



**P/mint<sup>®</sup>**

# **Technical Specifications**

**/** for preparing materials for print  
and basic production standards

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## I. Overview

This document defines technical requirements for materials supplied to P/mint Graphics Sp. z o.o. (the Company), general quality standards of products produced by the Company, quality controlled parameters, as well as definitions of acceptable product.

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## II. Definitions

**Master Materials** – materials used as a master for colours in the printing process. A master material can be a signature accepted by the Client or a certified contract proof. A master material can also be a non-certified proof or print from previous editions, however colour on such a master is treated only as a general reference.

**Contract Proof** – master material faithfully simulating the real effect of the printing process in a given technology. The basis for considering a proof as a contract proof is its certification.

**Proof Certification** – a process of checking the accuracy of proof workmanship, consisting of determining the colour difference between the values measured on test strip fields placed on the proof and the target values. Target values are determined on the basis of the ICC profile, with which the proof is executed. Proof certification may be carried out at the Client's facility or at the Company.

**Certified Proof** – proof with attached results of colour difference  $\Delta E$  measurements. The colour difference must not exceed the tolerance limit specified in the Basic Quality Standards.

**ICC Profile** – digital file containing colour characteristics of a given device. That profile meets requirements specified in ICC Specification.

**Distribution List** – a document in the form of a table containing information on the preparation and dispatch of individual issue batches, including quantities (package standard, pallets, number of pallets), issue versions, dispatch addresses, as well as the methods of sorting, packaging, and marking.

**Type Page** – print area of page. There are, for instance, one-, two- and three-column type pages.

**Type Page Editing** – combining of advertising and editorial materials into one type page.

**Trim box** – area defined in PDF format which represents the net page format (after printing and trimming). Documents delivered to the Company must have a defined trim box. Trim box setting can be checked in Adobe Acrobat Professional.

**Bleed** – the area of an image that extends beyond the crop marks defining the final page size. Without bleed, defects may occur during bookbinding.

**Self-Cover** – cover printed together with body pages of the publication as part of a single section (signature). The outer page of the signature serves as the cover. During binding, the cover is not fed separately, since it is part of one of the sections being bound together.

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## III. Specifications for preparing print materials

### 1. Preparation and delivery of digital materials

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**1.1.** Digital materials should be delivered via the Internet by means of InSite, using the tools included. Location and data enabling access – login (user name) and password are made available by the Customer Service Representative. Logging in to InSite is possible via a web browser using the addresses: <https://insite.p-mint.eu/>

The name of a dispatch (folders) may not include any local (diacritic) language signs, spaces and special characters (\* > ! ? < : / \ etc.). Only the following characters are permitted: ***a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 and \_***.

Digital materials can also be delivered by means of FTP (File Transfer Protocol) to the designated server: <ftp.quadgraphics.pl>

Location and data enabling access to the server – login (user name) and password – are made available by the Customer Service Representative serving your Company.

We strongly recommend the above professional method of delivering files to the Printing House due to the high degree of fault tolerance of such method.

Digital materials can also be delivered via an FTP (File Transfer Protocol) to the designated server: <ftp.quadgraphics.pl>

The correct location and the data allowing access to the server – login (username) and password – are made available by the Customer Service Representative.

Other forms of delivery of materials require individual arrangements between the Client and the Printing House, taking into account the aspects of data security and production process.

Under no circumstances should the Printing House download files from the Client's FTP server. In addition, no digital materials can be sent via electronic mail (email).

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**1.2.** Delivered files are checked by the Preflight automated process. Identified errors are reported to the Client.

In the final process, the files are available in the form of a digital dummy (the so called Preview) in order to ensure the correctness of the product, regardless of the selected method of delivering the materials to the Printing House. Then, the Client is asked to confirm whether the files in the dummy correspond to the Client's expectations in terms of content and page order.

The Client's approval process provides a last-minute opportunity to identify and correct errors in the submitted files and to revise them if necessary. The Printing House offers support and necessary training for persons submitting materials.

The Printing House recommends flattened PDF files in the PDF/X-1a:2001 standard.

If any other standards are used, it is also advisable to flatten the layers in the document. In the case of PDF files with alpha channels containing colour information, the Printing House is not responsible for the resulting colour distortions and/or disappearance of some graphics.

— **1.3.** The Company recommends composite files, scale: 1:1, orientation: Portrait. Using both composite and separated files in the same publication is allowed.

A separate file should be generated for each page and spine, whose width should be previously agreed with the Title Supervisor. Separate files for the left and right side should be also created for spreads.

— **1.4.** A type page montage of advertisements should be made by your editorial staff.

When particular editorial or advertising type pages are prepared in a format other than those stated, it is necessary to attach a dummy with the accurate determination of type page location, scaling percentage and scaling method (proportional or disproportionate).

**Bitmap resolution for photographs in digital files:**

Minimum	Optimal	Maximum
250 dpi	300 dpi	450 dpi

The Printing House will reduce to 300 dpi the resolution of all colour and greyscale bitmaps whose resolution exceeds 450 dpi.

By supplying an image with a lower resolution than the minimum recommended above, the Client indicates acceptance of an inferior quality reproduction of that image in print.

— **1.5.** The resolution of 1-bit images shall not exceed 2400 dpi.

— **1.6.** Graphic elements of the page must not include attached profiles (no tagged profiles).

— **1.7.** Graphic elements of the page must not include OPI (Open Prepress Interface) comments.

— **1.8.** Supplied files must not contain copy-dot elements without prior agreement with the Company.

— **1.9.** Before sending the materials to the Printer it is recommended to preflight the files with the use of an appropriate software applications, such as Adobe InDesign (version CS4 or higher), Adobe Acrobat (version 6.0 or higher) or Enfocus PitStop to detect the most frequently occurring errors.

— **1.10.** The client must indicate to the Customer Service Representative the differences between versions/mutations and provide the naming scheme used for the files. The name of a file should contain a description of the version.

- **1.11.** The date of digital materials delivery shall be considered the date of delivery of completed materials not requiring correction.
- **1.12.** Failure to keep these terms of delivery may cause delays in shipping the finished product, for which the Company shall not be responsible.

## 2. File Generation

- **2.1.** The Company recommends composite files in PDF generated with Adobe or QuarkXpress applications. The Company also allows files created by PS file conversion using Adobe Acrobat Distiller in version 5.0 or later according to manual available for download on website: <https://p-mint.eu/>
- **2.2.** In case of questions, please send us sample files and contact your Customer Service Representative. We also recommend visiting: <https://p-mint.eu/>
- **2.3.** When starting cooperation, it is mandatory to send us sample files.

## 3. Total area of ink coverage

- **3.1.** Total Area of Ink Coverage (TAC) is specified as a percentage. A maximum TAC value is defined for each paper type and must be applied during file preparation. The Printing House does not take responsibility for any defects resulting from exceeding the TAC. TAC values for each paper type and their corresponding profiles are provided in the table below:

Paper Group	TAC
MWC, WFC - druk arkuszowy	330
MWC, WFC - druk rolowy	300
LWC_Improved	300
LWC_Standard	300
MFC	280
UC	270
SC	270
SNP_Paper	260

## 4. File Naming

4.1. All files delivered to the Company should be named according to the following scheme:

**Publication body, publication with self cover (see Definitions on page 3):**

*nnn\_KOD\_ww\_v1\_spot\_a.ext*

**where:**

**nnn** – no. of the page in publication (e.g. 001, 002); KOD – title code (e.g. POL – Politics);

**ww** – issue no. (e.g. 04);

**v1** – file version; use if files have more than one language, price, etc. version. Each version should be marked with a consecutive number (e.g. v1, v2, etc.);

**spot** – special colour employed; use when colours different than CMYK were used in the file;

**a** – file version; use if it is necessary to upload file correction (consecutive versions should be marked as b, c, etc.);

**ext** – file extension (e.g. pdf, ps).

**Example:**

<i>001_POL_04.pdf</i>	— <b>first page of a publication (self cover)</b>
<i>003_POL_04_a.pdf</i>	— <b>first file correction of page three</b>
<i>004_POL_04.pdf</i>	— <b>file dedicated for page 4 of the publication</b>
<i>005_POL_04_spot_b.pdf</i>	— <b>second correction of the file dedicated for page 5, file contains special colour</b>

**Covers:**

*nnn\_cover\_KOD\_ww\_v1\_spot\_a.ext*

**where:**

**cover** – information that file contains a cover (do not use when publication contains self cover);

**nnn** – consecutive no. of cover page in publication (e.g.: 001\_cover...; 002\_cover...; 003\_cover...);

... – for other symbols see above.

**Example:**

<i>001_cover_POL_04_spot_a.pdf</i>	— <b>first correction of page 1 of a cover, cover contains special colour</b>
<i>002_cover_POL_04.pdf</i>	— <b>file dedicated for page 2 of the cover</b>
<i>003_cover_POL_04_b.pdf</i>	— <b>second correction of a file dedicated for page 3 of the cover</b>

**Other cases:**

If there is more than one file per page (e.g. one with content and one with advertising), letters should be added to the page number:

**Example:**

001a_POL_04.pdf	——	<b>the first file for page 1</b>
001b_POL_04.pdf	——	<b>the second file for page 1</b>

In such cases, attach a dummy showing the layout of page components.

—— **4.2.** The Company has a right to impose additional charges for ensuring product quality, if the file naming scheme is not followed.

—— **4.3.** The name of the files may not include any local (diacritic) language signs, spaces and special characters (\* > ! ? < : / \ etc.). Only the following characters are permitted: **a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 and \_.**

**Important!**

*It is absolutely crucial that the file naming scheme be followed, since automatic processing of the files depends on their names.*

**5. Layout**

—— **5.1.** Each page should contain a minimum of 3 mm bleeds (area between the gross and net format of a section — the printing area that goes beyond the edge of the final publication) on all the sides.

—— **5.2.** Important text or graphic elements should be positioned at least 5 mm from the trim edge.

—— **5.3.** Side gluing of cover and text. Recommendations:  
In case of perfect binding, please bear in mind that the 2nd and 3rd page of the cover and the first and the last page of the text will be glued over by side gluing, and on the cover along the shelfback there will be overpressed areas (also referred to as creasing) – 5–7 mm from the shelfback edge as a standard. If the paper weight of the cover is higher than 200 g, the cover will be bent on the overpressed areas, which may cause the elements printed at the shelfback, next to the creasing to be invisible.

This must be taken into account when preparing files by spreading out the images, while maintaining the page format and setting the minimum 7 mm spacing of texts from the shelfback.

—— **5.4.** Double spreads on inside pages. Recommendations:  
Additionally, in the case of perfect binding the back of a book may be “jammed” due to incomplete

opening of the block. This effect is visible (after opening a copy) when images meet in the shelfback. Some adverts or pictures that spread from one page to the other are invisible, when you open a magazine, in the print area from 1.5 to 3 mm, counting from the glue film applied in the shelfback.

If an image spreads from one page to the other, it is recommended to take into account a colour trap to move apart the advert away from the shelfback by about 3 mm.

—— **5.5.** A trim box size must be set in accordance with the net page format.

—— **5.6.** Reduction of effective page format will occur as a result of incomplete copy opening in the perfect bound book.

—— **5.7.** In the case of machine gluing (on the printing press), the minimum distance of text and other graphic elements from the spine should be 6 mm due to the phenomena described in points 5.3 and 5.5.

—— **5.8.** Moving the illustrations several millimeters onto the adjacent page will not correct the file for folding and binding tolerance (see Basic Quality Standards).

—— **5.9.** For the sake of print aesthetics and tolerance of folding and binding, one type line of small type size should not be placed on the adjacent type pages. Dividing of text between type pages in the middle of a word is not permitted.

—— **5.10.** Minimum type size for one colour printing is:

- 6 pt for one-element fonts,
- 7 pt for two-element fonts.

Minimum type size for more than one colour or drop out type is:

- 8 pt for one-element fonts,
- 10 pt for two-element fonts.

—— **5.11.** Minimum permissible line thickness is 0.2 pt. Lines printing in more than one colour or dropping out of colour should have a thickness of at least 0.75 pt. This also applies to the width of the dash in two-element fonts.

—— **5.12.** To obtain greater depth of black and avoid the picking effect in areas of high ink coverage, black should be generated from 4 colours. Recommended formulas are C 70, M 60, Y 60, K 100 for coated papers (MWC, LWC) and C 50, M 40, Y 40, K 100 for uncoated papers (SC type and newsprint).

—— **5.13.** Registration inaccuracy is avoided by trapping, (minimal overlapping of colours on one another). When submitting composite files, which are preferred by the Company, the Client should not make trapping. This process is carried out by the Company, provided the Client

does not express any reservations. If Client submits separated files, the Company cannot introduce trapping. Separated files trapping must be made by the Client. Recommended trapping value is 0.05 mm (0.144 pt).

When reversed print against black background of 4 colours is needed, negative trappings for CMY colours of size 0.17 mm (0.5 pt) are recommended.

If spot ink is used for printing (Pantone, metallic colour), a CMYK spread must be made in the direction of the spot colour (Pantones, metallic colours).

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**5.14.** Black text smaller than or equal to 24 pt set against a colour background must be overprinted. The exception is the text (K or CMYK) on spot colours (Pantones, metallic colours), where knockout-should be applied, according to 5.12 or K or CMYK spread towards the spot colour. All graphic sprinted over spot colours (such as shades) must also be selected and spread in a similar manner. This is the only way we can ensure proper representation of all elements.

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**5.15.** Black text larger than 24 pt may be made of 4 colours according to the formula specified in item 5.11.

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**5.16.** All graphic elements must be prepared within the CMYK space. Graphic elements and photographs in other colour spaces, such as RGB or Lab, are automatically converted to the CMYK space utilizing ICC ISO Coated v2\_300\_eci profile by means of perceptual rendering intend. All spot colours used, e.g. from the Pantone® system, must be changed to CMYK. Spot colours may be used only in agreement with the Company.

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**5.17.** “Pushing out” of sections.

In saddle-stitched binding there is a phenomenon called “pushing out” of sections. Internal sections are moved away from the backbone by values dependent on paper thickness and signature number. This phenomenon causes a reduction of the effective page width and displacement of graphic content of the page, which in the worst case scenario may lead to the cutting of typography or graphic elements situated near the outside trim edge. To prevent this the outside margin of individual pages of consecutive signatures should be increased by the values given in the table below, keeping the other margins and page size unchanged. If in the files the Client has not foreseen the push-out effect of the sections, the Printing House may create a push-in effect on its own when it considers necessary to obtain a good quality final product. We would also like to inform you that all graphic elements and texts on pages will be reduced by the value of this push-out effect depending on the paper weight (according to the table below). For instance, from 0 mm value for the first pages of the first sheet to 4 mm value at the centerfold of the eighth sheet for 70 g/m<sup>2</sup> paper weight. Such changes in images are invisible to the eye and they can be verified only by measuring the chosen objects.

Signatures 16s	54 g/m <sup>2</sup>	60 g/m <sup>2</sup>	70 g/m <sup>2</sup>	80 g/m <sup>2</sup>	90 g/m <sup>2</sup>
	[ mm ]				
1	—	—	—	—	—
2	0.35	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.0
3	0.6	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.5
4	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.0
5	1.5	2.0	2.5	2.75	2.75
6	2.0	2.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
7	2.45	3.0	3.75	3.75	4.0
8	2.95	3.5	4.0	4.25	4.5
9	3.45	4.0	5.0	5.0	5.5
10	3.95	4.5	5.5	5.5	6.5

5.18. When the paper wrap process is used for printing, it is necessary to adhere to the following instructions: **P/mint EuropePaper WrapDesign Manual** – available at: <https://p-mint.eu/>

The Client is allowed to prepare graphics that pass through the gluing in the middle of the copy. In this case, a possible displacement of up to 0.5 cm has to be taken into account when joining the wings of the paper wrap, hence the printing of such graphics can only take place at the Client's risk.

Please note that with a large printing area of the paper wrap, colour differences between the glued wings may be visible. Graphics should not pass through pivotal elements, where displacements in alignment will be strongly noticeable, e.g. eye, face, small text.

In the case of graphics passing through the point of gluing of the edges of the paper, it is necessary to consult the specific design with the Customer Service Representative.

## 6. Separations

6.1. ICC profiles used for generating separations should be adjusted to the paper grade on which the printing is done according to the ISO 12647-2 standard. ICC profiles are made available to clients by your Customer Service Representative. Profiles recommended by the Company should be used. Using other ICC profiles is permissible only in agreement with your Customer Service Representative.

— **6.2.** The Company takes no responsibility for the final product, if files have not been prepared in accordance with the above guidelines or if they contain objects imported directly or indirectly from CorelDraw or AutoCad software. The Printing House also has the right to refuse the acceptance of any files not consistent with specifications. All additional operations aimed at correcting the files in order to reach consistency with specifications and all changes made by the Company at the Client's request are considered additional paid service.

## **7. File preparation for enrichment**

— **7.1.** Files for enrichment techniques, such as spot coating, hot stamping and glittering, should be provided as follows:

- in one separation (preferably in black),
- in one file (preferably PDF),
- on one layer,
- in vectors.

## **8. Master materials**

— **8.1.** Attaching a contract proof to each page is recommended.

— **8.2.** Contract proofs should be made after the last correction of files submitted for printing.

— **8.3.** The ICC profile acquired by the Customer Service Representative should be used for making a contract proof.

— **8.4.** Title, publication number, page number, file name, date of proof performance and name of the ICC profile used should be included on each contract proof. Also, a control strip must be placed on each contract proof. Use a Ugra/FOGRA Control Strip or the one provided by the Customer Service Representative. Lack of description or strip makes it impossible to use a contract proof as a master material in the Company.

— **8.5.** When the proof is accepted by the Client, the signature accepted and signed by the Client, it becomes a master material for the offset operator.

— **8.6.** Prints from previous editions are not contract proofs; they may serve only as a reference point for the offset press operator. Using that type of master material entails the possibility of obtaining a different colour as a result of lack of information concerning the preparation of materials and the printing process or as a result of a different placement of the type page on the sheet.

— **8.7.** If the Client does not deliver contract proofs, the print will be carried out according to Lab coordinates of primary colours corresponding to the ECI profile of the job and dot gain specified by ISO 12647-2 standard for a given paper grade.

- **8.8.** Detailed requirements concerning methods of control proof preparation are included in Basic Quality Standards (chap. IV, item 1.1.2).
- **8.9.** Pantone® for the title must be given to the person leading this title minimum 48 hours before the release date of the respected cover/signatures printing materials.

## **9. Additional orders – inserting**

- **9.1.** Information concerning insert and delivery dates
  - **9.1.1.** Detailed information on the insert and the inserting process which is to be provided by the Client to the Customer Service Representative, and delivery description and the Company`s acceptance criteria for the insert are listed in specification: **“Technical Specification – Supplying Inserts and Promotional materials”**, which can be found in the same place as this specification (<https://p-mint.eu/>). If the inserts/promotional materials are not prepared in accordance with the requirements, the Company reserves the right to charge the Client for additional activities carried out by the Company, like sorting, unpacking or moving.
  - **9.1.2.** The technical parameters of inserts to be glued into the spine of a magazine must match those of the other semi-finished products. Otherwise, the Printing House cannot guarantee proper placement of the insert within the block.

## **10. Inkjet**

- **10.1.** Requirements and recommendations concerning addressing should be discussed and agreed upon with the Customer Service Representative for each project run. This should include material preparation and delivery and other requirements for executing the order. The dimensions and position of the address field are determined individually, depending on the postal operator.
- **10.2.** Overprint location – please indicate the number of lines and their position in the address field.
- **10.3.** Address field – the dimensions and position of the address field are determined individually depending on the postal operator.
- **10.4.** Overprint layout – the following data should be provided: the number of lines and their location on the label, a reference to each line in the field name (the actual name saved in the database) or the character positions marking the beginning and end of the field, and the number of characters for individual records.
- **10.5.** Type face and its size – for dot matrix printers it is specified by the number of dots, while for graphic printers by typeface (MS Windows). Printers use the fonts installed for MS Windows.

- **10.6.** Sorting criteria – please indicate the criteria specified by the post office receiving the mail. Postal documents such as reports / parcel labels / pallet tags should be included in the catalogue for a given order.
- **10.7.** In the case of high-resolution printers, selective feeding and addressing are not possible.

## **11. Databases for customisation**

- **11.1.** All materials necessary for customisation (data intended for customisation, reports, etc.) must be placed on the server of the Printing House not later than on the date specified in the time schedule (appendix to the printing order).
- **11.2.** Data intended for customisation must be delivered by FTP (File Transfer Protocol) to the following server: **ftp://sftp.quadgraphics.pl**

Login and password are sent to the designated contact person.

The account contains two folders:

**INCOMING** – here the client uploads files

**OUTGOING** – here files are stored for the client on request

In extraordinary circumstances the client may send a base by e-mail to: **baza@p-mint.eu** after prior agreement with the Title Manager. The base should be zipped and encrypted. Password to the base should be sent by a separate e-mail. Messages which do not comply with this standard will be deleted automatically.

- **11.3.** Accepted file formats:

┆ **TXT**

┆ **CSV**

with stated code page of the file.

**EXCEL** – only XLS files, other files with activated macros and functions will be deleted from the server. Excel cells may not contain more than one line and non-printable characters may not be used. If the above requirements are not met, the client will be charged with additional cost.

**ACCESS** – files in this format may be handled after prior agreement.

- **11.4.** Method of preparing files for customisation

### **PREFERRED:**

– fixed-length field and fixed-length record file. Switching to next record should be carried out by **<CR><LF>** (**CR – carriage return, LF – line feed**). For all fields the data type should be set to text.

**PERMITTED:**

– file with fields separated by a delimiter. A TAB or | (vertical bar, hexadecimal representation 0x7C) may be used as a field delimiter. If a different delimiter is used to separate the fields, errors may occur during data processing. End of a record should be marked with <CR><LF> (CR – carriage return, LF – line feed). The sent base should be accompanied by a description containing names of the fields in the base, information whether a particular field should be used during customisation, and a description.

A description containing the following information should be enclosed with each base:

- T** number of records
- T** number of copies
- T** field delimiter (only for bases with fields separated by a delimiter)
- T** post office – state the name of the post office delivering mail
- T** country – name of the country to which the mail will be delivered
- T** names of the fields in the base
- T** a character which starts a given field (only fixed-length field files)
- T** field length – number of characters in a given field (only fixed-length files)
- T** information whether a given field should be used during customisation
- T** field description

Layout template for fixed-length bases:

Field name	Start	Width
RecordNumber	1	6
Line1	7	60
Line2	67	60
Line3	127	60
Line4	187	60
Line5	247	60
Line6	307	60
Base	367	2
Field1	369	10
Field2	379	5
PackageNo.	384	5
CH_B	389	1
WorkNo.	390	5
CH_W	395	1
PaletNo.	396	5
CH_P	401	1
Pallet Alpha	402	5
BookID	407	4

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### 11.5. Required fields

Address bases to be used for customisation should contain the following fields:

- item number – subsequent record number in the delivered address base filed in by zeros to full field length (in the case of 5 character long fields subsequent record numbers should be the following: 00001, 00002, 00003, etc.)
- surname
- first name
- name of the company/institution
- street and house/apartment number – a house/apartment number may be given in a separate field
- post code – a post code and city name should not be given in one field. Such preparation of the address base may prevent proper preparation of mail for the post office
- city
- country name.

The Printing House prefers the fields in the address base to be presented in the above-mentioned order. Apart from the above-mentioned data the file may contain additional fields which should be described in detail in the provided specification (“remarks” field), in a way which makes it possible to unambiguously interpret the information contained therein.

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**11.6.** Each time before starting the personalisation process, the approval of the personalisation print template (the so-called “post proof”), prepared by the Printing House, is required. Carrying out the print production without the necessity to each time obtain the approval of the postal proof is allowed based on a written agreement between the parties.

## IV. Basic quality production standards

### 1. Printing Process

#### 1.1. Colour

- **1.1.1.** The colour of the finished product should be as close as possible to the colour of the properly made contract proof supplied by the Client taking into consideration the specificity of offset print, paper quality, proof characteristics, print enrichment materials (including: UV varnish, matte varnish, lamination foil, etc.) and other factors affecting the colour of the copy.
- **1.1.2.** Requirements concerning contract proofs  
A control strip should be placed on each proof. Recommended control strips are the UGRA/FOGRA strip or the strip supplied by Customer Service at the Client's request. Each proof delivered to the Company should have a certificate confirming its correctness.

Certification of contract proofs is based on the ISO 12647-7-2016 standard.

Proofs certified to older standards will be also acceptable.

Accetable proof	Non acceptable proof
Avg $\Delta E_{00} < 2.5$	Avg $\Delta E_{00} > 2.5$
Max $\Delta E_{00} < 5.0$	Max $\Delta E_{00} > 5.0$
Substrate max $\Delta E_{00} < 3.0$	Substrate max $\Delta E_{00} > 3.0$
Primary max $\Delta E_{00} < 3.0$	Primary max $\Delta E_{00} > 3.0$
Primary max $\Delta H < 2.5$	Primary max $\Delta H > 2.5$
Gray avg $\Delta Ch < 2.0$	Gray avg $\Delta Ch > 2.0$
Gray max $\Delta Ch < 3.5$	Gray max $\Delta Ch > 3.5$

Measuring conditions:

- white backing,
- iluminant D50,
- standard observer 2°,
- absolute value,
- no UV cut filter and no polarizing filter.

The proof must be made with the ICC profile provided by your Customer Service Representative. The proof must be made with printing base-paper simulation.

- **1.1.3.** If the proof is not made according to specification, it will not be considered a contract proof. In such a case, the Company shall make a contract proof at the Client's expense. If the Client does not give his/her consent to make the proof, then the proof supplied by the Client may be treated as the master material for the offset press operator. However, this proof colour may not be attainable on press.
- **1.1.4.** Optical densities of the printing process are selected in a way that ensures that Lab values of solid CMYK patches are obtained on paper of a given grade and with given inks, according to ISO 12647-2 standard tab. 2.
- **1.1.5.** Printing control tolerances for particular colours in relation to the signature accepted by the Client or by an authorized Printing House employee:

	Acceptable	Not acceptable
Solid Ink Density	$\leq \pm 0,1$	$> \pm 0,1$
Dot Gain	$\leq \pm 0,1$	$> \pm 0,1$

Measuring conditions:

- black backing,
  - standard E (DIN),
  - relative to paper,
  - no polarizing filter.
- **1.1.6.** Consistency of colours between the contract proof and the printed product is assessed visually at D50 standard lighting as per ISO 3664:2000 standard.
- **1.1.7.** If it is necessary to obtain optimal consistency with the master material, Lab values of solid patches can go beyond tolerance limits specified in ISO 1247-2 standard.
- **1.1.8.** In order to ensure the highest quality of colour reproduction relative to a correctly made contract proof the Company may apply additional optimisation to input data.

## — 1.2. Colour registration

- **1.2.1.** Permissible deviation of register of colours printed consecutively one after another:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq 0,1$ mm	$> 0,1$ mm

- **1.2.2.** Because of the automatic registration systems used on presses and the manner of their operation, colour register tolerance may be temporarily exceeded. In such case it should be assumed that the error concerns a maximum of 200 signatures.

— **1.3.** Fold and page arrangement

- **1.3.1.** Permissible fold deviation from fold line:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq \pm 1 \text{ mm}$	$> \pm 1 \text{ mm}$

- **1.3.2.** Permissible deviation of the arrangement of pages in the signature in relation to one another:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq \pm 2 \text{ mm}$	$> \pm 2 \text{ mm}$

- **1.3.3.** A fold should be considered to have been made incorrectly when it causes a crumpling of paper, creasing, etc., which makes it impossible to read the content or view an illustration.

— **1.4.** Additional Pantone® colours

- **1.4.1.** Representation of Pantone® colours

Colour consistency of printed Pantone® colour is visually assessed against the Pantone® colour system, because it is not possible to measure Pantone® colours objectively.

Additional Pantone® colours are printed in such a way as to obtain the highest visual consistency with the colour from the Pantone® colour system..

- **1.4.2.** Pantone® colour system

Pantone® colour charts up to two years old are considered appropriate reference charts. Printing according to older colour systems may result in a failure to obtain a colour scheme that will match them due to the low durability of colours in Pantone colour systems (stains, rub-off, faded colours).

- **1.4.3.** Enrichment of Pantone® colour systems

**Note!**

*Print enrichment materials (including: UV varnish, matte varnish, lamination foil, etc.) cause the print colours, including Pantone® colours, to change. The Printing House will make every effort to achieve the maximum possible consistency of the colour representation. At the same time we would like to advise you that any deviations in colour, brightness or saturation in the case of printing with enrichment may be much greater than in the case of printing without it. This is due to the fact that it is impossible to simulate any of the available methods of print enrichment on Pantone® colour system.*

1.5. Gluing in line

On low-absorbing papers (MWC, LWC) there is a risk of “spreading” of glue outside the gluing line. Permissible paper gluing width beyond the gluing line:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq 4$ mm	$> 4$ mm

1.6. Perforating during printing tolerance from the theoretical perforation line concerning longitudinal and lateral perforation:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq 2$ mm	$> 2$ mm

1.7. Register of picture and varnish layer in case of selective varnishing:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq 1$ mm	$> 1$ mm

1.8. Varnish layer

The varnish layer is considered incorrect when there are unvarnished spots on the surface intended for varnishing no matter whether it is offset, dispersion or UV coating.

1.9. Due to heat-set web offset printing specificity the process is accompanied by smearing (rub-off). The Company will make all possible effort to minimize this phenomenon, but cannot guarantee its complete elimination.

1.10. Error extent assessment

In each case the basis for determining the percentage of defective signatures shall be the revision signatures put off by every ten thousand signatures or as agreed with the Client.

## 2. Bookbinding Process

2.1. Trim dimension

Permissible deviation of trim dimension in relation to nominal dimension measured for each 100 mm:

	Acceptable	Not acceptable
Head and feet trim	$\leq \pm 1$ mm	$> \pm 1$ mm
Front trim	$\leq \pm 1$ mm	$> \pm 1$ mm

## 2.2. Trimming parallelism

Acceptable deviation of the parallelism of two pairs of sides in a copy (back/front; head/ foot) measured along the edge:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq \pm 2 \text{ mm}$	$> \pm 2 \text{ mm}$

## 2.3. Arrangement of pages

2.3.1. Permissible vertical deviation in arrangements of pages between signatures in the finished copy:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq \pm 2 \text{ mm}$	$> \pm 2 \text{ mm}$

The permissible vertical deviation consists of the sum of deviations from previous technological processes:

- ▮ permissible deviation of the fold from the fold line is  $\pm 1 \text{ mm}$ ,
- ▮ permissible deviation between signatures  $\pm 1 \text{ mm}$ .

2.3.2. Permissible vertical mismatch between cover and body:

Binding type	Acceptable	Not acceptable
Perfect binding	$\leq \pm 2,5 \text{ mm}$	$> \pm 2,5 \text{ mm}$
Saddle-stitched	$\leq \pm 1,5 \text{ mm}$	$> \pm 1,5 \text{ mm}$

The permissible vertical mismatch consists of sum of deviations from previous technological processes:

- ▮ folding tolerance within the limits of permissible deviations  $\pm 1 \text{ mm}$ ,
- ▮ deviations arising during sheet fed printing and cutting into single pieces (covers)  $\pm 1 \text{ mm}$ ,
- ▮ tolerance of feeding and application of the cover  $\pm 0.5 \text{ mm}$ .

2.3.3. Permissible deviation in copy width/height between cover and centre in the case of perfect and saddle-stitch binding (caused by swelling of paper due to absorption):

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq \pm 1\%$	$> \pm 1\%$

2.4. The format deviation of master binding from the specified net format should fit within the tolerance scope. Change of format of master binding in relation to the specified net format may result exclusively from striving to keep the picture in the format.

## 2.5. Binding strength

### 2.5.1. Perfect binding

The strength of perfect binding is measured by means of Pulltester. The number of sheets which should be tested in a single book is:

- 3 sheets spaced evenly in the copy for books of backbone  $\leq 1$  cm
- 5 sheets spaced evenly in the copy for books of backbone  $> 1$  cm

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\geq 4,5$ N/cm	$< 4,5$ N/cm

### 2.5.2. Saddle-stitching

Saddle-stitching is considered correct when signatures stay joined and do not tear apart at the folds as a result of staples used and the number of staples corresponds to their ordered amount (for one edge).

Staples shall be considered correct if:

- they firmly keep the joint of saddle-stitched book edges,
- the total length of staples does not cause overlapping of edges,
- the edges of staples are bent in the way specified in the order (flat-bent or rounded).

Staple position tolerance in the direction perpendicular to the spine:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq \pm 1$ mm	$> \pm 1$ mm

The strength of a saddle-stitched book is not measured, since in this case the result reflects the strength of the paper rather than the binding itself.

## 2.6. Sheet cutting

Permissible deviations when cutting sheets into single pieces:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq \pm 1$ mm	$> \pm 1$ mm

## 2.7. Off-line folding and perforations

2.7.1. Folding – permissible deviation of fold from nominal line of its location (on each fold):

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq \pm 1$ mm	$> \pm 1$ mm

— **2.7.2.** Permissible deviations of the made perforation from its nominal location:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq \pm 1 \text{ mm}$	$> \pm 1 \text{ mm}$

— **2.7.3.** Final deviations of the executed folds and perforations are also affected by permissible deviations arising during earlier technological processes, i.e. printing and cutting of the sheet.

## — **2.8.** Inkjet

— **2.8.1.** Permissible deviations of Inkjet overprint position from the area intended for performing it:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq \pm 5 \text{ mm}$	$> \pm 5 \text{ mm}$

— **2.8.2.** Permissible deviation of overprint on the label during saddle-stitching, perfect binding and packing:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
$\leq \pm 5 \text{ mm}$	$> \pm 5 \text{ mm}$

— **2.8.3.** Overprint shall be considered correct when it was placed and configured according to specification (overprint layout, type) and all its elements are readable.

## — **2.9.** Paper wrap – wrapping copies in paper

— **2.9.1.** Adhesive application and gluing

The strength of the adhesive bond ensures that the contents (components) are contained within the package.

— **2.9.2.** Folding

Folding tolerance +/- 5 mm in relation to the theoretical fold line (10 mm in total); the final fold line is determined according to the contents of the package.

Along the fold line there is a thickening/corrugation depending on the grammage and type of paper.

— **2.9.3.** Cutting-off

Cut-off tolerance +/- 3 mm in relation to the theoretical split line.

— **2.9.4.** Inserting

It is recommended that the format of the insert/onsert should not exceed the format of the basic component. The possibility of using an insert/onsert with dimensions larger than in the case of the basic component should be each time confirmed with the Customer Service Representative.

### 3. Delivery Acceptance Criteria

Delivery is considered consistent with the order when at least 98% of the product's quality parameters fall within the scope of tolerance permissible by this specification. The Printing House reserves the right to have differences +/- 2 copies in packs. Any possible comments or reservations should be submitted within 14 days of shipment.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>) The 14-day deadline is applicable if the agreement does not specify otherwise



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