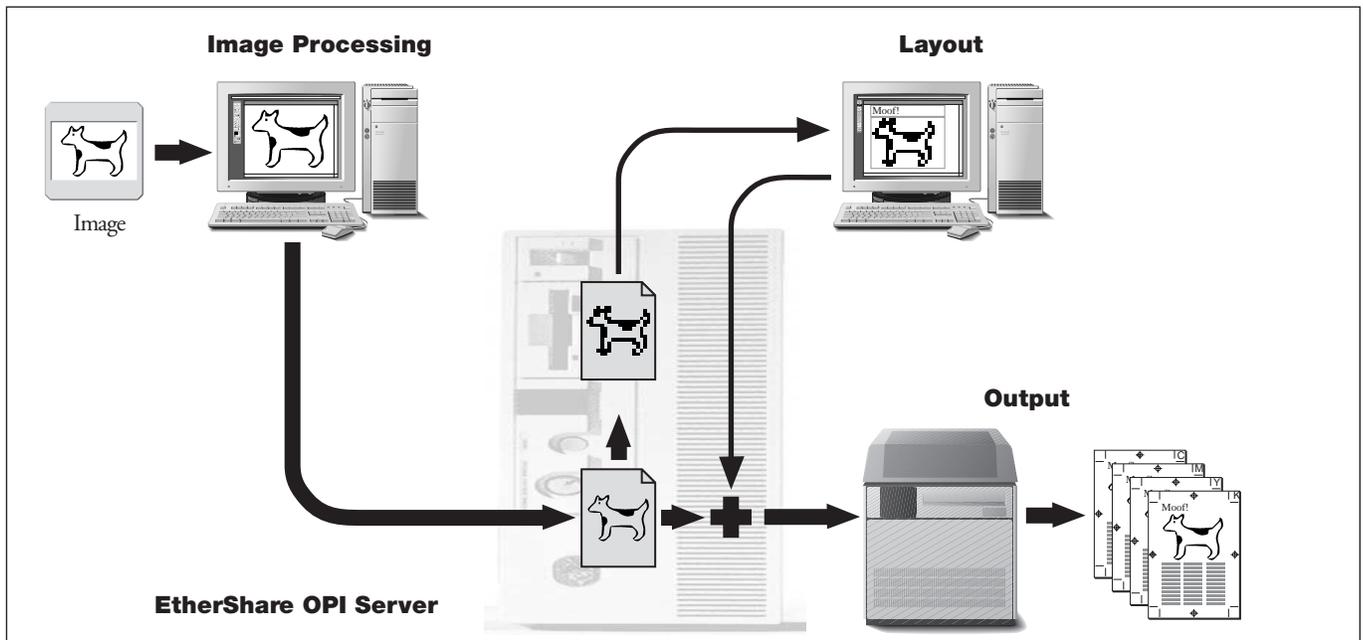


EtherShare OPI 2.0

The Next Generation of OPI



OPI is now a well established concept in the prepress and printing industry. It gives you throughput and productivity gains in the order of magnitudes when you have to handle jobs with huge image data. Since its introduction, Helios EtherShare OPI is regarded highly for its excellent performance, strong reliability, and great ease-of-use.

EtherShare OPI 2.0 introduces two radically new concepts to the world of OPI. It includes by default integrated color matching methods. And it provides a sophisticated extension "OpenImage" architecture.

EtherShare OPI's color matching is based on ICC standards; it conforms to Apple/Linotype-Hell ColorSync 2 and optionally Agfa ColorTune. You can now use images independent of their color spaces and separate them on the fly during the print process.

With OpenImage Plug-Ins other parties can easily add functionality to Helios' OPI server – e.g. proprietary formats, database access, special scaling or screening, etc. This is similar to enhancing desktop applications with XTensions, Plug-Ins, or Xtras.

Using OPI is now as easy as never

before. With EtherShare OPI you don't have to worry about the file format of your hi-res images and may even forget about their color spaces.

EtherShare OPI not only gives you highest quality color separation on the server, it also offers for the first time convenient color proofs. The colors on a proof printer or even an Apple Color LaserWriter now match closely the final colors of your press.

EtherShare OPI ships with a couple of high quality ICC profiles and profile tagging tools. This gives you an easy start with color management.

EtherShare OPI supports Apple Macintosh, PCs, and Unix stations. It is tightly integrated with EtherShare's and PCShare's file and print services. This offers great flexibility and highest overall performance. Yet EtherShare OPI remains easy to set up and easy to use.

EtherShare OPI is the proven de-facto standard for professional, heavy-duty production. With built-in color management and its powerful OpenImage extension architecture it defines the next generation of OPI.

Helios – Smart Ideas for Better Networking

Features & Benefits

Performance & Reliability

- ✓ Utilizes fully Unix/RISC power
- ✓ No overhead between file/print server and OPI server (no polling)
- ✓ Handles largest output requests
- ✓ Supports extremely large storage

Ease of Use

- ✓ Fast server installation from CD
- ✓ Administration from Macintosh

Flexibility

- ✓ Conforms to OPI 1.3 & 2.0 specs
- ✓ Crossplatform for Apple Macintosh, Unix, DOS/Windows PC
- ✓ TIFF, EPS, DCS, DCS2, ICS, Scitex-CT, JPEG, PICT, PhotoShop native, etc. in CIE Lab, RGB, and CMYK color spaces
- ✓ Many options for layout files
- ✓ No restrictions on OPI folders
- ✓ OpenImage extension architecture

Color Management

- ✓ Highest quality, ICC compliant color matching & separation
- ✓ Supports Apple/Linotype-Hell ColorSync 2 and Agfa ColorTune
- ✓ Convenient color proof matching

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System Requirements

EtherShare OPI Server

- Helios EtherShare 2.5 on one of the following Unix systems: SunSPARC Solaris 1 or 2, IBM RS/6000 AIX, HP-UX 9, Silicon Graphics Irix, Data General AViiON or Intel AViiON, Digital Alpha Unix, Apple Network Server, other PowerPC/AIX systems
- Apx. 6 MB additional hard disk space for the software and 30 MB for ICC profiles

- at least 16 MB RAM in total, 32 MB RAM recommended for better file caching; 2 MB RAM for OPI processes; 2 MB per print device
- at least one activated network adapter; multiple adapters for load balancing recommended

Supported Prepress / Layout Workstations

- Macintosh, DOS/Windows PC, or Unix workstation with an OPI compatible applica-

tion like XPress or PageMaker for Macintosh or Windows, RagTime 4, PageOne

- Above mentioned PCs or workstations with applications which support EPS files.

Network

- High speed network: Ethernet, Fast E'net, FDDI
- Multiple network segments for image processing, layout and output devices recommended

Installation, Administration and Configuration

OPI Installation

- Fast server installation from CD-ROM with simple script (optionally creation of inst. tape)
- No special OPI client installation necessary

OPI Administration

- EtherShare OPI is managed from a Macintosh with EtherShare Admin.
- ICC profiles are stored in the "profile repository"

on the server and shared over the network.

- EtherShare OPI defaults can be overwritten either generally for the whole server or selectively per server directory or spool queue.

Product Highlights

Complete crossplatform solution

EtherShare OPI supports Apple Macintosh, DOS/Windows PCs and Unix-based layout workstations and offers true crossplatform functionality.

Tight Integration with Helios EtherShare

EtherShare OPI is well integrated into EtherShare file and print server. The EtherShare administration program is enhanced by a plug-in module to handle all OPI configuration. The EtherShare - and optional PCShare - file server automatically informs the OPI server about events in its volumes and directories so that proper actions can be taken.

Color Matching Capabilities

EtherShare OPI 2.0 contains two ICC compliant color matching methods: the one used in Apple ColorSync 2, cross-licensed from Linotype-Hell, as well as the original Agfa ColorTune. They are used for layout generation as well as for printing; they automatically translate images between color spaces and separate colors on the fly during the output.

Supported File Formats

Aldus defined OPI for TIFF; Quark enhanced it for EPSF and DCS. EtherShare OPI 2.0 works with

- TIFF: line-art, greyscale, CIE Lab, RGB, CMYK Macintosh or PC files; optional LZW/Packbits
- EPS: line-art, greyscale, CIE Lab, RGB, CMYK as EPSF, DCS, DCS2, or ICS
- PhotoShop 2.x or newer native files in CIE Lab, RGB and CMYK
- Scitex-CT CMYK, JPEG, PICT, etc.

Automatic Layout File Generation

As soon as image files are created or changed on the server by EtherShare or PCShare clients the proper layout files are generated. Of course any directory on the server can be tagged whether it should be used as OPI input folder at all. Alternatively layout file generation can be done manually or with Unix scripts. EtherShare OPI is not limited in number, location or naming of its input folders. Layout files are usually stored in "layout" subdirectories.

Flexible Layout Options

- Helios' OPI layout program offers many options:
- It creates layout TIFF files with any desired resolution up to original one.
 - It generates printable CMYK layouts for RGB and CIE Lab images; RGB layouts are an option.
 - It supports multi segment clipping paths and stores them in EPSF or in TIFF with "clippath" tag.
 - It recognizes and uses TIFF or Metafile previews in binary EPSF for the layout file if appropriate.

Image Search Paths

The OPI server looks for hi-res images first on the location specified in the layout, then in the folders where the "layout" subdirectories or the ".lay" files reside and finally expands its search. It is possible, to define any number of additional directories where OPI should also look for hi-res originals. This is very useful when e.g. images were already stored offline and are temporarily brought online for printing. If possible EtherShare OPI also keeps track of images by means of so-called Macintosh file ids so that they

are found properly even when a Macintosh user moved or renamed them.

Color Proof Print

EtherShare OPI provides a color merging option, which blends separated CMYK printjobs into one composite job for color proof printers.

Offline Printing

EtherShare allows to print EPS layout files in low resolution offline without access to the EtherShare OPI server with the hi-res originals.

Supported OPI comments

Helios EtherShare OPI provides OPI according to Aldus OPI 1.3 and 2.0 specifications with Quark extensions for EPSF.

Tagging Methods and Tools

Helios EtherShare OPI recognizes embedded ICC profiles in hi-res images. In addition, it supports tagging-by-reference where only a reference to the profile is embedded to keep files smaller. EtherShare OPI provides convenient client/server-based tagging tools to specify profiles. The tools can be used from Macintosh, PC, or Unix.

Included ICC profiles

The same high-quality ICC profiles as with the Helios ColorSync 2 XTension are included: Euro-scale, SWOP, and Japan CMYK, Apple Color Laser-Writer, EBU-RGB, and various scanner profiles.

Related Products

Helios EtherShare

EtherShare is a powerful file server, print spooler and AppleTalk router for customers who don't need OPI or want to start small and invest with growing needs.

Helios PCShare

Helios PCShare provides highest performance, crossplatform networking services for DOS and Windows PCs. It is a perfect fit with Helios' OPI.

Helios ColorSync 2 XTension

QuarkXPress user should not miss the additional options of this XTension. Helios' OPI customers can evaluate a demo version from CD-ROM.

EtherShare OPI is a product of

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