Blackmagic

Colour-Perfect Proofing

Serendipity

The Complete Colour Management Solution

Blackmagic is a proofing system designed for demanding press and print environments.

Based on a colour management system honed by decades of print industry experience, Blackmagic automatically assembles press plate files for proofing directly from your CTP RIP.

We understand commercial printing is complex: Multiple presses and substrates; Multiple printers for producing proofs; Print-on-demand work to a vast array of media types.

We know you want fast, efficient, and above all, accurate proofs. Proofs that don't interrupt your workflow, and that precisely reproduce any press process. Blackmagic is all the proof you need.

Overview

Blackmagic is a Client & Server based software package, designed to run on any combination of Windows, macOS, or Linux systems.

Once the Server is running, there is no limit to the number of Clients that can connect and run. A security dongle authorises access to the software and various input/output licenses.

The Serendipity Client, with a range of built-in applications and modules, acts as the hub for all configuration and job monitoring processes. It can be run on the same machine or on another locally (LAN) or remotely (WAN) networked computer.

The Workbench application contains all the information for your job processing requirements - from calcheck charts, gradation curves, paper profiles and printer setups, to press configurations, ICC profiles, and jobtickets.

Monitor your print queues and more with the Jobs application. See at a glance any submitted jobs for tracking; view current printer status, ink levels, warnings and error messages.

Printing Made Easy

Serendipity Blackmagic supports all major printer manufacturer brands, including Canon, CET Color, CIP3, Durst, Encad, Epson, Fujifilm, HP, HP Scitex, Inca, Mimaki, Mutoh, Nanoo, Oce, Roland, Techsage, Teckwin, and Vutek.

A complete list of supported drivers can be found on the Serendipity Support website: www.serendipity-software.com.au/products/technical-specifications

Colour Management

Featuring an ICC v4.2 compliant colour management system, Blackmagic allows true 16-bit processing of files, for enhanced colour depth and finer colour control.

Import press ICC profiles to match your CMYK or multi-colour press standard. Process files containing halftone, stochastic, hybrid, or any other screening type. Press ink and platesetter dotgain compensation normalises plate files for proofing. Real Dot Technology delivers your proofs with exactly the same dot structure as source platesetter RIP files.

Colour Verification & Spot Colours

Certify the colour accuracy of your proofs, by using an integrated system for creating and measuring verification charts against Δe, ΔH and ΔCh tolerances. Calcheck charts can be generated from imported CGATS data, directly from press ICC profiles, or create customised charts. Standalone charts can be printed, or attach them to jobs to ensure your colour is contract standard.

Create or import unlimited Lab, CMYK, or multi-colour spot colour libraries. Lab (Multi) special colour support allows spot inks to be specifically characterised, defining the Lab values of a colour at different tint levels.

Blackmagic uses spot colour paint modes and ink merging to accurately reproduce the process and spot inks of your presses.

Truespot colour iteration optimises your spot colours for peak accuracy on any proofing media.

Serendipity Updater

The Serendipity Updater provides a simple and convenient way of updating Serendipity Blackmagic and standalone Serendipity Client applications.

The Updater tracks the current software installation status and automatically checks for available software updates, bug fixes, maintenance patches, and new drivers.

New updates are listed along with release notes, previously installed updates are logged in the Updater, and notes can be viewed at any time.

Press RIP Integration

Blackmagic interprets the native file format, directory structure, assembly and imposition data of your platesetter RIP. Real Dot Technology delivers your proofs with exactly the same dot structure as source platesetter RIP files.

Virtual Press allows you to manage, assign and change job plates. RIPMonitor polls and interprets the native file format, directory structure, plate assembly and imposition data of all major manufacturer proprietary RIPs. Use it to configure automated proofing workflows.

An integrated Job Genie can be programmed to read your filename format and stitch single plates into full colour jobs and publications.

Control Your Printer

Blackmagic uses Paper Profiling to individually characterise print media. Ink limiting and dot selection save on ink use without compromising colour density. Choose printhead dot sizes and use intelligent ink limiting to achieve optimal colour densities, while using the least amount of ink.

Linearise your print output using configurable gradation curves. Monitor your printer's current status, ink levels and remaining media.
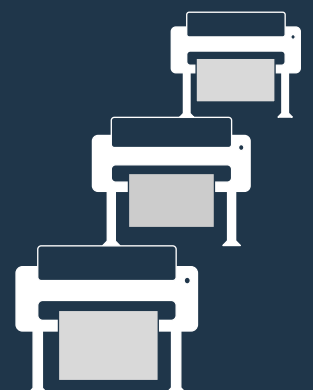
Print management and load balancing maximise productivity for one, or one hundred printers.

Unlimited Seats, Unlimited Printers

Blackmagic is a Server/Client based system supporting an unlimited number of local or networked clients at no additional cost.

Client interface settings can be individualised or shared with other users. A Secure Mode option allows selective user access to functions and job information.

Your software includes a printer driver suite that allows it to run an unlimited number of your chosen brand of printer.

De-Imposition & Soft Proofing

De-impose press sheets for proofing as individual pages or page pairs. Utilise plate imposition signatures in standard industry formats, including JDF.

Display colour accurate previews on-screen at full output resolution. Multi-resolution previews allow real-time zooming of large print areas. Preview spreads, signatures, back-page show-through, and individual ink channels.
Ink Key Viewer helps the press operator set up press ink ducts and calculate ink use.

Set For Proofing

SoftProof is our on-screen proofing application. Combined with Displays, our monitor calibration and verification application, SoftProof can supplement your print proofing - or replace it entirely.

Configure Press simulation settings to view proofs on screen with precise colour accuracy. Check jobs for bleed or errors before sending them to press. See at a glance how a job will print using a newspaper stock, or a glossy magazine media with a simple mouse click. Full high DPI (4K / UHD) monitor support provides true print quality soft proofing, before committing to print.
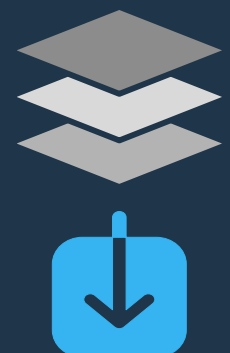
Plate Management

The VirtualPress module gives users the ability to manage the plates of a job for proofing. You can change plate colours or order, assign a colour to an un-allocated job plate, remove plates, or merge plates from other jobs.

Drag & Drop Job Submission

The DropZone module makes it easy for anyone to drop a job for processing on to a designated output configuration. Use Jobtickets to precisely control your job processing and print options.

Submit jobs directly from third party applications like Photoshop, or straight from your desktop/file manager with a few clicks.

Publish Pagesetups so anyone can submit to a designated output across your network.

Always Have a Backup Plan

The Archives application allows you to make backups or archives of your Workbench configurations and calibrated colour workflows. Individual items or complete systems can be archived for safekeeping.

Set automatic backup times to always have a current database on hand. Backup Server and Client preferences for sharing or installing on new machines. Import and export database archives with ease.

Database Utility

In addition to the database backup provided by the Archives application and Server Backup function, the Workbench keeps its own backup and item version storage to maintain database integrity for day-to-day use.

The Database Utility provides a simple interface enabling users to verify and maintain the health of the configurations integral to Blackmagic colour management, print, and proofing workflows.

Maximum Processing

Share the workload of processing jobs across multiple devices with Clustering & ClusterStatus. Increase your processing power by adding extra cluster nodes to your network. They can be enabled for use in imaging, rendering or both.

Monitor and manage any connected cluster nodes with the Clustering application. View the current imaging and rendering status of jobs on any Master Servers or cluster nodes.

Monitoring Your Workflow

The Jobs application provides a centralised, easy way to manage your workflow.

Display and manage jobs before, during, and after processing across multiple print/ output queues.

Choose one or more pre-set tabs, then tailor them to show the information you need, the way you want to see it. Extensive toolbar and menu options are available to control every facet of your job processing.

Blackmagic Solutions

We have a range of products available to suit your colour management and proofing workflow.

Blackmagic Pro

Unlimited proofing and workflow options.

Blackmagic Pro is the complete colour management and proofing solution for any press, publishing, or commercial print environment.

Proofing for 1-bit, CTP RIP, PDF and Postscript files
Spot / Special Colour Support
Unlimited Client Seats
Unlimited Print Size

1 RIP of your choice* plus default input drivers

1 Output driver suite of your choice* plus default output drivers

Blackmagic Lite

For the pressroom that needs precise, colour-matched proofs for platesetter RIPs.

Blackmagic Lite is designed for non-postscript workflows.

Proofing for 1-bit and CTP RIP files
Spot / Special Colour Support
Unlimited Client Seats
Unlimited Print Size
Available in 4UP and 2UP sizing

1 RIP of your choice* plus Lite default input drivers

1 Output driver suite of your choice* plus default output drivers

Blackmagic Bureau

For pre-press design and advertising studios needing to proof work for publication.

Blackmagic Bureau is made for PDF/postscript environments.

Proofing for PDF and Postscript files
Spot / Special Colour Support
Unlimited Client Seats
Unlimited Print Size

Default input drivers only

1 Output driver suite of your choice* plus default output drivers

*from supported list of drivers

Soft Proofing Add-on Package

Any Blackmagic product can be enhanced with the Soft Proofing Add-on Package, effectively making it two Serendipity proofing products in one. Designed specifically with the demands of the publishing and newspaper industries in mind, the Soft Proofing Add-on Package gives Blackmagic access to all of the features available in Veripress.

- Bookfilter, which uses your press planning files to automatically assemble publication pages on screen.
- Press Agent, allowing operators to load publication pages for soft proofing using the press console.
- Instant press sheet de-imposition on screen.
- Advanced RGB and CMYK spot colour merging for soft proofs.
- Truespot colour iteration for soft proofing displays.
- Multicolour press match ICC profile support.
- Proof Lock, soft proof display colour quality assurance.
- Embed a SoftProof Press in individual jobs.
- SoftProof vs Press Sheet calibration check and comparison.
- Simulate and highlight drop-off (minimum dot) areas for Flexo Printing.
- Configurable halftone screening simulation for soft proofs.
- Create softproof previews with PrintProof, showing how your job will appear when printed on your selected media and output device.

Serendipity Knowledge Base

Available 24/7, the Serendipity Knowledge Base contains a wealth of helpful articles to assist you with software configuration, printer calibration and much more.

Visit skb.serendipity-software.com.au

Applications

The following applications are available with all Blackmagic products.

No additional purchase necessary.

Applications

Archives
Make partial or complete backups of your Workbench configurations.

Calcheck
Verify the calibration status of a printer.

Clustering
Allocate and manage Imaging and Rendering tasks across multiple computers and networks.

Densitometer
Measure and display density readings taken with a Densitometer or Spectrophotometer.

Displays
Create ICC profiles for system monitors and accurate onscreen soft proofing.

FlipBook
Display a publication as a 2D or 3D virtual book.

Jobs
Display jobs before, during and after processing, and allows users to manage jobs through the system to plot their progress with a pre-configured user interface.

Lineariser
Create a linearisation curve for use with a Jobticket or Media.

Monitor
Display and manage jobs as they pass through Blackmagic.

SoftProof
Proof jobs onscreen.

Spectro
Display, compare and/or save colours measured using a Spectrophotometer.

Studio
Designed for the manual nesting or tiling of jobs.

Touch Console
Use a touch screen to load, manage and proofs jobs within the SoftProof application.

Truespot
Iterate special colour sets, optimising them for viewing on a soft proof display.
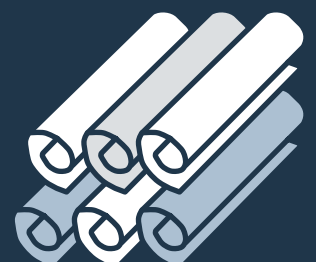
Workbench
The principal configuration tool for Blackmagic.

Media Catalogue

The Media Catalogue is a comprehensive collection of presets created by our colour experts and dealer partners.

Constantly expanding, the Media Catalogue is there to help you start printing as quickly as possible. No need to worry about paper or colour profiling, that's all been done for you. The Media Catalogue accesses the Serendipity Software website in order to download and install Media configurations for use within the Serendipity Client.

Just select a driver, install the media and you're ready to go.

Modules

The following modules are available with all Blackmagic products.

No additional purchase necessary.

Modules

ClientLog
Displays a log of Client messages that may be generated during normal Client operations.

ClusterStatus
Monitors the progress of Imaging and Rendering tasks on the Server and any active Cluster Nodes.

DropZone
A place to drag and drop files for processing.

MediaStatus
A window showing the current calibration status of a Media data type and a progress bar showing the amount of media (e.g. Paper) used.

QueueManager
View and manage jobs after they have been submitted for processing.

QueueStatus
A progress meter showing the current status of active jobs on the selected queue.

RIPMonitor
Displays the files polled using RIPs configured under the RIP data type within the Workbench.

ServerLog
Displays any system, error and polling messages from the Server.

Status
Shows the disk status (usage) of the Server processing areas.

Thumbnail
Displays a thumbnail of jobs as they image or render.

VirtualPress
Available within the RIPMonitor module. Allows for the assignment, alteration and management of plates to polled RIP jobs.

Additional features are available with the Soft Proofing Add-on Package, including the Press Agent application and BookMonitor module.

Display Calibration

Keep your monitors calibrated with the Displays application, ensuring what you see on screen is what you see in print.

Displays automatically adjusts screen gamma, brightness levels and white point to suit your proofing environment. Use a supported spectrophotometer to calibrate displays and light booths, or measure ambient light sources.

Calcheck management maintains your monitor colour at a press proofing standard.

To learn more about our products and what makes us different, visit our website:

www.serendipity-software.com.au

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