayed image Right in 90° increments.

Mirror Flip

Mirror Flips the displayed image.

Duplex View Pro

Views the Front Page together with the Back Page, the Back Page being Turned or Tumbled and shown transparently through the Paper.

Cylinder Seam Pro

None

Does not alter the displayed image in anyway.

Vertical

Displays two copies of the image side by side, to allow for checking of a vertical seam.

Horizontal

Displays two copies of the image one above the other, to allow for checking of a horizontal seam.

Compare Separations Pro

Switches the Compare Separations Tool On and Off.

The 'Ink Tools' Toolbar

Positive / Negative

Switches the image display to Negative or Positive.

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Color Manage Pro

Switches Color Management On and Off.

Gamut Check Pro

Allows you to see which colors being viewed are 'out of gamut' for your monitor and therefore can't be accurately color matched.

Only applicable when using the CIE (XYZ) or CIE (Lab) Color Method of Color Management; see the Configure FirstPROOF Color section for more details.

Trap Black

Switches black separations to 50% grey to assist with proofing black traps.

Trap Color Pro

Switches all color separations to 50% to assist with proofing traps (e.g. double yellow).

View Black Pro

Switches the view between Color and Black/White.

Ink Limits Pro

Switches the TAC & Min. Area (dot) warning On and Off.

Dot Gain Tool Pro

Switches the Dot Gain Tool On and Off.

Tone Curve Tool Pro

Switches the Tone Curve Tool On and Off.

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Floating Toolbars

Floating a Toolbar

Each toolbar may be individually floated or docked (the default). To float a toolbar, simply click on the drag area on the left of the toolbar and drag it anywhere on the screen.

Docking a Toolbar

To dock a (floating) toolbar (PC):

right click in the toolbar's title and select ***Dock,*** or

double click on the toolbar's title, or

drag the toolbar into the toolbar docking area.

To dock a floating toolbar (Mac):

ctrl-drag the toolbar into the toolbar docking area.

Hiding a Toolbar

To hide a toolbar (if docked):

select the toolbar in the View menu's Toolbars sub-menu.

To hide a toolbar (if floating):

close the toolbar window**,** or

select the toolbar in the View menu's Toolbars sub-menu.

Showing a Toolbar

To show a toolbar:

select the toolbar in the View menu's Toolbars sub-menu.

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View Window

The View window is the area in which the image data will be displayed.

Traffic Lights

The Traffic Lights at the top right of the view window are only present if Color Management is enabled. If the traffic light is green, then the viewed image data is color managed and color accurate. If the traffic light is flashing red, then the viewed data is not color managed.

The most likely reason for this is that FirstPROOF is still processing the color accurate reduced zoom levels of the image; as soon as the color accurate zoom level required is available, the main view will be immediately updated to display this and the flashing red traffic light will be changed to a green light.

Navigator Window

The function of the Navigator window is to provide a quick means of moving around large images. A reduced view of the full size image will be displayed in the Navigator window. A green block will indicate which area of the image is being displayed in the View window.

The Navigator window may either be docked alongside the Info and Notes windows (the default), or may be floated (as shown above).

See Using the Navigator under the ‘Roaming an Image’ section of this guide.

In the case of large images, it may take some time to process the Navigator image as this requires reading the whole image from disk.

Input Box

The Input box displays a list of the Input Sources serviced by FirstPROOF. If an Input becomes unavailable a red cross will appear next to the Input name.

PGB Input Sources are displayed as RIP Inputs.

TIFF Input Sources are displayed as TIFF Inputs.

LEN Input Sources are displayed as LEN Inputs.

PDI Input Sources are displayed as PDI Inputs.

Other Sources are displayed as appropriate.

Job Name Box

The Job Name box displays a list of jobs for a selected Input.

Page View Box

The Page View box displays the pages for a selected job. These can be shown either as a List view, or as a Thumbnail view.

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As a List

To change the Page View to display as a List, click on the Page View heading and select List.

When shown as a List, the separations for a given Page are shown as an expandable sub-list.

As Thumbnails

To change the Page View to display as Thumbnails, click on the Page View heading and select Thumbnails.

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Separation List Window

When the Page View displays Thumbnails, the separations for a given Page are shown in a separate floating Separation List window.

The Separations List window may be resized to show more separations if required.

The Separations List window may be hidden by closing the window. To view it again, double-click on any thumbnail page in the Page View.

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Info Box

The Info box shares real-estate with the Notes window and Navigator window (if docked) and displays the following information about the viewed job:

- Output Device Type - TIFF, Plate Setter, etc.
- X Resolution
- Y Resolution
- Image Width
- Image Height
- Image Area
- Raster Depth – 1 Bit, 8 Bit, etc.
- Interleaving Style
- Number of Channels
- File Size / Compression Type
- File Creation / Modification Date

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Notes Panel

The primary role of the notes panel is to be used as a scratch area in which notes associated with a job can be kept. It does also perform some logging functions.

To enter notes about a job:

- ***Unlock*** the ***Notes Panel*** by clicking on the ***Padlock***.
- Type in the required text.
- ***Lock*** the ***Notes Panel*** by clicking on the ***Padlock*** to commit the changes.

Whenever a job is ***Approved*** or ***Rejected***, or other actions are performed, the system automatically records these actions in the ***Notes Panel***. Notes are updated when:

- A refresh is done.
- The user changes jobs.
- The user unlocks the Notes Panel.

Notes are deleted when a job is output.

Notes can only be applied to jobs that are in Held, Rejected or Approved mode or jobs that are in an Input folder.

Status Bar

The status bar at the bottom of FirstPROOF is used to report both the status and progress of various operations in FirstPROOF. It is divided into three sections and operates in three modes; what is displayed depends on the mode.

Normal Mode

This is when FirstPROOF is waiting for you to do something, such as View a Job or perform an operation (such as Delete).

The left most section displays the status of AutoRefresh. This will be either “Off”, “On” or “Disabled”.

The middle section shows that FirstPROOF is ready for you to do something by displaying “Ready…”.

If FirstPROOF has been set to Down Sample If Idle, then to the left of this text is a ‘busy’ icon, which is displayed if FirstPROOF is actively down sampling a job.

View Mode

This is when FirstPROOF is viewing a job.

The left most section displays the status of AutoRefresh. This will be either “Off”, “On” or “Disabled”.

The middle section shows that FirstPROOF is ready for you to do something by displaying “Ready…”.

If FirstPROOF is down sampling, then a progress bar is drawn in the middle section so you can track progress.

If FirstPROOF has been set to Down Sample If Idle, then to the left of this text is a ‘busy’ icon, which is displayed if FirstPROOF is actively down sampling a job.

The right most section is then used to display the coordinates of the mouse position in the Main View.

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Operation Mode

This is when FirstPROOF is performing an operation of some sorts, such as a Refresh, Delete, Modify, Merge, etc…

The left most section displays a text message showing the operation that FirstPROOF is doing, such as “Refreshing Input…”.

If the operation is one that might take some time, then a progress bar is drawn in the middle section so you can track the progress being made.

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Hold Manager (RIP Inputs only)

FirstPROOF includes a Hold Manager that allows jobs to be redirected to Held Mode on an individual Page Setup basis instead of a globally for a particular RIP Input.

To configure the Hold functionality for a RIP Input:

- Select ***Hold Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.

- Choose the RIP Input that needs to be configured for holding jobs from the list of available RIP Inputs.
- Choose the option to hold:
  - All Page Setups
  - Selected Page Setups from the list.

Repeat this process for all RIP's that will be placed in held mode then click the *Close* button to save the configuration.

If the list of Page Setups has changed for a particular RIP Input then the user will need to click the ***Refresh*** button at the bottom of the ***Hold Manager*** screen. Connected RIP's must be idle with their inputs enabled for a refresh to occur. If FirstPROOF cannot connect to a RIP it will ask the user to Print the "HMR List Page Setups.ps" file on the RIP which will allow FirstPROOF to continue.

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Managing a RIP's Output Mode (RIP Inputs only)

Switching a RIP between Active and Held Mode

From the FirstPROOF ***Tools*** menu, select the ***Output Mode*** option. You will see two options:

- Direct Mode = ***Ctrl / Command + D***
- Held Mode = ***Ctrl / Command + H***

The mode that is currently selected will be indicated by a • mark next to the active option.

WARNING - changing the RIP's Output Mode will affect all users' jobs on that RIP.

The Status of a particular RIP Input will be displayed above the Input Sources.

- If the selected RIP Input is set to Direct Mode, RIP Input – Direct will be displayed.
- If the selected RIP Input is set to Held Mode, RIP Input – Held will be displayed.

When an RIP is changed from Held to Direct Mode, there may still be jobs in the Held Queue that have not yet been returned to the RIP for imaging. This is not a problem as FirstPROOF will display both the jobs in the Held Queue and the RIP's Page Buffers folder and indicate the status of these jobs. See the Job Status Indicators section later in this guide.

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Working with Jobs

Before you start it is important to understand how FirstPROOF organises data that it gets from an Input Source.

FirstPROOF makes working with images really easy in that it groups the images from a particular Input under the associated Job Name.

A job is further broken up into pages which are made up of individual separations or groups of separations.

Incorrect Separation Mapping

Although FirstPROOF normally does an accurate job of linking separations with pages, there are some cases when this is not possible due to a lack of, or bad information. To overcome this FirstPROOF includes a system whereby this mapping problem can be corrected.

Take the Following as an example:

A job displays in FirstPROOF with the Colors CMYK listed as 1 color per page e.g. Page 1 - C, Page 2 - M etc.

The mapping for this job should in fact be Page 1 - CMYK etc.

Automatic Separation Mapping

To correct the job mapping

- Select the ***Job*** from the Job Name List.
- Select ***Map Pages*** from the ***Tools Menu***.

FirstPROOF will search for a recurring pattern and arrange the separations into pages based on this pattern. In most cases this pattern mapping will be successful, but it will not work in the case where an extra color represents an individual page. To overcome this, FirstPROOF will prompt you to confirm whether nonrecurring colors should be treated as part of the recurring pattern or as individual pages.

Manual Separation Mapping

If the automatic separation mapping does not produce the right result, for example if a spot color ends up in the wrong page, then this can easily be corrected. Simply click on the separation and drag it from where it is to the right page.

Hiding Separations

Separations can also be hidden (if required). To hide a separation:

- right click or double click on the ***Separation Name*** (PC).
- ctrl click or double click on the ***Separation Name*** (Mac).
- Select ***Hide Color*** to hide the selected separation.
- Select ***Hide Selected Colors*** to hide all selected separations.

To re-load a Separation that has previously been hidden, a Full Refresh is required.

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Selecting a Job

- Select an Input Source from the Input Source box.
- The Job Name box will display a drop down list of the jobs for the selected Input.

Once you have selected a job from the Job Name box the Page List box will be populated with the pages of the job.

Sorting Jobs

FirstPROOF gives you the ability to order the job view by:

- Date
- Name
- Status

This is achieved by clicking the icon to the right of the ***Job Name*** box and selecting the desired Option.

Searching for Jobs

FirstPROOF allows you to search for the job by clicking on the ***Find Job*** icon to the right of the Input Source box, or by using the shortcut ***Ctrl / Command + F***.

Once the icon is clicked you will be asked to supply a ***Job Name*** to search for. Enter the name of the job that you are looking for (or part of it) and click ***OK*** to proceed with the search or ***Cancel*** to terminate the search.

If you select ***OK*** FirstPROOF will search all Input Sources for jobs matching the name you provided and display the first result by switching to the relevant Input Source with the job selected. To display the next search result, select ***Find Job Again*** from the Tools menu or use the shortcut ***Ctrl / Command + G***.

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Selecting and De-selecting Pages and Separations

Initially all of the pages in the Page List box will be collapsed but can be expanded individually to show the separations that comprise each page.

Separations can be selected or deselected as a page group, or as individual separations.

- To select all of the separations from a page, double click on the ***Page Number*** in the list.
- To deselect all the separations click on the ***Page Number*** in the list.
- To select an individual separation click on the ***Separation Name***.
- To select multiple separations click on a ***Separation Name***, then hold down the ***Shift*** or ***Ctrl / Command*** keys while clicking on the remaining Separations.
- To de-select separations hold down the ***Ctrl / Command*** key while clicking on the ***Separation Name***.
- To de-select all but one of the separations, hold down the ***Alt*** key and click on the ***Separation Name***.
- Once you have selected the separations, select the ***View*** button to process the Image View.

Pages can be opened / closed and all items selected / de-selected using the left / right arrow keys.

Single separation selections can be changed by use of the up / down arrows.

Multiple Job Selection

Select an ***Input Source*** from the Input Source Box.

- Select the Multi Selection Manager icon from the right of the Job Name box.

- The Job that was being viewed prior to entering the Multi Selection Manager is used as the master job and is displayed at the top of the Current jobs list.
- All of the jobs that are compatible with the master job, for the selected Input source, will be displayed in the Available jobs list on the left.
- You can now add and remove as many jobs as you want and once you have completed your selection, you can click OK to add the jobs to the page list.

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The other method for selecting multiple jobs is as follows:

Select an ***Input Source*** from the Input Source Box.

- The Job Name box will display a drop down list of the jobs for the selected Input.
- Select a job from the list.
- Hold the ***Ctrl / Command*** key down and click on the List box. The box will open and the first job selected will have a ° displayed to the left of the Job Name. You can now select a second job from the list.
- You can repeat the above as many times as is required.

Once you have selected all the required jobs from the Job Name box the Page View box will be populated with the pages that make up the job. Each selected job will appear as a set of pages in the list.

Only jobs that have the same attributes (resolution, page size, raster depth, etc…) can be selected together.

Modify Separations

FirstPROOF includes the ability to Modify the Job Name and/or Color of separations from jobs in the Held or Input Queues. To Modify one or more separations;

- Select any number of separations from the page list.
- Click ***Modify***.
- You will be shown the following screen:

- Click ***OK*** to modify the separations or ***Cancel*** to quit without modifying the separations.
- Once you click ***OK*** you will be given the option to:
  - Assign a new Job Name. In order to change this, you need to select all the separations in the job; otherwise the Job Name will be disabled.
  - Assign a new Color Name. This lets you correct colour names where an incorrect name has been assigned e.g. RIP displays Pantone 123 CV as Pantone 123 CVC. To change the name to Pantone 123 CV, just edit the Color Name.
  - Assign a new File Name on disk for the modified separation. In order to change this, you need to uncheck “Modify original files”.
  - Modify the original files.
  - Delete the original files.

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- You will then be asked for final confirmation.

If you select ***Modify***, then the Modify Separations dialog will appear once for each separation; you will therefore be able to change the Color Name and File Name for each separation.

If you select ***Modify All*** (only available if the 'Modify original files' is selected) then the Modify Separations dialog will only appear once; you will therefore be able to change the Job Name for each separation easily. In this case, the Color Name is always taken from each separation that is processed and not from the Modify Separations dialog.

If you do not select 'Modify original files', then you must enter a new file name for each separation.

📖 To Modify separations from different jobs, see the section in this guide titled "Multiple Job Selection".

📖 When Modifying separations for a TIFF or LEN Input the color name should be updated if it is used as part of the TIFF or LEN file name.

Merge Separations Pro

FirstPROOF Professional includes the ability to Merge separations from jobs in the Held or Input Queues.

To Merge two or more separations;

- Select a separation from the page list.
- Hold the ***Ctrl / Command*** key down and select, from the page list, the separation that you want to merge with the one already selected.
- Click ***Merge***.
- You will be shown the following screen:

- Click ***OK*** to merge the separations or ***Cancel*** to quit without merging the separations.
- Once you click ***OK*** you will be given the option to:
  - Select if the image is Positive or Negative.
  - Assign a new Color Name. This lets you correct colour names where an incorrect name has been assigned e.g. RIP displays Pantone 123 CV as Pantone 123 CVC. To change the name to Pantone 123 CV, just edit the Color Name.
  - Assign a new File Name on disk for the merged separation.
  - Delete the original files.

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- You will then be asked for final confirmation.

If you do not select ‘Delete original files’ then you must enter a new file name for the result of the merge.

To Merge separations from different jobs, see the section in this guide titled “Multiple Job Selection”.

When Merging separations for a TIFF or LEN Input the color name should be updated if it is used as part of the TIFF or LEN file name.

When you view your image the first time, if the image is visible without needing to switch it to negative, you are viewing a positive image and should choose the ***Positive*** option for Image Type. If when you view the image you need to switch to negative to view it correctly, you should choose the ***Negativ***e option for Image Type.

Crop Separations [Pro]

FirstPROOF Professional includes the ability to ***Crop Separations*** for jobs that are in the Held or Input Queues.

To Crop one or more separations;

- Select any number of separations from the page list.
- Click ***Crop***.
- You will be shown the following screen:

- Click ***OK*** to crop the separations or ***Cancel*** to quit without cropping the separations.
- Once you click ***OK*** you will be given the option to:
  - Select the area to crop to; instead of entering the exact crop area, an existing Selection (from the Selection Manger) can be selected from those selections which contain a single rectangle.
  - Assign a new File Name on disk for the cropped separation. In order to change this, you need to uncheck “Crop original files”.
  - Crop the original files.
  - Delete the original files.

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- You will then be asked for final confirmation.

If you select ***Crop***, then the Crop Separations dialog will appear once for each separation; you will therefore be able to change the Crop details and File Name for each separation.

If you select ***Crop All*** (only available if the 'Crop original files' is selected) then the Crop Separations dialog will only appear once.

If you do not select 'Crop original files', then you must enter a new file name for each separation.

To Crop separations from different jobs, see the section in this guide titled "Multiple Job Selection".

Rotate (and Mirror) Separations Pro

FirstPROOF Professional includes the ability to ***Rotate (and Mirror) Separations*** for jobs that are in the Held or Input Queues.

To Rotate (and Mirror) one or more separations;

- Select any number of separations from the page list.
- Click ***Rotate***.
- You will be shown the following screen:

- Click ***OK*** to rotate (and mirror) the separations or ***Cancel*** to quit without rotating (or mirroring) the separations.
- Once you click ***OK*** you will be given the option to:
  - Mirror the separation.
  - Rotate the separation by 0°, 90°, 180° or 270°.
  - Assign a new File Name on disk for the rotated separation. In order to change this, you need to uncheck “Rotate original files”.
  - Rotate the original files.
  - Delete the original files.

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- You will then be asked for final confirmation.

If you select ***Rotate***, then the Rotate Separations dialog will appear once for each separation; you will therefore be able to change the Mirror and Rotate angle and File Name for each separation.

If you select ***Rotate All*** (only available if the 'Rotate original files' is selected) then the Rotate Separations dialog will only appear once.

If you do not select 'Rotate original files', then you must enter a new file name for each separation.

To Rotate separations from different jobs, see the section in this guide titled "Multiple Job Selection".

Knockout Separations Pro

FirstPROOF Professional includes the ability to ***Knockout Separations*** for jobs that are in the Held or Input Queues.

This removes the dots from each separation from all subsequent separation(s), so that no overprinting of dots occurs. This is required for some dry offset printing methods.

To Knockout two or more separations;

- Select any number of separations from the page list.
- Click ***Knockout***.
- You will be shown the following screen:

- Click ***OK*** to knockout the separations or ***Cancel*** to quit without knocking out the separations.
- Once you click ***OK*** you will be given the option to:
  - Knockout the separations in top down order (that is starting with the top most separation selected in the separation list).
  - Assign a new File Name on disk for the knocked out separation. In order to change this, you need to uncheck “Knockout original files”.
  - Knockout the original files.
  - Delete the original files.

- You will then be asked for final confirmation.

If you select ***Knockout***, then the Knockout Separations dialog will appear once for each separation; you will therefore be able to change the File Name.

If you select ***Knockout All*** (only available if the 'Knockout original files' is selected) then the Rotate Separations dialog will only appear once.

If you do not select 'Knockout original files', then you must enter a new file name for each separation.

To Rotate separations from different jobs, see the section in this guide titled "Multiple Job Selection".

Clean Separations [Pro]

FirstPROOF Professional includes the ability to ***Clean Separations*** for jobs that are in the Held or Input Queues.

To Clean one or more separations;

- Select any number of separations from the page list.
- Click ***Clean***.
- You will be shown the following screen:

- Click ***OK*** to clean the separations or ***Cancel*** to quit without cleaning the separations.
- Once you click ***OK*** you will be given the option to:
  - Select if the image is Positive or Negative.
  - Clean (remove) either:
    - Isolated Single Pixels

    - Diagonal Single Pixels

  - Assign a new File Name on disk for the cleaned separation. In order to change this, you need to uncheck “Clean original files”.
  - Clean the original files.
  - Delete the original files.

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- You will then be asked for final confirmation.

If you select ***Clean***, then the Clean Separations dialog will appear once for each separation; you will therefore be able to change the Clean type and File Name for each separation.

If you select ***Clean All*** (only available if the 'Clean original files' is selected) then the Clean Separations dialog will only appear once.

If you do not select 'Clean original files', then you must enter a new file name for each separation.

You will then be asked for final confirmation.

To Clean separations from different jobs, see the section in this guide titled "Multiple Job Selection".

When you view your image the first time, if the image is visible without needing to switch it to negative, you are viewing a positive image and should choose the Positive option for Image Type. If when you view the image you need to switch to negative to view it correctly, you should choose the Negative option for Image Type.

Viewing an Image

Once the ***View*** button has been selected, FirstPROOF will begin processing the Image view. At the same time FirstPROOF will begin producing reduced zoom levels of the image in the background from which the Navigator view will be created. Although the Navigator Image may take some time to process you will still be able to roam around the image and click on the Navigator window. Zoom Levels are processed one separation at a time (unless composite images are being viewed).

As soon as one separation has a particular zoom level available, that zoom level will become selectable in the zoom level box and you will be able to change to that zoom level. Initially, that zoom level will be shown using just those separations for which that zoom level exists. As soon as the same zoom level for any other separations are produced, the main view will be immediately updated to include those additional separations.

If for whatever reason the data required for viewing is not available but will be shortly, for example if the Dot Gain Tool is enabled and FirstPROOF needs to produce a new down-sampled zoom level, then FirstPROOF will temporarily fill the main view with Orange. Once the required data is ready, it will be displayed.

If for whatever reason the data required for viewing is not available and never will be, for example the image source has been deleted by some other process, then FirstPROOF will display a warning and fill the main view with Red.

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Proportional View

Some images especially in the case of Inkjets have non square resolutions for example 1440 x 720 dpi. To display these images correctly on screen, select ***Proportional View*** from the ***Options*** menu.

When in Proportional View mode FirstPROOF will scale down the higher resolution to match the lower one.

This feature currently only works for integer ratios such as 720 x 360 dpi, so resolutions such as 720 x 300 dpi are not supported.

Roaming around an Image

Using the Scrollbars

Roaming with the Scrollbars can be achieved in three ways:

- Click on the ***Arrows*** at either end of the Scrollbar.
- Click anywhere on the ***Scrollbar***.
- Drag the Thumb-tab to any position on the Scrollbar.

Using the Hand Tool

To roam using the Hand Tool, click on an area of the image in the View window and drag the image while holding down the (left) mouse button.

The Hand Tool has three speed settings that can be selected from the Hand Speed option under the View menu. The options are:

- Slow = Ctrl / Command + 1
- Medium = Ctrl / Command + 2
- Fast = Ctrl / Command + 3

If the Hand Speed is set to Slow, you can change it temporarily on the fly by holding down the ***Ctrl / Command*** (Medium) or the ***Shift*** (Fast) key while dragging the image.

Double clicking on the ***View window*** with the hand tool will lock the hand tool to the selected portion of the image. To unlock the hand simply click again.

Using the Navigator Window

The Navigator window, unlike the other roam methods, is designed for moving quickly from one area of the image to another. To jump to an area of the image, just click on the area of the image in the Navigator window and the View window will be updated with the selected image data.

An additional method for moving quickly around involves moving the cursor over the green box in the Navigator window until you reach the centre of the red square. Once you reach the centre of the red square the cross hairs will change to a hand. You can then hold the (left) mouse button down and drag the green rectangle to move around the screen. The View window will be updated with the selected image data. Another option is to double click which will pickup the green rectangle and move it in the same manner as double clicking in the View window.

FirstPROOF also gives you the ability to select an area by clicking and dragging the (left) mouse while in the Navigator window which will zoom in to display the area that you selected using the closest zoom level available. The View window will be updated with the selected image data.

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The Navigator window is, by default, docked underneath the Page List box in an area that it shares with the Job Info box. The Navigator window may however be positioned anywhere that you choose.

There are a few ways in which to undock the Navigator window:

- Double click on the ***Navigator*** tab (PC Only).
- Drag the ***Navigator*** tab anywhere on the screen.
- Select ***Undock Navigator*** from the Tools menu or use ***Ctrl / Command*** + N.

The Navigator window may be docked using the following methods:

- Double click on the ***Navigator Window's*** title bar (PC only).
- Select the ***Navigator Window's Close*** icon.
- Select ***Dock Navigator*** from the Tools menu or use ***Ctrl / Command*** + N.

You can resize the Navigator Image up to a size of 512 x 512 pixels by dragging the sides or the corner of the Navigator window.

The navigator image can be copied to the clipboard by clicking on the navigator window and selecting ***Copy*** from the ***Edit*** menu.

Enlarging and Reducing the Image View

Once the ***View*** button is clicked FirstPROOF will begin creating reduced view images depending on the down-sampling option that you selected from the Configure FirstPROOF screen. The process of image reduction is resource intensive and may take some time for large files. By default, the zoom levels available will halve each time up to the point where the image will fit into the View window, e.g. 100%, 50%, 25%, 12.5% etc. If however the Extended Views option is set, then the zoom levels available are more progressive, e.g. 100%, 50.0%, 33.3%, 25.0%, 20.0%, 16.7%, 14.3%, 12.5%, etc...

Selecting a **Zoom Level** from the Zoom Level box will update the image view in the View window accordingly. Zoom Levels that have not been processed due to a choice of down-sampling method or are in the process of being down sampled will be displayed with a red cross next to them. Zoom levels where at least one separation is complete will be displayed with a blue cross.

Selecting one of these levels will start FirstPROOF processing it. All of the unprocessed levels can be processed by selecting the icon on the right of the Zoom Level box.

The reduced view images will be written to disk to eliminate the need for reprocessing unnecessarily. FirstPROOF stores (caches) the reduced view images in the area of the disk defined in the configuration screen. Once the total size of these files reaches the space set, the oldest files in the store (cache) will be deleted.

FirstPROOF incorporates zoom levels as well as reduced zoom levels. These are 200%, 400% and 800%. If however the Extended Views option is set, then these are extended to 200%, 300%, 400%, 600% and 800%.

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Zooming In and Out

Zooming In and Out can be achieved in three ways:

- Click either the button or the button, which switches FirstPROOF to Zoom Mode. Once the or buttons have been selected, click once to switch to the next zoom level or keep clicking to reach the desired zoom level. When in either or mode holding down the ***Ctrl / Command*** key while clicking will reverse the direction. To switch back to normal Hand Mode, click the button or press the ***Spacebar***.
- Click the button or the button on the ***Toolbar*** which will do a single Zoom In / Out.
- Click the zoom area button which allows for:
  - Instantaneous Zoom In by clicking.
  - Instantaneous Zoom Out by holding down the ***Ctrl / Command*** key while clicking.
  - Clicking and dragging over the area that must be enlarged to best fit the main view.

If you hold the (left) mouse button, and move while in Zoom Mode, FirstPROOF will temporarily switch to Hand Mode until you release the mouse button.

Magnifier Window

The role of the magnifier window is that it enlarges the on screen data by a factor of 8x allowing you to make very precise selections or adjustments, or clearly see the image.

Rotating and Mirroring the Viewed Image

FirstPROOF incorporates the ability to rotate viewed images left and right in 90° increments. This is achieved by selecting the icon to rotate the image left and the icon to rotate the image right.

The image can be mirror flipped by clicking the icon on the ***Toolbar***.

In FirstPROOF the orientation of the page is shown in the Paper Color icon; for example if you see a icon then the viewed image has been rotated 90 degrees right.

FirstPROOF will remember the last orientation used for a particular job and will also automatically apply the last orientation used to any new jobs that are viewed.

Setting the Background Paper Color

FirstPROOF incorporates the ability to set the background color of the main view.

This can be achieved in two ways:

- Click on the icon which will bring up a Color Picker from which you can select a color.
- Click on the drop-down menu (PC) / (Mac) to the right of the icon from which you can choose a color from the Color Manager.

FirstPROOF will remember the Page Color used for a particular job and will also automatically apply the last Page Color used to any new jobs that are viewed.

Switching Separations On or Off

FirstPROOF allows you to switch separations On or Off on the fly while viewing jobs. Separations can be turned On or Off without having to reselect the View button unless all of the separations are de-selected. To turn a separation On or Off, hold down the ***Ctrl / Command*** key and click on the Separation Name.

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Opaque Separations

FirstPROOF allows you to change a separation so that it is painted using opaque ink (instead of the normal transparent ink).

If the Page View is set to display Pages as Thumbnails:

- In the Separation List window, click on the Opaque checkbox for a separation.

If the Page View is set to display Pages as a List:

- Right click or double click on the ***Separation Name*** (PC).
- Ctrl click or double click on the ***Separation Name*** (Mac).
- Select ***Change Opaqueness*** to change the opaqueness from on to off or off to on.

When the Page View is set to display Pages as a List, the opaqueness of a separation is indicated by a '○' next to the Separation Name.

Color Management Pro

FirstPROOF includes an innovative method for producing color accurate soft-proofs of jobs that is simple, easy to use and fast. This is done through spectrally profiling a press by taking a small number of measurements from the color bars around the outside of a printed job. In addition, your monitor must be profiled (using any inexpensive device such as an Eye-One Display, Pantone Huey, etc…).

Viewing an Image

Once the ***View*** button has been clicked and FirstPROOF has produced all the normal (non color accurate) reduced zoom levels of the image, it will then also produce color accurate reduced zoom levels (in the background). Although these may take some time to process, you will still be able to roam around the image and zoom in and out as normal, albeit with a non color managed view.

As soon as the color managed zoom level is available, the main view will be immediately updated to display this.

Zooming In and Out

When zooming in and out, FirstPROOF will always try and display a color accurate view. If a color accurate view is not available, then FirstPROOF will display a non color accurate view and immediately start producing a color accurate reduced zoom level.

As soon as the color managed zoom level is available, the main view will be immediately updated to display this.

Spectral Set

To spectrally profile a press, a Spectral Set must be created for it. This consists of taking a spectral measurement of the paper, along with a spectral measurement of the100% patch for each color (separation).

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The spectral measurements are taken by using the controls in the Data section of the Spectral Manager.

To take spectral measurements:

- Take a print from a previous job that uses the same paper and inks.
- Open the ***Spectral Manager*** window from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the ***Spectral Set*** that you wish to modify.

- Select the ***Color Name*** that you wish to modify.
- If the padlock is locked, click on it to unlock it.
- Select the ***Measuring Device*** to use.
- Click on the measurement icon to take a measurement, following the instructions then given.
- Once you are happy with the measurement, either click on the ***Padlock*** to lock the settings so that they will not be accidentally changed, or change the ***Spectral Color*** to the next one that you wish to modify.

Spectral Manager

To produce a color accurate proof for a particular paper and ink set, either use the Default set if you are only catering for a single type of paper and inks, or create a Custom set if you need to switch between jobs targeted for different paper and inks.

Creating a Spectral Set:

- Select ***Spectral Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select ***<New…>*** from the ***Spectral Set*** list.
- Type in a name for the new set.
- Take spectral measurements for each color.

Deleting a Spectral Set:

- Select ***Spectral Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select a set from the ***Spectral Set*** list.
- Click the ***Trash Can*** icon .

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Using a Spectral Set:

- Select ***Spectral Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the desired spectral set from the list.

FirstPROOF will remember the Spectral Set used for a particular job and will also automatically apply the last Spectral Set used to any new jobs that are viewed.

For each separation in a job that is to be color managed, create the required Colors (if using anything other than the default), each of which will have their own spectral data.

Creating Spectral Data for a Color:

- Select ***Spectral Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select ***<New…>*** from the ***Color Name*** list in the ***Colors*** section.
- Type in a name for the new color.
- Take a spectral measurement for the color.

Deleting Spectral Data for a Color:

- Select ***Spectral Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select a color from the ***Color Name*** list.
- Click the ***Trash Can*** icon in the ***Colors*** section.

Using Spectral Data for a Color:

- Select ***Dot Gain Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Make sure that the color is ***Enabled*** in the ***Colors*** section.

FirstPROOF will automatically enable a color when you take a spectral measurement, so you don't need to enable it.

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Light Sources

When viewing a printed image, the light source being used affects the apparent color of the printed image. This light source must be used when color matching the same image so it can be viewed accurately.

The Light Source used is selected using the Light Source Manager.

Most users will want to use D50 which is the defined standard for Graphics Arts.

However, other standard light sources are provided if required. These include:

- Illuminant A Incandescent tungsten (2856K)
- Illuminant C Average/north-sky daylight (6774K)

Illuminant Series D - Daylight illuminations:

- D50 Warm (sunrise) daylight (5000K)
- D55 Mid-morning daylight (5500K)
- D65 Noon daylight (6504K)
- D75 Overcast daylight (7500K)

Illuminant Series F - Fluorescent illuminations:

- F2 Cool white fluorescent (4100K)
- F2 Broad-band daylight fluorescent (6500K)
- F11 Narrow-band white fluorescent (4000K)

If required, other lighting conditions may be created by creating a new Light Source.

Light Manager

To use a particular light source, either select a built in light source, or create a Custom light source if you want to use non-standard lighting.

Creating a Light Source:

- Select ***Light Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select ***<New…>*** from the ***Light Source*** list.
- Type in a name for the new light source.
- Take a spectral measurement for the light.

Deleting a Light Source:

- Select ***Light Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select a (custom) light source from the ***Light Source*** list.
- Click the ***Trash Can*** icon 🗑.

Using a Light Source:

- Select ***Light Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the desired light source from the list.

📖 FirstPROOF will remember the Light Source used for a particular job and will also automatically apply the last Light Source used to any new jobs that are viewed.

Import / Export

If FirstPROOF is being used by more than one person in a group, then there is no need for each person to create their own Spectral Sets and Light Sources. One person can do so by exporting their spectral data and sending it to the other people, who can then Import them.

To export spectral (and light) data:

Select ***Spectral Data*** from the ***File*** menu's ***Export*** sub-menu, browse to a folder in which to save the data and enter a file name for it.

To import spectral (and light) data:

Select ***Spectral Data*** from the File menu's ***Import*** sub-menu, browse to the folder where the data to import may be found and select it.

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Rulers and Guides

Moving the Ruler Origin

FirstPROOF includes the ability to position the ruler origin anywhere on the view window. To move the ruler origin, click the (left) mouse button once in the top left corner of the rulers and move the mouse till you get to the desired point in the view window. Click the (left) mouse button again to set the new origin.

To restore the origin double click in the top left corner of the rulers (where the units are displayed - such as “in”).

Dragging Rulers

Sometimes when you are viewing an image at a large zoom level like 100% you may find that the ruler’s origin may not be exactly where you want it to be. To adjust the rulers, click in the ruler and drag it to the desired location.

Guide Lines

FirstPROOF includes the ability to create guide lines to help with checking object alignment in the View Window.

Adding Guide Lines

To create a horizontal or vertical guide line, click in the vertical or horizontal ruler and drag until clear of the rulers. Once clear of the rulers the guide lines will remain selected even if the mouse button is released. A single (left) mouse click will release the guide line at the desired point.

The above method has been implemented for creating guide lines so that it is possible to scroll, zoom in and zoom out while defining the position for a guide line.

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Moving Guide lines

To move a guide line, position the cursor on top of the guide line at which stage the cursor will change to a pointer with a cross. Click to select the guide line. Move the guide line to the desired position and click again to release the guide line.

Deleting Guide lines

To delete a guide line, position the cursor over the guide line and click to select the guide line. Press the ***Delete*** or ***Backspace*** key to delete the guide line.

Grid Lines

FirstPROOF includes the ability to overlay a grid on top of the viewed image. The Grid display can be switched ***On*** or ***Off*** by clicking the icon or using the shortcut ***Ctrl / Command + Shift + G***.

To specify the grid frequency, type the desired value into the edit box to the right of the icon. A value of zero will create a grid that matches the current ruler marks. All other values will create a grid using the unit of measurement for distance.

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Tools

Black Traps

FirstPROOF incorporates the ability to switch black colors being viewed from 100% black to 50% black on the fly. This has been introduced to allow users to proof traps where the trap consists of black and another color; a knocked out black will view at 50% whilst an overprinted black will view at more than 50%.

To change the black trap mode, click the icon or use the shortcut ***Ctrl / Command + T***.

Color Traps Pro

FirstPROOF Professional incorporates the ability to switch the view of all colors from 100% to 50% on the fly. This has been introduced to allow users to proof traps where the trap consists of two layers of the same color; a knocked out color will view at 50% whilst an overprinted (double) color will view at 100%.

To change the color trap mode, click the icon or use the shortcut ***Ctrl / Command + Shift + T***.

View Black Pro

FirstPROOF Professional includes the option to switch the viewed selection to black / white with a single click.

This is used for checking for moiré or to view a separation in black without having to change the separation's view color.

To switch the view to black / white or back to color, click the icon or use the shortcut ***Ctrl / Command + B***.

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TAC and Minimum Dot Warning Pro

FirstPROOF Professional includes an Ink Limit Tool to warn you of potential problems on the press due to over inking of media or dots dropping.

To switch the Ink Limit warning on, click the icon or use the shortcut ***Ctrl / Command + L***.

TAC Warning Pro

To configure the TAC warning, enter a value in the Max Ink edit box, the top box positioned to the right of the icon. This value is the Total Area Coverage that your paper can handle.

To the right of this box is a colour swatch that will be used to display any area that exceeds the value you entered.

The color used to indicate areas that exceed the specified value can be changed by clicking on the color swatch to the right of the top edit box and selecting a new color.

Minimum Dot Warning Pro

To configure the Minimum Dot warning, enter a value in the Min Ink edit box, the bottom box positioned to the right of the icon.

To the right of this box is a colour swatch that will be used to display dots that have a value less than the one you entered.

The color used to indicate areas that have coverage less the specified value can be changed by clicking on the color swatch to the right of the bottom edit box and selecting a new color.

View Black can be especially useful when using the Ink Limit Tool.

Ink Coverage

Another useful feature in FirstPROOF is Ink Coverage reporting. This feature is useful in that it allows you to calculate what area of each separation is covered by ink.

The Ink Coverage for a separation is normally calculated when a separation is Viewed. If however the Page View is set to display Thumbnails, then the Ink Coverage is automatically calculated when the Thumbnail is generated and so in this case is automatically displayed.

The percentage coverage for each separation is always displayed to the right of the separation color in the page list.

The Image area of the job is displayed in the Info window.

Given the image area of the job and the percentage coverage for each separation it is easy to calculate the area coverage for each separation.

If a separation is completely blank, an ink coverage of “0%” will be displayed. If a separation contains only crop marks (or very little), an ink coverage reading of “>0%” will be displayed. This allows for differentiating between a completely blank and nearly blank separation.

Similarly, if a separation is completely solid, an ink coverage of “100%” will be displayed. If a separation is nearly completely solid, an ink coverage of “<100%” will be displayed.

Compare Separations Pro

FirstPROOF Professional includes a Separation Comparison Tool. Sometimes when ripping a job a mistake can be spotted that needs correcting. However, it might only be a small part of a page. The Compare Separations Tool allows you to re-rip the entire job having corrected the mistake, and then check that only the part you corrected has changed and not anything else. This allows you to quickly spot that nothing else has gone wrong – e.g. a font on the system got removed, or an OPI image is no longer available (got deleted), etc… Areas in the first separation but not in the second are shown in Green, in the second but not in the first are shown in Blue and differences between the two are shown in Red. Areas that are unchanged between the two are shown in their original color.

To compare two separations, select the two separations you want to compare, then click on the icon or use the shortcut ***Ctrl / Command + Shift + P***.

View Black can be especially useful when using the Compare Separations Tool.

Dot Gain [Pro]

The Dot Gain Tool has been designed to ensure that there is no discrepancy between what you see and what you print due to dot gain or loss with 1-bit halftone jobs. FirstPROOF Professional allows you to compensate for gain or loss by simulating the gain or loss in the viewed image.

The final output may differ from view image due to:

- Dot Gain on the film/plate or press.
- Dot Loss due to overlapping dots/scanlines or exposure variances in the fast scan direction.

The Dot Gain Tool is configured by using the controls in the Controls section of the Dot Gain Manager.

The Dot Gain Tool has two methods to compensate for Gain and Loss which take the form of two sliding controls;

- Dot Gain
- Dot Loss (Fast Scan)

Most users will only ever need to use the Dot Gain section.

Compensating for Dot Gain

To setup the compensation for the selected dot gain set;

- Ensure that the image view is 100% (will not work with any other zoom level).
- Turn on the ***Dot Gain*** tool by clicking the icon on the ***Toolbar***.
- Open the ***Tools*** window and select the Density Measurement Tool and ensure it is in area selection mode.
- Open the ***Dot Gain Manager*** window from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the ***Dot Gain Set*** that you wish to modify.
- Select the ***Color Name*** that you wish to modify.
- If the padlock is locked, click on it to unlock it.
- Select with the densitometer a section of the image that should have 50% (or other) dot coverage.
- Adjust the dot gain slider until the densitometer indicates a 50% coverage for the selected area.
- Once you are happy with the settings, click on the padlock to lock the settings so that they will not be accidentally changed.

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The type of plate imaging method i.e. positive or negative cannot be determined automatically, so the user must select one of the two options available in the Imaging Method list box. Image White would be for a negative plate and Image Black for a positive plate.

Compensating for Dot Loss (Fast Scan)

In addition to the Dot Gain setting you can also adjust the view to simulate Dot Loss in the fast scan direction. To do this you will need output from the imaging device that has an indicator that can show dot loss. A very good example of this indicator is a series of concentric circles with a line thickness of exactly 1 pixel.

Once you have this output;

- Ensure that the ***Dot Gain*** tool is switched on.
- Select the ***Dot Gain Set*** that you wish to edit.
- Select the ***Color Name*** that you wish to edit.
- Unlock the padlock.
- Adjust the Dot Loss slider until the image on the screen matches the image sample that you have.

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Dot Gain Manager [Pro]

To compensate for Dot Gain, use the Default set if you are only catering for a single imaging device or press, or create a Custom set if you need to switch between images targeted for multiple devices.

Creating a Dot Gain Set:

- Select ***Dot Gain Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select ***<New…>*** from the ***Dot Gain Set*** list.
- Type in a name for the new set.
- Adjust the Dot Gain controls as required.

Deleting a Dot Gain Set:

- Select ***Dot Gain Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select a set from the ***Dot Gain Set*** list.
- Click the ***Trash Can*** icon 🗑.

Using a Dot Gain Set:

- Select ***Dot Gain Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the desired dot gain set from the list.

📖 Note that in order to use the Dot Gain Manager, you must be viewing a job.

📖 FirstPROOF will remember the Dot Gain Set used for a particular job and will also automatically apply the last Dot Gain Set used to any new jobs that are viewed.

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To compensate for different Dot Gains for different colors, for example different inks, create the required Colors, each of which can have their own settings for Dot Gain.

Creating a Dot Gain for a Color:

- Select ***Dot Gain Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select ***<New…>*** from the ***Color Name*** list in the ***Colors*** section.
- Type in a name for the new color.
- Adjust the Dot Gain controls as required.

Deleting a Dot Gain for a Color:

- Select ***Dot Gain Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select a color from the ***Color Name*** list.
- Click the ***Trash Can*** icon in the ***Colors*** section.

Using a Dot Gain for a Color:

- Select ***Dot Gain Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Make sure that the color is ***Enabled*** in the ***Colors*** section.

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Tone Curves [Pro]

The Tone Curve Tool has been designed to ensure that there is no discrepancy between what you see and what you print due to a tone curve being applied to multi-bit contone jobs. FirstPROOF Professional allows you to compensate for any tone curve applied by applying an inverse tone curve to the viewed image.

The Tone Curve Tool is configured by using the controls in the Data section of the Tone Curve Manager.

A Tone Curve can be created from two types of values;

- Uncalibrated Film/Plate %Dot values.

  These are exactly the same measurements that are used to set up the Tone Curve for the job, and are obtained by measuring a printed uncalibrated job.

- Calibrated Image Density values

  These are measurements that can be taken in FirstPROOF using the Density Tool, and are obtained by measuring a calibrated job.

Using Un-calibrated Film/Plate %Dot data

To create a tone curve given un-calibrated film/plate %dot data;

- Print an un-calibrated test chart.
- Ensure that the image view is 100% (will not work with any other zoom level).
- Turn on the ***Tone Curve*** tool by clicking the icon on the ***Toolbar***.
- Open the ***Tone Curve Manager*** window from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the ***Tone Curve Set*** that you wish to modify.
- Select the ***Color Name*** that you wish to modify.
- If the padlock is locked, click on it to unlock it.
- Select ***Un-calibrated Film/Plate %Dot***.
- Select either ***0..100*** or **0..255** from the Units menu, depending on the range of values of your data.
- If the data you have is inverted (that is 0% and 100% have been swapped), select ***Invert***.

- Enter the labels of the data points;
  - Click on the '0.0' label (it will change to an edit box).
  - Enter ***0.0*** and then press ***Tab.***
  - Enter the next label (for example 10.0) and then press ***Tab.***
  - Repeat the above until you've entered all the required labels.
- Enter the un-calibrated values for each of the data points into the corresponding edit box.
- Once you are happy with the settings, click on the padlock to lock the settings so that they will not be accidentally changed.

Using Calibrated Image Density data

To create a tone curve given calibrated image density data;

- Print a calibrated test chart
- Ensure that the image view is 100% (will not work with any other zoom level).
- Turn on the ***Tone Curve Tool*** by clicking the icon on the ***Toolbar***.
- Open the ***Tone Curve Manager*** window from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the ***Tone Curve Set*** that you wish to modify.
- Select the ***Color Name*** that you wish to modify.
- If the padlock is locked, click on it to unlock it.
- Select ***Calibrated Image Density***.
- Select either ***0..100*** or **0..255** from the Units menu, depending on the range of values of your data.

- If the data you have is inverted (that is 0% and 100% have been swapped), select ***Invert***.
- Enter the labels of the data points;
  - Click on the '0.0' label (it will change to an edit box).
  - Enter ***0.0*** and then press ***Tab.***
  - Enter the next label (for example 10.0) and then press ***Tab.***
  - Repeat the above until you've entered all the required labels.
- Enter the calibrated values for each of the data points into the corresponding edit box;
  - Delete all the contents of the edit boxes.
  - Open the ***Tools*** window and select the ***Density Measurement Tool*** and ensure it is in area selection mode.
  - Select with the densitometer a section of the image corresponding to the first label (0.0).
  - Press the ***Enter*** or ***Return*** key (this will automatically enter the Density reading into the first empty box).
  - Repeat the above until you've entered all the required calibrated values.
- Once you are happy with the settings, click on the padlock to lock the settings so that they will not be accidentally changed.

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Tone Curve Manager [Pro]

To Compensate for Tone Curves, use the Default set if you are only catering for a single imaging device or press, or create a Custom set if you need to switch between images targeted for multiple devices.

Creating a Tone Curve Set:

- Select ***Tone Curve Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select ***<New…>*** from the ***Tone Curve Set*** list.
- Type in a name for the new set.
- Adjust the Tone Curve controls as required.

Deleting a Tone Curve Set:

- Select ***Tone Curve Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select a set from the ***Tone Curve Set*** list.
- Click the ***Trash Can*** icon 🗑.

Using a Tone Curve Set:

- Select ***Tone Curve Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the desired ***Tone Curve Set*** from the list.

📖 Note that in order to use the Tone Curve Manager, you must be viewing a job.

📖 FirstPROOF will remember the Tone Curve Set used for a particular job and will also automatically apply the last Tone Curve Set used to any new jobs that are viewed.

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To compensate for different Tone Curves for different colors, create the required Colors, each of which can have their own settings for Tone Curve.

Creating a Tone Curve for a Color:

- Select ***Tone Curve Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select ***<New…>*** from the ***Color Name*** list in the ***Colors*** section.
- Type in a name for the new color.
- Adjust the Tone Curve controls as required.

Deleting a Tone Curve for a Color:

- Select ***Tone Curve Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select a color from the ***Color Name*** list.
- Click the ***Trash Can*** icon in the ***Colors*** section.

Using a Tone Curve for a Color:

- Select ***Tone Curve Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Make sure that the color is ***Enabled*** in the ***Colors*** section.

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Color Manager

Modifying the View Color of a Separation

In FirstPROOF the color used to view a separation can easily be changed by selecting a predefined color or selecting a custom color.

To change the viewed color for a particular separation:

- Right click or double click on the ***Separation Name*** (PC).
- Ctrl click or double click on the ***Separation Name*** (Mac).
- Select ***Change Color*** to change only the selected separation.
- Select ***Change All Colors*** to change the color of all the job's separations with the same name as the one selected.
- Select a ***Color*** from the list of available colors displayed (below the two Change Color options) to quickly change only the selected separation.

You can select a Color from the list of Predefined Colors or make a Custom Color selection.

If you select from the Predefined Colors, you can just click ***Select*** to implement the color change.

If you want to make a Custom Color selection:

- Click ***Other***
- Select a ***Color*** from the Color Picker or type in the RGB values for a specific color.

- Click ***OK***.
- Click ***Yes*** if you want to add the new Color to the List of Custom Colors or No to use it only for this job.
- If you click ***No***, the color change will be implemented, if you click ***Yes*** you will be asked to supply a unique name and alias to identify the new Color.

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Predefining Colors

Predefined colors can be created at any stage using the Color Manager which can be launched by selecting ***Color Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.

Adding a Color

Select ***Color Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.

- Click the ***Add*** button.
- Enter a ***Unique Name*** for the new color.
- Enter an ***Alias***[1] for the color. This can be left blank.
- Select a ***Color*** from the Color Picker or type in the RGB values for a specific color.
- Click ***OK*** to return to the Color Manager screen.

1 Color Aliases are used to help FirstPROOF recognise commonly used abbreviations for colors that are found in job names. An example of an alias would be P123U for color Pantone 123 Uncoated.

Editing a Color

Select ***Color Manager*** from the Tools menu.

- Select the ***Color*** to Edit.
- Click the ***Edit*** button.
- When prompted for a Color Name and Alias, click ***OK***.
- Select a ***Color*** from the Color Picker or type in the RGB values for a specific color.
- Click ***OK*** to return to the Color Manager screen.

Deleting a Color

Select ***Color Manager*** from the Tools menu.

- Select the ***Color/s*** to Delete.
- Click the ***Delete*** button.

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Color Options

Override color in job

FirstPROOF will normally display a separation using the color information contained in the file but in some cases you may wish to modify the way a color is viewed. To do this you simply edit the color in the Color Manager and check the ***Override Color in Job*** box. When this box is checked, FirstPROOF will use the color from the Color Manager the next time you do a Full or Incremental Refresh.

Add colors in job

Companies often have recurring jobs that use special colors. FirstPROOF allows you to automatically add these colors to the Color Manager by checking the ***Add Color in Job*** box. When this box is checked, new colors will automatically be added to the Color Manager as they are encountered.

Importing Colours

To Import Colors from a file:

- Open the ***Color Manager*** window.
- Click on the ***Import*** Button.
- Select the ***File*** containing the color data.

Please refer to the document titled Importing Color Data for more information on creating color files.

Measurement Tools Pro

The Tools window contains measurement tools for:

- Object Measurement (1D)
- Object Measurement (2D)
- Screen Measurement
  - Screen Measurement
  - Screen Measurement (Auto)
- Color Measurement
- Density Measurement
- Barcode Measurement

Object Measurement (1D) Pro

The Object Measurement Tool 1D allows you to calculate the distance and angle between two points by clicking on the first point and then on the second point. Once you have clicked on the first point you can move the image to get to the second point by holding the (left) mouse button down and dragging the cursor. The selection of the second point is only completed if the mouse is clicked without moving it.

Holding the **Shift** key while moving constrains the movement to a vertical movement, holding down the **Ctrl / Command** key constrains the movement to a horizontal movement and holding down the **Shift & Ctrl / Command** keys, constrains movement to a multiple of 7.5 degrees.

Having made a measurement, it may be refined by selecting either of the end-points and moving them, or by selecting the centre point and moving that.

The distance and angle between the first point and the current mouse position is constantly displayed in the Tools window and updated as the mouse moves. This measurement only becomes fixed once a second point is specified. It is possible to take two sets of measurements by selecting **Measurement 1** or **Measurement 2** from the Tools window.

Object Measurement (2D) Pro

The Object Measurement Tool 2D allows you to calculate the Width and Height of an object by drawing a box. Once you have clicked on the first point you can move the image to get to the second point by holding the (left) mouse button down and dragging the cursor. The selection of the second point is only completed if the (left) mouse is clicked without moving the cursor.

Holding the **Shift** key while moving constrains the movement to a vertical movement, holding down the **Ctrl / Command** key constrains the movement to a horizontal movement and holding down the **Shift & Ctrl / Command** keys, constrains movement to a square selection.

Having made a measurement, it may be refined by selecting either of the mid-points or corner-points and moving them, or by selecting the centre point and moving that.

The Width and Height measurement is constantly displayed in the Tools window and updated as the mouse moves. This

measurement only becomes fixed once a second point is specified. It is possible to take two sets of measurements by selecting Measurement 1 or Measurement 2 from the Tools window.

Screen Measurement Tools Pro

The Screen Measurement Tools allow you to calculate the screen angle and screen ruling of a displayed image. The Tool has both a manual and automatic option.

Screen Measurement Pro

To calculate the angle and ruling choose an area of the image with a well-defined screen pattern with clear and self-standing dots. Click on the centre of a dot and the centre of the adjacent dot running in the direction of the screen. The result will be displayed in the Tools Window. The unit of measurement that will be used to display the screen ruling is defined during the creation of the Input Source. It is possible to take two sets of measurements by selecting **Measurement 1** or **Measurement 2** from the Tools Window.

Screen Measurement (Auto) Pro

To automatically calculate the angle and ruling choose an area of the image with a well-defined screen pattern with clear and self-standing dots. Click to select the start point of the area to be measured and then click to define the end point. FirstPROOF will begin processing the data as soon as the start point has been selected (and you expand the area).

The automatic tool requires a large area of data; if you get a “--,--” reading a larger area is required.

The automatic tool is accurate to 0.01 degree/lpi.

Color Measurement Pro

The Color Measurement Tool allows you check the RGB color composition of a particular area of the image. The tool can be used by entering a sampling area in the edit box to the right of the button and then moving the cursor over the image which will display the color composition of the area.

Density Measurement Pro

The Density Measurement Tool allows you check the color density of a particular area of the image. The tool can be used by entering a sampling area in the edit box to the right of the button and then moving the cursor over the image which will display the density of the area.

Having made a measurement, it may be refined by selecting either of the mid-points or corner-points and moving them, or by selecting the centre point and moving that.

The Color and Density Tool can be switched between aperture and selected area readings by clicking the area above the sampling area edit box. A red area (PC) / solid line (Mac) indicates that you are in selected area mode and a green area (PC) / dashed line (Mac) indicates that you are in aperture mode.

Once you have selected an area using aperture mode, you can prevent this reading from being updated as you move the mouse around the view by holding the ***Shift*** or ***Ctrl / Command*** keys while moving.

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Barcode Measurement [Pro]

The Barcode Measurement Tool allows you to check that various aspects of a barcode are correct. The tool can be used by selecting an area (in a similar manner to the Object Measurement 2D Tool) around the barcode, with the barcode being viewed in an upright position.

In addition to reading the barcode, the tool also calculates the checksum, the Bar Width Reduction (BWR) factor and the barcode size (where appropriate).

A large number of bar codes are recognized and interpreted:

- Codabar
- Code 128
- Code 3 of 9
- Code 32 (Paraf Italy)
- DataMatrix
- EAN-13
- EAN-8
- GS1-128
- GS1-Data
- HIBC (Primary)
- HIBC (Secondary)
- HIBC-128
- HIBC-39
- HIBC-Data
- ISBN
- ITF-14
- ITF-16
- Interleaved 2 of 5
- JAN
- Laetus Pharmacode
- MSI
- PZN
- Standard 2 of 5
- UPC-A
- UPC-E

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Selection Tool

Creating a Selection Area

The Selection Area Tool allows you to select multiple areas of an image and quickly jump to viewing the selected area or areas. To select an area, first click the ***Selection Tool*** ⌗ on the ***Toolbar*** and then click to define the first corner of the selection area. Once you have clicked on the first point you can move the image to get to the second point by holding the (left) mouse button down and dragging the cursor. The selection of the second point is only completed if the (left) mouse is clicked without moving the cursor.

Holding the **Shift** key while moving constrains the movement to a vertical movement, holding down the **Ctrl / Command** key constrains the movement to a horizontal movement and holding down the **Shift & Ctrl / Command** keys, constrains movement to a square selection.

Having made a selection, it may be refined by clicking on either of the mid-points or corner-points and moving them, or by clicking the centre point and moving that.

Creating Additional Selection Areas

Additional areas can be selected by clicking outside the selection box if any previous selection is selected. A solid line around the selected area and a white box in the centre of the selection area with the selection number preceded by an F indicates that area is selected. A dotted line indicates that the selection area is deselected.

To create additional selection areas repeat the procedure for creating a selection area.

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Switching between Selection Areas

One can easily switch between Selection Areas using the function keys on the keyboard as each new Selection Area is assigned a ***Function*** key starting with ***F1***. Selection Areas can also be selected by clicking on a Selection Area.

Using (viewing) a Selection Area

Selection Areas can be viewed individually by clicking the ***View Selection*** button on the ***Toolbar***. Once the View Selection button has been clicked, only the selected Selection Area will be displayed. When in this mode you can switch between Selection Areas using the Function keys.

> The number of possible Selection Areas that can be created is limited to 60, but the PC only has 12 Function keys and the Mac 15. Holding down the ***Ctrl / Command*** key extends the range from F13…F24 on the PC and F16…F30 on the Mac. Holding down the ***Shift*** key and using the function keys extends the range from F25…F36 on the PC and F31…F45 on the Mac. Holding down the ***Shift and Ctrl / Command*** key extends the range from F37…F48 on the PC and F46…F60 on the Mac.

Deleting a Selection Area

To delete a Selection Area, select the Selection Area using the mouse or by means of the function key assigned to that Selection Area and then press the ***Delete*** key. When a Selection in the middle of a range is deleted, the Function numbers assigned to the following Selection Areas are decreased by one.

> A quick way to delete all the Selection Areas is to keep pressing F1 followed by the Delete key.

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Selection Manager

There are times when you may want to use Selection Areas on a regular basis for example when you have an imposed flat and wish to view the pages individually. This can be done by creating Selection Sets where the Selection Areas are saved and re-used.

Creating a Selection Set

- Select ***Selection Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select ***New*** from the ***Selection Set*** list.
- Type in a name for the new set.
- Create all the Selection Areas that will be required using the Selection Area Tool (or enter manually).

The Selection Areas for the Selection Set are automatically saved when you change Selection Sets (or stop viewing).

Any changes that you make to Selection Areas while a Selection Set is active will be saved.

Deleting a Selection Set:

- Select ***Selection Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select a set from the ***Selection Set*** list.
- Click the ***Trash Can*** icon 🗑.

Using a Selection Set:

- Select ***Selection Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the desired ***Selection Set*** from the list.

Note that in order to use the Selection Set Manager, you must be viewing a job.

Note that the Default Selection Set behaves differently, in that it does not get saved when you exit FirstPROOF.

Selection Areas can also be created and edited directly in the Selection Manager by entering the desired area (but currently can not be changed / selected there).

Manually creating a Selection Area:

- Select ***Selection Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the desired ***Selection Set*** from the list
- Select ***<New…>*** from the ***Selection*** list in the ***Details*** section.

Manually deleting a Selection Area:

- Select ***Selection Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the desired ***Selection Set*** from the list
- Select a Selection Area from the ***Selection*** list.
- ***Unlock*** the Selection Set by clicking on the ***Padlock***
- Click the ***Trash Can*** icon in the ***Details*** section.
- ***Lock*** the Selection Set by clicking on the ***Padlock*** to commit the changes

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Manually editing a Selection Area:

- Select ***Selection Manager*** from the ***Tools*** menu.
- Select the desired ***Selection Set*** from the list
- ***Unlock*** the Selection Set by clicking on the ***Padlock***
- Adjust the selection area dimensions as required.
- ***Lock*** the Selection Set by clicking on the ***Padlock*** to commit the changes

Cylinder Seam Tool [Pro]

FirstPROOF Professional includes a Cylinder Seam Tool which is used for checking that continuous print images line up correctly.

To switch FirstPROOF to Cylinder Seam view select ***Vertical Seam*** or ***Horizontal Seam*** from the ***Cylinder Seam*** popup on the ***Toolbar*** or use the shortcut ***Ctrl / Command + Shift + V*** or ***Ctrl / Command + Shift + H.***

- If the ***Vertical Seam*** option is chosen, FirstPROOF will place two copies of the image side by side.
- If the ***Horizontal Seam*** option is chosen, FirstPROOF will place two copies of the image one above the other.

In some cases the printable area which contains the seam may lie inside the borders of the job or within the crop marks. In this case the Selection and Cylinder Seam tools can be used in conjunction in the following manner.

- Select the actual job area using the ***Selection Tool***.
- Switch the view to the ***Selected Area***.
- Finally switch FirstPROOF to the appropriate ***Cylinder Seam*** view.

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Duplex View Tool [Pro]

FirstPROOF Professional includes the option to view pages in a Duplex View mode whereby the Back Page is displayed transparently through the paper behind the Front Page.

This is used to check the front-to-back registration of pages.

To switch FirstPROOF to Duplex View mode, click the icon or use the shortcut ***Ctrl / Command + Shift + X***.

When in Duplex View mode, a floating Duplex window appears:

This allows you to:

- Change the Transparency of the Paper;
  - A smaller value reduces the intensity of the back page.
  - A larger value increases the intensity of the back page.
- Change the Flip Direction of the back page to either Turn (flip horizontally) or Tumble (flip vertically).
- Turn the page over, so the Front Page is displayed transparently through the paper behind the Back Page.

For a page to be displayed as a Back Page (and so automatically be turned or tumbled), FirstPROOF must know that it is a Back Page.

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Automatically marking a page as a Back Page

This is possible for an Input where information is extracted from the name of the files (currently only possible for a TIFF Input). To automatically mark a page as (or a separation as belonging to) a Back Page, two things must be done.

- The TIFF file name must contain information marking it as a Back Page and this must be extracted using the '%s' special modifier – see the Defining File Name Filters manual for further details.
- The information that marks a page as a Back Page must be configured in the Back Page Name of the TIFF Input's Advanced Panel – see the Configuring Inputs manual for further details.

Once this is done, a Back Page will automatically be displayed as "Page 1, [Back]" and when viewed in Duplex View mode will automatically be viewed as a Back Page.

Manually marking a page as a Back Page

This is possible for any Input. To manually mark a page as a Back Page:

- Right click on the ***Page Number*** (PC).
- Ctrl click on the ***Page Number*** (Mac).
- Select ***Change Page Side*** to change only the selected page.
- Select ***Change Odd Page Sides*** to change all odd numbered pages (1, 3, 5, etc…).
- Select ***Change Even Page Sides*** to change all even numbered pages (2, 4, 6, etc…).

The page will then change from "Page 1" to "Page 1, [Back]" and when viewed in Duplex View mode will automatically be viewed as a Back Page.

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Job Management

Approving and Rejecting Jobs

FirstPROOF allows users to approve and reject jobs without having to output or delete the jobs.

> In the case of RIP Inputs this functionality can only be applied to jobs that are in the Held Queue.

> Rejected jobs cannot be output unless first approved.

Approving Jobs

To Approve a Job:

- Select the ***Job*** from the Job Name List box.
- Click the ***Approve*** button.
- You will be asked 'Are you sure you want to approve this job' and given the option to choose ***Yes*** or ***No***.
- If you click ***Yes*** the job will be marked as approved and moved to the Input Source's Approved folder.

Rejecting Jobs

To Reject a Job:

- Select the ***Job*** from the Job Name List box.
- Click the ***Reject*** button.
- You will be asked 'Are you sure you want to reject this job' and given the option to choose ***Yes*** or ***No***.
- If you click ***Yes*** the job will be marked as rejected and moved to the Input Source's Rejected folder.

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Deleting Jobs and Separations

TIFF, LEN, PDI and other File Format Inputs

If you decide that a Job, Page or Separation is incorrect you can delete it as long as it has not been ‘Output’.

RIP Inputs

If you decide that a Job, Page or Separation is incorrect you can delete it. If it has already been ‘Output’, then it will only be deleted as long as it is not currently being output by the Harlequin RIP.

If the RIP’s Inputs are switched on, the jobs, pages or separations will be deleted. However if the RIP’s Inputs are off or FirstPROOF cannot connect to the RIP a file called HMRDelete.ps will be created in the RIP’s Page Buffer folder. The user can simply print this file (on the RIP) using the ***RIP’s Print File*** option and the Page Buffer files will be deleted.

If user accounts or site management has been enabled then a user will only be able to delete a job if they have sufficient privileges.

Deleting Jobs

To Delete a Job:

- Select the ***Job*** from the Job Name List box.
- Click the ***Delete*** button in the Job Name box.
- If the site that your user's account belongs to requires that a password is entered for job deletion, you will be asked to enter your user password.
- You will be asked 'Are you sure you want to delete this job' and given the option to choose ***Yes*** or ***No***.
- If you click ***Yes***, the job will be deleted.

Deleting Pages or Separations

To Delete a Page or Separation:

- Select the ***Page/s*** or ***Separation/s*** from the ***Page List*** box.
- Click the ***Delete*** button at the bottom of the ***Page List*** box.
- If the site that your users account belongs to requires that a password is entered for job deletion, you will be asked to enter your user password.
- You will be asked 'Are you sure you want to delete this page / separation' and given the option to choose ***Yes*** or ***No***.
- If you click ***Yes***, the page or separation will be deleted.

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Sending Jobs to Output

Only a complete job can be Output to the RIP or Output Path.

If user accounts or site management has been enabled then a user will only be able to Output a job if they have sufficient privileges.

TIFF, LEN, PDI and other File Format Inputs

Sending Jobs to the Output Folder

To send a job to the Output Destination as defined in the configuration of the selected Input:

- Select the ***Job*** from the Job Name List box.
- Click the ***Output*** button.
- If the site that your users account belongs to requires that a password is entered for outputting jobs, you will be asked to enter your user password.
- You will be asked ‘Are you sure you want to output this job’ and given the option to choose ***Yes*** or ***No***.
- If you click ***Yes***, the job will be sent to the output folder.

If a job was scanned from a sub-folder of the Input folder, then when it is Output it will get moved to the equivalent sub-folder of the Output folder.

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Dynamically choosing the Output [Sub-]Folder

When outputting a job, it is possible to dynamically choose the folder in the Output folder where it goes. To the right of the Output button is a little button (black triangle):

If this is clicked then a popup menu appears. The menu contains:

- Default - outputs the job as normal
- Root - outputs the job to the Output folder
- ‘sub-folder 1’ - outputs the job to this sub-folder
- ‘sub-folder 2’ - etc…

This setting is only effective for the next Output operation, after which it gets reset.

This allows for jobs in Sub-Folder of the Output Folder to be moved to the Output Folder, and for jobs in the Output Folder to be moved to any Sub-Folder in the Output Folder.

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RIP Inputs

Sending Jobs to the RIP for Output

Jobs in the Held Queue may be sent to the RIP at any time.

To send a job to the RIP:

- Select the ***Job*** from the Job Name List box.
- Click the ***Output*** button.
- If the site that your users account belongs to requires that a password is entered for outputting jobs, you will be asked to enter your user password.
- You will be asked 'Are you sure you want to Output this Job' and given the option to choose ***Yes*** or ***No***.
- If you click ***Yes***, the job will be returned to the RIP.

If the RIP's Inputs are switched on, the job will be returned directly to the RIP's Active Queue. However if the Inputs are off or FirstPROOF cannot connect to the RIP, a file called HMROutput.ps will be created in the RIP's Page Buffer folder. The user can simply print this file (on the RIP) using the ***RIP's Print File*** option and the Page Buffer files will be added to the RIP's Active Queue.

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Backing up Jobs

FirstPROOF includes the ability to backup PGB, TIFF, LEN and PDI (and Other File Format) files that are Output. This is an automated feature and must be configured in the configuration of the specific Input Source before it will work.

Once this feature has been enabled, all jobs for the specific Input Source that are Output will also be copied to the preconfigured backup folder.

FirstPROOF should not been considered as a backup system but rather as a means of passing copies of PGB, TIFF, LEN, PDI and other File Format files to a backup system that is designed to handle these files.

Job Status Indicators

PGB Input

Due to the fact that a PGB Input may have jobs both in its PageBuffer folder and Held folder and that there may be jobs in the Media Saving queue, FirstPROOF uses the following status indicators to show you where a particular job is located at any time. These indicators also tell you the output status of the job.

Job Status

The status of a job is indicated by means of an icon to the left of the Job Name in the Job Name List box. The job status is dependent on a few factors and the icons reflect these options.

H — Indicates that the job is in the Held queue.

A — Indicates that the job has been Approved.

R — Indicates that the job has been Rejected.

M — Indicates that the job is in the RIP's Media Saving queue.

W — Indicates that the job has been returned to the RIP and it is Waiting to be output.

P — Indicates that the job has been returned to the RIP and that Part of it has been output.

O — Indicates that the job has been Output.

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Page Status

The page status indicator appears to the left of the Page Name and indicates the status of a page.

H The page is part of a job in the Held queue.

A The page is part of a job that has been Approved.

R The page is part of a job that has been Rejected.

M The page is part of a job in the RIP's Media Saving queue.

W The page is part of a job that has been returned to the RIP and it is Waiting to be output.

P The page is part of a job that has been returned to the RIP and that Part of it has been output.

O The page is part of a job that has been returned to the RIP and has been Output.

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Separation Status

In this case the color of the icon represents the color of the separation. The status indicator appears within the icon.

H The separation is part of a job in the Held queue.

A The separation is part of an Approved job.

R The separation is part of a Rejected job.

M The separation is part of a page in the RIP's Media Saving queue.

W The separation is part of a job that has been returned to the RIP and it is Waiting to be output.

O The separation is part of a job that has been returned to the RIP and has been Output.

Jobs in a RIP's Media Saving queue cannot be viewed.

TIFF, LEN, PDI and other File Format Inputs

Due to the fact that there may be jobs both in its Input and Output folders, FirstPROOF uses status indicators to show you where a particular job is located at any time. These indicators also tell you the output status of the job.

Job Status

The status of a job is indicated by means of an icon to the left of the Job Name in the Job Name List box. The job status is dependent on a few factors and the icons reflect these options.

I The job is in the Input folder.

A Indicates that the job has been Approved.

R Indicates that the job has been Rejected.

O The job has been moved to the Output folder.

Page Status

The page status indicator appears to the left of the Page Name and indicates the status of a page.

I The page is part of a job in the Input folder.

A The page is part of a job that has been Approved.

R The page is part of a job that has been Rejected.

O The page is part of a job that has been moved to the Output folder.

Separation Status

In this case the color of the icon actually represents the color of the separation. The status indicator appears within the icon.

I The separation is part of a job in the Input folder.

A The separation is part of an Approved job.

R The separation is part of a Rejected job.

O The separation is part of a job that has been moved to the Output folder.

Jobs residing in the Output folder cannot be viewed or deleted and are only displayed in FirstPROOF for tracking purposes.

Printing [Pro]

FirstPROOF Professional includes the ability to print to a local Windows or Macintosh printer. This functionality is not meant to replace a colour accurate proof but rather produces a simple content proof from the viewed data. The advantage offered by this kind of proof is that elements such as trapping and overprint and information generated by FirstPROOFs tools are displayed on the print.

Printing a Proof

To print a full size image:

- Select ***Print*** from the File menu.
- The standard Windows or Mac print dialog will be displayed.
- Choose the desired print options and print as per normal.

To Print a best fit image:

- Select ***Print Best*** from the File menu.
- The standard Windows or Mac print dialogue will be displayed.
- Choose the desired print options and print as per normal.

The ***Print Best*** option will reduce the image (if required) so that it will print on a single piece of paper.

The print data can become quite large due to the fact that you are printing a potentially very large bitmap image.

Additional Notes on printing from FirstPROOF

- You can print separations, progressives, or composites simply by viewing a single separation, multiple separations, or all separations respectively and going print.
- If the output page size that is chosen in the printer setup is smaller than the size of the image being printed, FirstPROOF will produce tiled output.
- When you print, all the enabled view tools are printed too. This includes Grid Lines, Guide Lines, View Black, Trap Black, Ink Limits, etc… This can be very useful as you can 'print' a page to a PDF file, with for example the Ink Limits tool enabled so as to show an ink problem, which you can then mail to a customer.
- Printing works well in conjunction with the Selection and View Selection Tools. For example, if you are viewing a large 8up flat of A4 pages and create Selections for each of the pages in the flat, you can then view each of those A4 pages in turn and print them on an A4 printer. You can also take an A4 page, remove the crop-marks, cut-marks and color-bars and print just the contents.
- If the printer resolution is the same as one of the zoom levels that FirstPROOF uses, then it simply prints the data it already has. For example if viewing a 2400 dpi job, the printer is 300 dpi and you've already viewed the 12.5% zoom level, it simply prints that zoom level which it already created.
- If the printer resolution is not the same as one of the zoom levels that FirstPROOF uses, then it down-samples the original data using a high-quality fractional down-sampling algorithm before printing it.

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- Currently, no de-screening is done, so the content proof might contain some moiré from the down-sampling. This is planned for a later release.
- The content proof printed is exactly what is displayed, so is a RGB print.
- Currently, no color management is done, so the content proof might not match what you get on your press. You can however get close by adjusting the RGB view colors in the Color Manager, and making use of the Dot Gain Tool. Having said that, if the printer driver has the option of using color management, then that will be applied.
- If you ‘print’ to a PDF file on the Mac, do NOT use the Preview application to view it, but Adobe’s Viewer (which is free). There is a bug in Preview which means that although we output seamless tiles of the image, Preview displays those tiles with ‘gaps’ between them. This is a bug in Preview.

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Troubleshooting

FirstPROOF has been designed to take care of most processes automatically, however, if any errors do occur you will be kept informed with appropriate error messages.

Problem	Type	Solution
Unsupported Image Format	**Message**	**FirstPROOF does not recognise the format of the PGB, TIFF, LEN or other File Format file that it is trying to view. The file type is most likely not supported at this time.**
Cannot Send Job To RIP – RIP Cannot Be Found On The Network	**Message**	**The RIP's Inputs have not been started. Start the RIP's Inputs.** **The HMRConfig or the HMRAsych inputs have been disabled. Enable the inputs.**
Unknown channel class socket input while creating channel HMRConfig or **Unknown channel class Socket input A sync while creating channel HMRAsync**	**Message**	**Some RIP's may not have the *Socket Input Plug-in* installed when they ship. Search your RIP folder for a folder called *Socket*.** **Copy the Socket folder into the *SW\Inputs* folder.**

Glossary

PageBuffer (PGB) file	During the ripping process, a Harlequin Raster Image Processor creates a bitmap image file that is known as a PageBuffer.
Raster Image Processor (RIP)	A hardware and software combination that converts a vector image into a bit-mapped image. All PostScript printers contain a Raster Image Processor that converts the PostScript commands into bit-mapped pages that the printer can output.
RIP Input	A RIP that is connected to First*PROOF*.
Direct Mode	Ripped Images appear immediately in the RIP's Active queue.
Held Mode	Ripped files are Held until you send the job to the RIP's Active queue.

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Contact

Use the following contact details if you wish to contact Hamillroad Software.

E-mail technical support will be provided to registered users free of charge for a period of 60 days from date of registration. Thereafter a charge may be levied.

Technical Support	support@hamillroad.com
Register Software	registration@hamillroad.com
General	info@hamillroad.com
Website	www.hamillroad.com