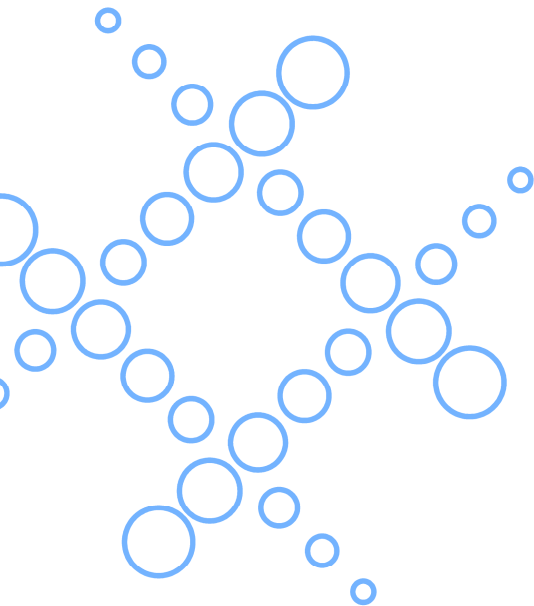
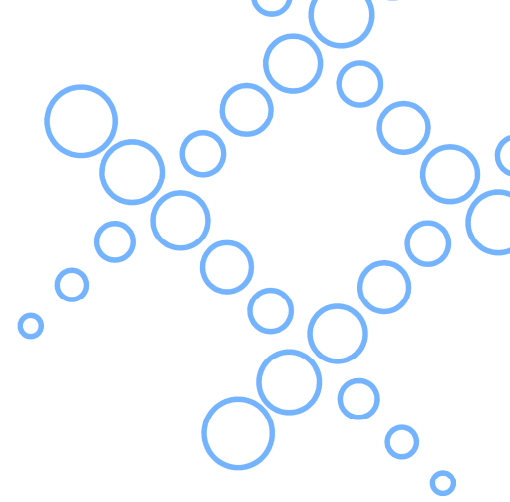


PlotWorks®

Release Notes Version 7.1



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Overview & General Notes

PLP is pleased to announce the immediate availability of PlotWorks version 7.1. These release notes apply, either all or in part, to the following installation profiles:

- PlotWorks Pro
- PlotWorks Convert
- PlotWorks EZ

Please review these release notes carefully prior to installation.

This documentation is subject to the PlotWorks End User License Agreement (EULA). By using any of the instructions provided herein, you indicate your acceptance of those terms and conditions.

Hardware Requirements

PlotWorks is a computationally intensive application. To ensure optimal performance please verify that the PC has adequate resources. Both ideal (recommended) and minimum PC specifications are provided below.

PlotWorks takes advantage of multiple CPU cores when processing PDF and PostScript files – purchase as much CPU (cores and clock speed) as you can afford.

PC Specifications – Ideal (Recommended)

Windows 7/Vista:

- 64-bit operating system
- Quad core CPU (or better)
- 4GB memory (or better)

Windows XP:

- 32-bit operating system
- Quad core CPU (or better)
- 4GB memory

For a PlotWorks Server that is rasterizing for a color printer, memory should be increased to 8GB for 64-bit operating systems.

PC Specifications – Minimum

Windows 7/Vista:

- 32-bit operating system
- Dual core CPU
- 4GB memory

Windows XP:

- 32-bit operating system
- Dual core CPU
- 2GB memory (4GB if rasterizing for a color printer)

Supported Operating Systems

PlotWorks may be installed with any of the following operating systems:

- Windows XP Professional (SP2 or later), 32-bit or 64-bit
- Windows Vista, 32-bit or 64-bit
- Windows 7, 32-bit or 64-bit

PCI interface cards for legacy devices require the 32-bit version of Windows XP Professional (SP2 or later). The following PCI cards are not compatible with Windows Vista or Windows 7, either 32- or 64-bit:

- Scorpion
- Mesquite
- Tarantula
- Gecko
- FireWire
- SCSI

Legacy devices requiring a PCI interface card include:

- KIP 8000 printer
- Océ 9800 printer and scanner
- Xerox Large format Scan System (a.k.a. Synergix Scanner)
- Any monochrome LED printer without an embedded controller

Hardware License Key

This software requires a unique hardware license key ("key") for every system. The key is a squat metallic cylinder similar in appearance to a button cell battery. A unique four or five digit identifier ("key number") is etched on the top face of each key.

The key must be physically connected to the PC during operation. If the key is not present the software will not function. If you lose the key you must repurchase the product.

The key may be hosted by a USB port adapter, a parallel port adapter or a compatible PCI interface card: Scorpion, Mesquite, Gecko or Tarantula.

New Systems

USB port adapters are provided with each new system. The key is contained within the adapter and the key number is printed on the external label. Do not place the USB port adapter in a USB port until prompted.

Existing Systems

The key for existing systems may be hosted by a parallel port adapter. Please note that the parallel port adapter is not compatible with Windows Vista or Windows 7, either 32- or 64-bit. Please contact Customer Support if you wish to exchange your parallel port adapter for a USB port adapter.

The key for existing systems with legacy devices (see previous section) may be located on one of the PCI interface cards. An external adapter, either parallel or USB, is not required.

Activation Codes

Activation codes are required during installation. These codes are unique to each system and are tied to the hardware license key. New activation codes are required when upgrading from an earlier version.

Job Ticket Compatibility

Job tickets (.plp files) created with PlotWorks 7.1 are not compatible with systems running earlier versions. PlotWorks provides backwards compatibility, so that a system running version 7.1 is able to open job tickets created with earlier versions.

Privileges and Permissions

Administrative privileges are required for installation. Power User privileges are no longer required for normal operation. You are no longer required to disable User Account Control (UAC) on Windows Vista or Windows 7.

Enhancements and New Features

In addition to numerous improvements related to performance, stability and usability, this release includes major enhancements and new features described below.

Performance

One of the primary objectives of this release was to improve performance in several functional areas:

- Viewing/Preflight
- File processing
- Job submission
- Multitasking

Viewing/Preflight

The time required to view multi-page PDF files stored on network shares has been reduced by as much as 70 percent. The Job Explorer has been optimized to reduce the number and magnitude of round trips between the workstation and the file server while rendering each page.

Additionally, we have implemented a predictive imaging algorithm that dramatically reduces the time required to advance from one sheet to the next during preflight.

File Processing

A new implementation of the PDF/PostScript interpreter reduces the time required to view and rasterize PDF files. In some cases there will be little or no change in total rasterization time, while in other cases the time may be reduced by as much as 90 percent. Performance gains will be most noticeable on systems with four or more CPU cores.

Job Submission

Since the last major release, with the assistance of several customers we identified and resolved three defects which were responsible for slow job submissions, even over 1000Mbps networks. The resulting performance gain will be most noticeable with larger jobs.

Multitasking

In the PlotWorks client-server architecture, the PlotWorks Server is generally configured to perform multiple tasks concurrently: watch for new jobs, process incoming jobs, and rasterize to one or more printers. Prior to this release, when multitasking, processing was given a higher CPU priority than printing – this could result in momentary pauses on the printer. The CPU prioritization logic has been revised to eliminate this behavior.

Job Center

Included with PlotWorks Pro, Job Center is a client/server application that allows you to:

- Centrally log all jobs regardless of job type or department (wide format, small format, color, monochrome)
- Create pre-populated printable work orders
- Quickly access account and contact information from anywhere in the company
- Monitor production status from your iPhone, iPad or iPod Touch
- Organize and rapidly access all job- and project-related files
- Maintain order, account and project notes centrally
- Have visibility into all open jobs via a centralized job board (large flat panel display or web browser)

The latest implementation of Job Center provides support for multiple customer contacts per account, a capability typically found only in expensive Customer Relationship Management (CRM) systems.

Please see our website (www.plp.com) for more information.

eOrder

Included with PlotWorks Pro, eOrder provides a simple and secure way for your customers to submit jobs to your organization. Its unified workflow for all job types including color, monochrome, large format and small format, makes eOrder an ideal solution for online job submission.

Tightly integrated with PlotWorks Pro, eOrder provides production automation for AEC work. Jobs consisting of large format plans can be configured to automatically appear in a PlotWorks Job Queue, pre-processed and ready for operator review.

The latest implementation of eOrder is highly configurable. The order form has been split into multiple tabs, presented to the submitting user in wizard fashion. Each tab may be tailored to meet your requirements for information gathering, including the additional of custom fields such as select lists, text fields, radio button and check boxes.

Please see our website (www.plp.com) for more information.

PDF Processing

Of the 250+ issues addressed in this release, 81 are specifically related to PDF processing. The new PDF/PostScript interpreter:

- Reduces processing and viewing times
- Allows you to process more/newer PDF variants
- Emulates CID font resources when not embedded
- Properly expands most multi-page files
- Improves fidelity with both monochrome and color output

DWF/DWFX Processing

Of the 250+ issues addressed in this release, 18 are specifically related to DWF/DWFX processing. The new DWF interpreter addresses several long-standing issues related to font handling, transparency and fidelity.

Supported Printers

Since the last major version release we have added bi-directional support for the following 600dpi large format printers:

Mode	Make	Model
Monochrome	Lanier	LW426
Monochrome	Lanier	LW5100
Monochrome	Lanier	LW5100en
Monochrome	Lanier	LW7140
Monochrome	Lanier	LW7140en
Monochrome	Océ	PlotWave 900
Monochrome	Ricoh	MP W3601
Monochrome	Ricoh	MP W5100
Monochrome	Ricoh	MP W5100en
Monochrome	Ricoh	MP W7140
Monochrome	Ricoh	MP W7140en
Monochrome	Savin	3406WD
Monochrome	Savin	5100WD
Monochrome	Savin	7140WD
Monochrome	Savin	en5100WD
Monochrome	Savin	en7140WD

Please see our website (www.plp.com) for a complete list of supported printers.

Output to File

Output to File enables you to rapidly batch convert any supported image format to either TIFF or PDF format, as either single- or multi-page files. This capability is provided with each PlotWorks Server and PlotWorks Convert license.

In addition to benefiting from many of the performance and interpreter changes described above, Output to File has been enhanced to reduce the number of steps required to place the resulting files in your destination of choice.

More Information

Please contact us if you have questions or require assistance.

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