

Q&A: World of Fiery Webinar - Fiery color series

The building blocks of color process control

Q. What is the approximate cost and process for recertifying an EFI™ ES-2000 Spectrophotometer?

A. EFI spectrophotometer recertification is done by X-Rite®. Visit <https://www.xrite.com/service-support/services-offered/repair-certification> to start the process. Recertification costs vary per device, X-Rite will be able to give you exact costings, as a rough guide the ES-2000 cost will be around \$550.

Q. Is an I1 pro 2 suited for hardware calibrating my printer?

A. An X-Rite i1Pro2 is suitable for calibrating most color printers. There are newer X-Rite and EFI spectrophotometers available that have more features and are faster, but the X-Rite i1Pro2 or ES-2000 is still an ideal instrument for most color management needs.

Q. We use Fiery® XF 7, Fiery Color Profiler Suite, and an X-Rite spectrophotometer for calibration for Fine Art print (mostly Hahnemuehle media). Could you advise on more webinars for precise RGB calibration?

A. Device calibration in Fiery XF for use with RGB drivers actually uses the calibration information from the printer manufacturer's driver for the selected media. You would, therefore, want to make certain that you are selecting the appropriate media when creating the calibration as the result of the calibration is truly in the hands of your printer manufacturer. If you find that this is not providing you with enough control, you should consider using a CT (contone) or HT (halftone) driver, if available.

Q. Will there be a recording of this session?

A. Yes, all registrants and attendees will receive a follow-up email a few days after the session with links to the webinar recording, presentation, and any resources mentioned.

Q. How does using an internal system like the Konica IQ 501 compare to manually calibrating.

A. The process is essentially the same. The major benefit is that it essentially eliminates inaccuracy caused by measurement variables caused by user error.

Q. Do you have a recommended Spectrophotometer for outstanding performance and reliable results?

A. The EFI ES-3000 is the latest spectrophotometer device released this year. It works perfectly with Fiery digital front ends, and color management solutions like Fiery Color Profiler Suite.

Q. We use GRACoL® for our machine settings, but often change output on the machine ""bypass Conversion"" for jobs that are CMYK built because our boss says it doesn't change the numbers and is more accurate. Adobe updated base settings and now get more jobs in as RGB. We had a standard to have Adobe suite in GRACoL but ran into issues with colors being changed. We need to update...thus now confused over colors.

A. It sounds like your color management workflow as a whole needs assessing. We'd like to recommend two eLearning courses; <https://learning.efi.com/course/color-340-fiery-system-color-fundamentals> and <https://learning.efi.com/course/fiery-301-optimizing-color-and-consistency>.

Q. Are the slides of this presentation available somewhere for download?

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Q. Do you feel device link profiles are better than the standard ICC workflow?

A. It depends upon what you are trying to accomplish. A standard ICC workflow can often provide perfectly acceptable color. Where device link profiles are of a benefit is when you are trying to optimize the output to reduce Delta-E values or to more closely match the output from multiple machines.

Q. Any advice on getting a closer match between in-house color and brokered color?

A. The first thing to understand is if your print suppliers (brokered color) are working to a suitable print specification. If they are, then it makes sense to work to the same specification. If they are not, you could advise that this is something they should/could look into. EFI has Learning.efi.com courses that cover this topic, they are free for you and your customers. If you are already working to the same specification, and aren't seeing results that are in tolerance for that specification, it's time to work through the Checklists and Standard Operating Procedures provided on this webinar for both parties.

Q. You said you can create custom swatch books, what software is needed to do this?

A. You can use [Fiery Spot-On](#) or [Fiery Spot Pro](#) if available on your Fiery server.

Q. So, I know Fiery Command WorkStation® can do pass/fail measurements, but can Fiery do verification tracking over a period of time for large format machines like VUTEK® and Fabric printers?

A. EFI has a solution EFI ColorGuard™, a cloud-based application to track verification results over time and ensure SOP in calibration and verification are accomplished on time. This is a solution for cutsheet printers at the moment.

Q. Since it only works for cutsheets is there a software that you recommend?

A. Fiery Verify can be used for verification with Fiery proServer and Fiery XF, but the "overtime" component would need to be a manual process at this point.

Q. How can you check if your lighting that you have in place is correct?

A. A viewing booth is the best way to correctly assess color. Some viewing booths have counters that count hours of use and time, if both are within the guidelines for that device and it is maintained correctly, you should be assessing color correctly. If in doubt, contact the manufacturer to arrange a service. If the area/room used for assessing color has controlled lighting conditions, it's harder to know if the lighting is performing correctly. One option is to use GATF or Ugra light indicators strips that can be purchased from graphic arts suppliers – these are just a guide however, and really show when color is definitely incorrect, but do not guarantee that the color is accurate. There are electronic measuring devices that are available that can be used to verify accuracy that manufacturers use. These are also often used when a site audit is performed by organizations such as Idealliance® and Fogra. Most users simply monitor the length of time that the lamps have been in use and replace them according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

Q. Where can I find information on recertification of EFI ES-2000 spectrophotometer?

A. EFI spectrophotometer recertification is done by X-Rite®. Visit <https://www.xrite.com/service-support/services-offered/repair-certification> to start the process. Recertification costs vary per device, X-Rite will be able to give you exact costings, as a rough guide the ES-2000 cost will be around \$550.

Q. Is it true that an incorrect USB cable connected to an I1 Spectrophotometer (longer cable/cheaper) can produce inconsistencies?

A. Although rare, anything that can corrupt the signal being transmitted from a measurement device to your computer could cause inconsistencies. However, it is far more likely that this would simply produce errors and measurement failure that it would introduce inaccuracies. A far more likely cause is incorrect device usage, not backing up the chart being measured with opaque white material, etc.

Q. When you talk about spectrophotometers, do you mean a spectrophotometer separate from the one purchased with Fiery printer?

A. It can be either the handheld spectrophotometer that's separate from the printer, or the spectrophotometer device built into the printer.

Q. What does the recertification process entail for a device like the ES-2000?

A. EFI spectrophotometer recertification is done by X-Rite®. Visit <https://www.xrite.com/service-support/services-offered/repair-certification> to start the process. Recertification costs vary per device, X-Rite will be able to give you exact costings, as a rough guide the ES-2000 cost will be around \$550.

Q. Do your courses/eLearning work for Fiery Command WorkStation 5 users, or it is 5 too outdated?

A. For a lot of features and functionality they will work, however Fiery Command WorkStation 6 brings many new features, plus enhanced integration with Fiery Color Profiler Suite. To see if you can update to version 6, you can visit [this page](#). We do still however have learning courses using Command WorkStation 5 in learning.efi.com available.

Q. Do we go to learning.efi.com to get someone certified on color?

A. At this time, not specifically in the area of color, but there are two certifications available at the moment. The Professional certification and they Expert Certification. Details can be found [here](#). Later this year, we expect to have additional color offerings.

Q. Can get also certificates for all of my associates?

A. Yes. EFI eLearning is available for everyone, courses and certifications.