Advanced Tutorial

Separation Handling
Sample

When :APOGEE Prepress processes a color job, the color images are separated into four layers corresponding to the four process colors used in printing: Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Black (CMYK). If the job also contains spot colors, you can request that extra separations are created for each spot color found.

Duration: You will need approximately three hours to complete the lessons in this Advanced Tutorial.

This Advanced Tutorial explains how you can determine and control the number of separations that are produced by :APOGEE Prepress when you create a job. You can do this either from a Production Plan that you create on the :APOGEE Prepress Client, or from within your front-end layout application or Adobe Acrobat using the appropriate plug-in.

This Advanced Tutorial also explains how to add colors to your own customized color book, and how to create a process color exception.

This tutorial is only a preview of the full advanced tutorial.

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Advanced Tutorial Objectives

This Advanced Tutorial is divided into a series of lessons. In these lessons, you will learn how to:

- Set up a job that will notify you if any input documents contain spot colors. You will then input a sample document which contains a spot color. After you receive the notification, you will use the :APOGEE Prepress Client to edit the job, and create an additional separation for the spot color.

- Control the way in which separations are generated from within your front-end Acrobat application, using a special application plug-in.

- Create a new customized color book, and add to it the color values for a color which was found in the job, but which is not available in any of the pre-installed Color Books.

- Modify a converted spot color in your job, by creating a process color exception.

NOTE: The plug-ins for QuarkXPress and Acrobat are available for both the Macintosh and the PC.

Before You Begin

Before you start the lessons in this Advanced Tutorial, make sure that:

- You are logged on to :APOGEE Prepress with Administrator access level.

  This allows you to perform some operations required for this Advanced Tutorial - specifically to create Parameter Sets and access Color Books.

- You have Adobe Acrobat (preferably version 7.0 or later) installed.

You will also need the following sample files and tickets which are bundled together with this Advanced Tutorial PDF file:

- ☐ Brochure1Page15.pdf

- ☐ Brochure 1page15.ps

- ☐ MeccaBrochureEx3.pdf

☐ MeccaBrochureP1.pdf

☐ studentname-Separations-0001.aht

☐ studentname-Separations-0002.aht

☐ studentname-Separations-0003.aht

☐ studentname-Separations-0004.aht

These files are provided in a single ZIP file, which is available for downloading from the Graphics Portal - Services Library website.

NOTE: While working through the lessons in this Advanced Tutorial, do not forget to replace **studentname** with your own name in the Administration tab.

Contact Us

Agfa welcomes your suggestions, questions or comments about this documentation. You can send e-mail feedback to: *Apogee@agfa.com*

LESSON 1: Separation Handling in :APOGEE Prepress (Fully included)

In this lesson, you will set up a job that will notify you if any input documents contain spot colors. You will then input a sample document which contains a spot color. After you receive the notification, you will use the :APOGEE Prepress Client to edit the job, and create an additional separation for the spot color.

First, you will create a Parameter Set for the Separate operation, for use later on in this lesson.

▷ **To create a Parameter Set for the Separate operation**

1   From the System Overview, select the **PDFRender** Task Processor.

PDFRender

2   Double-click **Parameter Sets** in the Resources pane.

The Parameter Sets - PDFRender dialog box is displayed.

3   Select the **Separate** operation (the second operation).

1   Separate

4   Click the **New** button.

The Parameter Set - Separate - untitled dialog box is displayed.

The **Separate** settings allow you to specify how :APOGEE Prepress should handle any spot colors that are found in incoming documents.

5   Type **Notify** as the name of this Parameter Set.

Below the Name pane, you will see the Color Policy pane. Here, you can specify which spot colors should be printed using an additional plate ("Keep"), and which spot colors should be converted to process color (printed using the 4 CMYK plates).

The Application decides check box allows you to specify whether it is the front-end application or the Hot Ticket that decides whether or not a spot color is kept or converted.

NOTE: This option is only available in Hot Ticket mode: Job Tickets cannot be driven by the application.

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6 Click to clear the **Application decides** check box.

The Hot Ticket settings will override any application settings. Notice that the **colors not yet listed above** list box becomes active.

7 In the **colors not yet listed above** list box, make sure that **Notify** is selected.

:APOGEE Prepress will generate a notification whenever a document containing a spot color is input.

8 Scroll down to the **Color Definitions** pane.

Here, you can specify how and where :APOGEE Prepress looks up its color definitions.

9 Click the Color Definitions list, and select **Search books only**.

NOTE: You are advised to select 'Use application values when supplied…' when converting to process, and to select 'Search books first…' when keeping spot colors.

NOTE: Converted DuoTones and overprinting spot colors which use Emulate Overprint to enhance the overprinted behavior will show better results when looked up in spectral color books. The Pantone 2005 and GOE Books in :APOGEE Prepress are spectral color books.

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10 Click the **Books** button to display the Search Color Books dialog box.

Color Books are a resource of the Press. They are used by several Task Processors to look up the correct values for spot colors.

Each of these standard books corresponds to a specific stock and describes the appearance of inks printed on that stock (since inks appear differently when printed on different stock).

The Pantone 2005 books are installed by default. You can also create your own customized books to redefine specific colors for special jobs. However, you cannot edit or delete the Pantone books.

11 Make sure the **Pantone Coated 2005** color book check box is selected, and click **OK**.

From now on, when a spot color is detected in an incoming document, :APOGEE Prepress will automatically search through the **Pantone Coated**

2005 color book to find the equivalent color definition in LAB (a device-independent color space).

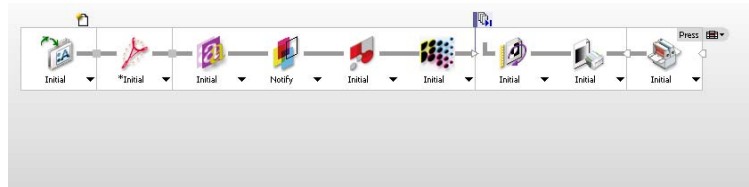**12** Click **OK** again to save the Parameter Set and close the dialog box.

The new Notify Parameter Set is displayed in the list.

13 Close the Parameter Sets - PDFRender dialog box.

▷ **To include Separation in your Production Plan**

To use separation, you need to add a PDFRender to your Production Plan.
A PDFRender performs trapping, separation, processing and screening. Each of these tasks have their respective settings.
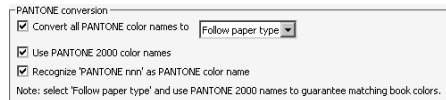
1 From the Hot Tickets window choose **File > Open**.

2 Locate and open the **studentname-Separations-0001.aht** sample ticket.

3 Click the **Plan** tab, and look at the Production Plan.

The Separate operation is the second of the four PDFRender operations. We will look at this operation in more detail in the following exercises.

▷ **To set up your Production Plan**

1 In the Production Plan, select **Normalize**.

2 Select the **PDF Processing** tab.

3 Scroll down to the **Pantone conversion** pane and make sure the following check boxes are selected:

☐ Convert all PANTONE color names to (Follow paper type)

This option allows you to choose the suffix that the Pantone color is given: C for coated, M for Matte, or U for uncoated, or follow Paper type (in this last case, the suffix will depend on the Paper Type selected in the Press).
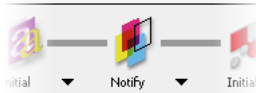
☐ Use PANTONE 2000 color names

This option ensures that the Pantone spot color names match the color names in the recent Color Books. Some customers still use old Pantone names, such as Pantone ### CVC. This older naming convention should be replaced with the Pantone 2000 convention: PANTONE ### C.

☐ Recognize 'PANTONE nnn' as PANTONE color name

This option adds a suffix when there is none. For example, Pantone 102 in the file becomes Pantone 102 C. Without this suffix, the color will not be found.

These are the default settings.

4 Look at the **Separate** operation in the Production Plan.

5 Make sure that the **Notify** Parameter Set is selected.

> **NOTE:** The Press is only added to the Production Plan to provide the Press settings - not to output data to the press!

6 **Submit** the Hot Ticket.

The **studentname-Separations-0001** ticket appears in the Hot Tickets list.

▷ **To input a sample document**

1 Locate the **Brochure 1page15.ps** sample document.

2 Drag the document to the **studentname-Separations-0001** Hot Ticket in the Hot Tickets window.
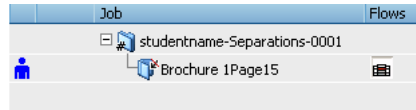
The document is uploaded, and :APOGEE Prepress starts to process it.

3 Open the **Jobs window**.

As soon as the document has been input, the new job will appear in the Jobs List in the studentname-Separations-0001 job folder.
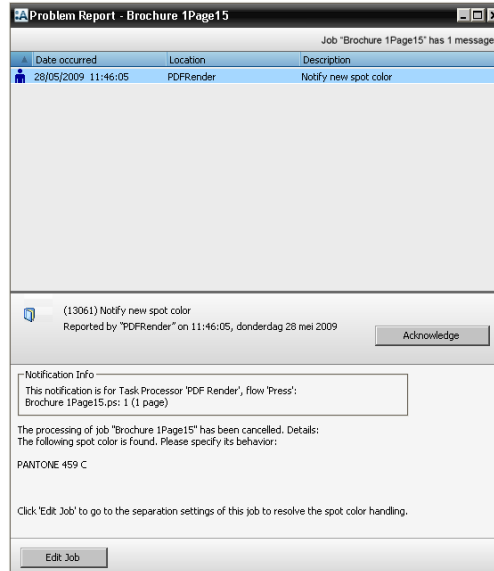
4 **Expand** the studentname-Separations-0001 job folder.

You will see a User Interaction status icon next to the Brochure 1Page15 job.

5   Click the **User Interaction** icon to open the Problem Report.

6   Select the message in the upper pane to display more detailed information about the problem.

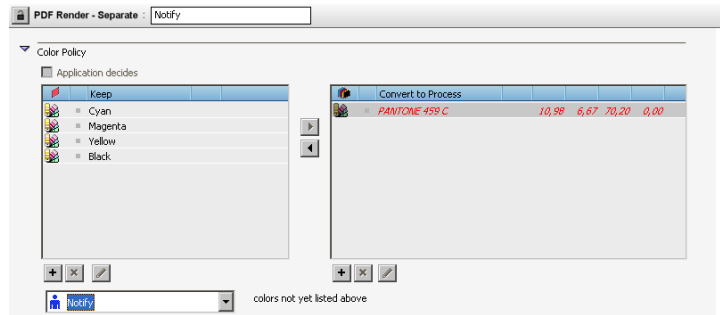   You will see a report indicating that the document contains a spot color.

7   Click the **Edit Job** button.

    The Job Ticket will be opened and you will see the **Separate** operation in the Production Plan.

8   Look in the **Color Policy** pane.

    You will see that the **PANTONE 459 C** spot color is displayed in red italics in the Convert to Process list. This means you need to specify how :APOGEE Prepress should handle this spot color.

9   Unlock the settings and select the spot color.

Notice the **Color Found in Book** icon to the left of the spot color.

This indicates that the CMYK values for the spot color are retrieved from one of the selected :APOGEE Prepress color books. In the Color Definition pane, :APOGEE Prepress displays the matching Press CMYK values for this spot color.

You can add the color to the Keep list, to generate a 5th separation.

10 Click the arrow button to move the spot color to the **Keep** list.

You can also context-click the spot color and select **Keep as Spot Color** from the context menu, or drag the spot color to the lefthand pane.
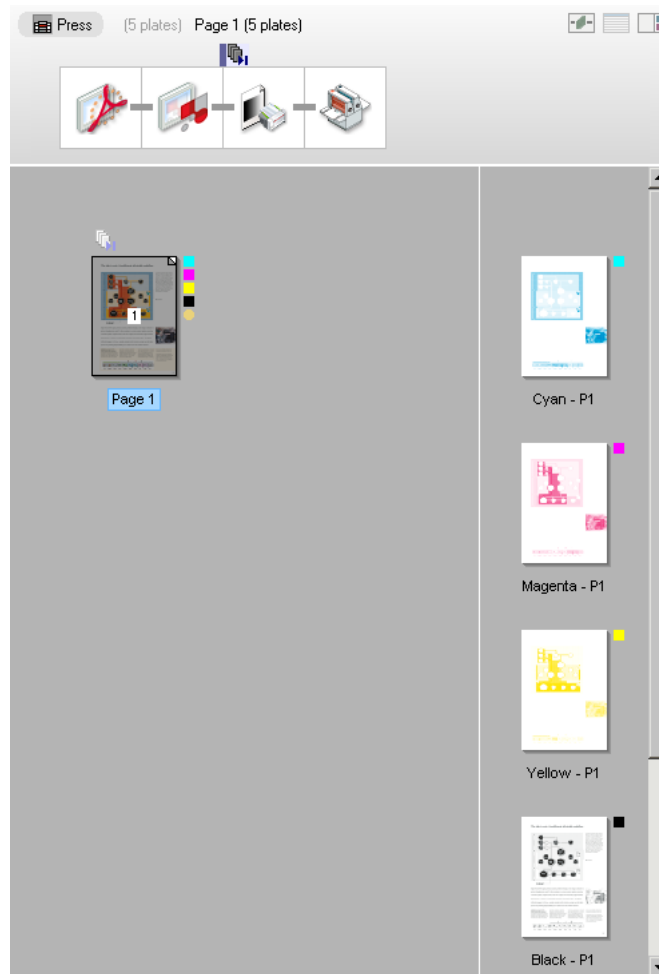
A separation will be generated for each of the colors in the Keep list.

NOTE: Linked colors (displayed with a link icon in front of them) must have the same behavior: either keep all or convert all. Changing one will automatically change all other linked colors. In a file, different colors can be mapped to each other forming pairs of mapped colors. Select one color and the link icon will be highlighted to show the other corresponding linked colors; when the link icon is gray it means that color is not linked to the selected color.

11 **Submit** your changes.

12 Return to the **Jobs List** and select the job.

13 Click the **Results** tab.

NOTE: This job has 5 separations: Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black and PANTONE 459 C. You can decide in the Image operation of the Imagesetter or Platesetter which separations will be output. Note that the option **Do not output empty separations** is selected by default. This is to prevent the creation of plates without any content or plates that only contain preps marks.

14 Context-click the thumbnail and choose **Continue Page** to finish the job.

LESSON 2: Controlling Separations in Acrobat

This lesson demonstrates how you can control the way in which separations are generated from within your front-end Acrobat application. To do this, you need to:

1 Open a sample PDF document in Acrobat, apply the plug-in settings, and save the file.

2 Create an :APOGEE Prepress Hot Ticket which specifies that, for all incoming documents, the front-end application decides how spot colors will be handled.

NOTE: The Acrobat plug-in is automatically installed for you when you install the :APOGEE Prepress Client.

▷ **To apply the Acrobat plug-in settings to a document you want to input**

1 Start Acrobat, and open the **Brochure1Page15.pdf** sample document.

2 Select **View > Toolbars >** Apogee TrapSpotter to display the Apogee TrapSpotter toolbar.

3 Click the righthand **arrow** on the toolbar.

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ot color is in the Keep pane.