

FirstPROOF v5.0 Release Notes

The 5.0 release of FirstPROOF is a significant step forward for Hamillroad Software, as it changes FirstPROOF from being a content-only pre-press soft-proofing system (albeit with a number of unique and sophisticated pre-press tools) to a color-accurate pre-press soft-proofing system.

The new release contains an innovative new method for producing color accurate soft-proofs of jobs that is simple, easy to use and fast. The press is spectrally profiled by taking a small number of measurements from the color bars around the outside of a printed job and this is then used to view subsequent jobs. This eliminates the need to print a separate large test chart containing hundreds or thousands of patches, which also means that an inexpensive spectrophotometer can be used costing hundreds of pounds (as opposed to thousands of pounds for an automated device).

This allows FirstPROOF to be used alongside the press (as well as in pre-press) so as to provide a color accurate proof which the press-man prints to, thus eliminating the requirement for a hard-copy proof.

In addition, FirstPROOF v5 also supports the LEN file format from Esko-Graphics, allowing FirstPROOF to be used in conjunction with the Esko workflow.

The following describes the changes to FirstPROOF.

1. FirstPROOF:

1. LEN Files from Esko-Graphics Flexo RIPs are fully supported, both uncompressed and flate compressed.

2. FirstPROOF Std:

n/a

3. FirstPROOF Pro:

1. Color Accurate viewing has been added:
 - a) A new Color panel in the Configure FirstPROOF dialog has been added to enable/configure the Color Management system.
 - b) A Spectral Manager has been added, which allows the user to spectrally profile the press, by taking a single measurement of the paper and each of the inks to be used (using an Eye-One Pro).
 - c) A Light Manager has been added, which allows the user to specify the lighting conditions which should be used to match the job (that is under which the print will be viewed).
 - d) A Color Manage button has been added. This allows the user to toggle on/off color management, comparing a color managed view with a non-color managed view.
 - e) A Gamut Check button has been added. This allows the user to see which areas of the page being viewed are out of gamut of the monitor and so can not be displayed accurately.
 - f) The ability to import and export spectral data from the Spectral Manager has been added.

4. FirstPROOF Options:

n/a

5. FirstPROOF Mac:

n/a

6. FirstPROOF PC (Windows):

n/a