Subject: Re: grayscale vs. color
Posted by Struan Gray on Tue, 23 May 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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Martin Schultz, martin.schultz@dkrz.de writes:

> who says they must compete? If they can license
> a bad editor, they should be able to license some
> software to generate CMYK.

They are competing in the sense that you're trying to make IDL do something that Adobe applications (among others) already do very well and at a cheaper price. It is only worthwhile if you absolutly insist that your computer only ever runs one single program.

As I pointed out, IDL already generates perfectly good-looking CYMK every time it uses a colour printer driver. If I need more control than the printer driver allows me, any modern graphics or page layout program can turn out professional-quality seperations. If I'm publishing a book or a thesis with colour plates the seperations are done by the printer and I just have to supply my monitor profile and check a proof or two.

It would be helpful to make IDL able to use colour profiles and to warn about out-of-gamut colours, particularly when sharing visualisations with other users, but I don't want a half-assed implementation that I then have to second guess the whole time and I vastly prefer that IDL stick to its knitting and fix more serious problems.

I'm not trying to be argumentative. I'm genuinely baffled as to why you and David feel IDL has no CYMK abilities at all, and what exactly you feel should be added. I'm interested to hear about specific problems you have had.

Struan