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Workflow to split PDF jobs by size

The PDF Document Support feature includes step templates that you can use to split a job into smaller jobs so that, for example, they can be printed on separate printers.

To split a job without fragmenting any of its documents across two jobs, you must identify the boundaries of the documents in the job. To do that, you define page groups in PDF files using RICOH ProcessDirector Plug-in for Adobe Acrobat. You copy the plug-in control file with the page group definition to the location you specify in the **IdentifyPDFDocuments** step.

You include an **IdentifyPDFDocuments** step so it can apply the rules that you defined in RICOH ProcessDirector Plug-in for Adobe Acrobat to create the document properties file for the original job. The **SplitDocuments** step determines which documents are placed into each child job and updates the document properties file with that information.

You use a **CreateJobsFromDocuments** step, which makes document properties files for the child jobs but does not create PDF files. You must also include a step based on the **BuildPDFFromDocuments** step template in the workflow assigned to the child jobs. **BuildPDFFromDocuments** creates the PDF file with all the documents in the correct order. In this step, you also specify the RICOH ProcessDirector Plug-in for Adobe Acrobat control files that add markup to the PDF file.

The original workflow does not have any steps in the Print phase because the child workflow controls printing. After all the child jobs complete, the parent job goes to the next step in the original workflow.

The child workflow should begin with steps based on these two step templates: **SetJobPropsFromTextFile** and **SetJobPropsFromOriginal**.

SetJobPropsFromTextFile sets values for job properties from the steps of the child workflow. **SetJobPropsFromOriginal** copies the values that were set in the original workflow to become the values for those properties in the child workflow. Then if you choose to run the building of the child PDF files in parallel by including a **CreateJobsFromDocuments** step in the original workflow, you need to use a **BuildPDFFromDocuments** step in the child workflow.

Note:

- If you have customized phase names in your system, the phase names in the table might not match the names in your system.

Splitting PDF jobs by size using CreateJobsFromDocuments

Parent/child	Phase	Step
Parent	Receive	SetJobPropsFromTextFile In the Input data stream field, select PDF .
	Prepare	CountPages
		IdentifyPDFDocuments
	Assemble	SplitDocuments
		CreateJobsFromDocuments
	Complete	RetainCompletedJobs
Child	Receive	SetJobPropsFromTextFile
	Assemble	BuildPDFFromDocuments
	Print	CountPages
		CreatePageRanges
		PrintJobs
	Complete	WaitForRelatedJobs
		RetainCompletedJobs

Parent/child	Phase	Step
		RemoveJobs

Parent topic: [Configuring the PDF Document Support feature](#)