

Enhancing color reproduction in InDesign for Packaging

Adel M. Khodeir

Assistant Professor, Design Department, Ibri College of Applied Sciences
Associate Professor, Printing Publishing and Packaging Dep., Helwan University

Abstract.

This paper will study how to get the best quality from color management using InDesign as vector graphics software in packaging printing. The color management system is important in environments that evaluate image color values in the context of final output. Color Correction is a different variable that involves images with tonal or color balance problems, and is normally handled in the original graphics application, like image processing software. In CMYK workflow, OS works with CMYK images prepared for specific printing press or proofing device. A source profile should be generated based on press color gamut standard and embed it into the CMYK images or assign the profile in InDesign.

Color management works to reproduce colors consistently across a range of output devices, such as monitors, color printers, and offset presses. Adobe Creative Suite components give easy-to-use color management features that help to achieve a better design, consistent color without needing to become a color management expert. With color management enabled out of the box in the Creative Suite, a designer will be able to view colors consistently across applications and platforms while ensuring more accurate color from edit to proof to final print.

According to Adobe, “For most color-managed workflows, it is best to use a preset color setting that has been tested by Adobe Systems. Changing specific options is recommended only if you are knowledgeable about color management and very confident about the changes that made.” In this section, we discuss some of the pre-set color settings and strategies available in Adobe InDesign and Creative Suite used to help achieving consistent color in the projects.

In this paper we will try to create a new method to enhance the color quality in printing workflow using InDesign, depending on color management, which is a consistent way of translating the color numbers for each pixel from the source (the document or image stored on the computer) to the output device (such as monitor, color printer, or Printing press), each with its own specific gamut.

The aim of this paper is to determine the best methodology of color quality control in InDesign system, and to create a new technic depending on ICC workflow. This method will specify a color management engine and a color profile. This method will help the graphic designer to achieve good, sellable color without needing to make complicated color settings. Also colors will be able to be viewed consistently across applications and platform while ensuring more accurate color from edit to proof to final print.