

Agfa Raster Preview

On-Line User's Guide



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About This Guide

Purpose

This manual describes how to launch and use Agfa Raster Preview. Raster Preview runs on a PowerMac or Windows® NT™/Windows 98 platform, and allows you to examine the rasterized job data which is output by the Apogee PDF RIP. On the basis of this detailed job "preview", you can then decide to send the job directly to the imagesetter, or to abort the job. You can also save the ripped job data onto disk using the Agfa Job Backup utility.

Intended Audience

This document is designed for users who have already installed the Apogee PDF RIP software, as described in the relevant Apogee PDF RIP user documentation. As a user, it is assumed that you are already familiar with your front-end workstations, imagesetter, and PostScript software applications, as well as prepress processing methods, printing procedures, and network traffic. If this is not the case, please refer to the relevant user or operator manuals.

- ❖ Note: All of the screen illustrations provided in this Guide are taken from a Macintosh platform. Although the Preview Pilot has exactly the same functionality in both Macintosh and Windows environments, you should however make allowances for some small differences in the use and appearance of the Windows-based user interface.

Scope and Structure

Click one of the following chapter titles to jump to the chapter:

[Chapter 1: Introduction](#)

Introduces Agfa Raster Preview, and describes its main features and functions.

[Chapter 2: Using Preview](#)

Explains how to start Preview, how to set preferences, and how to use the Preview options and tools.

More information on the PostScript Environment can be found in the "Apogee PS Companion On-Line User's Guide", which is provided on the Apogee PDF RIP CD.

How to Use This On-Line Guide

Use the following procedures to navigate through this guide:

Topic

Click on blue text to go to the topic indicated. Underlined text indicates text that is “linked” to another part of this guide. For example, see [Chapter 1: Introduction](#) for an introduction to the Agfa RIP Pilot.



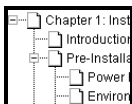
Click on the Go Back button in the tool bar to return to your previous location.



Click on the Next Page button in the tool bar to go to the next page of the guide.



Click on the First Page button in the tool bar to return to the opening screen of this guide.



Click on the bookmark name to go to the topic marked by that bookmark. Click the triangle (Mac) or plus/minus sign (PC) to the left of a bookmark to show and hide subordinate bookmarks. The bookmarks for this guide provide a complete list of topics.

- ❖ **Note:** Due to rescaling, some of the screen shots included in this document may appear unclear when displayed at 100% magnification. You can view these screen shots more clearly by using the Zoom tool to increase the default magnification.

Related Documentation

The following documents are mentioned in this manual, and should be referred to for further information.

- Agfa PDF RIP for Windows User's Guide
- Agfa RIP Pilot User's Guide
- Agfa Job Backup User's Guide
- Apogee PS Companion User's Guide

Worldwide Web

The following website provides support for the Agfa Electronic PrePress products and other Agfa products.

- <http://support.agfa.com>

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Chapter 1: Introduction



This chapter introduces Agfa Raster Preview, and highlights the main features and functions.

Click on a topic name to jump to the topic:

- ◆ [What is Agfa Raster Preview?](#)
 - [Preview Client-Server Technology](#)
- ◆ [Raster Preview Features](#)
- ◆ [How Preview Works](#)
 - [Workflow Summary](#)
 - [Printing a Job “For Preview”](#)
 - [The Structure of a Job Ripped for Preview](#)
 - [Selecting a Job to Preview](#)
 - [Previewing Options](#)
 - [Approving /Deleting a Previewed Job](#)

What is Agfa Raster Preview?

Agfa Raster Preview is an integral component of Agfa's Apogee PDF RIP. Preview allows a user to view raster data (ripped PostScript jobs) on a remote Macintosh or Windows system. This preview takes place after the data has been ripped, but before it has been sent to an imagesetter, allowing the user to approve or abort the job before committing it to output.

Preview is a "read-only" application: Tools are provided for zooming and panning the image, and for displaying various types of image information. However, no changes can be made to the raster data. If errors are found in the previewed data, the job must be corrected in the original application, and then re-submitted to the RIP.

Preview Client-Server Technology

The purpose of the Preview front-end program (referred to as the Raster Preview Pilot) is to examine in detail raster data before it is sent to an imagesetter. Preview does this by reading pixel data from the files generated by the RIP, decompressing the data, and then sending it over the network to the client application.

Preview was designed to take advantage of client-server technology. The server application accepts requests for data from a client application anywhere in the network and returns that data to the client. The client then displays that data in a window with a user-specified zoom factor. Client and server communicate using the TCP/IP protocol.

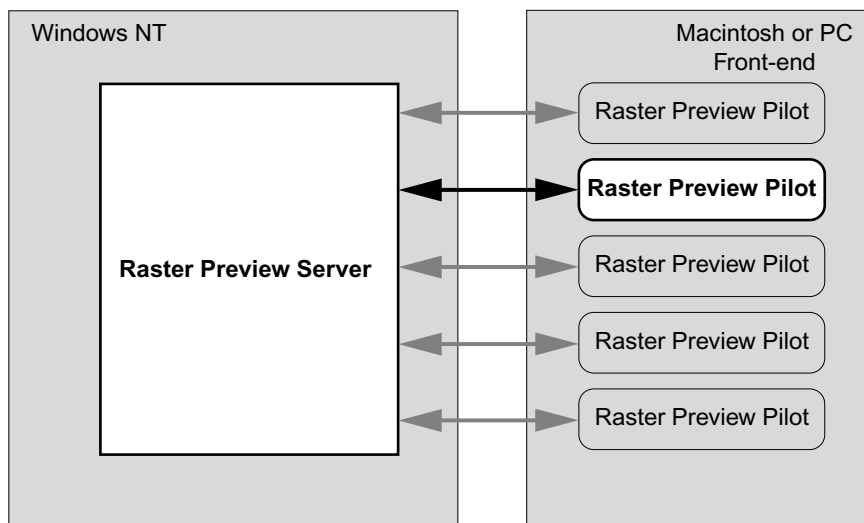


Figure 1: Agfa Raster Preview Client-Server Technology

When a Preview client connects to a Preview server, they maintain a 1-to-1 connection, which means that as long as that connection is active, no other client can connect to that server. A client can preview only one job at a time, but can preview multiple pages belonging to the same job.

Raster Preview Server

The Raster Preview Server software runs on high-end PC's under Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 Service Pack 3 or later.

Raster Preview Pilot

The Raster Preview Pilot (i.e., the client) is available in two versions: One for PC systems running Windows95/98 or Windows NT, and one for Power Macintosh systems running System 8.6 or later.

- ❖ **Note:** Although the Raster Preview Pilot has exactly the same functionality in both Macintosh and Windows environments, there are however some small differences in the use and appearance of the user interface.

Raster Preview Features

The main features of Agfa Raster Preview are as follows:

- **Compatibility with your Front-End System:** Preview is available for both Apple Macintosh and PC-Windows front-end workstations.
- **Job Formats:** Preview supports all resolutions, screening modes, and page sizes.
- **Localization:** International releases support six languages: English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, and Japanese.
- **Interactive User Interface:** Preview features a graphical user interface which allows you to preview single and multiple pages of a job, and multiple views of a single page. Images can be displayed at any zoom factor from 1:128 to 32:1, and a variety of job and image data can be viewed and analyzed.
- **Multitasking:** Multiple disks allow overlapping of the ripping and imaging processes; This means that you can preview one page of a job which has been ripped, while the following page is being ripped. Overlap between “ripping/previewing” and “imaging” is also supported, but only on a page-by-page level.
- **Optimal Performance:** Through the use of “Alias Folders” and multiple physical hard disks.
- **On-line Help:** Preview is designed with an On-line Help system which is accessible from the Preview main window, and which provides you with a handy on-line reference tool.

How Preview Works

Preview allows you to examine and approve a ripped job, before committing it to an imagesetter. It does this by creating an exact, viewable image of the data on your front-end workstation (on a scale from 1:128 to 32:1), which you can approve for imaging, for backing up, or for deleting.

The Raster Preview server interacts with the Apogee PDF RIP to retrieve jobs which have been requested by the Raster Preview Pilot. These jobs, which must have been explicitly printed “for Preview” by the front-end application, can then be presented to the Raster Preview Pilot for approval.

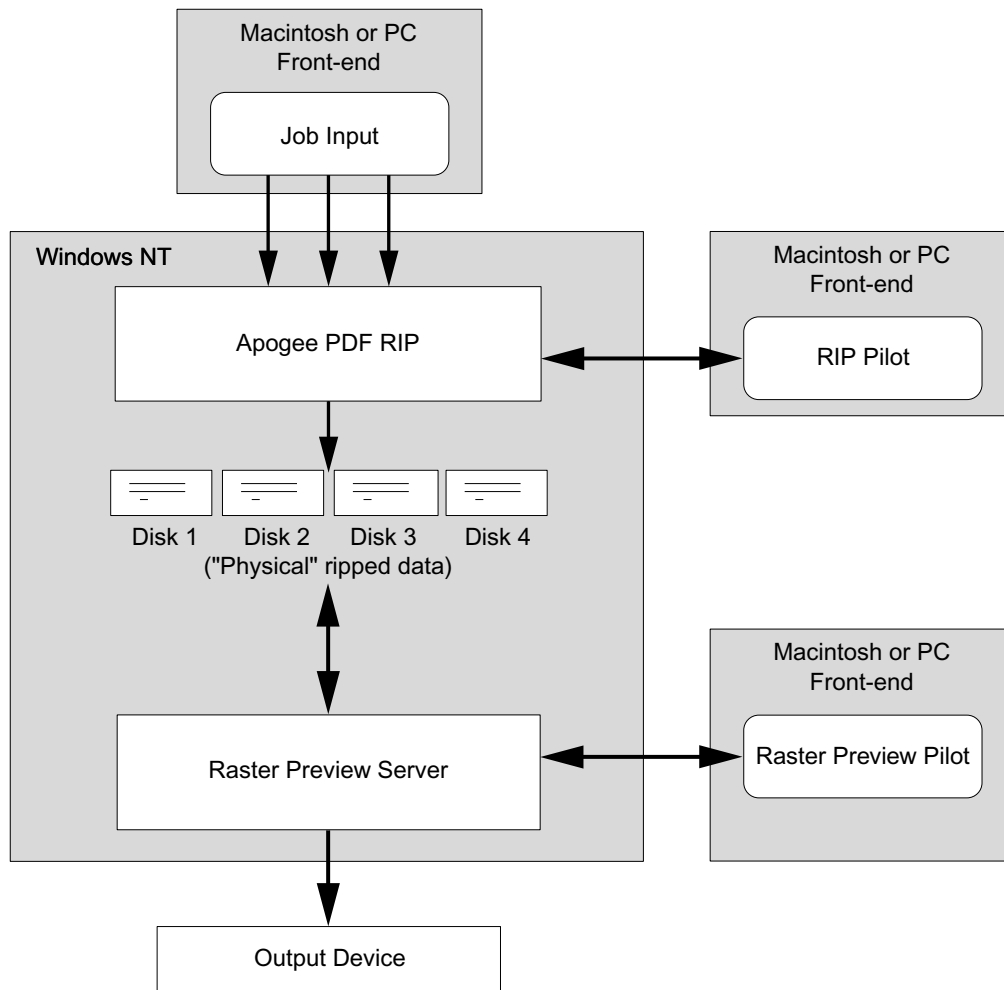


Figure 2: How Preview Interacts with the Apogee PDF RIP

Workflow Summary

A summary of the Preview workflow is as follows (refer to the equivalent step numbers in Figure 4):

- 1** Print a job “for preview” from your front-end application.
- 2** The Apogee PDF RIP produces raster files for preview, and stores them on multiple physical hard drives.
- 3** Start the Raster Preview Pilot and select a job to preview.
- 4** The Raster Preview server gets the selected raster data files from disk.
- 5** The Raster Preview server presents the raster data to the Raster Preview Pilot (the image is displayed in the Preview image area).
- 6** You can then examine the image(s) in detail, and approve the data for imaging and/or backup, or deletion.
- 7** The Raster Preview server processes the raster data according to your selected approval option.

Printing a Job “For Preview”

Any job that you want to preview must be explicitly printed “for Preview” from your front-end application. The “Preview” option is displayed in the Print Options window when you have generated and selected the appropriate PPD file.

The Structure of a Job Ripped for Preview

The structure of a job which has been ripped for Preview is comparable to the structure of a multi-level directory. The job name is the name of the 1st-level directory. This branches out into a number of 2nd-level subdirectories which each represent one page of the job, and are identified by page number. Each of these page subdirectories contain the actual separated raster data, and are identified by separation name. Each separation is ripped to a separate disk if possible. This optimizes the speed with which Preview can display a full color image, since the raster data can be retrieved from all four disks simultaneously.

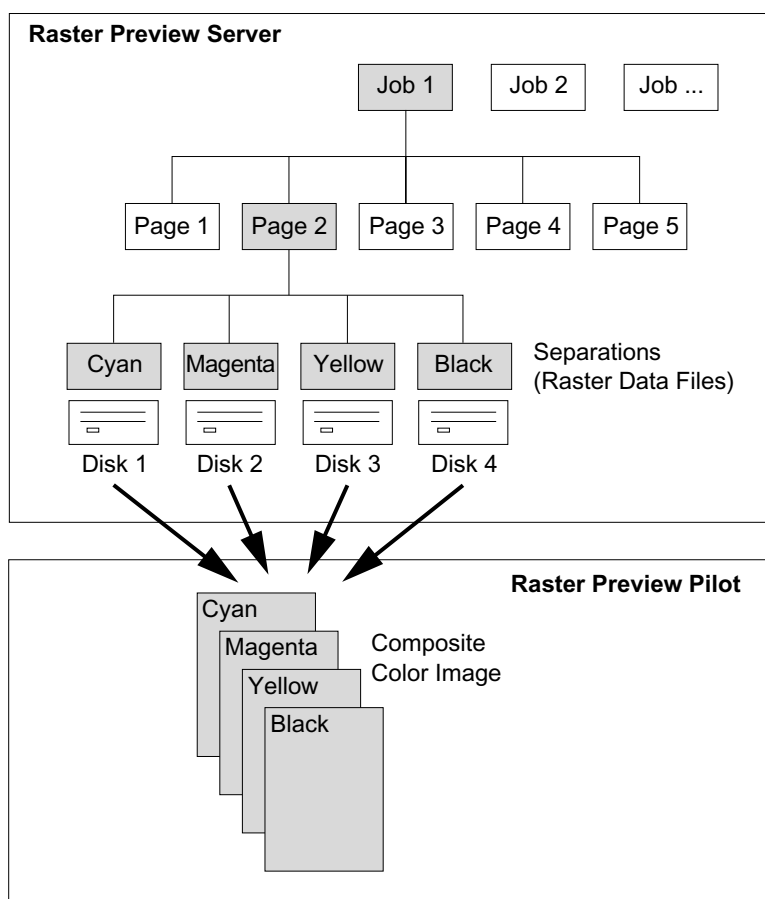


Figure 3: The Structure of a Job Ripped for Preview

Selecting a Job to Preview

Once you have printed one or more jobs “for Preview”, you can select and view individual job pages by starting the Raster Preview Pilot, and selecting a job from the list which is automatically displayed. You can then choose an individual page to preview. You can simultaneously view several pages from the same job, and can examine the same page at different zoom factors.

Previewing Options

Once a job has been selected, the Raster Preview server gets the requested raster data, and displays it to the Raster Preview Pilot as a series of overlapping separations. The Raster Preview Pilot provides you with a range of options for opening and previewing pages at different magnifications, and for checking image details such as individual color separations, ink coverage, and screen angles.

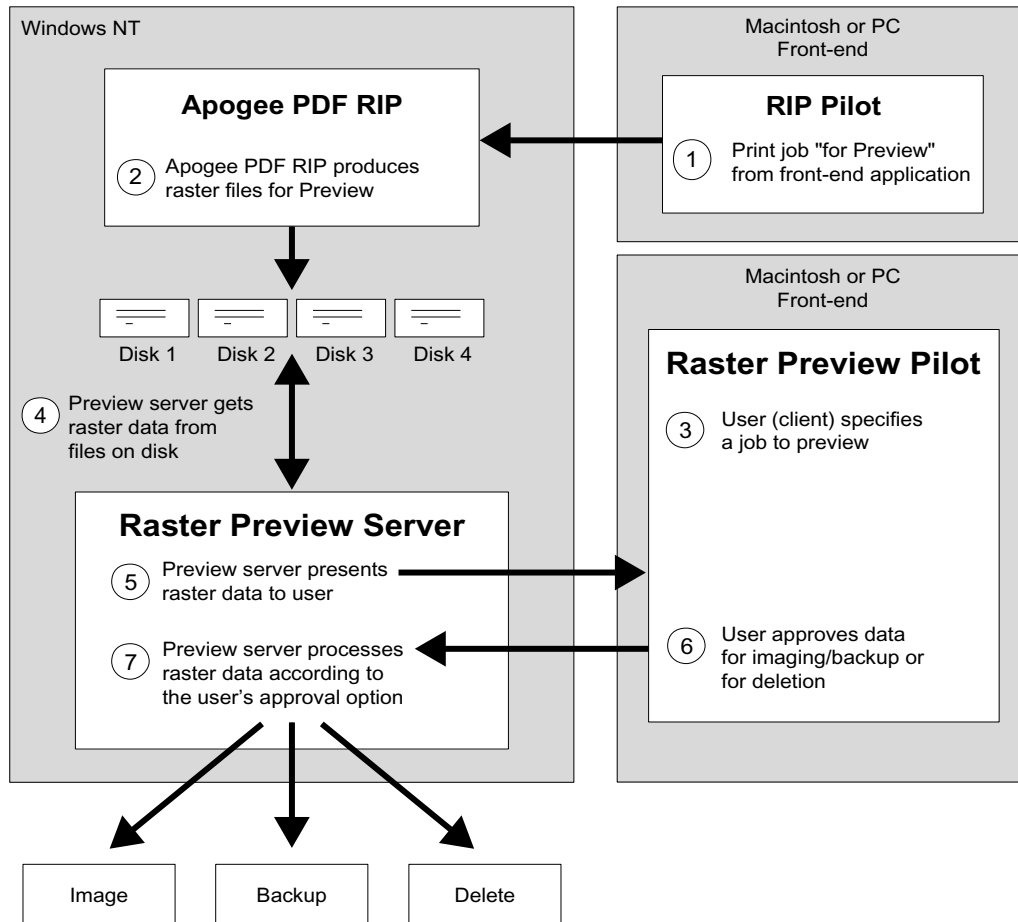


Figure 4: Workflow and Post-Preview Options

Approving /Deleting a Previewed Job

When you have finished previewing the pages of a job, you have the following post-preview options:

- **Approve and Image:** You can approve the previewed page, or the entire job, and send it directly to the imagesetter. Once it has been sent to the imagesetter, this page or job will be automatically deleted, and will no longer be available for previewing or imaging.
- **Approve, Image and Backup:** You can approve the previewed page, send it to the imagesetter, and keep a backup copy on disk.
 - ❖ Note: For more information on backing up jobs, refer to the “Agfa Job Backup User’s Guide”.
- **Approve and Backup:** You can approve the previewed page, and keep it on disk for imaging at a later date.
- **Delete:** You can delete the previewed page.

Chapter 2: Using Preview



This chapter describes how to start Preview, and how to open and view a ripped job. Information is provided on the various Preview options and preference settings, and the different Preview approval modes.

Click on a topic name to jump to the topic:

- ◆ [Before You Begin](#)
 - [System Requirements](#)
 - [Starting and Stopping the Raster Preview Server](#)
 - ◆ [Launching the Raster Preview Pilot](#)
 - ◆ [Preview Main Window](#)
 - [Preview Image Area](#)
 - [Raster Preview Pilot Menu Bar](#)
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 - [Showing / Hiding Rulers](#)
 - [Choosing Measurement Units](#)
 - [Quitting Preview](#)
- .../...continued

- ◆ Preferences
 - Setting the Size of the Overview Window
 - Setting Attributes for the Zoomable Window
 - Setting Display Options
 - Setting Page Orientation Options
 - RIP Connections
- ◆ Preview Approval Options
 - Approving a Single Page
 - Approving an Entire Job
- ◆ Using Help
- ◆ Preview Keyboard Shortcuts

Before You Begin

System Requirements

The minimum supported system requirements for installing and running Preview are as follows.

Preview Pilot

- A front-end workstation, which may be either:
 - A PowerMac, running System 8.6 or later, with Open Transport 2.0 or later. The system must be equipped with at least 64 Mbytes of RAM.
 - A high-end PC workstation, running Windows 98 or Windows NT 4.0 Service Pack 3 or later. This system should be equipped with at least a Pentium processor running at 200 MHz. A Pentium III processor running at 500 MHz (or faster) is recommended. The PC must be equipped with at least 64 Mbytes of RAM.
- ❖ Note: For both types of workstation, TCP/IP settings and addresses need to be configured.

Preview Server (Windows NT)

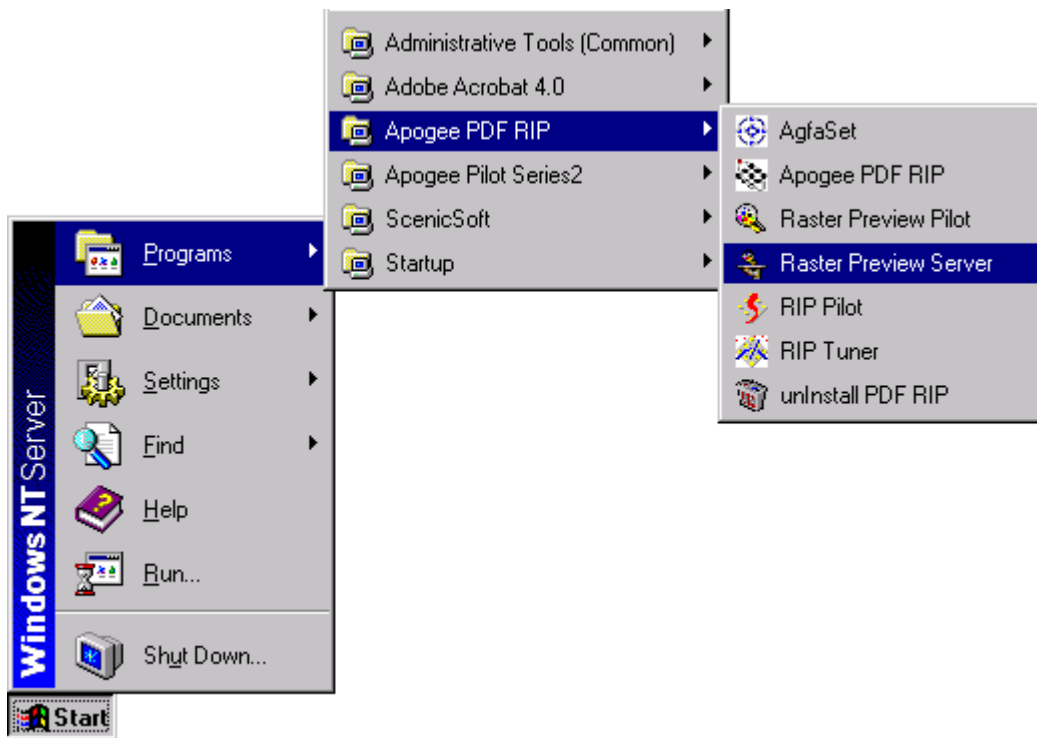
- Apogee PDF RIP requirements. Refer to the “Apogee PDF RIP for Windows User’s Guide”.

Starting and Stopping the Raster Preview Server

Before launching the Raster Preview Pilot, you must first start the Raster Preview server on the Windows NT system. The Raster Preview Server program is accessible from the Apogee PDF RIP program group.

If the Apogee PDF RIP is installed as a "standalone" application, start the Raster Preview Server as follows:

- 1 Select "Raster Preview Server" from the Start menu as follows:

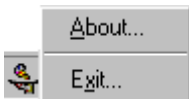


- 2 The Raster Preview Server is now running and visible in the "system tray" on your taskbar at the bottom right of your screen.



You can stop the Raster Preview Server as follows:

- 3 Right-click on the Raster Preview Server icon in the "system tray" and select 'Exit...' from the shortcut menu.



- 4 In the confirmation dialog, click on 'Yes' to stop the Raster Preview Server.

For more information, refer to "Starting/Stopping the Apogee PDF RIP" in Chapter 3 of the "Apogee PDF RIP for Windows User's Guide".

Launching the Raster Preview Pilot

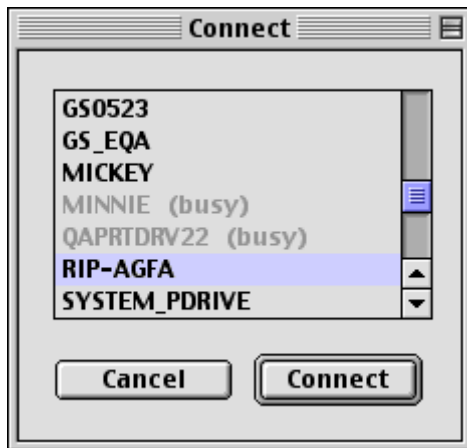
To launch the Raster Preview Pilot, proceed as follows:

- 1 Start the Raster Preview Server as described above.
- 2 Start the Raster Preview Pilot by double-clicking on the Preview Pilot icon:



- ❖ Note: **Windows 98 & Windows NT Users:** Select "Raster Preview Pilot" from the Start menu.

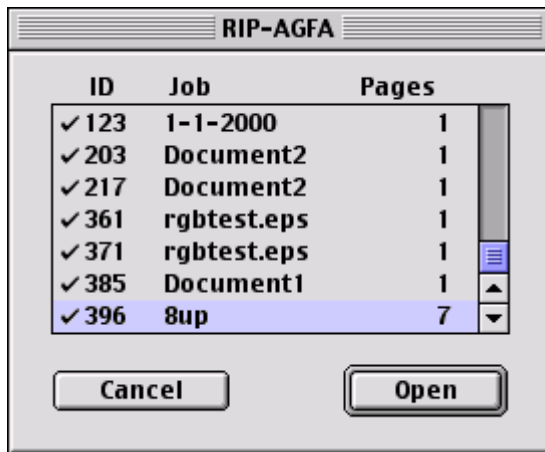
The Connect To Server window is automatically opened:



A list of Raster Preview Server (or RIP) host computers is displayed in the scrollbox. Any Raster Preview Servers which are currently unavailable, or are connected to another user, are grayed out.

- ❖ Note: Remember that when a Raster Preview Pilot connects to a Raster Preview Server, they maintain a 1-to-1 connection. This means that as long as that connection is active, no other client can connect to that server.
- 3 Select the name of the Raster Preview Server to which you want to connect, and click on the 'Connect' button (Mac users), or the 'OK' button (PC users).

The Preview main window is displayed, and the Open dialog is automatically presented:



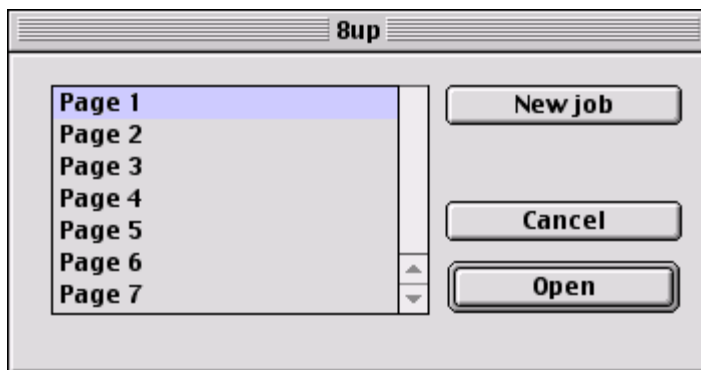
The Open dialog lists all of the jobs that are currently available on the selected Preview Server (or RIP), together with the number of pages in each job.

A checkmark to the left of a job name indicates that the RIP has finished processing all pages of the job, and all pages are ready for preview.

❖ Note: Jobs without a checkmark have only been partially processed by the RIP. This means that not all pages of the job are yet available for preview.

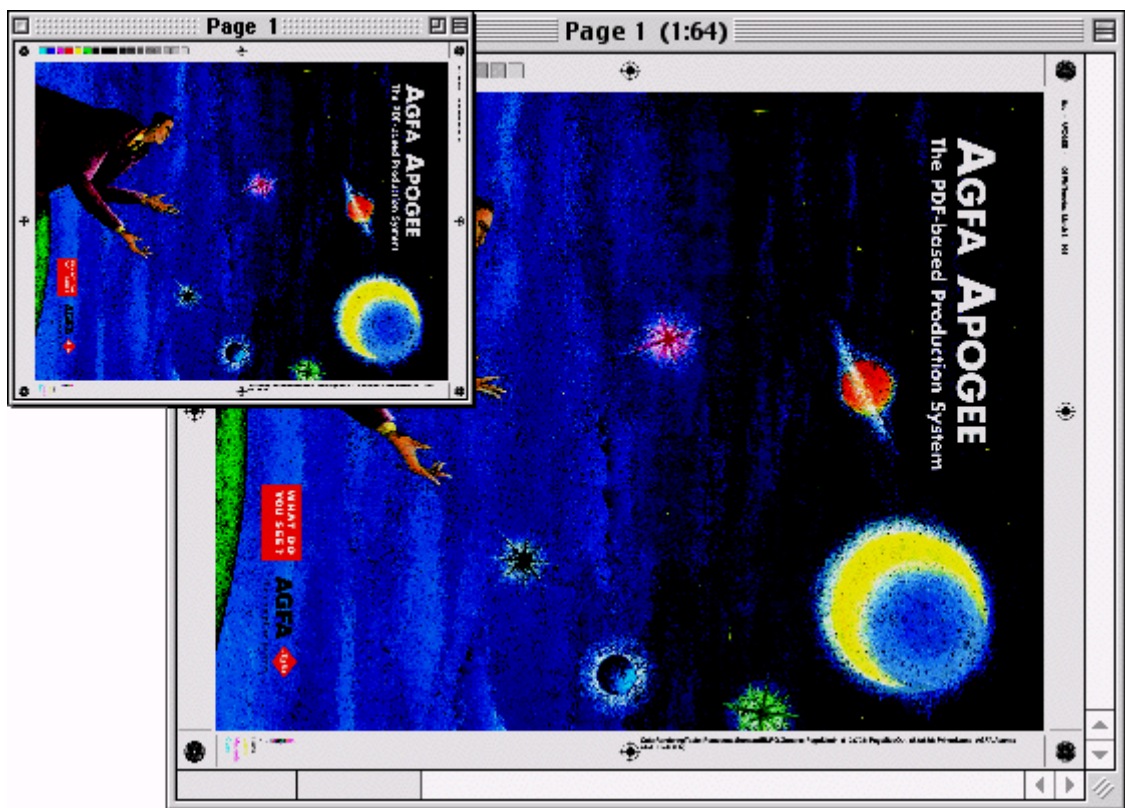
- 4 Select the name of the job you want to preview, and click on the 'Open' button (Mac users), or the 'OK' button (PC users).

A numerical list of pages within the job which are available for previewing are displayed as follows:



- 5 Select the page number that you want to preview, and click on the 'Open' button (Mac users), or the 'OK' button (PC users).

The requested page is displayed:



Because of the size and detail of imaged pages, each page you open has by default two viewing windows:

- ☐ Overview Window: Provides a snapshot of the entire page, as a low resolution continuous tone image(see above left).
- ☐ Zoom Window: Provides a detailed raster preview of one area of the page. This view can be panned and zoomed over the entire area of the page (see above right).

These viewing windows, together with the other elements of the Preview main window, are described in the following section.

Preview Main Window

The Preview main window comprises the following:

- Preview Image Area
- Preview Menu Bar
- Floating Tools Palette

Preview Image Area

The Preview Image Area is the main area of the screen in which one or more pages of a job can be previewed. Each page you open has by default two viewing windows: an Overview window and a Zoom window.

Overview Window

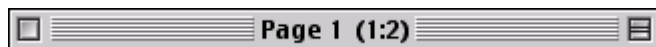
For every page that you preview, an Overview window is displayed. The Overview window displays the entire page at a low magnification. A white “locator” rectangle in the Overview window indicates which part of the page is enlarged in the Zoom window. You can quickly preview different areas of the page by clicking the mouse pointer inside the locator and dragging it to another position. This feature is only available for the currently active Zoom window.

The Overview window has two settings: small and large. You can toggle between these two settings by clicking in the top right-hand box of the Overview window Title bar (Mac users), or in the Preferences (PC users). You can also hide the Overview window as described in [“Image Viewing Options”](#).

Zoom Window

The Zoom window displays in detail the area of the image that is currently selected by the Overview window locator.

The Title bar of the Zoom window displays the number of the page you are previewing, and the zoom factor, as follows:

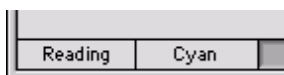


The zoom factor is always expressed in powers of 2. The available zoom factors are: 1:128 (1 screen pixel corresponds to 128 raster data pixels) - 1:64 - 1:32 - 1:16 - 1:8 - 1:4 - 1:2 - 1:1 - 2:1, and so on up to 32:1. There are a number of different ways in which you can alter the zoom factor, as described in [“Image Viewing Options”](#).

- ❖ Note: When the Zoom window is initially displayed, a low resolution continuous tone image is shown. When zooming in, from one point onwards (at approx. a 1:8 zoom factor), the high resolution raster data is shown instead.
- ❖ Note: More than one Zoom window can be opened for a particular page, each with its own zoom factor.

- ❖ Note: When opening pages to preview, the page is initially shown as a low resolution continuous tone image. When zooming in, if you have the Raster Preview option, the continuous tone image is replaced with the high resolution raster data allowing for previewing traps, halftone dots, etc. Only the full version of Apogee PDF RIP for Windows will allow for high resolution raster data previewing. Other versions of Apogee PDF RIP for Windows can be upgraded to include the Raster Preview option.

Selecting the 'Show Separations' item from the 'Window' menu, allows you to toggle individual separations on or off (see ["Viewing Single Color / Composite Planes"](#)), and to check the Ink Coverage of the selected area (see ["Checking Ink Coverage"](#))



In the bottom left corner, there is a small status bar. When images are being displayed, the status bar displays the name of the separation which is currently being processed. The status bar also displays the results when checking image screen angles (see ["Checking Screen Angles"](#)). When no images are being processed, the status bar remains blank.

- ❖ Note: **Windows 98 & Windows NT Users:** At the bottom of the screen, in the right-hand corner of the status bar, an animated icon indicates that data is being transferred.

The way in which raster data is displayed in the zoom window can be customized through a number of settings in the Preferences dialog (see ["Setting Attributes for the Zoomable Window"](#)). Zoom windows can also have rulers in user-selectable units of measurement (millimeters, centimeters, inches, pixels, or picas). For further information, see ["Choosing Measurement Units"](#).

Raster Preview Pilot Menu Bar



The Menu Bar at the top of the Preview main window gives you access to five menus:

- File
- Edit
- Image
- Window
- Help

Each of these menus contains a list of options which allow you to open and close pages, set image viewing options and preferences, and abort or approve pages for imaging, as illustrated below:

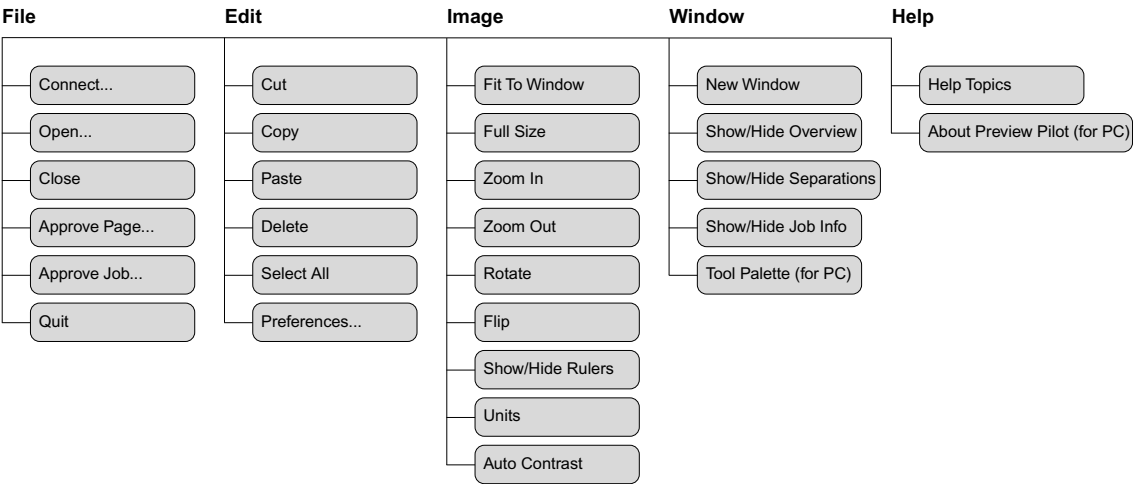


Figure 5: Raster Preview Pilot Menu Bar Options

Floating Tools Palette

Whenever you start Preview, a floating Tools Palette is opened, it can be hidden and shown with the Window/Tool Palette menu (PC only). This palette contains four tools for examining the image in the currently active Zoom window, as follows:

Area Select Tool



This tool is provided for use with the [“Checking Ink Coverage”](#) feature. When this tool is selected, a rectangle can be drawn in the active Zoom window by clicking and dragging. If the Separations window is already open, the ink values for the selected region are updated immediately; if not, they are recalculated when the Separations window is opened.

Pan Tool



This tool is provided for viewing a page that exceeds the size of the Zoom window. When this tool is selected, the image in the active Zoom window can be moved around over small distances within the window. The image is updated when the mouse button is released. You can also pan an image by dragging the rectangular locator in the Overview window.

Zoom Tool



When this tool is selected, the contents of the active Zoom window can be zoomed in (by clicking) or zoomed out (by Option-clicking for Macintosh users, or Shift-clicking for Windows users). Simple clicking zooms around the mouse position, while click-and-drag selects a zoom region of a user-specified size.

Screen Angle Tool



This tool is provided for checking screen angles in the currently active Zoom window. When this tool is selected, clicking in the active zoom window and moving the mouse calculates the distance and angle between the point where the mouse button was pressed and the current mouse position. Distances are measured in the units specified in the Image menu (see [“Choosing Measurement Units”](#)).

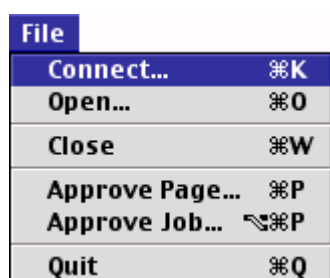
Preview Options

This section describes the options for opening and previewing pages, and for checking image details such as individual color planes, ink coverage, and screen angles.

Connecting to the Raster Preview Server / RIP

To connect or reconnect to the Raster Preview Server / RIP, proceed as follows:

- ❖ Note: Typically the Raster Preview Server host computer is also the Apogee PDF RIP host computer.
- 1 Select 'Connect...' from the File menu,



The Connect To Server window is automatically opened.

A list of Raster Preview Server host computers is displayed in the scrollbox. Any Raster Preview Servers which are currently unavailable, or are connected to another user, are grayed out.

- ❖ Note: Remember that when a Preview Pilot connects to a Preview server, they maintain a 1-to-1 connection. This means that as long as that connection is active, no other client can connect to that server.
- 2 Select the name of the Raster Preview Server to which you want to connect, and click on the 'Connect' button (Mac users), or the 'OK' button (PC users).

The Preview main window is displayed, and the Open dialog is automatically presented.

To open a page to preview, follow the steps described below.

Opening Pages to Preview

- 1 To open a page to preview, proceed as follows:
- 2 Select 'Open...' from the File menu.

The Open dialog is displayed. The Open dialog lists all of the jobs that are currently available on the selected Apogee PDF RIP, together with the number of pages in each job. A checkmark to the left of a job name indicates that the RIP has finished processing all pages of the job, and all pages are ready for preview.

- ❖ Note: Jobs without a checkmark have only been partially processed by the RIP. This means that not all pages of the job are yet available for preview.
- 3 Select the name of the job you want to preview, and click on the 'Open' button (Mac users), or the 'OK' button (PC users).

A numerical list of pages within the job which are available for previewing is displayed.

- 4 Select the page number that you want to preview, and click on the 'Open' button (Mac users), or the 'OK' button (PC users).

The requested page is displayed.

- ❖ Note: You can open multiple different pages within a job, but you cannot simultaneously open and view pages from different jobs.
- ❖ Note: When opening pages to preview, the page is initially shown as a low resolution continuous tone image. When zooming in, if you have the Raster Preview option, the continuous tone image is replaced with the high resolution raster data allowing for previewing traps, halftone dots, etc. Only the full version of Apogee PDF RIP for Windows will allow for high resolution raster data previewing. Other versions of Apogee PDF RIP for Windows can be upgraded to include the Raster Preview option.

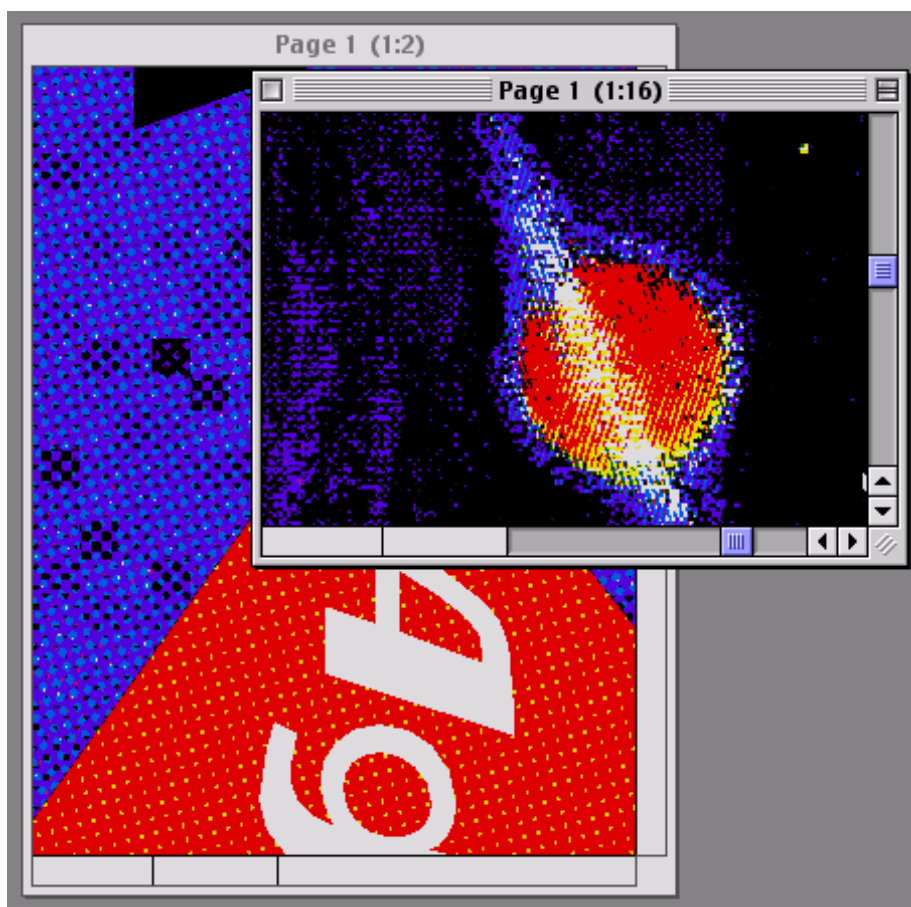
Opening Multiple Views on a Page

In addition to opening multiple pages, you can also open up multiple windows on the currently selected page to display detailed views on different areas of the image.

- While your selected page is active, select 'New Window' from the Window menu:



Preview opens a new Zoom window for the current page. Each of the Zoom windows you open can display a different part of the page with a different zoom factor.



- ❖ Note: The maximum number of windows that you can have open at any given time depends largely on your Raster Preview Pilot system's memory configuration.

Closing Previewed Pages

To close a single Zoom window (and associated Overview window) proceed as follows:

- 1 Click the mouse inside the window that you want to close.

This makes the window the active window.

- 2 Select 'Close' from the File menu.

To close all windows:

- Macintosh users: Hold the 'Option' key down while selecting 'Close'.
- Windows users: Hold the 'Shift' key down while selecting 'Close'.

Image Viewing Options

Preview provides you with several tools for zooming, panning, and resizing images and windows.

Zooming



Point Zoom In: Click on the Zoom tool and then click on a point in the Zoom window to zoom in on that point in the image. Preview calculates an appropriate zoom factor to fit the active zoom window on your screen. Each time you click on the Zoom tool, the zoom factor is halved, until you reach the maximum zoom-in level (32:1).

Area Zoom In: Click on the Zoom tool and then click-and-drag in the Zoom window to select a rectangular area of your choice. The selected area is then re-scaled to fill the current window size. The re-scaling is performed to the nearest zoom factor to the power of 2.

Point Zoom Out: Click with the Zoom tool while holding down the 'Option' key (Macintosh users) or 'Alt' key (Windows users) to zoom out on the contents of the active Zoom window.

Area Zoom Out: Click on the Zoom tool and then click-and-drag in the Zoom window to select a rectangular area of your choice while holding down the 'Option' key (Macintosh users) or 'Alt' key (Windows users). The current window contents are then re-scaled to fit into the selected region. The re-scaling is performed to the nearest zoom factor to the power of 2.

- ❖ Note: Each successive operation that you start will interrupt any ongoing operation. This means that if you start a new operation, such as a zoom in, before an ongoing operation is completed, then the ongoing operation will be aborted.

Panning



This tool is provided for viewing a page that exceeds the size of the Zoom window. In this situation, click first on the Panning tool, and then click and hold down the mouse button on a point in the Zoom window. You can now pan the image by moving the mouse around the Zoom window. The image is updated when you release the mouse button.

- ❖ Note: You can also pan an image by dragging the rectangular locator in the Overview window.

Fitting the Image Size to the Screen Size

If the size of a page you are previewing is larger than the size of your display screen, you can resize the image to fit the screen as follows:

- Select 'Fit To Window' from the Image menu:



Fit To Window calculates an appropriate zoom factor to make the active zoom window fit on your screen. Image re-scaling is performed to the nearest zoom factor to the power of 2.

Rotating an Image

You can rotate an image through 0°, 90°, 180°, or 270°, as follows:

- 1 Select the window which contains the image you want to rotate.
- 2 Select 'Rotate' from the Image menu, and hold down the mouse button while you select the required rotation factor from the extended options.

Flipping an Image

You can flip an image, either vertically or horizontally, as follows:

- 1 Select the window which contains the image you want to flip.
- 2 Select 'Flip' from the Image menu, and hold down the mouse button while you select either the 'Vertical' or 'Horizontal' extended option.

Displaying a Full Size Image

To display a full size image, at the zoom factor of 1:1 (i.e. one raster data pixel is displayed using 1 screen pixel), proceed as follows:

- Select 'Full Size' from the Image menu.

The image in the currently active Zoom window is displayed full size.

Showing / Hiding the Overview Window

Display of the Overview window can be toggled on or off as follows:

- Select either 'Show Overview' or 'Hide Overview' from the Window menu.

Viewing Single Color / Composite Planes

Selecting to view single color planes or any combination of color planes is done in the Separations window. Select 'Show Separations' from the Window menu.



The Separations window allows you to toggle individual separations on or off.



You can place a checkmark next to any of the color planes to display that color. All combinations of process and spot colors may be selected.

Checking Ink Coverage

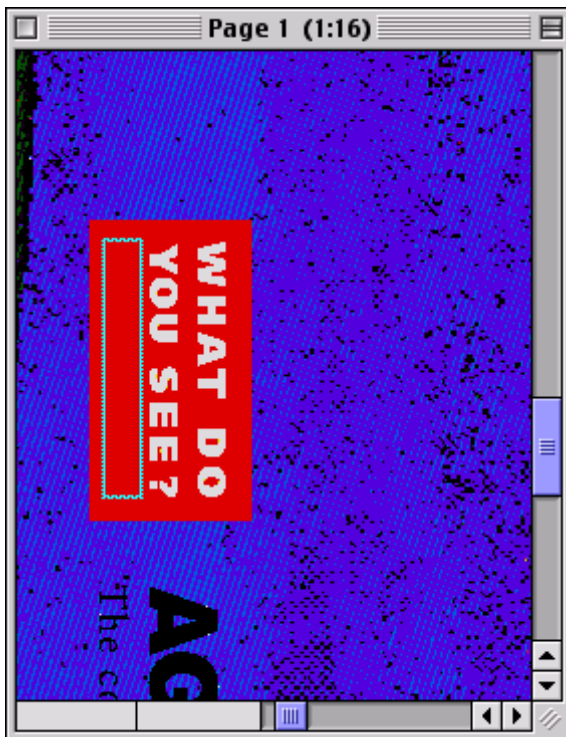
The Separations window also indicates the percentage of ink that is used in any given area of the currently active Zoom window. This feature is used in conjunction with the Area Select tool. The Ink coverage contained by the Area Select Tool will be displayed in the Separations window for each separation. When no area is selected, the Ink coverage from the active zoom window will be displayed.



When the Area Select tool is selected from the Floating Tool Palette, a rectangle can be drawn in the active Zoom window by clicking and dragging. The ink coverage for the selected region is then calculated, and the results are displayed in the Separations window.

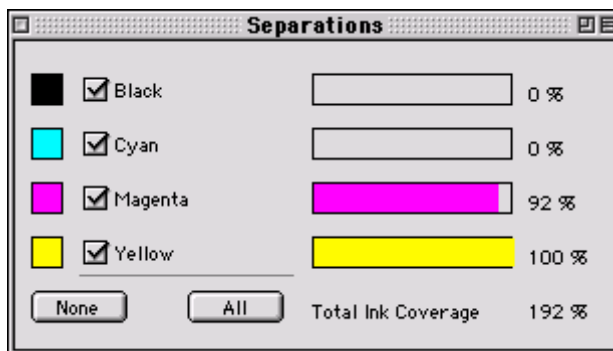
The procedure is as follows:

- 1 Choose the Area Select tool by clicking on the rectangular icon in the Floating Tool Palette.
- 2 Select an area in the Zoom window by clicking and dragging the mouse:



- 3 When you are satisfied with the area you have selected, release the mouse button.

The Separations window indicates the percentage of ink used in the selected region of the Zoom window:



The ink coverage percentage is displayed for each process and spot color plane. This information is calculated on the basis of the real pixel data, and is accurate to within around 3%. When zoomed in at 1:1, the information is accurate to 1%.

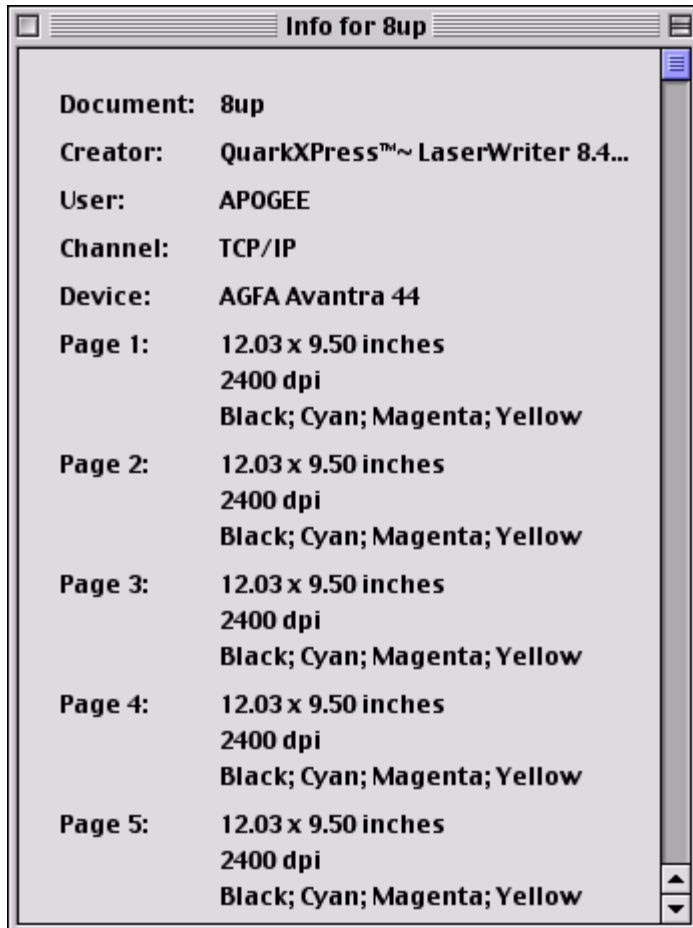
- ❖ Note: If the Separations window is already displayed, then it will be updated every time a new area is selected in the Zoom window. Also, if a particular color separation is deselected in the Separations window, no Ink Coverage value for that separation will appear.

Displaying Job Information

You can choose to display a window which provides information on the current job. This feature can be toggled on or off.

- Select 'Show Job Info' from the Window menu.

A job information window is displayed, similar to the following:



The job information comprises:

- ❑ Document name.
- ❑ Creator.
- ❑ Job ID.
- ❑ User name.
- ❑ Channel (RIP input channel).
- ❑ Device name.
- ❑ Page number.
- ❑ Page size, in the customized units of measurement (millimeters, inches, pixels, etc.) See ["Choosing Measurement Units"](#).
- ❑ Page resolution, in dpi.

- List of separations (process & spot colors)

Checking Screen Angles

You can use Preview to display screen angles in ripped pages, before sending them to the imagesetter. This function is very useful for avoiding unwanted moiré effects in the final output.

The procedure is as follows:

- 1 Choose the Screen Angle tool by clicking on the icon in the Floating Tool Palette.
- 2 Click on a point in the active Zoom window and move the mouse pointer to another point in the window.

As you move the mouse, Preview automatically calculates the distance and angle between the point where the mouse button was pressed and the current mouse position. Distances are measured in the units you have specified (see [“Choosing Measurement Units”](#).)

- ❖ Note: You need to select a good pattern to achieve useful results.

The results of these calculations are displayed in the status bar at the bottom left-hand side of the window (or at the bottom right-hand of the screen for Windows 98 and Windows NT users):



- The first of these two values indicates the screen angle between the two points, expressed in degrees.
- The second value indicates the distance between the two points, in the user-specified units.

Redefining Colors

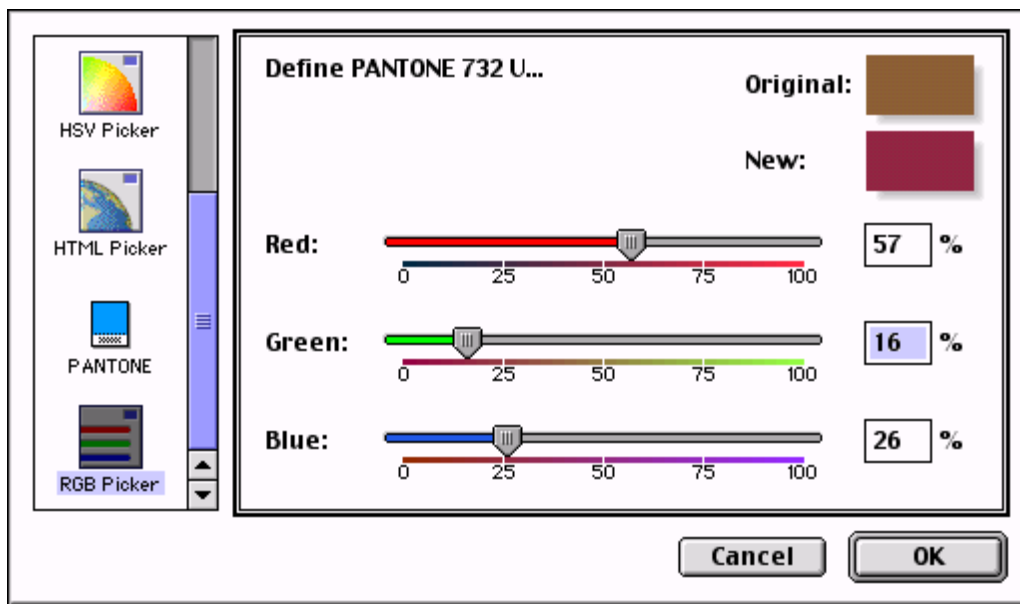
In order to provide an accurate display of color images, Preview must convert the CMYK values of the ripped separations into RGB values that can be displayed by a computer monitor. Although this conversion works well for the standard CMYK process colors, this is not always the case where spot colors are concerned.

However, since each spot color is output on its own separation, Preview allows you to redefine the color which has been automatically selected to represent the spot color. In this way, you can choose a color which may be more representative of what will be actually printed on the press.

The procedure for doing this is as follows:

- 1 Open the Separations window and click on the color indicator of the color you want to redefine.

The color picker is displayed:



The color picker allows you to redefine the RGB values (or CMYK, Pantone, HSL,...) of any spot colors in the image. You cannot change the values for process colors.

- 2 Change the RGB values by adjusting the sliders, or by entering values directly into the color percentage fields.
 - 3 Click on the 'OK' button to save your changes.
- ❖ **Note: Windows 98 & Windows NT Users:** Although the appearance is different, the functionality of the color picker under Windows is basically the same.

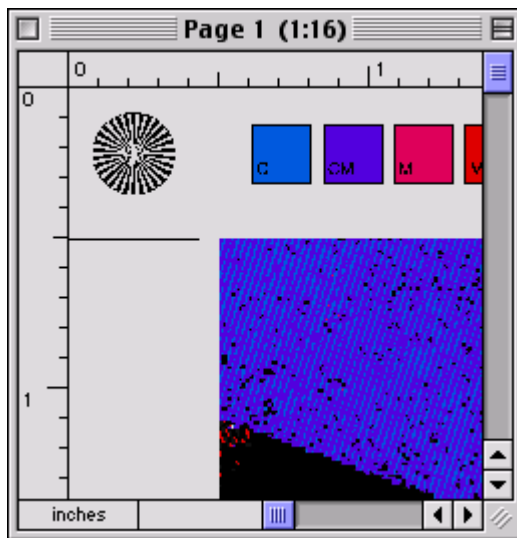
Showing / Hiding Rulers

You can display rulers for each of the zoom windows, using any of the standard units of measurement. This is done by toggling the option in the Image menu between 'Show Rulers' and 'Hide Rulers'.

Rulers are displayed using the units of measurement you have specified (see ["Choosing Measurement Units"](#).)

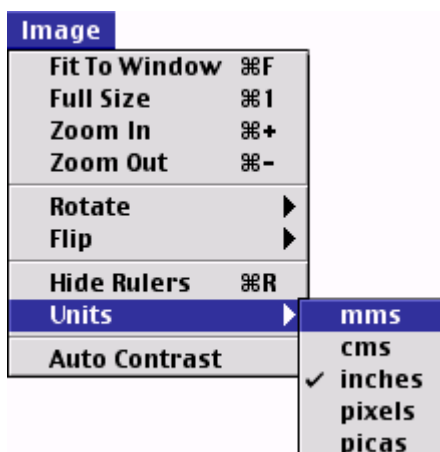
- ❖ Note: Rulers are absolute. This means that zero is always located at the top left-hand corner of the page. No redefinition of this ruler zero point is possible.
- Select 'Show Rulers' from the Image menu.

Rulers are added to the active Zoom window which is open:



Choosing Measurement Units

- To specify the units of measurement that Preview will use, select 'Units' from the Image menu. You can choose millimeters (mms), centimeters (cms), inches, pixels, or picas:



Quitting Preview

You can quit Preview at any time as follows:

- From the Preview menu bar, select 'Quit' from the File menu (for Mac users), or select 'Exit' (for PC users).

Preferences

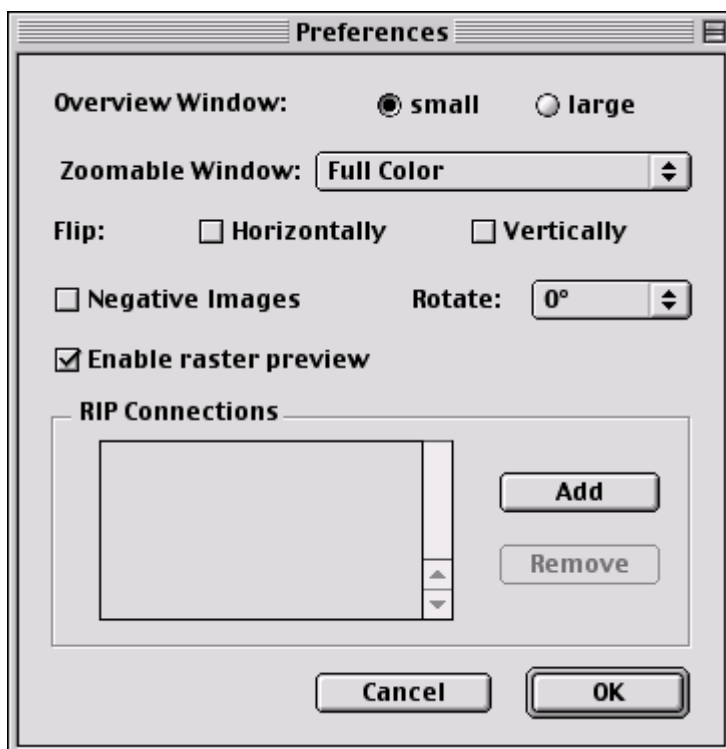
Preview provides you with a number of options for customizing the way in which pages are displayed for viewing. These global settings define the default properties for all windows which are currently open, as well as all windows which you subsequently open.

For example, you can:

- Set the size of the Overview window
- Set the properties of all zoomable windows
- Set miscellaneous display options, such as image inverting for previewing negative images, flipping, rotating and raster preview.
- Configure RIP connections that are across TCP/IP network routers.

- 1 From the Edit menu, select 'Preferences...':

The Preferences dialog is displayed, as follows:



- 2 Make any changes you require to the displayed preference options (as described below), and click on the 'OK' button.

- ❖ Note: All open windows are dynamically updated with the new settings when you make any changes to your preferences.

Setting the Size of the Overview Window

You can set the size of the Overview window by clicking on 'small' or 'large'. The Overview window cannot be rescaled from either of these two settings.

- ❖ Note: You can also hide the Overview window as described in ["Showing / Hiding the Overview Window"](#).

Setting Attributes for the Zoomable Window

By clicking on the Zoomable Window pop-up menu (Mac) or radio button (PC), you can set the default initial attributes for all pages that are opened. Selecting a new page either creates no Zoom window, a full color Zoom window, or a Zoom window with only the black separation initially visible.

Your options are as follows:

- None: No Zoom window is opened. When you select a page for viewing, only the Overview window is displayed. This mode is useful if you want to quickly see a "thumbnail" of a page, rather than reading in the whole page. This is the fastest way of accessing a page.
- Black Separation: When you select a page for viewing, only the black separation is displayed. This mode is much faster than Full Color mode.
- Full Color: When you select a page for viewing, all of the color separations are displayed. This is the default option.

Setting Display Options

Negative Images

This option transposes the solid areas of an image to transparent, and transparent areas to solid, and is applied to each of the image separations. This option is useful for previewing negative separations.

For example, suppose an image is made up of 4 separations; cyan, magenta, yellow, and black. Each separation is actually made up of only 2 types of areas - solid areas (black) and transparent areas. When you select "Negative Images" (Mac), or "Negative Separations" (PC), Preview reverses the display of these areas individually on each separation. This means that, on the cyan plate, all cyan areas are displayed as transparent, and all transparent areas are displayed as cyan. The same reversal is applied to the magenta, yellow, and black plates.

Enable raster preview

When this option is enabled, you will be able to see the actual high resolution raster data which allows you to examine the halftone dots, screen angles, traps, etc. If this option is disabled, only a low resolution continuous tone image of the page will be shown.

Setting Page Orientation Options

Rotate

This option rotates all Zoom windows and the Overview window using the specified rotation factor (0°, 90°, 180°, or 270°).

Flip Horizontally

This option “flips” all images 180° along a vertical axis.

Flip Vertically

This option “flips” all images 180° along a horizontal axis.

RIP Connections

The Raster Preview Pilot uses the TCP/IP protocol to connect to and communicate with the Raster Preview server. Raster Preview servers do not display in the Connect to Server list (see [“Connecting to the Raster Preview Server / RIP”](#) in this chapter) if there is a router between the Raster Preview Server and the Raster Preview Pilot.

You can add the IP address or host name of the Raster Preview Server / RIP to the RIP Connections list (Mac), or RIP Server list (PC) to enable communication with the Raster Preview Server / RIP across a network router. The servers added to this list will be found across routers.

RIP connections can be added to and removed from the list using the Add and Remove buttons.

❖ Note: It is required that the router is configured to support multicasting.

Preview Approval Options

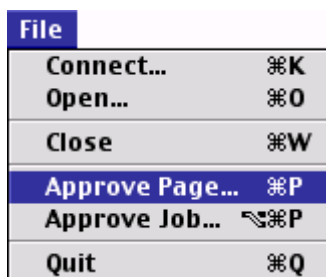
When you have finished previewing the pages of a job, you have the following approval options:

- Approve for imaging
- Approve for backup
- Approve for imaging and backup
- Delete

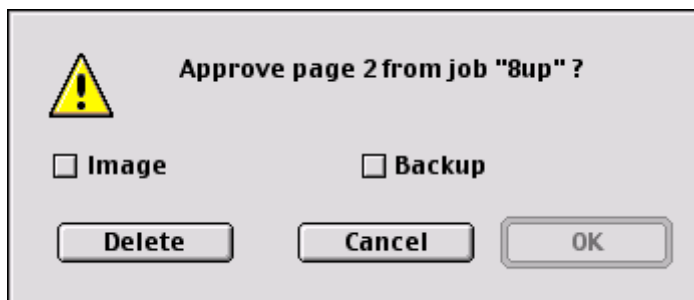
You can choose an approval option for a single page or for an entire job, as described below.

Approving a Single Page

- From the Raster Preview Pilot menu bar, select 'Approve Page...' from the File menu:



The Approval dialog is displayed, as follows:



The default settings for the "Image" and "Backup" checkboxes are retrieved from the PPD file's print option settings, which were chosen when the job was printed "for Preview". However, you can override these settings now by enabling/disabling the checkboxes.

Approve for Imaging

If you simply want to approve the previewed page, and send it directly to the imagesetter, proceed as follows:

- 1 Enable the 'Image' checkbox
- 2 Disable the 'Backup' checkbox
- 3 Click on the 'OK' button

Result: Once it has been sent to the imagesetter, this page will no longer be available for previewing or imaging. If you want to re-image the page at a later date, you must select one of the options below.

Approve for Backup

If you want to approve the previewed page, and keep it on disk for imaging at a later date, proceed as follows:

- 1 Disable the 'Image' checkbox
- 2 Enable the 'Backup' checkbox
- 3 Click on the 'OK' button

Result: The page will simply be saved on disk. If you want to re-image this page at a later date, you can do so using the Agfa Job Backup function. For more information about Agfa Job Backup, refer to your "Agfa Job Backup User's Guide".

Approve for Imaging and Backup

If you want to approve the previewed page, send it to the imagesetter, and keep a backup on disk, proceed as follows:

- 1 Enable the 'Image' checkbox
- 2 Enable the 'Backup' checkbox
- 3 Click on the 'OK' button

Result: The page will be sent to the imagesetter, and will also be saved on disk. If you want to re-image this page at a later date, you can do so using the Agfa Job Backup utility. You will not need to submit it again to the RIP.

Delete

If you do not want to approve the previewed page, proceed as follows:

- Click on the Delete button

Result: The previewed page will be deleted, and will no longer be available for previewing or imaging (the checkboxes are ignored). If you want to re-image this page at a later date, you must submit it once more to the RIP.

Approving an Entire Job

The procedure for approving all pages in a job is similar to approving a single page as described above.

- 1 From the Raster Preview Pilot menu bar, select 'Approve Job...' from the File menu:

The Approval dialog is displayed as follows:



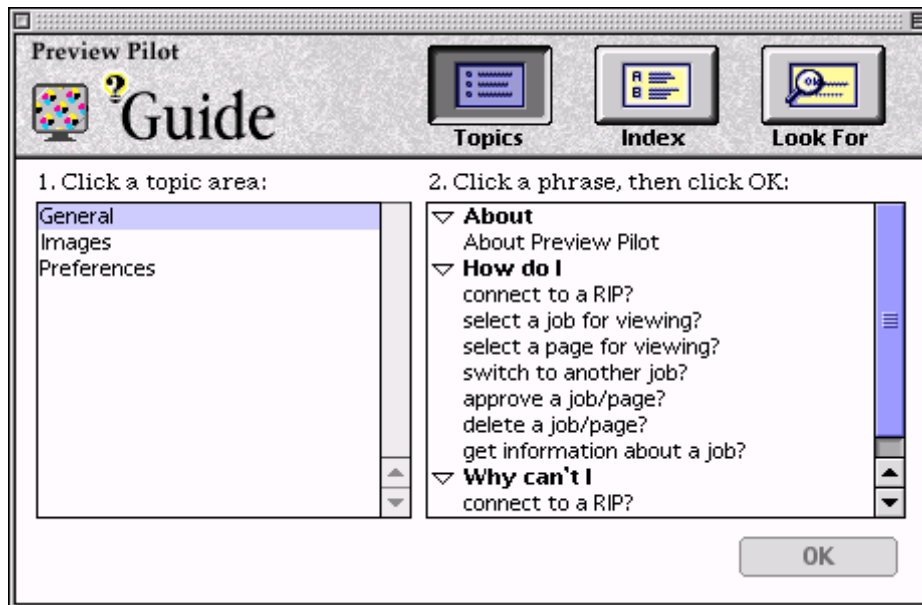
Note that in this case, the message changes from 'Approve Page #' to 'Approve Job'.

- ❖ **Note: Windows 98 & Windows NT Users:** This options 'Current Page' or 'All Pages' can be selected in the 'Approve' dialog window itself.

Using Help

Preview includes an on-line Help facility which can be accessed from the main menu. You can access topics either by using the Help Contents, or by Searching for a topic.

- ❖ Note: On Macintosh computers, the Help facility is based on Apple Guide which must be installed on your Macintosh system.



Preview Keyboard Shortcuts

Macintosh Users		Windows Users	
⌘O	Open Job /Page to Preview	CTRL-O	Open Job /Page to Preview
⌘W	Close Window	CTRL-W	Close Window
⌘P	Approve Page	CTRL-P	Select Approval Option
option-⌘P	Approve Job		
⌘Q	Quit Preview	CTRL-Q	Quit Preview
⌘F	Fit Image To Window	CTRL-F	Fit Image To Window
⌘1	Display Full Size image	CTRL-1	Display Full Size image
⌘+	Zoom In	CTRL-+	Zoom In
⌘-	Zoom Out	CTRL--	Zoom Out
⌘R	Show / Hide Rulers	CTRL-R	Show / Hide Rulers
⌘N	Open a New Window	CTRL-N	Open a New Window
⌘J	Show / Hide Job Info	CTRL-I	Show / Hide Job Info
⌘Z	Undo Action	CTRL-S	Show / Hide Separations
⌘X	Cut	F5	Rotate 0°
⌘C	Copy	F6	Rotate 90°
⌘V	Paste	F7	Rotate 180°
⌘A	Select All	F8	Rotate 270°
⌘I	Show / Hide Separations	F9	Flip Horizontal
⌘K	Connect	F10	Flip Vertical
		CTRL-X	Cut
		CTRL-C	Copy
		CTRL-V	Paste
		Del	Delete
		CTRL-A	Select All

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