

efi Metrix®

Layout and Planning Automation Solution



Professional Grade Imposition Tools

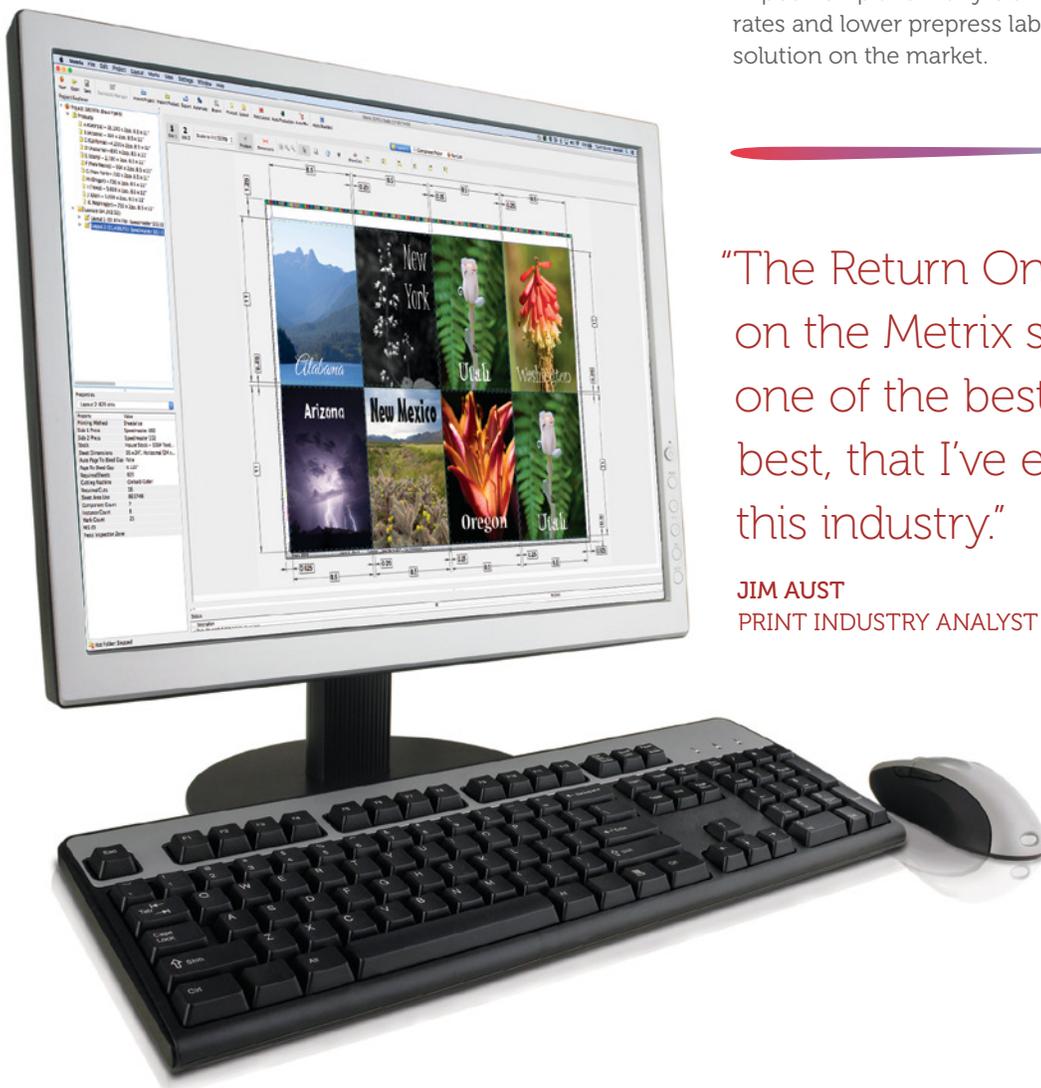
How is EFI Metrix Different?

Most layout and imposition solutions available today are template based, relying on manual layout workflows which don't adapt well when it's time to automate—but EFI Metrix is different. Metrix was designed from the beginning to change the way prepress handle layout tasks to ensure that you get the most cost effective results, with the least amount of work.

Where are your prepress bottlenecks today? For many printers planning jobs for the press is where the rubber meets the road. All too many delays and mistakes occur during the imposition stage. When you're dealing with so many variables such as press dimensions, stocks, color bars, finishing options, cut & trim marks, it's only a matter of time before mistakes take place.

When you do get it right, what happens when one of those variables change? It's chaos, and for as long as we've known this is how prepress works. But what if it were different? What if there were a solution that dynamically created layouts based on the conditions in your plant?

EFI Metrix works by building layouts and imposition plans based on the equipment, materials and resources in your operation—it even models the cost of running that equipment into its calculations. The results are imposition plans that yield higher material utilization rates and lower prepress labor costs than any other solution on the market.



“The Return On Investment on the Metrix solution is one of the best, if not the best, that I’ve ever seen in this industry.”

JIM AUST
PRINT INDUSTRY ANALYST

The real cost of template based Imposition

Most imposition tools today utilize template based workflows. Templates are created for each and every combination of job, press, material, finishing option and binding style. So many printers end up with thousands of templates—each named for their specific function and combination of options. For many printers managing and cataloging their template libraries is a frustrating and arduous task.

Templates are a problem, because when changes in the prepress and printing environment occur, the templates for corresponding jobs must be manually adjusted. This often results in errors and costly delays.

With EFI Metrix's database driven layout automation—you'll say goodbye to your template library for good.



“With Metrix, we have been able to automate the planning and imposition of hundreds of orders we receive each day—in fact, Metrix saves us two hours of labor every day.”

THOMAS NAGEL
LASERLINE



Switching has never been easier

Intuitive Page Assignment

Your prepress team have invested many hours in learning their trade. And no one likes the idea of change. It's one of the single biggest obstacles to optimization. Prepress staff spend a lot of time in front of their imposition solution— and they need to be able to continue running jobs even as you transition.

That's why we've added the Run List to EFI Metrix. It's designed to enable your operators to continue running imposition and layout plans just like they always have. It makes page assignment quick and easy—and ensures that while they transition to the automated workflow they can keep feeding the presses.

Powerful Color Mapping

Preparing layout and imposition plans for press means ensuring colors are correctly mapped and assigned to each job. Mistakes made early on are expensive and time consuming to correct once the job is already on press.

Once again EFI Metrix makes it easy for your team to keep jobs moving—and avoid costly errors by providing a powerful tool for color assignment. The JDF Color Mapper ensures that color assignments are checked against the job files and identifies any conflicts in real-time.



Prepress—automated.

Once you begin using Metrix, you'll love how intuitive and simple it is to use and you'll be in the perfect position to take advantage of Metrix's automation capabilities.

Today for most Printers—prepress continues to require extensive manual job handling - and it's expensive. The power of EFI Metrix lies in it's ability to instantly and effectively compare thousands of different layout combinations—and produce the best one.

We achieve this through the Plant database. This is a detailed record of every piece of equipment, stock and resource in your plant along with their parameters. We capture all that information, and use it to build dynamic optimized press sheets.

Critically we also capture resource costs—so we know how much it costs to operate that equipment and we factor that into the results that provided. So not only do you get layouts that are optimized for the device and maximum sheet coverage, you also get layouts that are optimized for profit—something no other imposition software can do.

EFI Metrix customers report reducing prepress handling time by up to 50%. Not only can you process jobs faster, but now your team won't be frustrated with repetitive and monotonous tasks that often lead to mistakes.

“Our Estimators and Planners do all our layouts in Metrix. Prepress now spends much less time working with layouts.”

WARREN GIBSON
CLASSIC GRAPHICS



How does EFI Metrix save you time and automate imposition?

Metrix brings a unique blend of automation and cost-driven layout creation to your business, allowing you to dramatically reduce planning and prepress labor costs and shorten job throughput.

1 The Metrix database

Metrix stores your presses, finishing equipment, stocks, folds, user logins and permissions, along with your manufacturing standards. Metrix centralizes this all-important data to ensure uniformity, efficiency, error-free planning and imposition across the entire enterprise.

2 The Metrix engine

Metrix automatically and dynamically determines how many press sheets you need, the optimum layout for each press sheet, and even figures out for you the most cost-effective printing method, press, and sheet size!

3 Metrix on multiple platforms

Metrix runs on the two most common platforms in the printing industry today – Mac OS X® and Windows®. Access projects and resources seamlessly from either environment.



Metrix simplifies the complex

Metrix empowers all your operators to generate plans formerly reserved for only the most skilled and experienced planners.

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Metrix is automated

Metrix Automation provides automated workflow capabilities which accept project data via MXML or CSV files to fully automate their processing in Metrix. Metrix automation is available via Automation Server, the Automation Pro module, or the Automation Lite module.

Many projects can travel through Metrix with zero operator involvement!

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4 Metrix ganging

Automatic, dynamic, and unsurpassed, processing up to 160 different orders (products) on a single layout. Once the layouts are planned, export JDF or imposed PDF to prepress, JDF or CIP3 to finishing, and barcoded information to your shipping department.

5 Metrix plans and imposes

Metrix eliminates the need for outdated desktop imposition software, because Metrix does the planning and the imposition all in one step—once the plan is done, simply export the JDF or the imposed PDF to your prepress system.



Metrix® Editions and Features Comparison

FEATURE	
Maximum sheet dimension (W x H)	144" (3657mm)
Maximum number of different orders (products) allowed for Auto Layout (automatic generation of optimum layout)	16*
Maximum number of different orders (products) per project	100*
Runs on Mac OS X® and Windows®	•
Plans/imposes flat, folded, and bound jobs	•
Automatically determines the most cost-effective Production Method, Press, and Sheet Size (Auto Production)	•
Automatically matches new layouts to saved profiles (Standards)	•
Access Control: User Permissions, Logins, & Passwords	•
Prints reports	•
Imports JDF, Metrix XML and CSV data	•
Exports Imposed PDF	•
Exports Metrix XML	•
Exports JDF Imposition	•
Exports JDF/CIP3 Cutting data	•
Exports JDF/CIP3 Folding data	•
Exports JDF Binding data	•
Site Licenses available	•
Auto Plan module	OPTIONAL
Capacity Plus module	OPTIONAL
N-Up Binding module	OPTIONAL
Barcodes module	OPTIONAL
Automation Pro module**	OPTIONAL
Automation Lite module**	OPTIONAL
Content Previews module	OPTIONAL

* **Capacity Plus** increases these limits to 160 products per layout and 2000 products per project.

** **Automation** is also available via the Metrix Automation Server.

Metrix® Integration

IMPORT FROM
MIS, Order Entry, Database, or Spreadsheet via XML or CSV
EXPORT TO
PrePress
Agfa ApogeeX 2.5+
DALiM MiSTRAL 2.1+
DALiM TWiST 6.1+
Esko Automation Engine
Esko Nexus
Esko Odystar 2.0.3+
Fuji Celebrant 6.03+
FujiFilm XMF
Global Graphics Harlequin
Genesis RIP (with JDF Enabler)
Heidelberg Printready 2.1 SP3+
Kodak Evo 3.1+
Kodak Prinergy 3.1+
OneVision JDF Impose V1.0+
Rampage 10.6+
Screen TrueFlow SE v6.0+
Xitron Navigator GPS 3.5+
Xitron Xenith 4PDF 6.1+
Xitron Xenith Sierra 1.5+
Folding Machines
MBO Datamanager
Guillotine Interfaces
Colter-Peterson Microcut
Polar Compucut 4.04+
Binding Machines
Horizon
Muller-Martini

Compatibility is based on a minimum of one successful test conducted internally or by the third party vendor.

EFI fuels success.

From Fiery to super wide inkjet, from the lowest cost per label to the most automated business processes, EFI has everything your company needs to succeed. Visit www.efi.com or call 800-875-7117 for more information.



The APPS logo, AutoCal, Auto-Count, Balance, Best, the Best logo, BESTColor, BioVu, BioWare, ColorPASS, Colorproof, ColorWise, Command WorkStation, CopyNet, Cretachrom, Cretaprint, the Cretaprint logo, Cretaprinter, Cretaroller, DockNet, Digital StoreFront, DocBuilder, DocBuilder Pro, DocStream, DSFdesign Studio, Dynamic Wedge, EDOX, EFI, the EFI logo, Electronics For Imaging, Entrac, EPCount, EPPhoto, EPRegister, EPStatus, Estimate, ExpressPay, Fabrivu, Fast-4, Fiery, the Fiery logo, Fiery Driven, the Fiery Driven logo, Fiery JobMaster, Fiery Link, Fiery Prints, the Fiery Prints logo, Fiery Spark, FreeForm, Hagen, Inkintensity, Inkware, Jetrion, the Jetrion logo, LapNet, Logic, MiniNet, Monarch, MicroPress, OneFlow, Pace, PhotoXposure, Printcafe, PressVu, PrinterSite, PrintFlow, PrintMe, the PrintMe logo, PrintSmith, PrintSmith Site, Printstream, Print to Win, Prograph, PSI, PSI Flexo, Radius, Rastek, the Rastek logo, Remoteproof, RIPChips, RIP-While-Print, Screenproof, SendMe, Sincolor, Splash, Spot-On, TrackNet, UltraPress, UltraTex, UltraVu, UV Series 50, VisualCal, VUTEK, the VUTEK logo, and WebTools are trademarks of Electronics For Imaging, Inc. and/or its wholly owned subsidiaries in the U.S. and/or certain other countries.