



Professional Layout
Digital Assistant

User Guide

Benutzerhandbuch

Használati útmutató

Uživatelská příručka

Instrukcja obsługi

Guide de l'utilisateur

Guía del usuario

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1 General Information

PLDA 5 is a plug-in for Adobe Acrobat 8 - 10 Standard, Pro or Pro Extended for Windows XP / VISTA / 7 and for MAC OS X 10.5 and newer.

Older PLDA 3.5 is a plug-in for Adobe Acrobat 5-7 for Windows XP / VISTA. The older version is not available for other platforms.

There is a set of basic rules that you should follow so you can effectively use PLDA:

- PDF files should be of press quality. It is important to have correctly specified the Trim Box(See page 16).
- Test your PDF at your printer's RIP. Some of the RIPs still encounter problems when rastering PDF created directly from page-layout applications. Creating PDF with Distiller is still the most reliable way how to create PDF for printing.
- When using Distiller, embed complete fonts. In Advanced options un-click the "Preserve OPI comments" option.
- After the first sheet is printed compare it with the original PDF to eliminate errors that may be of any nature (imposition, overprints, stitching artefacts etc.).
- Always ask your printer if you are not sure about the imposition.

2 Installation

Steps to install and activate PLDA:

- Shut down Adobe Acrobat.
- Run the installer downloaded from www.plda.net.
- Go through the installation process.
- When running PLDA for the first time you will be asked to enter an activation code. To run evaluation period please click "Evaluate (30 days)". 30 days trial period will begin. All features are fully accessible during the period. To use PLDA after the trial period, you will need to buy PLDA and enter the activation code.

3 How to buy PLDA

There are several ways to buy PLDA:

- 1. buy On-line at KAGI.

http://order.kagi.com/cgi-bin/store.cgi?storeID=6FCND_LIVE

You will receive the activation code by e-mail together with the transaction receipt.

- 2. Write an email with order and billing information to pldaactivate@plda.net. You will receive an invoice and after the money arrive to the account, the activation code will be sent to your email address. Due to high bank international transaction fees (that will be charged to your account) this way is recommended only to those few who have accounts in Czech Republic or in Slovak Republic (where you can still find banks that do not treat Slovak-Czech transfers as international ones:)

4 Your License Management

Activation:

After receiving the activation code you need to use it to activate PLDA.

During evaluation period the activation dialog can be found in "PLDA" menu under "Activate" option.

After evaluation period the activation dialog will be automatically shown and without a proper activation it will not be possible to continue using PLDA.

During activation process you will enter e-mail and password. Keep this details, you will need them if re-activating the license in future.

To verify the license status choose "About" option from "PLDA" menu.

Deactivation:

To deactivate the license on a computer, choose "Deactivate" option from "PLDA" menu.

Reactivation:

To reactivate the license (for instance after re-installation or when moving license to another computer), the activation code and password will be needed. During reactivation process a new password will have to be chosen. The new password must be different from the current one and also it must not have been used before.

Uninstallation:

- Shut down Adobe Acrobat.
- Windows: go to Control Panels and find Add/Remove Programs (Windows XP) or Uninstall a Program under Programs panel (Windows Vista/7) and remove PLDA. Or go the folder where "plda5.api" is (usually "C:/Program Files/Adobe/Acrobat VERSION/Acrobat/plugin/plda") and run "UninstallPLDA5.exe".
- MAC OS X: run "PLDA_5_uninstall.pkg" in "/Applications/PLDA", or delete PLDA in Applications and its alias "PLDA_5.acroplugin" in "Plug-ins" folder of Adobe Acrobat.

5 Upgrade

Upgrade

Users of older PLDA versions are entitled to buy the new version with a discount.

If interested in buying upgrade, please write to pldaactivate@plda.net.

If buying on-line a discount coupon will be sent that can be applied during the purchase.

If buying directly from me the procedure is the same as when buying the full version.

Upgrade price

Price: 68 USD / 42 EUR + VAT (80 % discount).

6 PLDA software use Agreement

This is a contract.

This software is protected by Czech Republic Copyright law and international treaties. This contract grants you the right to use the software according to its terms. No other rights are granted.

This software may be used on one computer. You can make a backup copy of this software. A copy of PLDA may be installed for each version of Adobe Acrobat installed on the computer. You cannot redistribute the activation code by any means.

Software is distributed "as is". No liability for destroying or damaging data. Use the software only to impose PDF files for printing.

If you are not sure about legal use of this software, contact us at support@plda.net.

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All rights reserved.

NSIS (Nullsoft Scriptable Install System) is used as the installer on Windows.

See <http://nsis.sourceforge.net> for details.

WxWidgets libraries are used for GUI on all systems.

See <http://www.wxwidgets.org>

7 Version History

Changes in PLDA 5.2 (September 2011):

- Sheet dialog (main PLDA dialog):
 - "CDA4" button is now hidden by default. It is possible to Show/Hide the button in Page / Settings dialog.
 - "Report" button is moved Page / Settings dialog.
 - Added "Old" button (next to "Show Trim Box" Button) - Shows / Hides the original Trim Boxes on imposed sheet. (See page 33)
 - Added "Preview" button. (See page 34)
 - Added "To Base" option for N-up imposition. (See page 21)
 - When Trim Box is shown, page number is displayed next to its size.
 - Added current imposition preset name next to "Borders and Sheet disposition". (See page 38)
- Page / Settings dialog:
 - Removed "Variable Data Shuffle" button.
 - Added "Report" button. (See page 57)
 - Added "Show CDA4" option.
- Miscellaneous:
 - Changed dialogs for saving and loading imposition presets.

Changes in PLDA 5.1 (January 2011):

- Added Hot Folders.

Changes in PLDA 5 (November 2010):

- Menu PLDA:
 - Added "Deactivate" option - used when moving the license to another computer.
 - Added "Backup" option - saves all PLDA settings to a PDF file.
 - Added "Restore" option - restores chosen PLDA setting from a PDF file.
- Page / Settings dialog:
 - Added "UserUnit" button. Used to set UserUnit for whole document. PLDA can only impose documents with UserUnit set to 1.
UserUnit specification can be found in PDF Reference, sixth edition, version 1.7, implementation note 177 in Appendix H.
 - Added "Summary" button. Creates an HTML summary of PDF files (names, number of pages, sizes etc.). Can also rename the files according to the page format.
 - Added "Imposed files" option. Imposed files can be shown and/or automatically saved. Automatic save will keep the original PDF version (compatibility).
 - Added "Impose Annotations and Form Data" option. Previous PLDA versions did not impose these components.

- Sheet dialog (main PLDA dialog):
 - Information about new sheet now also contains new Trim Box size (in parentheses).
 - ALT + click the information about background file shows complete path to the file.
 - ALT + click the Mixer information shows the Mixer rule.
 - Added Duplexing options (switching sheet borders on even sheets) separately for Left-Right and Top-Bottom borders. Left-Right Duplexing is automatically set-up when imposition type "Booklet" or "Cut Stacks" (double-sided) is chosen.
- Mixer:
 - Enters, Tabs and multiple Spaces can be used to format the rule string for better clarity.
 - Character "|" used to split imposed file.
 - Splitter enables automatic imposed file splitting according to parameters (e.g. after a number of pages).
- Crop Marks dialog:
 - Added Calibration bars option. Default CMYK or custom bars can be used.
- Miscellaneous:
 - The size of background is now taken from Crop Box, the number of pages is shown.
 - If background is chosen, it is not possible to change the Format of the new sheet.
 - Imposing large files is faster, memory consumption lower.
 - If during Extraction a used file is not present at an exact location, the folder of current file is searched for the same file name and if such file exists it is offered to be used.
 - Some changes were made in the appearance of the UI windows (mainly on MAC OS X) so that they better meet user expectations.

Changes in PLDA 4 (August 2009):

- Compatibility with MAC OS X 10.5 and newer.
- Compatibility with Windows 2000/XP/Vista/7
- WxWidgets is used for GUI
- Unicode support enhancements
- It is possible to change the Scale of X and Y independently
- New features of Adobe Acrobat 8 and 9 are used - better memory management during huge PDFs imposition
- Activation Codes are managed by 3-rd party companies

Changes in PLDA 3.5 (April 2008):

- New ACTIONS enable multiple impositions.
- Mixer dialog was changed so that presents management and rule setting is inside one dialog.

Changes in PLDA 3.0 (September 2007):

- PLDA is compatible with Microsoft Windows VISTA®.
- Reworked engine of the application is faster, especially when working with large documents.
- Imposed objects are editable for third-party plug-ins (for example Enfocus PitStop) even if the third-party plug-ins do not handle XObjects.
- Optimization of the resulting PDF is stronger.
- New "Expert" option lets the user switch the main dialog to icon-style and save space on a screen. Descriptions of the icons are displayed as tips for better orientation.
- Installer is easier. Only choose your Adobe Acrobat version and your language.

Changes in PLDA 2.5 (May 2007):

- Added Horizontal and Vertical Flipping to Page Mixer.
- Fixed reported bug that influenced N-up imposition of document containing various page sizes.
- Fixed reported bug that influenced using rotation in Virtual Mixer at pages previously rotated in Adobe Acrobat.
- Added new languages. PLDA now fully supports: English, Czech, French, Hungarian, German, Polish, Spanish.
- Faster imposition of optimized and large PDF documents.

Changes in PLDA 2.1 (January 2007):

- PLDA works with Adobe Acrobat 8 (Standard or Professional).
- Fixed bug in Virtual Mixer. Rotating of already rotated pages is now correct.
- Saved formats, presets and Mixer presets are now sorted alphabetically.
- Sheet disposition now has 9 options(See page 37).
- Added Bleeds option(See page 39).
- Added new features to Report(See page 57).
- Added Examples to <http://www.plda.net/>.

Changes in PLDA 2.0 (November 2006):

- New Page Mixer options added and new Virtual Mixer which is designed to eliminate steps needed to do complicated impositions.
- Page Mixer options can be saved and restored.
- User can specify the main dialog's default settings.
- Report enables user to quickly see information about dimensions of all pages in a document.
- Default settings of the main dialog was changed so that the unused space of a sheet is not cut off.
- Information about imposition is saved into every imposed PDF and can be retrieved for later use.
- Saved presets now may contain a description.

- PDFs used as background are now checked for security settings.
- Many processes are now better optimized.

Changes in PLDA 1.5 (April 2006):

- Added Batch processing.
- Spacing between pages can vary.
- Various page sizes inside one job are supported.
- Spine and Creep can be defined for Booklets imposition.
- PLDA can be purchased ONLINE through KAGI without leaving Adobe Acrobat. All payments are provided by KAGI, see www.kagi.com.
- All features of PLDA a fully accessible for 10 days after installation. To continue using it then you need to buy the product.

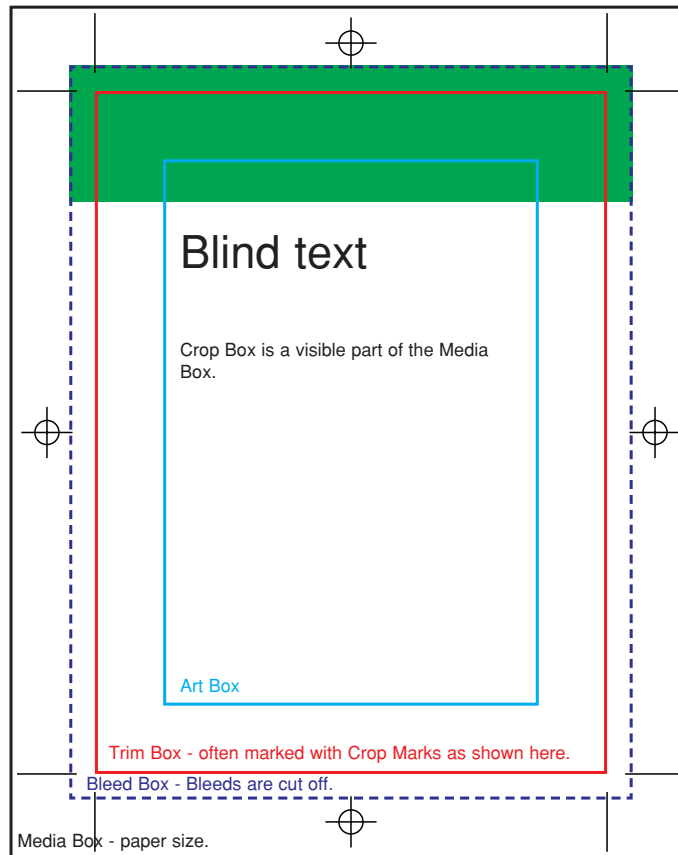
PLDA 1.0: 15.11.2005

8 Contacts

1. Ask for activation codes and multi licenses: `pldaactivate@plda.net`
 2. Support (please read this user guide carefully first): `support@plda.net`
 3. Invoicing and payment questions: `sales@plda.net`
- Developer: Michal Polanský, Prague, Czech Republic

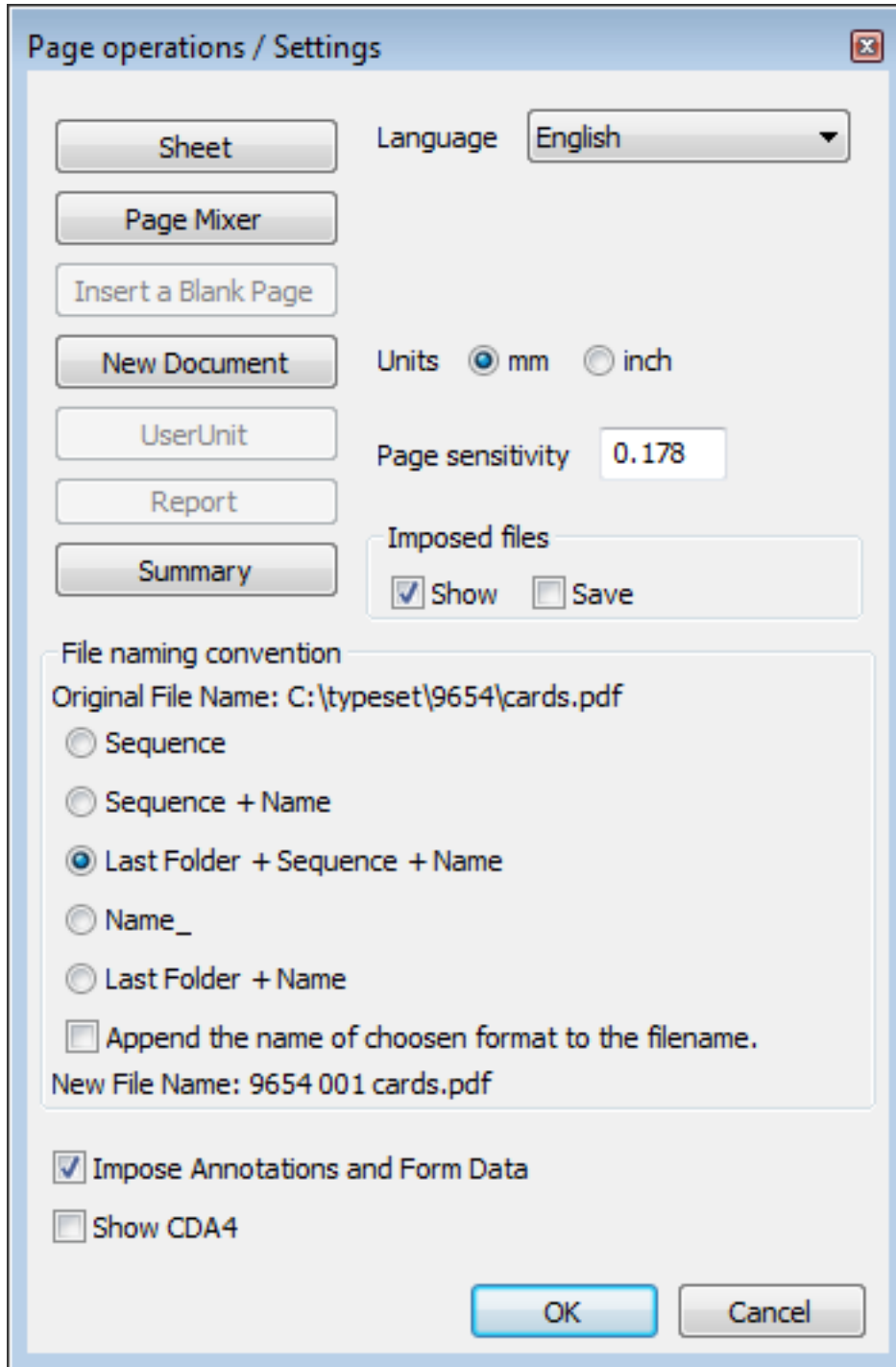
9 Page Boxes

PLDA respects the PDF specification where the page boxes are defined as follows:



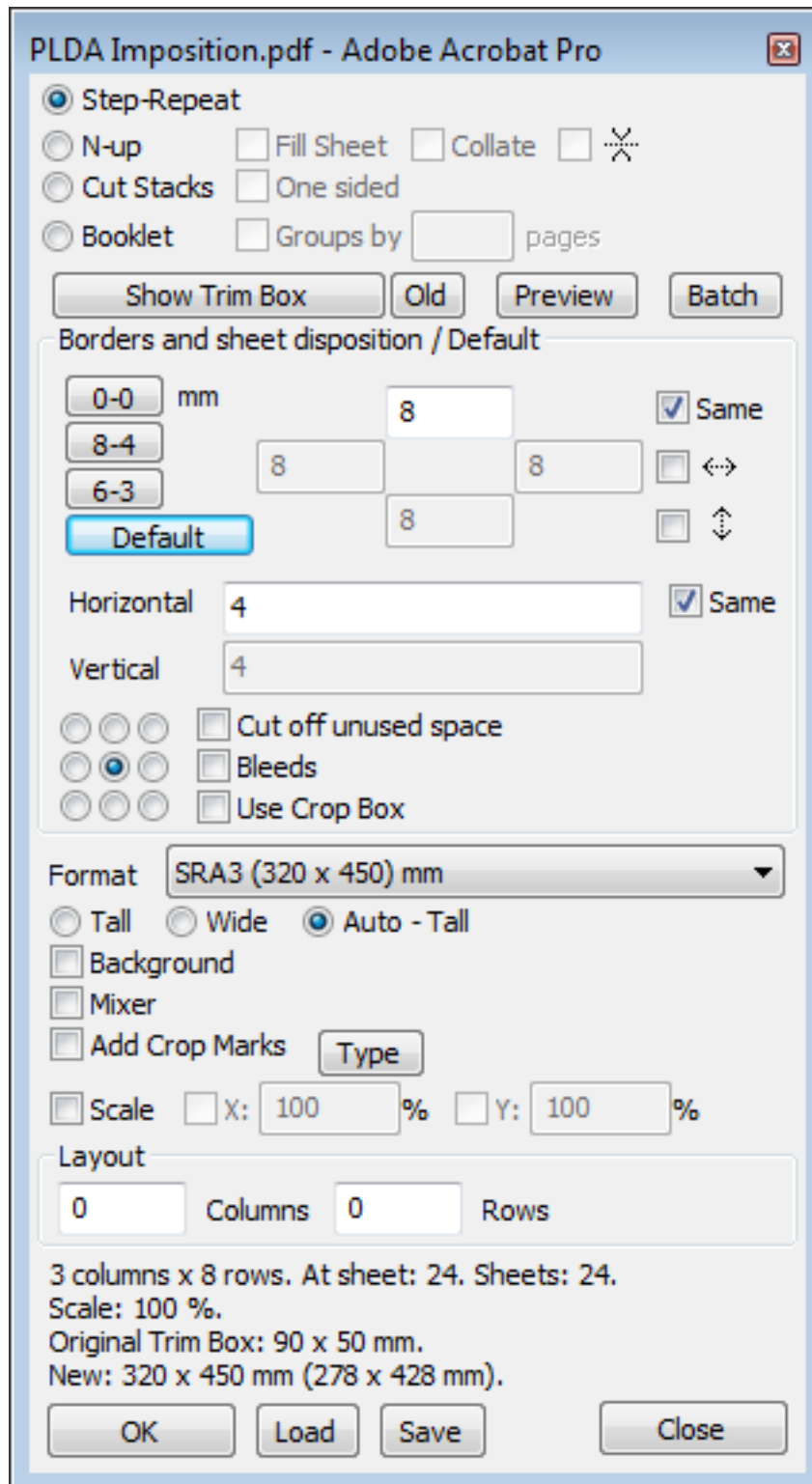
Nevertheless, PLDA simplifies the approach to boxes and uses only those valuable in real printer's life. Everything behind the Trim Box is considered as bleed unless the Bleeds dialog is used to set up the bleeds (See page 39). For successful imposition of a bled document the Trim Box must be specified. All important applications can provide the Trim Box correctly. If the Trim Box is not specified, you can use Crop Box that can be set by Adobe Acrobat tools.

10 Page/Settings dialog



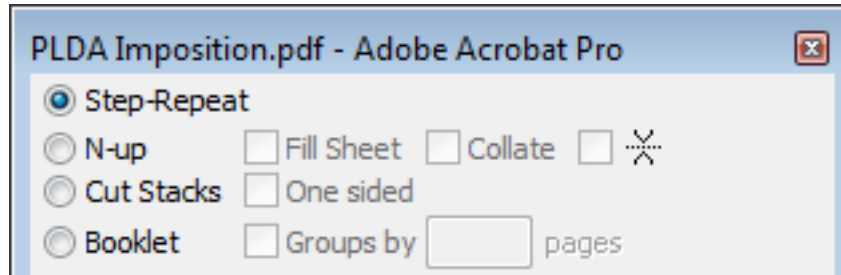
All elements of the dialog are described at following pages.

11 Imposition dialog



All elements of the dialog are described at following pages.

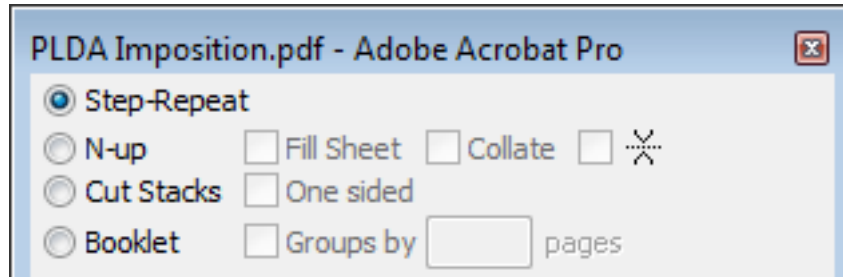
12 Basic imposition



Basic options:

- Step and Repeat (See page 20)
 - Makes copies of one page across the sheet.
- N-up (See page 21)
 - Sequentially puts pages of a document to one sheet.
- Cut Stacks (See page 25)
 - Places pages of a document to sheets so that after the sheets are cut the original sequence of pages is kept. Used for printing variable data and sample prints.
- Booklet (See page 27)
 - Imposes the pages for a saddle-stitched booklet.
- CDA4 (See page 30)
 - Imposes the pages to fit on CD stickers by Rayfilm (www.rayfilm.cz, stickers CD02, CD04, CD07, CD08, CD22).

13 Step-Repeat

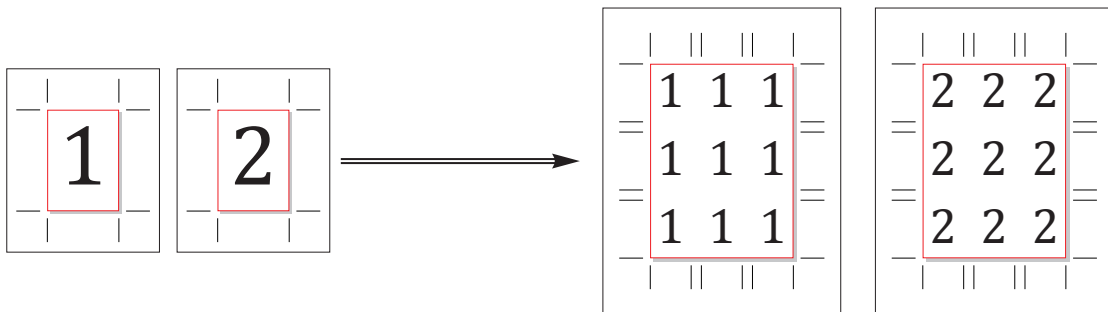


Step-Repeat makes copies of original page across the new sheet according to your settings. New document has got the same number of pages as the original document.

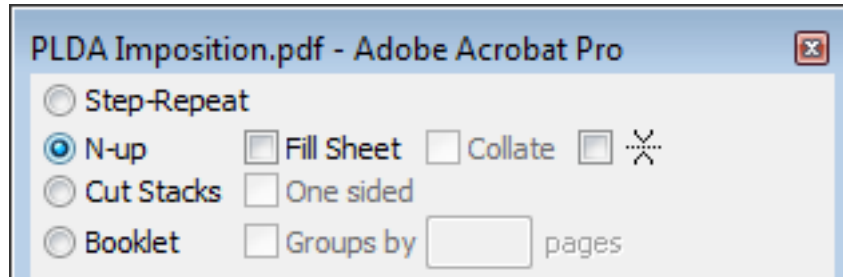
Examples:

Business cards, compliment cards, leaflets, etc., generally any pages that should be printed in volume so high that it is reasonable to fill entire sheet with one page.

Please see the schematic representation of this operation:



14 N-up

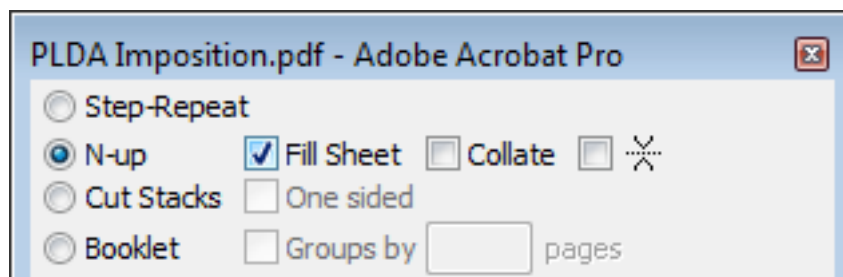
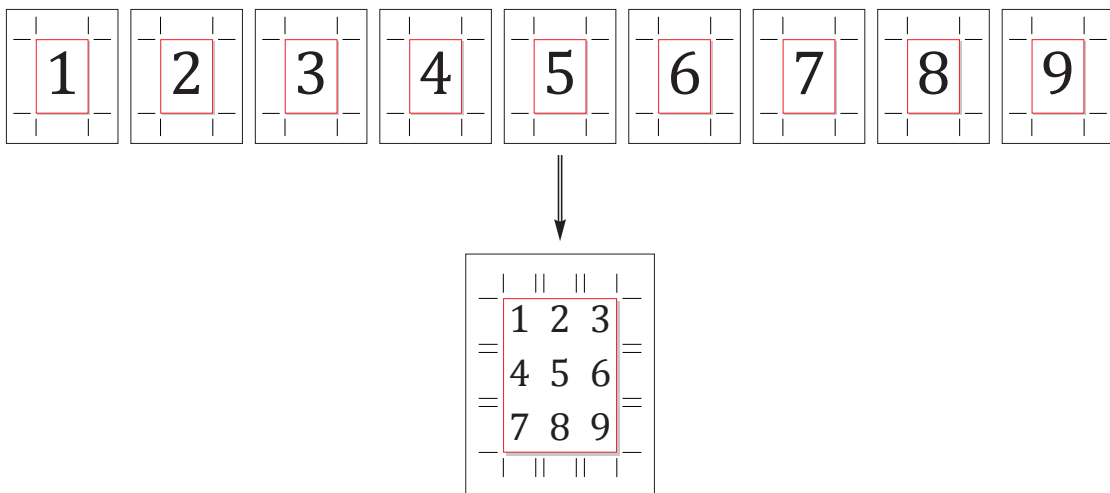


N-up places various pages from the document at one sheet.

Examples:

Business cards, leaflets, etc., generally any pages that should be printed in the same volume or at the same material so it is reasonable to print different pages or jobs together at one sheet. For instance there could be 4 leaflets of A5 size, each should be printed 100x. You can put the leaflets together to one sheet of size A3 and then print 100x the same sheet.

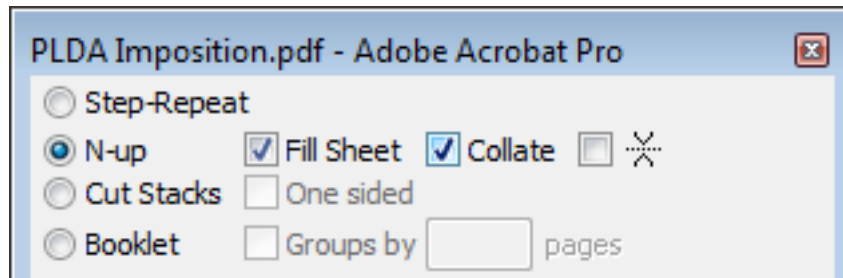
Please see the schematic representation of this operation:



If you need to put different pages at one sheet as many times as possible (for instance make copies of 3 different business cards) use the easy and fast option **Fill Sheet**.

If the **Fill Sheet** option is checked, the pages are copied again and again as long as there is place for all the pages. If there is some free place but all pages cannot fit in, the place will remain free.

If the document contains more pages than can be placed at one sheet, this option is ignored.



Collate option specifies the order of pages at the new sheet. If checked the pages are copied in the same order as they are in the original document.

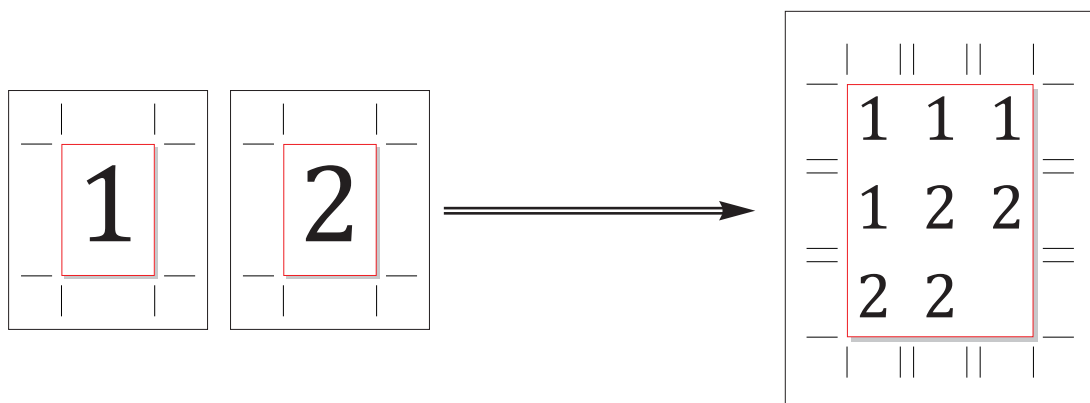
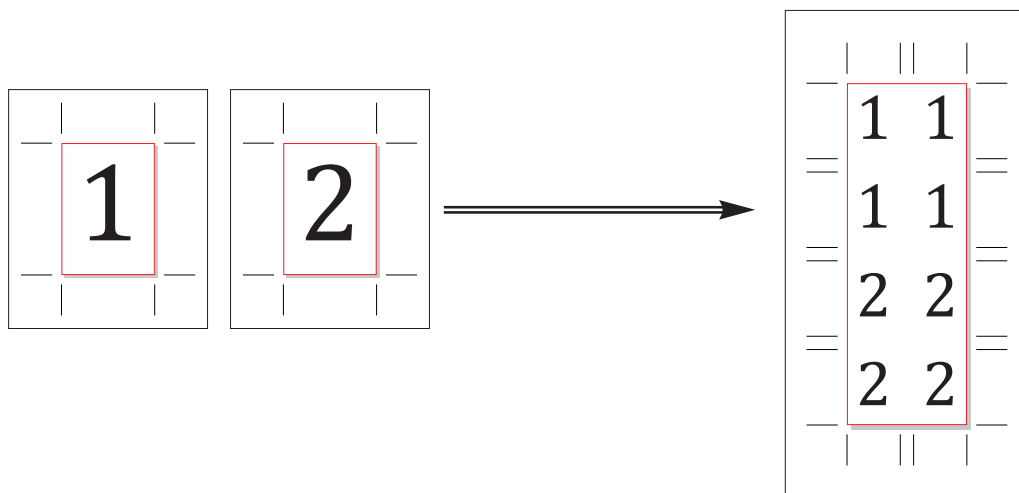
Default setting (without checked **Collate** option) copies the first page of the document as many times as possible, then the second page and so on.

Examples:

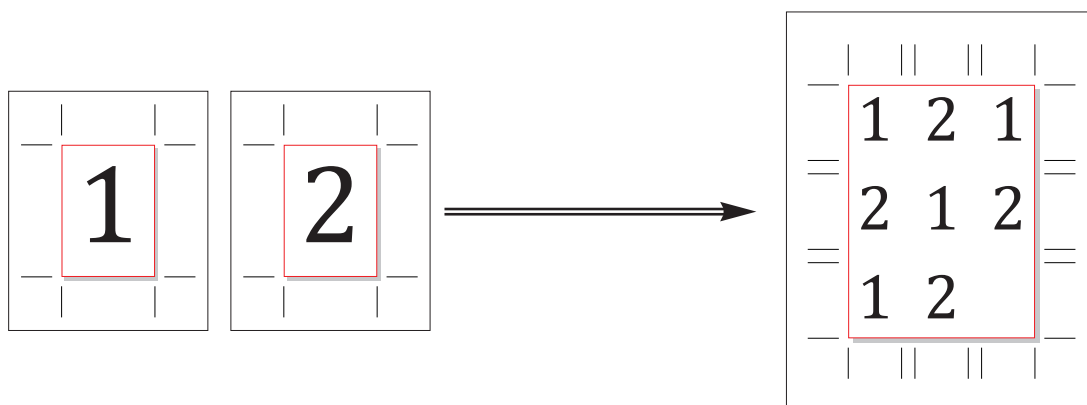
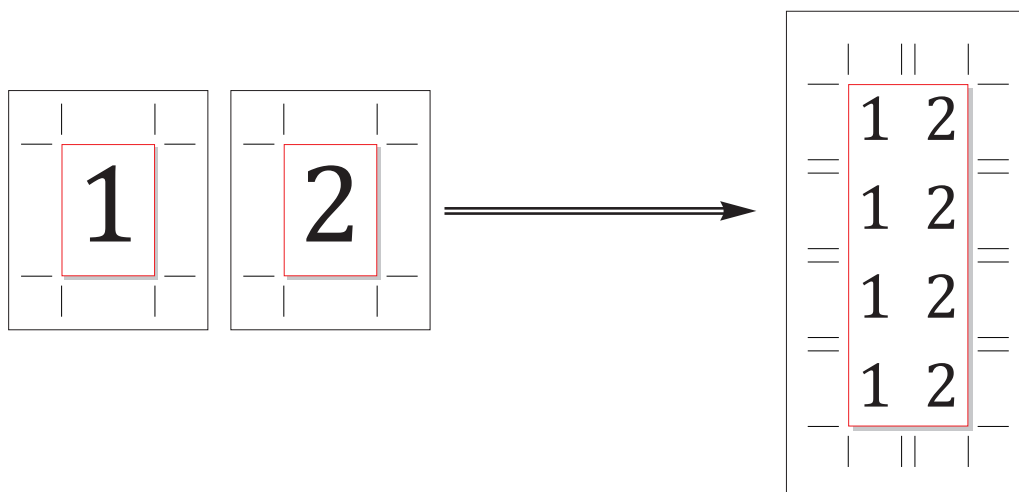
Mostly you will use the **Collate** option to quickly copy different business cards at one sheet.

Please see the schematic representation of this operation:

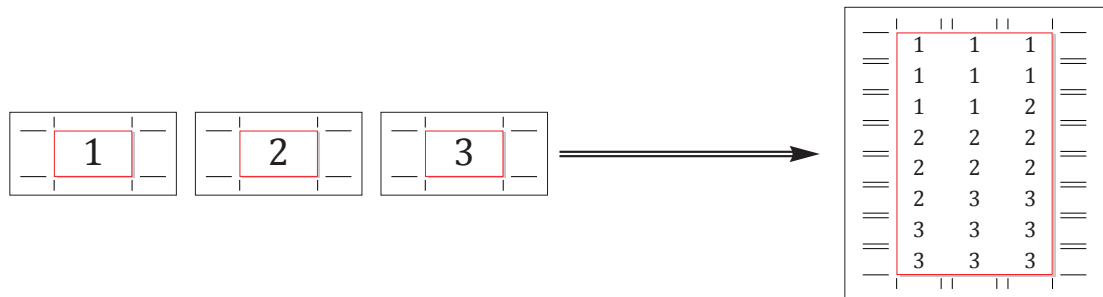
- Imposition when **Collate** option is unchecked (default):



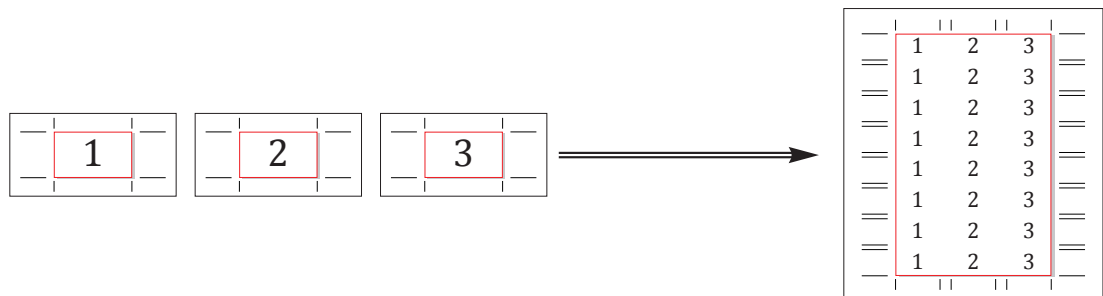
- Imposition when **Collate** option is checked:



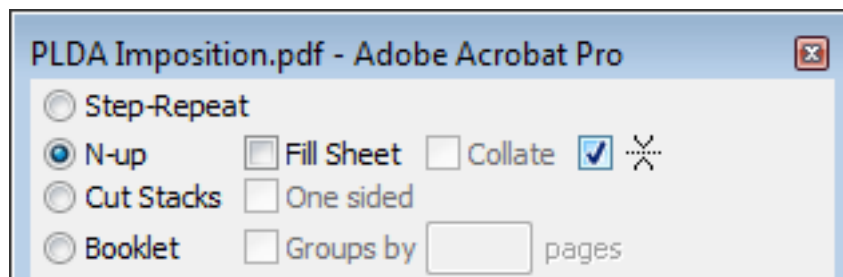
- To make it clear, compare the following example where 3 business cards of 90 x 50 mm are to be imposed to SRA3 (320 x 450 mm) sheet. This sheet will contain 24 cards, each will be placed 8x. Imposition when **Collate** option is unchecked (default):



- Imposition when **Collate** option is checked:

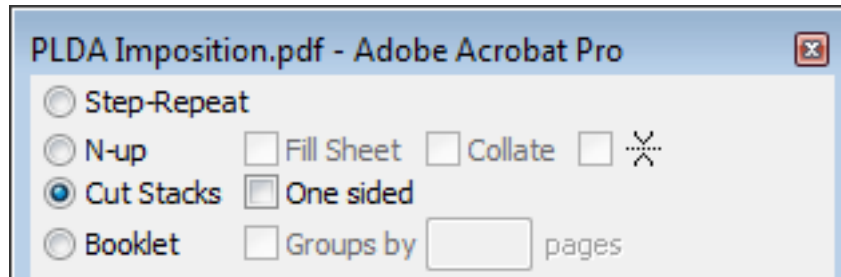


”To base” option

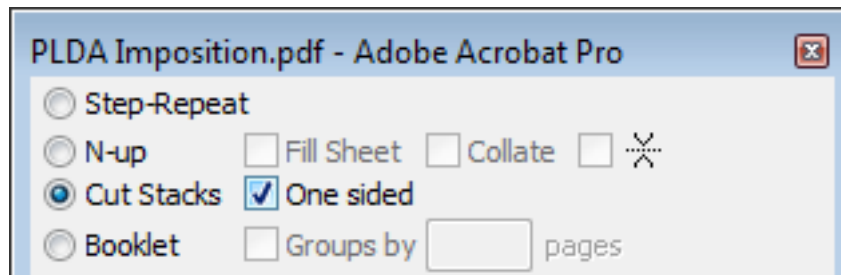


When pages of different sizes are imposed, the pages are aligned to top by default. This option modifies the behaviour so that pages in every odd row are aligned to bottom while pages in even row stay aligned to top.

15 Cut Stacks



Cut Stacks places the pages from original document at the new sheets so that after the sheets are cut, the original page order is kept. Especially useful for variable data printing (for instance: numbered invitation cards).



Choose with the **One Sided** whether the sheets will be printed double sided (duplex - default option) or one sided (simplex).

When duplex is chosen the Left-Right border is set to Duplexing. (See page 31)

Please have a look at the examples that will show the power of this function.

Examples:

- Variable data printing

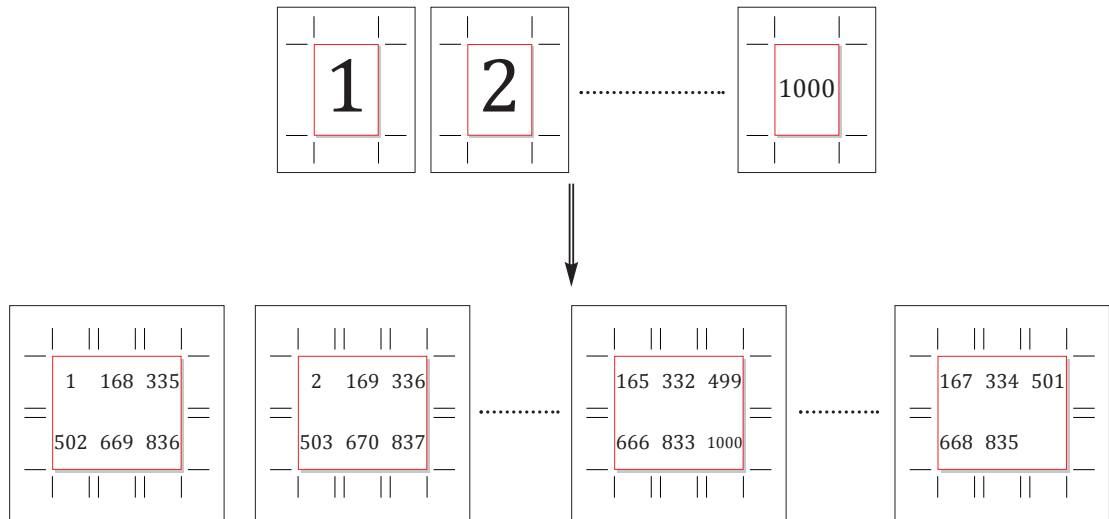
Example 1:

Print 1000 invitation cards, 4/0, 210 x 99 mm, each with a different name. The client needs to get the cards sorted in the exact order as in the database he supplies.

Solution: choose the sheet size, check **Cut Stacks** and **One Sided** (for instance when imposing to SRA3 sheet, 6 cards fit in).

If there is an unused space at a sheet, it will remain blank.

Please see the schematic representation of this operation:



- Sample (size) copies

Example 2:

Print an A5 book of 300 pages, 4/4, paperback binding.

Solution: just check **Cut Stacks** and print the sheets.

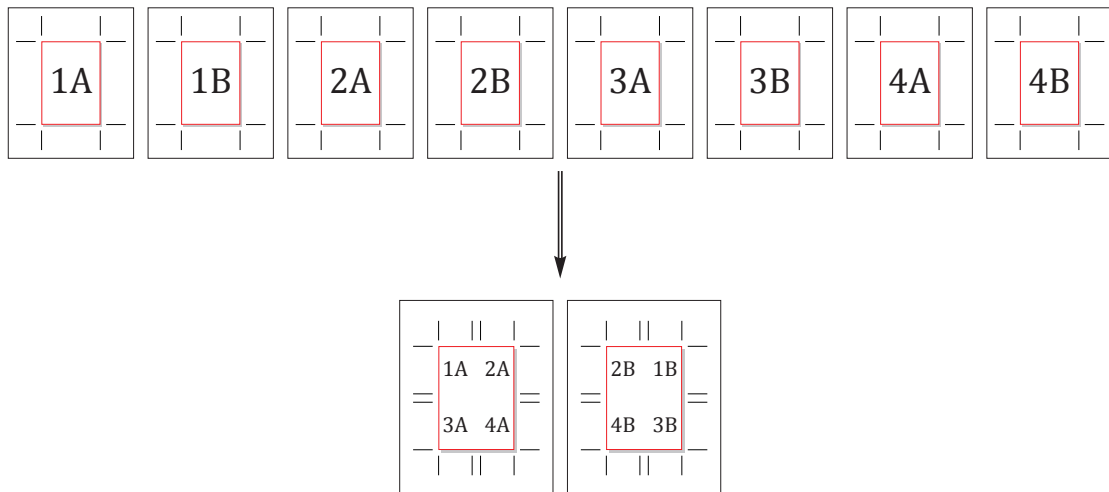
- Print various double sided documents

Example 3:

4 x 100 leaflets A5, 4/4.

Combine the PDF documents with Adobe Acrobat, check **Cut Stacks** and print the sheets.

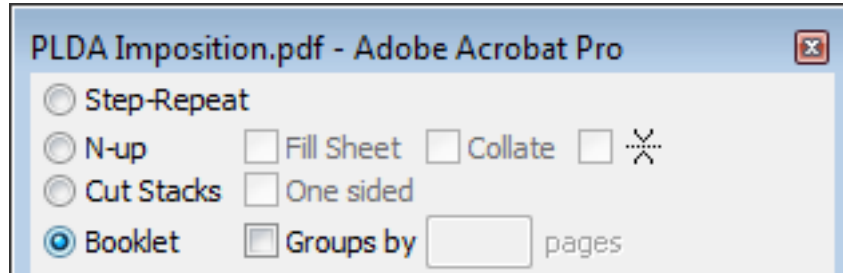
Please see the schematic representation of this operation:



Various page size inside document:

If there are various page sizes inside the document PLDA will find the maximum length and maximum width and will impose the document as if all the pages were of these maximum dimensions. Smaller pages will be placed at the centre of the bigger pages. If you add crop marks, these will be added to show the maximum dimensions. By this behaviour it is ensured that you will never cut inside a page.

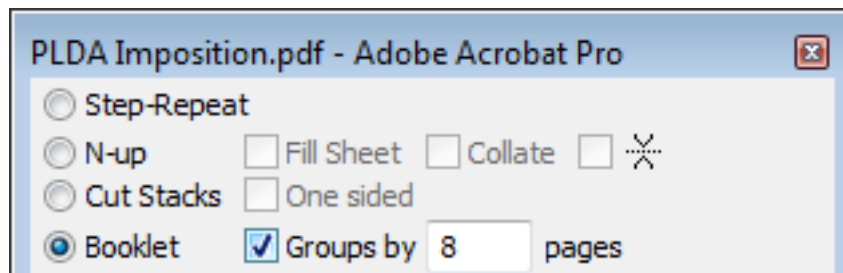
16 Booklet



Booklet option imposes pages for Saddle Stitched binding.

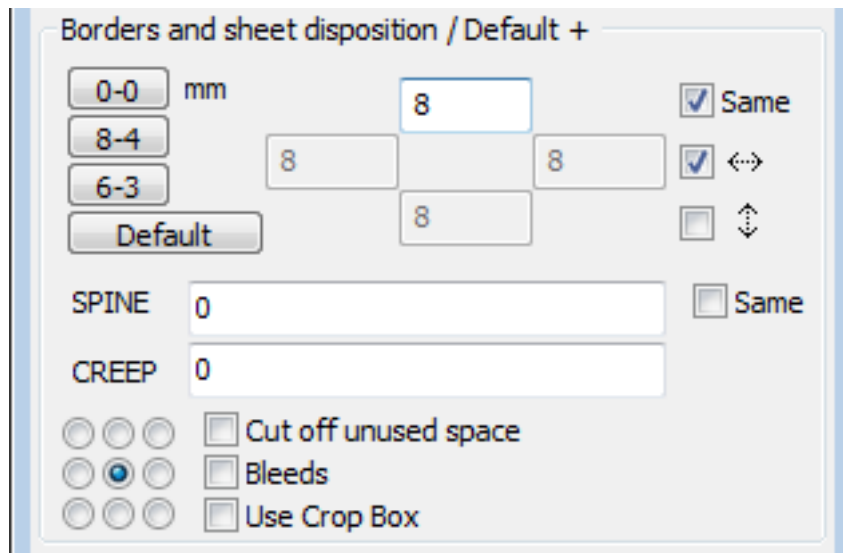
When this imposition type is chosen the Left-Right border is set to Duplexing. (See page 31)

Number of pages of original document must be a multiple of 4. If it is not so, blank pages are appended.



You can choose the number of pages in one group for Perfect Binding after checking the **Groups by** option. If needed, blank pages are appended.

When you choose **Booklet** imposition, Spacing description is changed to **SPINE** and **CREEP**. Use them to set up the spine and to compensate for the paper thickness.



If you set **CREEP** to a PLUS number, pages at outer (first) sheet will be moved away from each other by this merit. Pages at inner sheet will be exactly next to each other. For a successful use of this imposition you have to have the cover prepared with the correct spine width. **CREEP** value represents spacing between 2 neighbouring sheets in booklet. It will always be the same for the same sort of paper.

If you do not have the cover with spine ready and still you need to compensate for the paper thickness, as a last resort you can use the MINUS merit of **CREEP**. In this case the pages at the outer sheet are left exactly next to each other and pages at inner sheet are moved into spine by the merit. If there is image (for example) at the inner sheet that is placed across the spine, it will be missing a center piece.

SPINE is the same for all the sheets.

Various page size inside document:

If there are various page sizes inside the document the sheet dimensions are set so the biggest page fits in. Smaller pages are centred vertically and pushed to the spine horizontally. If you add crop marks, these will be added to show the maximum dimensions.

Examples:

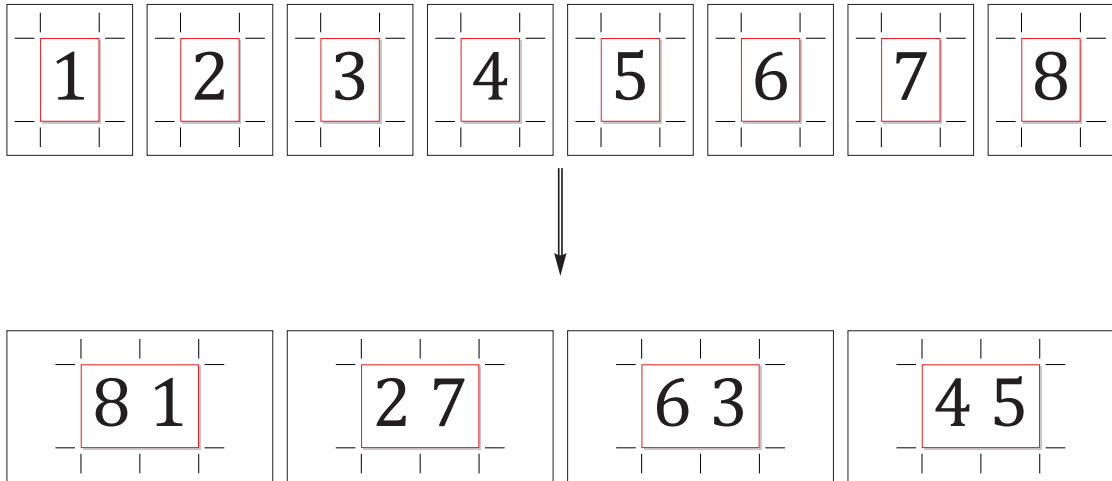
- Magazines, brochures

Generally any Saddle Stitched or Perfect Bound Booklets.

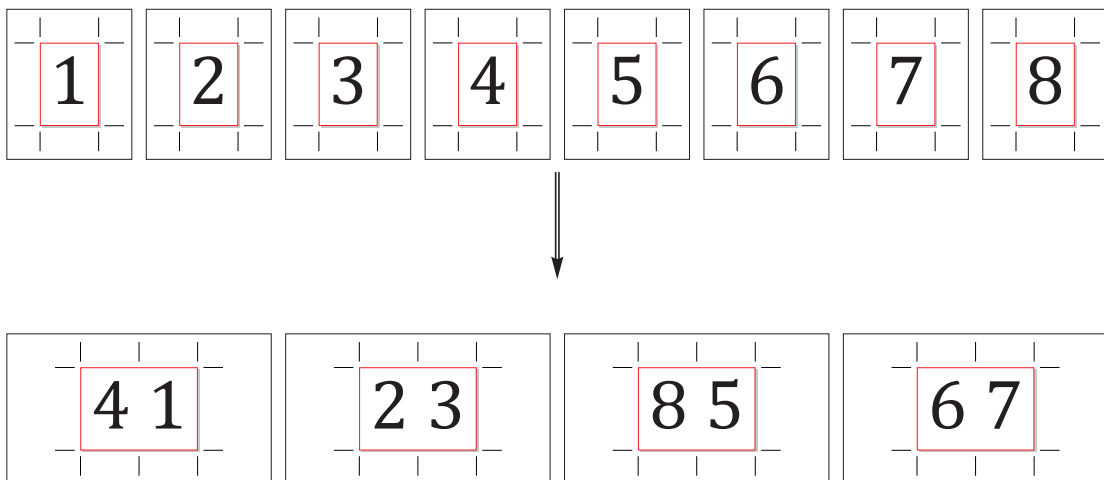
Example 1:

Print A4 document of 8 pages as a booklet.

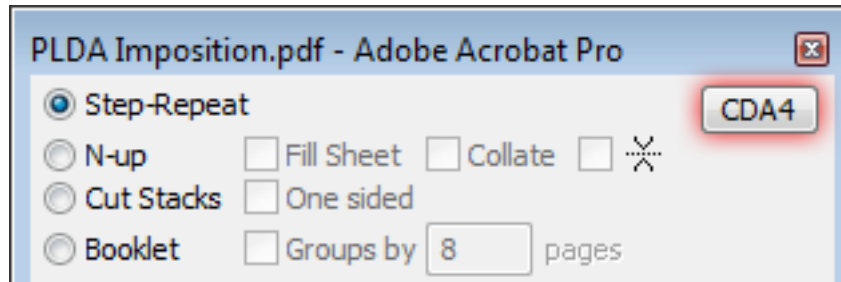
Please see the schematic representation of booklet imposition:



Please see what happens when you choose that one group contains 4 pages:

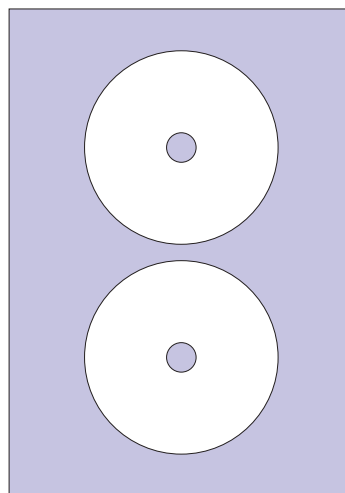


17 CDA4



In PLDA 5.2 "CDA4" button is hidden by default. It can be set to Show / Hide in the Page / Settings dialog.

CDA4 is an example of Special Application. It was created for a client that often imposes pages to be printed on CD stickers, that look like this:



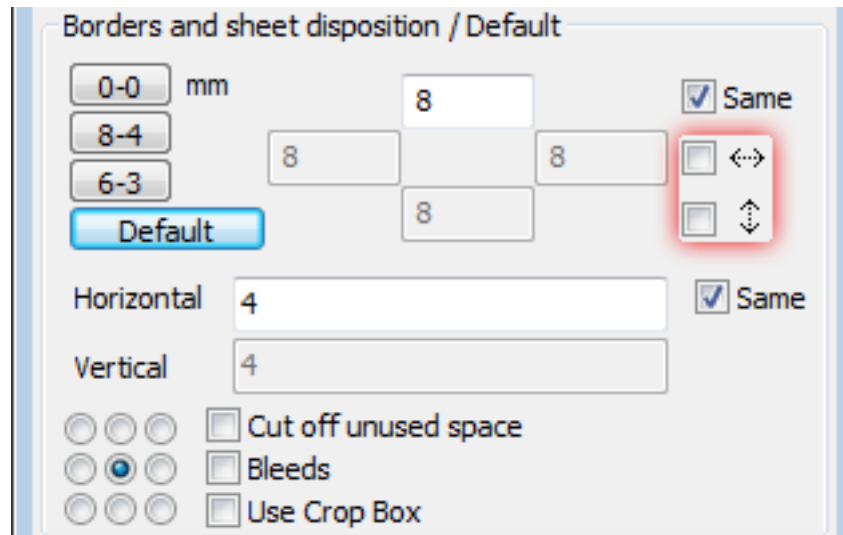
Advantage of this option is more automatic imposition than simple Step-Repeat or N-up imposition. The sticker's center is counted and then the stickers are placed to the sheet thus eliminating size differences in PDF supplied by many clients.

If you need to scale the stickers before imposing, choose the scale and then click CDA4 again.

If you need to impose pages in a way that cannot be automatically applied by current software versions, please send your request to sapplications@plda.net.

Include detailed description of the imposition and also sample PDF files, if that is possible. We will contact you to inform you whether such an imposition is feasible (usually it is), the price and date when a special plug-in for you may be ready.

18 Duplexing



By clicking any of these options Duplexing is turned on - borders of the sheet will be switched on even sheets. Left-Right and Top-Bottom Duplexing can be set separately.

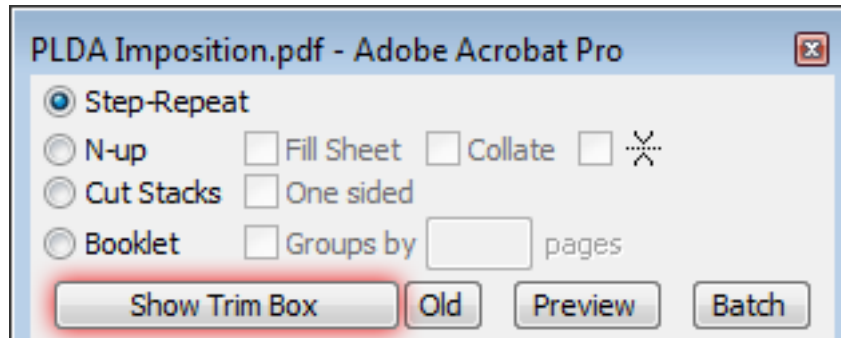
When choosing imposition type Duplexing is set as follows:

Top-Bottom is never turned on.

Left-Right is turned on when "Booklet" or duplex "Cut Stacks" is chosen. In other cases Left-Right Duplexing is turned off.

After choosing the imposition type Duplexing can be changed arbitrarily.

19 Show Trim Box



Show and hides Trim Box of currently displayed page. Trim Box defines where the page should be cut after it is printed - usually the Trim Box is marked with Crop Marks.

If you close the dialog by clicking the icon in Tool Bar the Trim Box will still be shown (even for newly opened documents).

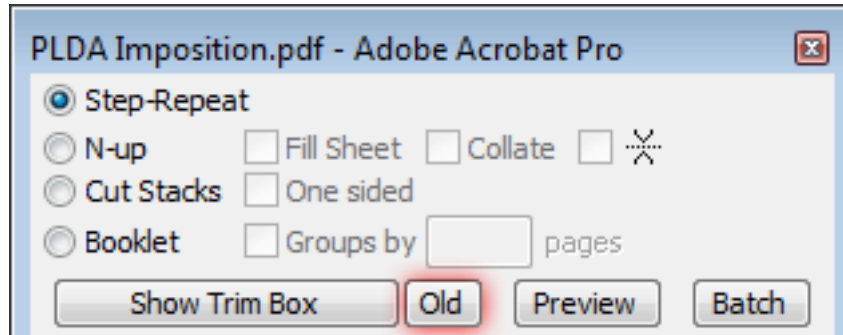
Trim Box is hidden after a document is imposed.

When Trim Box is shown, the "Original Trim Box" information shows the size of currently displayed page. When Trim Box is hidden, the size of the first page is shown.

The dimensions are shown in the chosen SCALE. This enables you to exactly set the SCALE so that you reach the desired dimensions.

You can use standard tools of Adobe Acrobat to set the Trim and Crop Boxes or other 3rd parties plug-ins can be used.

20 Original Trim Boxes

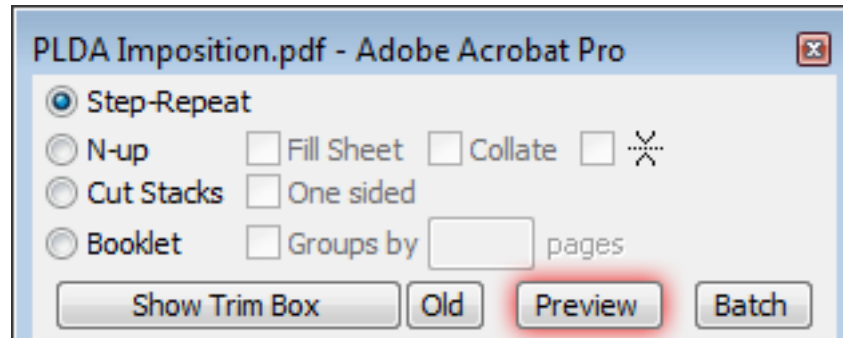


The button is next to "Show Trim Box" button.

When the button is ON, the original Boxes are shown on imposed sheet. It is great for basic visual control.

Old Trim Boxes are shown in blue color. When a background PDF was used, the original background Trim Boxes are shown in green color.

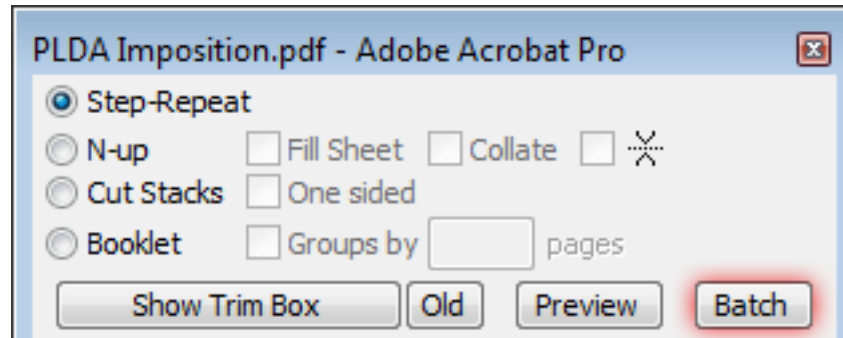
21 Preview



An imposition started by clicking "Preview" button does not impose the original data. It takes the sizes of Bleed and Trim (or Crop) Boxes, shows them as grey rectangles, adds page number (if a blank page was added using Mixer the page number is Zero) and original size of Trim or Crop Box. When the imposition works with scale, both the original and scaled size is shown with the scale used.

Preview can be imposed even if the imposition is not possible (for example the sheet size is smaller than original page size). In this case not all pages must be imposed in preview, but it can be used to find out why the imposition is forbidden. When Old Trim Boxes are shown, it is clearly visible that a page does not fit the sheet.

22 Batch



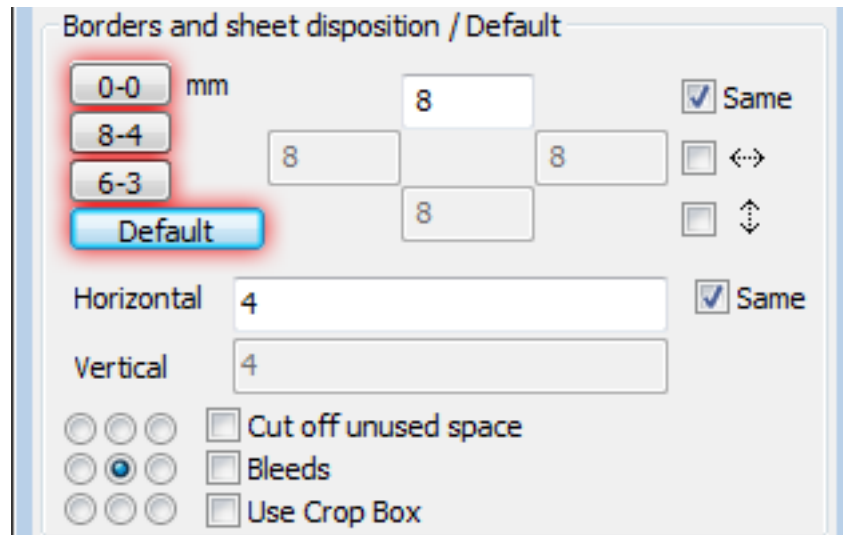
After clicking the BATCH button you will be asked to choose a folder.

PLDA then imposes all the PDF files in the folder and in all subfolders. The imposed document is saved to the same folder as the original PDF file.

After the batch is done you are informed about the files that could not be imposed according to the chosen parameters.

You can watch the process of page imposition of a file as usual, in addition number of files to process and the name of the file just being imposed is shown.

23 Frequently used tasks



These 4 buttons are used to quickly set-up the dialog.

Lets go through them, bottom-first:

- **DEFAULT** button sets up the dialog to default state (the same as when you display the dialog for the first time).
- **6-3** button sets the borders to 6 mm and spacing to 3 mm (example: imposing 210 x 99 mm pages to SRA3). This buttons affects only spacing and borders, no other settings are changed (e.g. format or scale).
- **8-4** button sets the borders to 8 mm and spacing to 4 mm (example: imposing business cards 50 x 90 mm to SRA3). This buttons affects only spacing and borders, no other settings are changed (e.g. format or scale).
- **0-0** button sets the borders to 0 mm and spacing to 0 mm (example: imposing pages without bleeds). This buttons affects only spacing and borders, no other settings are changed (e.g. format or scale).

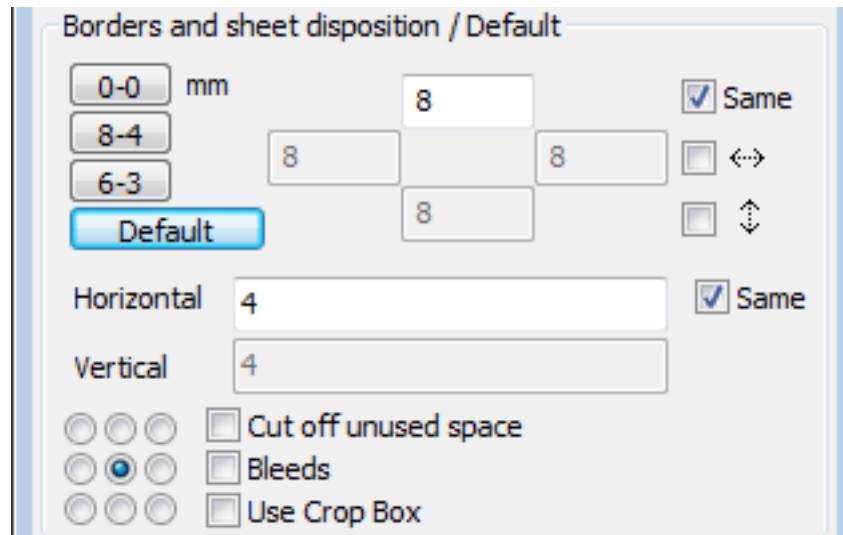
New in PLDA 2.0: these 4 buttons' settings can be easily changed so that they suit your frequently used tasks.

To change a button simply set up the dialog (a PDF must be open). Go to menu PLDA and choose **SAVE THE DIALOG'S QUICK SETTINGS**.

Choose which button to change, enter a new name and description (that is shown as a tool tip). A button can be set up so it changes only spacing and borders. To set up such behaviour, click the **REMEMBER BORDERS AND SPACING ONLY** option.

To return to the default "factory" settings, choose a button and click **RESET**.

24 Borders, Spacing, Position at Sheet



This part of the dialog serves to set the borders and spacing of the imposed pages at the newly created sheet.

The borders may be different or the same (click SAME).

Check boxes with arrow symbols turn on and off border duplexing. (See page 31)

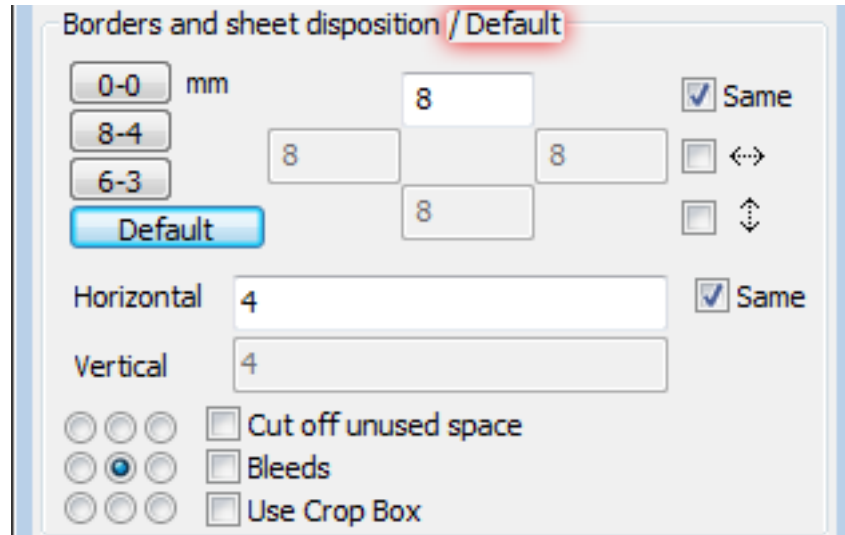
The Horizontal and Vertical spacing can be set separately and you can specify various spacing for pages across the sheet. Simply fill in the numbers separated by SPACE. The spacing is then repeated as necessary. For example the horizontal spacing "0 5 10" means that the first spacing is 0, the second 5 and the third 10 units. The fourth is again 0, the fifth 5 units and so on. The only limit is the number of characters that you can input into the field which is currently set to 49 characters.

if CUT OFF UNUSED SPACE is checked, the actual size of new sheet is reduced by the unused space (the borders are respected).

The position on sheet may be specified (center is the default option).

If the Trim Box is not correctly specified, you can use Crop Box as a definition of what should be cut off. Check USE CROP BOX to use this feature (and remember to uncheck it next time:).

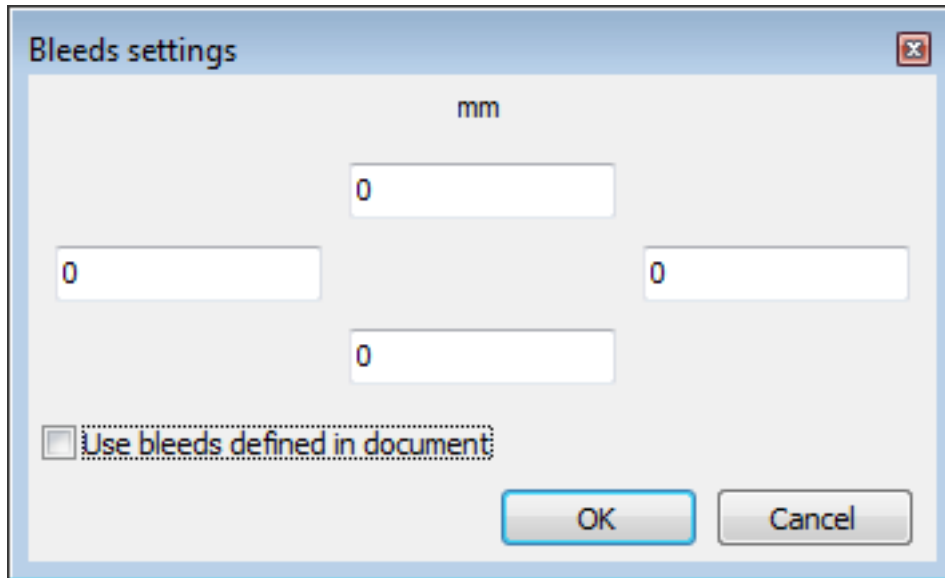
25 Preset Name



Next to the name of this part of the main dialog "Borders and Sheet disposition" there is name of current imposition preset.

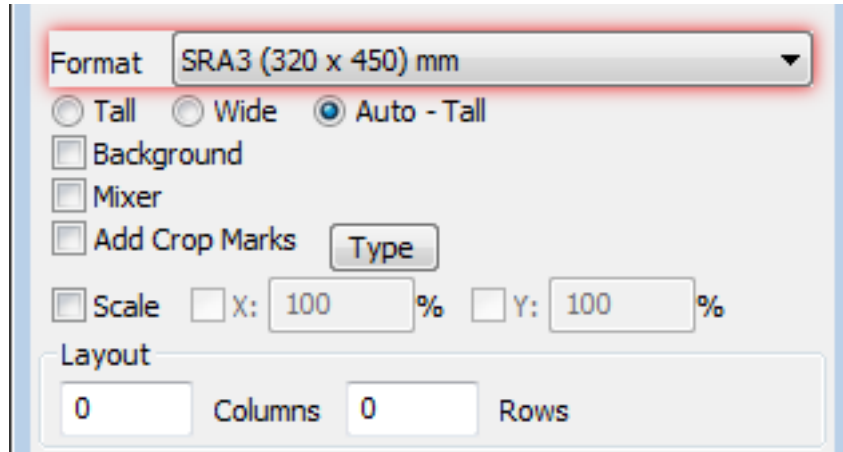
When the imposition preset is loaded, the current settings are being checked and if they differ from the preset the "+" (plus) sign is prepended to the name.

26 Bleeds

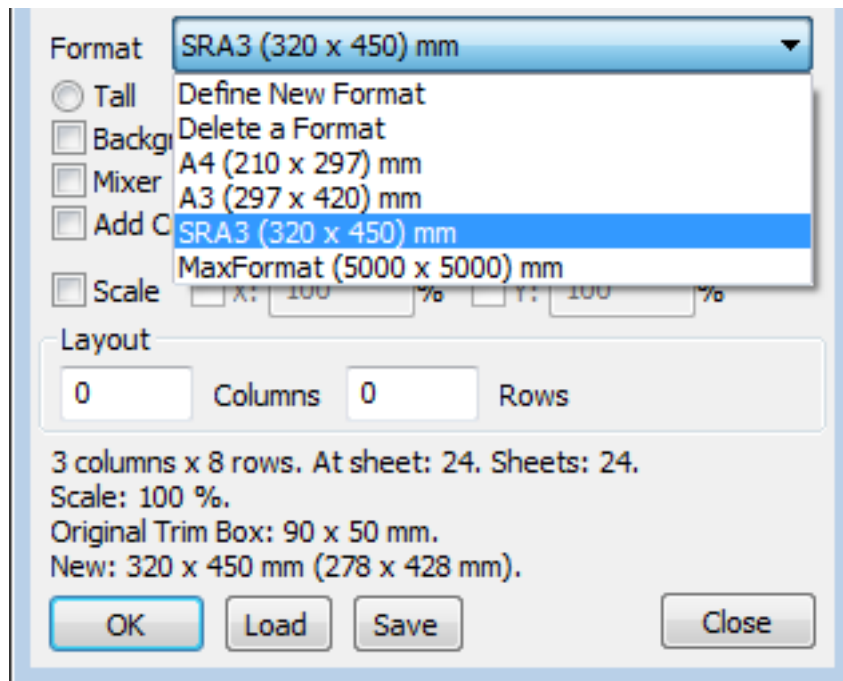


Use this dialog to set up the bleeds. This option is OFF by default - everything behind Trim Box is considered to be bleeds. It is possible to use original document bleeds setting (use standard tools of Adobe Acrobat Professional or third-party plug-ins to set the bleeds). If 0 (zero) is set, everything behind Trim Box is hidden (including original Crop Marks etc.).

27 Format, page orientation,

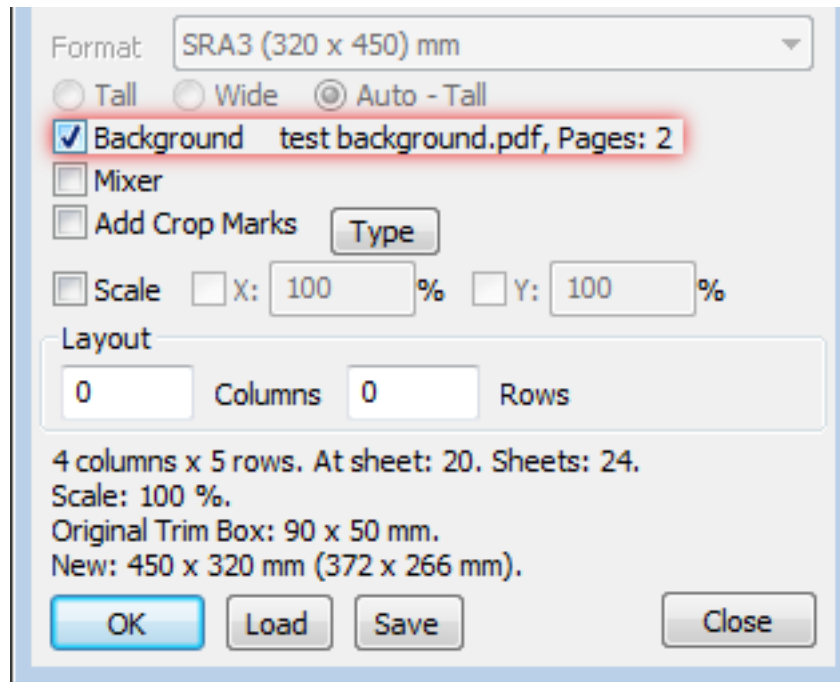


Choose the sheet size from the drop-down menu.



New formats can be set and saved by choosing DEFINE NEW FORMAT. To delete a format from the list, choose DELETE A FORMAT.

28 Background



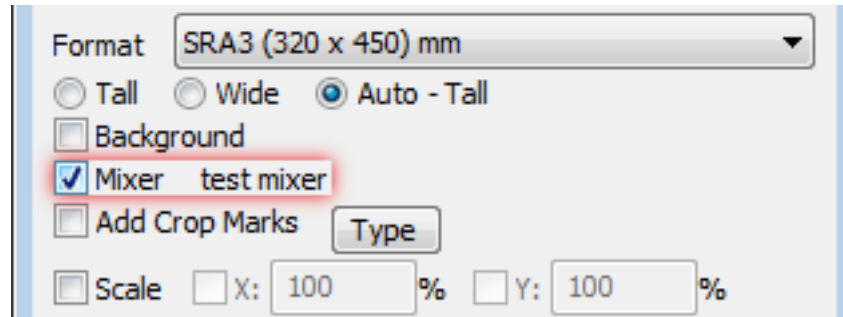
To use existing PDF as a background for your imposition, click background.

When a background PDF is used, the sheet size cannot be changed - it is taken from the background PDF (its Crop size).

Name and number of pages is shown in the main dialog. When the name is ALT - clicked, the complete path to the background PDF is shown.

If the PDF has more than one page, these are repeated as necessary (1-2-3-1-2-3). You can use the background option for Variable data printing. Put the variable data into one PDF, the rest into another and then use it as a background for the first one. Then make sure that "PDF optimization" is ON at your RIP (e.g. CREO RIPs) and it will RIP the pages very fast because it will recognise that the background repeats.

29 Mixer



Mixer is a powerful tool that is able to create even the most complicated and complex impositions in one step.

Mixer works with the same rules as **Page Mixer**(See page 50), but now the new document with reordered pages is created virtually only without actually wasting time with reordering, duplicating or rotating the pages in the original document, saving the new file and then working with the new file. **Mixer** reorders the pages in document virtually and imposes them immediately.

Hopefully a simple sample will enlighten the virtual Mixer function: There are 2 pages in a document and they are to be placed next to each other on a sheet - using N-up imposition. BUT first the page number 2 and then page number 1 should be placed. The best solution is to choose N-up and click "Mixer" to input a rule "2 1". Then the imposition is done correctly without modifying the original PDF.

Examples:

- Copy 4 cards of 90 x 50 mm to SRA3 (320 x 450 mm) sheet:

Go to Page Mixer(See page 50) and create a preset with 4 pages in group and the rule "(1T4)#6". Save the rule as "4 cards 90x50 to SRA3" and go back to the main dialog. Put the dialog to default state (sheet size SRA3, borders 8 mm, spacing 4 mm), click Mixer and choose the rule. Then click OK.

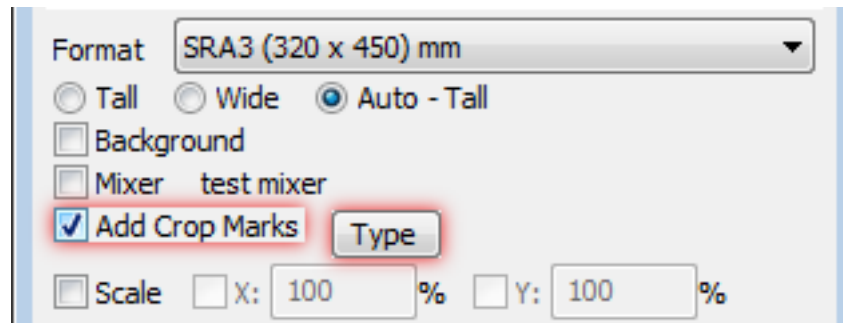
- Impose 16 pages document as booklet to A1 sheet.

Go to Page Mixer(See page 50) and create a preset with 0 pages in group and the rule "B(1TN)". Save the rule as "Booklet, one sheet" and go back to main dialog. Choose format A1, borders 8 mm and spacing "0 10". Check the N-up imposition. Choose your saved Mixer rule. Save the dialog's settings for later use.

It is recommended to save all the settings with detailed description for later use.

It is not possible to use function "Fill Sheet" with N-up imposition while Mixer is in use.

30 Crop Marks, Calibration bars



To add crop marks, check the option. With TYPE button the properties of crop marks are set. Black or Registration (all separations) color can be used. Also Registration Marks and frames can be added to pages or to target sheet.

Calibration bars can be added

Default Calibration bars are CMYK bars, the rectangles are 5 mm wide.

Any PDF can be chosen to act as a Calibration bar. It should contain one row of rectangles with desired colors. The space available for the bar at the imposed sheet is then filled by repeating the bar.

If custom PDF is chosen its dimensions are shown next to the file's name. If option "Size" is used, the dimensions are shown using correct scale.

The "Size" option sets the smaller of the bar's dimensions to the value and the bigger dimension is changed in the same scale.

The values of "Left", "Right", "Top" and "Bottom" options set up the distance from the edge of the sheet.

The values of "Middle" options set up the shift from the center of the sheet. Positive values shift the vertical bars to the right and horizontal bars to the top.

The "Between" options put the bars between pages on the sheet. The value sets up the minimum distance from neighbouring Trim Box. If the whole bar does not fit in the space only its part is shown so the minimum distance is observed.

Calibration bars start and end by the Trim Box. Vertical bars start at the top Trim Box border and end at the bottom Trim Box border. The Left - Right shifts are set up arbitrarily.

Horizontal bars behave in analogous manner.

Crop Marks Settings ✕

Crop Marks

Add Crop Marks

mm Spacing

mm Length

mm Width

Frame

mm Width

Add Registration Marks

Add Corner Registration Marks

Offset from the sheet's edges

mm Horizontal

mm Vertical

Color

Black %

Registration

Calibration bars

Default My own

CMYK

Size mm

Vertical

Left

Right

Middle

Between

Horizontal

Top

Bottom

Middle

Between

31 Scaling

Pages may be scaled during imposition. The scale can be set both manually and automatically.

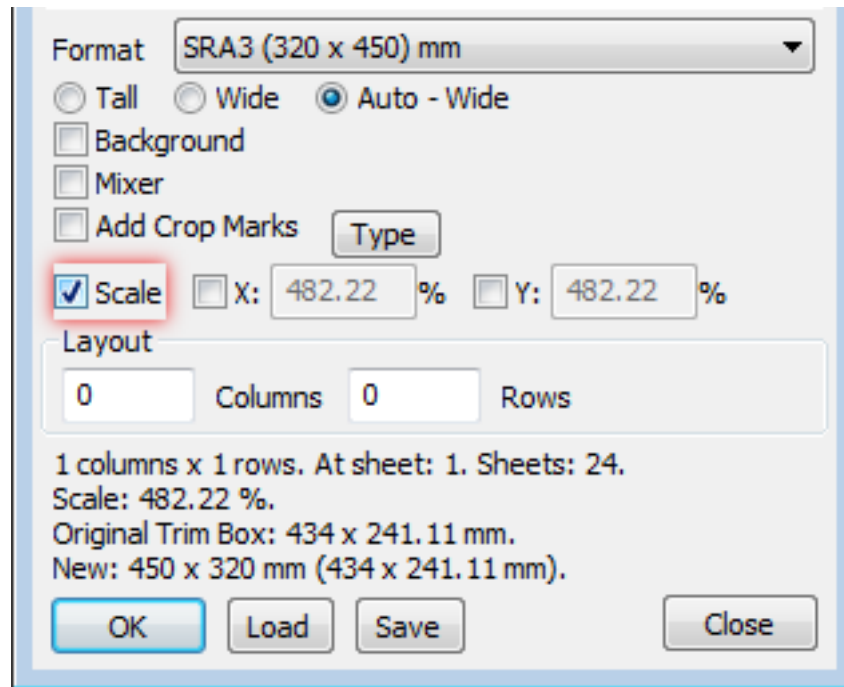
If both Columns and Rows are set to 0 the automatic scale is computed so 1 page fits the sheet. When Columns or Rows are set, the scale is computed so that the desired number of pages fit the sheet.

Pages can be scaled for all types of imposition.

If the scale is chosen, the information about page size is **already scaled**.

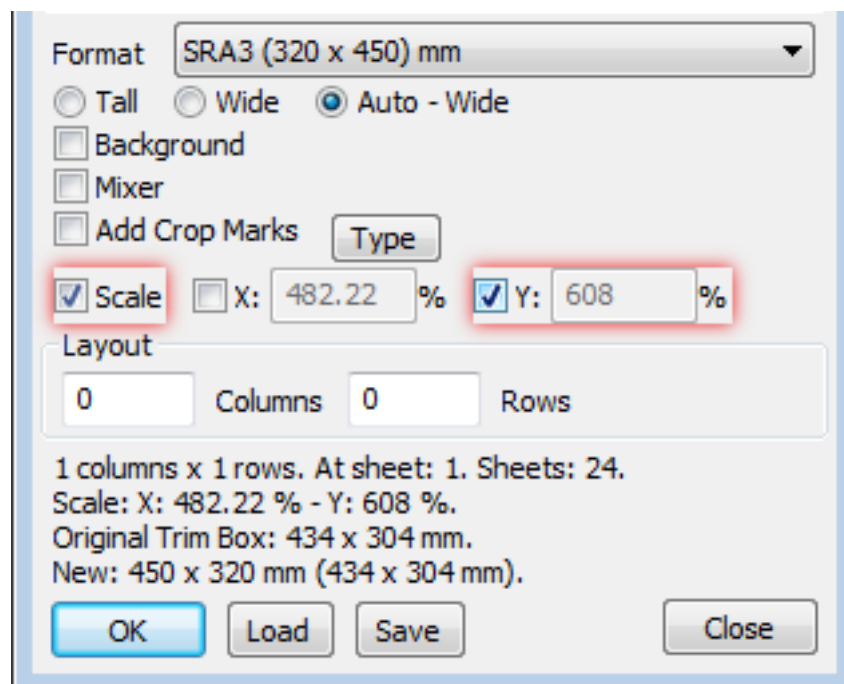
There are 4 possibilities to change the Scale:

- Automatic fit, ratio kept.



The screenshot shows a dialog box for imposition settings. The 'Format' dropdown is set to 'SRA3 (320 x 450) mm'. Under the orientation options, 'Auto - Wide' is selected. The 'Scale' checkbox is checked and highlighted with a red box. The 'X' and 'Y' scale values are both set to 482.22%. The 'Layout' section shows 0 columns and 0 rows. The summary text indicates: '1 columns x 1 rows. At sheet: 1. Sheets: 24. Scale: 482.22 %. Original Trim Box: 434 x 241.11 mm. New: 450 x 320 mm (434 x 241.11 mm)'. Buttons for 'OK', 'Load', 'Save', and 'Close' are at the bottom.

- Automatic fit, ratio NOT kept.



The screenshot shows the same dialog box as above, but with the 'Y' scale value set to 608% and highlighted with a red box. The 'Scale' checkbox is also checked and highlighted with a red box. The 'X' scale value remains at 482.22%. The 'Layout' section shows 0 columns and 0 rows. The summary text indicates: '1 columns x 1 rows. At sheet: 1. Sheets: 24. Scale: X: 482.22 % - Y: 608 %. Original Trim Box: 434 x 304 mm. New: 450 x 320 mm (434 x 304 mm)'. Buttons for 'OK', 'Load', 'Save', and 'Close' are at the bottom.

- Manual Scale, ratio kept.

Format: SRA3 (320 x 450) mm

Tall Wide Auto - Tall

Background

Mixer

Add Crop Marks

Scale X: 150 % Y: 150 %

Layout

Columns Rows

2 columns x 5 rows. At sheet: 10. Sheets: 24.
Scale: 150 %.
Original Trim Box: 135 x 75 mm.
New: 320 x 450 mm (274 x 391 mm).

- Manual Scale, ratio NOT kept.

Format: SRA3 (320 x 450) mm

Tall Wide Auto - Tall

Background

Mixer

Add Crop Marks

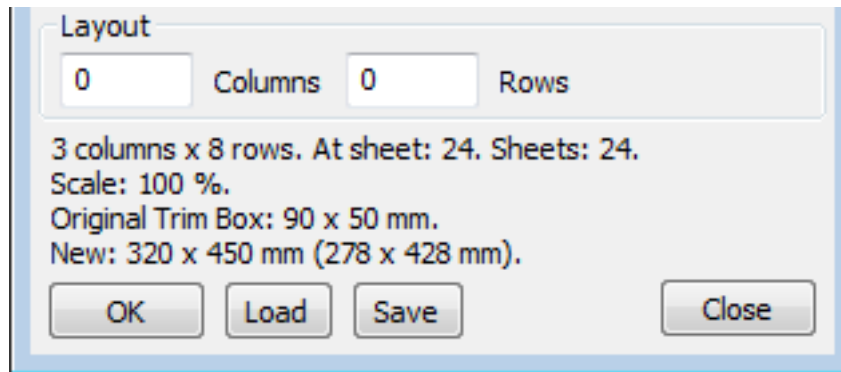
Scale X: 150 % Y: 50 %

Layout

Columns Rows

2 columns x 15 rows. At sheet: 30. Sheets: 24.
Scale: X: 150 % - Y: 50 %.
Original Trim Box: 135 x 25 mm.
New: 320 x 450 mm (274 x 431 mm).

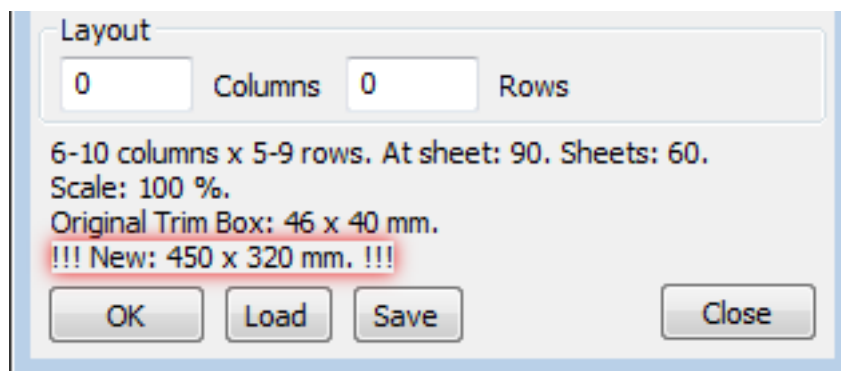
32 Layout, Target sheet information



Set the fields COLUMNS and ROWS to desired values. Put 0 (zero) to any of the fields to have the value computed automatically to the maximum value.

Under these fields you can see valuable information about new sheet:

- Number of columns and rows.
- Scale.
- Original page size (Trim Box), or Crop Box (when USE CROP BOX is checked). This size is already scaled! If the scale is changed, this is also changed. That enables you to reach the target size of the new document.
- Target sheet size and new Trim Box size in in parentheses.

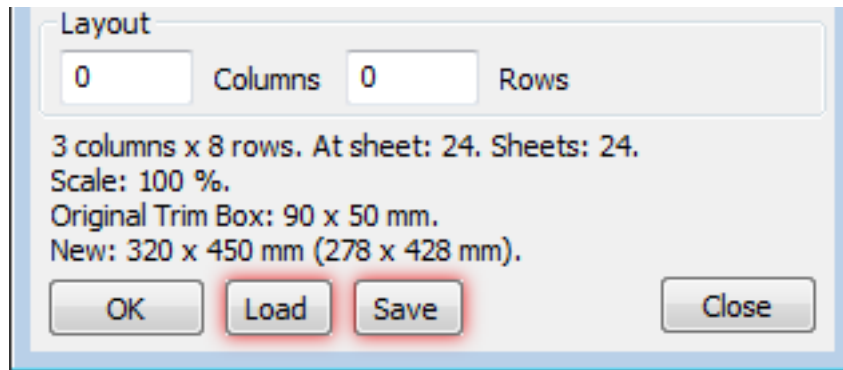


If the document contains pages of various dimensions, **3 exclamation marks** are placed in front and after the shown dimensions of new document. Whenever you see these exclamation marks, please be very careful to prevent unwanted imposition.

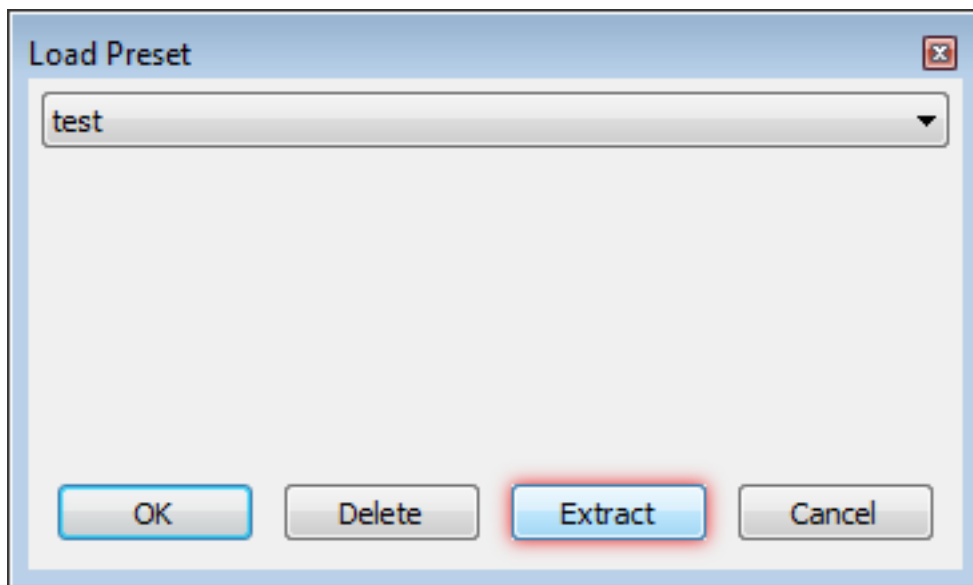
Get quick information about page dimensions by creating Report(See page 57).

When Trim Box is shown, the actual page size is displayed. If Trim Box is not shown, the FIRST page size is displayed.

33 Presets, extraction



Presets can be saved by clicking the SAVE button. Enter name and description for later use. Click LOAD button to load or delete such a preset.



Into every imposed PDF the information about PLDA settings is saved. It may be used to transfer the settings between computers and to retrieve the imposition information from imposed PDFs. Open the PDF, click LOAD and choose EXTRACT (button is active only if the PDF contains the PLDA settings).

34 Various page sizes inside one document

If the document contains pages of various dimensions, **3 exclamation marks** are placed in front and after the shown dimensions of new document. Whenever you see these exclamation marks, please be very careful to prevent unwanted imposition.

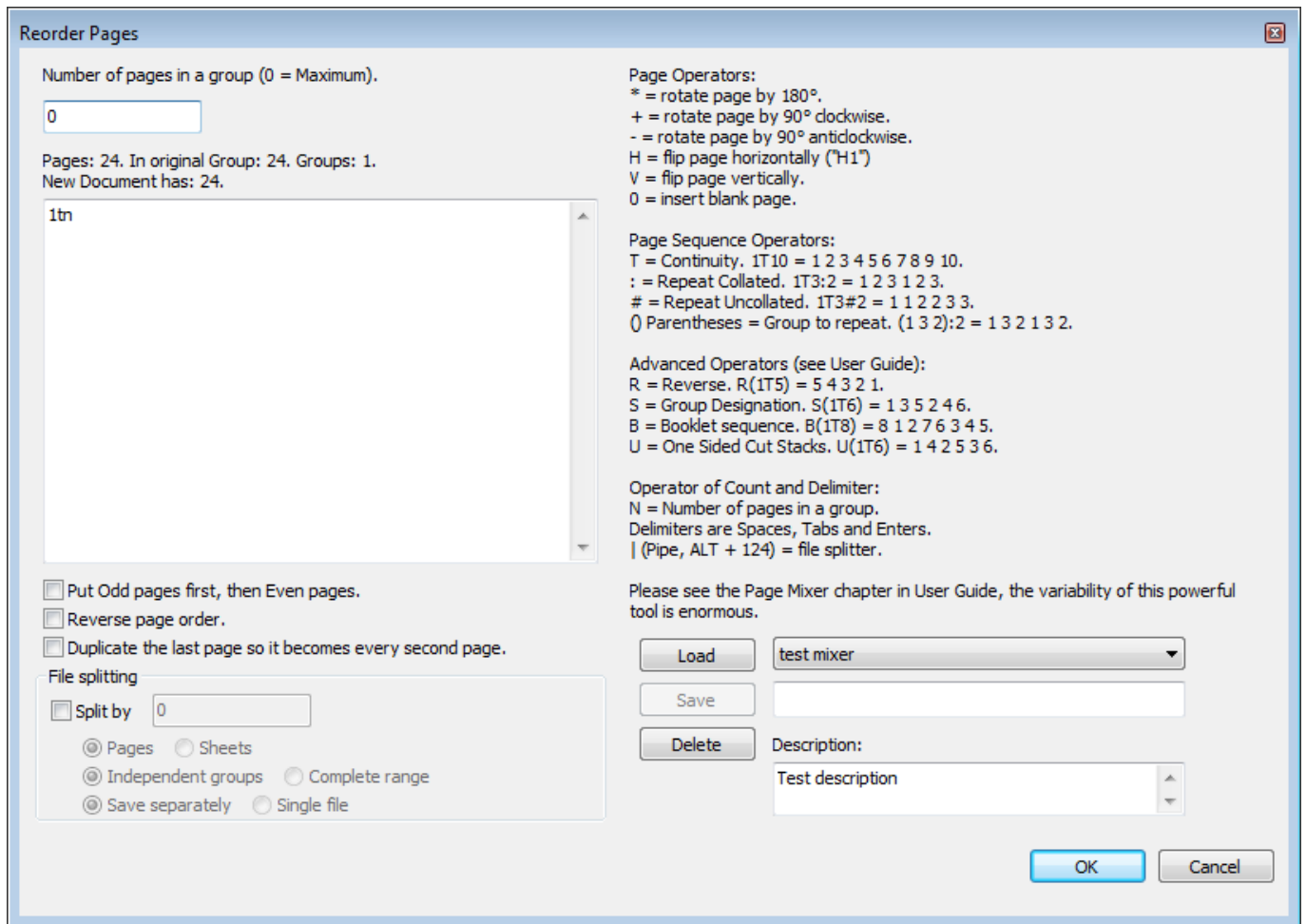
Get quick information about page dimensions by creating Report(See page 57).

if USE CROP BOX options is checked, the Crop Box is taken, otherwise Trim Box is taken as page size.

Sometimes a combined PDF may contain pages from different page layout software (e.g. Adobe InDesign and QuarkXPress) and as you can see the page sizes even though they were set the same in the programs may differ (older versions of QuarkXPress are not precise). Nevertheless, these differences are not really important in most cases. Therefore there is an option to ignore such small differences. You can set the sensitivity in **PLDA Page/Settings** dialog. The default sensitivity makes sure that A4 format both from Adobe InDesign and QuarkXPress is recognized as of the same size.

PAGE SENSITIVITY(See page 60) is displayed in chosen units.

35 Page Mixer



Sometimes the pages of original document have to be reordered to achieve the desired imposition.

Page Mixer enables you to change the page order according to set of rules (e.g. some pages if the document may be duplicated, blank pages can be inserted or some pages rotated or flipped).

Number of pages in one group determines the group at which the rule is applied. Once the first group is finished, the next one is started and so on until the end of document. Enter 0 (zero) to make the group as long as the original document - rule is applied just once.

Type in the rule. The rule may contain many operators that guide the order of the pages in the new document and their orientation.

List of operators of Page Mixer:

- Operators of page orientation:
 - * (asterisk) = Rotate the page by 180°.
 - + (plus) = Rotate the page by 90° clockwise (right).
 - - (minus) = Rotate the page by 90° anticlockwise (left).
 - **H** = flip page horizontally ("H1").
 - **V** = flip page vertically.
- 0 (zero) = insert blank page.
- N = Number of pages in a group (variable).

- Delimiters: spaces, tabs, enters. They separate page numbers. Usage of tabs and enters allow to create simple formatting for better readability of the rule.
- | (Vertical bar, ALT + 124) = file splitter. The imposed file is closed when this character is reached and a new file for imposing is created. This enables creating more files in one step (e.g. separate a publication's cover from inside pages)
- Operators of page sequence:
 - () (parentheses) = group. Example: (1 3 2):2 = 1 3 2 1 3 2.
 - T = Continuity. Example: 1T5 = 1 2 3 4 5.
 - R = Reverse. Example: R(1T5) = 5 4 3 2 1.
 - B = Booklet sequence. Example: B(1T8) = 8 1 2 7 6 3 4 5.
This operator may contain a parameter: number of pages in a group.
Syntax: B(pages, number of pages in a group). If parameter is missing, it is automatically set to number of pages in the sequence. If needed, blank pages are inserted at the end of the sequence.
Examples:
B(1T8) = B(1T8,8) = 8 1 2 7 6 3 4 5.
B(1T8,4) = 4 1 2 3 8 5 6 7.
B(1T6) = 0 1 2 0 6 3 4 5.
 - S = Group Designation. Example: S(1 2 3 4 5 6) = 1 3 5 2 4 6.
This operator may contain a parameter: number of groups.
Syntax: S(pages, number of groups). If parameter is missing, it is automatically set to 2. If needed, blank pages are inserted at the end of the sequence.
Example: S(1 2 3 4 5 6) = S(1 2 3 4 5 6,2) = 1 3 5 2 4 6.
Example: S(1 2 3 4 5 6,3) = (1 4 2 5 3 6).
 - U = One Sided Cut Stacks. Example: U(1 2 3 4 5 6,2) = 1 4 2 5 3 6.
This operator may contain a parameter: number of groups.
Syntax: U(pages, number of groups). If parameter is missing, it is automatically set to 2. If needed, blank pages are inserted at the end of the sequence.
Example: U(1 2 3 4 5 6,3) = 1 3 5 2 4 6.
Example: U(1 2 3 4 5,2) = 1 4 2 5 3 0.
Example: U((1t26) r(27t52),2) = 1 52 2 51 3 50 4 49 5 48 ...
- Operators of repetition:
 - : (colon) = Repeat collated. Example: (1 2 3):2 = 1 2 3 1 2 3.
 - # (hash) = Repeat uncollated. Example: (1 2 3)#2 = 1 1 2 2 3 3.

There are 3 frequent tasks that can be done with a single click:

- Put Odd pages first, then Even pages. From document (1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8) will create (1 3 5 7 2 4 6 8) document.
- Reverse page order.
- Duplicate the last page so it becomes every second page . From document (1 2 3 4 5) will create (1 5 2 5 3 5 4 5) document.

File splitting

Splitter automatically splits the imposed file or runs the Mixer rule by groups.

- **Splitter options:**

- Value of "Split by" field is the size of group for splitting.
- "Pages" / "Sheets" option chooses whether the imposed file should be split according to number of original pages or number of imposed sheets. In the latter case the number of groups (or parts) depends on additional imposing options. Sequential numbers are appended to the split file names for better orientation.
- "Independent groups" / "Complete range" option decides whether the Mixer rule is applied to each group separately or whether the rule is applied to the whole file and splitting is done as a last step.
- "Save separately" / "Single file" option sets up whether the groups are to be saved separately or whether all the groups should be joined back to single file again. Even when "Single file" is chosen, the "|" character in Mixer rule has priority and file is split.

Simple Examples of splitter options:

- **Example "Pages" / "Sheets"**

- Source file contains 4200 pages with variable data (e.g. numbers). 21 pages are on one sheet. The desired output are stacks of 100 sheets ready for the cutter so that after cutting stacks of 100 pages in order are ready for packing.
- Choose Cut Stacks One sided, ensure that 21 pages really fits the sheet.
- Click Mixer and enter "1TN" rule.
- Set "Split by" field to 2100, choose "Pages" (as we know that 2100 pages will create 100 sheets). Choose "Independent groups" because the first 100 sheets should only be created from first 2100 pages. Then choose "Save separately" so the imposed file is really split.
- Now imposition runs: first 2100 pages are taken then Mixer rule and One sided Cut Stacks are applied. Imposed file is saved. Then another 2100 pages are taken and so on until the end of source file.
- In this case 2 files are created. Without the splitter it is possible to create them in two steps, the first with "1T2100" Mixer rule, the second with "2101T4200" Mixer rule.
- If (in this case) we input "100" instead of "2100" and choose "Sheets" instead of "Pages" the outcome is the same.

- **Example "Independent groups" / "Complete range"**

- if an imposed file is to be split by 100 sheets (as in the first example), e.g. for collation, but the variable data (numbers) should run through all the sheets then choose "Complete range" option.
- If this option is used with the first example, see what happens:
- Instead of Mixer taking the first 2100 pages and applied the rules and imposition type, the whole 4200 pages group is taken, Mixer rule and One sided Cut Stacks is applied. Only then the splitter cuts through the document to create chunks of 2100 pages (or 100 sheets). If the two outcoming stacks of sheets are put one on the other, the variable data continue its flow across the stacks.

- **Example "Save separately" / "Single file"**

- Source file contains 24 pages. 4 pages are on one sheet. We need to take 8 pages chunks, impose them as Double sided Cut Stacks and then put these imposed sheets into a single file.

- Set the Mixer rule to "1TN". Set "Split by" field to "8", choose "Pages", "Independent groups" and "Single file".
- Mixer then takes pages 1 - 8, applies the imposition, then takes pages 9 - 16 and 17 - 24. The three imposed bits are then combined into a single file.

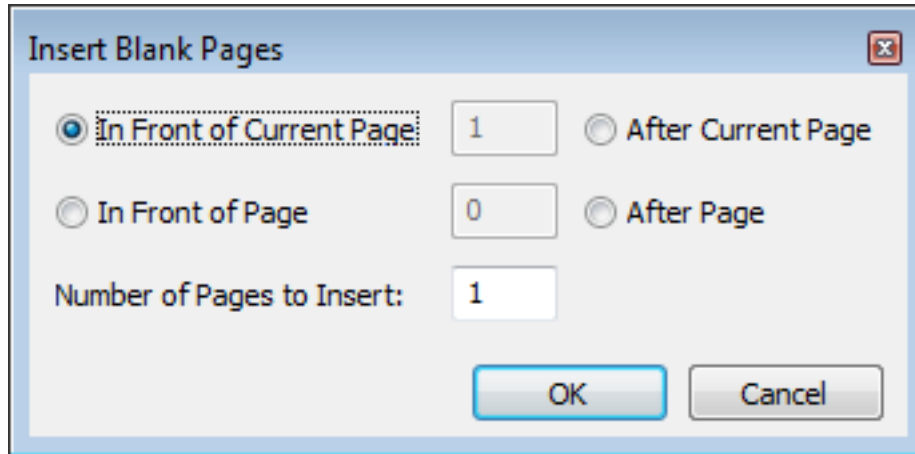
The fact that more files can be created during imposition affects also Actions. If this happens in one of the steps of an Action, all the subsequent steps are applied to all files that were created.

All the Page Mixer rules can be saved for later use. Enter name and description and click SAVE.

Mixer settings can be saved for later use. Enter name and click SAVE.

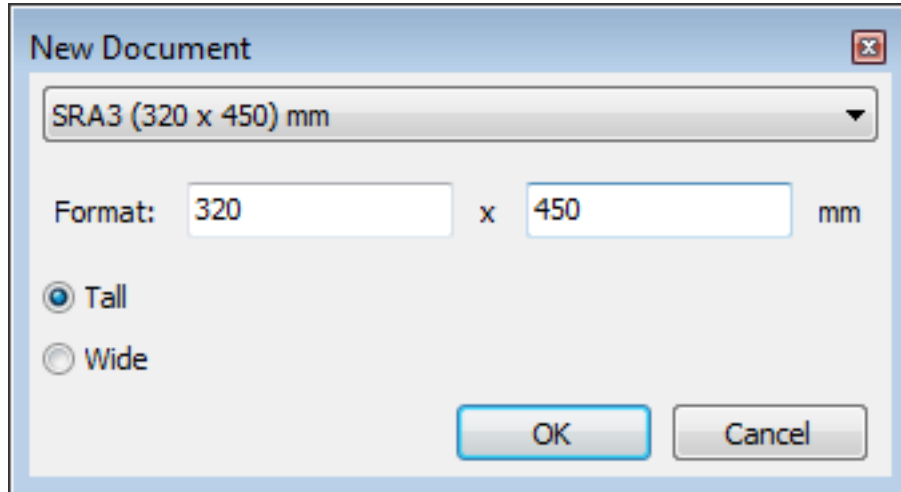
Name of chosen Mixer preset is shown in the main PLDA dialog (or "Temporary Mixer" if the settings were not saved). ALT + click to name to see complete Mixer rule.

36 Insert a Blank Page



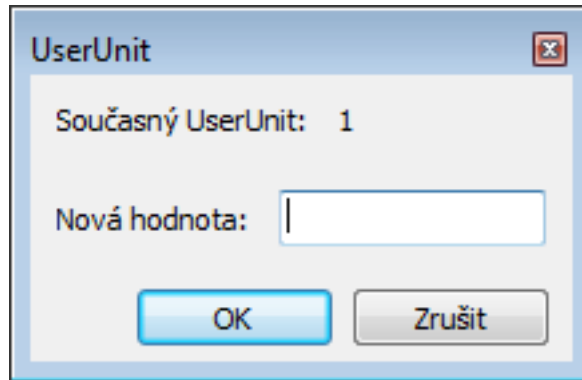
Insert one or more blank pages into the document.
Size and Trim Box of the blank pages are the same as of the first page of the document.

37 New Document



Create a new document of desired dimensions.

38 UserUnit



PLDA can only impose documents with UserUnit set to 1.

If documents with other UserUnit values are to be imposed, the value can be changed in this dialog and then set back after imposition.

UserUnit specification is here:

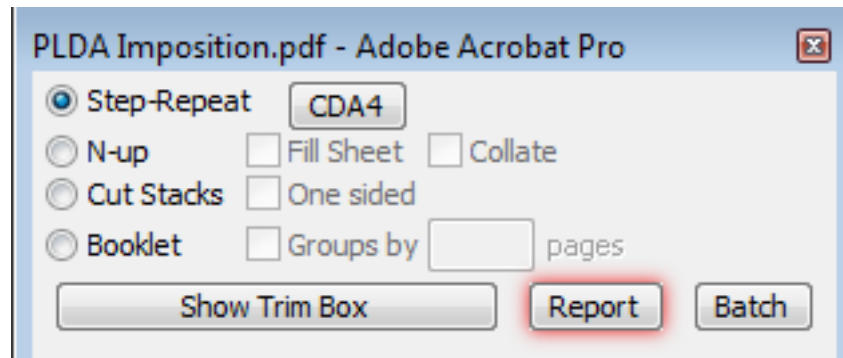
http://www.adobe.com/content/dam/Adobe/en/devnet/acrobat/pdfs/adobe_supplement_iso32000.pdf, page 129, Appendix C Implementation Limits, number 177.

Or here:

http://www.adobe.com/content/dam/Adobe/en/devnet/pdf/pdfs/pdf_reference_1-7.pdf, page 993.

In short, UserUnit acts as a dimension multiplier. From one millimeter when UserUnit is 1 there are two millimeters when UserUnit is 2.

39 Report



In PLDA 5.2 the "Report" button was moved from the main Sheet dialog to Page / Settings dialog. Report still co-operates with the main dialog and if a Mixer is set, it is taken into account.

Report creates a list of pages of the original document with their dimensions.

Pages of dimensions that differ from the first page of the document are highlighted by red color to let the user quickly see the potential problems.

Page numbers are rather page positions for imposition - if Cut Stacks, Booklet or Mixer is chosen, the numbers are not the page numbers as in original document. To quickly overview the pages dimensions, create Report while Step-repeat or N-up without Mixer is chosen.

Dimensions are scaled according to Scale.

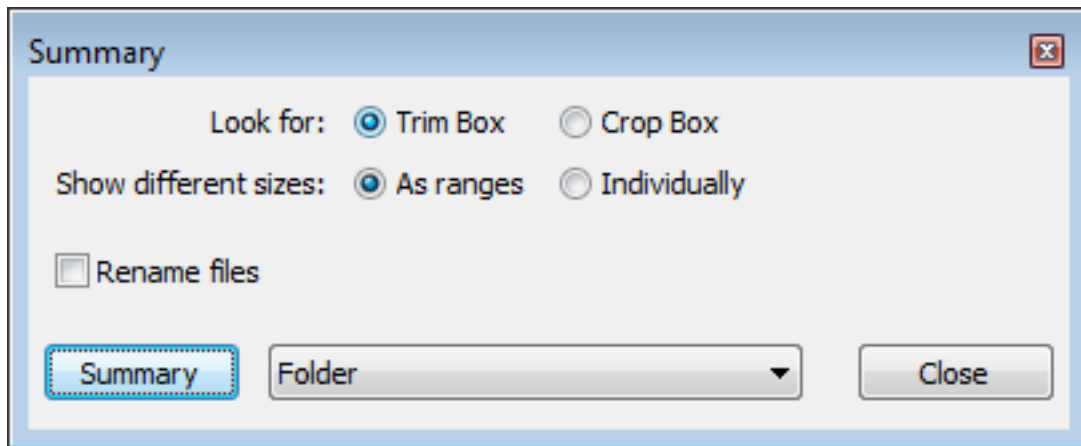
Additional Report Options (new in PLDA 2.1)

- **Size to Clipboard:** Click the **Report** button while holding SHIFT [SHIFT+click]. The size of the document will be copied into the clipboard. If Trim Box is shown, the size of actually displayed page is copied, if Trim Box is hidden, the size of the first page of the document is copied. If the document contains pages of various sizes, 3 exclamation marks will be added in front of the size.
- **Cutter information to Clipboard:** Click the **Report** button while holding Control [CTRL+click]. Information about imposed sheet (how it WILL BE imposed) with the current settings will be copied into the clipboard. There are 4 pieces of information:
 - 1. Size after cutting (original Trim Box).
 - 2. Cutter window (Size after cutting off the sheet borders - NEW Trim Box).
 - 3. Horizontal spacing.
 - 4. Vertical spacing.

If the document contains pages of various sizes ONLY a warning of such state is copied into the clipboard ("Document contains various page sizes").

- **RESULTING cutter information to Clipboard:** Click the **Report** button while holding both SHIFT and Control [SHIFT+CTRL+click]. Information about already imposed sheet will be copied into the clipboard - this operation is only valid when performed over document already imposed by PLDA (PLDA 2.1 and newer).

40 Summary



Summary serves to quickly orientate in a large number of PDF files.

An HTML summary with file names, number of pages and their dimensions is created.

User can choose to inspect Trim Box or Crop Box.

If a document contains pages of various dimensions, pages can be shown one after another in the original order or as ranges (e.g. 1-20,30-50 etc.)

Source files for Summary can be files currently open in Adobe Acrobat or a folder or a folder including subfolders.

if "Rename files" option is checked (not possible if source a files open in Adobe Acrobat) the file's dimension (width x height) is added at the beginning of the file's name.

After the Summary is created an information window is shown with hyperlink leading to Summary file.

3 tables are created in the Summary

- **Table 1 shows individual files and contains**

- Home folder of the file
- File name
- Number of pages
- Number of page if the pages are of various dimensions
- Width
- Height

- **Table 2 shows overview of formats and contains**

- Format (sorted from the smallest to the largest)
- Number of pages of the format
- Total number of pages

- **v 3 shows files sorted according to formats and contains**

- Format. Files containing pages of various dimensions are put at the top of the table.
- File name
- Number of pages
- Total number of pages of this format. However, pages of this format that are in files containing pages of various dimensions are not counted into this sum.

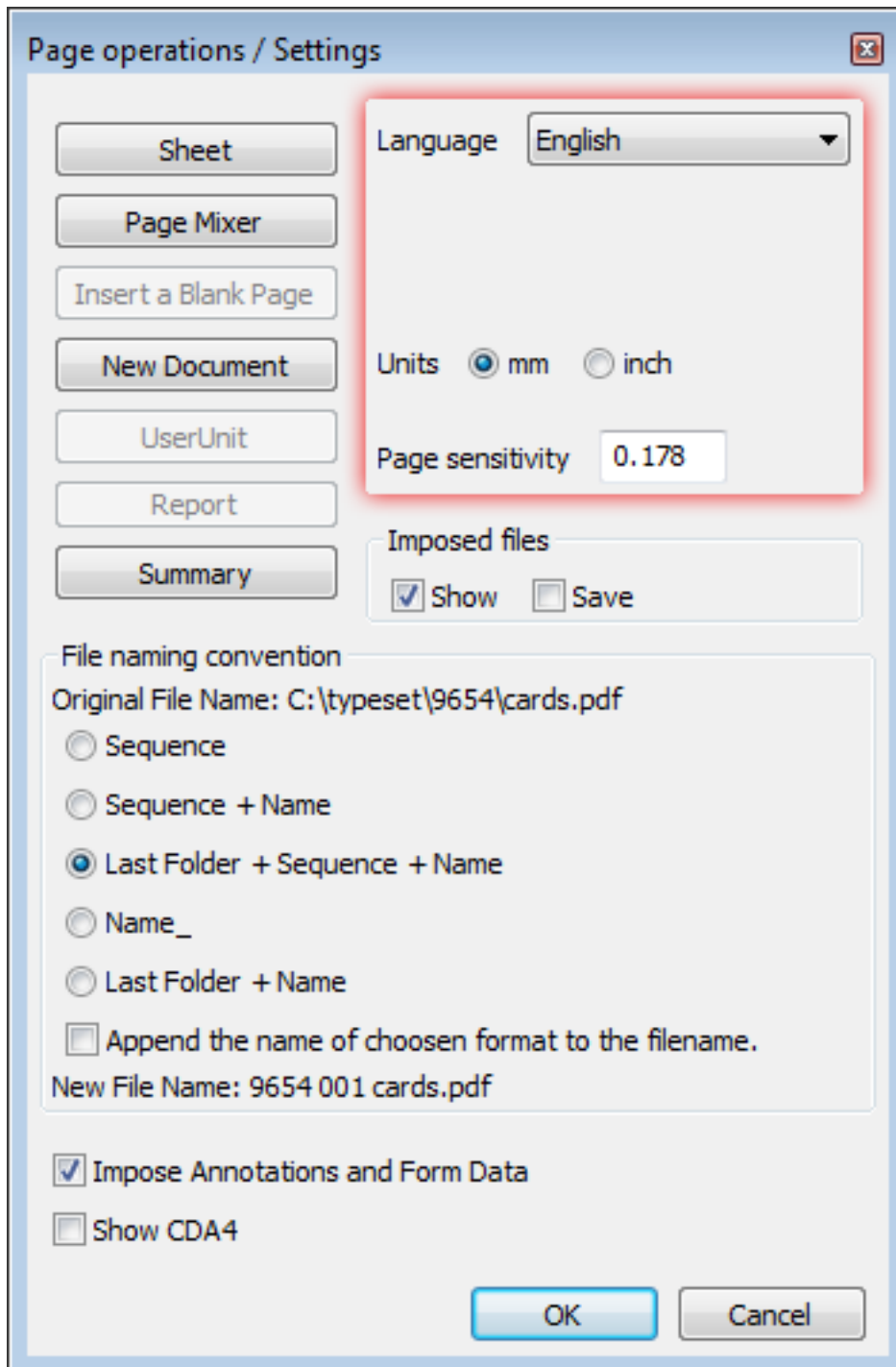
Files that are password protected or use UserUnit values other than 1 or are illegible are highlighted in Table 1.

Each table can be copied e.g. to Excel if more analysis is needed.

This is a sample Summary: <http://www.summary.plda.net/samples/summary-en.html>.

Summary is part of PLDA but can also be bought separately. http://order.kagi.com/cgi-bin/store.cgi?storeID=6FCND_LIVE.

41 Units, Language and Page sensitivity

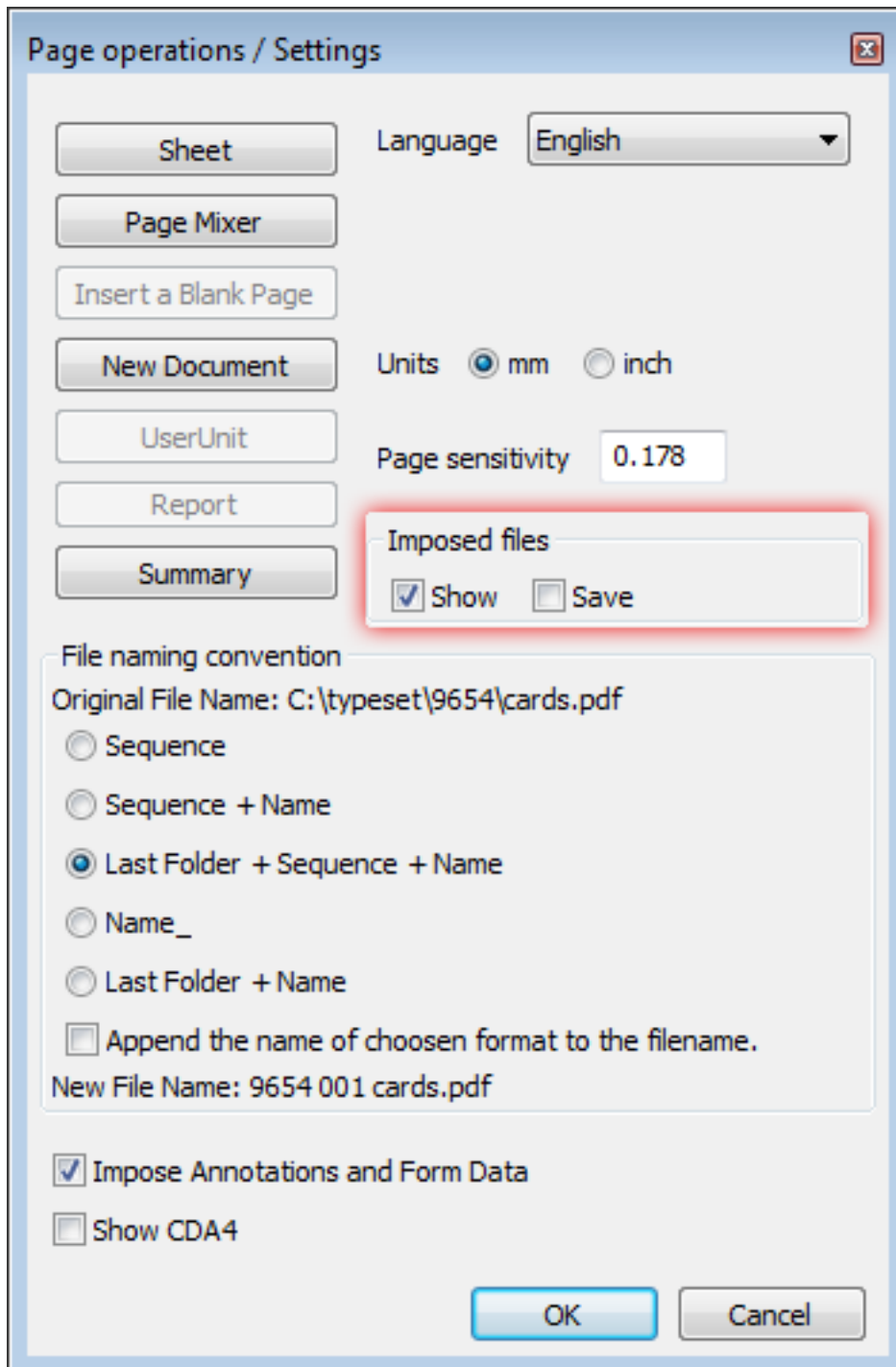


Choose the language and units that suit your needs.

Units may be millimeters or inches.

Sometimes a combined PDF may contain pages from different page layout software (i.e. Adobe InDesign and QuarkXPress) and as you can see the page sizes even though they were set the same in the programs may differ (older versions of QuarkXPress are not precise). Nevertheless, these differences are not really important in most cases. Therefore there is an option to ignore such small differences. The default sensitivity makes sure that A4 format both from Adobe InDesign and QuarkXPress is recognized as of the same size.

42 Automatic save of imposed documents

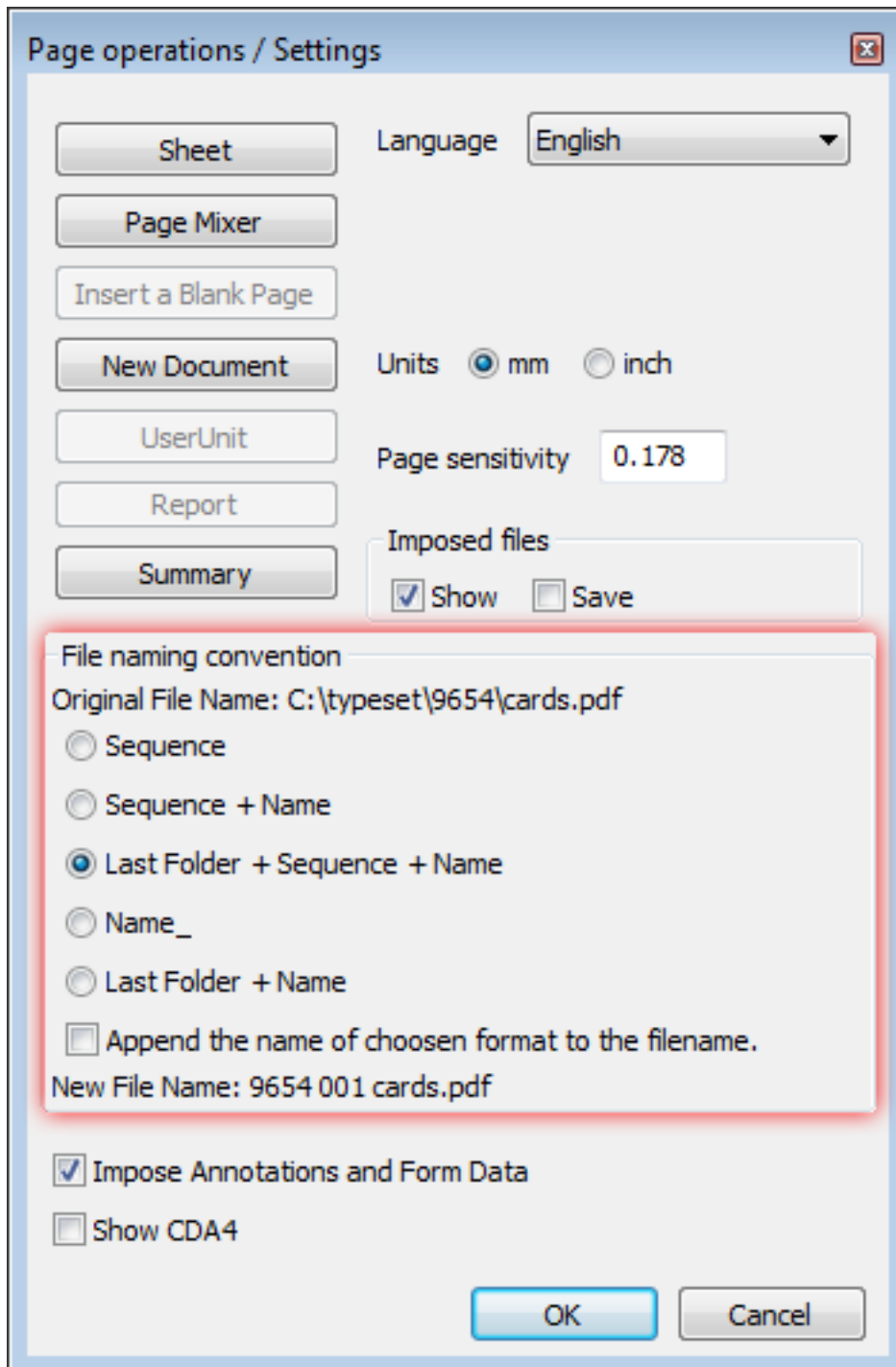


Choose whether imposed files are to be shown and/or saved automatically.

Automatic save stores the file in the folder where imposed document is.

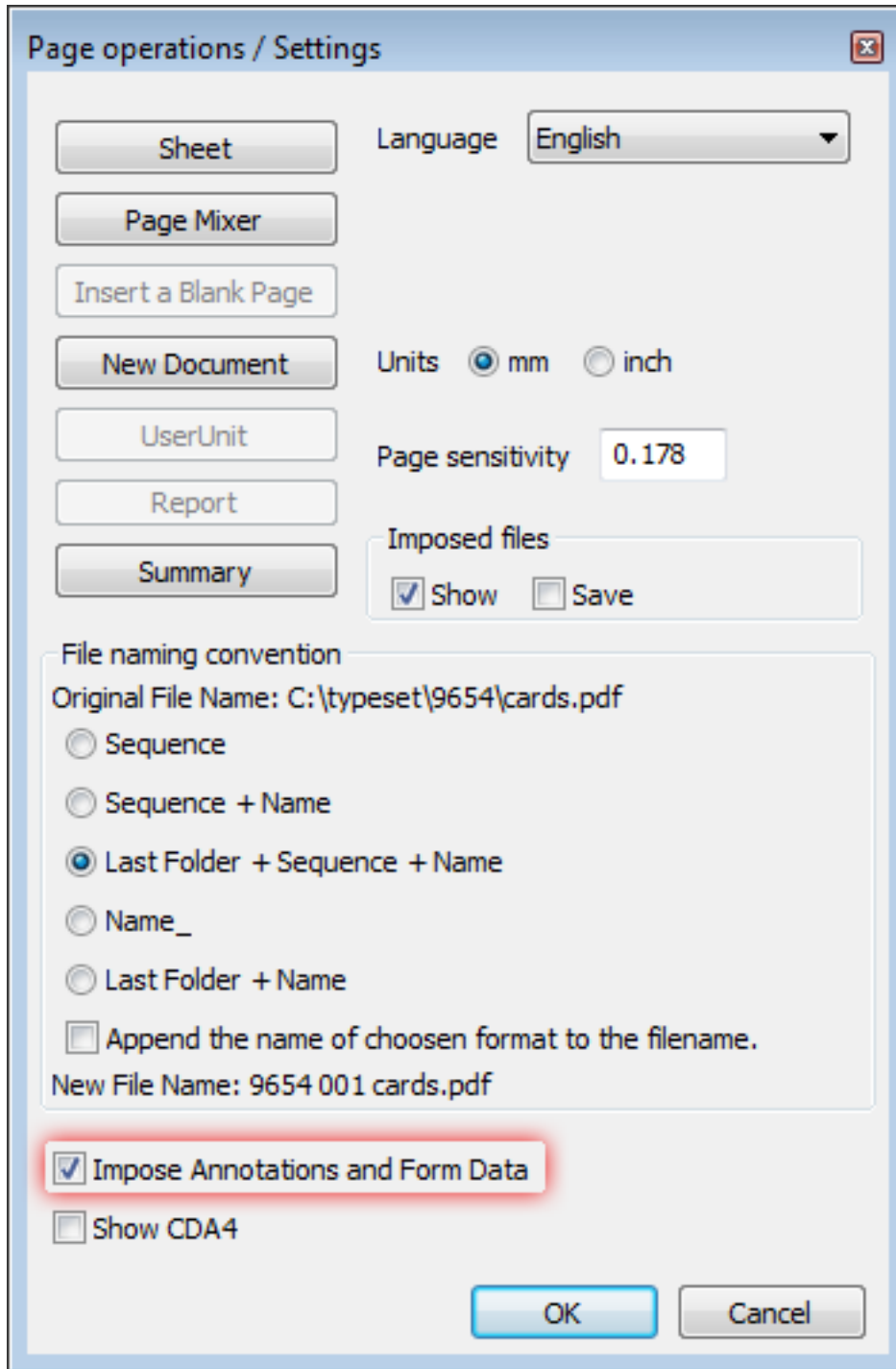
During automatic save the original PDF version (compatibility) is preserved. When saving from Adobe Acrobat the PDF version is set by Adobe Acrobat.

43 File Naming Convention



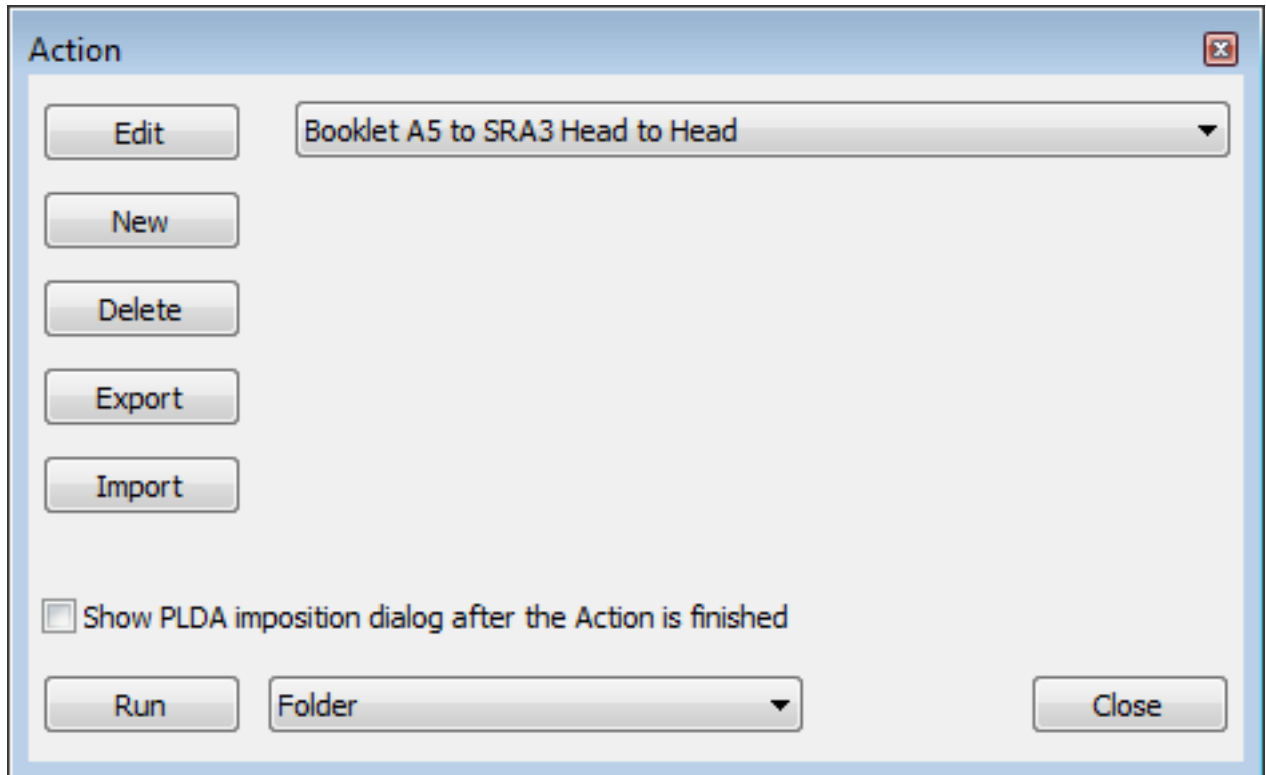
Here you can set up how the new documents will be named. Inserting a number sequence into the names makes it easier to navigate through the new documents. It also prevents an accidental overwriting of the original PDF.

44 Annotations and form data



Choose whether include annotations and form data in impositions. This option is turned on by default but can be changed any time.

45 Actions



ACTIONS are used to perform multiple impositions. There were some tasks that had to be done in several steps (separate impositions) until ACTIONS were introduced. Now these steps can be defined and grouped in an ACTION. For example get your background ready for next imposition, impose cover and inside of a booklet separately in one ACTION. Use ACTIONS to completely automate repeated tasks.

Each ACTION is built of STEPS. All imposition setting including Background, Crop marks and Virtual Mixers are defined in each STEP.

Resulting PDF of each STEP is automatically saved into the folder where the original PDF is. Name of such PDF is set according to user-defined rules.

It is possible to use PDF that was created in STEP 1 as a background for imposition in STEP 2, etc.

ACTIONS are also great for batch jobs.

ACTIONS dialog description:

- EDIT button: loads the STEPS of selected ACTION and these STEPS can be changed in any way. If the ACTION Name is changed then it will be saved as a new ACTION.
- NEW button: define new ACTION.
- DELETE button: delete selected ACTION.
- EXPORT button: creates an PDF that contains a hidden definition of selected ACTION. This PDF can be used to transfer the ACTION between computers and to archive the ACTION.
- IMPORT button: if there is a definition of an ACTION in currently open PDF the ACTION is imported into ACTION list.
- "Show PLDA imposition dialog after the Action is finished" Checkbox: does what it says.

- RUN button: runs selected ACTION. Choose from 4 modes:
 - 1) Current file
 - 2) All opened files
 - 3) Folder
 - 4) Folder + all subfolders

46 Steps of an Action

Step

Action Name:
Booklet A5 to SRA3 Head to Head

Popis:

Step

1 < > 1/2 Add

Set Show Delete

Impose result of step number (0 = original PDF):
0

Background from step number (0 = undefined):
0

Move this step to position number:
Move

Show the resulting PDF
 Overwrite an existing file automatically
 Skip this Step

If the following naming rules are not filled up, the general naming rules will apply.

Folder
Prefix

Counter
Name

OK Cancel

Each STEP of an ACTION is defined in this dialog.

Name and Description of an ACTION are the same for all STEPS.

The current STEP number is shown. Use arrows next to it to move backwards/forwards. Number of STEPS is also shown.

Dialog description:

- SET button: Saves the PLDA settings including Bleeds, Background, Virtual Mixer and Crop Marks for this STEP.

- SHOW button: sets the PLDA dialog according to setting saved in this STEP.
- ADD button: adds new STEP after current STEP.
- DELETE button: deletes current STEP.
- "Impose result of step number (0 = original PDF):" choice:
 - If set to 0 (Zero): the original PDF file is imposed.
 - If set to a number bigger then 0: the PDF that was created in STEP of selected number is imposed.
 - If set to "Name": input the name of a file to impose (e.g. "leaflet.pdf"), that should be imposed. This file is searched for in the folder where original PDF is.
- "Background from step number (0 = undefined):" choice:
 - If set to 0 (Zero): the original background definition is used. If there is a file defined as background, the file is searched for at the exact location (folder + name, absolute path).
 - If set to a number bigger then 0: PDF that was created in the STEP of selected number will be used as background for imposition in this STEP.
 - If set to "Name": input the name of a file to impose (e.g. "background.pdf"), that should be used as background in this imposition. This file is searched for in the folder where the original PDF is.
- "Move this step to position number:" choice: change position of a STEP inside current ACTION.
- "Show the resulting PDF" checkbox: PDF created by this STEP will be opened in Adobe Acrobat after the ACTION is finished.
- "Overwrite an existing file automatically" checkbox: PDF is saved without checking whether a file of the same name already exists.
- "Skip this Step" choice: this STEP will be ignored.
- Naming rules: if none of the rules is used, the files will be named according to general rules set in PLDA. The filename is built by combining the elements "Folder + Prefix + Name + Counter". If "Name" is not defined, the original PDF filename (without extension) is used. Define "Name" WITHOUT the extension (for example "RESULT").

47 Hot Folders

Hot Folders

Choose Hot Folder
C:\polda\temp

Add a Folder Remove a Folder

Hot Folder Information
Folder is set to a saved Action

Hot Folder Settings

Current Settings

Saved Preset 4040K Rayfilm

Action Booklet A5 to SRA3 Head to Head

Output Folder for Imposed Files
 Default Custom

Output Folder for Source Files
 Default Custom

Setup the Hot Folder Show Hot Folder Settings

Interval of Hot Folders Check in seconds
15

Hot Folders Check
 ON OFF | Show Progress

OK Cancel

Working with Hot Folders

PLDA can save imposition settings to a folder. When a PDF file is copied to such a folder and the Hot Folder Check is ON, the file is imposed according to saved settings.

A Folder can be set-up:

- To Current PLDA settings
- To Saved PLDA settings (presets)
- To Saved Action

The settings are saved to "PLDASettings.info" file inside the folder. If the original settings (e.g. Action) are changed, this change does not affect the folder settings. To change to folder settings the folder must be set-up again.

Each folder has individual output folders for source and imposed files. All files are moved to "Out" subfolder by default. If the output folder does not exist it will be created during Hot Folders processing. The files can be moved to any folder including another Hot Folder.

After choosing Hot Folder, its settings and output folders, button "Setup the Hot Folder" must be clicked to save the settings to the folder.

Button "Show Hot Folder Settings" shows the current settings. If the folder is set to an Action, the action settings can be changed directly in the shown dialog.

If there is an error during Hot Folder processing, the processing is Stopped, Hot Folder Check is turned OFF and user is informed about the error.

Hot Folder Check

Hot Folder Check can only be run when Adobe Acrobat is running.

Hot Folder Check can be turned ON and OFF in the Hot Folders dialog or by clicking the icon which informs about Hot Folder Check status:



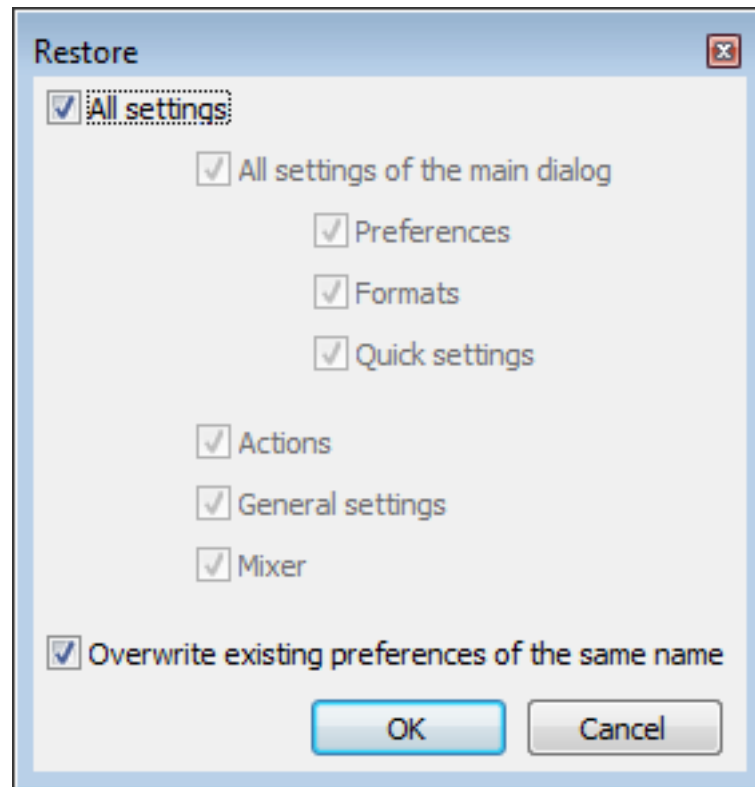
48 Settings backup and restore

Backup

To create backup of all PLDA settings, choose "Backup" option from "PLDA" menu. Then choose name of PDF file to store the settings in.

Restore

To restore PLDA settings choose "Restore" option from "PLDA" menu.



After choosing the file to restore the settings from it is possible to select whether all settings should be restored or only some of them.

The presets of the same name as currently stored can be overwritten or a number is appended to the name so no overwriting occurs.

49 Menu, Icons



PLDA menu is inserted into the main menu.

Dialogs can be shown/hidden by clicking at the icons that are added to the toolbar.

50 Know limitations

Known limitations are:

1. Acrobat Reader is not sufficient to run PLDA.
2. Generally if you run into problems while RIPing, try to get the PDF from Distiller first (or save the PDF as PS and distil yourself).

