

FreeFlow® Variable Information Suite
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FreeFlow® VI Suite

What's New in Version 15.0.3.0



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Changes are periodically made to this document. Changes, technical inaccuracies, and typographical errors will be corrected in subsequent editions.

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Introduction

The FreeFlow VI Suite 15.0.3.0 release is an update to the FreeFlow VI Suite 15.0.2.0 release. (The term VI Suite refers to one or more of the available FreeFlow VI Suite products).

NOTE

Active products must be stopped prior to update installation.

Before installing any FreeFlow VI Suite software, make sure any active VI Suite products have been closed. For example, if installing VI eCompose, exit VI eCompose before beginning the installation of the newer product. If VI eCompose services are running, close the program and exit before beginning any installation.

Important License Information

If upgrading from a prior major release, for example versions 14.0, 14.1, or 14.2, you will need to obtain a 15.0 license file to enable the product. For customers this can be done by using the original SWAP key supplied with the original order. The SWAP key is entered when using the License Menu. For internal updates refer to the information supplied in the ISA or MAPS.

No license update is required when updating FreeFlow VI Compose on an FreeFlow Print Server (FFPS) device if the previous version was activated.

Platform Support

All FreeFlow VI Suite products run on 32 or 64 bit OS. Windows 7 SP1, Windows 8.1, Windows 10, Windows Server 2008 (including R2), Windows Server 2012 (including R2) and Windows Server 2016 platforms. For FreeFlow VI Design Express refer to the Adobe Creative Suite for OS support.

NOTE

Foundation, Core, Mobile, Internet of Things (IoT) Home, and Team, Starter, and Essential editions of all Microsoft Operating Systems are not supported

Windows 10 S is not supported

VM Environments Support

All products with the exception of the VI Compose product, will operate under a VM environment. No support is offered for the configuration or management of the VM system. Where applicable, each VM system must have a unique NIC/Mac address for license activation.

Adobe Acrobat and Acrobat Reader

See the Adobe Acrobat section under FreeFlow VI eCompose for important information regarding versions of Adobe Acrobat and reader. It is important to review this section for information about APPE, PDF/VT requirements and required settings for Adobe Acrobat and Reader.

Purpose and use of this Document

Anyone upgrading from a prior release of the FreeFlow VI Suite software should make use of this supplement to become familiar with new or enhanced content. This document contains all updates made since the last documentation update (VI Suite 15.0.2.0).

Documentation for the FreeFlow VI Suite 15.0.2.0 release can be found on the www.xerox.com website. Select the “Support and Drivers” section. Search for “VIPP” and select “Documentation” under the FreeFlow Variable Information Suite tag. Documentation for FreeFlow VI Design Express can also be found in the Installer download zip/dmg file.

For the very latest information, it is recommended that you read the Readme.txt file that is installed with each product.

Upgrade Recommendation

It is recommended that whenever you upgrade one component of the FreeFlow VI Suite, you also upgrade all other VI Suite components. This will help to avoid VI Suite product mismatches that could result in VIPP jobs failing with errors such as “Command Not Found”.

When using FreeFlow VI Design Express it is critical that you upgrade any VI component that will render the VIPP application. This includes VI Compose on the printer, and VI eCompose (VIPP to PDF).

The latest versions of the FreeFlow VI Suite components can always be found on the www.xerox.com website. Select the “Support and Drivers” section. Search for “VIPP”, and then go to the Software tag.

NOTE

The version of FreeFlow VI Compose and the version of FFPS are not dependent upon each other. FFPS will always come pre-installed with a demonstration version of FreeFlow VI Compose (limited to 200 pages per job). It is recommended that you upgrade the version of FreeFlow VI Compose that came on the FFPS with the latest available FreeFlow VI Compose release. The FFPS Update Manager is one way to update the version of FreeFlow VI Compose on FFPS.

When VI Suite of applications are running in trial mode, the number of pages per job is limited to 200 pages. When printing VI jobs on office printers under trial mode, the limit is 50 pages. For production printers, the trial mode limit is 200 pages.

Xerox Specialty Inks

Xerox Specialty Inks (XSI) are an option on Xerox DC1000/800 and iGen5 devices, supported by FFPS, and EFI DFE's. Xerox Specialty Inks include:

- Clear
- Gold
- Silver

NOTE

Prior to the 14.0 release, this feature was known as Clear Dry Ink, and the only color option was Clear. With the addition of the Gold and Silver options, this feature is now known as Xerox Specialty Inks.

FreeFlow VI Compose 15.0.3.0

This section lists all new and enhanced VIPP commands and features introduced since the release of VI Compose 15.0.2.0. All the features and enhancements listed below are supported in the FreeFlow VI Compose 15.0.3.0 release.

FFPS Update Manager can be used to update FFPS controllers with the latest version of the VI Compose software. There is no dependency on the version of VI Compose and the version of the FFPS software. Each can be updated independently of each other.

For EFI, or other DFE's, an iso file can be downloaded from the www.xerox.com website. If needed, you can burn a CD from the iso file and install on any VIPP supported device including FFPS. If needed, refer to the *VI Compose User Guide* for more information on VI Compose installation.

For more information on the features and enhancements in this document, refer to the Readme.txt file supplied as part of the installed software, the *VIPP Language Reference Manual*, and the individual product User's Guides.

New Commands available in the 15.0.3.0 release

There are no new VIPP commands added for the 15.0.3.0. release.

Existing commands (SETPAT, SETCOL) used to define vector patterns for Glossmark and Correlation, can be applied for Images. Refer to section VI Design Pro 15.0.3.0 for details.

NOTES

Starting with VI Compose 15.0.3.0 installed on FreeFlow Print Server (Windows OS), it will force images with alpha channel to be embedded in the PDF (even when PDFXembed=0).

FreeFlow VI Design Express

15.0.3.0

This section lists all new and enhanced VI Design Express (VDE) features introduced since the release of FreeFlow VI Design Express 15.0.2.0. The 15.0 version will require a new SWAP key or license file when upgrading from a version prior to 15.0.

For more information on each feature, refer to the *VI Design Express User's Guide* and the README.txt file installed with the software. The FreeFlow VI Design Express software is a VI design tool. It runs as a plug-in to Adobe InDesign CS5.5, CS6, Creative Cloud 2017 and Creative Cloud 2018 on Windows and Intel Mac OS X. Refer to the Adobe InDesign or Adobe Creative Suite for OS support.

NOTES

Adobe Extension Manager

It is recommended that you upgrade to the latest version of the Adobe Extension Manager.

Upgrade VI Compose on the printer

It is a pre-requisite to upgrade the VI Compose software on the printer to VI Compose 15.0.3.0 when using this 15.0.3.0 release of VI Design Express software. Note, if using VI eCompose, this also should be upgraded to VI eCompose 15.0.3.0.



WARNING

Do not choose automatic Adobe InDesign or Creative Cloud updates without first verifying that your version of VDE will run on that later version of the Adobe software. You may need to disable this automatic update process.

Platform Support

VI Design Express runs on 32 or 64 bit OS, Windows 7 SP1, Windows 8.1, Windows 10, and Windows Server 2008 (including R2), Windows Server 2012 (including R2), and Windows Server 2016 platforms; and Mac OS X (Intel processor) version 10.5.x through 10.13.x. For FreeFlow VI Design Express (Mac and Windows support), refer to the Adobe InDesign or Adobe Creative Suite documentation for operating system support.

NOTES

Support for VDE on Windows 10 systems is dependent upon Adobe's support for that operating system.

New Features

Support for Adobe InDesign CC (October 2017 v13.0)

The VI Design Express plug-in is compatible with Adobe InDesign CC (October 2017 v13.0).

NOTES

This appears as Adobe InDesign CC (2018) in the Program Menu on Windows and Applications on Mac.

Rules based on Field Length

In the Data Transforms action list, the action "Character Count" was added. Character count represents the number of characters (including spaces) in the field value. The "Character Count" action cannot be combined with any other action.

Enhancements

Advanced Functions

Advanced Functions has been enhanced in two areas:

- The amount of text allowed to be entered into the text box has been increased to 64,000 characters.
- Advanced Functions can now be imported and exported.

Specialty Imaging Effects

In addition to new Glossmark and Correlation text features using a vector pattern technology that enable better readability and flexibility (use of any font available in the font list, background/foreground color adjustment, custom definition of the effect including custom key for Correlation text), the technology can be applied to images. The effects can be applied to monochrome TIFF images only.

The legacy Glossmark and Correlation effects using dedicated Specialty Imaging fonts have been deprecated but are still available for backward compatibility.

FreeFlow VI Design Pro 15.0.3.0

This section lists all new and enhanced VI Design Pro (VDP) features available since the VI Design Pro 15.0.2.0 release.

Platform Support

VI Design Pro runs on 32 or 64 bit OS, Windows 7 SP1, Windows 8.1, Windows 10, and Windows Server 2008 (including R2), Windows Server 2012 (including R2), and Windows Server 2016 platforms.

Enhancements

Vector Pattern support for Images

Specialty Imaging affects using Vector pattern can be applied to Monochrome Images, but not grayscale nor color images. Monochrome Images must be TIFF images. Adding effect requires that an SI color get created first (e.g. using SETCOL and SETPAT commands), then a shape should be drawn with an SI color (e.g. using DRAWB, DRAWC, DRAWPOL, DRAWPATH, etc with an SI color), then subsequently a monochrome image should be drawn on top using SCALL (or ICALL). Prior to this release, only drawing text on top using one of the SHx commands (e.g. SHL, SHP, SHMF, etc) was documented.

Sample code may be something like this. The JDT may define the color and pattern keys as shown here:

```
/BLACK100 [ 0 0 0 1 ] SETCOL
/PAPER000 [ 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 ] SETCOL
/VPAT001 [ /VPCR 1 PAPER000 BLACK100 ] 0 0 0 1 1 SETPAT
```

The DBM may draw the content as shown here:

```
ORI TL
POINT SETUNIT
{
  [ 36.0 140.0
  [ 288.0 140.0 ]
  [ 288.0 330.0 ]
  [ 36.0 330.0 ]
  [ 36.0 140.0 ]
] VPAT001 DRAWPATH
  36.0 140.0 MOVETO
  {
    0.0 -190.0 MOVETO
    (truk.tif) CACHE [ 252.0 190.0 ] 0 022 SCALL
  } SCALL
} BCALL
```

NOTES

When CACHE command is used, the Image file provided as input must be uniquely named. Using the same-named Image file multiple times with different SI effects will cause the first Image file (together with its background pattern) to be incorrectly reused.

FreeFlow VI Explorer 15.0.3.0

This section lists all new and enhanced VI Explorer (VIE) features available since the VI Explorer 15.0 release.

The FreeFlow VI Explorer is a Windows based VIPP proofing tool. It can also support VIPP Normalization and Demographic modes.

Platform Support

VI Explorer runs on 32 or 64 bit OS, Windows 7 SP1, Windows 8.1, Windows 10, and Windows Server 2008 (including R2), Windows Server 2012 (including R2) and Windows Server 2016 platforms.

NOTE

Multi-Processor controllers (DFE) such as CiPress PS RIP Users:

The architecture of the FFPS CiPress and similar multi-processor devices requires a page independent file be submitted to the controller. To manage this the VI Compose software on CiPress has been modified to “VIPP Normalize” a VI Project Container file before passing the file on to print.

The process of VIPP Normalization can add a significant amount of time prior to the application printing. An alternative to VIPP Normalization in-line is to use the FreeFlow VI Explorer VIPP Normalization option. This allows the VIPP Normalization to happen outside of the controller. Once the VIPP file has been VIPP Normalized, it can be sent to the controller.

FreeFlow VI eCompose 15.0.3.0

This section lists all new and enhanced VI eCompose (VIeC) features available since the VI eCompose 15.0.2.0 release.

FreeFlow VI eCompose is a Windows based production level VIPP to PDF generator. It also supports additional features such as splitting the PDF into child PDFs, PDF security and a powerful rule based dispatch system.

New Features

There are no new features for 15.0.3.0 release of VI eCompose.

Platform Support

VI eCompose runs on 32 or 64 bit OS, Windows 7 SP1, Windows 8.1, Windows 10, and Windows Server 2008 (including R2), Windows Server 2012 (including R2) and Windows 2016 platforms.

Supported DFE's

Xerox FreeFlow Print Server (FFPS) version 9.3 SP1 or above.

