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Technical Bulletin

Introduction to Preps 6 for Preps 5 Users

If you have used earlier versions of the Kodak® Preps® software for any length of time, this document summarizes the most significant changes. It maps the old to the new, to help you quickly learn and appreciate the enhancements introduced in Preps 6.

Streamlined user interface

The biggest difference is a more streamlined and efficient user interface. For example, instead of switching between several windows and dialog boxes, you use a single window in the **Press Runs** view to simultaneously build, preview, and edit a job's layouts:

- Use the panes at the left to drag resources such as stock, media, marks, and layouts to the interactive workspace.
- Choose which details to display in the workspace, including distances, content, trim and bleed boxes, page boxes, marks, file names, and page numbers.
- Use drag and drop to manipulate the objects in the layouts and dynamically update the properties, or click and type inside the dimension text boxes.
- Click items in the layout to display and edit their settings in the **Properties** pane at the right.
- Click a press run in the list at the bottom of the window to display it in the workspace.
- Use the list's toolbar to duplicate or insert press runs or webs, or rearrange the list.
- Click a tab to instantly switch to a similarly arranged **Pages** view for managing the run-list pages.

For more information about using the new features, such as the **Assembly** view, see the release notes, quick start guide, and user guide. These documents are all available from the Preps 6 **Help** menu.

Conceptual changes

Review this list to update your understanding of previously familiar Preps concepts and terminology.

Preps 5 concept	Preps 6 notes
Jobs and products	In Preps 5, a job represented a single product (or part of a product). A job can represent multiple products, and global adjustments such as shingling can be applied to specific products within a job. You can also organize each product into parts and set properties for all or some parts, part sections, and part pages.

Preps 5 concept	Preps 6 notes
Native PDF jobs	<p>In Preps Pro 6, all jobs are PDF-based, so there is no option to select a workflow type when starting a new job. Only PDF input file types are accepted.</p> <p>Some capabilities that were previously available only to PostScript-type jobs are now available for PDF jobs. For example, you can output PS marks flats for PostScript-based marks as bar codes. The same output types are still available.</p>
Signatures and sections	<p>In Preps 5, a signature represented a single imposition on one sheetfed or multiweb press run. Although you could organize an imposition into multiple sections (Preps Pro only), you could not lay out more than one imposition per press run, and all the sections had to use the same binding style and template page size.</p> <p>In the Preps 6 user interface, each imposition section on a layout is now referred to as a <i>press-run section</i>. The term <i>signature</i> is now used only to refer to the data that describes one press-run layout in either a template file or an output file, such as JDF.</p> <p>One press-run layout can now contain multiple imposition sections (any license) with different page sizes and different binding styles (Preps Pro). A job can consist of any number of press runs. After printing one press run, its sections can be cut apart and individually folded and trimmed, to create physical signatures (unique or identical) that will be assembled and bound into one or more products.</p> <p>Each section on a press-run layout represents one instance of a product section, depending on how you plan your press runs.</p> <p>A “Preps Plus 5” type of imposition in Preps 6 can be described as a press run that contains a single section on a single sheet.</p>
Marks	<p>All marks now use the Kodak SmartMarks® software technology, and static marks are no longer supported. When you open an older job or template, any existing legacy static marks will be either autoconverted to SmartMarks, retained, or deleted, depending on various factors.</p> <p>In Preps 6 documentation, the term <i>marks</i> is used interchangeably with SmartMarks, unless static marks specifically are being discussed.</p>
Templates	<p>Templates are now just an optional resource for creating layouts. When you save a job, its press-run layout details and content references are all stored in the JOB file. The job can be reopened and reprinted with the assurance that nothing has changed since you last saved it.</p> <p>There is no longer a separate Template Editor, because each job contains and stores its own layout information in its JOB file, and you can optionally save a frequently-repeated job as a template in a separate TPL file, for quick reuse.</p> <p>A template can be used to set up predefined press-run layouts for a job, but it has no permanent association with a JOB file or any content files. The exception is jobs that were created using older versions of the software, which derive their layouts from specific referenced TPL files. If you open and edit a legacy job, the referenced template is updated only if you select File > Save As Template.</p>
Tiled templates	<p>Instead of creating tiled templates that are specific a certain page size, work style, binding style, and so on, you can now create <i>tile sets</i> that are associated with a specific media. You can then choose to print any layout to either a media tile set or to the media itself.</p>
Device configurations	<p>These are now referred to as <i>media configurations</i> and <i>media resources</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The term <i>media</i> refers to the material on which the generated output will be imaged, which can include plate, film, or paper. • The term <i>device</i> refers to the system or equipment that will process the generated output, such as a printer, press, platemaker, proofer, or imagesetter. • The term <i>resource</i> refers to a reusable configuration that you have defined. Other types of resources in Preps 6 include stock (sheet size), marks, and templates. <p>You can set up a media configuration for any valid size that is defined in the device-specific PostScript Printer Description (PPD) files in the Printers folder.</p>

Preps 5 concept	Preps 6 notes
Independent and ganged pages	<p>Ganged pages are a type of independent page, except that they are not associated with a multipage imposition section. (If you previously used the Preps Ganging 5.3.x software, then you are already familiar with this change.)</p> <p>Note: You cannot currently add an independent page to an imposition. For example, to create a spread, you would add the double-sized PDF page to the run list so that it occupies one side of the opposing pages in a spread, and just use an empty placeholder page for the opposing template page.</p>

Where is the <name> dialog box now?

Use this table to determine where to find the Preps 6 functionality that corresponds to several Preps 5 user interface components.

Note: This table does not mention new Preps Pro features that are available via the new **Assembly** view, which can be used to autogenerate press runs without using many of the tools that you must use with non-Pro license types. For details about license types and all features, see the *Preps User Guide*.

Preps 5 user interface	Preps 6 notes
Add Crop Marks dialog box	<p>Static crop marks are no longer supported. You can now select and delete individual crop SmartMarks.</p> <p>To add to a layout: Resources pane > Marks list > select the mark > double-click</p>
Add Device dialog box	<p>Now called Add Media dialog box. To access, choose a method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources > New Media • Resources pane > select the media > right-click > Add
Add Independent Page dialog box	<p>Not yet available for non-flat imposition work. For ganged work, you can drag pages from the Files list to a press run.</p>
Add Job Signature/Job Signature Info dialog box	<p>To renumber a section, edit the Section box in its Section Properties, or drag the section in the Assembly workspace. This automatically updates the first page number, which cannot be manually edited in Preps 6.</p> <p>A part's section pages are automatically numbered in sequence. If you need to print a specific page range, use the Print dialog box to specify the print range.</p>
Add Placeholder/Placeholder Information dialog box	<p>This can still be accessed via Job > Add File Placeholder.</p> <p>Now, you can also simultaneously create a file placeholder and add its pages to a run list, complete with with page position adjustment details: In the Pages view: Double-click the Add Pages icon in the Pages List.</p>
Add Signature/Signature Info dialog box	<p>Instead of adding a <i>signature</i>, you now add a <i>press run</i>. There are multiple ways of adding press runs, with or without layouts. For example, you can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insert a new press run with a blank sheet or multiple webs, ready for you to build a ganged layout, add a fold pattern, or create an imposition. • Duplicate a press run, with or without a layout. • Set up a run list, and then autoselect a template to autogenerate the press runs with the layouts.

Preps 5 user interface	Preps 6 notes
Add Tile/Tile Information dialog box	<p>See the user guide for more information about the following paths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources > New Tile Set • In the Media list, locate the media that has a tile set > expand the media item to display its tile sets > double-click a set to add it to the press run • In a layout in the Press Runs view, click the tile set to display its settings in the Properties pane • Print > Media > select the tile set to print tiled output
Add/Edit Static Mark dialog box	<p>Static marks are no longer supported. Use SmartMarks only.</p> <p>To add to a layout: Resources pane > Marks list > select the mark > double-click</p>
Add SmartMarks	<p>Instead of adding marks to a template, you now add them directly to a layout.</p> <p>To add to a layout: Resources pane > Marks list > select the mark > double-click</p> <p>To edit a placed mark: Select the mark in the layout > edit the Properties pane.</p> <p>To edit the SMK file of a mark resource: Marks list > select and right-click the mark > Edit.</p>
Additional Settings dialog box	Content Bleed Margin, Shingling (Creep), Rotation (Bottling) settings are now on the Template Page tab on the Properties pane.
Choose Device dialog box	You now apply a media to a press run by double-clicking it in the Media list in the Resources pane. You can also select the press run in the Press Runs List and change the Media setting in the Properties pane.
Connection dialog box	Now in Media Configuration dialog box > Connection
Create/Modify Imposition dialog box	<p>To create and add to current press run: Job > Create Imposition</p> <p>To edit: Double-click an imposition to display its Modify Imposition dialog box.</p> <p>Or select the section in the workspace and use the Properties pane.</p>
Custom Page Size dialog box	Now in Media Configuration dialog box > Custom Size
Device Configuration dialog box	Now called Media Configuration: Media list > select and right-click a media > Edit
Device Setup dialog box	View all configured media resources in the Media list in the Resources pane. When you add a new media resource, the Media Types list in the Add Media dialog box displays all devices for which a PPD file is installed.
Edit [SmartMark type] dialog box	To create a new SMK file: Resources > New SmartMark
File Information dialog box	View basic file information in the Files list and for individual pages in the Properties pane after you add and select the page in the Pages List .
File List window	Replaced by the Files list pane. You can no longer preview pages before they are added to a run list. (To preview, simply use your own Acrobat software.)
Fitting Setup dialog box	Fitting support is discontinued. In Preferences > Output , you can override an error message that informs you when the media size is smaller than the sheet.
Get Info	The Properties pane at the right side of the window displays information and editable settings for the currently selected item.

Preps 5 user interface	Preps 6 notes
Import SmartMarks dialog box	Mark groups that you create by dragging SMK files into a subfolder in the SmartMarks folder immediately appear in the Marks list in the Resources pane Double-click a mark group to add the entire group to the current press-run layout, or expand the mark group list and select individual marks.
Job Log window	To access: Media list > select and right-click a media > Edit > Job Log
Layout Details dialog box	To access: Job > Layout Details > Select a product and edit the settings.
Load or Save Profile dialog box	Moved to the Preferences dialog box
Modify Bleed Margins dialog box	Edit in Template Page properties. You can also set a global default in Preferences and a product default in Job > Layout Details .
Modify Gutters/Gutter Information dialog box	Click and edit the text boxes directly in the Press Runs workspace. Or edit in Section properties or Modify Imposition dialog box.
Modify Page Bottling dialog box	Edit in Template Page properties.
Modify Page Shingling dialog box	Edit in Template Page properties.
Modify Run List Page dialog box	Select page in Pages List or Pages workspace > Properties pane
New Template\Template Information dialog box	Create a job and press-run layouts, and select File > Save as Template .
Preferences dialog box tabs	Now includes General, Folders, Marks, Output, JDF, AutoGang tabs, with several options for defaults that were previously available only in a CFG file. The PDF, Font Processing, Brisque tabs have been removed.
Preview window	The functionality of the Template Editor and Preview windows is now combined in the interactive (job-based) workspace in the Press Runs and Pages views.
Print Mock-Up dialog box	Layout mock-ups and press run details can now be printed: Select File > Print Job Layout Report .
Punch Location dialog box	Now in Media Configuration dialog box > Punch
Resolve Signature Placeholder dialog box	Now in Properties pane. Click the arrow at top right corner to display Source JDF Values alongside current settings.
Run List window	Replaced by the Pages List in the Pages view; includes many more options for describing and managing the pages.
Scaling Set dialog box	To add, edit, or delete: Resources > Web Growth Compensation Sets
Signature List window	Replaced by the Press Runs List in the Press Runs view.

Preps 5 user interface	Preps 6 notes
Signature Selection dialog box	<p>Completely changed. You now create imposition press runs by adding one or more sections based on selected fold pattern or template layouts.</p> <p>To find a suitable layout resource, use the Search tool in the Layouts pane.</p> <p>To select and apply it to a press run: Select it in either the Templates list or Fold Patterns list, and double-click and drag it to the workspace, or right-click it and select AutoSelect.</p> <p>To manage the list of press runs, use the Press Runs List.</p> <p>To change the work style, stock, or other aspects of a press run, use the Properties pane for the selected press run.</p> <p>To change the book signature number of a section, select the section in the workspace and edit the Section number in the Properties pane. This updates the First Page Number. (You cannot force page numbers to skip.)</p>
Step and Repeat dialog box	Select the page and Edit > Duplicate .
Template Editor	The functionality of the Template Editor and Preview windows is now combined in the interactive (job-based) workspace in the Press Runs and Pages views.
Template Page Information dialog box	Select a page in Press Runs workspace (for imposition pages, use the hollow-arrow Page Select tool), and click Template Page on the Properties pane.
Template tool palette	Press Runs workspace > Toolbar
Web Growth Compensation Sets window	Resources > Web Growth Compensation Sets

Discontinued features and user interface components

Preps 5 feature	Discontinued user interface components
AppleScripts	AppleScript support, Scripts menu (Mac OS only)
Brisque job workflows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferences Brisque tab and General tab > Default Workflow > Brisque • File > New Job > Brisque • File > Print > ICF • File List > Add Files and Jobs button
PostScript job workflows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • File > New Job > Mixed Files • File > Send Postscript File • File > Print > Host Based Color Mapping, Sort-by Color/Page • Xerox DocuTech system tickets • Xerox DigiPath system documents • Font Processing tab • OPI processing; APR, OPI, and DCS passthrough
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windows > Save/restore window positions • General tab > Compatability Settings -> Cross Platform • Template Menu > Static Marks

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The leading provider of graphic communications solutions worldwide, Kodak's Graphic Communications Group (GCG) offers image capture systems; professional color, copydot, and high-speed document scanning systems; inkjet printing and proofing systems; workflow and color management software; thermal imaging devices for film, plates, and proofs; high-quality proofing media, printing plates, and recording film; on-demand color and black-and-white printing systems; data storage products; and professional services. With corporate headquarters located in Rochester, N.Y., Kodak (NYSE: EK) has the largest global sales force and is committed to a digitally oriented growth strategy.

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