

NEWS RELEASE

Global Graphics Software joins the Ghent Workgroup and achieves accreditation for the core technology

GHENT, BELGIUM – July 29, 2025 - The Ghent Workgroup (GWG) is pleased to announce that Global Graphics Software has joined the GWG as a vendor member. In addition, Global Graphics Software has gone through the certification process for its Mako Core SDK; both JAWS and the new APEX renderer are certified as fully compliant with the Ghent Output Suite v5. The Ghent Output Suite was created to ensure proper handling of all features of the ISO PDF/X-4 standard. The compliance confirms that Mako Core provides reliable and high-quality PDF processing for the most demanding applications.

“We created the Ghent Output Suite as a collection of small PDF pages. Each page typically tests one aspect of PDF/X-4; we have patches for overprint handling, transparency, fonts, image compression, you name it,” says David van Driessche, chair of the Compliancy Subcommittee and Executive Director of the Ghent Workgroup: “The patches are created to show obvious cross marks if a RIP or output device doesn’t handle correctly something in the PDF file . Because the Output Suite is so comprehensive, passing it is not easy, and we’re thrilled to be able to accredit Global Graphics Software’s Mako SDK™.”



The Mako Core[™] SDK of Global Graphics Software (HYBRID Software's OEM business unit) supports its trusted Jaws[®] renderer and the newly introduced Apex[™] renderer. Apex is a ground-breaking rendering technology that runs entirely on the Graphics Processing Unit (GPU) and delivers high-quality results on screen or in a web browser with exceptional speed. It is particularly effective at rendering large, complex PDFs and can quickly inspect layout, colors, fonts, layers and other elements before printing. It is the first fully GPU-native Page Description Language renderer to handle the entire rendering workload to the GPU, freeing up the central processing unit (CPU) used by Mako's Jaws renderer for other tasks, such as imposition.



“The GWG is a leading authority in establishing best practices and standards for graphic arts and print workflows and their accreditation is one of the most respected validations in our industry and very important to us,” said **David Stevenson**, Product Manager – Mako Core[™]. “The rigorous test suites set a high bar for rendering accuracy and compliance. We are pleased that both the Jaws[®] and Apex[™] renderers in our Mako Core[™] SDK, along with our Harlequin RIP[®], now meet the high standards set by the GWG.”

“It is great to welcome Global Graphics expertise back to the GWG to help move our efforts forward in defining standards and best practices, toward a connected supply chain for the greater print and packaging industries.” said David Zwang, Chair of the GWG.

About Global Graphics Software

Global Graphics Software has been a trusted and leading developer of innovative software technologies for the printing industry for nearly 40 years. With a rich heritage in print, the company's founders were instrumental in developing the Harlequin RIP[®], the world's fastest raster image processor (RIP). Global Graphics Software's technologies are used by leading print vendors around the world and cover a wide range of print applications, from commercial printing to industrial inkjet and packaging. The company is known for its in-depth knowledge of print workflows, color



management, and image processing, and is dedicated to helping customers unlock the full potential of their printing systems through software innovation.

Global Graphics has always played an active role in industry standard setting bodies and associations, including the International Standards Organization (ISO) and the PDF Association. Its research and development team consists of international experts on Page Description Languages (PDL), document formats and color science. Global Graphics Software is the HYBRID Software's OEM business unit.

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**About Ghent Workgroup**

The GWG, formed in June 2002, is an international assembly of industry associations, suppliers, educators, and industry members from around the globe. The GWG aims to establish and disseminate process specifications for best practices in graphic arts workflows. Since its inception almost 20 years ago, the organization has consistently produced numerous process specifications for PDF exchange, developing practical tools for automating processes and testing and establishing consistent PDFs for print, publishing, and packaging production – all free at www.gwg.org.

Members are comprised of graphic arts associations, including CIP4, Fespa, Fogra, Medibel+, Printing United Alliance, TAGA Italia and VIGC. Vendor members include callas software, Canon, DALIM Software, Dataline, ECO3, Enfocus, Esko, Fiery, **Global Graphics**, Heidelberg, HYBRID Software, PageProof, Ricoh, Taktiful Software Solutions, Tech Research (TagG) and Ultimate Tech. Industry members are CAPT, Direct Mailers, JP/Politikenshus, Lab9 Pro and RRD Communications. Educational members are CEC Latam, Future Schoolz, GIPT, Hochschule der Medien, RIPT, Rochester Institute of Technology, Ryerson University, UiTM, University of Ljubljana, University of Novi Sad and University Wuppertal. All products and services are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective owners and are hereby acknowledged.



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