

Application Note

InkCenter CIP3 file generation for EskoNet

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This document outlines the configuration of InkCenter used for generation CIP3 files for various target systems.

Introduction

The InkCenter application can be connected to the EskoNet database in order to produce CIP3 files for press control systems based on files used for plate generation. The input to InkCenter is tiff files in an input folder. These tiff files are copies of files generated by the EskoNet Receiver/Imager at the time of output. It is mandatory that InkCenter gets files with the so-called *pairset* number in the filename. This number serves as a unique query to the database, determining job attributes required for correct CIP3 file generation.

The screenshot shows the InkCenter application window. The title bar reads "InkCenter - Registered to Editora Verdes Mares". The interface includes a menu bar (File, Action, Log, View, Help), a toolbar with "Start polling" and "Stop polling" buttons, and a main workspace. On the left, there's a section for "Input folders" showing a folder named "CIP3" with "Waiting: 1". On the right, there's a "Queuing jobs" section with a progress bar at 36% and a "Time since last poll" of 00:05. Below these are statistics for "Average files/min" (6.7) and "Total files stored" (25). The "Job log" table is the central focus, displaying the following data:

EventTime	Status	Folder	Job	Color	Ink-Setup	Message	InkFile	ID
13:05:26	Transferred	C:\inkinput	110005.tif	K	CIP3	Version update	00000221.ppf	110005
13:05:24	Transferred	C:\inkinput	110004.tif	C	CIP3	Version update	00000220.ppf	110004
13:05:29	Transferred	C:\inkinput	110006.tif	M	CIP3	Version update	00000222.ppf	110006
13:05:31	Transferred	C:\inkinput	110007.tif	Y	CIP3	Version update	00000223.ppf	110007
13:05:31	Queued	C:\inkinput	110107.tif	K	CIP3	Queuing jobs		110107

Below the job log is an "Error log" table with columns for Time, Error, Folder, File, Color, Ink-Setup, Message, InkFile, and ID. The status bar at the bottom indicates "(C) Copyright InfraLogic ApS. For Help, press F1".

Basic requirements

InkCenter version 1.3 or later

EskoNet version 1.5 or 2.x

How it works

Input to InkCenter will be tiff-files with a name like <number>.tif. The number is a reference (pairset) in the EskoNet database, which is used to extract file ID information like publication name, section name, page numbers etc. The output will be a preview file in CIP3 format with combined color layers. Alternatively one file per color can be generated (e.g. for EPG press control). The resulting file name depends on the selected target system.

For GMI and Heidelberg systems the resulting file name is in the form

<Publication>-<Date>-<Section>-<Edition>-<PageNumber>[-<Color>].ppf

where the page number is lowest number on the flat and abbreviations for publication, section and edition are used if defined in EskoNet Setup (Output Abbreviation). The color name is only used for separated output.

For MAN Roland PECOM the resulting file name is

dvs<pairsetnumber>.ppf

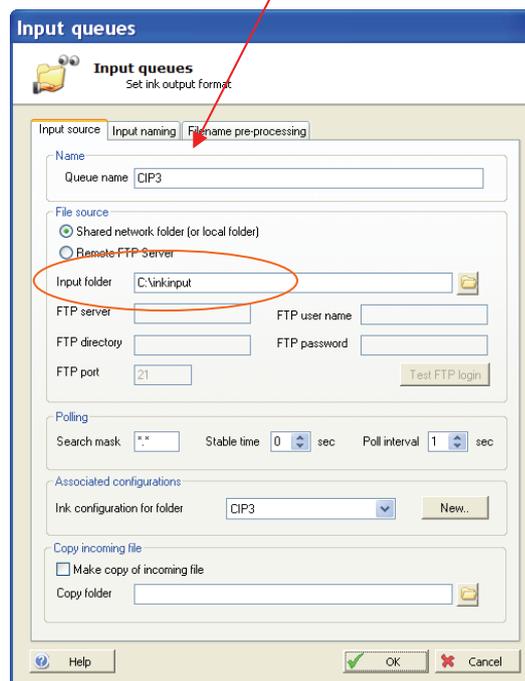
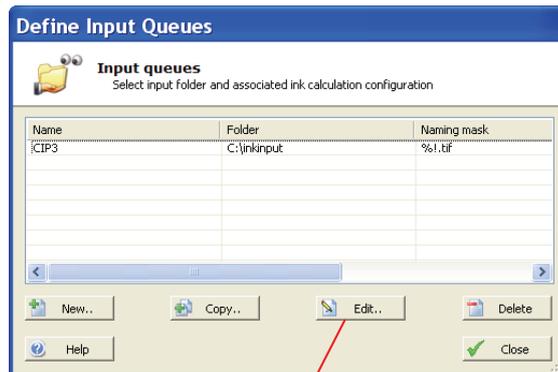
Apart from the file name target systems uses CIP3 tags for job recognition. The tags required and their interpretation is format specific.

Configuration

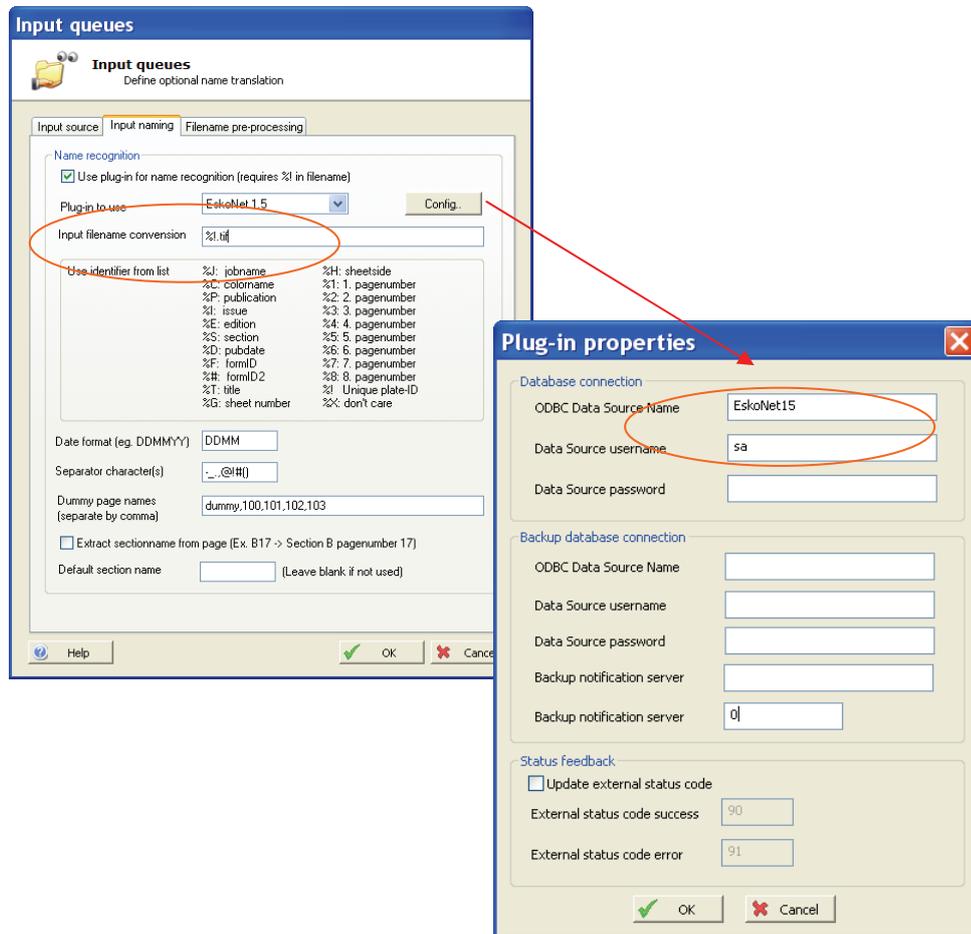
STEP 1: Install InkCenter using the installation CD – see User manual chapter 2 for details. Start InkCenter

STEP 2: Ensure that there is an ODBC data source to the EskoNet database. In this example it is called EskoNet15.

STEP 3: Edit the predefined **Input queue (File->Configure input queue)**



Change the **Input folder** to the folder where the receiver makes a copy of the plate image file (See [InkEstimation] section in marks.ini for the particular template).



Check the **Use Plug-in for name recognition** option and select EskoNet 1.5 or EskoNet 2.x.

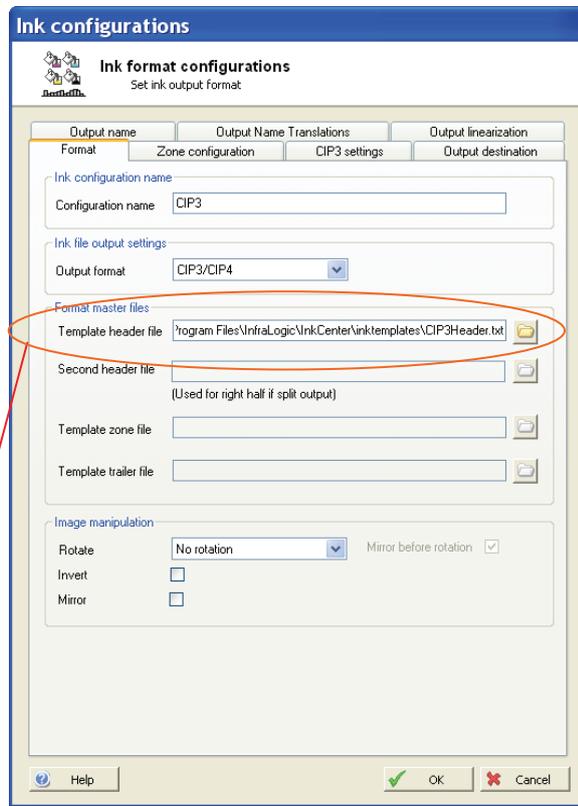
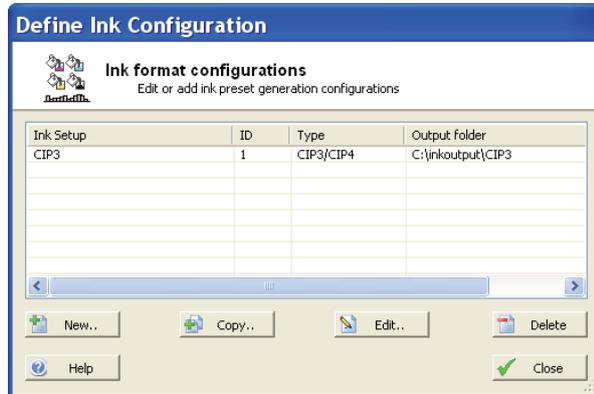
Important: Set the Input file name convention to %!.tif (this is the so-called *pairset-id* number generated by EskoNet).

Click the **Config** button to set the database connection (ODBC).

STEP 4: Edit the predefined **Ink generation setup (File->Configure ink generation)**

The first page links an important **Template header file** to the setup. This file is the skeleton for the CIP3 header including naming conventions. The template file can be edited in a text editor if required.

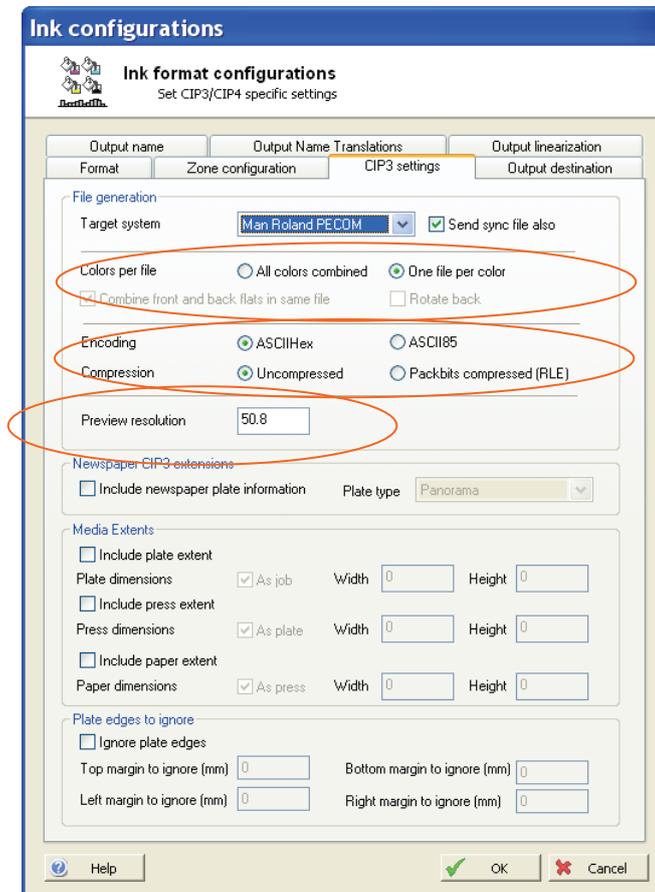
If required the incoming TIFF file can be **pre-rotated** prior to CIP3 generation



```

CIP3BeginSheet
/CIP3AdmJobName (%P-%E-%D) def
/CIP3AdmSheetName (%S/%1) def
/CIP3AdmCreationTime (%Y) def
/CIP3AdmMake (InfraLogic ApS) def
/CIP3AdmSoftware (InkCenter) def
/CIP3AdmSheetLay /Left def
/CIP3AdmPSExtent [% ( cm %) cm] def
/CIP3TransferFilmCurveData [ 0.0 0.0 1.0 1.0 ] def
/CIP3TransferPlateCurveData [ 0.0 0.0 1.0 1.0 ] def

```

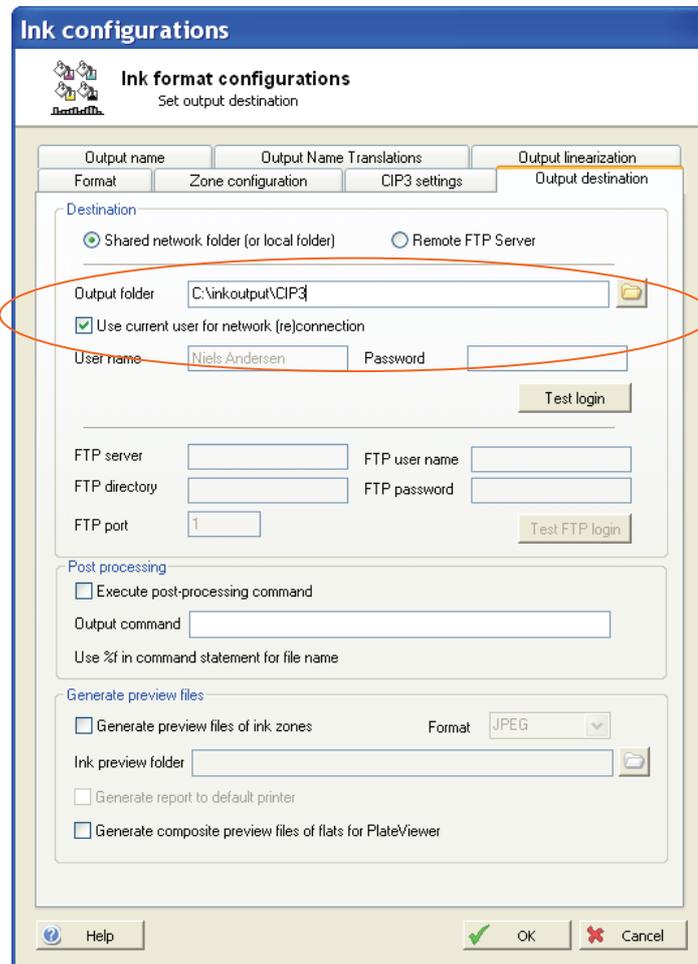


STEP 5: Go to **CIP3 settings** and select the target system. If the target system requires one file per plate (color), select this in **Colors per file** section.

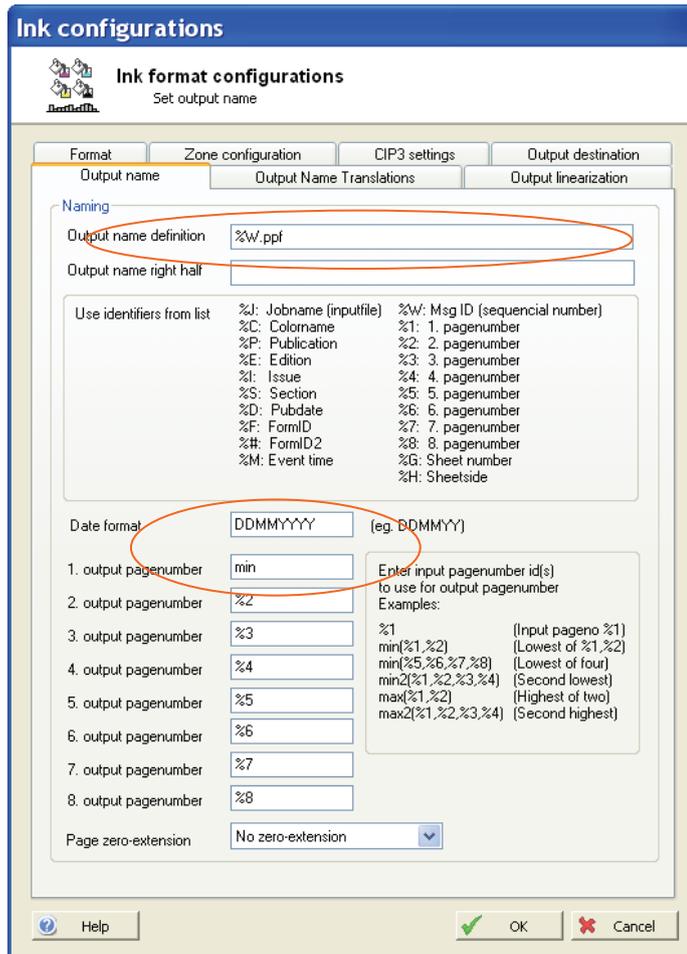
EskoNet 2.x (and ControlCenter) further allows the combination of front and back sheet in one CIP3 file. EskoNet 1.5 does not provide sheet side information so front+back files cannot be generated.

Some systems cannot handle compression and ASCII85 encoding. Check with press control vendor for supported formats. The **resolution** for CIP3 files is usually 50.8 or 25.4 dpi but other values are allowed.

STEP 6: Go to **Output destination** and select the target system folder



STEP 7: Go to **Output name** and set output file naming according to requirements for the CIP3 target system. For PECOM set %W.ppf as **Output name definition**.



STEP 8 EskoNet must send a copy of the tiff files to InkCenter when it images. This is enabled in the template marks.ini file:

```
[InkEstimation]
SendTiffToInkSystem=1
InkSystemPath=\\InkCenter\FromEskonet
InkSystemUseDMXOutputName=1
InkIncludeFileExtension=1
```

Format details – GMI

GMI follows the CIP3 addendum standard for newspaper. However, the standard does not say how to describe a 4-up tabloid plate – only 2-up tabloids or 2-up broadsheets (panorama). The InkCenter will describe the 4-up by using the `/AbsoluteBroadsheetPage` definition (as `/AbsoluteTabloidPage` is not part of CIP3). The following example shows the header of a single color 4-up CIP3 file with the following attributes:

JobName: *Pubname-Pubdate-edition-section*
Sheetname: *lowest page number*

For halfweb dinkies/dummies the PageNumber will be 0.

```
%!PS-Adobe-3.0
%%CIP3-File Version 2.0
CIP3BeginProductDefinition
/CIP3Products
[ <<
  /CIP3NewspaperPlateInfo
  [ << /AbsoluteBroadsheetPage 1
    /PageType /Tabloid
    /PageSection (MN)
    /PageNumber (12)
  >> << /AbsoluteBroadsheetPage 1
    /PageType /Tabloid
    /PageSection (MN)
    /PageNumber (13)
  >> << /AbsoluteBroadsheetPage 1
    /PageType /Tabloid
    /PageSection (MN)
    /PageNumber (1)
  >> << /AbsoluteBroadsheetPage 1
    /PageType /Tabloid
    /PageSection (MN)
    /PageNumber (24)
  >>] def
>> ] def
CIP3EndProductDefinition
CIP3BeginSheet
/CIP3AdmJobName (ME-09182002-HP-MN) def
/CIP3AdmSheetName (001) def
/CIP3AdmCreationTime (1-10-2002 11:23:09) def
/CIP3AdmMake (InfraLogic ApS) def
/CIP3AdmSoftware (InkCenter) def
/CIP3AdmSheetLay /Left def
/CIP3AdmPSExtent [75.2 cm 53.1 cm] def
/CIP3TransferFilmCurveData [ 0.0 0.0 1.0 1.0 ] def
/CIP3TransferPlateCurveData [ 0.0 0.0 1.0 1.0 ] def
CIP3BeginFront
/CIP3AdmSeparationNames [ (Cyan) ] def
CIP3BeginPreviewImage
CIP3BeginSeparation
(Cyan separation) CIP3Comment
```

```
/CIP3PreviewImageWidth 1504 def
/CIP3PreviewImageHeight 1062 def
/CIP3PreviewImageBitsPerComp 8 def
/CIP3PreviewImageComponents 1 def
/CIP3PreviewImageMatrix [1504 0 0 -1062 0 1062] def
/CIP3PreviewImageResolution [50.8 50.8] def
/CIP3PreviewImageEncoding /ASCII85Decode def
/CIP3PreviewImageCompression /None def
  CIP3PreviewImage
```

....

GMI does not use the file name for job recognition. InkCenter uses the following scheme to ensure unique file names:

<Publication>-<Date>-<Section>-<Edition>-<PageNumber>-<Color>.ppf

Format details – PECOM

MAN Roland PECOM does not use the CIP3 addendum to describe the job. The job attributes are coded into the CIP3 tags as follows:

JobName: *Pubname-Edition-Pubdate*

Sheetname: *section/lowest page number*

```
%!PS-Adobe-3.0
%%CIP3-File Version 2.0
CIP3BeginSheet
/CIP3AdmJobName (ME-HP-18092002) def
/CIP3AdmSheetName (MN/1) def
/CIP3AdmCreationTime (28-9-2002 8:23:45) def
/CIP3AdmMake (InfraLogic ApS) def
/CIP3AdmSoftware (InkCenter) def
/CIP3AdmSheetLay /Left def
/CIP3AdmPSExtent [75.2 cm 53.1 cm] def
/CIP3TransferFilmCurveData [ 0.0 0.0 1.0 1.0 ] def
/CIP3TransferPlateCurveData [ 0.0 0.0 1.0 1.0 ] def
CIP3BeginFront
/CIP3AdmSeparationNames [ (Cyan) ] def
CIP3BeginPreviewImage
CIP3BeginSeparation
(Cyan separation) CIP3Comment
/CIP3PreviewImageWidth 1504 def
/CIP3PreviewImageHeight 1062 def
/CIP3PreviewImageBitsPerComp 8 def
/CIP3PreviewImageComponents 1 def
/CIP3PreviewImageMatrix [1504 0 0 -1062 0 1062] def
/CIP3PreviewImageResolution [50.8 50.8] def
/CIP3PreviewImageEncoding /ASCII85Decode def
/CIP3PreviewImageCompression /None def
CIP3PreviewImage
....
```

PECOM files are named with a unique ID-number which is the pairset number is EskoNet:

Dsv10001.ppf

For synchronization purposes a small file with extension .sync is written when the .ppf file is fully written. Both files are moved by PECOM.

Format details – EPG

EPG (Essex Products Group) uses the filename for job recognition. The job name is in the following format:

<Publication><editionnumber>P<lowest page number left>P<lowest page number right>.ppf.

Example: SKD1P01P12.ppf

Halfwebs has 'page number' 0 (e.g.g SKD1P07P00.ppf or SKD1P00P08.ppf)