

## CHROMIRA USER'S GUIDE

- Start VNC viewer (= Chicken of the VNC). Host ip is 10.115.134.9  
This allows you to remotely access the printer on the 4th floor.

- In the VNC Window, double click the Chromira Printer software. This turns the printer on. The printer will first perform a self-test which takes about two minutes. Note: it will fail the paper *Tension* test, because the paper is not loaded.

- Under "Supply", verify how much paper is left in the printer: Make sure it is the same number written down by the last user in the log sheet. If this is not the case, leave one line blank and let us know.

There are only a few buttons you will use in the Chromira Printer software:

The screenshot shows the ZBE Chromira software window. The title bar reads "ZBE Chromira". The menu bar includes "File", "Status", "Settings", "Calibration Images", and "Help". The main interface features several buttons: a "STOP" button, an "Offline" button, a camera icon, an information icon, a printer icon, and a first aid kit icon. Below these buttons, the "Printer Status" section displays "OFF LINE". The "Current Items Printing" section contains a table with columns for "File Name", "Width", "Height", and "Quantity". Below the table, there are four boxes for "Items Queued", "Items Printing", "Items Ready", and "Time Remaining", all showing "0". The "Current Print Media" section includes fields for "kodaksupra n", "Roll Width" (40 inches), "Supply" (95.0 Feet), "Exposed" (63.0 Feet), and "Type" (Matte). A "Reset" button is located between the "Supply" and "Exposed" fields. Annotations with blue arrows point to the "Offline" button (labeled "sets the printer online/offline"), the printer icon (labeled "prints a calibration image"), the "X" button in the title bar (labeled "turns the printer off"), the "Printer Status" section (labeled "shows you the status of the printer"), and the "Reset" button (labeled "shows you how much paper is left in the printer").

*sets the printer online/offline*

*prints a calibration image*

*turns the printer off*

*shows you the status of the printer*

*shows you how much paper is left in the printer*

**Please leave all other buttons/settings the way they are!**

## Calibrating the printer

Calibrating should be done once a day, at the beginning of each printing session, or when a new roll of paper is used (new emulsion).

- Click on the "calibration image" button. It will take about 2 minutes to print the calibration file. You can verify the remaining time in the printer window.

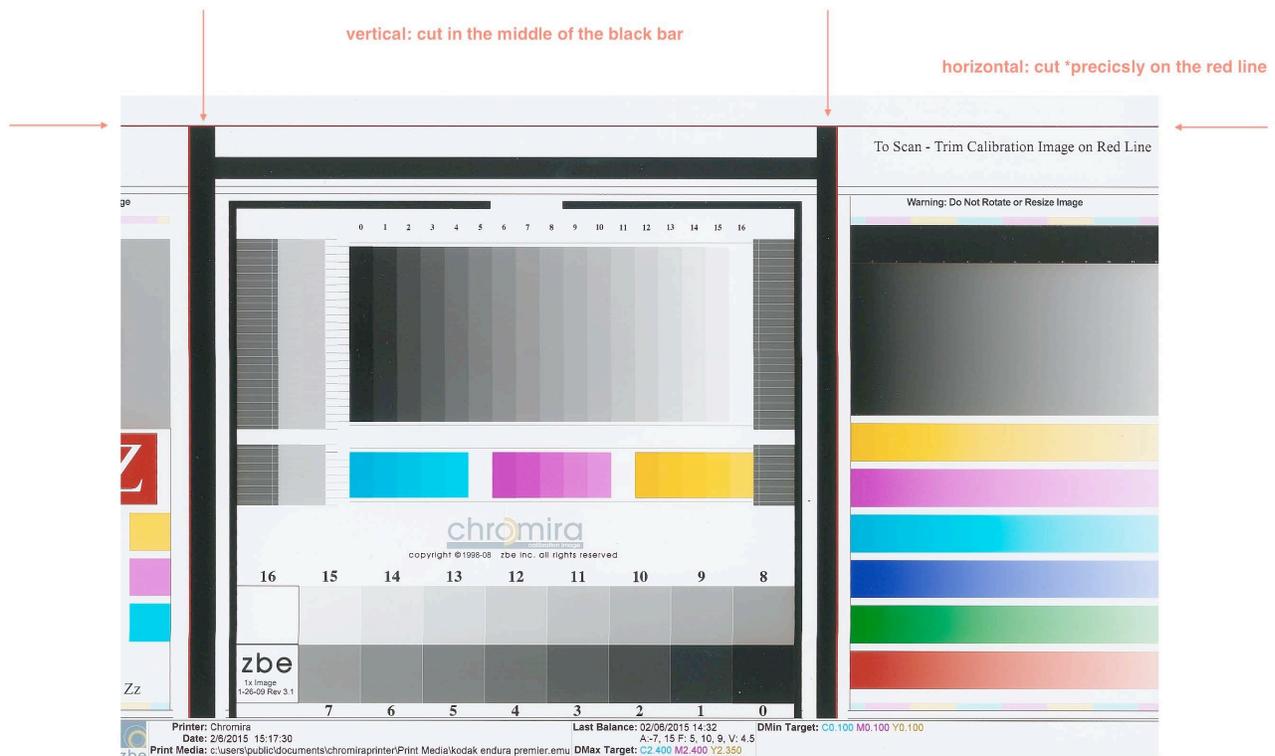
- When your print is ready, process the print and bring the calibration print upstairs.

- Cut the test print as shown below:

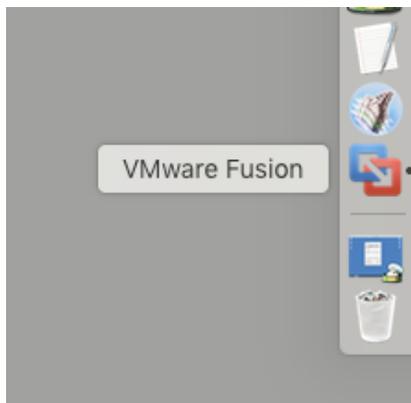
Horizontal: cut \*exactly on the red line

Vertical: cut in the middle of the black bar

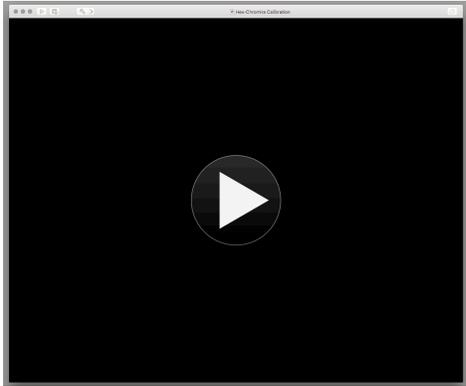
There are always samples from the previous calibration on the desk, you can use as a reference.



- Start the Virtual Machine on the Mac by clicking on its icon in the Dock:

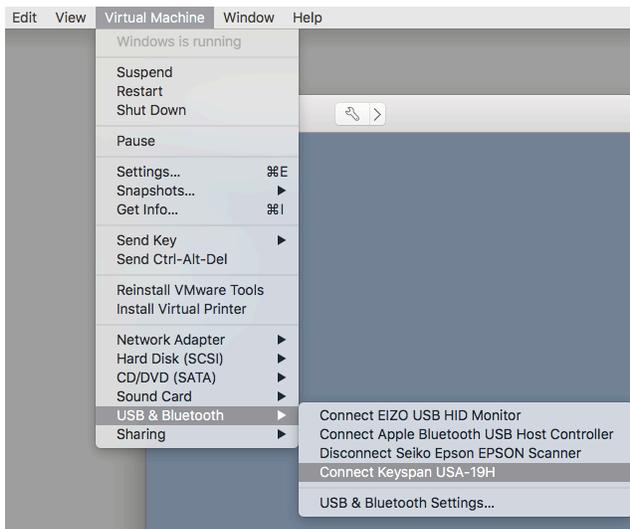


- Click the play button in the window, and Windows 10 will start up:



- Turn both the scanner and the densitometer on.

- Connect both the scanner ("Seiko Epson") and the Densitometer ("Keyspan") to Windows 10



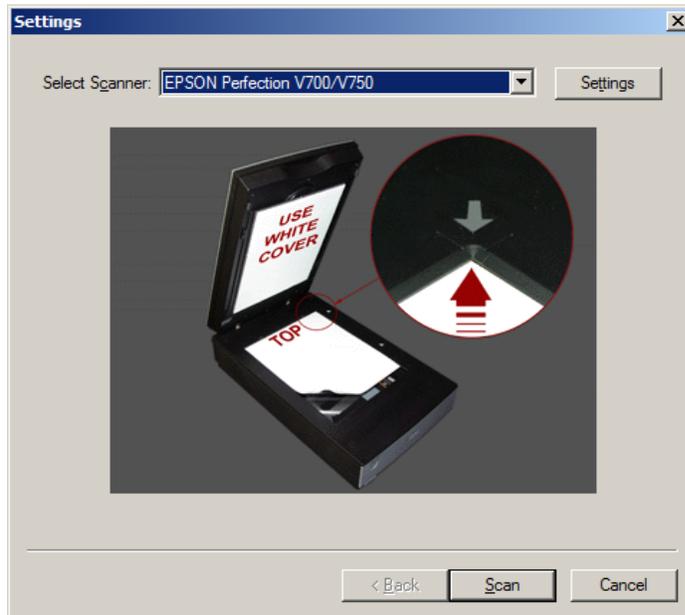
- Start up Chromira Expert Pro and click on "Scan Calibration"



Put the calibration image under the scanner, so the top /horizontal is aligned with the edge of the scanner glass (red line).

Left/ right position is not so important, e.g no need to put it in the corner, just put it in the middle.

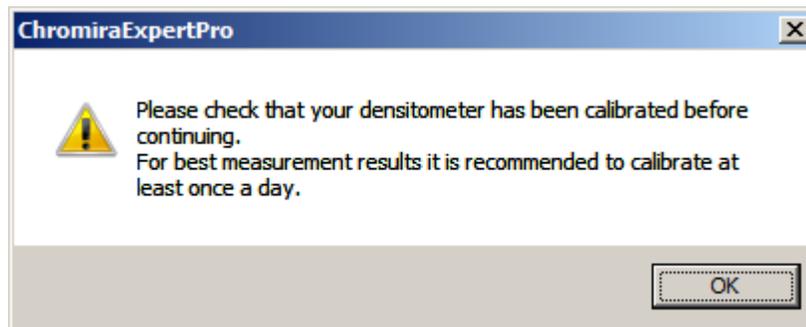
Click "Scan"



You might get a "Balance Focus Warning", you can ignore this.

- Finish, and click on the "Densitometer" icon

You might get this message, which you can ignore (the densitometer is calibrated on a regular basis, and there is no benefit in calibrating it daily)



- Read the patches from 0 - 16. Press the button **gently**, until you see the values on the densitometer display, then move to the next patch.

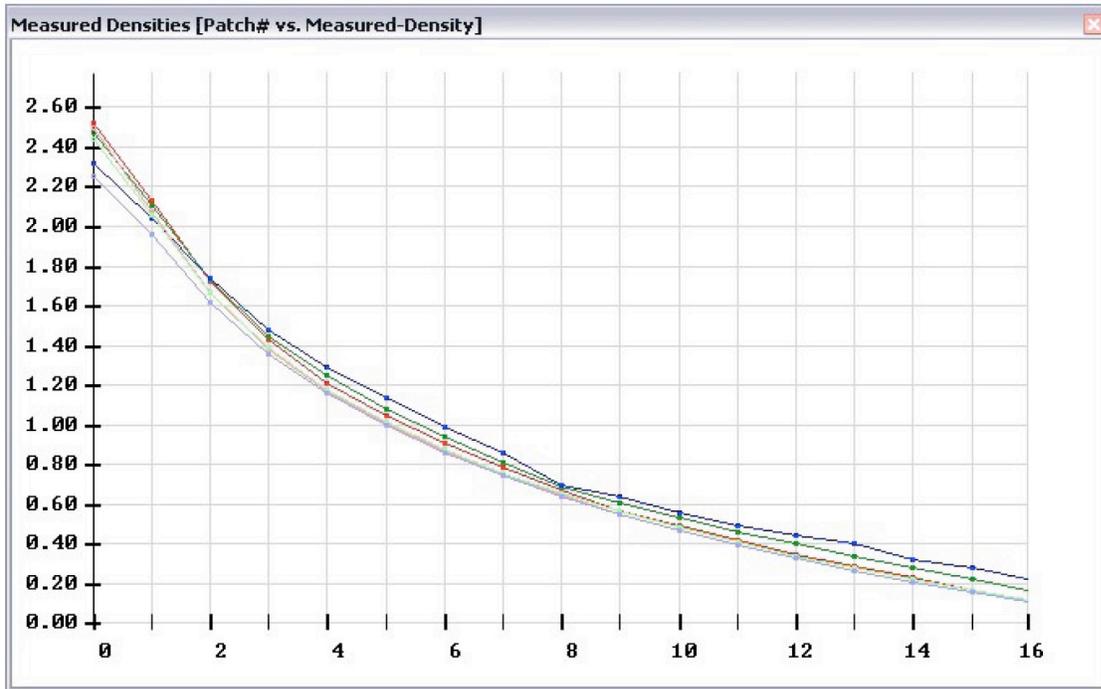
- Click "Done", then "Apply Changes"

- Turn both the Densitometer and then Scanner off!

Always do both, scanning AND Densitometer! Never do just one of them, it can corrupt the calibration file.

If your curves have some non-linear bumps, then there is most likely a problem, with the Densitometer, or your calibration patch had dust. Don't apply changes. Instead, measure the patch which shows a non linear value again.

In this example, you would re-measure patch 8 again.



## Printing

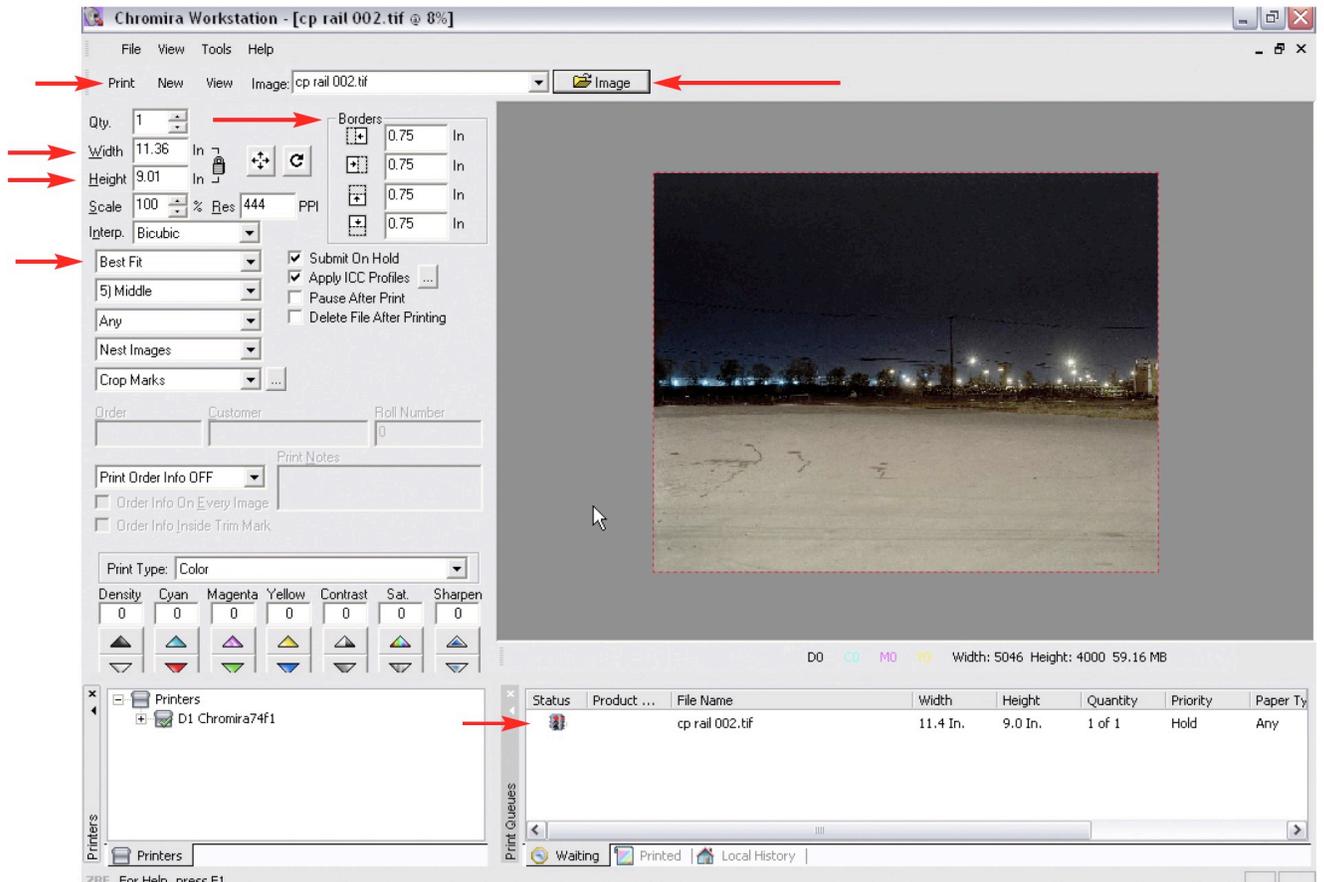
All your images must be 8 bit RGB files in tiff format. Also, no Layers or Alpha channels are accepted by the printer.

If your image is wider than the roll, it is recommended to rotate your images in Photoshop, and not in the printing software (Best done when you create your tif file.)

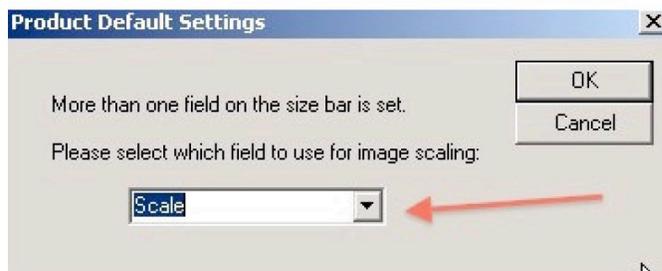
- Move all the images you want to print to the "Chromira prints" folder on the server and you are ready to print!

## Printing with Chromira Workstation

- Click on the Image button and import the image from the server.
- Borders: set the borders you want around the image. If all borders are set to zero, the image will be placed at the edge of the roll - this is problematic because of processor marks. Try to set a border so that the image is in the middle of the roll. A minimum of 0.25 inch border is recommended.
- Width/Height: Set your print size



- If you have several prints with the same settings: Go > file > Save as default print. Then the borders will be saved for future prints. Important: Set the image scaling **always to "Scale"**:



-- **When you have several small images:** Release them all at the same time. Chromira will nest the images automatically, so that you will not waste any paper. If you have many large files you want to print small, you need to down size them first (e.g. make them 300 dpi at the print size. You can *\*not\** send 10 files @ 200MB each at once.)

-- **For large scale prints:** There is no need to up-sample them. Sent them at their native resolution. If your 40" x 50 is only 80 dpi, this is not a problem. Send it as it is. There is a max file size of 2GB the Chromira can handle, though sometimes there are also problems with files bigger then 700 MB.

-- **Joint printing:** If the Chromira is already booked, you can joint-print under the conditions that:

- you have a booking on another workstation
- the person who has the Chromira booking agrees that you join (we will provide you with the name if necessary).

-- **Roll change:** If you run out of paper, we provide roll change service Mo - Fr from 9 - 5 pm. If you print often and also after hours, we can show you how to change the roll.

-- **Omnia hours:** The Omnia runs during the hours of the Photo Program. It usually closes at 10 pm, and is also closed on Sundays. If you want to print after hours, we can show you how to start / shut down

### **When you are done:**

- Turn off the printer by closing the Chromira software in the VNC window. Also make sure that the scanner and the densitometer are turned off (power switch).
- Fill out the error log sheet: **For the Omnia always**, even when there was no problem. For the Chromira: only when there was a problem
- Fill out the log sheet and write down your paper usage.
- Delete your files from the server once you are done with your project.

### **Some Numbers:**

- each time the paper is cut you lose 2.5 feet
- start up calibration: 3.5 feet (paper cut 2.5 feet + test print 1 ft.)
- the Chromira prints 4 inch per minute

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## **Known issues**

**Processor marks:** Sometimes the processor produces roller marks. If they they appear, then it will be at the beginning at the batch. On the longer batch, they will disappear. Solution: Clean the processor by first feeding the processor with some blank sheets.

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