

EFI COLOR EDITOR — TIPS AND TRICKS

This document explains how you can implement spot colors in EFI XF in order to:

- Substitute process colors
- Change the black channel
- Disable a color channel



Please note that if you are working with EFI XF version 2.5, the process colors must also be defined as spot colors in the DTP application (InDesign, Quark, etc.). This is not necessary in later versions of EFI XF from 2.6.

Substituting process colors

In certain printing situations, it may be desirable to substitute the CMYK color channels — for example, you may wish to replace Cyan with a Pantone spot color called “Reflex Blue” or maybe substitute Magenta with a user-defined spot color.

NOTE: In the case of PostScript or PDF files, it is important that you select the setting for forced in-RIP separation for the print job. This makes absolutely sure that it is not printed as composite. Print jobs that are processed using in-RIP separation are indicated by a swatch book icon on the General tab.

TO SUBSTITUTE A PROCESS COLOR

- 1 **Start EFI Color Editor.**
- 2 **From the File menu, select New to open a new spot color table.**
- 3 **In the edit box Name, type the name of the color you wish to substitute, e.g. Magenta.**
- 4 **To substitute with a standard spot color (e.g. from Pantone, HKS or Toyo):**

- From the File menu, select Show Internal to display a list of standard spot colors.
- From the drop-down list box Type, select Alias.

NOTE: Make sure that your new spot color is still highlighted at the top of the list of displayed colors.

- From the drop-down list box Alias for, select the spot color to replace Magenta.

To substitute with a user-defined spot color:

- In the drop-down list box Type, select L*a*b*/CMYK.
- In the Characterization table, type the CMYK or L*a*b* values of the spot color to replace Magenta.

5 Save the spot color table to ...\\Server\\Profiles\\Spotcolor. This is the default folder.

6 In EFI XF, load the spot color table.

NOTE: How you load spot color tables depends on which version of EFI XF you are using. Refer to your user manual for further information.



If the spot color table is not available for selection in EFI XF, try restarting the Server.

The effects you can achieve are illustrated below.

Original image



Effect of substituting Magenta with Red and Cyan with Reflex Blue



Effect of replacing Black with Reflex Blue



Changing the black channel

You can make EFI Color Editor work like a Device Link profile by instructing it to substitute the black channel with the pure black ink of the printer. That way you can ensure that the black channel of the printer is preserved.

In the same way, you can change the color values to change the shade of black or gray. You may find this useful, for example, for printing b/w photos in different shades of gray.

TO CHANGE THE BLACK CHANNEL

- 1 Start EFI Color Editor.
- 2 From the File menu, select New to open a new spot color table.
- 3 In the edit box Name, type the name Black.
- 4 In the drop-down list box Type, select CMYK.
- 5 Select the checkbox As inkjet CMYK.
- 6 In the K column of the Characterization table, type in a value of 100 for 100% ink.

NOTE: If you wish, you can also add CMY values to produce different gray tints (warm gray, gray with reddish tint, etc.).

- 7 Save the spot color table to ...\\Server\\Profiles\\Spotcolor. This is the default folder.

8 In EFI XF, load the spot color table.

NOTE: How you load spot color tables depends on which version of EFI XF you are using. Refer to your user manual for further information.

If the spot color table is not available for selection in EFI XF, try restarting the Server.



Effects that can be achieved by changing the color values for Black



Disabling a color channel

By setting all the values of a particular color channel to 0, you can simulate a printing press that is not using all the print units. In other words, by setting certain ink colors to 0, you can omit them from the printout.

TO DISABLE A COLOR CHANNEL

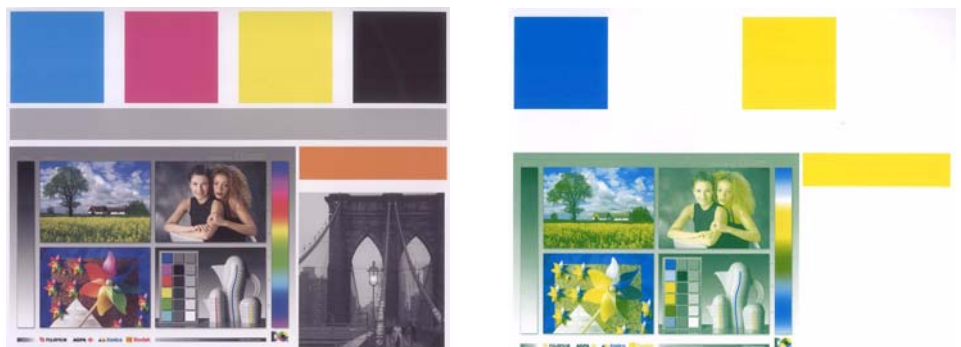
- 1 Start EFI Color Editor.
- 2 From the File menu, select New to open a new spot color table.
- 3 In the edit box Name, type the name of the color you want to omit from the printout, e.g. Magenta.
- 4 In the drop-down list box Type, select CMYK.
- 5 In all four columns of the characterization table, type in values of 0 for 100% ink.
- 6 Save the spot color table to ...\\Server\\Profiles\\Spotcolor. This is the default folder.
- 7 In EFI XF, load the spot color table.

NOTE: How you load spot color tables depends on which version of EFI XF you are using. Refer to your user manual for further information.

If the spot color table is not available for selection in EFI XF, try restarting the Server.



Effect that can be achieved by editing out Magenta and Black (original image on the left for comparison)



This method of disabling color channels can best be applied to automatic workflows. If you wish to remove color channels from individual print jobs, it is easier simply to deselect the appropriate check boxes on the Spot Colors tab.

NOTE: In some versions of EFI XF the setting can be found on the Separations tab.

Spot Color tab

1 Deactivate desired color channels.

