

Automatic imposition

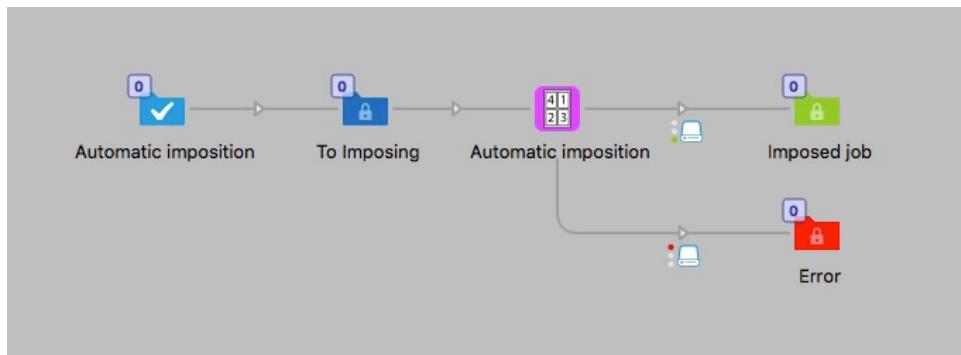
Description

Automatic imposition will do the most common impositions for your digital printer. It will automatically do folders for A5, A4 or US Letter page sizes in either saddle stich or perfect binding. For the formats A3, US Letter, A4, A5, A6, A7, 99x210mm and business cards in the most common sizes, it automatically do step and repeat, N-Up and cut and stack imposing. Note that some other page sizes will work, if not, the job will fail. All settings for the app can be set by variables giving you the possibility to send jobs through the web portal client or other systems that can access the submit point. One example flow with a pre-configured submit point is part of the package.

This app uses callas pdfToolbox server as the imposition engine and consequently you have to have that program installed on your Switch server.

You have a few settings besides the imposing settings themselves, you can add page boxes to the imposed area with trimbox and bleedbox. This can be useful for post processing of the imposed result. You can set the gap between the pages on the sheet and also set the bleed for the pages. There is also an option to add a slug line and for that you can add your own text to the slug line, it can also be rotated and positioned.

The imposed sheet size is 458x318 mm, if you need any other size of the resulting PDF it can easily be changed with a post processing profile in pdfToolbox or PitStop Server.



Compatibility

Switch 13 update 1 and higher. Windows or Mac OSX.

Compatibility third-party applications

The app requires callas pdfToolbox server version 9.2 or newer to be installed on the system, it will use the CLI version of the program. The app will try to find the program in its normal installed locations, if that is not successful you can by right clicking on the app icon in the app section if the Flow elements and choosing "Set path to application..." to point to where the callas pdfToolbox server CLI can be found by the app. This will then be remembered by the app. This process is needed when pdfToolbox is updated to any other version than v9.

Connections

This app can have several input connections and use the traffic light outgoing connections for Success or Error.

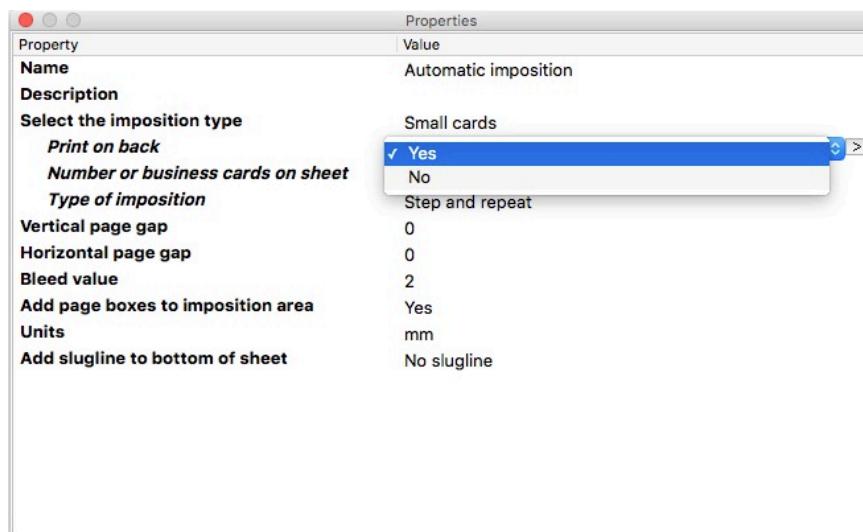
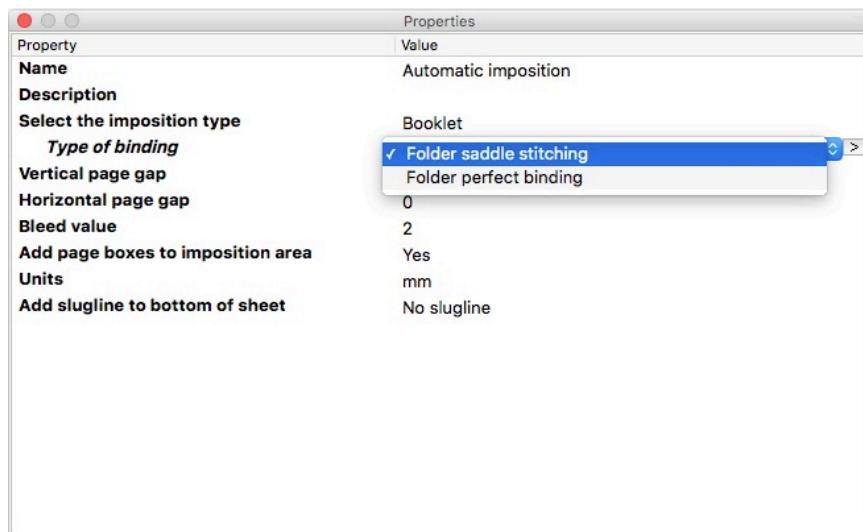
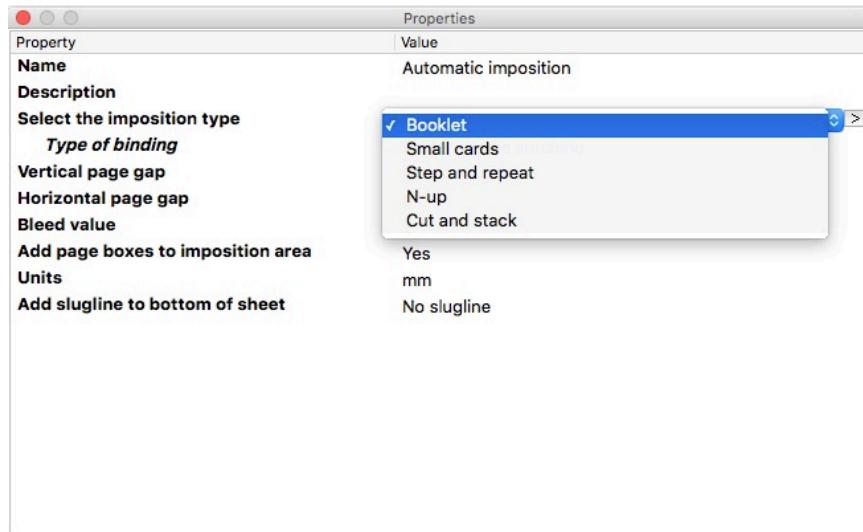
Properties detailed info

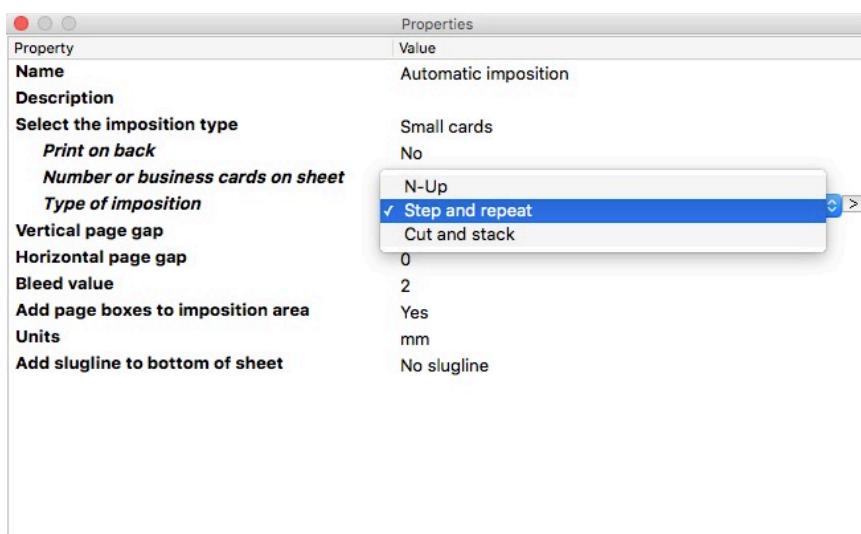
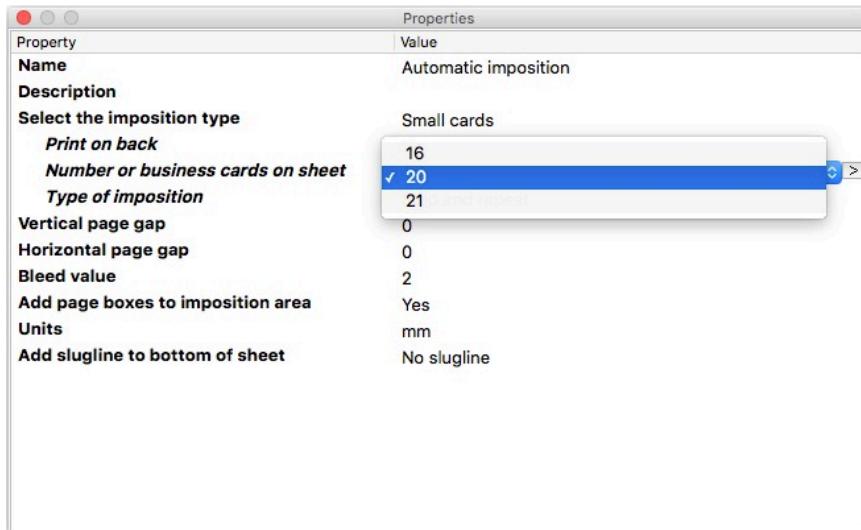
The app has several options and some are depending on other properties values.
The default settings are as below.

Properties	
Property	Value
Name	Automatic imposition
Description	
Select the imposition type	
Type of binding	Booklet
Vertical page gap	0
Horizontal page gap	0
Bleed value	2
Add page boxes to imposition area	Yes
Units	mm
Add slugline to bottom of sheet	No slugline

Flow element properties

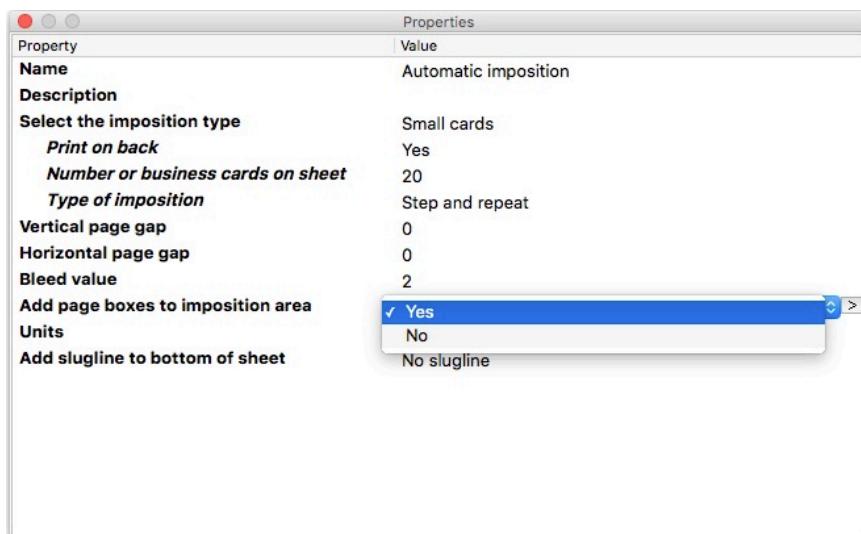
- Select the imposition type
 - Booklet (default). You have two extra options when this is selected. Type of binding, Dropdown with values Folder saddle stitching (the default setting) or Folder perfect binding.
 - Small cards. This is the choice for business cards or A7 pages. When selecting this option you have three more options. Print on back, Dropdown with Yes or No. For some imposition formats the backside has to be rotated to work properly in the press. If set to "Yes" the backside will be rotated. Default value = No Number of business cards on sheet, Dropdown with values 16, 20 or 21. Note that A7 pages will only work with the value of 16. Default value = 20 Type of imposition, Dropdown with values N-Up, Step and repeat or Cut and stack. Default = Step and repeat.
 - Step and repeat, the same page will be repeated over the sheet.
 - N-Up, all the pages will be placed on the sheet or sheets if they exceed the number of pages per sheet.
 - Cut and stack, the pages will be arranged so that pages turn up in the page order down through the stack of sheets. It will be distributed over the sheet so that you get a number of stacks for the minimal number of printed sheets.





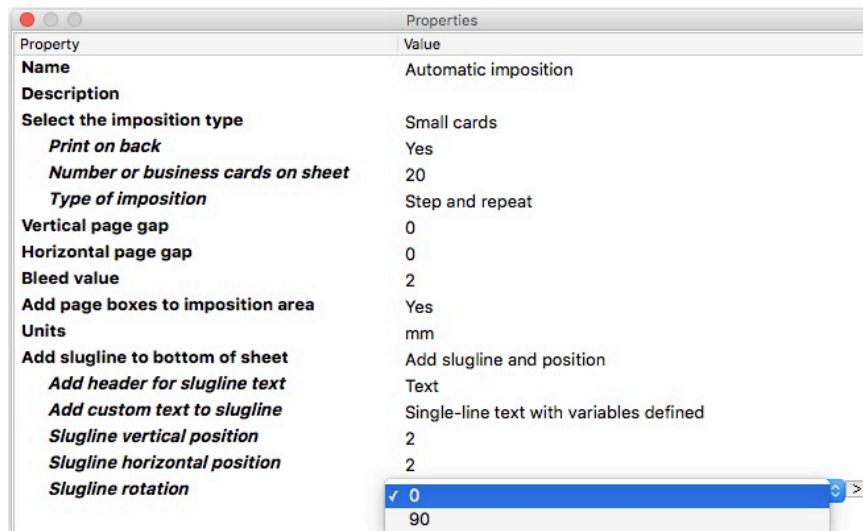
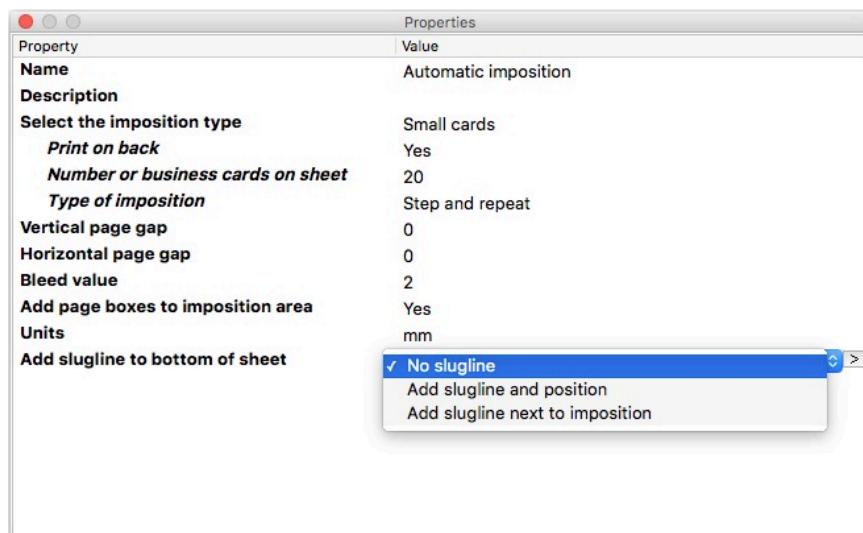
- Vertical page gap
 - The distance between each page vertically on the sheet, default is set to 0. Commas are not allowed for the decimal.
- Horizontal page gap
 - The distance between each page horizontally on the sheet, default is set to 0. Commas are not allowed for the decimal.
- Bleed value
 - The value of the bleedbox, this will give you bleed between pages if you have set the imposition to have gaps between the pages. It will also set this value as bleed to the outside of the imposed layout. If the gap values are larger than 2 times that bleed there will be a white gap between the bleeds. If the gap value is less than the bleed value the bleed between the pages will be half of the gap value. Note that if the gap value is too large the imposition might fail because the sheet size isn't large enough.

- Add page boxes to imposition area
 - This property will add a trimbox and bleedbox around the imposed layout. Dropdown menu with Yes or No, Default = Yes



- Units
 - The units used for the Page gap and Bleed properties. Dropdown menu with the selection of mm, inch or points. Inches must be entered in decimal numbers, like 0.125 for 1/8". Commas are not allowed for the decimal. Default = mm
- Add slugline to bottom of sheet
 - You have the option to add a slugline to the sheet, The standard information in the slugline is the date and time of when the imposed PDF was created. Next there is Plate number and the filename of the imposed PDF. The options you have is a dropdown, No slugline, Add slugline and position, Add slugline next to imposition.
 - No slugline, no slugline will be added to the sheet.
 - Add slugline and position, this option will add a slugline and give you the option to position it on the sheet, the values are calculated from the lower left corner of the sheet. When this option is selected you can add your own header and text that is placed after the plate number in the line. You then get the values for the position, vertical and horizontal. You can also set a rotation angle for the slugline, 0 or 90. With the value 0 the slugline will be placed under the imposition, if the value the slugline will be rotated and placed on the left side of the imposition.

- Add slugline next to imposition, this option will place the slugline a short distance outside of the trimbox.
When this option is selected you can add your own header and text that is placed after the plate number in the line. You then get the values for the position, vertical and horizontal.
You can also set a rotation angle for the slugline, 0 or 90. With the value 0 the slugline will be placed under the imposition, if the value the slugline will be rotated and placed on the left side of the imposition.
There is an option to set a offset for the distance the slugline will be placed from the imposed layout. A positive value will move the slugline out of the layout and a negative value will move it closer to the imposed layout.
- Slugline offset from trimbox, will let you adjust the distance of the slugline from the trimbox. A negative value will move the slugline closer to the trimbox.



Properties	
Property	Value
Name	Automatic imposition
Description	
Select the imposition type	Step and repeat
<i>Print on back</i>	Yes
Vertical page gap	0
Horizontal page gap	0
Bleed value	2
Add page boxes to imposition area	Yes
Units	mm
Add slugline to bottom of sheet	Add slugline and position
<i>Add header for slugline text</i>	Text
<i>Add custom text to slugline</i>	Single-line text with variables defined
<i>Slugline vertical position</i>	2
<i>Slugline horizontal position</i>	2
<i>Slugline rotation</i>	0

Properties	
Property	Value
Name	Automatic imposition
Description	
Select the imposition type	N-up
<i>Print on back</i>	No
Vertical page gap	3
Horizontal page gap	3
Bleed value	2
Add page boxes to imposition area	Yes
Units	mm
Add slugline to bottom of sheet	Add slugline next to imposition
<i>Add header for slugline text</i>	Text
<i>Add custom text to slugline</i>	Single-line text with variables defined
<i>Slugline rotation</i>	90
<i>Slugline offset from trimbox</i>	-1

Private data

There are some metadata generated by the app that you can reach as private data.

For some type of errors the app will catch the error messages and embed as Private data in the file. The Private data key is: "errorText" [Job.PrivateData:Key="errorText"]

You can also get information on how many sheets that your imposition will print in two private data entries.

- Private data key: "Number of printed sheets" [Job.PrivateData:Key="Number of printed sheets"] will give you the number of prints that is needed for this job.
- Private data key: "Number of sheets" [Job.PrivateData:Key="Number of sheets"] is the number of paper sheets that is required for the job, if the option to "Print on back" is selected you will get the correct number of paper sheets needed for the job.
- Private data key: "Number of pages on sheet" [Job.PrivateData:Key=" Number of pages on sheet"] will give you that value.

Preparation of jobfiles

For some type of impositions you have to prepare the order of pages in the PDF that is going to be imposed. If not, your result might not be as expected.

Error checking

The app will do some checking on the incoming PDF file before the app will do anything. Following errors will be reported with job failed and output sent to the error connection.

- If the file is not PDF
- If the pages in the PDF have different sizes.
- If the pages have different orientation in the PDF
- Some page sizes are not supported.
- Other page sizes than A4, A5 or US Letter is used for Booklet. There is a small tolerance that is accepted from the standard sizes.
- If a variable with the wrong value is used in one of the drop down menus. Only values that exist in the drop down menus are accepted.
- If a page size is too large for the selected imposition type.
- If the slugline don't fit on the page.
- Job failed to process.

All these errors will be stored as private data for use in other systems.

The Private data key is: "errorText" [Job.PrivateData:Key="errorText"]

Example flow

An example flow is provided with a preconfigured submit point and the app has all the variables connected to the metadata fields in the submit point. This flow can be used as is or implemented in a larger flow. Just copy and paste the elements to your other flow.

Install the app before you import the flow.

Variables

Note that if you use variables to send the property values to the app, the properties that are set with dropdown menus in the app must have the exact values that the dropdown menus have. If not the job will fail.

Version history

- Version 2
 - In version 2 one more Private data key was added to give the number of pages imposed on the sheet.
- Version 3
 - Minor Property value bug fixed.
- Version 4
 - Adjustment for new version of pdfToolbox.