

Working with plate-on-sleeve jobs.

Working with plate-on-sleeve jobs requires several tasks:

- First you perform [image wrapping](#), which converts a staggered (step-and-repeat) layout into a rectangle that can be exposed on a sleeve. The rectangular image will have a height equal to the repeat length of the media sleeve.
- You then plan the plate that will be mounted onto the sleeve (Plate on Sleeve) by deciding which separations will be defined as a seam and which separations will be defined as lanes.

- **Seam:** single piece of plate wrapped around the sleeve

? Unknown Attachment

- **Lanes:** strips of plate wrapped around the sleeve

? Unknown Attachment

- Finally, you create the seams and/or lanes and output the job.

When you click **Output**, the TIFF Assembler Plus software creates:

- A 1-bit TIFF file of the wrapped image with the seam parameters or lanes parameters for each of the separations in the job
- A CF2 file, which contains cutting data for the cutting machine, for each of the separations in the job
- A Microsoft Excel mounting file, which helps mounting machines (either automatic or manual) mount the plate pieces onto the sleeve

To create a plate-on-sleeve job:

1. In [Edit > Preferences > Plate on Sleeve Planning](#), select **Enable plate on sleeve planning mode**, if you have not already done so.

When this preference is enabled, the **Switch to Plate on Sleeve Planning** tool

? Unknown Attachment

appears in the toolbar and the **Sleeve Planning** option becomes available from the **File** menu.

2. If desired, change the [VPS+ Plate on Sleeve Planning preferences \(Packaging mode\)](#) to suit the types of plate-on-sleeve jobs that you frequently create.
3. Create a [sleeve planning preset](#) that includes the required parameters for the plate to be mounted on the sleeve.

4. Click **Open** ? Unknown Attachment.

5. In the Open dialog box, select the files for the plate-on-sleeve job, and click **Open**.

6. Click **Switch to Plate on Sleeve Planning** ? Unknown Attachment.

7. In the Job Parameters dialog box, define the parameters of the job:
 - a. In the **Number of 1-ups** boxes, type the number of repeated elements along the width and height of the layout.
 - b. In the **Gap Sizes** boxes, define the gap between the elements.
 - c. In the **Stagger** area, define the direction and height of the stagger (step).
 - d. In the **Margins Left** and **Right** boxes, define the margins to be cropped before imaging.

- e. Click **OK**.

The layout appears in plate-on-sleeve planning mode: in the display window, the red line at the top and the purple line at the bottom of the layout define the repeat length, and the **Wrap** palette is available.

8. From the **Wrap** palette, perform the following actions:

- a. From the **Preset** list, select the appropriate sleeve planning preset. Or, to create a new sleeve planning preset, select ... from the **Preset** list and define the preset.

- b. In the **Crop** area, in the **Top**, **Bottom**, **Left**, and **Right** boxes, type the values of the tightest crop around the image.

To fine-tune the **Crop** values, in the display window, drag any of the three purple guide lines or the red line that define the crop.

- c. Use the following tools to check whether the wrapping was done correctly and to determine the best seam position:

- **View Unwrapped Image**  Unknown Attachment : Click to view the image before wrapping.
- **View Wrapped Image**  Unknown Attachment : Click to view the image after wrapping.
- **View Seam**  Unknown Attachment : Click to see the seam of the image (green line) centered in the middle of the screen.
To hide the green, red, and purple lines so that you can see the data at the seam more clearly, zoom in and clear the **Show wrap geometry** check box.

- d. Click **Apply**.

9. From the **Inventory** palette, on the **Separations** tab, perform the following actions:

- a. Study each of the separations and decide whether to assign each of the separations to a seam or to lanes.

Tip: Select **Seam** if the data elements are very close to each other. Select **Lanes** if there is little data concentrated in several areas.

- b. Select one or more separations and then, in the **Seam/Lanes** column, select **New Seam** or **New Lanes**. The separation will be assigned the designation **seam1** or **lanes1**.

Note: You can assign the same seam or lanes to more than one separation by selecting those separations.

- c. Repeat step 9b for all the separations.

According to your selection, each separation is assigned a seam or lanes with a running number (for example, **lanes2**, **seam3**, **seam4**, **lanes5**).

10. Create the seam.

11. Create the lanes.

12. If required, adjust the width and position of the lanes.

- a. Ensure that the current lane is the one chosen in the **Seam/Lanes** list in the **Inventory** palette.

- b. With the pointer tool active, click and drag the lines indicating the edges of the lanes. Use **Control+Select** to select common edges that you would like to adjust in exactly the same way. Moving one edge moves all selected edges by the same amount.

13. If required, adjust the seams by selecting the seam with the pointer tool and moving the seam up or down.

14. Click **Output**  Unknown Attachment .