Creating Custom Profiles

Art 3774

Overview:

You will print a target on a non-Epson paper, read the target and create a custom profile, and print a correctly profiled sample image (downloaded from the website) onto that paper using the profile that your team created. You may need a minimum of 10 sheets of 8x10 paper for this assignment (ideally 10 sheets of Super A3, so you can print some of your own images too).

Printing the target:

1. Open the i1 software application on one of the printing computers.
2. In the left column of the application, choose "Printer Profiling"
3. The help menu is on the left, as you roll over the various menus, information will show up in this panel. You'll see a workflow diagram in the bottom of this window (representing the steps you will go through to make a profile).
4. The first pull-down shows the printers installed on the computer – pick the printer you want to print on.
5. Select the size of the paper you have in the printer in the next menu, and the size of the targets in the last menu (note, bigger targets are easier to read and will yield a more accurate profile, but will clearly use more paper). The header above the preview image will show how many pages you'll need to print.
6. Click Print.
7. The Epson dialog box will show up. Expand this box and select the paper size you selected earlier. Select the paper most similar to that which you are using, and make sure color management is off. Write down all of the stuff: type of paper selected, the quality (i.e. quality/max quality, etc), if you're using bidirectional printing, etc), as this will be required for when you name your profile, and when you use it.
8. When you're done, click print.
9. VERY IMPORTANT: After your prints are done, wait for your target to dry *at least a couple hours* (and ideally overnight) before proceeding. Note: If you're returning to this application later, just click on the measurement icon in the workflow in the bottom area of the i1 software.

Reading the target:

10. Plug in the calibrator.
11. You will need to calibrate the device. Open the slider to show the ceramic plate (do not touch this plate – there's a reason why they built it to be protected by the slider) and seat the calibrator on the ceramic plate thing and push the button. When done, close up the slider, and put it away.
12. Put your first printout (if multiple) in the plastic clipboard device, and start reading, by pushing the side button. The preview window will show your progress, by showing the expected values in the upper left, and the measured values in the lower right.
13. When all rows have been measured, a message will show you that the measurement is complete. Click next.

End steps:

14. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ASSIGNMENT, skip the lighting step. When you skip it, the software will assume you're viewing your prints in a standard D50 lighting condition. As an FYI, if you know your prints will be viewed

in a different light source, you can generate the profile for a different light source by using the pull down menu (or you can even measure the ambient light temperature using the i1 calibrator device).

15. Name your profile meaningful. For example,

    Printer_blackink_paper_resolution_course.icc

    …or in English, for a print made on the Epson 3880 with Photo Black inks onto Instant Dry Satin Canvas, at the 1440ppi setting for your Art 3774 course:

    ep3880_pk_InstDryStnCa_1440_3774.icc

16. Download the target from the website, size it appropriately to fit fully on your paper, add some space on the bottom of your canvas, and (using the type tool) type the date, paper type, printer, resolution, team members last names, and icc profile under the image. For example:

    Date: 2013-10-01
    Paper: Instant Dry Satin Canvas
    Printer: Epson 3880
    Resolution: 1440ppi
    Team: Chalmers, Doe, Smith
    Profile: ep3880_pk_InstDryStnCa_1440_3774.icc