

# TECHNICAL GUIDELINES FOR PREPRESS OFFSET

**STi** GROUP  
Partner of the Brands

# CHECKLIST DATA REQUIREMENTS

- Printing data at original output size (scale 1:1)
- Colormode: CMYK
- Color profile: ISO Coated v2
- Bleed: 10 mm
- The spacing of text and graphics to cut and crease lines is: 3 mm (cardboard), 5 mm (corrugated board)
- Resolution: 300 ppi
- Embed all fonts (optionally: vectorised text)
- Don't use any security features in PDF files (no password)
- PDF-standard: PDF/X-4 with transparencies

## Layout:

### Color mode and color space:

Please make sure that printing data is prepared in CMYK. RGB data will be automatically converted to CMYK, please keep in mind that this can result in color shifts due to the different gamuts. Not all RGB colors can be achieved with CMYK.

### Color profile:

Usually the following ICC color profiles are to be used:  
ISO Coated v2 or ISO Coated v2 300 %

### Resolution:

The resolution of the printing data defines a great part of the print quality. For a high level of detail („sharpness“) please use the optimal resolution.

### Optimal resolution:

300 ppi

### Line thickness and font size:

Please avoid very thin lines („hairlines“) and small text.  
Positive lines (dark lines on light background): min. 0,1 mm  
Negative lines (light lines on dark background): min. 0,15 mm  
Minimum font size: 5 points.  
The minimum spacing of text and graphics to the cut and crease lines is 3-5 mm depending on material thickness. Selection, size and editing of fonts that get embossed or otherwise refined must be cleared upfront due to their parameters. Programm specific text effects (e.g. underlining, shadowing or bordering) sometimes can't be vectorised and should not be used.

### Embossing:

Embossing has to be applied on a separate layer with a spot color.

### Coding:

If there is no barcode placed in reproducible data, a placeholder has to be defined and filled with a spot color, marked as "Barcode". Furthermore, type and size of the code to be inserted has to be specified. If a code is positioned, please make sure that the coding is placed in a standard size and that there is sufficient contrast between coding and background. The readability of barcodes should be ensured, the GS1 standards are to be complied with. For print-ready files, the data supplier is accountable for corrections to barcodes when necessary.

### Programs and versions:

For open files, please make sure to contact the STI Group about the used applications and versions. All established file formats of the graphic industry can be handled, preferably Artpro and Adobe CC applications (Indesign, Illustrator, Photoshop, PDF/X-4).

### PDF-STANDARD

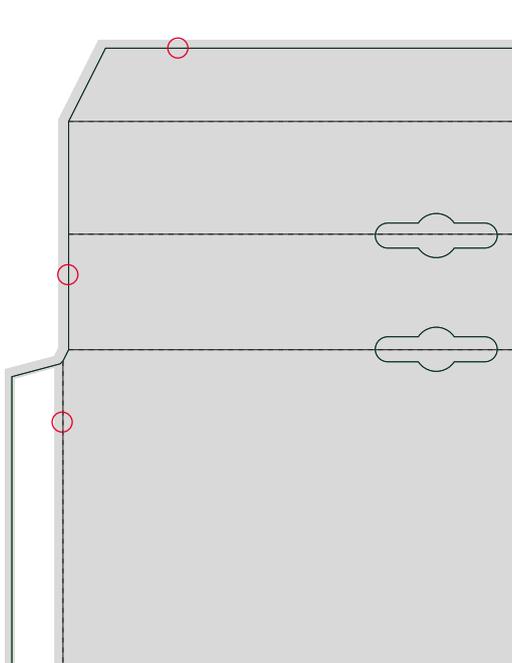
Please choose, if possible, the PDF/X-4 standard with transparencies.

## Dieline:

When designing the layout, the final approved dieline must be used at 100% size. Glueing areas are to be kept free of ink and varnish. A special color named “Stanze” is to be used for the dieline. The dieline must be marked with the dimensions A, B and H (Fig. 3), and is always to be supplied as a top view.

## Bleed / marks:

If there is no printing on dust flaps and tuck-in flaps, a bleed of 10 mm has to be applied. The glue flaps are always to be kept free of ink and varnish with a bleed of 10 mm. The exact values for each product are specific to the material and size and are available upon request from the STI Group.



If you have any questions regarding these guidelines  
please contact Pro Grafik in Lauterbach.

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