

"Missed Break Point" - Image Wrap Errors

Xitron Navigator Technical Note

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A stretched or distorted image is caused by trying to expose an image that is too large for the imagesetter. The image need only be one pixel larger than the imagesetter's capabilities to create a failure. Often an imaging device can not actually produce an image to the very edge of the loaded media or the drum or plate. Sending an image that is even the smallest amount # over the specification will cause "stretching" or "distortion."

There are other symptoms that can suggest the same problem as well. For instance a "missed break point," "end stop," or "spinner" error. In all of these cases the steps presented below are a good place to start when looking for a solution.

There are two different approaches to solving these imaging issues. Both are presented below. It may be necessary to use both in order to elevate the problem. Start with Solution 1, if it doesn't solve the problem, leave those changes as made and move to Solution 2. (NOTE: if you are using media size to center the image to punches on an Agfa Avantra or Selectset Imagesetter, skip directly to Solution 2.)

Solution 1

Complete the following steps in order:

1. Determine your actual media size (the width of your film or other image material).
2. Subtract 3/10" or 8mm from your media size. For instance, if you are using 36" media your new value would be 35.7".
3. Enter this new value for media with in your Cassette setting in the RIP. For instance, if Cassette 1 in your RIP was set to 36" media width it would now read 35.7".
4. Try to image your files again. In this case, you need not re-rip them. If this elevates the problem do not bother going on to Solution 2. If the problem persists, move on to Solution 2.

Solution 2

Complete the following steps in order:

1. Determine your media size (the width of your media) and the drum size (if a drum device). It will be easiest to work in inches, so convert all values into inches. Round down if you have to do any rounding.

For this example we will use values from an Avantra 44. This is a drum device with a 44 inch drum and the ability to accept 36 inch media. If you are working on a capstan device (continuous roll-fed imagesetter) read these instructions carefully as you will have to adjust the way you use the numbers that result.

Write down your values as shown below:

$$\text{Drum Size} = \text{Max Page Width (for drum device)} = 44''$$

$$\text{Media Width} = \text{Max Page Depth (for drum device)} = 36''$$

2. Subtract 3/10" from the values as shown below:

$$\text{Drum Size} = \text{Max Page Width} = 44'' - 3/10'' = 43.7''$$

$$\text{Media Width} = \text{Max Page Depth} = 36'' - 3/10'' = 35.7''$$

3. Multiply the resulting numbers by 72. This will give you a number in points:

$$\text{Drum Size} = \text{Max Page Width} = 43.7 * 72 = 3146.4$$

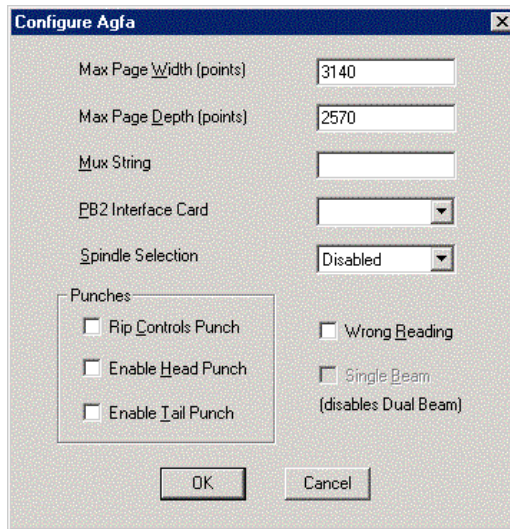
$$\text{Media Width} = \text{Max Page Depth} = 35.7 * 72 = 2570.4$$

4. Round the value down to the nearest 10:

$$\text{Max Page Width} = 3140$$

$$\text{Max Page Depth} = 2570$$

5. Enter these values in the proper fields in your configure device window on the RIP (found with the Page Setup dialogue window).



Note: you will have to have a different page setup and enter different values for each media width that you are using.

6. If you are using a capstan device, enter only the "Depth" value, however, you should enter it in the "Width" field. Leave the other value at zero.

7. As an example, if you were using 36" media on a capstan device, you would enter the value 2570 in the Max Page Width field. This is ONLY for continuous roll fed devices NOT DRUM DEVICES!
8. If the problem has not been solved by the above suggestions call Xitron Technical Support. Be prepared to send samples of the problems.