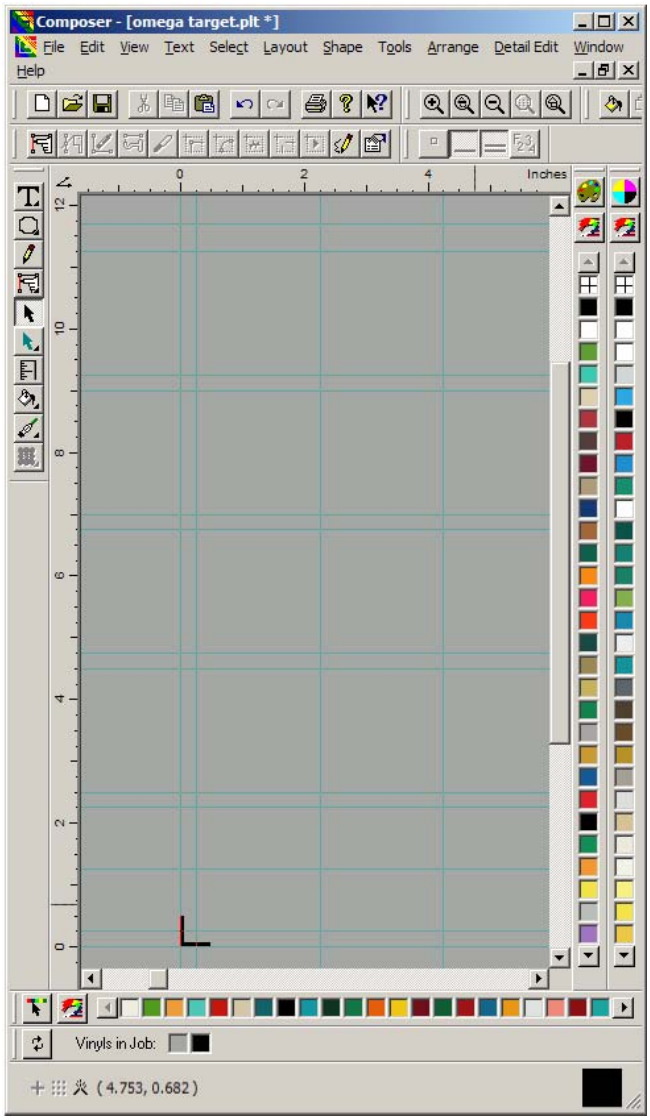
ALLEN DATAGRAPH

Technical Support Bulletin: Using SmartMark Option with Gerber Omega

Last Updated February 11, 2011

Abstract: This TSB describes the procedure to create artwork and outlines to create labels and contour cut them using the Gerber Edge and the 315 with SmartMark installed.

Scope: The Gerber Omega 2.0 Composer is used to create a row of labels 5 across sized 2 inches by 4 inches. The artwork is then split into two pieces. The outlines are deleted and a print file is created. Loading the complete artwork again, the prints are deleted and an outline file is created. All the files referenced and created by the procedure can be downloaded using this Web Site Copy / CD Copy.



We start by loading OmegaTarget.plt file from the link above into Omega.

The Edge Printer has a height of 11.7 inches so we can place the labels 5 across with ¼ inch between the labels. First we create guidelines at the origin, media width and edges of each label. Using the layout menu in Omega composer select and create horizontal lines at (0, 0.25, 1.25, 2.25, 2.5, 4.5, 4.75, 6.75, 7, 9, 9.25, 11.25, 11.7), and vertical lines at (0, 0.25, 2.25, 4.25). The edges of this first label are at vertical 0.25 and 4.25, horizontal 0.25 and 2.25, with the label center at vertical 2.25, horizontal 1.25). After creating the guides lock them with Layout -> Lock Guide lines. Your Composer screen should now appear as shown at right.

Now we center the text in the label area and create a label outline for cutting. Select  , change font size to 0.3 and font to Time Bold ACCT A K. Click on the center guideline and type in the text:

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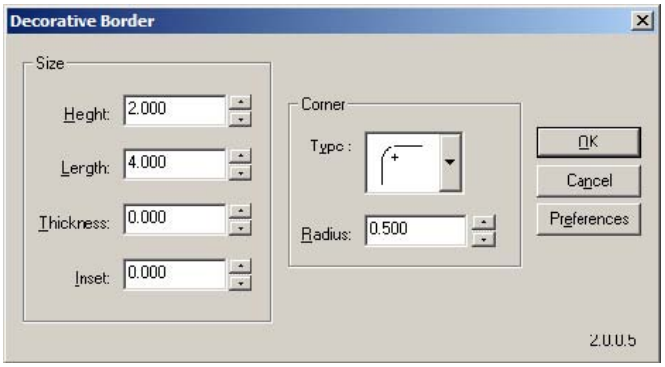
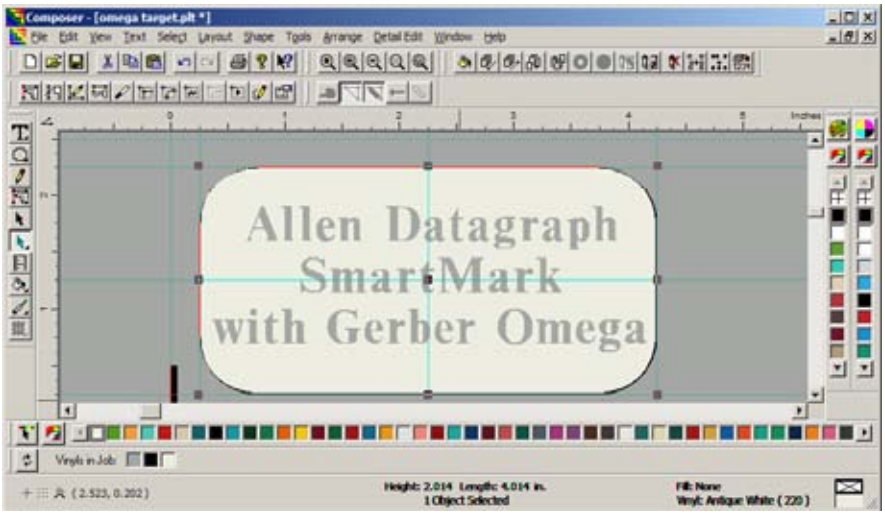
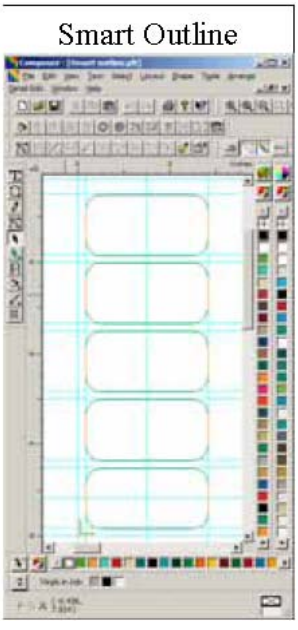
SmartMark
with Gerber Omega



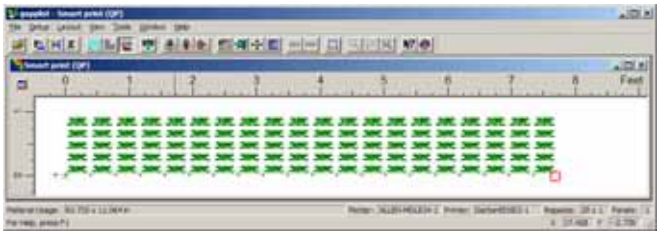
Center text by selecting all three lines and use the arrow keys until the center handle is over the center guidelines. To create the cut line, select  and draw a rectangle from (0.25, 2.25) to (4.25, 0.25). then select the rounded corner type and a radius or 0.5 inch. Click on the paint bucket and specify no fill for the rectangle and stroke, solid, point width 1. Select the rectangle and the 3 lines of text and arrange the 4 objects as a group. Your label should now appear as shown at right. Copy the label up into each guideline area as shown. This is the complete label file containing both the cut line and the printed output. Now save this file as Smart Complete.plt.



Select all and ungroup. Select each of the 5 rounded rectangles and delete them. You should now have 5 labels and a target. Save this file as Smart Print.plt. Close file. Open Smart Complete.plt again. Select all and ungroup. Now select all the text and delete the text. Save this file as Smart Outline.plt.

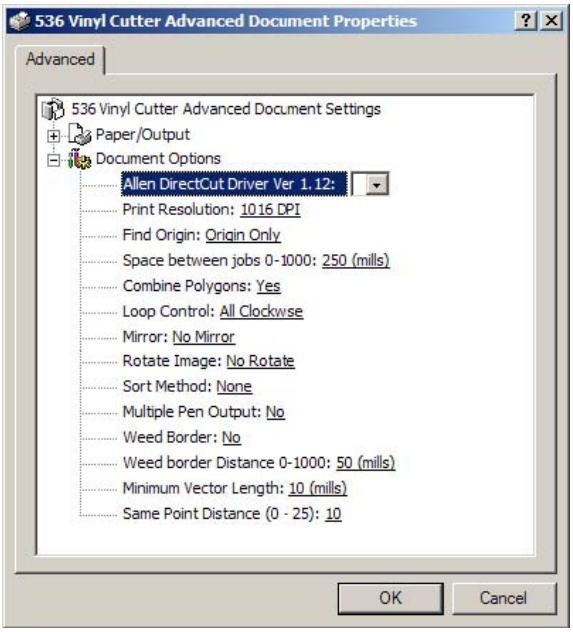


To print open Smart Print.plt and use File Output All. No weed border, no targets. To print 100 labels we divide this by the frame size and set repeats to at least 20. You might want extra frames in case of bad printing or cutting. On Layout -> layout set the x gap to 0.25, forced length to 4.25 (we need this because the printed output does not extend to the edge of the label. This is the sum of the label size 4 and the distance between the label and the target 0.25) and Border to 0.0. Select full view we get the 100 labels. Select "File -> Print to Device" to send the printed output to the edge. Close gspplot.



To send the cut lines to the cutter you use the DirectCut printer driver. Select the 315 Vinyl Cutter. Select Properties. Select Find Origin as Origin Only, Space between jobs should be the same as the x gap. No weed border. On the Output page be sure to select no scaling, and outlines only or wireframe. Margins and Placement are ignored by the DirectCut driver. Click on preferences to saveOn options page uncheck header and click on preferences to save.

Train the sensor to the media, align the SmartMark sensor to the outside corner of the printed target and click on OK to send the first frame. Verify that the knife blade is now over the target of the 2nd frame. If the knife blade is not over the target you can adjust the space between jobs to correct the alignment.



If you printed to a file the output should appear as in Smart HPGL.plt.