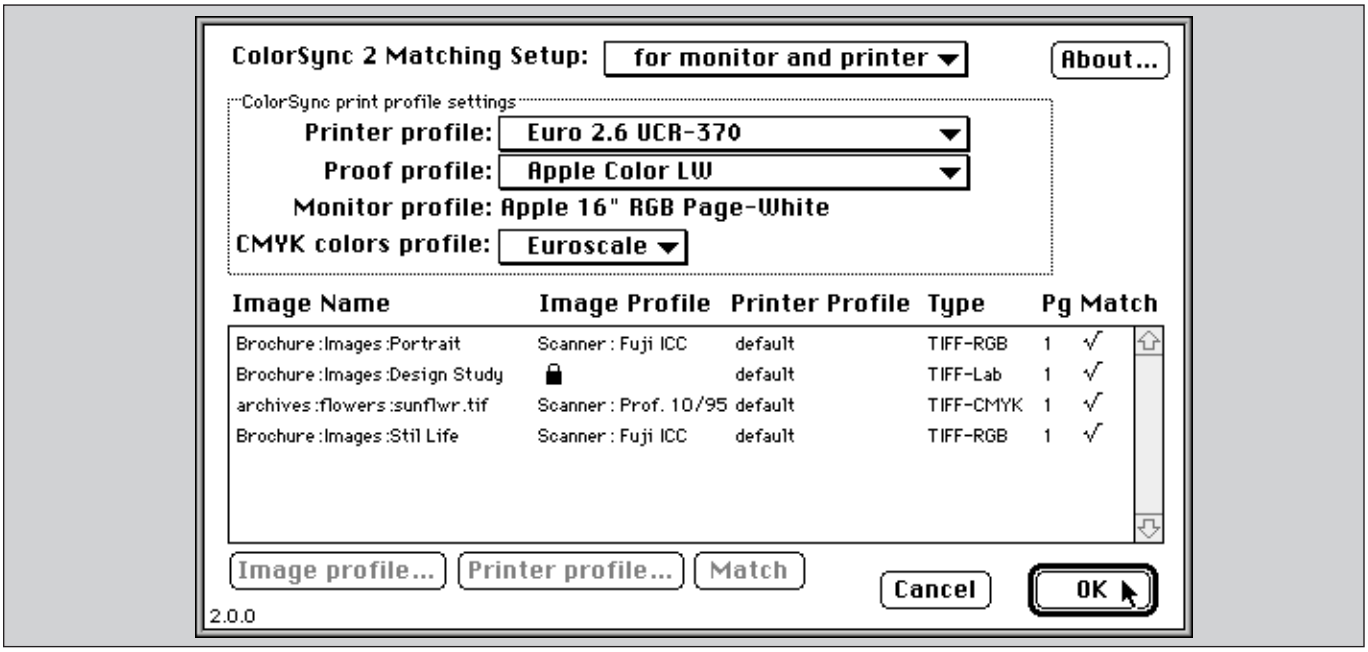
HELIOS

ColorSync 2 XTension

Quality Color on Screen and Print with QuarkXPress



Helios ColorSync 2 XTension gives QuarkXPress users for the first time high quality color according to Apple ColorSync standard on screen, for proof printing and on the final output device.

The XTension lets QuarkXPress users tag TIFF images individually with source profiles representing the specific color characteristics of the input device. It then automatically matches colors correctly to the screen. It takes care of correct color matching for the final output and also for proof prints, giving the best approximation to the final color on a proof printer which usually supports many more colors than the final output device.

It is now possible to keep scanned images in their original RGB format because the XTension automatically performs separation and matching during output. And you may use images in device independent CIE Lab and Lab LH with QuarkXPress.

The Helios ColorSync 2 XTension not only matches colors correctly for TIFF images within QuarkXPress documents, but also any colorized QuarkXPress elements like boxes, text, etc. This guarantees best color results for the whole page or document not only for single images.

The XTension is based on Apple ColorSync 2 and works with all device profiles according to the International Color Consortium ICC standard. Spectral photometers and profile maker software from suppliers like Linotype-Hell and others can be used for calibrating the whole color workflow.

QuarkXPress users get predictable colors from scanned input to screen representation, proof prints and final output. They achieve optimum results e.g. on Apple Color LaserWriter with little training and costs. The XTension allows for high fidelity color prints on any PostScript device independently from make or vendor.

The XTension supports structured profile repositories so that workgroups can easily share ICC scanner, monitor, and printer profiles on a central server. It comes with high-quality color samples to easily check for proper set-up.

The XTension co-operates smoothly with Helios EtherShare OPI 2.0 which will relieve layout workstations from complex color matching. This merger of OPI and color management greatly boosts quality and productivity.

Features & Benefits

Quality

- ✔ Complies with Apple ColorSync 2
- ✔ Supports ICC profiles
- ✔ High quality profiles included
- ✔ Supports standard color spaces

Performance

- ✔ Extremely fast color matching on screen and during printing
- ✔ PowerPC native

Ease of Use

- ✔ Convenient installation
- ✔ Flexible profile repository
- ✔ Settings stored within documents
- ✔ Supports proof printing

Flexibility

- ✔ For QuarkXPress 3.31 or newer
- ✔ For Apple LaserWriter driver 7 & 8
- ✔ For PostScript Level 1 or 2 devices
- ✔ Allows to use CIE Lab colors and CIE Lab TIFF with QuarkXPress
- ✔ Matches CMYK , RGB, CIE Lab, and Lab LH TIFF images
- ✔ Matches QuarkXPress' CMYK, Pantone, and CIE Lab colors
- ✔ SWOP, Euroscale, Japan CMYK
- ✔ Workflow solution with OPI

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System Requirements

Macintosh
- PowerPC-based Macintosh under System 7
- 500KB disk space for XTension; 15MB disk space for included profiles (can reside on server)
- 2 MB additional RAM for QuarkXPress

QuarkXPress
- Native QuarkXPress 3.31 or newer
- Japanese and Korean QuarkXPress supported
- fully localized Japanese version of Helios ColorSync 2 XTension available in Japan

Devices
- PostScript Level 1 or Level 2 output device
- Color calibration tools from e.g. Linotype-Hell, Agfa, Color Solutions, Logo, or Monaco Systems
- PowerPC Macintosh with millions of colors

Product Highlights

CIE Lab Support for QuarkXPress
The XTension allows to place, view, and print CIE Lab and Lab LH TIFF images in QuarkXPress documents and to define new colors by CIE Lab values as e.g. measured by spectral photometers. CIE Lab colors are well-defined, not like CMYK or RGB which depend on make, vendor, toner, ink, etc.

Color Matching
The XTension matches colors on screen, during separations and during composite printing for
- CMYK, RGB, CIE Lab, Lab LH TIFF images
- CIE Lab defined colors
- QuarkXPress' CMYK and Pantone colors

The matching for screen and for output can be turned off for each individual image in a document. This is helpful to print CMYK images which are already matched or use special CMYK for specific printer devices. Screen matching is done for 256, 32,768 and 16.7 million colors; it is extremely fast and performed on the fly.

Built-in Separation
The XTension separates RGB and Lab images into CMYK and at the same time matches colors. It does make sense to always use the original RGB or Lab images in order to get best automatic separation, match to any Post-Script output device, reduce images in size, and achieve fastest performance.

Matching of Separated CMYK Jobs
The XTension matches colors for separated CMYK images. It correctly transforms colors from a pre-separated CMYK job to a different CMYK.

Structured Profile Repository
The different device profiles for scanners, monitors and printers no longer need to reside in a single folder hidden in the Macintosh system folder but can be stored anywhere – even on remote servers – and are organized in separate folders. Users can access profiles in a convenient way and share them in a workgroup; administrators can manage them centrally. Standard Macintosh profiles still can be used. The profile repository is created during installation if needed.

Profile Tagging by Reference
ICC profiles tend to be large. Helios specified how to tag only a reference to the original profile instead of the profile itself; this reference is then one kilobyte in size compared to up to one megabyte for the profile. It is very economic to tag by reference and to avoid that the same large profile is included in every TIFF image scanned from the same scanner.

"Soft" Profile Tagging
Most existing images do not yet contain ICC profiles. The XTension presents a list of all TIFF images in a given QuarkXPress document and allows to tag each image with its individual source profile.

Printer and Proof Printer Profiles
The XTension allows to define profiles for the final output device and for a proof printer. During proofs it will match the job to the color space of the final output device first before it matches according to the proof printer's profile. This allows for convenient, on-demand color proofing on inexpensive devices.

Optional Printer Profiles per Image
The XTension allows for individual printer profiles per TIFF image. This makes individual color trapping possible. If there is no individual printer profile the default one for the document is used.

Comparison PostScript Level 2 Color Handling
There are three advantages of using the XTension:
- Universal Color Matching

There are always make of vendor specific derivations in PostScript Level 2 color support. On the contrary the XTension matches colors absolutely identically by means of Apple ColorSync 2 software.
- CMYK matching support

PostScript Level 2 matches RGB and Lab but not CMYK based separated print jobs. The XTension matches CMYK plates for composite and separated print jobs, too.
- Support of PostScript Level 1 devices

The XTension supports PostScript Level 1 devices. Users get the most out of their existing equipment and avoid costly upgrades.

Integration with Helios EtherShare OPI 2.0
The XTension will provide color matching in client/server mode with Helios EtherShare OPI 2.0.

Licensing Scheme
The XTension is available as single user license tied to a single user QuarkXPress copy or in ten user license packs. Licenses are activated by activation keys provided by Helios on request. Without proper license the XTension runs in demonstration mode and may be used up to 30 days for evaluation.

Integration with Helios EtherShare OPI 2.0

Helios EtherShare OPI 2.0 represents the next generation in Open Prepress Interface solutions and offers great performance, high reliability, ease of handling and cross-platform support. It includes a new flexible extension architecture which allows Helios and other parties to enhance its functionality in a modular fashion and at various levels e.g. file system, file format, color management, resolution or screening.
The most intriguing EtherShare OPI 2.0 feature is its color management with support for CMYK, RGB, CIE Lab, CIE-xyz and YCC color spaces. Images can be kept in their original color spaces for best color results and maximum flexibility. Color management is applied from layout file generation to final output. Two color matching methods are offered: the Linotype-Hell one, also used in Apple ColorSync 2 and Agfa ColorTune. This guarantees that color results are absolutely identical with those of ColorSync 2 on Macintosh or Agfa ColorTune.

EtherShare OPI 2.0 co-operates smoothly with the Helios ColorSync 2 XTension. QuarkXPress users will be able to offload resource hungry color matching operations to a powerful server. Merging OPI with color management gives another boost in quality and performance and is a sound base for an integrated workflow.
Helios EtherShare OPI 2.0 is scheduled for May/June 1997. There will be a convenient upgrade from current Helios EtherShare OPI 1.2.

Helios ColorSync 2 XTension is a product of

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