

Calibration for Dot Gain

Open RTI RIP-Kit Software.

In the pull down menu select RTI RIP-Kit, then select “Page Setup Manager” (Figure 1).

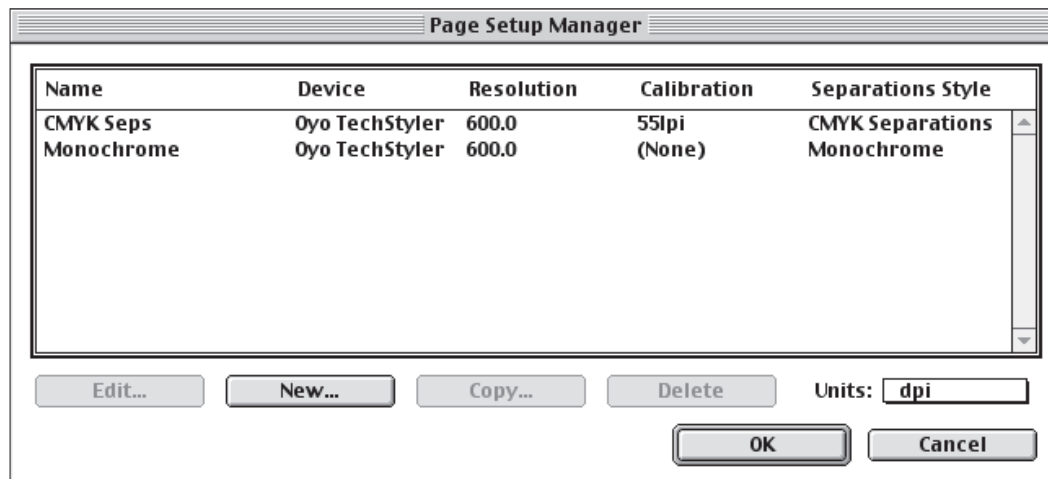


Figure 1

Once the “Page Setup Manager” is open, you can either generate a new page or edit an existing page. After the page has been generated or edited (LPI, Frequency, Dot Shape...etc.) exit out of the Page Setup Manager. From the pull down menu options, select “Output”, then select “Print Calibration.”

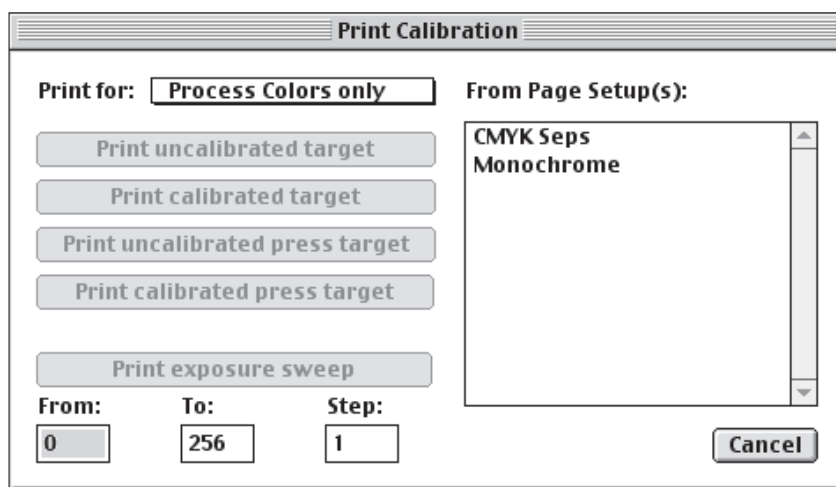


Figure 2

At the “Print Calibration” window (Figure 2) select the page setup that you just created or edited, then choose “Print Uncalibrated Press Target.” (Note: If you are calibrating for monochrome the only option will be “Print Uncalibrated Target.”) After you choose Print Uncalibrated Press Target, the CMYK seps will appear in the Active Queue (If monochrome only black will appear in the queue) of the “Output Controller/Monitor” (Figure 3).

(Note: Make sure the Disable Output box is checked before you choose Print Uncalibrated Press Target or the files will go directly to the imagesetter and start printing.)

At the Output Controller/Monitor, while holding down the shift key select the M, Y & K files. Delete these files by selecting the remove button.

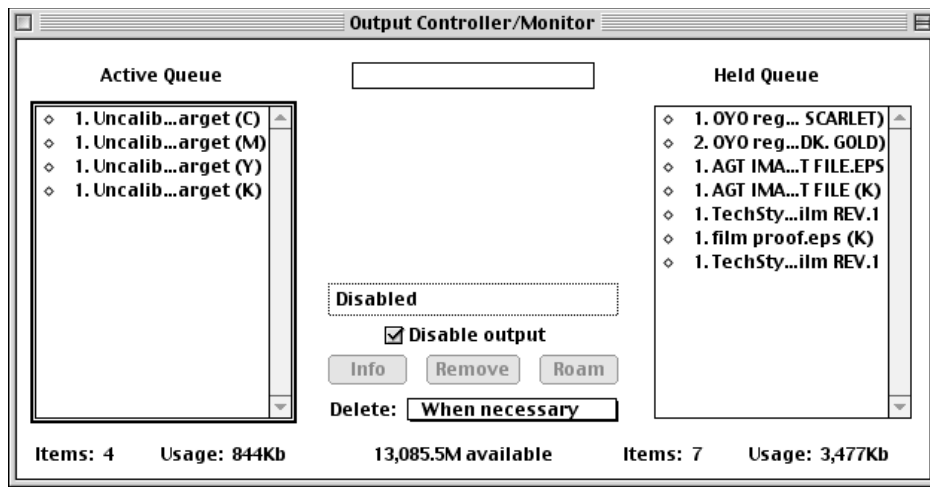


Figure 3

Un-check the disable output box. Your imagesetter will now print the Cyan Press Target. After it is printed remove it by taking the imagesetter offline, feed-parm then cut-parm. Now you are ready to measure the square gradients with the densitometer. To properly do this you need to first set the meter to read "Positive%". At this point it is important to zero out the meter for accurate readings. In the Positive % mode measure a blank or clear area of the film. When it gives you a reading percentage, zero out the densitometer. Now you can measure every square from 0.0 to 100.0 and record these readings by writing them down on the film in the blank squares. After the values are recorded, go back to the RTI RIP-Kit software and choose RTI RIP-Kit in the pull down menu, then select the Page Setup Manager. In the Page Setup Manager choose the page that you previously edited by highlighting the page and clicking edit (or double clicking the page). Now the active window will read "Edit Page Setup:" (Figure 4)

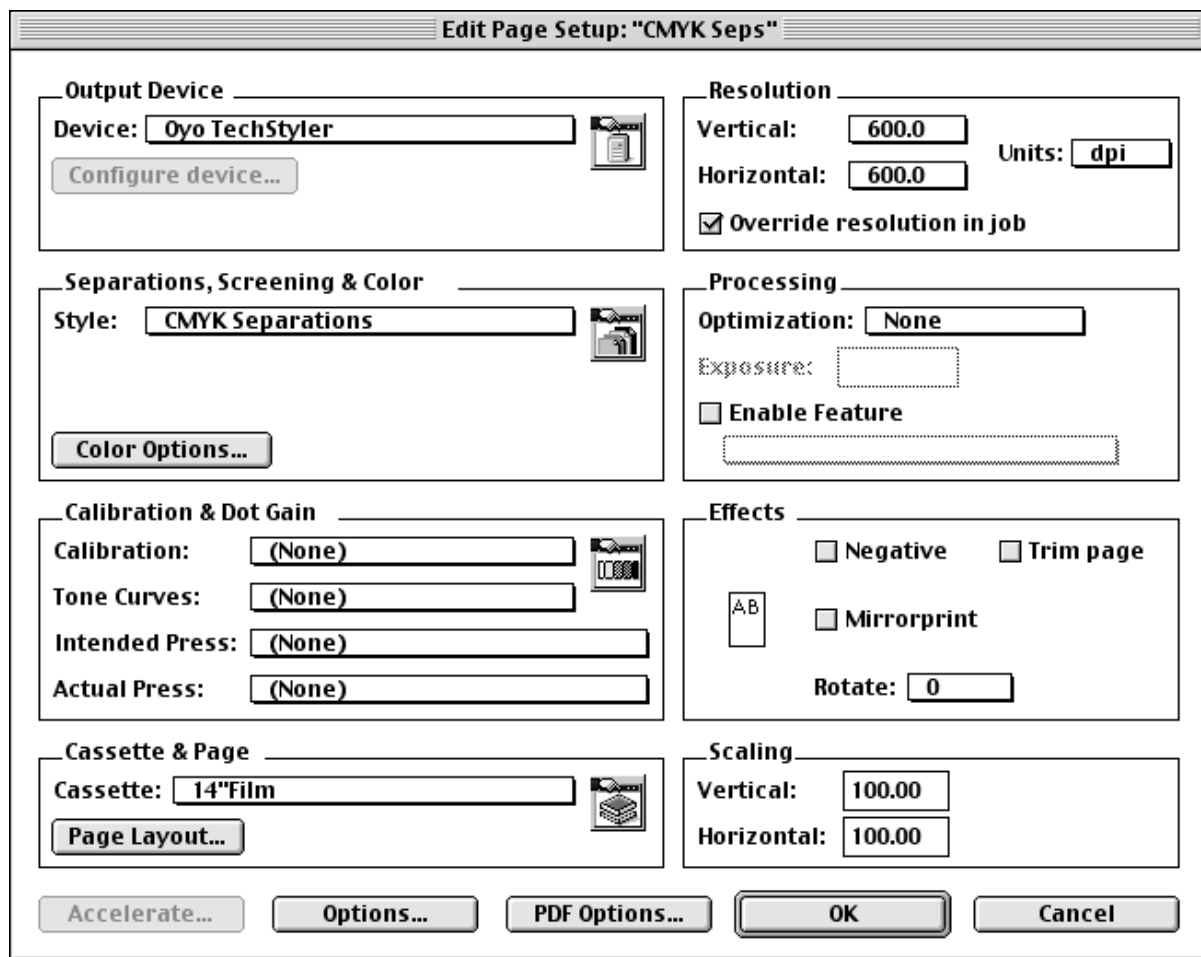


Figure 4

In the “Calibration & Dot Gain” section select the monochrome icon with the hand pointing at the gradient bars (Figure 5). This will open the Calibration Manager window (Figure 6).

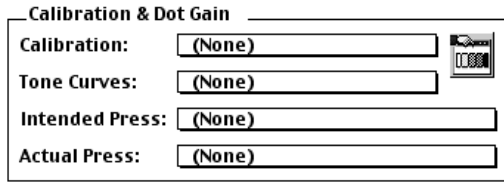


Figure 5

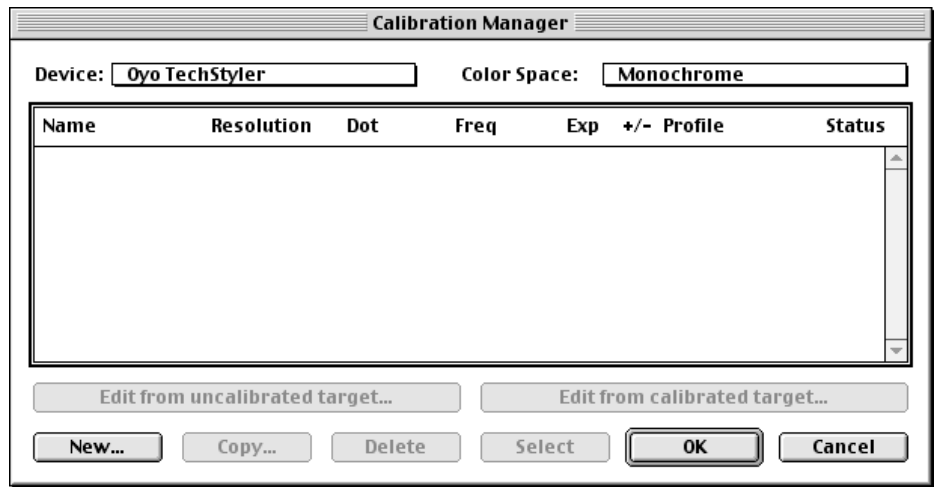


Figure 6

In the Color Space: tab choose CMYK. Now you are going to create a new press target by selecting the New... button. This will open the “Edit Uncalibrated Target” window (Figure 7).

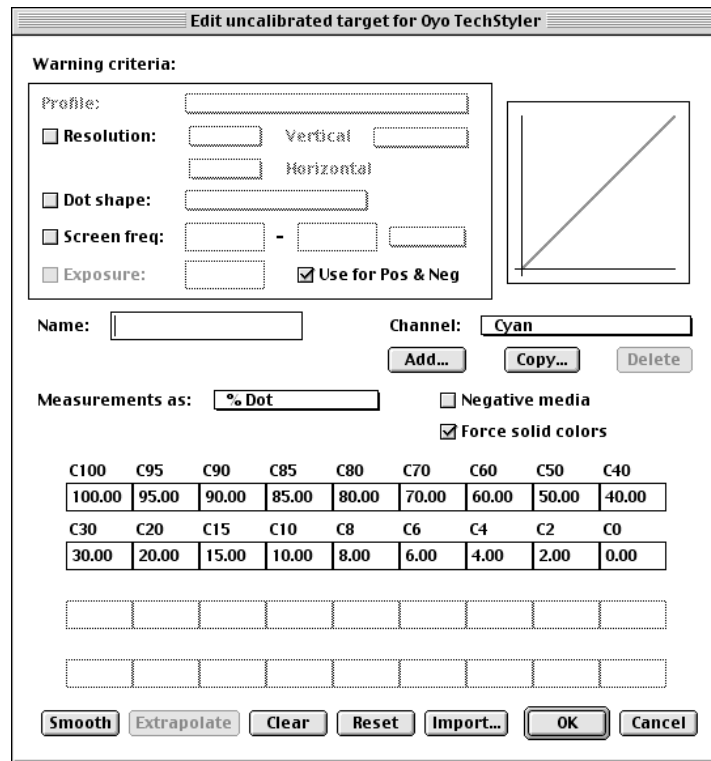


Figure 7

In the “Name:” box the cursor should be blinking. You now will name this press target (Note: If your line screen in the Page Setup Manager is 55 Lpi, name this calibration “55 Lpi”. This will avoid confusion later when choosing a calibration). Input the dot gain values that you recorded on the film in the corresponding boxes in the rip. Once the dot gain values are input, go to the Cyan Channel box and change it to Magenta. Select the Copy... icon right below. This will bring up a “Copy Channel Data” window. It will say “Copy from: Cyan”, select OK. Repeat the same process for the yellow and black curves. What that did was took the dot gain values from the cyan channel and applied them to the magenta, yellow and black channels. Now you have a calibrated CMYK Curve to use at the corresponding line screen. (If calibrating for monochrome, gray will be the only time you input the dot gain values) Select the OK box, that will take you back to the Calibration Manager window. The name that you choose will now appear as an option in the manager window, select OK again. Now you are in the “Edit Page Setup” window. In the Calibration & Dot Gain section (Figure 5) the calibration box will read (None).

Change that to the Calibration Curve that you just made and select OK. That will take you back to the “Page Setup Manager” window, select OK again. Now you are ready to turn the Input Channel on for that page, and output your job!! Calibration is required every time Dot Shape, LPI, or Angles are changed; and recommended when Film is changed.