



Capabilities

General

Baltimore Color Plate's objective is to produce top quality printing, prepress and digital photography services on a quick and convenient schedule. The result of our many years of experience is a network of equipment and a dedicated, knowledgeable staff of unmatched capability. Our prepress department includes a Scitex RIP, providing speed and versatility with both PC or Mac based files. The prepress department also includes an imagesetter, film processor, digital proofing system, three high-end scanners, and a Scitex digital camera studio, which lay the foundation for our reliable service. Our pressroom is equipped with five presses, including a Komori 6-color with tower coater, a Ryobi 4-color and three 2-color presses. For finishing, our bindery handles almost any requirement a printed project may have from folding to saddle stitching.

Electronic Prepress Services

Baltimore Color Plate's prepress department consists of fifteen Mac and three PC workstations. These machines are networked together along with Preps imposition software, one Scitex RIP station, and a Dolev 800V imagesetter to provide an efficient, quality-oriented workflow. Baltimore Color Plate works with a wide variety of Mac and PC applications and formats including: Quark, Photoshop, Illustrator, Freehand, PageMaker, PDF and InDesign. Customer files can be supplied by Zip, Jaz, CD or they can be sent via e-mail or FTP courtesy of our in-house web server. All supplied files are preflighted immediately to alert the customer to any possible problems that may exist such as missing fonts or images. After preflighting, all work is stored on our server and files are accessed through our use of MediaBank asset management software. Maximum film output size is 32"x 43".

Digital Proofing

Baltimore Color Plate supplies Epson digital press proofs and color bluelines. The digital proofs are output from the customer's electronic files before film is generated. Maximum output size is 43"x 100".

Color Separations

All separations are produced on drum and flatbed scanners manufactured by Screen. The largest original that can be mounted on the scanners is 20"x 24". Scanner originals must also be flat and flexible. If an item for scanning is too large or not flexible, digital photography may be the alternative solution. Our experts can also perform high-end digital retouching and manipulation.



Digital Photography

Baltimore Color Plate's state of the art digital photography studio can be reserved for large catalog shoots or for single shot use. The studio utilizes a Scitex Volaré digital camera. Our photographers shoot products, then directly input the images to the prepress department. The chief benefit of digital photography is the cost and time savings compared to the traditional transparency-to-scanning method required by standard photography.

Printing

Our pressroom consists of five offset presses: a 6-color Komori with tower coater (maximum press sheet size of 20"x 28"), a 2-color Komori (maximum press sheet size of 20"x 28"), a 4-color and 2-color Ryobi (maximum press sheet sizes of 13"x 20") and a 2-color Hamada (maximum press sheet size of 12"x 18"). These presses are equipped with the latest electronics, including fully automated inking and registration for faster setup and running time. Settings and special setups can be stored on disk for faster make-readies. Baltimore Color Plate runs two shifts to meet tight deadlines.

Bindery

Finishing services include: trimming, scoring, folding, 1-3 hole drills, collating, handwork, padding, shrink-wrapping and stitching. Baltimore Color Plate handles all outsourcing of pocket folders, envelope conversion, diecutting, embossing and foil stamping, as well as mail house services. Local delivery is included for all Baltimore Color Plate print jobs. Special shipping requirements can easily be arranged.

Mailing

Baltimore Color Plate's mailhouse services include: converting mail lists, merge and purge of lists, standardization and correction of addresses, inkjetting, labeling, wafer sealing, handwork, sorting and delivering your finished piece to the Post Office.