TIPS
& Late-breaking News
#2

If you have a hot tip that you would like to share, write to *Hot Tips and Late-breaking News,* Marketing Department, Linotype-Hell Co., 425 Oser Ave., Hauppauge, NY 11788, or call 1-800-842-9721, or, if you prefer, fax your tip to 516-434-2706. Anyone who contributes a hot tip that is published here will receive a special Limited Edition, Linotype-Hell tee shirt.

Impostrip sluglines

Both Impostrip and Impostrip Light allow users to place a slugline on the lower left hand corner of the imposed flat. In order to maximize the use of film, the slugline begins at the (0,0) point of the flat. Unfortunately, this means that all of the type descenders are cut off as shown in the example below:

```
"Sample Impostrip File"-Front-1 T1-Cyan-…

"Sample Impostrip File"-Front-1 T1-Cyan-…
```

Adding the following lines of code to the Impostrip User Prologue file raises the slugline by 5 points and prevents this problem. (Please type the code exactly as shown. Typos or added spaces can cause problems. In addition, remember that PostScript is very sensitive to whether a letter is in upper or lower case.)

/ImpostripSlugShow

```
{/Helvetica findfont SCALEABLE {5}
{10} ifelse scalefont setfont gsave 0 5
moveto
show show show show show show show
show grestore} def
```

You can also replace Helvetica with another font and change the size at which the slugline will appear when scaled (i.e. {5}) and at full size (i.e. {10}).

Daniel Courville
Linotype-Hell Inc., Canada

L-HAR

Having trouble deciphering acronyms? The Linotype-Hell Acronym Resource may provide the answer for you. This self-running Macintosh® program was developed by Linotype-Hell to answer questions about common prepress, printing, and computing acronyms. Best of all, it's free! For your copy, call the Linotype-Hell Information Center (L-HIC) at 800-842-9721.

Mystery history contest

What well-known type designer created the ornament in the box below? If you know, send a postcard with the designer's *full* name to the following address:

Jim Hamilton
Marketing Department
Linotype-Hell Co.
425 Oser Ave.
Hauppauge, NY 11788

The first three customers to send in a postcard with the correct answer will win a special Limited Edition Linotype-Hell tee shirt. (The tee shirt design has a historical theme as well: Ottmar Mergenthaler and his Linotype machine.)

Calibrating with Kodak 2000 film

Kodak Series 2000 film is a high contrast film that uses something called integrated booster technology (IBT). One advantage of IBT is the ability to achieve an extremely high maximum density (dmax) and a very sharp, hard dot. To calibrate Series 2000 film you must plot a characteristic curve.

A characteristic curve shows the effect that exposure by the laser has on the film material. You can plot a characteristic curve (see illustration) by producing a density test, i.e., checking the dmax at a wide range of density (laser intensity settings.)
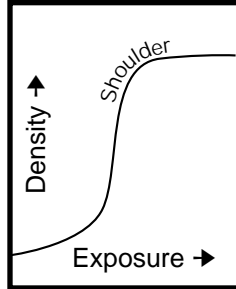
Note: The density test procedure varies from one class of devices to another. Consult your user's manual for more information.

Series 2000 film performs best at the so-called shoulder of the characteristic curve. At the shoulder, an uncalibrated 50% dot should read 50 or 51%. For screen rulings in the range of 100 to 200 lines per inch no additional calibration may be necessary. Your Kodak representative has more information on Kodak Series 2000 film.

Alan Chisek
Eastman Kodak Company

Context-sensitive help

One of the most powerful, yet underused functions within DC 3000 software is context-sensitive help. Every window in the software program has a help button. By clicking this button with the mouse another window appears with added information. Within these help windows, anything that is highlighted in yellow may be clicked to reveal more information. It is exactly like having the full DC 3000 manual at your disposal. This function is extremely helpful for new operators. In addition, a note taking function allows operators to write in their own comments. This allows experienced operators to pass information to others who access the help function later on. If you aren't taking advantage of context-sensitive help, you are missing an important strength of DC 3000 software.

Norbert Gudell
Linotype-Hell Company

Pagemaker 5.0 and fonts

If you are finding that certain fonts default to Courier when printing files from Pagemaker 5.0., it is most likely because of a fundamental change in the way that Pagemaker 5.0 deals with printer set-up. Pagemaker 5.0 no longer asks the printer for its configuration at print time. Instead, it uses the LaserWriter 8.x (8.0 or higher) printer driver. This driver reads standard PPD files instead of the APD or PDX files that previous versions of Pagemaker used.

The PPD file tells Pagemaker which fonts are resident on your RIP. If a font is listed in the PPD file as being resident, Pagemaker will not download it. Fonts that are not listed will be downloaded regardless of whether the fonts are actually resident on the RIP or not.

If your PPD file lists fonts that are not resident on your printer, the printer will substitute Courier (or another default typeface). To avoid this problem, download any fonts listed in your PPD that are not already resident on your printer. (You can open up a PPD file with a text editor to see what fonts are listed.)

Carol Hassildine
Linotype-Hell Company