

Automating Print Production

JDF in the real world

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What the Experts say

- **We have a long way to go – pre-press, press and post press devices plus the business systems that surround them must all talk the same language.** *Frank Romano, RIT*
- **For JDF to become a reality, interfaces must be written by two parties. It is not Plug and Play.** *George Clarke, Heidelberg UK*
- **It's the connectivity between areas and between an MIS and Production where JDF can add most to existing systems.** *Martin Bailey, CIP4*

JDF implementation

- **ScenicSoft introduced UpFront with a JDF link from MIS at IPEX 2002.**
- **2 years later, just prior to DRUPA we saw the first commercial use of this link.**
- **This is a relatively simple link – Job Bag information (Job Intent), comprising about 30 parameters.**
- **It is software only, no hardware involvement, so can be relatively easily configured**

POSITIVE FOCUS

JDF Now - Example

MIS

- Job intent:
- No. of pages
- Page size
- Stock
- Customer

Creo Synapse
UpFront

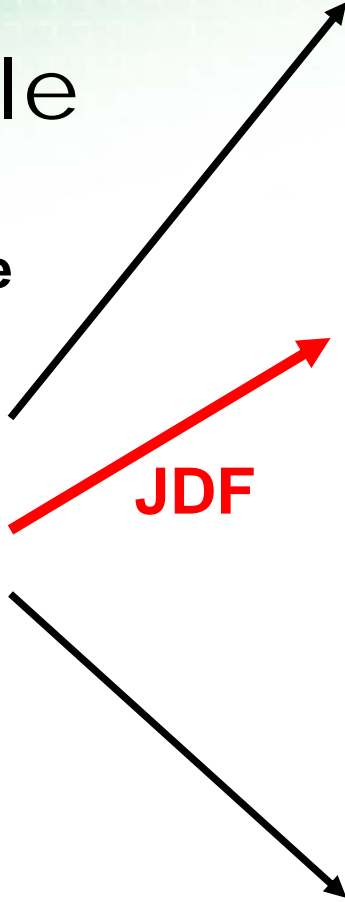


JDF →

← JDF

Feedback to MIS

For inventory control
and downstream
production scheduling
and control



Pre-press

Preps templates
and Job Files



Post-press

- CIP3 finishing
information to
cutters
- CIP4/JDF binding
information to
folder / stitcher /
binders

Process

Best practice for
efficient operation
– high ROI

JDF implementation

- **There is a real lack of understanding of what JDF represents.**
- **Hardware manufacturers sell on the basis of compatibility without considering where the JDF information is generated**
- **Software vendors often fail to appreciate the breadth of JDF and concentrate on their narrow area.**
- **The printer sees the words ‘control’, ‘print production’ and ‘process’ but fails to read the small print in between.**

- **Networked Graphic Production (NGP) is an example of cooperation between suppliers with an industry-wide commitment to delivering the value of JDF.**
- **Networked Graphic Production™ (NGP)** solutions provide an automated, intelligent print production flow. These fully-integrated solutions establish communication and collaboration among all stakeholders, including print specifiers, creative professionals, prepress, production and customer service. They streamline the entire print process from idea to delivery.
- **NGP Partners** are the leaders and innovators in the graphic arts industry who are committed to the NGP initiative. Together they are developing and implementing fully-integrated solutions based on JDF and other open standards. These solutions facilitate communication between technologies and people and ensure a seamless flow of accurate information across systems and networks, anytime, anywhere.

Can it deliver?

- **Yes – BUT**
- **Integration demands effort, from manufacturers, suppliers, VARs, integrators – AND USERS**
- **It won't all happen at once**
- **Early adopters have more pain but more to gain**
- **There is a strong argument to implement on a piecemeal basis as the technology becomes available – if the technology is truly open**
- **Anyone investing now would be foolish to overlook or discount the potential**