

Digital Printing

What does it really mean when you check this box on the SF-1?

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Digital printing what does it really mean....

- Woodblock printing 200
- Printing press c. 1440
- Lithography 1796
- Offset printing 1875
- Hot metal typesetting 1884
- Xerography 1938
- Phototypesetting 1949
- Inkjet printing 1951
- Dye-sublimation 1957
- Dot matrix printing 1968
- Laser printing 1969
- Thermal printing c. 1972
- Digital printing 1991

SF-1 PRINTING AND BINDING REQUISITION to the Public Printer of the United States

*** Required Fields**

JACKET NO. (For GPO Use Only) Red Black Blue

REQUISITION NO. *

CLASSIFICATION *
 Classified Yes No SBJ Yes No PI Yes No

EXEMPT FROM REQUIRED DISTRIBUTION TO FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES
 Strictly for administrative or operational purposes Copyright restriction Not published with Federal funds

FROM (Department or Government Establishment) BUREAU/OFFICE

PUBLICATION TITLE QUALITY LEVEL DATE PREPARED

QUANTITY (Units of Finished Product) FINISHED PRODUCT
 Books/Pamphlets Forms (Sheets) Labels Sets
 Pads CD/DVD Envelopes Other

PREVIOUS JACKET/REQ. NO. (If Reprint) FORM NO. ISBN

THIS ORDER RIDES (Department) (Requisition No.) (Jacket No.)

GPO IN-HOUSE SERVICES (Prior orders required for each service—attach estimates)
 Graphic and Multimedia Design Web Services Preflight Other GPO In-House Distribution Services
 Mailing Storage Mailing List Maintenance

BILLING ADDRESS CODE (BAC) * AGENCY LOCATION CODE (ALC) APPROPRIATION CHARGEABLE/OBLIGATION NO.

PURCHASE CARD NO. (Call for Card No.) Exp. DATE NAME AS IT APPEARS ON PURCHASE CARD

TAS* Sub-line Prefix Code Allocation Transfer Agency Identifier Agency Identifier Beginning Period of Availability Ending Period of Availability Availability Type Code Main Account Code Sub-Account Code BETC* LINE OF ACCOUNTING (Info Will Appear on P)

FURNISHED (Electronic media must include Form 952)
 File sent via FTP or Email CD/DVD Copy Negative Other City: M

PROOFS
 Contact Inkjet High Resolution Prior to Production Samples Electronic Soft Proof DRYs DEPT WILL HOLD PROOFS

DELIVER PROOFS TO (PO Box not acceptable, include contact phone number)

COVER PAPER (JCP number [if known] and Grade, Color, Finish and Basis Weight) COVER INK(S) (Black, 4-Color Process, Pantone #) COVER COATING TYPE List Other Paper & Ink Materials Below in Additional Information

TEXT PAPER (JCP number [if known] and Grade, Color, Finish and Basis Weight) TEXT INK(S) (Black, 4-Color Process, Pantone #) TEXT COATING TYPE

DIGITAL PRINT ACCEPTABLE Yes No PRINT One Side Only Head to Head Head to Foot

INDICATE WHICH COVERS PRINT 1 2 3 4

EMBOSS PERFORATE SCORE POSITION NUMBERING (inclusive) Ink (Color)

SIZE FLAT (Inches) FORMS, SETS, PADS FOLD TO (Inches) SIZE TRIMMED PAGE (Inches) BOOKS/PAMPHLETS NO. OF TEXT PAGES PAPER COVERS (Self) (Separate)

STITCH PASTE LOOSELEAF TAPE COMB COIL PERFECT SEW CASE (Material and Color)

P1

PRESS & BINDERY

DIGITAL PRINT ACCEPTABLE Yes No PRINT One Side Only

SIZE FLAT (Inches) FORMS, SETS, PADS

STITCH (Side) (Saddle) (ULC) PA ON

PAD/SETS (Position) (Sheets in Pad) (Sets in Pad)

COLLATE (Explain)

When the box is checked:

- What does it mean to the customer?
- What does it mean to GPO?
- What does it mean to the contractor?

What does it mean to the customer?

Offset vs Digital

Pros

- Less expensive
- Accurate proof
- Collates automatically
- Ink dries faster
- Faster turn around
- Smaller quantities
- Larger color gamut
- Variable data
- More environmentally friendly

Cons

- Color accuracy cannot be verified
- Mix colors difficult
- Limited paper choice
- Difficult match to Pantone color
- Banding in gradients
- Uneven solids
- Raised / layered effect
- Repeatability of colors from within a run and from day to day

What does it mean to GPO?

Specifications – must be written with end product in mind.

“QUALITY ASSURANCE”

Prior to award, contractor may be required to provide information related to specific equipment that will be used for production.

High Level 3 Color

At contractor's option, the product may be produced via conventional offset or digital printing provided that Quality Level III standards are maintained. Final output must be wet ink, pigment-based with a minimum of 175-line screen. Dry ink/toner and inkjet printing are not acceptable. Output must be at a minimum resolution of 2400 x 2400 dpi plus a RIP that provides an option for high quality color matching such as Device Links Technology and/or ICC Profiles. Resolution that is enhanced or simulated by software will not be acceptable.

Middle Level 3 Color

At contractor's option, the product may be produced via conventional offset or digital printing provided that Quality Level 3 standards are maintained. Final output must be a minimum of 150-line screen and at a minimum resolution of 2400 x 2400 dpi x 1 bit or 600 x 600 dpi x 8-bit depth technology. Digital device must have a RIP that provides an option for high quality color matching such as Device Links Technology and/or ICC Profiles.

Low Level 3 Color

At contractor's option, product may be produced via conventional offset or digital printing provided that Quality Level III standards are maintained. Final output must be a minimum of 150-line screen.

High Level 3 Black Only

At contractor's option, the product may be produced via conventional offset or digital printing provided that Quality Level 3 standards are maintained. Final output must be a minimum of 150-line screen and at a minimum resolution of 1200 x 1200 dpi x 1 bit or 600 x 600 dpi x 4-bit depth technology.

Proofs

Prior to production

What does it mean to the contractor?

Constant throughout all specs:

The product may be produced via conventional offset or digital printing provided that Quality Level 3 standards are maintained.

QATAP

QATAP has survived:

Letterpress

Screen

Gravure

Flexo

Offset

Why not digital?

Quality Levels are defined in QATAP.

The product quality levels specify the degree of quality required in the final product. QATAP contains five PQL's ranging from Level I (Best) to level V (Functional).

- Level I- Best Quality, highest quality and tolerances.
- Level II- Better quality, prestige quality, library quality
- **Level III- Good quality, above average quality.**
- Level IV- Basic quality, informational quality, utility quality
- Level V- Functional quality, lowest usable quality.

The Contractor is responsible for quality at level 3 standards.

P – 1 Hickies and Spots

P – 2 Extraneous marks

P – 3 Moire

P – 4 Register

P – 5 Text and Illustration Image Position

~~P – 6 Newton's rings~~

P – 7 Type Quality and Uniformity

P – 8 Halftone Match

P – 9 Solid or screen tints color match

P – 10 Process color match

P – 11 Rub Resistance of Printed Image

Some “digital” presses produce clear, sharp type with clean edges. Some do not.

The most difficult item in the Con section:

Repeatability of colors

- from within a run
- and from day to day

Quality Control for Published Products. (QCPP)

If you are not sure about choosing Digital Printing,
or want more information.

Contact Quality Control for Published Products.
(QCPP)

202-512-0542
QCPP@gpo.gov