Overview

Three deadlines in a conditional workflow scenario

In this scenario, a conditional workflow has separate processing paths for PDF jobs, AFP jobs, and other jobs (PostScript and PCL). PDF jobs go through a time-consuming preflight step performed with the PitStop Connect Feature. AFP jobs go through a time-consuming accounting step that runs an external program. Other jobs do not go through the time-consuming preflight or accounting steps. You want to set a different deadline for each path: two hours for PDF jobs, 90 minutes for AFP jobs, and 30 minutes for other jobs. You place a **SetDeadline** step at the start of each path.

Conditional workflow: shared steps
SetJobPropsFromTextFile
DetectInputDataStream

Path for PDF jobs
SetDeadline: makes PrintJobs the deadline step; sets two hours for the deadline time (Deadline date = Relative to property value; Property = Time submitted; Plus or minus = 2 hours).
Preflight (step based on RunPitStopOnJob step template)
CountPages
PrintSetup (step based on AssignJobValues step template): assigns print properties to PDF jobs.
CreatePageRanges

Path for AFP jobs
SetDeadline: makes PrintJobs the deadline step; sets 90 minutes for the deadline time (Deadline date = Relative to property value; Property = Time submitted; Plus or minus = 90 minutes).
CountPages
Accounting (step based on RunExternalProgram step template): runs a program for the accounting department.
PrintSetup (step based on AssignJobValues step template): assigns print properties to AFP jobs.
CreatePageRanges

Path for other jobs
SetDeadline: makes PrintJobs the deadline step; sets 30 minutes for the deadline time (Deadline date = Relative to property value; Property = Time submitted; Plus or minus = 30 minutes).
PrintSetup (step based on AssignJobValues step template): assigns print properties to other jobs.

Shared steps
PrintJobs
RetainCompletedJobs
RemoveJobs

With this workflow, you can see whether a job meets or misses its deadline to complete printing. If a job misses its deadline, RICOH ProcessDirector adds a red dot to the **Schedule risk** column for the job in the Jobs table. Red dots are added for each type of job after print completion deadlines of different lengths are missed. Red dots are added for PDF jobs after two hours. Red dots are added for AFP jobs after 90 minutes. Red dots are added for other jobs after 30 minutes.

Parent topic: Usage scenarios for Deadline Tracker