High Resolution Raster Soft Proofing - FIRSTPROOF

FirstPROOF is a client-based Post-RIP soft-proofing application from Hamillroad Software Ltd. It provides advanced softproofing of Harlequin RIP Page Buffer files or 1-bit TIFF separations. Users can quickly view and approve output to and from multiple RIPs prior to imaging final plates. FirstPROOF enables fast navigation of raster data, zooming in and out to quickly to check separations, layouts, type, traps, screen angles, general content, and much more.

FirstPROOF is an essential tool for any printing environment that wants to eliminate waste. Runs on both OS X and Windows operating systems. FirstPROOF is available in three versions; Professional (Pro), Standard (Std) and Lite (Lite).

Free 25 Day Trial Versions of FirstPROOF Professional are available upon request.

FIRSTPROOF FEATURES AND BENEFITS COMPARISION CHART

FEATURE	EXPLANATION	Lite	Std v.5	Pro v.5
FORMATS				
PGB Inputs (Harlequin	Configures a Harlequin RIP for viewing (internal RIP) PGB files.	√	√	√
TIFF Input	Configures an Input Folder for viewing TIFF files(both tiled and striped).	√	√	√
LEN Input	Configures an Input Folder for viewing Esko-Graphics LEN files.	√	√	√
PDI Input	Configures an Input Folder for viewing Presstek DI files.	√	√	√
TIFF Open	Dynamically opens the TIFF files in a given folder for viewing.		√	√
JOB INFO				
Device	Displays the output device name.	√	√	√
Resolution	Displays the horizontal and vertical resolution of the image.	√	√	√
Dimensions	Displays the width, height and area of the image.	√	√	√
Format	Displays the raster depth, interleaving style and channels of the image.	√	√	√
File Info	Displays the size of the image (possibly compressed) and when created (time/date).	√	√	√
Ink Coverage	Calculates the total ink coverage of each separation.		√	√
Page Thumbnails	Displays each page in a job using a thumbnail (a small image of the actual page).		√	√
POSITIONAL TOOLS				
Navigator	Shows the position of the main view in a reduced (resizable and floatable) view.	√	√	√
Position	Displays the position of the cursor in the image, both in the ruler and the status bar.	√	√	√
Rulers	Shows the position of the view in the image and allows for simple measurements.	√	√	√
Ruler (Origin) Adjustment	Move/set origin of the rulers to any required position (e.g. bottom right of image).		√	√
Grid Lines	Displays a user specifiable grid of lines over the image to aid with visual alignment.		√	√
Guide Lines	Add user-positioned horizontal and vertical guide lines to check alignment.		√	√
MOVEMENT TOOLS				
Scroll Bars	Scroll around using the arrows, clicking in the scroll bar or by dragging them.	√	√	√
Hand Mode	Move the image around by dragging it with the mouse down.	√	√	√
Navigator Click	Move the image to a desired location by clicking in the Navigator.	√	√	√
Navigator Drag	Move the image around by dragging the main view (green box) in the Navigator.	√	√	√
Navigator Select	Select an area in the Navigator to view that area fully in the main view.		√	√
ZOOM TOOLS				
Actual Pixels	Changes the zoom level so that the exact pixels of the image are viewed (1:1).	√	√	√
Best Fit	Changes the zoom level so that the image fits best in the current view.	√	√	√
Zoom In / Out	Zooms the image in / out by a single level, making it twice / half the size.		√	√
Zoom In / Out Mode	Changes the current mode to zoom in / out mode, enabling multiple zooms.		√	√
Zoom Level Select	Select a zoom level from one of 800%, 400%, 200%, 100%, 50%, 25%, 12.5%,...		√	√
Navigator Zoom	Having selected an area in the Navigator, zooms so as to fit this in the main view.		√	√
Extended Zoom Levels	Extends the default zoom levels by adding intermediate zoom levels.		√	√
Magnifier Window	Magnifies an area around the current cursor position by 8x.		√	√
Down Sample Server	Performs background down-sampling of images for immediate zooming.		√	√
ORIENTATION TOOLS				
Rotate Left / Right	Rotates the image by 90 degrees anti-clockwise / clockwise.		√	√
Mirror Flip	Mirror Flips the image horizontally.		√	√
Proportional View	Adjusts resolution for non-matching X & Y resolutions so image is in proportion		√	√
Automatic Rotate & Mirror	Automatically rotates and mirror flips pages as required for correct viewing.		√	√
COLOR MANAGEMENT				
Color Manage	Enables Color Management which gives a color accurate view of the image.		OPT-Color	√
Gamut Check	Checks colors being viewed out of gamut for the monitor, displaying them in red.		OPT-Color	√
Spectral Manager	Provides spectral profiling for different paper stock, inks and presses.		OPT-Color	√
Light Manager	Provides for color matching of jobs under different lighting conditions.		OPT-Color	√

FIRSTPROOF FEATURES AND BENEFITS COMPARISION CHART

FEATURE	EXPLANATION	Lite	Std v.5	Pro v.5
VIEW TOOLS				
Negative	Inverts the input channels of the image so as to view a negative image correctly.	√	√	√
Automatic Negative	Automatically inverts input channels of image (if required) to view as negative.		√	√
Trap Black	Reduces any black channels of the image to 50% to view black traps.		√	√
Trap Color	Reduces all color channels of the image to 50% to view color traps (such as double yellow).		√	√
View Black	Sets all channels of the image to black, so as to view screening rosettes or moiré.			√
Ink Limits – Max Ink (TAC)	Displays areas of the image in a user specified color that exceed an ink limit.		OPT-View	√
Ink Limits – Min Ink	Displays areas of a separation in a user specified color that are below a threshold.		OPT-View	√
Dot Gain	Physically emulates dot gain of 1-bit output showing dot gain and dot loss (fast scan).		OPT-View	√
Tone Curve (8-bit data)	Applies a tone curve to 8-bit output to invert any applied during the RIPping process.		OPT-View	√
Compare Separations	Compares two separations displaying areas that are different.		OPT-View	√
COLOR TOOLS				
Color Manager	Creates a database of colors used to change the view color of jobs or separations.	√	√	√
Enable/Disable Color	Adds or removes separations from those being viewed whilst viewing.	√	√	√
Change Color	Changes the color of a single separation whilst viewing.	√	√	√
Change All Colors	Changes the color of all separations with the same color name whilst viewing.	√	√	√
Paper Color	Changes the color of the paper (background color) to a user specified color.		√	√
Opaque Inks	Views a color using opaque ink (i.e.: White or Gold) instead of using transparent ink.		√	√
MEASUREMENT TOOLS				
Objects (1D)	Measures the distance and angle between two points and therefore of objects.		OPT-View	√
Objects (2D)	Measures the width and height between two points and therefore of objects .		OPT-View	√
Screens	Measures a screens angle and frequency by selecting the centres of two dots.		OPT-View	√
Screens (Auto)	Automatically measures the screen angle and frequency in multiple separations.		OPT-View	√
Color	Measures the RGB color either where the mouse is or of a selected area.		OPT-View	√
Density	Measures the density (%) either where the mouse is or of a selected area.		OPT-View	√
Barcode	Reads barcodes to verify correctness, showing the BWR factor and Scaling %.		OPT-View	√
PRINTING & EXPORT				
Copy-n-Paste	Copies the Navigator window (Docked or Floating) to the Clipboard.		√	√
Print	Prints viewed separations to a local printer (including enabled tools).		OPT-Print	√
Print One	Prints one copy of viewed separations to a local printer (including enabled tools).		OPT-View	√
Print View	Prints the current view image at 72 dpi to a local printer.		OPT-View	√
PDF Export	Export (via 3rd party products on PC) viewed separations being to a PDF file.		OPT-View	√
MISCELLANEOUS TOOLS				
Full Screen	Makes application run in Full Screen Mode, providing more 'real-estate' for viewing.		√	√
Selection Manager	Creates a database of Selection Sets used to view sub-areas in different flat schemes.		√	√
Selection (Set) Tool	Creates multiple sub-areas in a flat for subsequent viewing.		√	√
Selection View	Views currently selected area (hiding the rest of the flat), with selection switching.		√	√
Cylinder Seam	Views image side by side - vertically or horizontally, to check a wrap-around seam.		OPT-View	√
Duplex View	Views Front and Back of a Duplex Page together, with Paper Transparency controls.		OPT-View	√
Scum Dot Tool	Automatically removes single pixels on separations, preventing Scum Dots on press.		OPT-View	√
MISCELLANEOUS FEATURES				
Job Builder	Builds a complete list of jobs, pages and separations from a set of images.	√	√	√
Job Status	Shows the status of jobs - Input, Held, Media Saving, Approved, Rejected, Waiting & Output.	√	√	√
Site Accounts	Allows for different sites, with control over which Inputs (and sub-inputs) can be viewed.	√	√	√
User Accounts	Allows for different users, with control over which operations (e.g. Delete) can be performed.	√	√	√
Job Alerts	Alerts the user when a new job arrives, or when a job becomes old (and hasn't been output).		√	√
Job Hold (PGBs only)	Configure each Page Setup in the RIP to Hold jobs for approval prior to Output.		√	√
Job Notes	Allows the user to make notes about the job, for example why it was rejected. [optional]		√	√
Approve Job	Marks a Job as Approved, for subsequent Output (or Deletion).		√	√
Reject Job	Marks a Job as Rejected, for subsequent Deletion (or Approval).		√	√
Delete Job	Deletes a complete job.		√	√
Delete Page/Separation	Deletes selected pages and separations from a job.		√	√
Output Job	Sends the job to be output (either to the RIP or Output folder).		√	√
Modify Separation (color)	Modifies the color of a single separation (e.g. P Blue CV to P Blue CVC).		√	√
Merge Separations	Merges multiple separations (e.g. P Blue CV & P Blue CVC) into a single separation.		OPT-Page	√
Rotate Separations	Rotates multiple separations by either 0, 90, 180 or 270 degrees with a (optional) final mirror.		OPT-Page	√
Sort Jobs	Sorts the jobs in the current Input by date, name or (output) status.		√	√
Find Job	Searches all Inputs for a job with a given name (or part of a name).		√	√
Backup Jobs	Copies a job to a backup folder on output, allowing for simple archiving.		√	√

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