CIP3 Output Plugin

The CIP3 Output Plugin enables the Harlequin® RIP to produce Print Production Format (PPF) files containing information about print jobs, including administrative data, information about inks, and preview images. The PPF file is then read by a CIP3 reader (included with press control systems), which provides instructions for automatically setting ink fountains on press.

CIP3 file generation through the Harlequin RIP is just as easy and automatic as generating the plates and films themselves, and using those files with your press can bring you to color far faster, reducing make-ready times and wastage, and removing the need for plate scanners.

CIP3, now CIP4

International Cooperation for Integration of Processes in Pre-press, Press, and Post-press

CIP4 is an international standards body whose purpose is to encourage computer-based integration of all processes involved in graphic arts workflows by specifying and publishing standards. CIP4 is the successor of CIP3, which started in 1995 as a joint initiative of vendors for the graphic arts industry. The current focus of the association is on the development and adoption of the JDF (Job Definition Format) Specification, which incorporates the existing PPF format.

PPF (Print Production Format)

The file format specification developed by the original CIP3 consortium. PPF files may contain any or all of the following items relating to the front and/or back of fully imposed press sheets:

- Inking data for the press, allowing automatic setting of ink fountains on press. *

- Plate size and mounting position in relation to the press. *

- Separations required for the job. *

- Positions and colors of color test strips, allowing automatic setting of closed loop adjustments on press.

- Positions of registration marks, allowing automatic setting of registration test meters on press.

- Positions of fold and cut marks, allowing at least preliminary setup of post press operations to be handled automatically.

* Included in Harlequin CIP3 Plugin PPF file

HARLEQUIN®
at heart

JDF

CIP4™
Member

CIP3 Plugin

SOFTWARE SPECFICATIONS

CIP3 Plugin Version	Latest version: 1.4r9
RIP Version	Harlequin RIP Eclipse Release™ or later
CIP3 Specification Supported	CIP3 version 2.0 specification (can be read by all consuming applications) CIP3 Specification version 2.1 and version 3.0
Preview Image	CMYK color preview images 8 bits per pixel Separated or unseparated Spot colors supported for separated output files User-selectable preview resolution (including 50.8dpi, recommended in PPF specification)
Compression	Uncompressed Run Length Encoded (RLE) compressed files
Encoding	Binary (raw), Hexadecimal, and ASCII 85

Press-Sheet Work Styles	Single-sided sheets
	Double-sided sheets:
	    Sheetwise
	    Work & Turn
	    Work & Tumble
	    Perfecting Sheetwise
	    Perfecting Work & Turn
	    Perfecting Work & Tumble
	    Double Sided Web

Other User Controls	Configurable sheet and job name fields Configurable transforms and extents Single separation per PPF file if required Negative output
Supported CIP3 readers	Heidelberg CPC32 MAN Roland PPI2 Graphics Microsystems, Inc. CIP3 reader Heidelberg Web PrePress Gateway Eltromat/KBA *There are other readers compatible with Harlequin-generated CIP3 PPF files. This list shows only those readers that have been tested either by Harlequin or by the vendor (where the vendor has informed us of a positive result).*

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