Activity 34: Use PDF Compare and PDF Merge

Overview

Why you should complete this activity

Prinergy PDF Compare and PDF Merge are Kodak plug-ins for Adobe Acrobat software that allows you to compare and merge elements in PDF pages. Both plug-ins assist in achieving a time-saving and flexible workflow.
This activity is important because it illustrates how to:

- Use Prinergy PDF Compare—Scenario 1
- Use Prinergy PDF Merge—Scenario 2

Recommended reading

- *PDF Compare Plug-in Help*
- *PDF Merge Plug-in Help*

What you'll need

For this activity you need to locate:

- `Prinergy Activity Practice Files /Act_34_Compare & Merge`

The instructor or coach will provide you with the location of the practice files.
Note: If you are completing this activity on your own or coaching others in your shop, copy the `Prinergy Activity Practice Files` folder (available on the Kodak Partner Place internet portal at https://partnerplace.kodak.com/) directly to your workstation. For further information about these procedures, see Activity 1.

What you need to know

Prinergy PDF Compare background

You receive and trap a PDF file, then receive a revised version of the file, which also needs to be trapped. You want to avoid having to retrap objects that haven't changed between an original PDF and a revised PDF. In this situation, you can use PDF Compare to identify which objects have and haven't changed between the versions. Once you have identified the differences, you can retain the traps for those objects from the original PDF.
Other situations may include comparing two PDF files include to check text differences or ink differences between files. Checking ink differences is useful when you need to remake plates. By using PDF Compare, you can determine which color separations have changed so that you only need to remake the plates for those specific separations.
When using PDF Compare, be aware of the following restrictions:

- PDF Compare enables you to compare PDF to PDF only. You cannot compare other file types.
- When comparing two files for ink differences, PDF Compare can only compare files that do not contain any RGB images.

Process templates used:

- Refine process template: **Refine** > **Refine** > **1st Ref-Normz** Trap
- Refine process template: **Refine** > **Refine** > **1st Ref-Normz**
- Loose page proof process template:**Loose Page Output** > **VirtualProof** > **VirtualProof. LoosePage**