PitStop 24.11

What's new?

ENF●CUS

Contents

Introduction

Welcome to the "What's new" document for PitStop Pro and PitStop Server 24.11.

This document offers a comprehensive overview of the latest version, emphasizing key enhancements and new features. The 24.11 release brings:

- 2 new Actions for Color Separations and technical colors extraction
- A faster and clearer search
- Several improvements on PitStop Pro UX/UI
- PNG/JPG input for PitStop Server
- macOS 15 (Sequoia) Support
- Pantone V5 libraries
- Updated flattening library
- Support for variables in the "Rename spot color" Action
- Customization of output precision in PDF Report templates
- New Default Action Lists
- Bug fixes

There are many ways that you can get more information and training about PitStop.

If you wish to register for our monthly PitStop training workshops you can do so by selecting the following link.

https://www.enfocus.com/en/events/monthly-pitstop-pro-workshops

If you would like to join the Official PitStop user group on LinkedIn, you can do so here.

https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6801080/

If you would like to access the PitStop sessions on our Enfocus eLearning platform you can do so here: https://www.enfocus.com/en/learn

We hope you find the new functionality useful and that PitStop continues to be an essential part of your daily PDF production workflow.

What's new

macOS 15 support

PitStop Pro and PitStop Server 24.11 both support the new macOS 15, aka Sequoia.

New Actions

Add separation pages to document

It is now possible to generate Color Separations from PitStop Pro and add separated pages to the document. This will be quite handy when you need to get pages separated like in Screen Printing, die engraving or check for print issues.
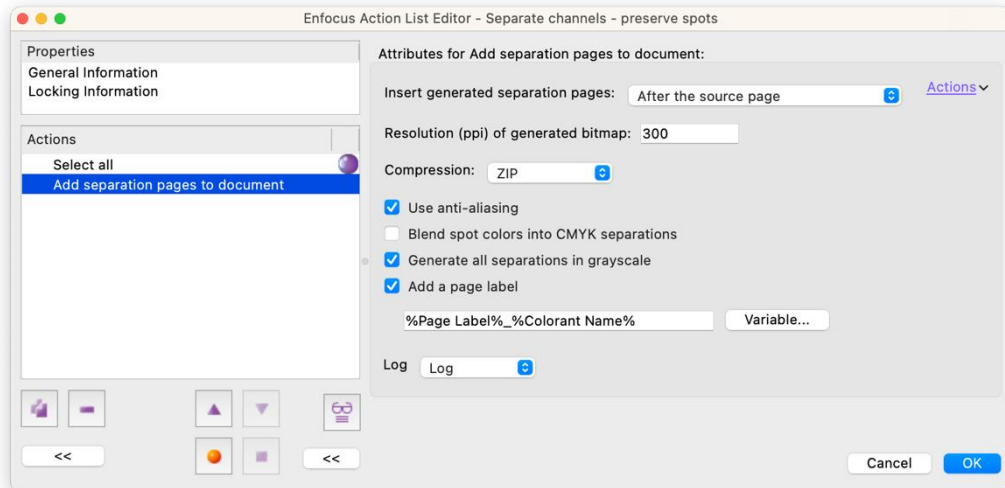
Several options are available such as:

- The added pages' location (after/before source page, beginning/end of document)
- The output resolution
- Image compression (Zip, JPEG, JPEG 2000, None)
- Anti-Aliasing
- Blending Spots to CMYK
- Grayscale or colored separations
- Page Label

NOTE: The source page is always preserved by default. That's because the page may contain RGB or Spot colors that you want to preserve.

Separating pages example:
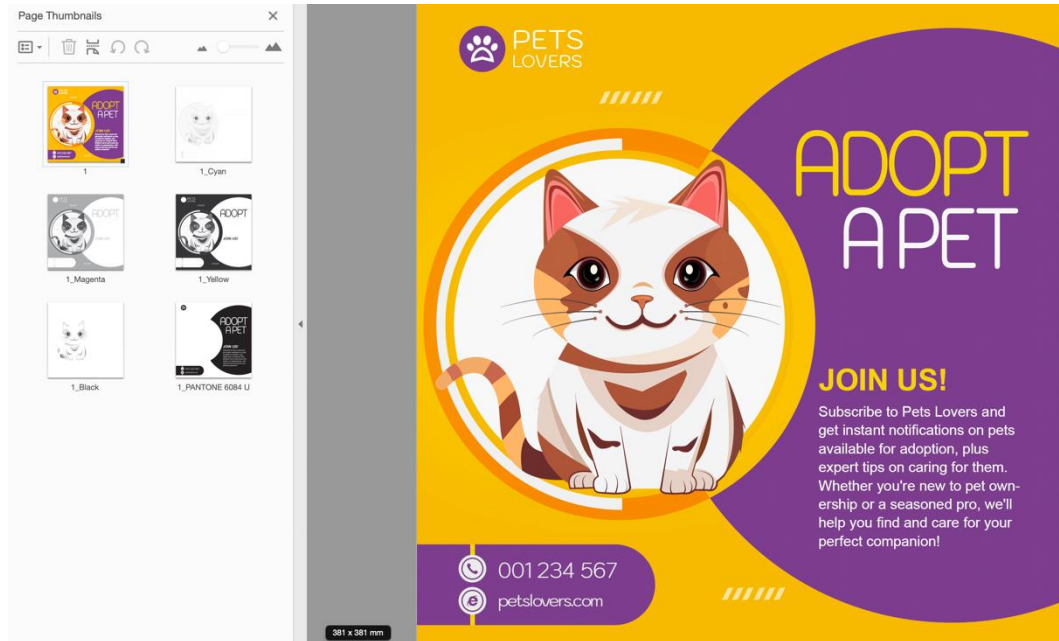
Add pages with extracted content to document

In digital cutting or Embellishment, it's sometimes useful to separate the print content from the technical content as some finishing devices may struggle to RIP complex files. This is why we added this new Action to ease the process of splitting print content and technical content.

For example, the following is a wish card where the "blue" represents the "scodix" embellishment (could be Foil, Gold...):

It is now quite easy to separate the technical content (ex: a Foil, a Varnish, a Cut path) from the print content with the new Action:
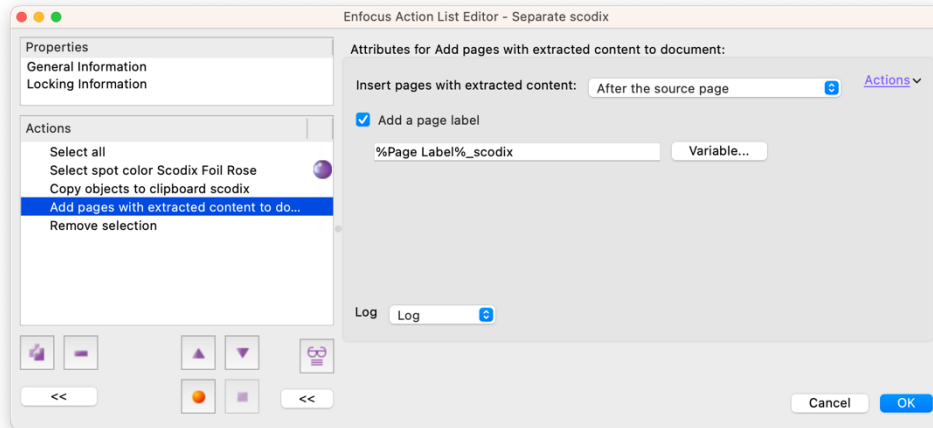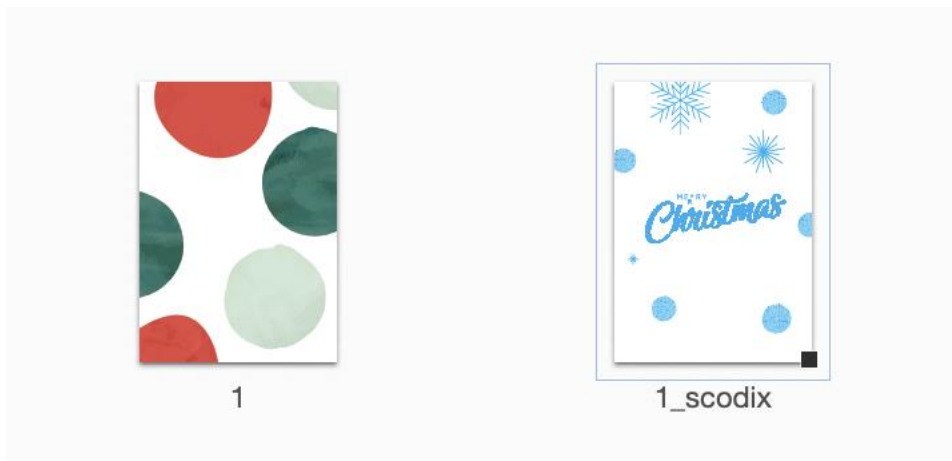

Several options can be found such as:

- The added page location
- Whether a specific Label should be used

For the label, variables can also be used.

Finally, the pages get "separated"

Improvements

In PitStop Pro 24.11, we wanted to address several UX/UI issues and other opportunities for improvements.

Enhanced Search Experience

Not only the search functionality is now faster, but it also presents results in a more convenient way. Items are now listed inside their hierarchy, making it easier to select the resource you are really looking for.
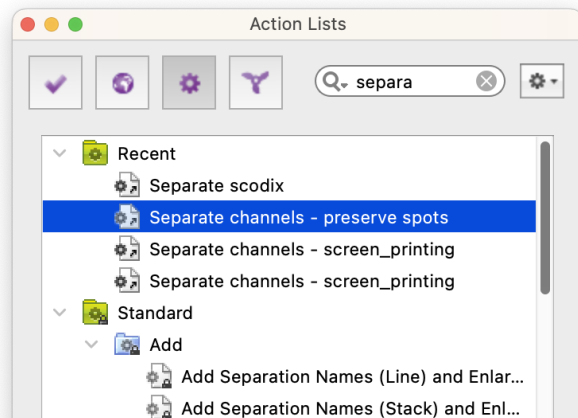
Note that searched items now appear inside their hierarchy.
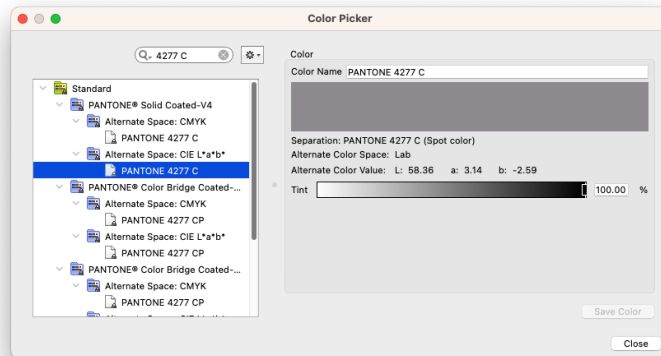
For colors, it's also convenient to select a Spot
with a specific alternate color space (ex: Lab)

Better Dark Mode Support

We now fixed a few issues with the Dark mode for better visibility. This is an ongoing effort and feel free to report any glitch you find to our Support for future adjustments. Dark mode support is only available on macOS.

Active buttons in the Inspector (Mac)

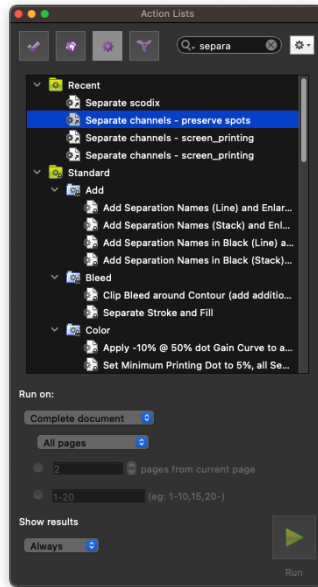We fixed an internal macOS behaviour that made our active buttons sometimes hard to see. For example, when you select an object, you can see if overprint is on or off from the Inspector. Up to PitStop 24.11, when the inspector loses focus, the buttons are "disabled" by the OS. Even with a valid selection, it was then hard to tell if overprint was on or off.

We now override the default OS behaviour to ensure that the active button remains visible for as long a selection is active, independently of whether the dialog has focus or not. Note that this relates to every button on the inspector.
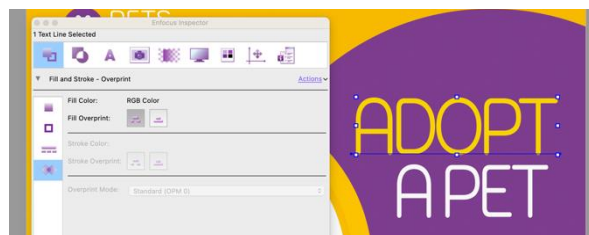
Dropdowns resized

Dropdowns in the Smart Preflight panel now extend as much as possible to avoid cutting long strings and ease reading by operators:
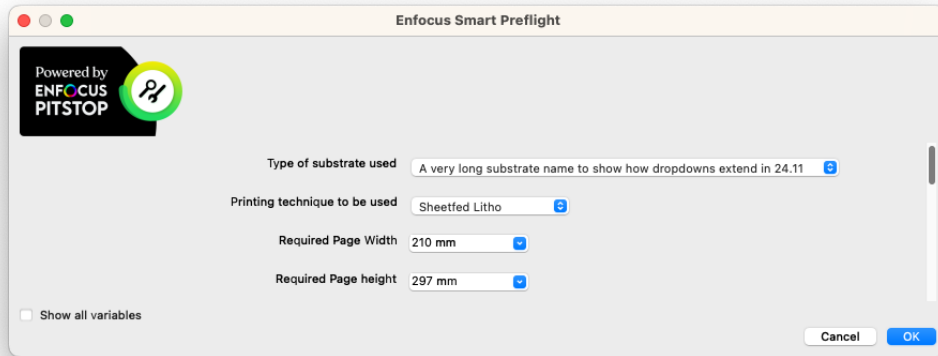
Previously, the text would have been truncated, forcing the user to click on the dropdown to see the complete string. Of course, a very, very, very long string still would be truncated at some point.

Flattening Library Updated

Our flattening library has been updated to its latest version. This solves some bugs and will ensure higher consistency flattening files with PitStop Server and the PitStop Library.

Pantone V5 libraries

PitStop Pro and PitStop Server 24.11 now include version 5 of the Pantone libraries.
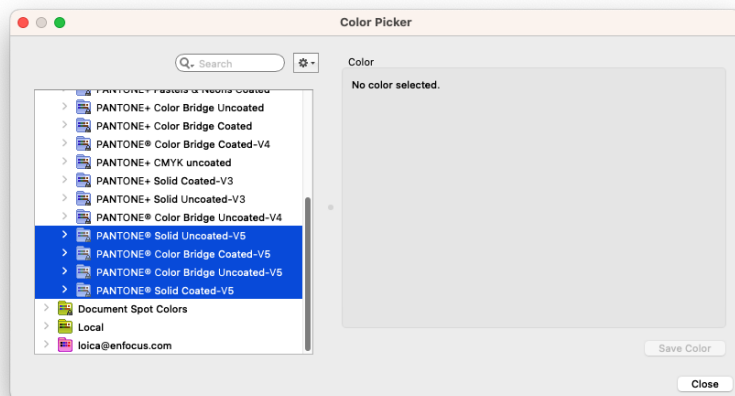
Support for variables in the Rename spot color Action

Prior to 24.11, it was not possible to use variables in the "Rename spot color" Action. This is now made possible. For people unfamiliar with this Action, you can search for a spot color with an incorrect name (say "bad name") and rename to the correct name (say "correct name").
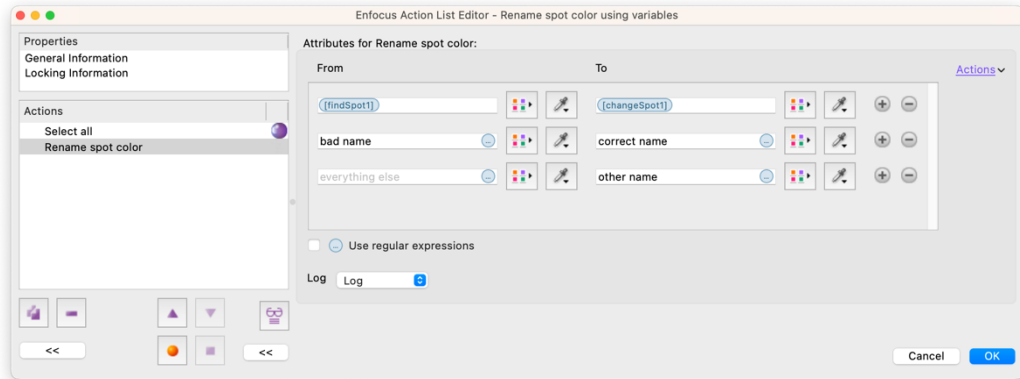
This Action now presents a list where fields can host variables, like in the first row above.

There is also the possibility to leave the first field empty and only provide a replacement name. In that case, PitStop would replace any spot that was not considered by other rules and give the appropriate name.

Note that this is completely backwards compatible and does not interfere with any existing Action List built with the previous Action design.

Adjustment for the "Check for transparent objects" action

This existing Action in PitStop now presents the same options as the "Select transparent objects" Action.
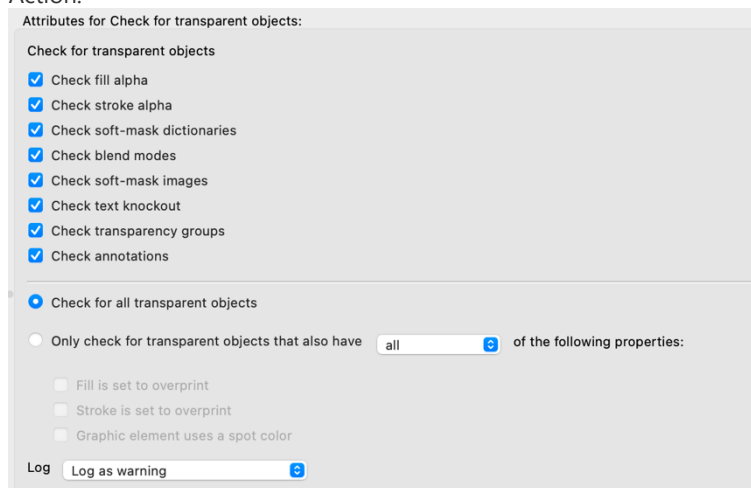
ICC Profiles ID Information

Two ICC Profiles can have the same name, yet be different internally and of course, impact color conversion results. The only true source of authentication is the ICC Profile ID. However, this information is not always easily accessible. With PitStop 24.11, you can now see the ICC Profile ID in two ways:

In the Inspector
Select an object tagged with an ICC Profile. Open the Inspector and go to the "Fill and Stroke" tab. If the object is ICC tagged, you can see the ICC profile listed in the "ICC Profile" Dropdown. In that case, a "i" (purple icon) appears next to the right side of the dropdown.
Click on the icon to get details, such as the ICC Profile ID:
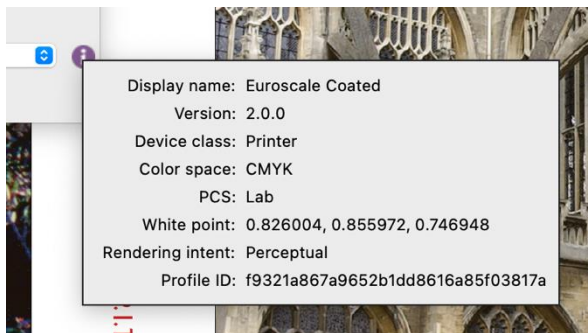
In Preflight Reports
The ICC Profile ID is also logged in the "Color Information" And "Output Intent Information" chapters of PDF, XML and JSON reports.

Ex: In a PDF Preflight Report:

Ex: In a JSON Report:

In both cases, getting to know the internal ICC Profile ID is a convenient way to detect if color mismatches could be caused by objects being tagged with the "same" ICC profile, when in fact they are tagged with different profiles but using the same name.

Customization of output precision in PDF Report templates

In 24.11 it is now possible to customize the precision with which floating point numbers are written in PDF Reports. This is done by inserting following optional items in a PDF Report template's `.prefs` file:

To override the default precision for unit-less floating-point values:

```
"Precision" "1"
```

Will limit the output to max 1 digit after the decimal point

To override the default precision for floating-point values with (measurement) unit:

```
"UnitPrecision" "2"
```

Will limit the output to max 2 digits after the decimal point

These entries can be inserted in the general settings, where they will apply to the whole report


```
"PitStopReport"

#BEGINDICT

...

"Precision" "3"

"UnitPrecision" "2"

...

#ENDDICT
```


And/or to specific report chapter setting where they will apply to that chapter only:


```
"PitStopReportPreflightChapter"

#BEGINDICT

...

"Precision" "-1"

"UnitPrecision" "3"

...

#ENDDICT
```

A value of –1 means use the built-in precision, which is the one used in 24.07 or older versions.

The "UnitPrecision" setting is the precision for pt units. When the report is generated using other units, the unit precision will be boosted internally depending on the unit:

Unit	Precision boost
pt	0
mm	0
p	1
in	1
cm	1
ft	2
m	3

In order to create and use Customised Preflight Report templates, please consult the specific documentation:

https://www.enfocus.com/manuals/Extra/CustomReportTemplate/24/home.html#about.html

PitStop Server

PNG/JPEG input

You can now send PNG and JPEG files to PitStop Server without the need of converting those first to PDF. This conversion will be done internally before any Preflight Profile or Action List is run. Other image types like TIFF or PSD are not considered yet. Please send us feature requests for consideration.

Image to PDF can be done in two ways:

Using the CLI

To convert PNG/JPEG to PDF, a few parameters have been added:

-imageInput : Indicates that input is an image, not a typical PDF
-imageInputResolution : The resolution to use for converting to PDF
 (will affect width and height)
-imageInputWidth : The expected width for the document (affects resolution)
-imageInputHeight : The expected height for the document (affects resolution)

The following command is an example of processing images as input with PitStop Server CLI:

*/PitStopServerCLI -imageinput -input image.png -imageInputWidth 600
-mutator /Convert_to_black.eal -output /image.pdf*

Please have a look at the PitStop Server CLI for more information.

Using Enfocus Switch

In Switch, the PitStop Server App now displays new parameters, starting with the "Enable Image input" dropdown:

Flattening	No
Enable image input	No
Preflight Profile	External Preflight Profile Selected

When you enable image as input, PitStop will now accept PNG and JPEG files on top of the usual PDF files.

Flattening	No
Enable image input	Yes
Use embedded dimensions if available	No
Default page dimensions	Resolution
Resolution	72
Preflight Profile	External Preflight Profile Selected

Note the "Use embedded dimensions if available". When set to "Yes", it means that when the image has its dimensions internally defined, those will be used for the page dimensions in the output PDF file. Otherwise, the "Default page dimensions" settings will apply.

If you choose "Resolution", the resulting size will depend on the property value. For example, a 3000x2000 image with a resolution of 150ppi will result on a 51x34cm (or 20x13.3in) document size.

If you need a specific output size, choose "Fixed width and/or height", then set the expected values. The image resolution will depend on the dimensions. For example, a 3000 x 2000 pixels image, set to 30cm for the width, and 20 cm for the height, will have a 254ppi resolution.

Flattening	No
Enable image input	Yes
Use embedded dimensions if available	Yes
Default page dimensions	Fixed width and/or height
Width	Automatic
Height	Automatic
Preflight Profile	External Preflight Profile Selected

It is also possible to only set one of the two parameters like in:

Flattening	No
Enable image input	Yes
Use embedded dimensions if available	Yes
Default page dimensions	Fixed width and/or height
Width	640
Height	Automatic
Preflight Profile	External Preflight Profile Selected

Here the output height will be computed proportionally in this case.

New default Action Lists

4 default Action Lists are added to PitStop 24.11. Most of them take advantage of the newly added Actions (see above):

Page

- **Separate Channels - Convert Spots**
  A simple Action List to generate Color Separations with Spots to CMYK conversion.

- **Separate Channels - Preserve Spots**
  A simple Action List to generate Color Separations **without** converting Spots to CMYK.

- **Separate Channels - Screen Printing**
  A simple Action List to generate Color Separations keeping Spots Only.

- **Separate Print Content from Embellishment (Scodix Spot)**
  This Action List separates the Print Content from the technical content, i.e. all objects using a "scodix" spot color. This can be customised to be used with any other spot.

Bug Fixes

Issue	Product	Summary
ENFP-11875	PitStop Pro	Fill to Stroke failing with this file
ENFP-11013	PDFLib	Acrobat SaveAs error "The document could not be saved. There was a problem reading this document (21)." for Enfocus PDFLib created file
ENFP-11904	PitStop Library	PitStop Library crashes / the module EPL_SavePdf causes a signal 11 error
ENFP-11697	PitStop Server	PitStop: PDF Access wrong object type Error
ENFP-11708	Switch App	OperatePDF - error in merging pdfs with different layer settings
ENFP-10808	PitStop Pro	Font Issues
ENFP-11940	PitStop Pro	PitStop Pro: Change in font behavior with v24.07
ENFP-11710	PitStop Pro	Remove irrelevant objects seems to remove too much
ENFP-11987	PitStop Server	XML Ink Report missing pages if same ink coverage exists on previous pages
ENFP-11975	PitStop Server	XML v3 report switches Information and Fixes
ENFP-11494	PitStop Pro	Convert to PDF/X-4 - RGB is used while Output Intent is CMYK
ENFP-12032	PitStop Pro	Inspector not showing correctly
ENFP-11683	PitStop Server	Flattening Issue
ENFP-11742	PitStop Server	Flatten Emoji's
ENFP-12099	PitStop Pro	PitStop Pro does not report a corrupt image
ENFP-11938	PitStop Pro	Is setting black point compensation supposed to work on images?
ENFP-11942	PDFLib	Lossy JPEG2000 compression on small images results in big color differences
ENFP-12007	PitStop Server	PDF2Image: Significant file size increase when saving as TIFF
ENFP-12026	PitStop Pro	Strange results: bleed is removed instead of added
ENFP-11420	PitStop Pro	Using Acrobat Profiles causes hang after v2023.1 release