

Multiple Master Fonts Not Printing to Imagesetters

If a file containing multiple master typefaces prints to a laser printer, but will not print to an imagesetter, it may be because of incompatible software in use on the imagesetter. Many imagesetter users install a piece of software called Precision Color by Kodak® for calibration purposes. Versions of Precision lower than 1.26 are incompatible with multiple master typefaces (see technical explanation following).

Here are some workarounds to print a file that contains a multiple master typeface on an imagesetter using Precision:

- 1 Contact Kodak for information on obtaining a version of Precision Color which is compatible with multiple master typefaces.
- 2 De-install Precision, and restart the RIP to flush Precision from RAM. Print the job containing the multiple master typeface, and reinstall Precision when the job is completed.
- 3 Send a software “patch” to the imagesetter which corrects the incompatibility in Precision (the code follows). This patch was supplied to Adobe by the programmers of Precision and Adobe cannot warrant its effectiveness.

To create the patch for Precision Color:

- 1 Type the following PostScript code into a word processor or text editor:

```
%!PS-Adobe-2.0Exitserver
%%Title:Patch to fix multiple master/Precision ILS compatibility issue
%%Creator:Southwest Software
%%CreationDate:Thursday, September 17, 1992
%%makesurethatfindfontisdefinedin userdict
serverdictbegin 0 exitserver
/findfont
duploaddef
```

- 2 Save the file in Text format.
- 3 Download the Text file to the RIP using the Font Downloader.
- 4 Print the multiple master file.

Technical Explanation of the Problem That the Patch Solves

The original Precision program creates a copy of the system dictionary (`systemdict`) and gives the duplicate the same name as the original. This effectively re-defines

systemdict. The copy is different from the original system dictionary in that its contents can be read and written to, whereas the original is read-only.

Multiple master software re-defines the **findfont** command to add functionality to the command. The read-only **systemdict** initially defines the **findfont** definition. The patch cannot put the re-definition there, so the multiple master software searches for another dictionary where **findfont** can be re-defined. Precision's re-definition of **systemdict** interferes with this search. The result is that the multiple master software attempts to put the re-definition of **findfont** in the read-only system dictionary, which triggers an error.

Scitex® Imagers and Multiple Master Typefaces

Some Level 1 Scitex RIPs cannot process multiple master typefaces because of changes made to the PostScript interpreter by Scitex. The problem may show up in some of the following ways: PostScript errors; characters dropping out; some multiple master typefaces working perfectly, while others won't print; and multiple master typefaces working in some applications but not others.

Scitex has said that the problem is corrected in their Level 2 equipment. Contact Scitex for an upgrade.