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HYBRID SOFTWARE ANNOUNCES THE RELEASE OF STEPZ 5.2



(Gent, Belgium) HYBRID Software is announcing the release of STEPZ 5.2, the latest version of its powerful, native PDF step & repeat desktop solution for digital label and package printing. Along with its strong variable data printing (VDP) capabilities, STEPZ 5.2 is a modular version from the PACKZ family, allowing its users to build up the complexity of the software when necessary. This simplified version of STEPZ 5.2 allows for a faster learning curve while at a much more attractive entry price.

STEPZ is a powerful tool which can augment high volumes of jobs, optionally with variable designs, text, numbers, and barcodes, translating data from data systems directly to a step & repeat layout. The new capabilities in version 5.2, based on feedback from a number of customers, have been praised for their ease of use, richness of features, and the efficiency and speed of file output.

The solution enables HP Indigo users to create step & repeat templates for their HP Indigo labels and packaging presses. HYBRID STEPZ works efficiently and quickly with the HP PrintOS Production Pro for Labels and Packaging digital front end (DFE). The DFE is based on Global Graphics' Harlequin® RIP; FUNDAMENTALS, which utilizes HYBRID CLOUDFLOW technology for digital label and packaging workflows; and HYBRID Software's Label Layout Station for imposition. It is perfect for ultra-short runs and variable data printing. STEPZ is available to HP Indigo users for subscription or purchase via the HP PrintOS Marketplace.

Processing moves from desktop to server

Rather than at the press, VDP file development with STEPZ has always resided at prepress, where it belongs. To offer even more computing power, STEPZ 5.2 can process all VDP file variants from the desktop to a server level, if desired. The link to STEPZ is still accessible in CLOUDFLOW, making possible the most powerful VDP execution of output files yet. Users can build complete VDP files approximately eight times faster, compared to leaving the work at the desktop workstation.

STEPZ 5.2: Now available as a stand-alone solution

For those who prefer to operate STEPZ for its VDP capabilities alone, HYBRID Software is offering a standalone solution, providing customers the opportunity to handle high volume VDP jobs with a single, easy to use application. With its modern server architecture, STEPZ 5.2 optionally allows users to scale their processes if needed, and output any challenging amount of data with ease.

A number of new step & repeat features

STEPZ 5.2 also includes a number of new step & repeat production enhancements. There are upgrades for roll-to-roll applications as well as for sheetfed solutions. For example, users can now define the bleed distance of common flaps on cardboard folding boxes.

“PACKZ is our flagship product for sophisticated prepress work” explains Guido Van der Schueren, Chairman of HYBRID Software, “Based on this powerful technology, STEPZ now offers just the required tool set for digital printing preparation for a short learning curve and a quick introduction.”

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ABOUT HYBRID SOFTWARE

With offices in Belgium, Germany, Italy and the US plus a global partner network, HYBRID Software is a software development company focused on innovative productivity tools for the graphic arts industry. HYBRID Software’s CLOUDFLOW workflow, PACKZ editor and integration products offer a unique set of advantages that include native PDF workflows, vendor-independent solutions based on industry standards, scalable technology and low cost of ownership. These products are used by hundreds of customers worldwide in all areas of pre-press and print, including labels and packaging, folding cartons, corrugated, wide format and digital printing.

For more information visit: www.hybridsoftware.com

For more information on STEPZ visit: <https://stepz.hybridsoftware.com/>

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