



Colour quality audit in reproduction and print

Colour Splash Questionnaire: Part 1

In the following questionnaire, the answers will enable Colour Splash to ascertain your organization's current operational status. It will help give us a picture of your current operation prior to us making a visit.

All of the following information will remain confidential between Colour Splash and (insert name of client here). It will also form the basis of a quality Audit.

This information could be used at a later stage to allow the (insert name of client here) to participate in the IFRA quality club, if they wish to do so.

Colour Splash Quality Audit Questionnaire

Please answer the below listed questions as well as you can in order to aid Colour Splash to best ascertain what is happening in your current working set up.

1. Scanning

- 1.1 What kind of scanner(s) used? flatbed scanner drum scanner
 slide scanner other: _____
- 1.2 Which kinds of originals do you scan? reflection prints slides
 negatives printed materials
- 1.3 Size of scanner(s) A4 A3
 other: _____
- 1.4 Do you use scanner ICC profiles? Yes, generic profile(s)
 Yes, self created
 No ICC profiles used
- 1.5 Scan software used Photoshop plug-in
 other: _____
- 1.6 Manufacturer and model of scanner(s) _____
- 1.7 Computers used for scanning? Macintosh PCs WIN PCs
 other: _____

2. Colour separation

- 2.1 What is your total ink coverage? 240% other: _____
- 2.2 What is your maximum black (K)? 95% other: _____
- 2.3 Do you use GCR? No GCR Yes, light GCR
 Yes, heavy GCR
- 2.4 Do you use an ICC press profile? No ICC profile
 Yes, an own one
 Yes, from IFRA
 Yes, from _____
- 2.5 Colour separation tools used Photoshop 5.x or newer version
 Photoshop 4.x or older version
 other: _____
- 2.6 Computers used for colour work? Macintosh PCs WIN PCs
 other: _____

3. Monitors in reproduction department

- 3.1 Do you have consistent environmental light in the reproduction department?
 Yes, at about 14 cd/m² (50 lx)
 Yes, at: _____ No
- 3.2 Age of monitor? > 4 years < 4 years
- 3.3 Do you use a monitor shade?
 ≥ 70 cd/m² < 70 cd/m²
- 3.4 Light emission of monitor?
 3.4 Light emission of monitor?
 5000 K (D50) other: _____
- 3.5 Colour temperature of monitor?
- 3.6 Monitor gamma? 1.8 other: _____
- 3.7 Max. monitor black? about L* 10 other: _____
- 3.8 Is your monitor calibrated?
 Yes, once a day
 Yes, once a week
 Yes, once a month
 Automatic calibration.
 Not calibrated
 other: _____
- 3.9 Do you use monitor ICC profiles? Yes No
- 3.10 Which device used for calibration?
 Colorimeter
 Spectrophotometer
- 3.11 Manufacturer and model of monitor(s) _____

4. Digital hard copy proofing

- 4.1 Do you use a hard-copy proofing device? Yes No
- 4.2 Does it print on newsprint stock?
(or on similar stock?) Yes No
- 4.2i Is the stock nothing like Newsprint and has to simulate the final result?
 Yes No
- 4.3 Manufacturer and model of proofing device _____
- 4.4 Which data do you proof? Data (CMYK/RGB), not colour managed
 Colour managed bit-map data (CMYK)

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- Colour managed contone data (CMYK)
- Colour managed contone data (RGB/LAB)
- other: _____

4.5 Do you use a proof ICC profile? Yes No

4.6 How is colour management done? within Photoshop?
 at the proof-RIP?
 at the server?
 other: _____

4.7 Is your proofer calibrated regularly? Yes, once a day
 Yes, once a week
 Yes, once a month
 Automatic calibration
 Not calibrated
 Other: _____

4.8 What do you proof? Single adverts
 Editorial pictures/pages
 Full pages
 Scatter proofs

5. Soft proofing (monitor based)

5.1 Do you use a soft proofing? Yes No

5.2 Manufacturer and model of system _____

5.3 Which data do you proof? Bit-map data (CMYK), not colour managed
 Colour managed bit-map data (CMYK)
 Colour managed contone data (CMYK)
 Colour managed contone data (RGB/LAB)
 Other: _____

5.5 Do you use a monitor ICC profile? Yes No

5.6 How is colour management done? at the server
 in the soft proof RIP

 other: _____

5.7 Is your soft proof monitor calibrated? Yes, once a day
 Yes, once a week
 Yes, once a month
 Automatic calibration.
 Not calibrated other: _____

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6. Screening/RIP

- 6.1 Which dot shape do you use? round elliptical
- square
- frequency modulated screening
- other: _____

- 6.2 Which screen angles do you use? C = 15°, M = 75°, Y = 0°, K = 135°
- other angles:
- Cyan: _____ °
- Magenta: _____ °
- Yellow: _____ °
- Black (K): _____ °

- 6.3 Which screen ruling do you use? 100 lpi (40 Lines/cm)
- 85 lpi (34 Lines/cm)
- other: _____

6.4 RIP manufacturer and model? _____

- 6.5 RIP-Platform? WIN PC Macintosh
- Sun Sparc other: _____

7. Film output

- 7.1 What kind of film do you output? positive negative
- 7.2 What is your solid density? about 4D other: _____
- 7.3 What is the dot gain on film at 50%? ± 1% other: _____ %
- 7.4 What is the smallest dot on film? 2-3% other: _____ %
- 7.5 Film manufacturer? Agfa Kodak
- Fuji other: _____
- 7.6 Type of film? Hard Dot Film other: _____
- 7.7 Do you use an online-developer? Yes No
- 7.8 Manufacturer and type of imagesetter? _____

8. Plate making

- 8.1 What kind of plate making system? Contact exposure, negative plates
 Contact exposure, positive plates
 Camera exposure, positive plates (OPC)
 Direct exposure, Computer to Plate
- 8.2 Do you use a plate control target? Yes, for checking the hardness of plates
 Yes, for checking the dot gain on plates
 No
- 8.3 Which plate control target in use? UGRA/FOGRA target 1982
- 8.4 If you use the UGRA/FOGRA target 1982, which micron rings are copied?
 10-12 μm 12-15 μm
- 8.5 What is your dot gain on the plate compared to the film values at 50%?
 3-4% other: _____
- 8.6 Manufacturer of plate copy system? _____
- 8.7 Manufacturer and kind of plates? Afga: _____
 Kodak/Polychrome: _____
 Fuji: _____
 other: _____

9. Printing

- 9.1 What is your dot gain in printing compared to film values? _____%
- 9.2 What is your dot gain spread between the 4c colours? up to 6%
 other: _____%
- 9.3 What is your grey balance in printing? C=50%, M=40%, Y=40%
 C=___%, M=___%, Y=___%
- 9.4 What are your solid printing densities? C=0.9 / M=0.9 / Y=0.9 / K=1.1
(DIN E, pol. filter, zeroed on paper)
 C=0.____ / M=0.____ / Y=0.____ / K=1.____
- 9.5 Single width or double width press? single width double width
- 9.6 Manufacturer and kind of press? _____
- 9.7 Year of installation of the press _____

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10. Materials

10.1 Which paper do you use? Standard Newsprint
 Improved newsprint
 Coated Newsprint
 Other: _____

10.2 What is the news shade? LAB L*=80, a*=0, b*=4 (ISO 12647-3)

Other LAB L*= _____ a*= _____ b*= _____

10.3 What specific weight of stock do you use? 48 g/m2
 45 g/m2
 42,5 g/m2
 other: _____ g/m2

10.4 Are the colours of your inks compliant with ISO 12647-3? Yes No

11. Colour Management

11.1 Do you use colour management? Yes No

11.2 Do you have a spectrophotometer (to measure prints)? Yes No

Is it an automatic Spectrophotometer? Yes No

Which model (make and type) do you have? Supplier: _____
Model: _____

11.3 Do you have a colorimeter (for monitors)? Yes No

Which model (make and type) do you have? Supplier: _____
Model: _____

11.4 Do you have calibrated scan targets (IT8.7/1 and 2) Yes No

11.5 Which Colour Management Software do you use? Supplier: _____
Model: _____

11.6 Is there any ICC standard being used? Yes No

12. Picture Receipt

12.1 How many pictures received on average a day? _____

12.2 What are your primary agencies? Reuters AP
 PA EPA
 AFP
 Other
 _____ _____
 _____ _____
 _____ _____
 _____ _____

12.2 How many photographers do you have? _____

12.2 How many pictures by these are sent in? Digital _____
Flat copy _____
Transparency _____
CD/DVD _____
Other _____

12.3 How do the pictures get into MidDay? FTP
 E-mail
 Scanned flat copy
 Scanned Transparency
 Other

12.4 Where are the pictures Stored? Individual agency folders
 In a formal structure
 By photographer name
 In a big Bucket (one folder)

12.5 How are the pictures managed? IPTC information
 Proofed manually moved

12.6 Are the pictures electronically moved? Yes No

12.7 Are the pictures saved away in an Archive? Yes No

12.8 If IPTC is used who is responsible for updating IPTC data strings.
 Photographers
 Picture desk
 Editorial staff
 Other

12.9 Are your photographers using Digital or film cameras? Yes No Both

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13.0 Hardware

13.1 What hardware is in use at this time?

PC _____

- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____

Mac _____

- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____

Sun Sparcs _____

- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____

Windows servers _____

- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____

Mac Servers _____

- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____

Other server _____

- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____
- Type _____

13.2 Do you have a preference for certain hardware. Yes No

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14.0 Software versions

14.1 What versions of Photoshop are in use PC _____

Mac _____

14.2 What versions & how many? Version 4 _____

Version 5.5 _____

Version 6 _____

Version 7 _____

Version 8 _____

Version CS _____

14.3 Are there any extensions/plugin-ins frequently used?

Yes No

14.4 If yes what are they used for? _____

14.5 What page makeup application is used? Quark Xpress _____

Adobe InDesign _____

PageSpeed _____

Hermes _____

Other _____

14.6 What illustration package is used Adobe illustrator _____

FreeHand _____

Other _____

14.7 Other applications Adobe Acrobat (Version) _____

FTP software _____

Microsoft _____

Equilibrium DeBabelizer® _____

