

X-800

Digital front-end

QUALITY AND SPEED IN DIGITAL PRINTING





LEARNING FROM THE PAST, LEVERAGING THE PRESENT, INSPIRING THE FUTURE...

A pioneer in digital printing, Xeikon was one of the first to develop fully integrated digital workflows. Ever since we started engineering and commercializing digital printing engines in the late eighties, early nineties, we have been developing, selling and supporting the digital front-ends that go with them.

Necessity is the mother of invention

Developing our own digital front-end was not a case of reinventing the wheel. Back then there simply were no third party front-ends available, powerful enough to drive our digital printers. This is why we set out to develop our own that would be perfectly tuned to the features and specifications of our engines.

Users are the source of innovation

Just as specific software packages are developed for specific purposes and applications, so are digital front-ends. From the very first we have tweaked and fine-tuned it to meet each and every need of its users, to optimally suit their applications. Over the years, the application range of digital printing has grown dramatically, so our front-ends have followed suit. And when you asked, we listened, and still do. Over the years, user feedback has been one of the most valuable sources of innovation and improvement.

A holistic approach stimulates improvement

Continuous improvement is brought about by user feedback and is also greatly facilitated by the fact that we create and produce the engines driven by our front-ends as well. In-house development of both components means our engineers can work closely together, and new developments on the engine front spark innovation and improvement on the digital front-end side and vice versa. This way the creation and production of engine and front-end are never considered separately but always in relation to their role in a total solution. The result is an efficient, integrated system, of which the components are carefully tuned to each other, working in tandem to meet and exceed the needs of our clients: you and your clients.

Automation and integration is the key to success

After almost two decades we know what works well and where opportunities for the future lie. The challenges for digital printing are in producing larger volumes of increasingly better print quality for increasingly complex designs in shorter production times and at lower costs while still remaining profitable. More, better, faster and cheaper: the answer to these challenges is to create a fast and efficient digital workflow that can be automated and integrated, without having to compromise on quality.

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... XEIKON AT THE FOREFRONT OF DIGITAL PRINTING

Automation and integration is not a goal per se. But it helps to ensure that at the end of the day more jobs are processed faster with minimal human intervention, which improves accuracy and repeatability, and reduces errors, resulting in enhanced productivity. And this is where the X-800 comes in, offering superior and consistent print quality in combination with industry-leading productivity.

The latest generation of our X-800 digital front-end is again the result of continuous improvement and innovation. Through the X-800 you can print PostScript, PDF, PPML, PPML/VDX files, etcetera, and tackle demanding variable data print jobs at rated engine speeds. Intuitive and based on open standards, it enables the implementation of flexible and fully automated workflows in any production environment. Totally modular, it fits into your existing organization, while its scalability makes it the benchmark for high-end variable data production and allows it to grow with your future needs.

There is no market and no application in which the X-800 cannot excel, be it top-quality short run color printing, fully-personalized print-on-demand and sophisticated web-to-print applications, the most demanding high-volume transpromo and direct mailing productions, exquisite label printing or eye-catching packaging, the X-800 makes the difference. Its versatility reflects the diversity of its users who, diverse as they are, all have one thing in common: they are all dedicated to delivering impeccable print quality.



OPEN AND FLEXIBLE TO BOOST PRODUCTIVITY AND EFFICIENCY

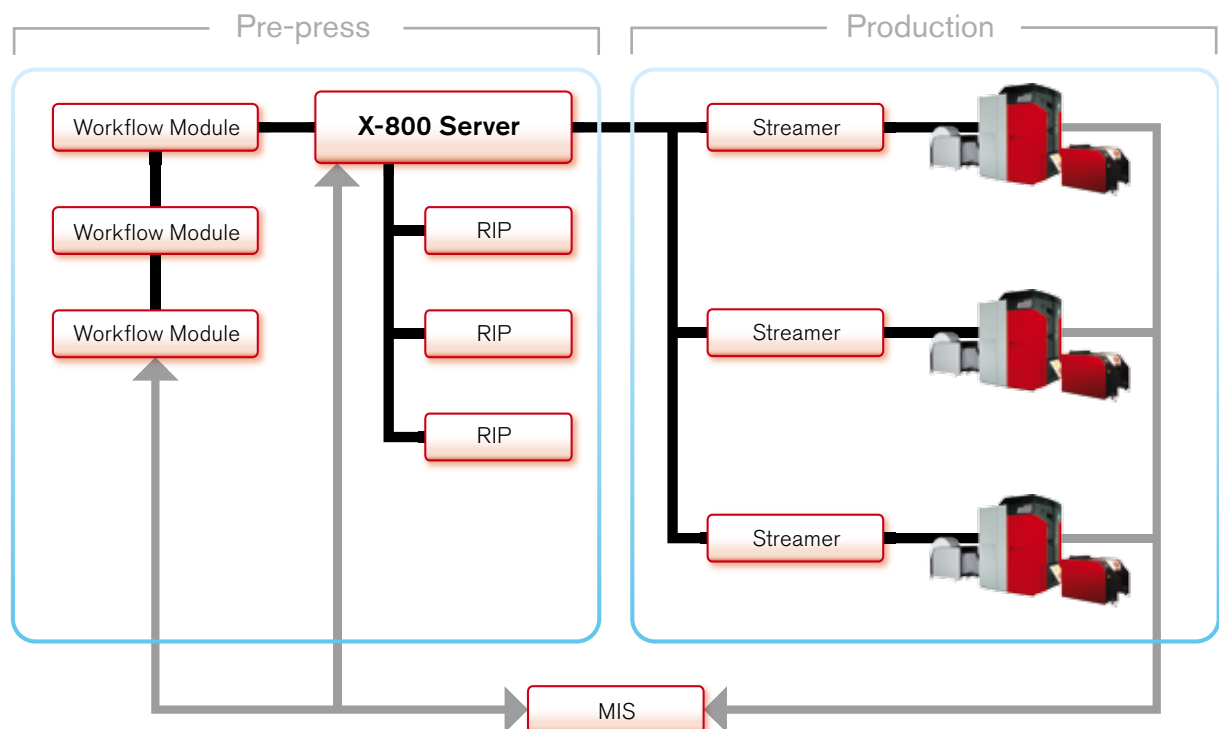
Open architecture and open standards are essential in creating effective collaborative workspaces in today's increasingly networked environment. The X-800 is an open architecture, open-standards-based solution par excellence, a system adapting to your needs rather than forcing you to adapt your organization to the system.

Choosing and securing your investment

Featuring an open and flexible architecture, it can run on any Windows-based platform, so you can choose the processing power you need. Its open architecture also gives you a free choice of storage and backup devices, archiving strategy, network set-up and the rest of the hardware, so your past investments are not wasted. And that is not all.

Enabling automation

Our focus on industry standards such as PostScript, PDF, PPML, AFP/IPDS, ICC, JDF, SQL, Pantone®, etc. enables easy integration in any workflow and any production environment, big or small, and supports fully automated workflows, minimizing human intervention, improving accuracy and repeatability and reducing errors, all contributing to enhanced productivity.



Depending on your organization's needs, the modular set-up allows the pre-press functionality to be separated from the press operation, simplifying your operators' tasks.

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MODULAR AND SCALABLE TO STREAMLINE YOUR BUSINESS

The X-800 not only adapts to your needs because it is based on open standards, but also because it is modular and scalable. By allowing you to add functionality or power when and where needed, it can keep pace with your future requirements.

In tune with your organization

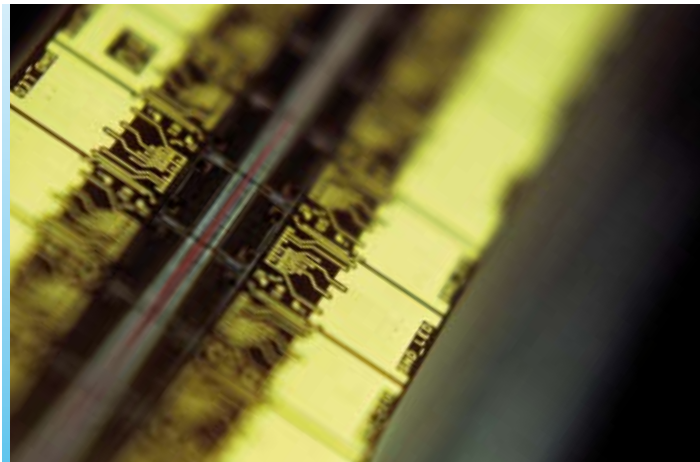
Preflighting, RIPing, pre- and post-RIP imposition, PDF archiving, proofing, previewing, streaming, printing, etc. all these powerful functions are provided in separate modules. The X-800's modular architecture offers you maximum flexibility. All server modules can be installed on the X-800 streamer system, but they can also be installed together or separately on one or more Windows-based platforms to form a completely personalized workflow. Depending on your business organization, this also allows you to separate the pre-press functionality from the actual press operation, greatly simplifying your operators' tasks.

Ready to grow with your needs

The X-800 boasts multi-threaded software, making for a highly scalable system. You can take advantage of multiple CPUs on one and the same system or you can add additional offline RIP platforms to provide you with extra processing power if needed. Via intelligent load balancing, the master RIP would then divide the job or jobs over the various CPUs or RIPs, and by making optimal use of the available processing power, allow you to optimize throughput and efficiency.

PRINTING MADE EASY

The X-800 is a dream to use. Designed by users for users, its intuitive user interface helps your operators to get the most out of your Xeikon engines.



AHEAD OF THE PACK

The X-800 has been developed with productivity and performance in mind. The heart of this unique front-end is an object-based streamer for fast and reliable streaming. It comes with several other features all guaranteeing top-notch performance.

Fast, flexible and smart

Chase RIPing or RIP-while-printing allows you to already start printing a job while part of it is still being RIPed, or start preparing and processing a new job while the previous one is still being printed, significantly minimizing the downtime of your engines. Intelligent load balancing and parallel RIPing and compression also speed up the processing.

The streamer being object-based, all the individual objects from a page are kept separate until they are actually printed, which is the basis for a powerful post-RIP imposition function, offering maximum flexibility for last minute corrections and changes. In addition, the page picking functionality allows you to combine already RIPed page information from previous jobs into a new job, again saving precious time.

A special module offers dynamic addition of text, production data or other variable elements to already RIPed documents, enabling the tracking of your productions from print to delivery, as well as easy and flexible addition of, for example, sequential numbers and barcodes.

Variable data, invariably fast

The X-800 fluently processes PPML and PPML/VDX files allowing you to easily manage, process, and print complex variable data jobs. Being object-based, the X-800 also makes optimal use of reusable objects, which greatly enhances the efficiency and speed of such jobs, while fast and scalable RIPing provides all the power you need to tackle even the most demanding jobs.

Mission-critical documents, just as fast

The optional IPDS controller combined with the X-800 transforms your Xeikon engine into a fully-fledged transpromo solution that produces highly personalized, full color transactional documents, at rated engine speeds.

A CUT ABOVE THE NORM

So, the X-800 has been developed for excellent performance, but in no way has this been at the cost of quality, quite the contrary. The X-800 outperforms its peers by far, loaded with features to support your Xeikon engines in producing incomparable quality without impacting performance.

Superior quality

For each print job, the screen ruling can be adapted for every single page element, be it text, line work or images, ensuring superior image quality. The X-800 comes with ICC color management, supporting CMYK as well as RGB workflows. Automatic color and front-to-back registration, while saving time, further add to ensuring unquestionable print quality. Also, the sophisticated preview functionality makes sure you catch errors before they are printed.

Consistently superior quality

The X-800 features automatic printer calibration for excellent color stability. Continuously drawing information from the engines' in-line densitometers, it can calculate and apply new tone curves instantly. The result: a constant output quality without your operators losing time having to manually tweak the color settings. The X-800 even allows post-RIP color adjustment during printing, minimizing downtime while offering great flexibility in ensuring continuously consistent quality.



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RETURN ON INVESTMENT ASSURED

If you are looking to boost your business, look no further. The X-800 turns any Xeikon engine into an unbeatable package, ready to attract, satisfy, and retain the most demanding customers.

It is packed with intelligent features to increase productivity while maintaining maximum flexibility. Its unequaled streaming technology guarantees top-notch performance, while the integrated engine controller ensures continuous output quality. With the X-800 you have all the tools at your fingertips to produce sheer quality from the first print to the last. All you need to turn your business into a success.

What is more, the X-800 is compatible with all the Xeikon engines along the upgrade path, making it all the more easier for you to grow and evolve your workflow.

To measure is to know. That is why the X-800 also offers seamless Management Information System (MIS) integration. An SQL database incorporated in the X-800 gathers all production-related information from the engine and the front-end. Integration with an MIS provides you at any time with all the information you need to analyze, tune and monitor your production processes. Return on investment proven, 'black on white'.

TOTAL SOLUTIONS, TOTAL SERVICE

Xeikon partner program

Digital printing opens a whole range of new business opportunities. But it is only when your digital equipment is firmly integrated into your business environment that you will be reaping its full benefits. By design, Xeikon engines can be part of virtually any workflow, and by design, the X-800 can work seamlessly together with any third party application. Through partnerships with third parties we can offer integration with variable data authoring and other workflow tools such as dedicated web-to-print applications, and sophisticated MIS, just to name a few, allowing you to extend and adapt your workflow as your business evolves. Tapping into our wide network of industry partners, we can ensure you make the most of your investment.

Service makes the difference

The success of a Xeikon-based solution is measured by the success of its users. While our worldwide service team will go the extra mile when needed, we believe prevention is better than cure. This is why all Xeikon systems are equipped with the Axeda Device Relationship Management (DRM) solution. Running on the X-800 this tool provides you with an additional level of support since it allows us to remotely monitor your system and intervene in the unlikely event of a problem, helping you to optimize your system's uptime. Remote connection is established through a secure Internet connection using firewall-friendly technology. Xeikon solutions have been all designed to deliver prints of consistent superior quality on a reliable basis. But it is only when you are truly satisfied with our total service that we know we are performing as expected.



SPECIFICATIONS

<p>X-800 streamer system</p>	<p>high-end workstation : 2x Dual-Core Intel® Xeon® processor 5260 3,33 GHz, 12GB DDR2 RAM, 3x 146GB SAS disks, 2x 20" TFT color monitor</p> <p>imaging hardware: 2x Miral PCI-Express board for 4/4, 5/0; 3x Miral PCI-Express board for 5/5</p> <p>Windows® XP Professional</p> <p>X-800 streamer software module</p>
<p>X-800 server system</p>	<p>All server modules can be installed by default on the X-800 streamer system, but they can also be installed separately or together on any other Windows-based platform.</p> <p>preflight module</p> <p>optional Impress™ imposition module (from Ultimate Technographics™)</p> <p>RIP module</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PostScript 3, PDF 1.7, EPS, TIFF, JPEG, DCS ▪ ICC-base color management (with support for simulation profiles) ▪ optional Kanji font set ▪ optional in-RIP trapping module <p>server module</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ variable data support: PPML V2.2, PPML/VDX, BTF1 ▪ optional IPDS Controller ▪ XML-based job tickets ▪ OPI support 1.3, 2.0 ▪ hot folder support ▪ configurable network printers ▪ post-RIP imposition using JDF-based templates <p>optional Impactor imposition module for the generation of JDF imposition templates</p> <p>preview module</p> <p>PDF proofing and archiving module</p> <p>PPML global object management module</p> <p>MetaData module to add text, tracking data or variable elements after ripping</p> <p>optional barcode module</p> <p>ready-to-print job archival</p> <p>extended job and print management</p> <p>SQL database logging all DFE events and activity</p> <p>Job Editor (for Mac and Windows)</p>

A DRIVE FOR ECO-FRIENDLINESS

Follow our lead and 'print only what you need, reprint when needed', reducing waste through minimal production, thus downsizing storage space and decreasing costs. When developing new products we are guided both by environmental objectives and key design strategies:

▪ **Eco-objectives:** we aim to reduce recycling costs of all Xeikon products and the printed material produced and to minimize the environmental impact of our products throughout their entire life span, while meeting existing environmental directives and anticipating environment-related product standards and customer requirements.

▪ **Design strategies:** we aim to meet our eco-objectives by replacing or reducing the raw materials used, improving process efficiency, optimizing energy consumption and product life cycles, and improving product disposal and recyclability.

Xeikon presses are environmentally friendly: they produce no hazardous emissions of VOCs, and because they do not use any process water, they do not cause water pollution either. The materials printed on Xeikon presses are also environmentally friendly. Xeikon printed matter is guaranteed to be recyclable as the toner can be easily removed and contains no harmful chemicals.

Choose a Xeikon and make your contribution to eco-printing.

ABOUT XEIKON

A pioneer in digital printing, Xeikon designs, develops and delivers high-end digital color printing systems for the global commercial, document printing and industrial market segments. These systems are composed of advanced web-fed printing engines using LED-array-based, dry toner electrophotography, open workflow software, exclusive toner

and other consumables. Production and R&D are based in Belgium, its solutions being distributed and supported through a worldwide sales and service network. Xeikon is a division of Punch Graphix. For more information, visit www.xeikon.com.