Jaws PDF Creator™
EPS Assistants

General

Purpose

The EPS assistant files supplied for use with Jaws PDF Creator are designed to enable better control of a number of aspects of the PDF files to be created.

Installation

The EPS Assistant files can be found in the *Goodies* folder within the *Jaws PDF Creator* folder.

WINDOWS: If you didn't select your own specific location when installing Jaws PDF Creator, you'll find the *Jaws PDF Creator* folder inside *C:\Program Files\JawsSystems*.

MACINTOSH: If you didn't select your own specific location when installing Jaws PDF Creator, you'll find the *Jaws PDF Creator* folder in *Applications* on the computer's primary hard disk.

The EPS files do not need to be copied anywhere special. They can be placed on the page in most page design applications in the same way as any other EPS file.

Compatibility

The EPS assistant files are compatible with version 3.0 and later of Jaws PDF Creator.

They may be used with most desktop applications in which EPS files may be placed, with the following exceptions:

- Applications where the placed EPS file is immediately converted to raster data and the encapsulated PostScript is not transmitted to Jaws PDF Creator. Adobe Photoshop falls into this class.
- Applications that directly interpret the PostScript element of an EPS file as it is placed rather than making use of the embedded screen preview.

SetTrimBox.eps

In many cases you may wish to design your work on a larger page size than the final, printed and trimmed piece will be (the live area). You can put additional information outside the live area of the job that will help in several ways. Adding a color bar, and using the Global Graphics PDF/X Overprint test strip can help you check that any proofs have been created correctly, for instance.

If you do design your work like that, you must communicate to people who will be handling your file in prepress exactly where the live area of the page is positioned within the PDF file. Traditionally that has been done by manually placing crop marks outside the live area, and that's still a good idea. In addition, the PDF file format has the ability to capture that information directly in a structure called a *TrimBox*.

The *SetTrimBox.eps* file may be used to define this area in such a way that Jaws PDF Creator will record the size and position of the live area as a *TrimBox* in the created PDF file.

To use it, just place it as you would any other EPS file in your design application. You should then move and scale it so that the top left hand corner aligns with the top left hand corner of the live area, and the bottom right corner of the EPS file aligns with the bottom right of the live area. It's likely that you'll need to scale the page differently in horizontal and vertical dimensions to achieve the desired effect. Once correctly sized and positioned, you may find it easier to send the graphic behind other page elements to allow you to continue to edit them. See the manuals supplied with your design application for details of placing, positioning, scaling and ordering EPS files. Do not rotate the file after placing it.

SetBleedBox.eps

If your design includes elements, such as fills or images, that are supposed to extend right to the edge of the final printed piece you should be sure to design them to actually 'bleed' off the edge. This means that the normal, minor miss-registrations in printing will not result in a white line around the edge.

Note that retaining bleeding elements from some applications when creating PDF/X via an intermediary PostScript file requires that the job be printed with crop marks, or that it be designed on an oversize page with manually placed crop marks, etc.

If your design includes such elements, you should inform people handling your job at the printer or publisher that you've done so, and by how much those elements extend off the page. They will need to check that you've extended them far enough to work correctly on their presses. The *SetBleedBox.eps* file provides one way to transmit this information, because it will trigger Jaws PDF Creator to include a structure called the *BleedBox* in the resulting PDF file.

To use it, place and scale it as described for *SetTrimBox.eps* above, but align the edges with the outside edges of elements that bleed off the page, rather than with the live area. If your design doesn't bleed off all sides of the live area, then align the edge of the EPS file on non-bleeding sides with the edge of the live area itself.

As with *SetTrimBox.eps*, once you've correctly sized and positioned *SetBleedBox.eps*, you may find it easier to send the graphic behind other page elements to allow you to continue to edit them.

TrappedOn.eps and TrappedOff.eps

Just as normal, minor miss-registration during printing gives rise to the need to bleed some elements off the page, it can also cause smaller, but still visible, artifacts within the page area itself. Most often these will appear as small white outlines round some sides of a line or a character. To avoid these effects it is normal to add 'traps' (sometimes called grips, chokes or spreads) to elements.

The staff who will handle your job at the printer or publisher will need to know whether you've trapped your job or not. This information can be carried within the PDF file itself as the value of a key called *Trapped*. If you do nothing special when creating the PDF file the value will be *Unknown* – which won't tell the prepress technicians anything. You can set it to show explicitly that the file has been trapped or not by placing either *TrappedOn.eps* or *TrappedOff.eps* anywhere on any page. As the names suggest, *TrappedOff.eps* marks the file as untrapped, while *TrappedOn.eps* will mark it as having been trapped.

The EPS files are quite obvious on-screen in the design application itself, but won't be visible in the resulting PDF file, and won't make any marks on your proofs[1]

[1] This is true on a printer using a PostScript Language compatible RIP. A non-PostScript printer will show the EPS file in exactly the same way that it appears on-screen.

Draft.eps, Confidential.eps and Watermark.eps

These three EPS files may be placed on a document to draw watermarks on any PDF file made from it. They require the *Watermarks.jcp* plugin to be installed. For full details see the documentation for that plugin in the *plugins (inactive)* directory.

Version 1.0.1, 11 Jan, 2003.