

Technical Brief

Product Description

Quark™ is the de facto standard software used by professional printers.

eProof™ is a specialized soft proofing application that allows users to perform online editing of Quark™ document text. The system saves edited text as a new Quark™ file, then submits it directly into a print management system.

eProof™ operates as a sub-system of larger, “container” applications, such as online ordering systems for forms and stationary.

How it Works

The printer creates an editable Quark™ document and sends it to iConcepts for preparation. iConcepts formats the document for remote editing and uploads it to the container application.

To order printing, the user calls up the Quark™ document and changes the editable text through the container application. No Quark™ or printing expertise is required. The user may change and preview the edited Quark™ document online as often as necessary before obtaining final approval and placing the print order.

Edited Quark™ documents are sent automatically to the printer as an approved print-ready proof. No additional proofing or approvals are required.

Components

Document Preparation

Once a document received from the printer has passed the quality control check, it is formatted for remote editing. The document is then uploaded to the container application and a table in the database containing document-specific information is created.

Edit and Approval

At the start of the editing process, eProof™ creates a working copy of the source Quark™ document. All changes are made to the working document. Through eProof™, the user enters replacement text on a web page. eProof™ then inserts the text into the working document.

eProof™ dynamically prepares a jpg image of each document after the replacement text is entered so the user can see both what the document currently looks like and how it will look with the changes made. This can be done as often as necessary.

To send a document to the printer, the user must explicitly accept changes.

Printing

Approved Quark™ documents are moved into an ftp repository accessible by the printer. eProof™ sends the printer an email that the document has been approved and is ready for



printing. The printer may then retrieve the document via ftp. The Quark™ document may then be submitted directly into the printer's system without changes.

Supported Environments

The key to eProof™ is the ability to manipulate the Quark™ files (replace text) via proprietary scripts developed by iConcepts. The eProof™ system only works with text embedded in a Quark™ document file – it does not manage images.

Web pages are delivered via a web server running Microsoft's IIS linked to servers (Mac) running the Quark™ software. The eProof™ Engine monitoring software ensures both the availability of the Quark™ software and the integrity of the server environment. Document configuration data is maintained in database tables.