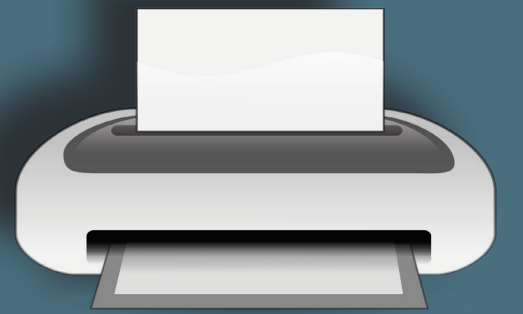# PREFLIGHT INFOGRAPHICS

Preflight programs are often used to ensure certain file formats can be safely printed or edited while also avoiding production errors and easing the printing process.

Images

- HAVE A REASONABLY HIGH RESOLUTION FROM THE IMAGES
- IF CROPPING IS REQUIRED, USE ANY IMAGE-ADJUSTING APP TO AVOID OVER-CROPPING
- PICTURES OFTEN PRINT BETTER WITH CMYK MODE
- OBJECT-BASED IMAGES ARE REQUIRED TO STAY WITH THE EXACT GRAY BALANCE AND HIGHEST SATURATION (I. E. 320% OR HIGHER).
- IF YOU WISH TO PRINT ILLUSTRATIONS FROM A PDF IN EITHER RGB OR LAB MODE, CHECK THE PRINTING HOUSE'S REQUIREMENTS FOR HANDLING SUCH. DO NOT TRY USING INDEXED MODE IMAGES (GIF, BMP).
- ALL IMAGE LINKS HAVE TO WORK AND THE IMAGES MUST BE DELIVERED ALONG WITH THE OPEN LAYOUT DOCUMENT WITH THEIR MINIMUM RESOLUTIONS.

Colors

- DELETE SPOT COLORS THAT WERE NOT USED.
- DO NOT USE SPOT COLORS FOR CMYK PRINTING; KEEP AN EYE ON OVERPRINTING THE QUANTITIES OF BLACK INK
- APPLY A GRAY BALANCE USED FOR THE FOUR-COLOR GRAY (DOES NOT APPLY TO CYAN, MAGENTA AND YELLOW)
- ADD A COMPOSITE BLACK PIGMENTATION THAT SEEMS DARKER THAN BLACK INK BY ITSELF (I. E. 50,50,50,100)
- DO NOT OVER-APPLY SATURATION IN INKED AREAS, LINES, TYPOGRAPHY, ETC. (I. E. 320% IS ENOUGH FOR ALL CMYK CHANNELS TO MERGE)
- DO NOT DRAW THIN LINES OR SIMILAR OBJECTS IN SEVERAL PRINTING COLORS TO KEEP THEM FROM MISIDENTIFYING.
- A PDF MAY HOLD AN OUTPUT INTENT, WHICH SHOWS THE PLANNED COLORS WHEN PRE-PRINTING. SUCH SHOULD EMBED AN ICC PROFILE, AMONG THE ESSENTIAL PROFILES
- DO NOT USE LARGE-RESOLUTION IMAGES, AS THESE TAKE LONGER TO LOAD; USUALLY, 300 PPI IS THE HIGHEST RESOLUTION FOR NEWSPRINT IMAGES AND 1905 PPI IS APPLIED FOR 1-BIT IMAGES. IN COMMERCIAL PRINTING, THE HIGHEST RESOLUTION IS SET TO 450 PPI AND 3600 PPI WHEN 1-BITS ARE USED.

Typography & Fonts

- ADD ALL THE FONTS USED IN THE PDF, EVEN THOSE FROM THE LOGO AND IMAGES.
- AVOID BOLD, ITALIC, OR PRINTER FONTS ON SOFTWARE FUNCTIONS.
- AVOID SMALL TEXT OR SPECIAL SERIF FONTS WITH SEVERAL INKS.
- SMALL TEXT AND SPECIAL SERIF FONTS CANNOT INTERLAP AS NEGATIVES AGAINST ANY TINT ZONE.
- PRINTER FONTS ARE CRITICAL FOR THE TEXT NEXT TO OBJECT-BASED PICTURES, AS THESE FONTS MUST BE ALIGNED TO THE PDF.
- FILES SHOULD NOT KEEP BLACK TEXT SMALLER THAN 12 POINTS, SINCE IT GETS LESS READABLE WHILE PRINTING.
- CHECK IF THE PDF CONTAINS WHITE TEXT SET TO OVERPRINT, AS IT IS SEEN ON THE LAPTOP BUT INVISIBLE WHEN PRINTING.

The Page

- GENERATE A 1/8-1/4 INCH BLEED FOR IMAGE BLEEDS OR OBJECTS, OR 3/8 FOR A BINDER COVER
- ASSEMBLE THE FULL COVER ABOVE THE SPINE TO PRINT IT AS A DOUBLE-WIDTH PAGE, ALONG WITH ITS SPINE'S WIDTH.
- SEND THE RIGHT PAGE QUANTITY TO THE PRINTER, AND REMOVE THOSE IN BLANK.
- DELETE UNUSED OBJECTS OUTSIDE ANY OF THE DOCUMENT'S PAGES.
- AVOID HAIRLINES OR LINES LESS THIN THAN 0.3 PT.
- REVIEW THE DIMENSIONS BEFORE PRINTING.