Xitron Navigator Workflow release notes. March 18, 2015.

The next Aspen release is referred to as "Aspen r5". Actual version numbers: Server 6.0; RIP 10.0r1.

There are a number of changes and improvements.

- The system supports the optional addition of extra RIPs. Between 1 and 3 RIPs per print engine are supported. (An explanation of how to determine the necessity of extra RIPs follows.)
- Multiple RIPs can be configured, started, and stopped from one interface.
- The Page Filter action is now *many* times faster.
- The user interface for Page Filter, Press Coordinator, and Durango spooler is streamlined and simplified.
- Splits and chunks of multiple page jobs are hidden from the users view.
- Log files may be gathered up with a click of a button.
- For new system sales only: The hardware has been upgraded.
    - more processor cache (faster)
    - one extra hard drive so we can configure it as RAID 5. (faster, more fault tolerant)

How many RIPs is appropriate?

What happens when the RIP is slower than the press? In some cases the RIP may run the press out of data. This is called "underrun". Underrun fails the job and errors the print engine. In most cases however, the RIP can tell the press or the press operator to slow the press down. This should be considered a good solution for edge cases. If you experience speed drops mandated by the RIP often, you may need additional RIP speed.

One RIP per print engine

When Durango spooler is set to a 4gb RAM buffer it can hold 40 pages (40 PDF pages or 40 single side faces) entirely in RAM. You will not underrun or slow the press with jobs that fit entirely in RAM. Some further explanation follows.

Single Print Engine Presses: When your printed product consists of 40 unique pages or fewer you will not need more than 1 RIP. (i.e. 1-40 pages printed *N* copies. e.g. a label printed 30,000 times, e.g. a 32 page document, collated and printed 5000 times.)

Double Print Engine Presses: When your printed product consists of 80 unique pages or fewer you will not need more than 1 RIP per print engine. (i.e. 1-80 pages printed *N* copies. e.g. a label printed 30,000 times, e.g. a 64 page document, collated and printed 5000 times.)

Quadruple Print Engine Presses: When your printed product consists of 160 unique pages or fewer you will not need more than 1 RIP per print engine. (i.e. 1-160 faces printed *N* copies. e.g. a label printed 30,000 times, e.g. an 128 page document, collated and printed 5000 times.)

Additionally, because the RIP caches repeated background images, variable data jobs which have the same background image and a small barcode or text change usually cannot underrun or slow down. This is dependent upon the RIPs ability to recognize repeated elements.

Multiple RIPs per print engine

When your printed product consists of 41 / 81 / 161* unique pages or more you have a theoretical chance to underrun the press. At this point it depends upon the style of work and the skill of the page designer and prepress personnel. If you are running graphic intensive work of many unique pages, you are a candidate for multiple RIPs. If your pages are designed such that vector elements (text, line art) are saved as raster images, you are a candidate for multiple RIPs. If you are running many thousands of unique pages (transactional data) you should consider multiple RIPs. To learn more deliver some sample jobs to Xitron. We can test the jobs and tell you what press speed to expect.

*Single Print Engine Presses: 41
*Double Print Engine Presses: 81
*Quadruple Print Engine Presses: 161