Contour cutting

Application: QuarkXPress 6.5
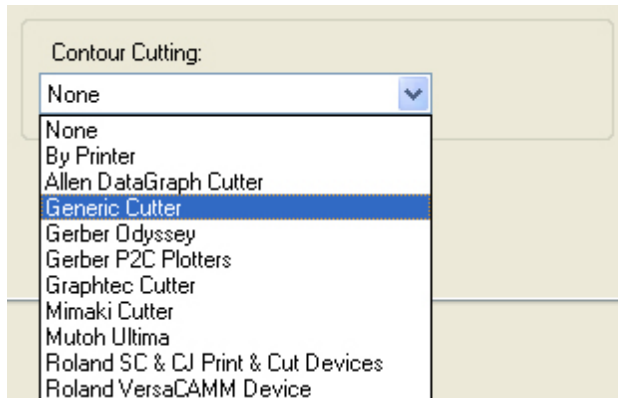*Printer:* HP Designjet 9000s printer series
Software: PosterShop 6.5 for HP
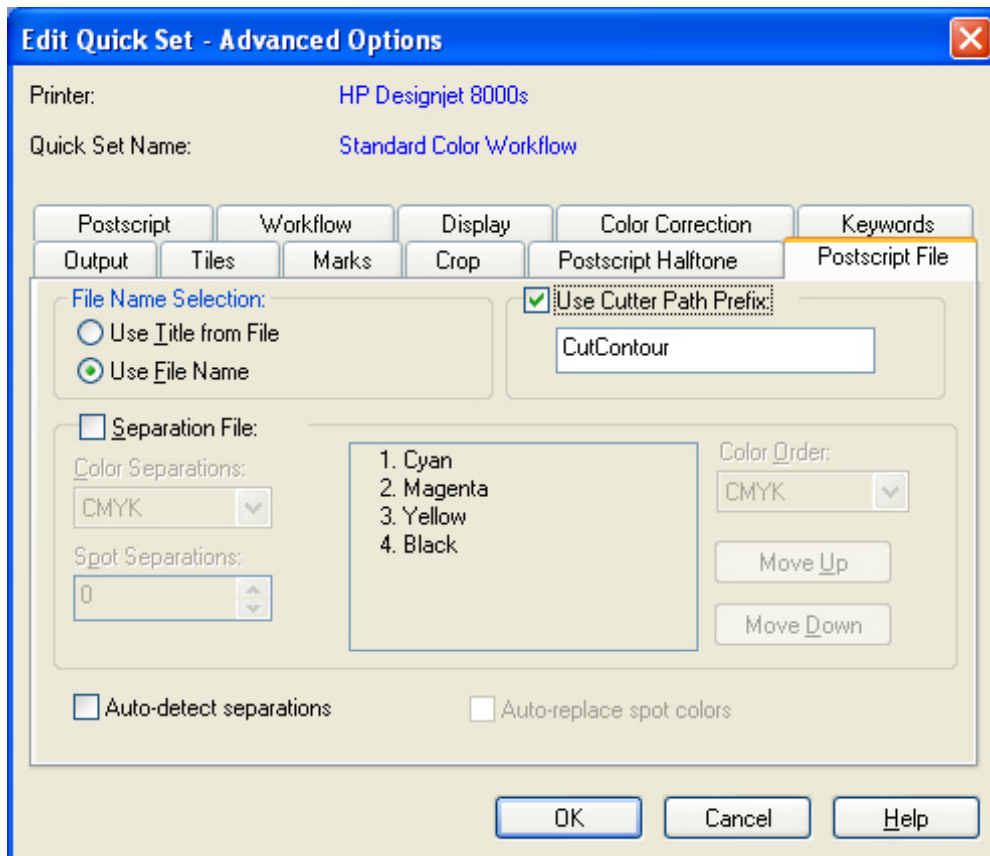*Operating System:* Windows

Contour cutting allows you to print an image and then use a specialized device to cut portions of that image. To do this, you prepare a file with a specialized spot color which acts as a cut path to determine where the image needs to be cut. The RIP will recognize this spot color and will draw a barcode and a number with the instructions for the cutting device on how to cut it.

PosterShop 6.5:

1. Launch PosterShop.

2. Configure the printer settings, highlight the printer and click **Change...** button (right hand)

   - **Page Size**: Select the media size loaded on the printer.

   - **Setup...** button:

     o **General** tab: Set the top offset to 2 inches.

     o **Options** tab: Select the desired type of cutter from the **Contour Cutting** drop-dawn menu. If this menu does not list your specific cutter, select Generic Cutter.
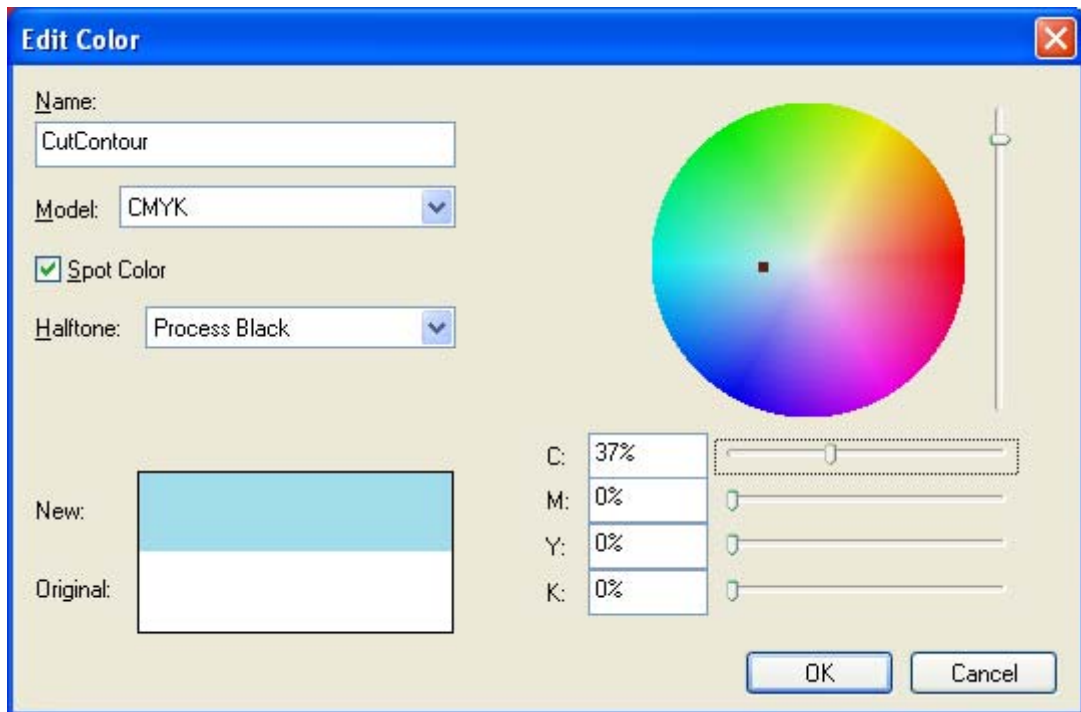

   - Click **OK** until the RIP-Queue window

3. Modify your Quick Set for your contour cut files, **Edit Quick Set** (select your Quick Set) > **Edit...** button > **Advance...** button > **PostScript File** tab:

   - Enable the **Use Cutter Path Prefix**.

   - Within the text field, enter the prefix you assigned to the cut path spot color in the application, it can be **CutContour** which is the default one. If this field does not match the prefix you assigned to the cut path spot color, the RIP will not recognize the spot color as a cut path, be careful because it is key sensitive.
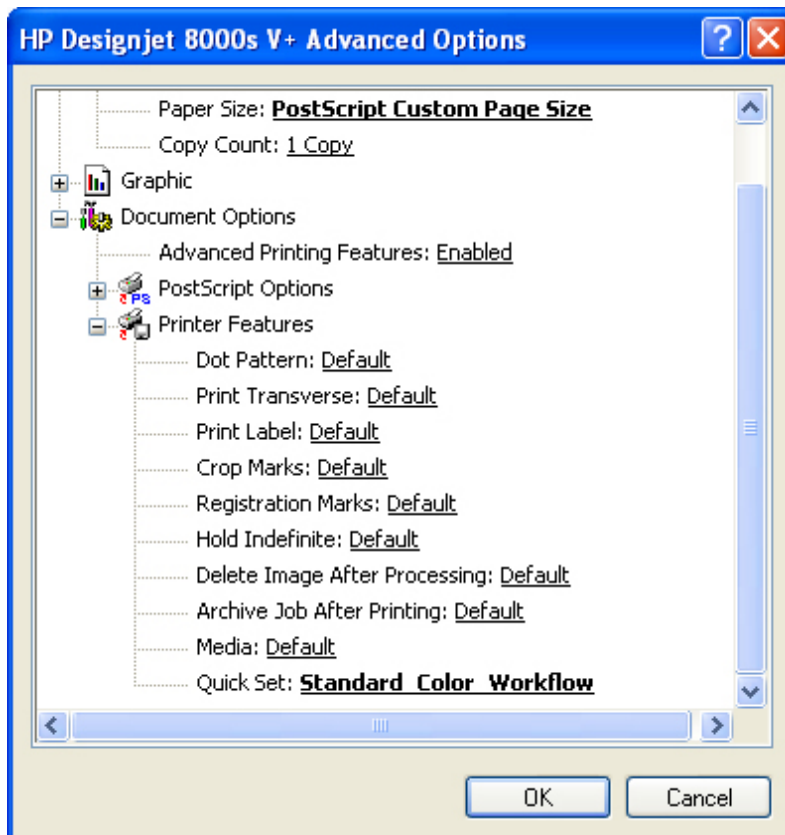
Edit Quick Set - Advanced Options

Printer: HP Designjet 8000s

Quick Set Name: Standard Color Workflow

Tabs: Postscript | Workflow | Display | Color Correction | Keywords
Output | Tiles | Marks | Crop | Postscript Halftone | **Postscript File**

File Name Selection:
- ○ Use Title from File
- ● Use File Name

☑ Use Cutter Path Prefix:
CutContour

☐ Separation File:

Color Separations:
CMYK

Spot Separations:
0

1. Cyan
2. Magenta
3. Yellow
4. Black

Color Order:
CMYK

Move Up
Move Down

☐ Auto-detect separations   ☐ Auto-replace spot colors

[OK] [Cancel] [Help]

- Click **OK** until the RIP-Queue window.

QuarkXPress 6.5:

4. Open the application and define the cut path of the document, it may be as simple or complex as you desire. Once the cut path is created, you must assign a spot color to it, the name of this spot color must have a unique prefix which matches the prefix assigned in the RIP-Queue, it is **CutContour**. The following steps are specific to QuarkXPress:

- Open QuarkXPress.

- QuarkXPress color **Preferences,** configure this for the other objects or images you have in the document, **Edit menu > Preferences... > Quark CMS** (left hand menu).

- Open the desired file, **File menu > Open...**.

- Edit your spot color, **Edit menu > Colors... > New...** button:
  - o **Name**: Enter the name of the desired prefix, it should be exactly the same as entered in the RIP, be careful because it is key sensitive; you can use the RIP default one, **CutContour**.
  - o **Model:** CMYK.
  - o Check the **Spot Color** checkbox.
  - o Use the slider bars to create a CMYK color. The color is not important, only what you name the color.

Edit Color

Name: CutContour

Model: CMYK

☑ Spot Color

Halftone: Process Black

New:

Original:

C: 37%
M: 0%
Y: 0%
K: 0%

OK   Cancel

- o Click **Ok** and **Save**.

- Draw your cut path using the shape you want and assign the new spot color (CutContour) to it.

- QuarkXPress print settings, configure it for the other objects or images you have in the document, **File menu > Print...**:

  - o **Printer**: Select the printer.

  - o **Layout** tab: Uncheck **Separations**.

  - o **Setup** tab: Configure the page.

  - o Configure the other settings for the other objects or images you have in the document.

- Printer settings, **Properties...** button > **Advanced...** button:

  - o Under **Paper/Output**:

    - ▪ **Paper Size:** Select **PostScript Custom Paper Size**, configure the dimensions to match the image dimensions and select the **Paper Feed Direction** you want (be careful because it can rotate the job on the printer).

  - o Under **Printer Features**:

    - ▪ **Quick Set:** Select the Quick Set you have just configured for the contour cutting.

    - ▪ Select **Default** on the other settings.

- Click **OK** and **Print**.

5. Return to the RIP-Queue and check the preview, you can modify the job settings in the **Change…** or in the **Preflight** button. Print the job if the preview is correct.

6. Once the RIP-Queue finishes printing the file, use the CUT-Server to cut the print.

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