File Preparation Guidelines

Programs Supported
Adobe Illustrator CS6 or Creative Cloud
Adobe InDesign CS6 or Creative Cloud
Quark Express 9.5
Adobe Photoshop CS6 or Creative Cloud

Transfer Media Supported
DVD (Single Layer)
CD ROM

Fonts
Provide both screen and printer fonts for the entire document, alternatively convert all type to paths.
It is preferable to leave files editable, unflattened and provide fonts in case errors are discovered so that
they can then be easily corrected.

Do not use True Type Fonts unless converted to outline! Truetype Fonts display different kerning tables when
opened on Macs than they do on Windows computers. Since most RIPS are PC based your files may change if you choose
a TT font.

Layout
In certain circumstances stitching, hems, grommets, welds, frames or other fabrication considerations
may dictate a live area smaller than designers expect. Please consult with your Ink Link Print
Specialist to determine if your job may have unusual art requirements.

All files need to be proportional to their final size.
All Bitmap files imported into layout programs (i.e. Quark, etc.) must be CMYK in either .EPS, or .TIFF
formats (un-separated and uncompressed). If Ink Link is to modify any imports
(i.e. changing PMS® colors), please supply the original editable documents (there will be an added charge
for this procedure).

**Large format graphics should be composed in a page layout or vector based program such as In-Design or
Illustrator rather than in Photoshop.**
Files should be layered, not flattened, and all linked elements and fonts need to be included.

Bleeds
Small to medium format please provide 1/4" bleed on all 4 sides. Large format 1" bleed. Grand Format such as
Building wraps , Billboards and Superwide banners 4" of bleed is required. Please consult with our art department
if you have any questions.

General Information
 When setting up files for traditional (CMYK) printing processes, such as screen printing, offset
lithography or digital inkjet, please set default working color space to "U.S. Web Coated SWOP"
not RGB. The additional available color gamut in RGB won't help you since it can't be printed in CMYK.

For projects where Pantone color matches are needed, please do not build spot colors with CMYK
equivalents, use the Pantone Swatches instead.

LPI specifications for screen print should be determined by end use viewing distance and substrate surface.
Please ask your Ink Link Print Specialist for recommendations. In general we like linked bitmap images to be 150PPI
at final size.

• PANTONE® spot colors may not reproduce accurately in CMYK or RGB
• Do not compress .TIFF files using LZW compression!
• Do not save .EPS files as 4 color separations (DCS)!
• Files are printed at 100% scale unless otherwise specified.
• Any variation from the above may cause production delays and/or additional charges.

If you have any questions or require FTP upload access, call 714-256-9700.