



BROCHURE

DISCOVER A NEW DIMENSION IN UV FLATBED PRINTING

Help Elevate Your Offerings and Margins with Touchstone

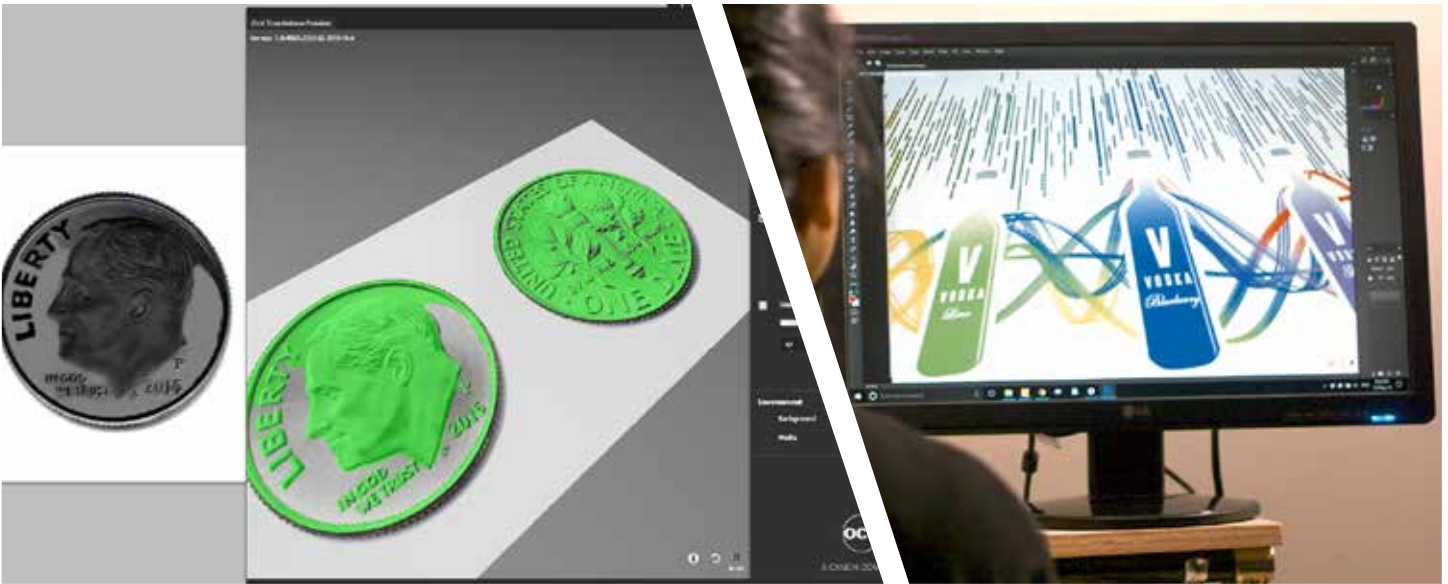
Many print providers producing the same old highly commoditized applications like banners and posters can really struggle maintaining good margins in a very competitive marketplace. Meanwhile new, desirable applications can be developed, but require substantial testing, refinements and then marketing. All tasks that print providers simply don't have the time, money or even customers in waiting to even consider starting down that path.

Touchstone Changes Everything

Utilizing patented technology integrated with the ONYX Thrive RIP, and award-winning Arizona printer, Touchstone software allows print providers to easily produce textured, dimensional printing on an Arizona 1200, 1300 or 2200 Series printer with virtually no additional effort compared to their existing workflow.

The return on investment is multifaceted. In fact, a 2016 InfoTrends report titled "Beyond CMYK: Use of Special Effects in Digital Printing" cited that print buyers do or would expect to pay at least an 89% premium for current textured printing effects compared to traditional 2D graphics. That said, there is a potential market opportunity for dimensional printing that very few print providers are willing or able to address.

SMART CHANGE STARTS HERE.



The labor intensive, hands-on involvement in creating complex print files and the iterative testing to produce dimensional print has until now, made it cost prohibitive.

Touchstone takes a different approach and takes the complex work that previously required highly skilled staff to now be performed within the software components. The design of the textured files are now performed by the graphic designer and all within a familiar Adobe® CC design environment utilizing free Extensions for Photoshop® and Illustrator®. The resulting PDF file is sent to the Touchstone enabled print provider where the file is RIP'ed through a special ONYX driver and a locked batch file that preserves the original height map and final color graphic is sent to the Arizona printer where it is printed at the push of a button.

Printing can be done unattended – meaning you can now produce sellable work during non-work hours, further helping improve your profits without impacting your existing daily production.

Color and Varnish Effects

Besides CMYK textured effects (aka “Alto”), Touchstone broadens the “wow factor” by enabling you to produce truly impressive varnish effects (aka “Brila”) with or without color/white. These two approaches are easily constructed by the designer and easily printed by the Touchstone Certified print provider.

Rise Above Your Competition

Similar to 3D printing, Touchstone effectively fills the gap

between the 2D and 3D in what could be referred to as 2.5D printing. Utilizing patented technology integrated with the ONYX Thrive RIP, the award-winning Arizona printer and Touchstone provides both the design community and Touchstone enabled Arizona print providers a unique application that differentiates them in their respective fields while providing great value to the end user. Becoming an Touchstone enabled print provider also allows you to benefit from Canon’s direct marketing efforts to the design community in building awareness and driving business your way.

Not only is the software/hardware workflow easy to use but, due to its proprietary nature, it only works with ONYX Thrive running a special driver, a patented ALPS (Advanced Layer Printing System) engine and an Arizona 1200, 1300 or 2200 Series printer. This fully integrated workflow gives you a competitive advantage in producing what is a truly unique application.



Workflow Components

As mentioned, the Touchstone workflow is split between free Adobe CC Extensions for the designer and licensed ONYX Thrive RIP components for the print provider.

For the Designer

Available for macOS® and Windows systems, the free Extensions operate within Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop and utilize an additional greyscale Layer to determine what height a particular area of the file will have – from zero to a maximum of one millimeter elevation. This layer can be modified as any other layer using the tools already available within the Adobe software. The designer is also provided a 3D virtual viewer feature complete with lighting effects allowing them to tilt, zoom and rotate the file and preview the effect all without having to commit to a print. Additional features include tools to quickly detect levels of elevation including slopes or cliffs - all which make it quicker and easier to fine tune the design. Once happy with the design, the designer simply exports the file as a PDF.

For the Print Provider

The print provider receives a PDF containing both the color information for the final “top layer” of the image, as well as information about the topography of the final image. To print the file the steps are the same as for printing a normal 2D job.

The PDF is color managed by ONYX Thrive as a normal 2D job would be and is passed to the ALPS technology embodied in the SFx (special effects) Engine. Here, the image is interpreted, screened and merged into the requisite number of print layers required. These print layers are bound together into a locked printer batch file and sent to the Arizona printer controller. The printer controller will display only a single print batch file, thus avoiding the operator accidentally modifying the carefully created print layer sequence.

Once printing begins, to ensure optimum print gap and therefore the highest quality output, the printer carriage height is automatically adjusted after each layer is printed. Because of the automated carriage height adjustment, printing can be performed unattended, which potentially extends the working day for the Arizona without incurring higher operator labor costs while producing higher margin applications.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS	Touchstone Design Assistant Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator Extensions Novel design tools for “Alto” (opaque elevation) and “Brila” (color with varnish elevation) effects WYSIWYG soft proofing tools to visualize final design with slope and peak detection prior to production
MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS	WINDOWS PLATFORM Windows® 10 Intel® Core 2 or AMD Athlon® 64 processor; 2 GHz or faster processor 2 GB or more of RAM (8 GB recommended) 1024 x 768 display (1280x800 recommended) with 16-bit color and 512 MB or more of dedicated VRAM; 2 GB is recommended* OpenGL 2.0-capable system Internet connection and registration
MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS	MAC OS PLATFORM Multicore Intel processor with 64-bit support, 2017 or later macOS version 10.13, macOS version 10.12, or Mac OS X version 10.11 2 GB or more of RAM (8 GB recommended) 4 GB or more of available hard-disk space for installation 1024 x 768 display (1280x800 recommended) with 16-bit color and 512 MB or more of dedicated VRAM; 2 GB is recommended* OpenGL 2.0-capable system Internet connection and registration
TOUCHSTONE ALPS ENGINE	ONYX Thrive requirements Installed on same network as the ONYX Thrive server ONYX Thrive 12.2 or higher ONYX Thrive Active Printer license is required for Touchstone



SUPPORTED PRINTERS

Min System Requirements

- Microsoft® Windows® 7 Professional 64-bit (32-bit not supported)
- Multi-core processor
- 8 GB minimum (4 GB / core recommended) or more of RAM
- HDD 500 GB (7200 rpm)
- 1280 x 1024 display monitor

Arizona 1200 /1300/ 2200 Series printers

- Arizona 1260 GT/XT
- Arizona 1280 GT/XT
- Arizona 1360 GT/XT
- Arizona 1380 GT/XT
- Arizona 2260 GT/XT
- Arizona 2280 GT/XT

NOTE: "BriLa" effects require the availability of Varnish in the printers

Supported ink sets

- IJC257 - CMYKWW or CMYKWV
- IJC257 - CMYKcmWW or CMYKcmWV
- IJC257 - CCMMYKWW or CCMMYKWV
- IJC357 - CMYKWW or CMYKWV
- IJC357 - CMYKcmWW or CMYKcmWV
- IJC357 - CCMMYKWW or CCMMYKWV



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