



A revolution in proofing technology
Delivers contract quality screened proofs with
RIP Once technology to guarantee data integrity



Star Proof is an innovative proofing solution which produces high quality screened contract proofs on inkjet printers - quickly and economically.

With its Actual Dot system to replicate original screening and dot patterns at proofing resolutions, Star Proof delivers top quality proofs with a hard dot, sharp images, accurate color and fine detail - just as they will appear on the press. With ROOM proofing architecture to resample the same set of high resolution separations that are sent to the platesetter/imagesetter, Star Proof ensures data integrity between proof and print.

Screened contract proofs produced quickly and economically

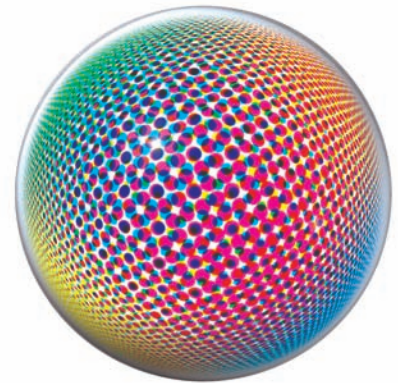
Star Proof gives provides all the controls necessary for faithful reproduction of images on inkjet printers. To maintain image sharpness, Star Proof uses the actual dots of the original RIPped 1-bit data, preserving dot patterns, screening and rosettes on the proof. The results on high quality inkjet printers are stunning, contract-quality proofs.

Star Proof color management tools are designed for actual dots proofing to simulate the printing press process characteristics, which ensures the production of color proofs that truly match final press sheets. With a powerful set of productivity features for managing special spot colors, oversize printing, soft proofing, progressive proofs, simulation of misregistration and remote proofing, Star Proof delivers a complete and cost-effective solution for today's demanding proofing requirements.

Why halftone proof ?

Printing processes using coarse screening or different screen rulings will have a major influence both on the visual impression and color gamut.

The foundation of Star Proof's powerful ability to produce top quality screened proofs lies in it's analytical engine, Actual Dot, which enables the reproduction of rosettes, fine line art, text at just 1pt, and even defects such as moire patterns.



Star Proof workflow



What is ROOM proofing ?

Whether in a design agency, commercial printer, packaging or newspaper production, the frustration and cost to business when printed sheets do not match the proof is all too obvious. Differences can be found in color or inconsistencies between text flows or fonts. Whatever the problem Star Proof has the answer.

Star Proof is a RIP Once Output Many [ROOM] workflow that creates proofs from the dot patterns of high resolution separations that are sent for final output. In non-ROOM workflows there are two separate RIPs - one for creating proofs and one for final output at high resolution. Operational errors and software differences between these two RIPs can easily create discrepancies between

the information on the proof and the plate. Star Proof overcomes these problems using a proprietary technology to convert the high resolution bitmaps directly to a format suitable for output to the proofing device - ensuring complete data integrity to eliminate costly mistakes on the print run.

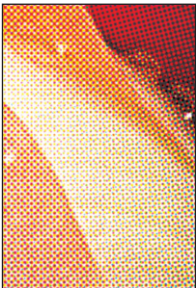
Packaging simulation proofing features

Star Proof offers new features for packaging applications that enable the simulation of plate dot characteristics in flexo printing to ensure proofs accurately reflect what will be produced on the press.

Screening dots prepared for flexo plates are normally adjusted in width or height by a small percentage to compensate for expansion during printing. Star Proof Distortion expands distorted dots to the original size with user controls to correct the size of the screening dots based on the original distortion ratio or the expansion ratio. Star Proof also compensates for the small dots which can be lost in the transfer to flexo plates during the plate making process. By entering a Dot Lost size, any screening dots smaller than this size will be removed and will not appear on the proof.

Flexo printing, especially when printing on corrugated media, has extremely high dot gain of up to 15% to 20% and normal dot gain adjustment cannot compensate dot gains of this magnitude. Star Proof's Extreme Dot Gain increases screening dot size dramatically by adding a border of 1 or more pixels around the screening dot - so providing the confidence that what appears on the proof matches the press.

Dot Lost is an option for simulating processes such as flexo or letterpress plate making where the plate is unable to hold small dots. If for example, the user inputs 65 micron in the Dot Lost text field, any dots smaller than 65 micron will not show on the proof.



Without Dot Lost



Dot Lost : 65 micron

Misregistration is an option which simulates the press mis-registration for each separation, a feature which allows users to check if the applied trapping distance covers the press mis-registration tolerance, to avoid gaps on press.



Extreme Dot Gain is an option for increasing the raster file dot gain. By inputting a pixel value in the Extreme Dot Gain text field, the resultant proof will show an increase in dots and object borders to simulate the plate pressure on the printing press.



Without Extreme Dot Gain



Extreme Dot Gain : 2 pixel

Color Shade Estimate option provides spot color auto fine tuning, together with a report to ensure consistent color quality via the measuring and comparison of color values.



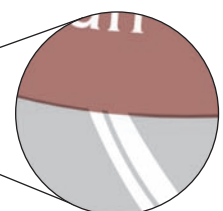
Invert Separation option allows users to invert any special separation, for example when reverse printing white color on transparent media. Normal ink jet printers are unable to print white ink - this facility allows the operator to invert the white separation channel and print gray in the transparent area.



Without white separation



Invert white separation



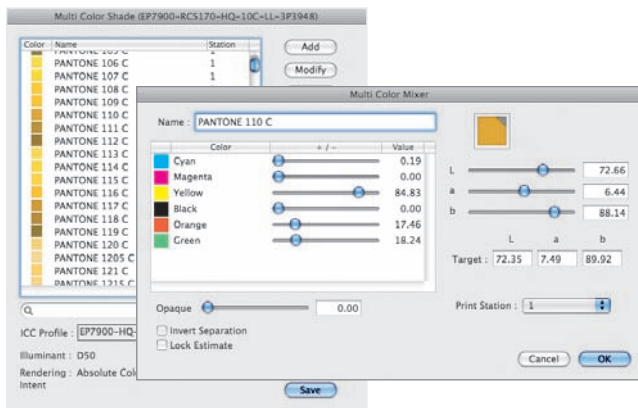
White separation trapping

Contract proofing on a wide range of affordable inkjets

Working closely with printer manufacturers allows for the continuous development of interfaces for new models, so ensuring optimum performance and output quality. The flexibility and precision of Star Proof allows users to take advantage of the ever increasing range of high quality inkjet printers available from suppliers such as Epson, with the VSDT-capable Stylus Pro printers and Epson UltraChrome HDR™ Ink.

Multi Color Shade

Matching special colors on a digital proof is challenging, mainly due to the color gamut limitations of inkjet printers and the capabilities of color management software. Now Epson UltraChrome HDR™ Ink utilizes ten colors, including an all new orange and green which produces the widest color gamut ever from an Epson Stylus Pro printer. Star Proof takes advantage of this technology via the Multi Color Shade feature to match to any standard special color library, so delivering more than a 90% accuracy when compared to Pantone Solid Coated™ colors.



Print Separation

Allows users to print single separation colors, progressive proofs or single separations as black for imaging inkjet film.



ICS Certified proofs

ICS Certified is an optional program for verifying proofs, quickly and accurately and can be used with any proofing system to check color quality and consistency of digital proofs. ICS Certified reads and verifies control strips from institutions in Europe such as Fogra and Ugra, SWOP (in US) and TOYO (in Japan).

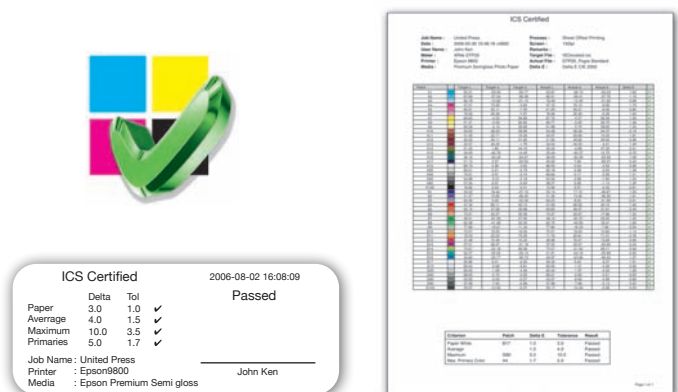
ICS Certified allows users to choose an international or customised standard as a reference and define your own company verification color bars.

The following spectrophotometers are currently supported:

- Eye-One.
- DTP20 Pulse, DTP41, DTP45 and DTP70.

Control strips can be created for a supported measurement device using either a pre-defined patch set or a new patch set that is user defined.

The resultant measurements can be output as a brief summary printed on a label, or as a detailed report sheet, allowing the monitoring of color variations over a period of time.



Bit Screen

Until now, users of proprietary systems have been unable to benefit from the high quality proofs available with Star Proof.

With the Bit Screen option, file formats such as CT/LW, TIFF-IT/P1, Delta List and CMYK 8 bit TIFF files can be used within Star Proof. Bit Screen enables users to transfer these content files via hot folders to the Bit Screen application which, with its unique screening look-up tables, allows the user to specify the screening and dot angle required for the finished job.



Isi Calibration to simulate printing press process

Star Proof's Isi Calibration System (ICS) provides a comprehensive set of tools to achieve excellent color matching between proof and press, offering traditional color calibration and fine controls for matching inks via color shade, calibration curve and dot gain compensation. With superb reproduction of blacks and grays and options for handling UCR and GCR, users can easily achieve quality levels that are difficult for many systems based solely on ICC profiling.

At the heart of ICS is a straightforward, yet powerful process for color calibration - one which is intuitive to press operators. ICS uses spectrophotometer readings to analyze and compare printing press target charts and proof printer calibration charts. The readings are input to Star Proof and a system profile is created for the specific press, which is then saved for future use.



Save time with ICS's automated calibration

Calibration time is saved by using ICS's auto-calibration for the automated reading of color patches with the X-Rite DTP-41 or EyeOne. ICS's auto calibration takes the device measurements and prepares a color curve with the appropriate gamut which can then be fine tuned for even more precise color matching.

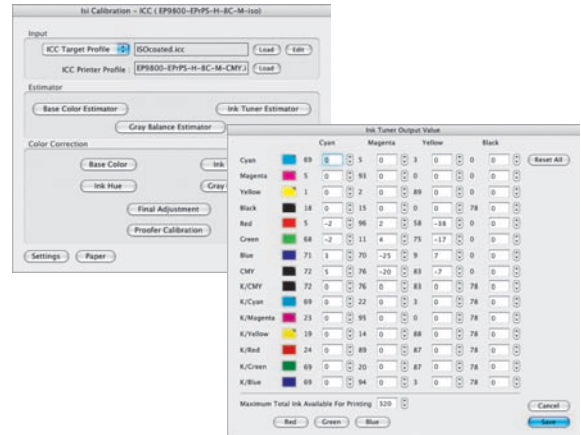
Efficient remote proofing for faster approvals

Star Proof Remote Print Station gives print companies a cost-effective solution to provide customers with the capability to print contract proofs locally on inkjet printers in their own offices - shortening approval cycles and improving the service to customers. Using an ftp server running under Mac OS X, Remote Print Station takes color corrected proofs over the Internet from the print company's master Star Proof station and controls output to the local printer. Files can be compressed for transmission and then decompressed at the remote print site.

With a Remote Print Station to control each printer, Star Proof is also capable of proofing simultaneously on multiple printers which may be sited locally or remotely - enhancing throughput and increasing flexibility of workflow.

Controlling shadow areas with Ink Tuner

In areas of the proof where overlaps occur between C, M, Y and Black, Ink Tuner enables adjustments to be made to color densities of individual inks, control shadow areas and view actual ink values in real time. Ink Tuner automatically manages the process of adjusting ink levels to ensure ink hues are unaffected. This provides a robust system to control both color and density in selected areas - a process not possible with many ICC color management systems.



Isi Calibration-ICC

Star Proof implemented ICC profile on top of ICS color management technology to retain the advantages of ICS. This feature allows users to import standard press ICC profiles. In addition, the user has tools that allow the creation of their own custom ICC profiles to produce great visual results with low Delta E values. Users can view Lab and CMYK value and apply flexible color adjustment, set maximum total ink for printing and import spot color Lab value from spectrophotometer devices.

Proofs from almost any RIP

Star Proof uses compressed 1-bit TIFF separations as source data to create proofs, so enabling Star Proof to be used in conjunction with almost any PostScript/PDF RIP.





Multi Color Shade for special colors

Special colors can be replicated with Color Shade to provide the closest match in CMYK or CMYK+Orange+Green values which are then saved within the color library.

Hard dots for sharp detail

Actual Dot's hard dots ensures fine image reproduction - including rosettes, moiré, fine line work and 1 pt text.

Dot corrections for flexo printing

Pre-adjusts dot geometry and dot gain found in flexo printing applications to ensure the matching of proof and print, right down to dot level.

Input formats for Star Proof

- . 1-bit TIFF created by
 - HARLEQUIN Scriptworks RIP
 - AGFA Apogee Workflow
 - DAINIPPON SCREEN Trueflow & PixelStream Workflow
- . 8-bit CMYK TIFF, Grayscale TIFF, Delta List, Scitex Handshake CT, EPS, DCS2 and any 1-bit TIFF created by other RIP Compression methods
 - CCITT G4
 - CCITT G3
 - CCITT Huffman RLE
 - LZW
 - Packbits
- . Others 1-bit file formats
 - 1-bit Barco LEN file
 - 1-bit DCS
 - 1-bit Presstek

Supported printers

- . Epson Stylus Pro 3800, 4000, 4400, 4800, 4880, 7000, 7500, 7600, 7400, 7450, 7800, 7880, 7900/7910, 9000, 9400, 9450, 9500, 9600, 9800, 9880, 9900/9910, 10000, 10600, 11880
- . Epson Stylus Photo 2100/2200
- . HP DesignJet 10PS, 20PS, 50PS, 120, 130, 1050c, 5000, 5500
- . Canon imagePROGRAF W6400/8400

Recommended system requirements

- . Running on Mac OS 10.4 and above, Star Proof is optimized for Core 2 Duo or Core 2 Quad Intel processors.
- . Recommended hardware - 2GB RAM or above, 200GB spare hard disc capacity and 100 Base T Ethernet.

Digital blue prints to check trapping

Color Shade Editor replicates conventional methods of checking trapping by substituting blue hues for the ink on each plate with correctly trapped areas identified as a thin dark blue line.

Proof low transparent ink effect

Simulate the usage of opaque inks and control the sequence of colors - invaluable for applications such as proofing water-based inks.

Simulation of paper stock

Define base colors to simulate the target paper stock.

Progressive proofs

Available with version 4 and above.

Remote printing

Remote Print Station's fast delivery of proofing files gives customers the ability to print contract proofs on their own in-house inkjet printer.

Proofing oversized jobs

Split large plates for proofing on a small printer - print individual pages or double page spreads on A4 or A3 printers.

Soft proofing via the internet

Generate soft proofs as JPEGs for delivery via e-mail or ftp.



Isi Graphic System

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