

EFI XF AND HP DESIGNJET L25500 HT



EFI XF 4.5 and all later versions support the HP Designjet L25500 HT latex printer.

Setting up the printer in EFI XF for profile creation

TO SET UP THE PRINTER

- 1 Switch on the printer.
- 2 In System Manager, select the linearization device in the layout area.

- 3 In property inspector, click the Setup tab and set up a connection to the HP Designjet L25500 printer.

Setup tab

The screenshot shows the 'Setup' tab of the printer's property inspector. The 'Name' field is 'Linearization device'. The 'Description' field is empty. The 'Device type' is 'HP Designjet L25500 (60 inch) HT'. Under 'Connection type', 'Print via IP network' is selected. The 'IP address' is '10.130.96.157'. The 'IP protocol' is 'RAW on port' with a port number of '9100'. The 'LPR queue' is empty. The 'Print via port' option is not selected.

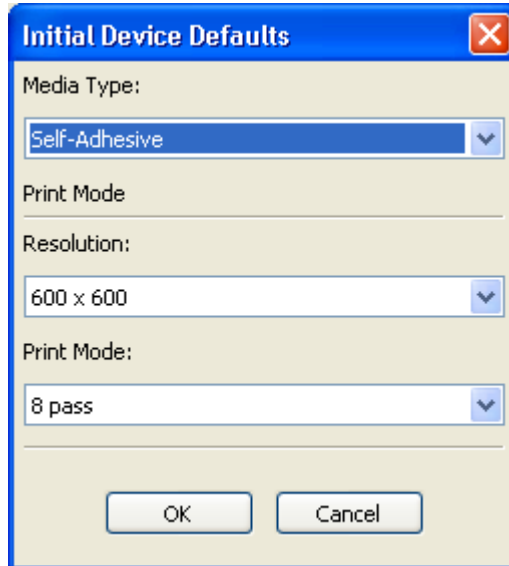
- 4 Click Test after you have typed in the IP address.

This ensures that the printer settings can be retrieved from the printer and displayed on the Special tab.

5 Click Setup to define the initial device defaults for the printer.

It can take a few moments for the dialog to be displayed. If an error message appears, click OK and try again.

Initial Device Defaults dialog



6 From the drop-down list boxes, select the media type, resolution and print mode.

The media type setting must match exactly the setting made at the printer's control panel. If you select a different media type here from the media type selected at the printer, EFI XF will display an error message and job processing will be canceled.

- Media type

The following media types are available:

Media type	Description
Self-Adhesive	PVC films with adhesive on one side. They can be white finished or transparent.
Banner	Usually a polyester mesh (or fabric) covered with PVC coating. There are also recyclable types to cover the same applications (green banners). Banners can be frontlit or backlit.
Film	Usually a polyester film (although there are also other materials like PVC, PC) for backlit applications. They are typically translucent, although there are also transparent versions.
Fabric	Fabric media are usually composed of polyester fibers. Some of the fabric media types come with a liner to avoid the ink trespassing the media. Fabric materials that are very stiff (such as polyester canvases) are preferably loaded as "banner".
Mesh	Usually a polyester mesh covered with PVC coating with holes. Some of these media types can have a liner and be self-adhesive.
Paper - Aqueous	Paper-based (cellulose) media with or without coating or offset paper. The main difference with the billboards is that these papers are not compatible with solvent printers. Weight usually around the 100gsm.
Paper - Solvent	Paper-based (cellulose) media with coating to allow them to be used in solvent printers. Also, they usually have a limited water-resistant performance.

Media type	Description
HP Photorealistic - Low Temperature Substrate	<p>Paper-based (cellulose) media with coating (gloss and matte finishing).</p> <p>It is heavier than the other billboard and offset media (200gsm or higher).</p> <p>The main difference is its rigidity.</p>
Synthetic Paper	<p>Substrates manufactured using synthetic resin, mainly extruded from polypropylene (PP). They have characteristics similar to those of plastic film, but their appearance and properties are similar to regular paper made from wood pulp.</p>

- Resolution

The following resolutions are available:

Resolution	Description
300x300 dpi	Lowest image quality
600x600	Standard resolution
1200x1200 dpi	For finest details (18-pass FixDot only)

Print mode

The following print modes are available:

Print mode	Description
4/6/8/10/12/16/20/24/28 passes	Uses variable dot size.
10/12/16/20/24/28 HiInk	<p>Uses variable dot size.</p> <p>HiInk (High Ink Limit) provides double the amount of ink for transparency and backlit applications.</p>
18 FixDot	Uses fixed dot size.

7 Click OK.

This action closes the dialog and updates the Special tab.

Special tab

The screenshot shows the 'Special' tab in a software interface. The title bar includes 'Server' and 'Device'. Below the title bar are tabs for 'Setup', 'Media', and 'Special'. The main content area is titled 'L25500 settings' and contains the following controls:

- Cutter
- Automatic tracking
- Advance factor: 0 mm/m
- Input tension: 15 N/m
- Vacuum: 25 mmH2O
- Offset section with three temperature input fields: 55 °C, 5 °C, and 0 °C.
- Curing temp. section with three temperature input fields: 110 °C, 0 °C, and 0 °C.
- Min. drying power: 1.2 kW
- Heat airflow: 30 %

Below the 'L25500 settings' section is a section titled '5_PrinterWarmup' which contains a single button labeled 'Warm-up'.

The Special tab

The Special tab contains the following settings for the HP Designjet L25500 printer:

- Cutter:

The printer's built-in cutter can cut the substrate automatically between each print.

- Automatic tracing

The substrate-advance sensor (also known as OMAS) is located under the print platen. It can track the substrate advance automatically.

- Advance factor

Your printer was calibrated at the factory to ensure that it advances the substrate accurately when using supported substrates in normal environmental conditions. However, you may find it useful to adjust the substrate advance when printing on unsupported substrates or in unusual but stable environmental conditions.

- Input tension

Tension is applied to the substrate from the input spindle. It needs to be constant over the full width of the substrate, thus substrate load is a critical operation.

- Vacuum

The vacuum applied to the substrate at the printing zone helps to hold the substrate down on the print platen, keeping the distance to the print heads constant.

- Drying temp.

The heat applied in the printing zone removes water and fixes the image to the substrate.

- Warm-up offset

The temperature that the substrate in the print zone must reach before printing starts. It is recommended that you do not change this setting.

- Cool-down offset

The safe temperature at which the substrate can be under the drying module without being damaged. At the end of a job, the substrate is not stopped until this temperature is reached. It is recommended that you do not change this setting.

- Curing temp.

Curing is needed to coalesce the latex, creating a polymeric film which acts as a protective layer, while at the same time removing the remaining co-solvents from the print. Curing is vital to ensure the durability of the printed images.

- Warm-up offset

The temperature that the substrate in the curing zone must reach before printing starts. It is recommended that you do not change this setting.

- Cool-down offset

The safe temperature at which the substrate can be under the curing module without being damaged. At the end of a job, the substrate is not stopped until this temperature is reached. It is recommended that you do not change this setting.

- Min. drying power

The minimum power applied in the drying module while printing, so the substrate does not cool too much in lightly inked areas. It is recommended that you do not change this setting.

- Heat airflow

Airflow helps to remove the evaporated water from the print zone and thus allows more efficient drying.

Recommended media types

Banner

HP Durable Frontlit Scrim Banner

HP Outdoor Frontlit Scrim Banner

HP HDPE Reinforced Banner

Self-Adhesive

EFI Production ecoS Paper HG225 High-Gloss

EFI Production ecoS Paper SG225 Semi-Gloss

HP Permanent Gloss Adhesive Vinyl

HP Permanent Matte Adhesive Vinyl

HP One-view Perforated Adhesive Window Vinyl

HP Air Release Adhesive Gloss Cast Vinyl

Fabric

HP Wrinkle-free Flag with Liner

HP Heavy Textile Banner

HP Light Textile Display Banner

Paper

HP Blue Back Billboard Paper

HP Photo-realistic Poster Paper

HP White Satin Poster Paper

HP PVC-free Wall Paper

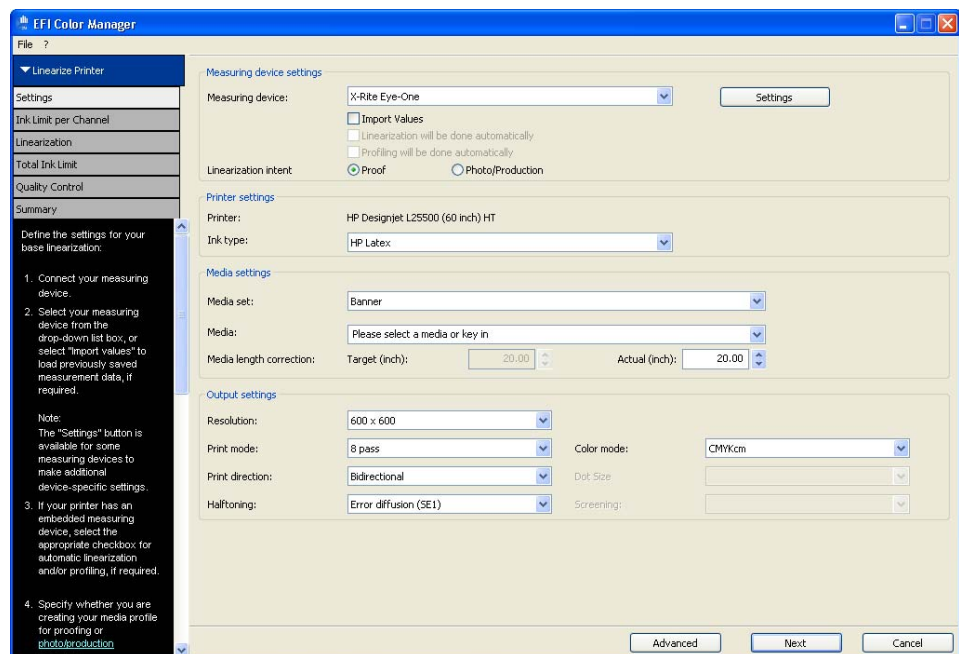
Creating a base linearization

Once you have set up the printer in EFI XF and imported the settings from the printer's control panel, you can go on to create a base linearization.

TO CREATE A BASE LINEARIZATION

- 1 In System Manager, right-click on the linearization device and choose **Linearize Device** from the context menu.

Printer settings in Color Manager



The printer settings are already pre-selected.

2 Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the base linearization.

If the printout is too moist or takes too long to dry, you can reduce the amount of ink as follows:

Setting	Method
Light in solid	Reduce the light ink in solid to 0% (default setting).
Ink limit per channel	Reduce the ink limits for CMYK. Find the best combination of ink amount and color gamut.
Norm start point	Define an earlier norm starting point. This setting affects the amount of light ink that is applied. Please note that reducing the amount of light ink too much can cause a grainy effect in the color gradations in the printout.
Total ink limit	Reduce the total ink limit.
Black generation	Increase the black length and width to replace CMY with black ink.

Troubleshooting

If you ascertain that the printout is too grainy, make sure that the vertical correction setting is NOT selected at the printer's control panel. From the ink menu, go to "Image quality maintenance" to check the current setting.

Useful link

Visit the HP homepage for further information on the Designjet L25500 printer:

<http://h20000.www2.hp.com/bizsupport/TechSupport/DocumentIndex.jsp?lang=en&cc=us&contentType=SupportManual&prodTypeId=18972&prodSeriesId=3974848&docIndexId=64179&manualLang=en>