DNP

Hot Folder Print Utility v1.0

Operating Instructions

Table of Contents

Contents

Acknowledgements

About the Program

Hot Folder Print Utility™ (HFP) is a utility that monitors file folders for compatible image files to send to an attached printer for output. The folders are named according to the size print that will be produced. HFP prints a single copy of each image and then moves the image file to an archive folder. HFP supports adding borders to prints using the HFP Admin controls. HFP is designed to work with only DNP DS and RX series printers.

Hot Folder Print Utility supports multiple languages.

Using Hot Folder Print Utility

NOTE: Before starting Hot Folder Print Utility, make sure your DS or RX series printer is connected to your system via USB, and powered on. You may need to install the printer driver before your printer shows on your computer.
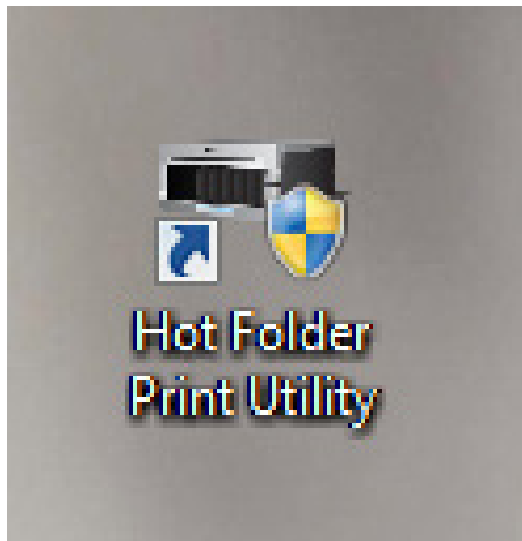
Double-click on the **Hot Folder Print Utility** icon on your desktop to start the Hot Folder Print Utility.

Touring the HFP Operator Interface

Window Controls

Printer Info Box

Admin Controls

Version Number

Folder Explorer

1.1.0.36

Application Controls
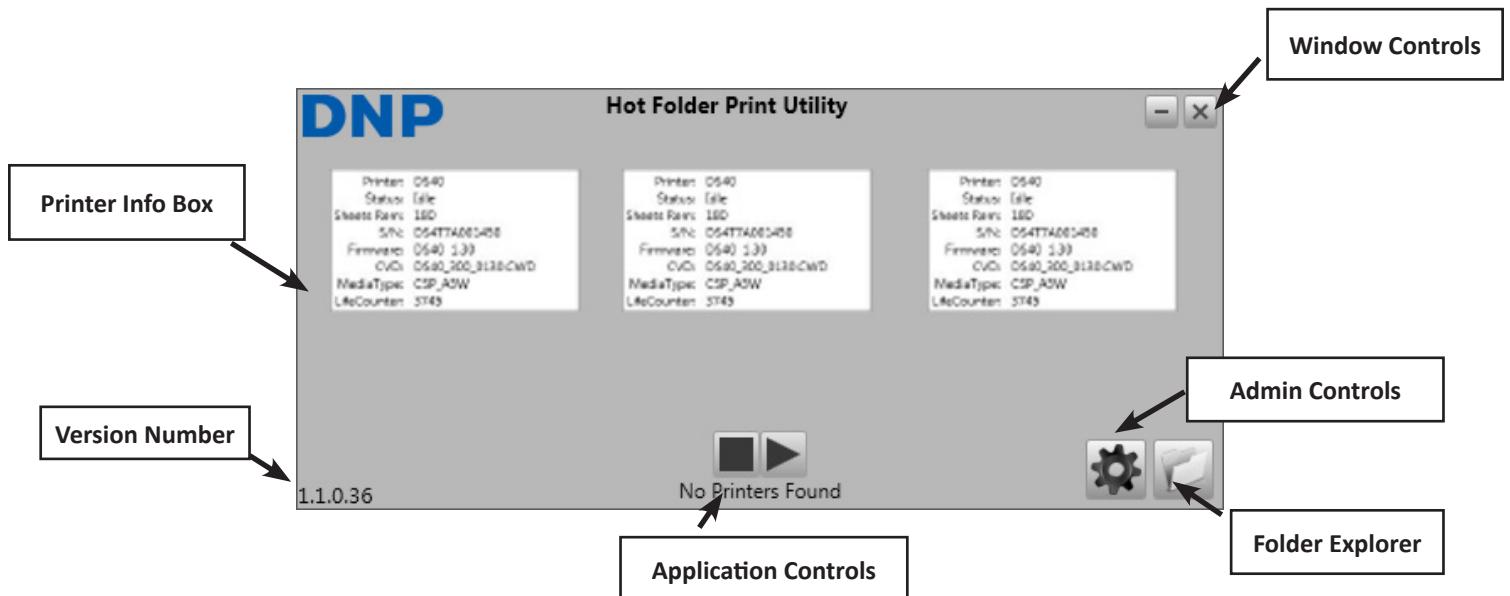
Printer Info Box

Shows information about your printer at a glance.

Printer: Printer type (DS40, DS80, RX1)

Status: Current status of the printer
   Idle, Printing, Error, etc.

Sheets Rem: # of prints left on the media

S/N: Serial number of the printer

Firmware: Firmware installed

CVD: Firmware color configuration file

MediaType: Size of media installed

LifeCounter: Total # prints run through
   lifetime of the printer**.**

Application Controls

Turns folder monitoring off/on

■ : Turns monitoring off

▶ : Turns monitoring on

NOTE: Turning monitoring off will not immediately stop printing. The printer must first empty the prints in the cache.

Admin Controls

Touching the gear opens the Admin Control Menu. For more information on the Admin controls, see the HFP Admin section.

Folder Explorer

Touching the folder icon will open the monitored folder in Windows Explorer.

4

Using the Folder Browser

Selecting a Folder
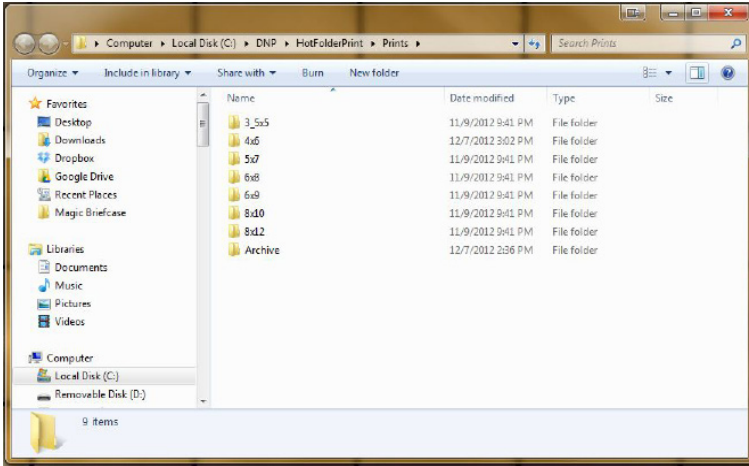
The **Folder Browser** allows you to select the HFP output folder. Copy an image into a folder, and it will automatically send it to the printer. The name of the folder indicates the print size.

You can select from the following sizes:

3.5 x 5"	6 x 9"
4 x 6"	8 x 10"
5 x 7"	8 x 12"
6 x 8"	

Stopping the Program
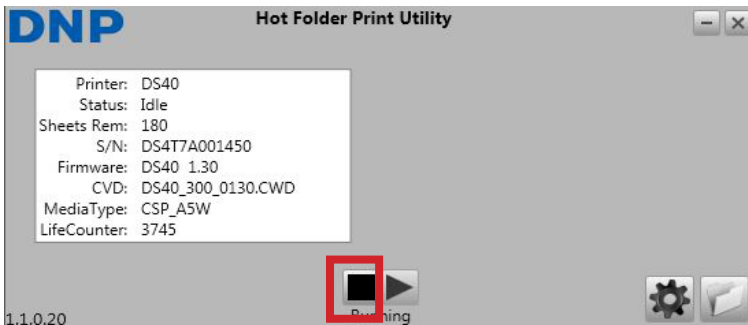
To stop files from being printed, touch the square **stop** button at the bottom center of the interface.

Any images that are already in the print buffer will still print.

Exiting the Program
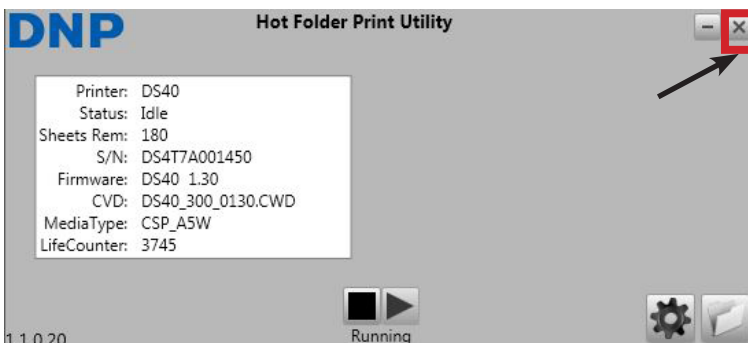
To exit the program, touch the **X** in the top right corner.

Touring the HFP Admin Interface

System Tab

Archive Images Slider

YES: Copy images sent to folder to archive.

NO: Do not copy images sent to archive.

Start Minimized Slider

YES: Program starts minimized.

NO: Program starts normally.

Auto Correct Slider

YES: Applies auto-color correction.

NO: No auto-color correction applied.

Save & Exit to Desktop Button

Saves and exits to the system desktop.

Save & Exit button

Saves and opens the HFP user interface.

Revert Button

Reverts any changes made to the last saved version.

Note: Does not revert once changes are saved.

Border Tab
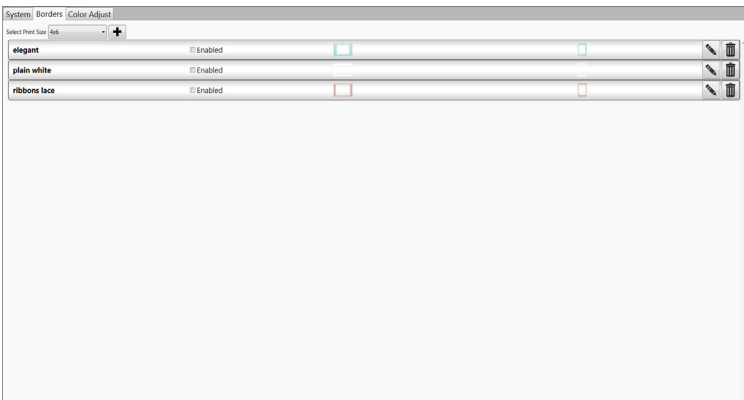
Select Print Size

Dropdown box with printable sizes, select a size to view those borders

Add Border button

Touch the button to open a dialogue box to add new horizontal and vertical borders in the selected Print Size.

Border Information

Name: Border name

Enabled: Check to print border on all prints of the selected Print Size.

Save & Exit to Desktop Button

Saves and exits to desktop

Save & Exit button

Saves & exits to HFP interface

Border preview: Horizontal and vertical previews of the border

Edit button: ✎ Click the button to open the border editing tool.

Delete: 🗑 Press to remove the border from the system.

Color Adjust Tab

The color adjust tab adjusts the overall output color. Adjustments made here will show on all prints made.
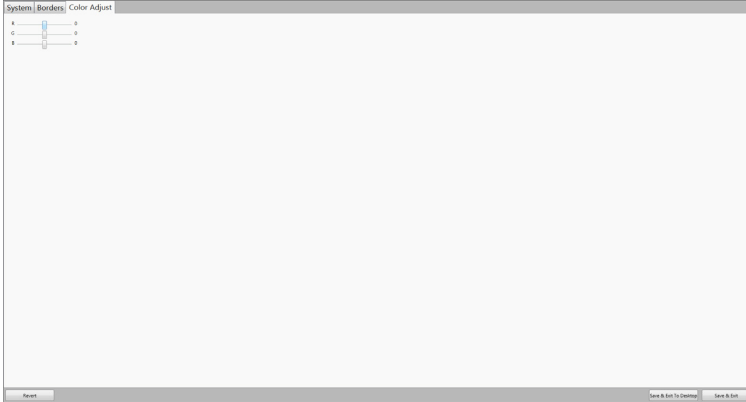
Red Slider
Move the slider to the right to lessen red.
Move the slider left to intensify red.
Green Slider
Move the slider to the right to lessen green.
Move the slider left to intensify green.
Blue Slider
Move the slider to the right to lessen blue.
Move the slider left to intensify blue.
Save & Exit to Desktop Button
  Saves and exits to desktop.
Save & Exit button
  Saves & exits to HFP interface.
Revert Button
  Reverts any changes made.
  Note: Does not revert once changes are saved.

Adding Borders
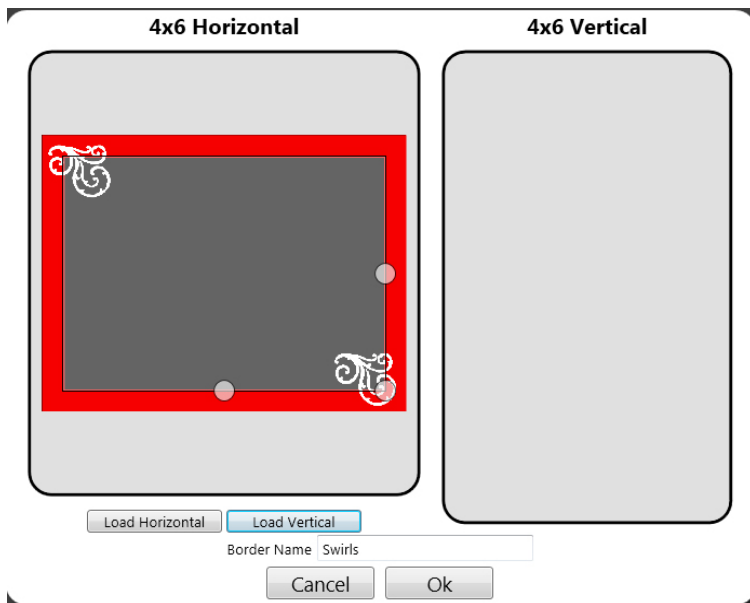
To add a border, first select a print size.
Touch the **+** button on the Border Tab, the Add Border dialogue opens.
Each border requires **both** a horizontal (landscape) and vertical (portrait) version of the border in order to print.
Press **Load Horizontal** to select the horizontal version of the border. Press **Load Vertical** to select the vertical version of the border. The software will auto-detect the picture area. To adjust, see Editing Borders.
You must enter a name in the **Border Name** field before saving the file.

OK: Save the borders using the text entered under the Border Name field as the name.
The borders will save in following folder:
C:\DNP\HotFolderPrint\Borders\[size]\[name]
where [size] is the print size for the border, and [name] is the text entered in the Border Name field.
Cancel: Cancel work and return to the Border tab.

HFP will automatically insert your pictures into the correct border based on metadata from the image.

To edit a border, first select a border on the **Border Tab**, the **Edit Border** dialogue opens.

Each border requires **both** a horizontal (landscape) and vertical (portrait) version of the border in order to print. You can adjust the size of the area in which the image will appear by grabbing and dragging the circles on the border. The darkened area indicates the area in which the image will appear.

Any part of the border within the darkened area will overlap your image once applied. (as shown in red here)

To move the area overall, click and hold the box to move it where you want the image to appear.

OK: Save the borders using the text entered under the Border Name field as the name.

Cancel: Cancel work and return to the Border tab.

Creating Borders for HFP

Borders must meet the following criteria:
- Each border requires a full size file for both horizontal and vertical orientations.
  The full resolution file needs to be the size of the print (ie: 4x6, 5x7) at 300 dpi. Both the vertical and the horizontal files must be saved in PNG format, in RGB mode, with a transparent background with a defined opening for the image.
- In general, the opening in the border is the same aspect ratio as the overall image (ie: 4:6), although the opening does not have to be strictly rectangular and may have various edge treatments. This can be edited with the Border Tool in the HFP Admin after the border is uploaded to the system.
- All files should be UNCOMPRESSED (no LZW compression).

An example of a 4x6 border follows:

Orientation	Version	Naming	Size	Resolution	File Format	Color Mode
Horizontal (Landscape)	full size	[name]_h.png	4"x6"	300 dpi	PNG	RGB
Vertical (Portrait)	full size	[name]_v.png	6"x4"	300 dpi	PNG	RGB

Troubleshooting the System

Problems Installing the Program

Requirements: Before installing the Hot Folder Print Utility, please make sure your system meets the following requirements:

- Windows XP, Windows 7, Windows 8 operating system
- .NET version 4
- LAN (Ethernet) input on the computer
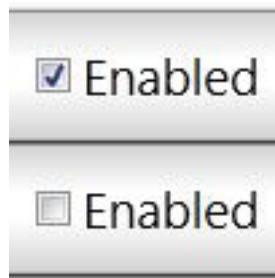- No previous versions of Apache Tomcat installed

Problems Running Hot Folder Print Utility

Prompted to Install .NET: Hot Folder Utility requires a minimum of Microsoft .NET version 4 in order to work properly. If you do not have this version on your computer, you will be prompted to install .NET version 4 when you try to run Hot Folder Print Utility.

Border will not print: There are multiple reasons the border may not be printing.

- Check to make sure that the border is installed in the correct folder.
    1. Open **Admin Controls > Borders**, and select the Print Size from the drop-down menu.
    2. If the border does not show in the list, install the border using the Add Border instructions on page 5.
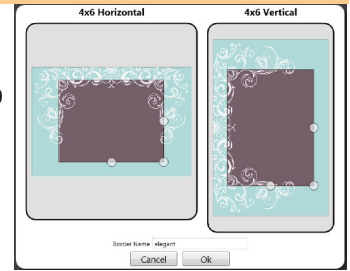- Check to make sure that the border is enabled in the Admin controls/Border tab.
    1. In **Admin Controls > Borders**, select the Print Size from the drop down menu.
    2. Find the border in the list, and check to see if there is a checkmark next to the Enabled indicator. If there is no checkmark, select the box next to Enabled.

Border is not printing properly (image is too large or small in the border): The border's alpha channel may not be set properly.

- Check to make sure that the border has well defined alpha channels.

1. In **Admin Controls > Borders**, select the **Print Size** from the drop down menu.
2. Find the border in the list, and click on the pencil icon to edit.
3. Use the circles to define the image print area on the border (page 6). Border areas overlapping the box will cover the image. Click **OK** to save changes.

Border will not upload in the program: Borders must be saved in the correct format and have both horizontal and vertical borders provided to work.

- Check to make sure that the border has a horizontal and vertical version, and is saved in the correct format.
    4. Borders must have a horizontal (landscape) and vertical (portrait) version of the border in the correct ratio to work correctly.
    5. Borders should be in PNG format with a transparent background and a "hole" cut out where the image should appear.
    6. When the border uploads, use the circles to define the image print area on the border (page 6). Border areas overlapping the box will cover the image.
    7. Click **OK** to save changes.

Problems with DS-Series™ or RX-Series™ Printer (DS40, DS80, RX1)

Printer will not print: Make sure your printer is connected, has power, and is in a good state.

- Check the front of the printer.
    1. Lights are on.
    2. No lights are red or blinking.

If the printer is in error, please follow the troubleshooting guide in the printer's manual to bring the printer back to a ready state.

- Check that the printer is communicating with the computer.
    1. Open Hot Folder Print and see if the printer shows up in the Printer Info Box.
    2. Trace the cables to both ends to see if they are plugged in.

www.dnpimagingcomm.com