

## DTF Printing Addendum

### Experimental support for DTF printing with spot color white (PrintFab 2.00beta1)

In this beta version of PrintFab, some printer drivers support DTF printing with white ink. Please note that DTF printing in PrintFab is still experimental and has not yet been extensively tested in practice.

Supported Printer Models	Ink Configuration: White replaces color ...
Epson Artisan 1430	LC, LM
Epson EcoTank ET-8500, ET-8550	Grey
Epson EcoTank ET-18100	LC, LM
Epson L800, L1800	LC, LM
Epson L8050, L18050	LC, LM
Epson Stylus Artisan 50, Photo P50	LC, LM
Epson Stylus Photo 14xx, 1500	LC, LM
Epson Stylus Pro 4000	LC, LM, LK
Epson Stylus Pro 7600/9600	LC, LM, LK
Epson XP-950, XP-960, XP-970	LC, LM
Epson XP-15000	Grey, Red

**Note:** Currently, **only Epson printers** can be used for DTF printing with white. This is because only Epson printers allow direct control of individual print head nozzles. This is necessary so that the color white can be applied before the other colors.

#### Your feedback is welcome!

More printer drivers that support DTF printing with white ink will be added in the future. If you want to use a printer that is not yet supported, please send us an email to [mail@zedonet.de](mailto:mail@zedonet.de) and tell us the desired printer model.

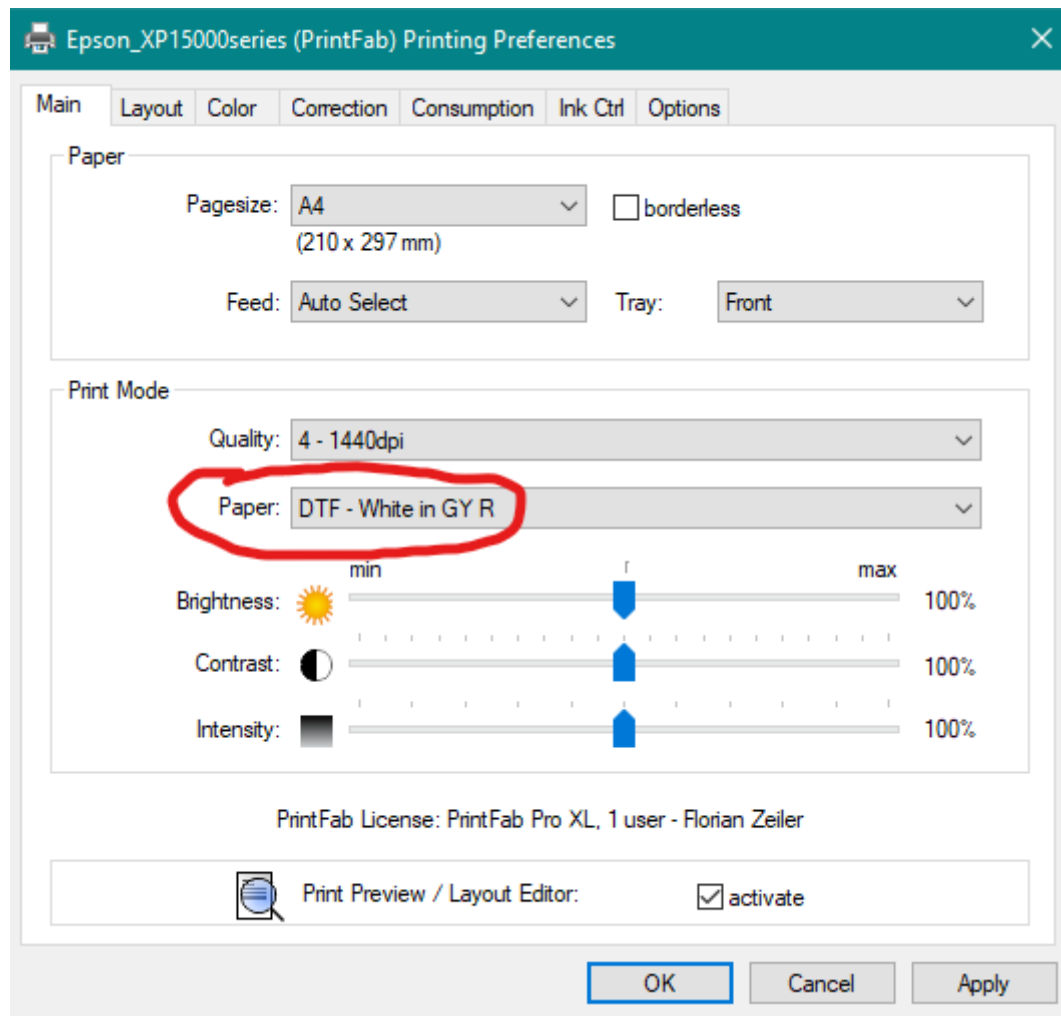
We are also grateful for feedback on your printing results or requests for additional setting options.

## Activating DTF Printing

DTF printing is activated in the PrintFab driver settings by selecting

Paper = "DTF - White in ..."

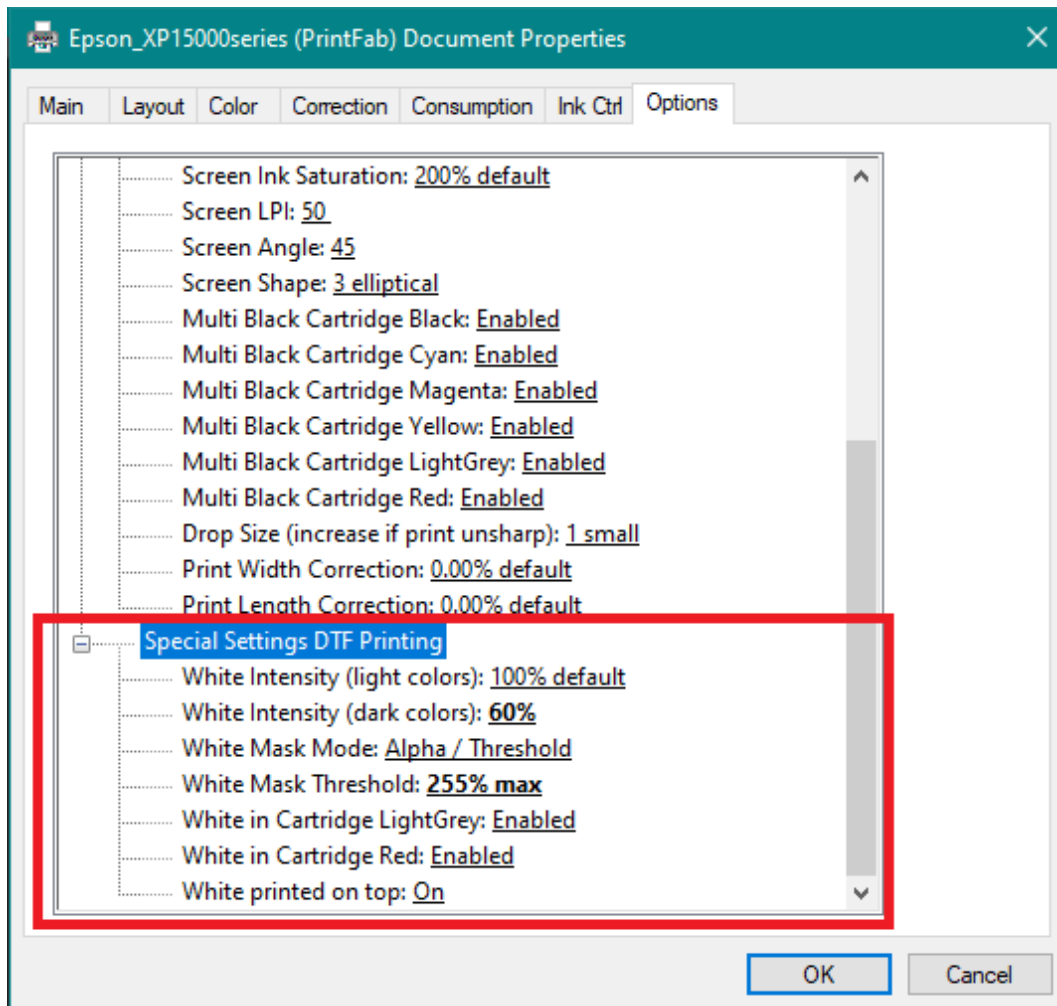
The name of the settings tells which colors are replaced by white, e.g. in the Epson XP15000 driver the option is "DTF - White in GY R" => the cartridges Grey and Red must contain white ink.



Print quality can be adjusted as necessary with the setting "Quality".

## Configuring DTF Printing

On tab "Options" you can find the "Special Settings DTF Printing".



The following settings are available:

### DTF White Intensity

Controls the amount of white ink that is printed. The intensity can be adjusted separately for printing white under light or dark colors.

### White Mask Mode

There are the following print modes to determine where the color white is printed:

- **Alpha / Threshold** - for objects with a transparency mask, the mask determines where white is printed. Otherwise, automatic control occurs, see "Control white via threshold".
- **Alpha / White** - for objects with a transparency mask, the mask determines where white is printed. Otherwise, white is printed behind the entire object.
- **Threshold** - automatic control always occurs

- **All objects white** - white is printed behind all objects.
- **Full page white** - the entire page is backed with white

### **White Mask Threshold**

When printing directly from applications like Photoshop, Threshold mode is used instead of Alpha. The color white is automatically controlled by comparing the image lightness to a threshold:

Image area is lighter than threshold ⇒ no white is printed

darker colors ⇒ white is printed

### **White in Cartridge ...**

These settings select which ink cartridges are used when printing white ink. This is helpful to disable a cartridge if ink is low or if a print head is clogged. The ink amount that has been selected with the setting "DTF White Intensity" remains the same, i.e. the ink amount is distributed to the active ink cartridges and print heads.

If all cartridges are turned off, white will not be printed.

### **White printed on top**

If this setting is active, white will be printed as the last / top color - this ensures that white is the background color after transfer in the heat press.

## **Performing DTF Printing**

In the DTF mode, the motif to be printed is printed on a white background. There are two ways to control the application of white:

### **1) PrintFab Composer - white controlled by bitmap alpha channel**

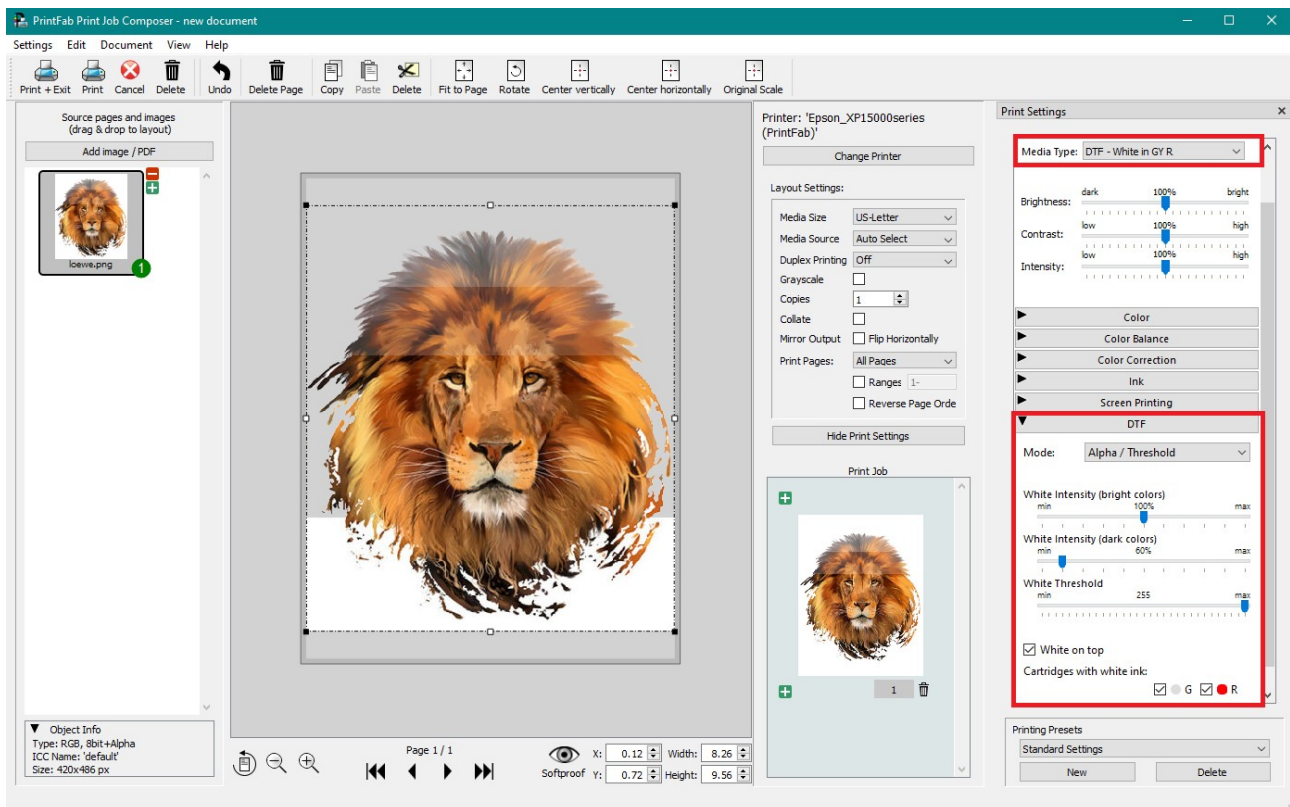
This option is currently only available when printing bitmap graphics directly from the PrintFab Composer application. The alpha channel, i.e. the transparency mask of the image, determines the use of white:

Image area is transparent => no white is printed

Image area is not transparent => white is printed

When printing directly from applications such as Photoshop, the alpha channel is lost and white is automatically controlled - see point 2.

Start the PrintFab Composer via the corresponding desktop icon or via the Windows menu. Images can be loaded with the "Add Images..." button or using Drag&Drop. They appear in the left column and can then be placed on the page via drag & drop. Use the mouse to move, scale or crop images - see the main PrintFab PDF manual.



To see which areas of the image are transparent, select "View"-> "White background" from the pull-down menu.

To enable DTF printing with white, select the media type "DTF - White in ..." in the printer settings. In the section "DTF", you can adjust the intensity of the white background. The intensity can be adjusted separately for printing white under light or dark colors.

For some printers that have several white ink cartridges, you can select which cartridges to use.

The setting "White on top" determines the sequence of color layers. "White on top" is enabled by default because the color layers will be reversed during the transfer process.

## Supported image types:

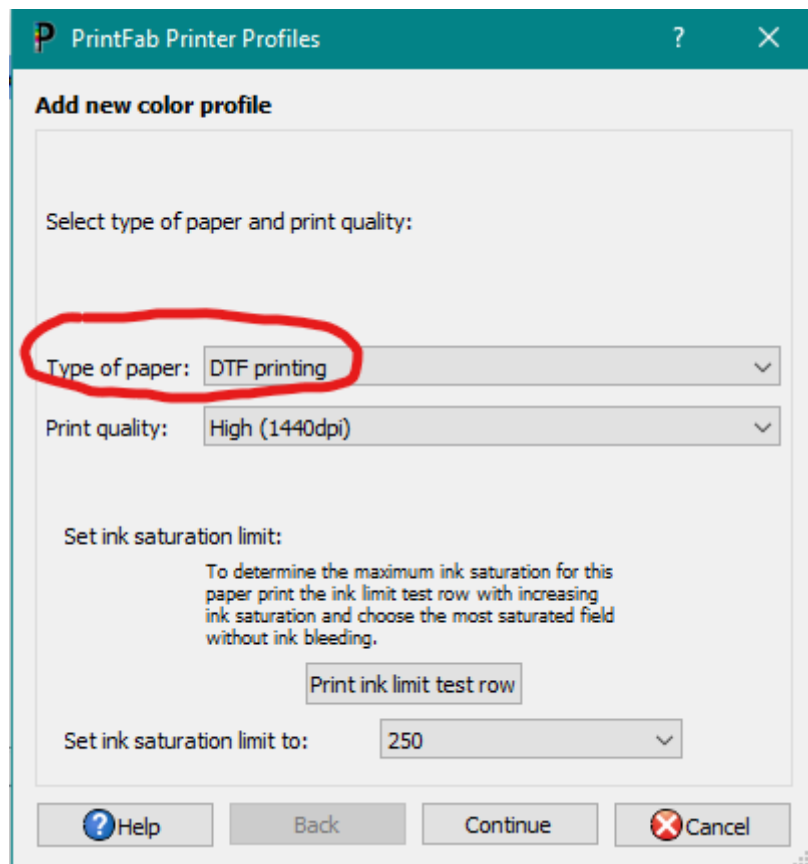
TIFF RGB 24bit with Alpha Channel  
 PNG RGB 24bit with Alpha Channel  
 PDF PDF with transparency

## 2) Automatic control of white

When printing directly from applications such as Photoshop or when printing images without an alpha channel via the PrintFab Composer, the color white is automatically controlled by the threshold (setting „White Mask Threshold“, see above).

## Color profiling for DTF printing

Color profiling is almost the same as with normal printing, see the main PrintFab PDF manual. However, the following is important:



When creating the profile entry in the "Profiles" dialog of the PrintFab app, select

"Type of paper" = "DTF Printing".

**Note:** When printing a profile chart for the ZEDOnet color profile service, the "Special Settings DTF Printing" are always in the default setting, i.e. the white application is 100% and all cartridges for white printing are active.