

Grand Sherpa

Highest Resolution Digital Inkjet Proofing
In 50, 64 and 87-inch widths



There is no other inkjet proofing system in its class. With 1440 x 1440 dpi resolution, piezo inkjet technology, precision registration, multi-density ink and Agfa advanced software technology, Grand Sherpa is the only inkjet system capable of exact press sheet reproduction. Combine this with its two-minute print speed, the Grand Sherpa leaves other systems standing in its tracks. Available in three sizes, the Grand Sherpa brings its new generation of digital proofing to a wide variety of printing operations. It can meet the needs of the most demanding job applications.



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Grand Sherpa

When it comes to quality and speed nothing comes even close.

Flawless contract proofing requires more than the most advanced printing technology. It needs a system of total quality control with end-to-end colour management.

Reaping the true benefits of the all-digital workflow demands a system that lets you proof everything from the layout of the printing form to the quality of the data file. A system that lets you pinpoint and correct costly imperfections.

Face-paced, high-volume operations require speedy systems that do not sacrifice quality for productivity.

The Grand Sherpa Solution

The Grand Sherpa is the first in its class with true 1440 x 1440-dpi resolution, variable dot size, eight-colour capacity, and two-minute print speed. Agfa adds advanced colour management software, a quality-management system and workflow integration software to provide a complete system of checks and balances.

Grand Sherpa is the only system that combines 1440-dpi resolution with Agfa's advanced colour management and screening technology to deliver press-specific contract colour.

Grand Sherpa provides end-to-end colour and quality control.

Flexible Proofing Modes

The Grand Sherpa prints at two high-resolutions for contract proofing—1440 x 1440 dpi and 720 x 720 dpi, and a faster 360 x 360 dpi for imposition proofing. Printing speed is two minutes for a 33 x 47-inch (A0) form at 360 dpi. Precision media transport assures exact registration. The media heads adjust to accommodate a wide variety of media from .1 to 1.1 mm-thick.

Repeatable Contract Proofing

The Grand Sherpa uses multi-density, drop-on-demand piezo-electric technology.

Agfa configures the system with six ink cassettes—CcMmYK—four process colours, a light cyan and light magenta. The multi-density inks offer better ink-blending and widen the colour gamut to more accurately match difficult colours such as flesh tones.

For Apogee Proofer RIP uses the certified Pantone spot colour libraries, the system matches PANTONE spot colours and special logo colours. And you can define custom spot colours to save them in the ink database of the RIP.

Agfa's ColorTune Pro colour-management software automatically compensates for differences in colour ranges among input devices, monitor, printer, proofer and printing press to deliver end-to-end colour management. ColorTune Pro uses technology-specific mapping algorithms to precisely match the different gamut of presses used for specific applications such as newspaper or commercial printing.



Total Quality Control

Developed for contract proofing, Agfa's Quality Management System assures that the Grand Sherpa is ready for optimum performance. A verification module checks the calibration and the engine performance. This lets you verify that the printing engine is functioning properly, that it is performing identically over a period of time, and that a Sherpa printer in a remote location is performing equally to one in the main facility. With QMS every Sherpa in the workflow is calibrated to the same tonal behaviour. As a result every proofer has the same tonal response within pre-defined tolerances. This allows colour repeatability from any Sherpa at any location, a must for remote proofing applications. Sometimes, even with the best colour-management system in place, the proof may not match the final press sheets. QMS tells you why. QMS interprets the values of identical colour strips printed on the press sheet and on the proof to isolate the source of the colour variance.

Digital File Integrity

In a digital workflow, you need to check for more than colour accuracy, moiré or imposition. Proofing becomes an important measure of total quality control. The Grand Sherpa uses the Apogee Proofing RIP, so in an Apogee workflow you are using identical digital interpreters. That means absolute certainty that what you output on your proof is what will image on the plate. The Adobe PostScript 3 RIP, also provides automatic queuing and spooling and handles composite or pre-separated files.

Easy Workflow Integration

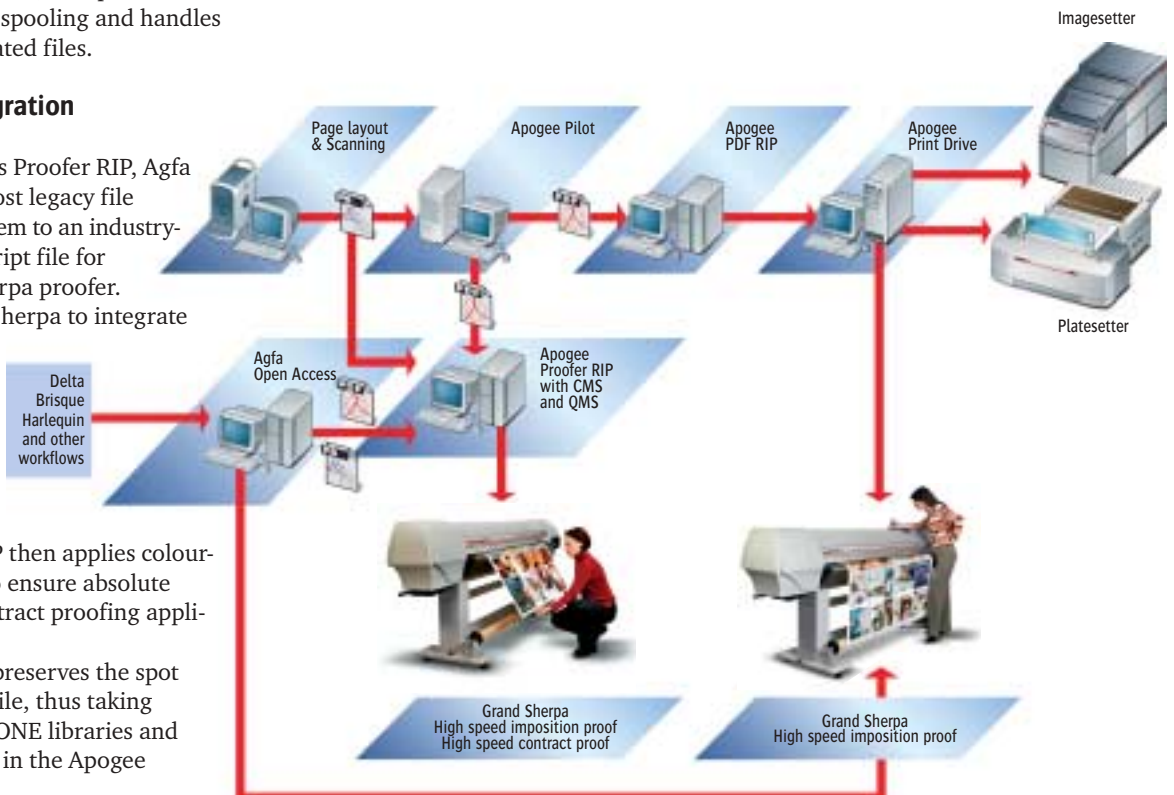
Running on the system's Proofer RIP, Agfa Open Access accepts most legacy file formats and converts them to an industry-standard PDF or Postscript file for output on any Agfa Sherpa proofer. This allows the Grand Sherpa to integrate easily into most non-Agfa workflows and handle third-party files such as Heidelberg Delta Brisque Harlequin and other workflows, Delta List, Scitex CT/LW or Harlequin ScriptWorks bitmaps. The Apogee Proofer RIP then applies colour-management profiles to ensure absolute colour accuracy for contract proofing applications. Agfa Open Access also preserves the spot colours in the original file, thus taking advantage of the PANTONE libraries and custom colours defined in the Apogee Proofing RIP.

AgfaJet Proofing Media

Agfa includes a roll of AgfaJet Digital Proofing Base with the Grand Sherpa. AgfaJet Digital Proofing Base, a resin-coated photograde inkjet paper is capable of reproducing a larger gamut of colour and offers better definition. Agfa's multiple-layer technology multiplies the paper's ability to hold and reflect ink. The result is a high-quality contract proof that matches a wider variety of printing standards and presses.

Cost-Effective Operation

Agfa offers the Grand Sherpa in three sizes to accommodate medium, large and very-large formats: 50 inches (1273 mm) 64 inches (1653 mm) and 87 inches (2240 mm). You can print in landscape orientation, which can save time and paper waste. Because the Grand Sherpa uses a very efficient piezo inkjet system, it conserves ink with no loss in quality. This makes the system cost effective to operate and maintain. And because the Grand Sherpa is so easy to use, requiring little intervention, it saves time and labour costs.



The Sherpa Family

Whether you produce high-profile art reproductions and promotional materials, or high-volume magazines and newspapers, or colour-rich packaging, there is a Sherpa that will meet your proofing needs. Each is backed by the Agfa Commitment.

- **Grand Sherpa:**
highest resolution,
highest speed,
large-format proofing
- **SherpaMatic 43:**
high resolution,
productive,
automated,
duplex proofing
and contract proofing
- **Sherpa 43i:**
High resolution, fast,
contract proofing
- **Sherpa 2i:**
High resolution,
manual,
dual sided imposition
proofing
- **Sherpa 24:**
High resolution,
contract proofing,
remote proofing
at designer or client
locations

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Grand Sherpa Family

Technical Specifications

Printing technology

Multi-density drop-on-demand piezo-electric inkjet.

Available models

Grand Sherpa 50.
Grand Sherpa 64.
Grand Sherpa 87.

Resolution

360 dpi, 720 dpi, 1440 dpi.

Print modes

High Quality mode.
High Speed mode.

Maximum Print speed

Approx 40 m²/hour at 360 x 360 dpi.
Approx 2 min/A0 (33.1 x 46.8 in)
at 360 x 360 dpi.

Inks

8 ink cassettes for up to 8 colours.
220 ml cassettes for dye and pigment
based inks.
Ink cassettes with smart-chip detection.
Front loading.

Interfaces

Standard: bi-directional Centronics –
IEEE 1284.
Extended: 10/100 Base-T.

Standard hard disk 20.3 Gb

Stores up to 16 jobs. Engine can make multiple
(up to 99) copies per job.

Memory buffer

128 MB standard.

Maximum RAM

256 MB, standard SIMMs.

Firmware upgrade

External flashcard or parallel 8 bit.
On-line upgrade.

Communication protocols

RTL.
MH-GL & MH-GL2.

Media feed mechanism

Multiple point pressure grid roller system.
Micro-precision capstan paper transport.

Maximum media width and printing width per model

Model	Max. media width	Max. printing width
Grand Sherpa 50	1273 mm	1263 mm
Grand Sherpa 64	1653 mm	1643 mm
Grand Sherpa 87	2240 mm	2230 mm

Adjustable head height – max. media thickness

1.2 – 0.1 mm.
1.7 – 0.6 mm.
2.2 – 1.0 mm.

Media cutting

Horizontal auto-cutting.
Tungsten carbide cutting blade.

Operational panel display

LCD Menu hierarchy.
Backlit type – 4 lines.

Electrical

Voltage: 100-120 VAC, 200-240 VAC auto-
switching.
Stand-by power consumption < 100W.
Printing power consumption < 100W.

Environmental

Recommended temperature: 16-25°C, operating
Recommended relative humidity: 40-60%RH,
non-condensing

Dimensions (LxWxH)

Grand Sherpa 50:
2671 x 720 x 1222 mm/105 x 28.5 x 48 in.
Grand Sherpa 64:
3070 x 720 x 1222 mm/121 x 28.5 x 48 in.
Grand Sherpa 87:
3700 x 720 x 1222 mm/146 x 28.5 x 48 in.

Weight (incl. stand)

Grand Sherpa 50: 135 kg/298 lbs.
Grand Sherpa 64: 160 kg/353 lbs.
Grand Sherpa 87: 190 kg/419 lbs.

Safety certification

Safety standard: CE – UL – CUL – CCIB – KTL.
EMI: CE – FCC Class A – VCCI Class A.