

President's Message:

New OpenRIP Flexo 5.0 is result of customer input
and many years of production - Page 4

Upcoming Events:

2006 Show Calendar
Page 4

Flexo SoftCARE Support:

Now is the time to
Renew - Page 4

RIPit Flexo Newsletter

The Official Productivity Communication from RIPit® Flexo Division

> Volume 6 > Number 1

New OpenRIP® Flexo 5.0

A Better Way to Work!

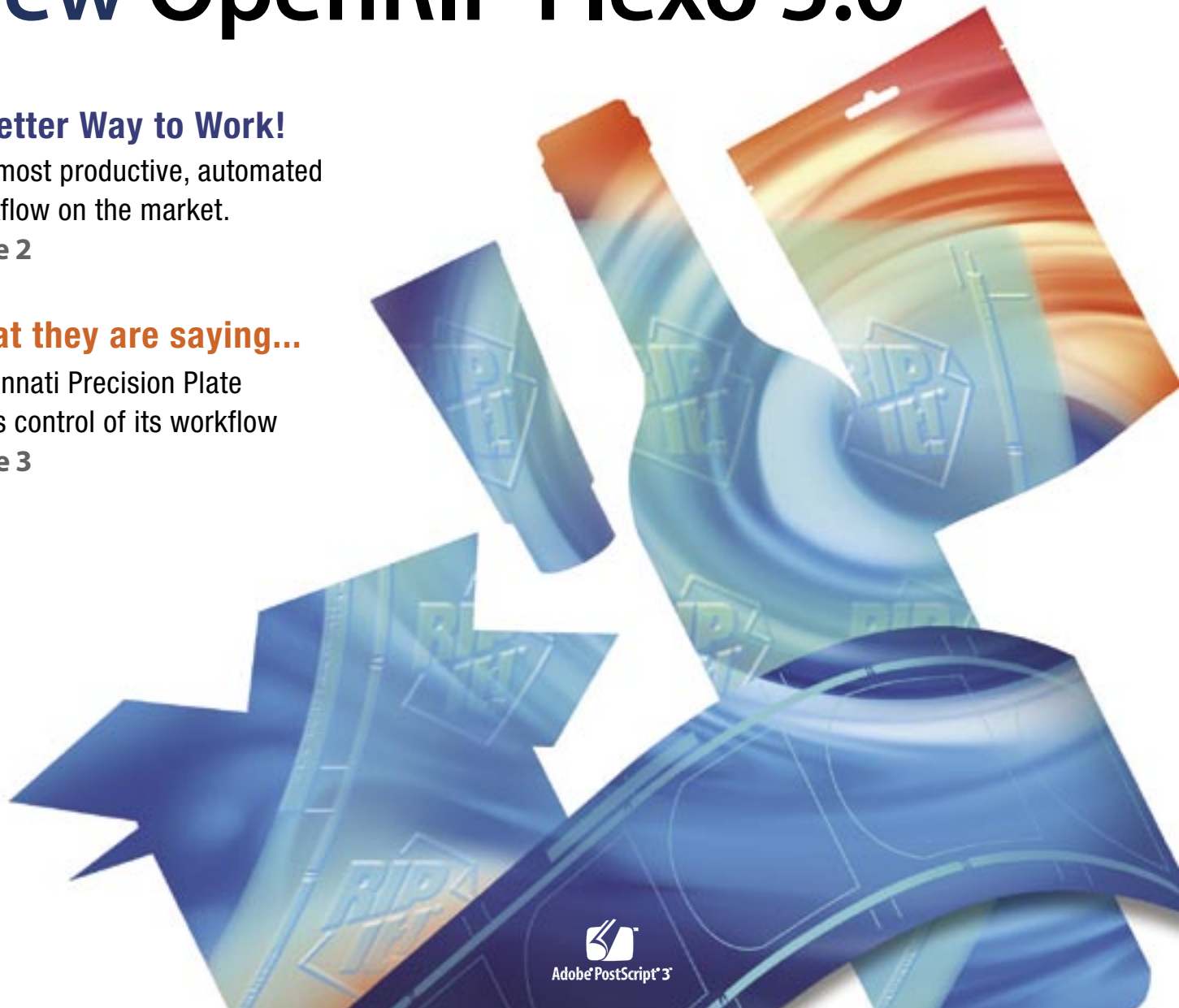
The most productive, automated
workflow on the market.

page 2

What they are saying...

Cincinnati Precision Plate
takes control of its workflow

page 3



Getting OpenRIP Flexo 5.0 has never been easier! Page 2

RIPit's new OpenRIP Flexo 5.0 is the latest edition in the company's award winning OpenRIP Series. OpenRIP Flexo 5.0 delivers a new level of workflow automation with a wide range of feature and performance enhancements designed to increase prepress production and accuracy. OpenRIP Flexo 5.0 is an Adobe® PostScript® 3™ RIP which makes it easy to handle complex digital files and output to multiple devices in your shop.

New OpenRIP® Flexo 5.0

Let OpenRIP Flexo 5.0 handle all the repetitive and tedious work of preparing files for output by automatically applying step & repeat, distortion, bearer bars and traps to suit a wide variety of production needs. OpenRIP Flexo allows prepress operators to focus on preparing artwork in a simple one-up workflow.

Standard Features Include:

Monitor Preview - Check page elements, colors, traps, knockouts, over-prints and step & repeat templates (in composite and separated modes), before you output a proof or media.

Automatic Distortion - Automatically calculates and applies the correct distortion value as you edit step & repeat settings.

Bearer Bars and Marks - Automatically strip in standard or custom bearer bars, set bearer bar gaps, margins, cut marks, register marks and file information to your stepped images.

Step & Repeat and Resident Die Database - Step and repeat digital files at OpenRIP Flexo with our quick and efficient RIP-once, plot-many process. Create, edit and store custom die templates. Specify die numbers, step & repeat settings, bearer bar and distortion factors.

RIPit's SmartDie™ feature for OpenRIP Flexo 5.0 delivers real prepress automation. Simply tag digital files with a SmartDie number to apply the correct step & repeat, bearer bars and distortion – quickly and accurately.

New and Available Features Include:

RasterView™ - RasterView lets you examine a RIPped file at the pixel level. View trapping, screen angles, frequencies, and tint values.

In-Rip Trapping and TrapZone™ - Quickly apply complex trapping commands at the RIP. RIPit's TrapZone™ feature allows you to select separate trap settings for different parts of a page.

Screened Bearer Bars - The standard bearer bar can now be screened back to 50% or 25%, to reduce ink build-up on the bar.

Color Density Swatches - Now you can add Color Bars just outside either or both bearer bars.

PerfectBLEND™ Flexo hybrid screening technology - Combines the benefits of AM and FM Screening for higher linescreens, smoother gradients and cleaner press runs.

ExportProof - Save raster files as PDFs, TIFFs and JPEGs to preview at workstations or E-mail directly to customers.

KOOLKolor™ Inkjet Proofing - Provides color-accurate proofs on a variety of inkjet printers and plotters.

KoolToning™ Halftone Simulator - Now see traditional AM halftone dots and true rosettes on your inkjet proof.

RIP-Integrated Color Management - Allows OpenRIP Flexo to honor embedded color profiles, and lets you select source and destination profiles to be used during interpretation.

New Epson Stylus Pro Support - OpenRIP Flexo now supports the Epson 4800, 7800 and 9800.

Flexo Double-burn feature - Provides additional flexibility in nesting certain types of jobs.

OpenRIP Remote - Control raster files on OpenRIP Flexo from Mac OS X and Windows workstations.

Multi-Device Control - OpenRIP Flexo 5.0 drives over 100 output devices natively and also offers TIFFout, PSout, RRJout, and GDout drivers.



Upgrade Now

Get OpenRIP Flexo 5.0 with our easy-to-use downloads page. For information, call toll free: 1-888-947-4748, x109 or... Email: flexo@ripit.com.

RIPit User: Cincinnati Precision Plate Right on the Mark.



(Left to right) Mike Links, Plate Maker and Jim Edwards, Plant Manager; in front of the shop's DIGILAS Laser Imager.

Cincinnati Precision Plate, Inc. specializes in prepress for the package printing industry and provides high quality plates and films for labels, bags, boxes, and cartons using advanced technology. The ability to create highly accurate color proofs, as well as first rate films and plates for flexography, gravure, letterpress, rotary screen, and lithography, has made Cincinnati a key industry player in its category.

Founded by Bill Painer and Gary McKinney in 1978, the now 40,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art facility boasts 30 employees specializing in the flexographic and offset markets, as well as proofing, graphic design, and web page development. The Macintosh-based operation relies on high-end imaging and production software.

Jim Edwards, Cincinnati Precision Plate Plant Manager, says it wasn't long ago that he and his team began researching technologies that would allow the company to get closer to offset quality in production.

OpenRIP Flexo simplifies prepress for labels by handling all the repetitive and tedious work of preparing files for output: The

SmartDie™ feature automatically applies the correct step and repeat, distortion, bearer bars and registration marks; and using In-RIP trapping, enables users to trap files at the RIP instantly. This technology allows Prepress operators to prepare artwork in a simple one-up workflow. It also guarantees



Kevin Palmer, IT Manager, standing at the OpenRIP Flexo workstation.

"The RIPit Workflow delivers more flexibility and fantastic results off press."

- JIM EDWARDS, Plant Manager

consistency in how all jobs are processed, minimizing costly human errors.

Edwards says, "The move to RIPit technology was a group decision. We evaluated the competition, but when we trialed RIPit for a month, and especially found the advantage in PerfectBLEND hybrid screening, we found it gave us greater flexibility to produce the results we needed." Edwards said the decision was made to fully implement RIPit's OpenRIP Flexo technology in June.

Kevin Palmer, IT Manager, wanted to make the switch to RIPit because it would provide a range of overall prepress benefits. He finds the technology practical, user-friendly, and well-supported.

"Overall, we find RIPit's OpenRIP Flexo technology to be a very nice product that runs quickly on any mainstream hardware," Palmer says. "The fact that OpenRIP Flexo runs on a very reasonably-sized server, and we're not forced to purchase a large server, makes our implementation of RIPit worth it just for that fact alone."

Palmer is also impressed by RIPit's willingness to incorporate his specific needs in the RIP's functionality and user interface.

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"RIPit has been more receptive to suggestions than any other company we have worked with."

- KEVIN PALMER, IT Manager

RIGHT ON THE MARK - continued from page 3

"RIPit has been more receptive to suggestions than any other company we have worked with," he says. "One of the big functionality issues that we come across is building calibration files and suddenly finding out they can't be edited. It is repetitive and time-consuming when you constantly have to make new files from scratch. RIPit has been very responsive in helping us diminish this occurrence," Palmer says.

Since installing RIPit technology, Cincinnati Precision Plate's clients are enjoying faster turnaround times. A good example of time savings is the difference between processing each job manually, in Photoshop; and OpenRIP Flexo's ability to image process on the fly. Automating this process with OpenRIP Flexo allows for an average savings of 1-2 hours and, accordingly, overall job costs. Of course, customer satisfaction increases dramatically, as well.

Edwards says that most printers will agree that a common goal is better highlights at press. The product's number one

advantage, primarily attained with Perfect-BLEND™ hybrid screening, is delivering precisely that: better highlights -- and a superior halftone pattern.

"We are no longer limited to certain resolutions, and now have an open back-end to support any device we have," Edwards says. "RIPit is giving us fantastic results coming off of press. We are getting better drop out areas and the subject has a very smooth transition, which we are very pleased with."

The transition to RIPit technology, as well, has been very smooth for customers. Edwards says Cincinnati has been able to retain all customer specifications and standards, such as those for ink, film, and paper. "Everything stayed the same," he says. "We've just put a new dot shape in."

Edwards is pleased with the implementation and is eager to utilize the technology's other, vast capabilities. "All summed up," Edwards remarks, "it is simply a good package all the way around."

President's Message



I would like to take the time to thank our new and existing customers for their input and support over the years. This ongoing partnership allows RIPit to continue to de-

velop new technologies that offer real solutions to production challenges.

Believe it or not, we've been listening to flexo professionals in order to bring them the best RIP and related solutions since 1994, and almost 12 years later we are excited to bring you OpenRIP Flexo 5.0. This unique RIP is the latest refinement of our proven flexo workflow concept, designed with advanced features and an automated workflow to help increase prepress production and accuracy. We've eliminated confusing and unnecessary steps that frustrate prepress operators, while keeping the system completely customizable to meet any workflow needs.

OpenRIP Flexo is designed with a flexible, open architecture that allows the user to drive a wide variety of output devices including imagesetters, inkjet printers and plotters.

To learn more about OpenRIP Flexo 5.0 call us toll free at 800-947-4748 or E-mail flexo@ripit.com.

- WAYNE WASULKO

RENEW NOW!

Don't let your Flexo SoftCARE Support Contract lapse!

Effective January 2, 2006, all Flexo SoftCARE contracts which have lapsed for more than 90 days will incur a surcharge of \$500.00 plus the renewal cost, for a total of \$2,000.00. Take advantage of the contract renewal pricing NOW versus paying the higher price later.

Sign up for RIPit's yearly Flexo SoftCARE Support Contract and continue your unlimited Technical Support without interruption. This allows OpenRIP Flexo users to address numerous software issues without additional incident charges. The Flexo SoftCARE Support Contract entitles you to software upgrades and updates over the term of the contract.

Lapsed Contract? Act NOW and RIPit will waive the \$500 surcharge. Offer expires on March 31, 2006.

A RIPit customer support person will be contacting you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FFTA INFO-FLEX 2006 - April 30-May 1
Kentucky Int'l Convention Center
Louisville, KY - **Booth #514**

Label Expo Americas 2006 - Sept. 11-14
Donald Stephens Convention Center
Rosemont, IL - **Booth #6326**