



HyperXpress Tutorial Series

Lesson Two: Using HyperXpress to print files on Disk

After proper installation of [HyperXpress](#), you should find that a new printer was installed on your system (e.g., you will see a new printer in the list of available printers within your Windows applications). The new printer will be called the “HyperXpress Printer Interface” or something very similar depending upon which Pinebush Technologies product was installed. There will also be a collection of new shortcuts created in a folder called HyperXpress which resides on your Windows START menu.

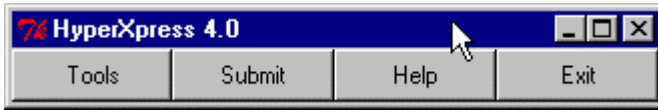
The printer definition created is used when printing using the Windows Printer Interface product. This method allows HyperXpress to be used from within any Windows application. The shortcuts are used for accessing the features of the File-Based GUI for using HyperXpress to process disk files. Using HyperXpress as a Windows printer is covered in a separate tutorial. This tutorial covers the file-based GUI interface.

The basics of printing using the HyperXpress file-based interface can be described in these simple steps. Each step is presented in detail in the following pages with illustrations showing you what you should expect to see on your screen. The basic steps for printing with HyperXpress are:

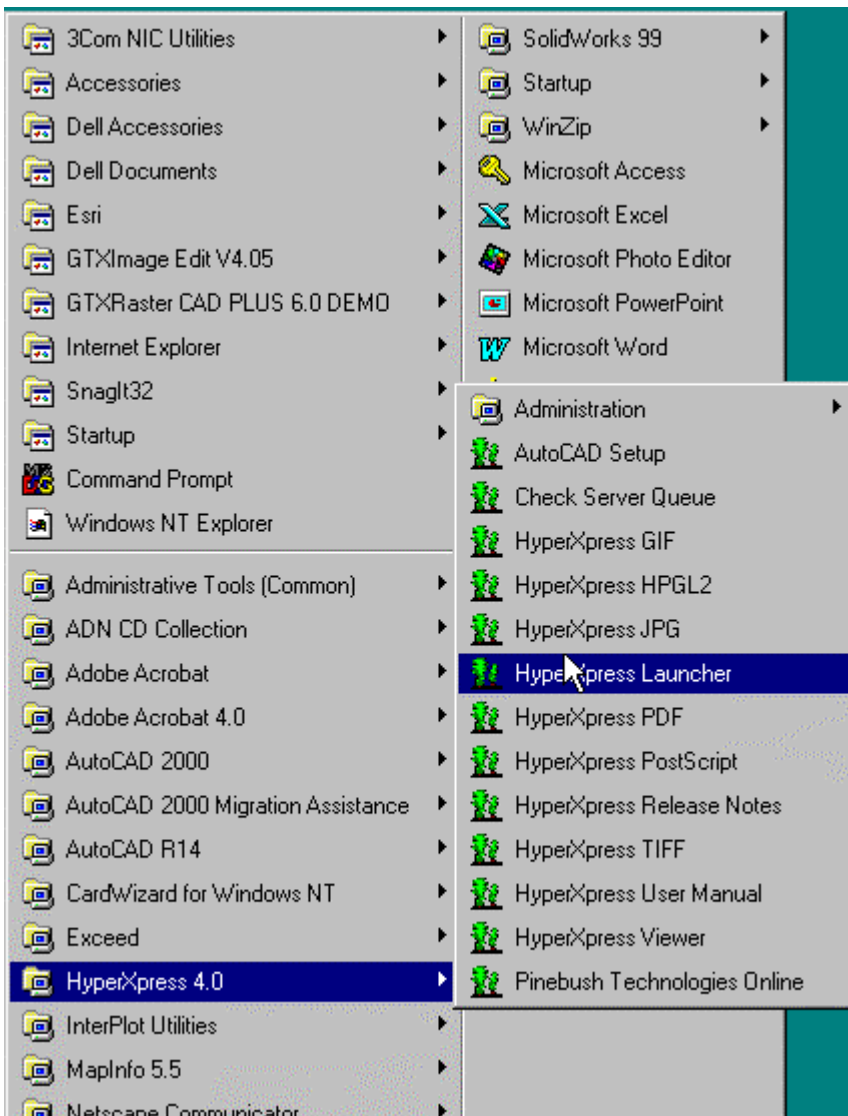
1. Starting the HyperXpress Launcher
2. Opening a GUI form for your specific data type
3. Basic Settings on the HyperXpress Main GUI (Choosing your Windows Printer, Input File, etc.)
4. Using basic Plot Layout features
5. The stages of HyperXpress Image Processing
6. HyperXpress Viewer
7. The Viewer’s Print Dialog
8. Printing from the Viewer

Starting the HyperXpress Launcher

The Launcher is a toolbar used for starting all of the HyperXpress forms and tools. Most of the tools and forms are also accessible as shortcuts in the HyperXpress folder that was created in the Windows START menu at the time HyperXpress was installed. The SUBMIT button is used to open forms that are tailored to the specific data type (e.g., TIFF, JPEG, etc) that you want to use.



Below is a figure showing the general structure of the HyperXpress folder. You can copy the "HyperXpress Launcher" shortcut into the STARTUP folder for your computer, if you would like the HyperXpress toolbar to be started each time you log in or start your computer.



HyperXpress Main GUI Form

On the main form, you will need to set a couple of key features:

- Filename
- Printer Name
- Paper Size
- Destination: Printer or Viewer

You will also probably need to visit the plot layout tab to specify such things as size of the plot relative to the paper size you've selected and the orientation of the plot on the paper. See the next page for a description of the features available on the plot layout tab.

When you have finished performing all of the plot setup, press the **Do It!** button to begin the printing process.

The screenshot shows the HyperXpress 4.0 - TIFF main GUI form. The window title is "HyperXpress 4.0 - TIFF". The menu bar includes "File", "Tools", and "Help". The main area has four tabs: "Main", "Plot Layout", "Environment", and "Job Status". The "Main" tab is active, showing the following settings:

- Current directory: C:/TEMP
- Filename: D:/Or44121/ChartTiff/C44120a1.tif
- Input Type: TIFF
- Destination section:
 - Printer: \\WODEN\HP DesignJet 650C
 - Paper Size: ANSI C - 17 x 22 in.
 - Number of Copies: 1
 - Destination type: Viewer (other options: Printer, Size Only, File)
 - Viewer options: Annotation Only, All Data

At the bottom of the window, there are three buttons: "Do It!", "Reset Page", and "Close". A status bar at the very bottom shows the number "0".

HyperXpress Plot Layout

The Plot Layout tab is used primarily for specifying how a plot will appear on a piece of paper.

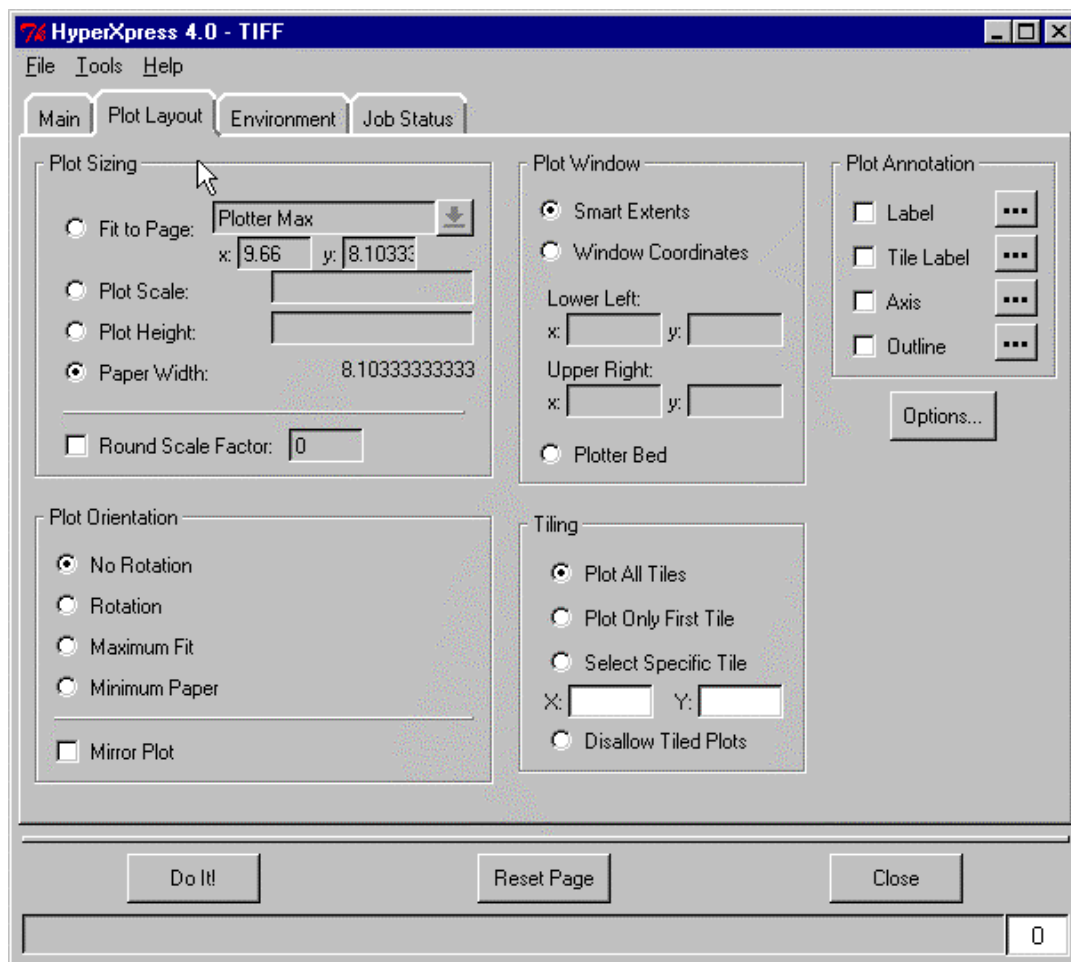
Plot Sizing Panel

You can specify the size of the plot in two ways: By automatically scaling the image to a predetermined size (e.g., Form size, paper width, etc) or by stating a specific scale that is required. If the sizing option that you selected is larger than the paper size selected (on the Main Tab – see previous page, then the plot may need to be tiled. See the section below on tiling to determine the behavior that you desire. Note that the default size when using “Fit to Page” is set to “Plotter Max”. This means that the image’s scale will automatically be adjusted to fit within the paper size selected on the Main GUI.

Tiling Panel

HyperXpress is capable of tiling your image onto multiple sheets of paper. If the data sizing is larger than the paper size selected, you will need to determine the appropriate way for HyperXpress to behave with regard to tiling. These settings are located in the “Tiling” panel. There are four options:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Plot all Tiles | Image will scaled to the specified size and if necessary tiled onto multiple pieces of paper. |
| <input type="radio"/> Plot only first tile | Image will be scaled (like the above option) but only the first tile will be printed. In essence, the plot will be clipped to the first page. |
| <input type="radio"/> Select Specific Tile | Image will be scaled, but user selects which tile to print. |
| <input type="radio"/> Disallow Tiled Plot | If tiling is required, HyperXpress will abort. |



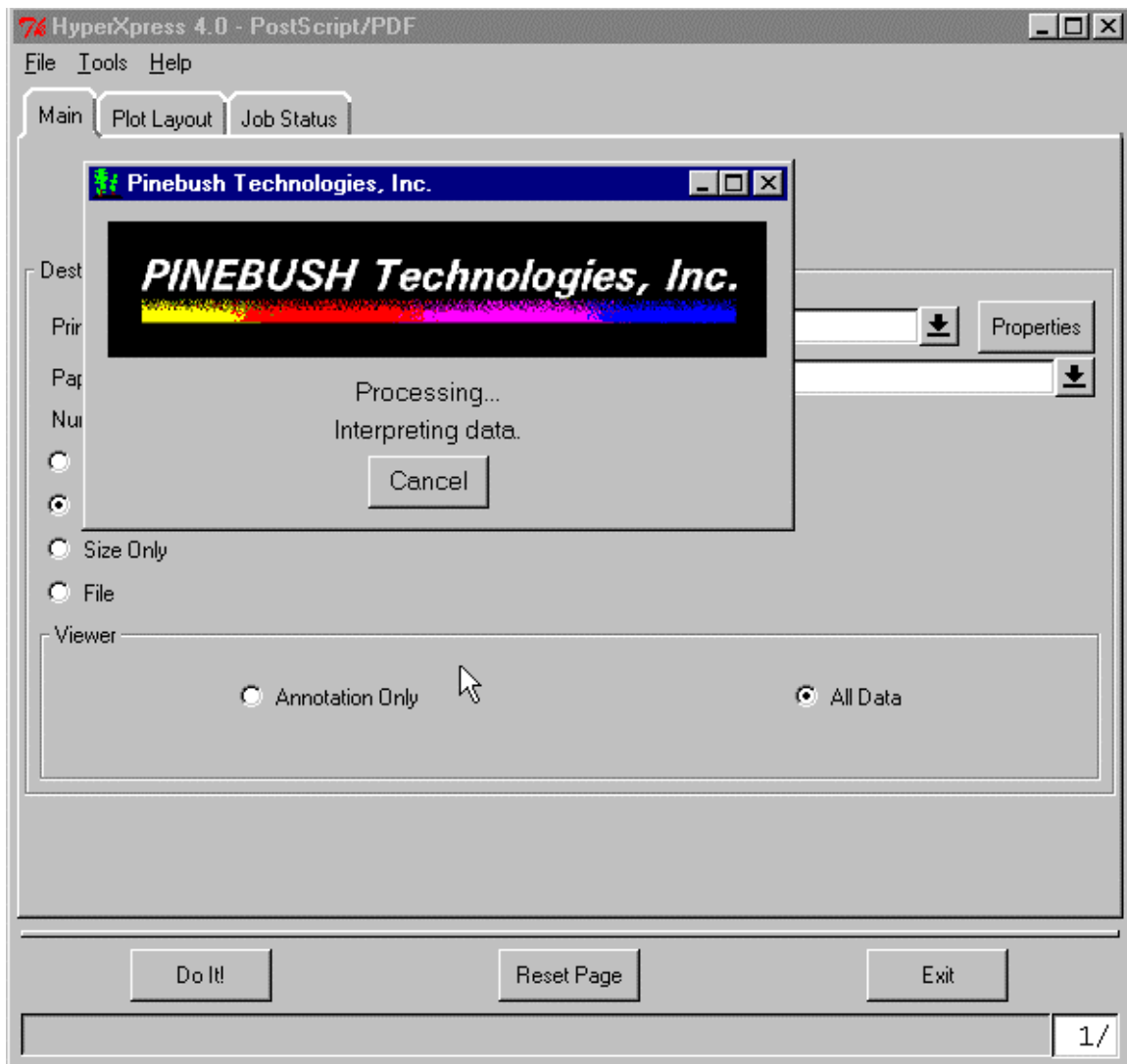
The Stages of HyperXpress Image Processing

After the “Do It!” button is pressed, a message dialog appears with the Pinebush logo. It indicates three phases of a job in progress:

- Initializing: Reading the data to determine it’s size
- Interpreting Data: Reading the data and analyzing it’s contents
- Rendering: Creating the ripped image for your printer/viewer

These phases are referred to as the “RIP” process (Raster Image Processing). The RIP process is generally the most time consuming and resource intensive portion of printing. It is this process that usually takes your printer a long time to complete (or often will fail) if your printer is incapable of handling the complexity and/or size of your print job. By doing the ripping process on your computer, you free up the printer from having to perform this task and generally reduce the total printing time and enormously increase the likeliness of producing a correct plot.

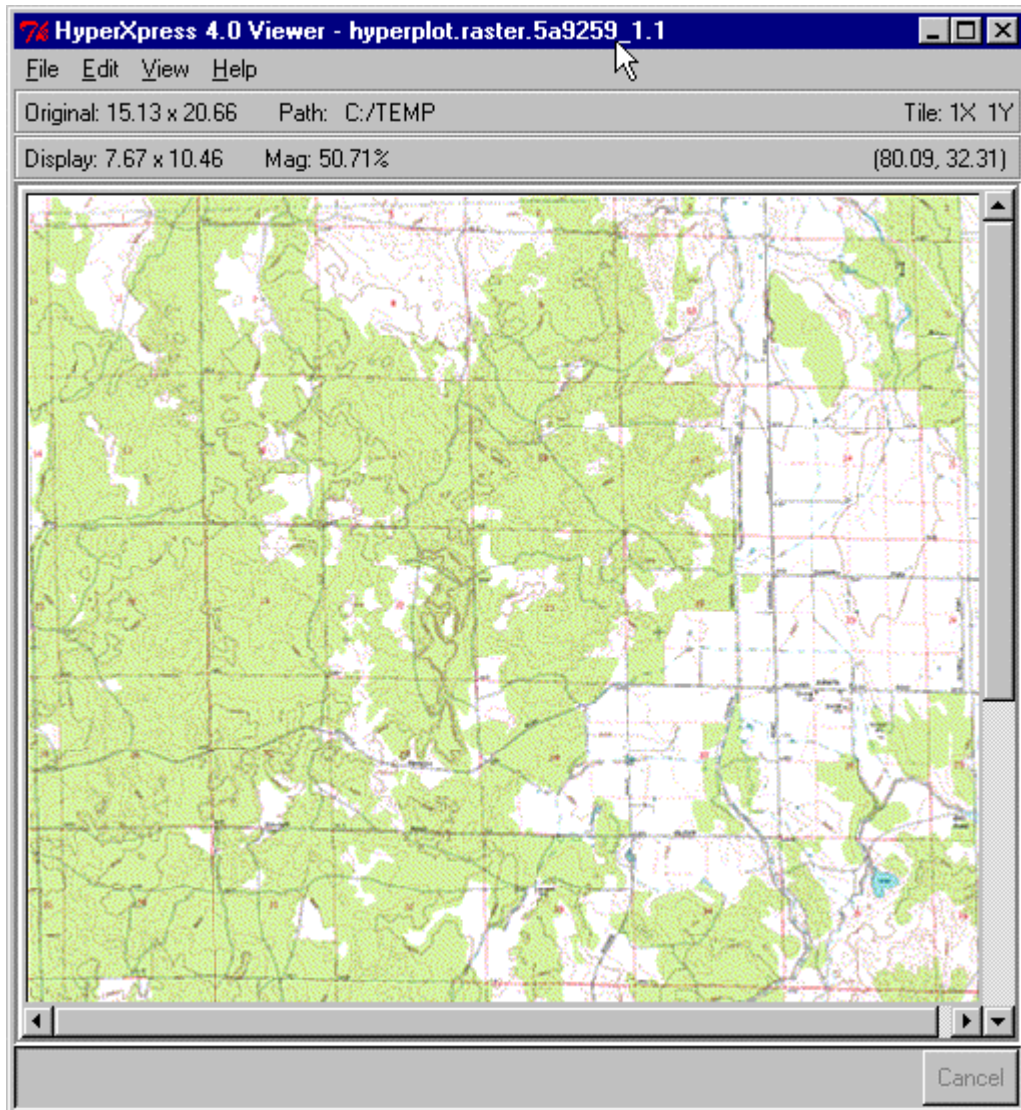
The dialog that appears contains a **Cancel** button that can be used at any time to cancel the job in progress.



HyperXpress Viewer

After the final stage of “Rendering” is completed, the Viewer screen will appear if you selected “Viewer” as your print destination. This can be used to do a final check on your print job prior to actually putting the image on paper. This is a good way to use HyperXpress to help you save time and money by only making plots that are correct.

You can use the viewer to accomplish a number of last minute adjustments to your plot to help ensure that you get the plot that you want without any unneeded waste. With the viewer, you can crop, rotate, flip, mirror and resize your plot. You can also use it to print a small size draft of the image without the need to re-rip the plot. For additional information on using the viewer and it's full set of features, please refer to the tutorial section on the viewer.

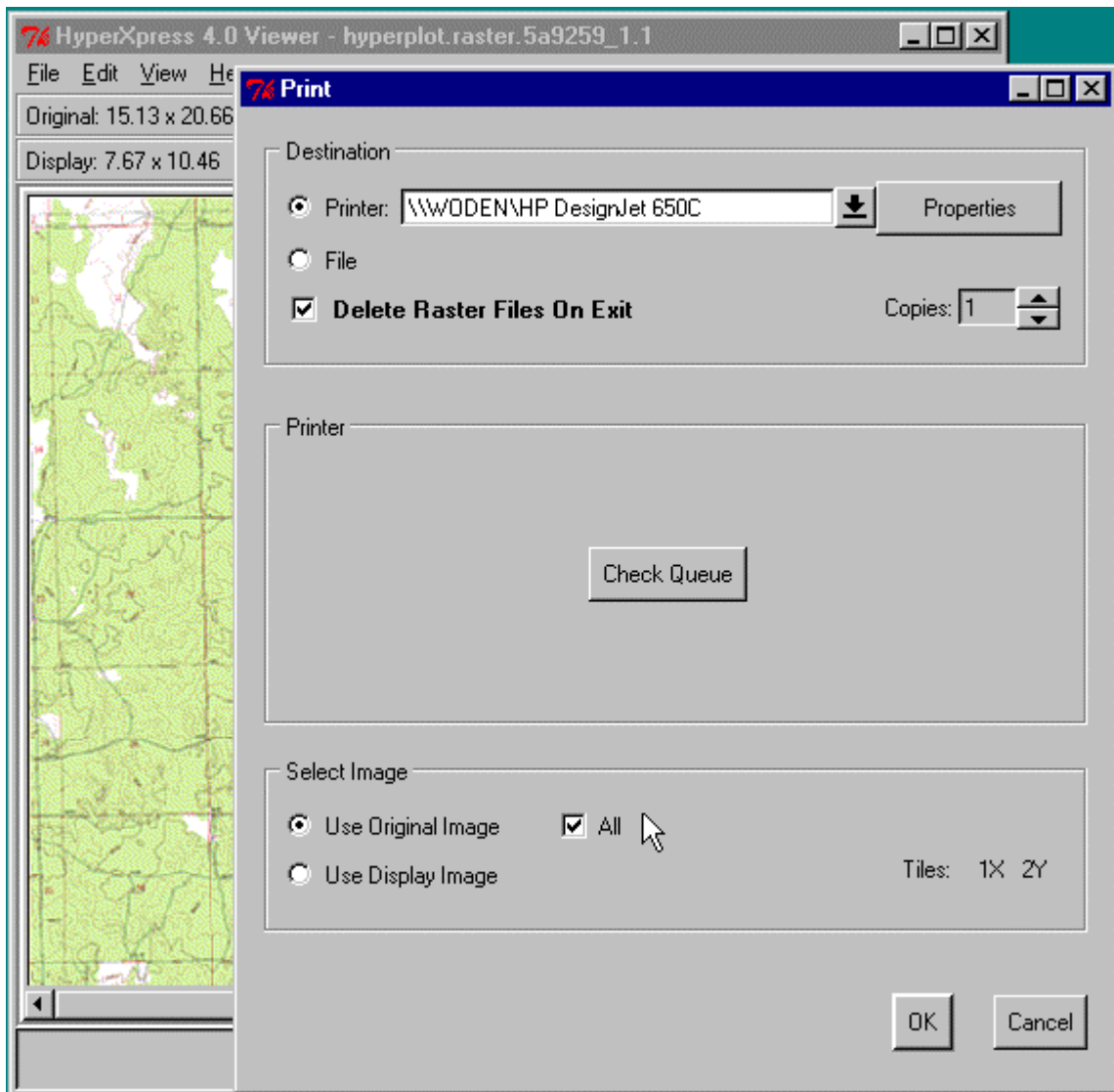


The Viewer's Print Dialog

If you have decided that the plot that you have generated is correct, it is likely that it is now time to put your image on paper. You may also save the ripped image to a file and print it at a later time. For additional information on advanced viewer features, please refer to the tutorial section on using the viewer.

To print the image, use the Print option located on the viewer's File menu. The print dialog provides a number of options. In the simplest case where you just want to print what you have created, you can do so by clicking on the **OK** button.

When the OK button is pressed, there is a small amount of processing that is performed before spooling your print job to the designated printer. See the next page for further details.



Printing from the Viewer

Because the ripping process is completed by this stage, the printing of the image will be very fast. There will be a brief period where HyperXpress will process the image and place it into the print queue. Once the job is through the queue and has arrived at the printer, the printer should begin to print very quickly afterward because the printer no longer needs to process (RIP) the image.

Just in case something goes wrong, as is often the case with printing (paper jams, out of ink, etc.), you may choose to leave the viewer open until your completed plot is in hand. By doing so, you can easily re-send the job without the need to re-rip or repeat any of the other previous steps.

