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Creating hidden areas with AFP Enhancer

You can hide areas in AFP files that you do not want RICOH ProcessDirector to display or print. For example, you can hide an area that contains a barcode before you create a new barcode in the same place.

The hidden area must be in a consistent position on every page and must be a consistent size. To determine the exact position and size of the hidden area, first print the sample AFP file on the production printer and measure where you want to place the top-left corner of the hidden area on the printed page.

⚠ **Note:** In RICOH Visual Workbench you can display measurement units in inches or millimeters. To change the measurement unit, click [View ⇒ Units](#).

To create a hidden area:

1. In RICOH Visual Workbench, open a sample AFP file.
2. If the file does not contain page groups, use AFP Indexer to create page groups.
3. Click **Mode ⇒ AFP Enhancer**.
4. Navigate to the page where you want to create the hidden area:
 - To place a hidden area on the same page in every page group, navigate to that page in any page group.
 - To place a hidden area on multiple pages, navigate to one of the pages in any page group.
5. Position your cursor at a corner of the hidden area. While pressing the left mouse button, draw a box the approximate size of the hidden area.
In a later step, you can specify the exact position and size of the hidden area.
6. Right-click anywhere in the AFP file and click **Hide Area**.
7. On the General tab, type a descriptive name for the area in the **Hidden area name** field.
For example, if the hidden area contains a barcode for a ZIP Code, the name could be "ZIP Code".
8. Select the color of the area in the **Color** field.
9. Click the Rectangle tab.
10. Specify the exact origin (top-left corner) of the hidden area in these fields. Specify the values in inches or millimeters.

X

The horizontal distance of the left side of the hidden area measured from the left side of the logical page (not the physical sheet of paper). Decimal values (such as 2.5) are allowed. The X position cannot be greater than the width of the page.

Y

The vertical distance of the top of the hidden area measured from the top of the logical page (not the physical sheet of paper). Decimal values (such as 2.5) are allowed. The Y position cannot be greater than the height of the page.

The initial values of these fields are the X and Y distances of the top-left corner of the box that you drew.

⚠ **Note:** If you rotated the AFP file using the **Rotate by 90°** option on the **View** menu, measure the X and Y positions from the top-left corner of the page in the unrotated view.

11. Specify the exact bottom-right corner of the hidden area in these fields. Specify the values in inches or millimeters.

X-extent

The horizontal distance of the right side of the hidden area measured from the left side of the logical page (not the physical sheet of paper). Decimal values (such as 2.5) are allowed. The X-extent position cannot be greater than the width of the page.

Y-extent

The vertical distance of the bottom of the hidden area measured from the top of the logical page (not the physical sheet of paper). Decimal values (such as 2.5) are allowed. The Y position cannot be greater than the height of the page..

The initial values of these fields are the X and Y distances of the bottom-right corner of the box that you drew.

⚠ **Note:** Specify the bottom-right corner of the hidden area in the unrotated view.

12. **Optional:** Specify the **Right Rectangle (CEL)** values: the top-left and bottom-right corners of the hidden area on right-hand pages. Specify the X, Y, X-extent, and Y-extent values in inches or millimeters.

Note:

- If you do not specify values for the **Right Rectangle (CEL)** fields, AFP Enhancer uses the values in the **Rectangle (CEL)** fields for all pages.
- Use values in both the **Rectangle (CEL)** and **Right Rectangle (CEL)** fields if 2-up is enabled and the **Page Placement** value is **All Fronts Left And Right**.

13. Specify the pages on which to place the hidden area in each page group.

14. **Optional:** Specify a trigger using a CEL expression.

Examples:

- You want to place the hidden area on every document with two or more pages. Use this expression:
`total_pages_in_mp != 1`
- You want to place the hidden area on each document sent to California that has **yes** as the value of the **Doc.Custom.PolicyDiscount** document property. Use this expression:
`and(Doc.State == CA, Doc.Custom.PolicyDiscount == yes)`

15. Click the Preview tab.

16. **Optional:** Change any combination of values for the **X position**, **Y position**, **Width**, and **Height** fields.

The **Origin of area** values show the X and Y positions of the upper-left corner of the hidden area you drew. The **Width** and **Height** values show the horizontal and vertical distances from the upper-left corner to the bottom-right corner of the hidden area you drew.

Note: The values on the Preview tab are used to display the hidden area in RICOH Visual Workbench. They do not change when you change the values on the Rectangle tab. The values on both tabs are saved in the Visual Workbench control file. Only the values on the Rectangle tab are exported to the EnhanceAFP control file and used to place the hidden area on the documents in the AFP file.

17. Click **OK**.

You do not see any text or image data in the hidden area in each page group.

Parent topic: [Working with sample AFP files](#)