

## Frequently asked questions about UP<sup>3</sup>I

Q What is UP<sup>3</sup>I and what does it do?

A UP<sup>3</sup>I is the information backbone for a digital printing line. Through UP<sup>3</sup>I all elements in a line are set-up and coordinated for the print job.

Q What advantages do I have with UP<sup>3</sup>I over existing performances?

A The whole line, consisting of individual modules, behaves as one coordinated entity. This considerably reduces set-up time and allows controlled recovery of damaged forms.

Q To what equipment is UP<sup>3</sup>I relevant / targeted?

A UP<sup>3</sup>I is targeted for electrically powered equipment modules comprising a digital production print line. This typically ranges from the unwinder through the printer and right down to the last piece of finishing equipment in the line.

Q How can existing legacy pre/post equipment be connected to a UP<sup>3</sup>I system?

A It is technically possible that legacy equipment targeted by UP<sup>3</sup>I (see question above) can have upgrades or interface converters to allow some UP<sup>3</sup>I function capability. UP<sup>3</sup>I upgrades and interface converter availability will come from individual manufacturers and this availability has not been specified yet.

Q When will UP<sup>3</sup>I will be implemented in equipment?

A UP<sup>3</sup>I device availability will come from individual manufacturers and this availability has not been specified yet. The first technology demonstration has occurred in May 2001. UP<sup>3</sup>I will first be implemented in the devices of the core group members.

Q How does UP<sup>3</sup>I handle offline devices (like an inserter and other equipment further down the workflow)?

A UP<sup>3</sup>I is intended to interface to printers, in-line and near-line pre-and post-processors. Although Inserters (such as high speed mailroom devices that insert pages into envelopes) already have established communication methods to the work flow managers they may become (in future) also UP<sup>3</sup>I devices.

Q What happens if there is a paper jam?

A A UP<sup>3</sup>I process line can perform sheet and / or set recovery.

Therefor the UP<sup>3</sup>I device that detected the jam reports the jam condition (through the Device State Request frame) and indicates the particular page that the jam started on (through the UP<sup>3</sup>I Page ID parameter). Next the operator is notified to clear the jam, the host is notified to restart the job at the appropriate start point (e.g. by the Printer device, or UP<sup>3</sup>I Manager). Invalid pages are indicated for removal from the print line. This may be done either by operator intervention or – if the UP<sup>3</sup>I devices are able to – the sheets are sent to a waste bin.

Q How is a sheet tracked in the workflow process?

A The UP<sup>3</sup>I Manager (or any other UP<sup>3</sup>I device) can track the status of any page chiefly by the UP<sup>3</sup>I Page ID in the Form Exit Frame (where the UP<sup>3</sup>I Page ID is included), the Form Acknowledge Frame (to verify successful processing) and the Device State Request Frame (in case of unsuccessful processing). This information is communicated between all UP<sup>3</sup>I devices. The UP<sup>3</sup>I Manager (or the a specific UP<sup>3</sup>I device, e.g. the printer) communicates status with the server or host.

Q Why was IEEE 1394 chosen for UP<sup>3</sup>I versus other perhaps more commonly available interfaces?

A Only IEEE1394 met the requirements of a commercially available, low cost, excellent performance, real time capable (isochronous) bus.

Q How does the UP<sup>3</sup>I initiative relate to CIP4/JDF initiative?

A There is a common workgroup of both organizations working to harmonize these two initiatives. JDF/CIP4 describes the job related parameters while UP<sup>3</sup>I controls the print and finishing process.

Q Do UP<sup>3</sup>I finishing operations originate from the print job data stream or job tickets?

A UP<sup>3</sup>I specification allows finishing operation commands to originate from both the print job data stream and separate job tickets. Usually, the print job data stream is more appropriate for specifying finishing operations that occur at the copy level and job tickets are more appropriate for finishing operations that occur at the job level.

Q Are all UP<sup>3</sup>I device parameters available for remote control?

A No. For safety and other reasons, the remote manipulation of some UP<sup>3</sup>I device parameters may not be allowed.

Q Does UP<sup>3</sup>I cover near line (offline) interests

A UP<sup>3</sup>I is mainly targeted to co-ordinate operations of online modules. But UP<sup>3</sup>I also includes near line support - as we feel we can not support it really to the final extend at this point in time.

Remark: Regarding the offline support, we have to make a clear stand here. We have tried to include offline support half-heartedly, but we feel we can not support it really at this point in time. UP<sup>3</sup>I is mainly targeted to co-ordinate operations of different modules. Another way to look at it: A line in itself is always "online", with or without a printer.

Q In the UP<sup>3</sup>I home page, there is an announcement that the version 1.0 will be released in 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2001. Is the final version?

A The UP<sup>3</sup>I team is targeting that Version 1.0 will be available in 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2001. Version 1.0 will be the first working copy confirmed by technology demonstrations. It will not be the final version. As testing proceeds, more functions are added and industry feedback is received, some changes can be anticipated. Core team members control changes to the specification but they do seek input from the rest of the industry.

Q Where is the UP<sup>3</sup>I manager installed? In the printer controller? PC for the UP<sup>3</sup>I manager? some server?

A The UP<sup>3</sup>I manager can be in any of these or even have some of the manager functions divided between these different devices. The manager does not have to be a separate device.

Q Where will the core members demonstrate the UP<sup>3</sup>I system?

A UP<sup>3</sup>I core members have not announced a particular trade show for a demonstration yet. The core members may also show UP<sup>3</sup>I at core member open houses. The exact format for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2001 demonstration has not been announced yet.

Q How can I tell if a product is UP<sup>3</sup>I compatible and what does UP<sup>3</sup>I compatibility mean?

A The UP<sup>3</sup>I organization controls the UP<sup>3</sup>I logo. The usage requirements of the UP<sup>3</sup>I logo on products and required compliance testing have not been determined yet.

Q What does UP<sup>3</sup>I mean in the field of safety?

A UP<sup>3</sup>I does not enhance or infringe international safety standards to which the individual device must comply.