



Printing full bleed on rigid material on the GERBER SOLARA UV2™

Jobs that are wider and longer than the material stock can be sent to the GERBER SOLARA UV2 using the following procedure. Jobs that exceed the size of the material will bleed off one or more edges and result in ink over spraying the edges of the rigid material onto the platen. To protect the GERBER SOLARA platen from ink overspray you will need the following items:

- ◆ Scotch-Blue™ Painter's Tape for Delicate Surfaces #2080.



Note: It is NOT recommended to you use standard blue painter's tape which can have too much adhesive.



Tip: Scotch-Blue Painter's Tape for Delicate Surfaces #2080 is available in 1" and 2" widths from most hardware stores or on the internet.

- ◆ Leading and trailing edge extension pieces cut from the same material as the sign blank. The leading edge piece should be at least 1" (25.4mm) long and the same width as the material. The trailing edge piece should be at least 6" (152.4mm) long and the same width as the material.
- ◆ Rigid sign blank material which is flat within 0.03" (0.76mm). Warped material may jam in the printer. Material that is bowed downward will scrape the tape off the platen. Material that is bowed upward will contact the print carriage.

Printing one-sided, full bleed on rigid material

➔ To prepare the printer and the material

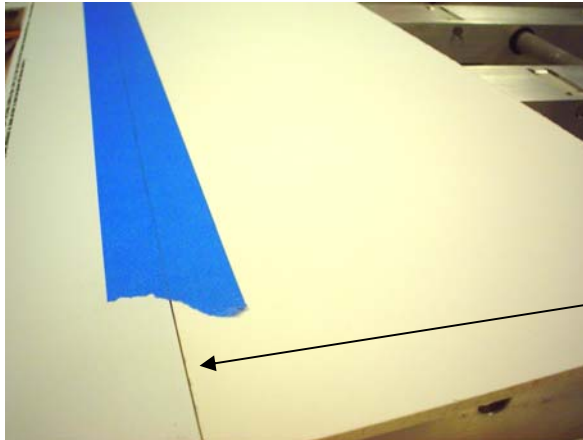
- 1 Cut a leading edge extension and a trailing edge extension from the same sign blank stock. The leading piece should be at least 1" (25.4mm) long and the same width as the material. The trailing piece should be at least 6" (152.4mm) long and the same width as the material.
- 2 Attach the extension pieces to the sign blank using Scotch-Blue Painter's Tape #2080 on the underside of the material. The joint between the sign blank and the extension should be tight – no more than 1/8" (3mm) or the grit wheels may not function correctly.



Note: Make note of the length of the leading edge piece as the value will be entered as the "Top Offset" in ImageRIP™ Plus or Pro when sending the job.



Attach the pieces to the sign blank using Scotch-Blue Painter's Tape for Delicate Surfaces #2080 on the underside of the material.



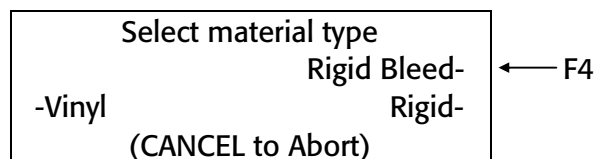
The joint between the sign blank and the extension should be tight – no more than 1/8" (3mm)

- 3 Load the material into the GERBER SOLARA UV2 with the leading and trailing extension pieces attached. Align the left edge of the material to the material guide on the rear table. Make sure the front edge of the material is not covering the front material sensor.
- 4 Adjust the left and right UV shields until they are 1/2" (12.7mm) away from the material.



Note: Ensure that the left and right UV shields are spaced the same amount away from the material on both sides or the print will not be centered.

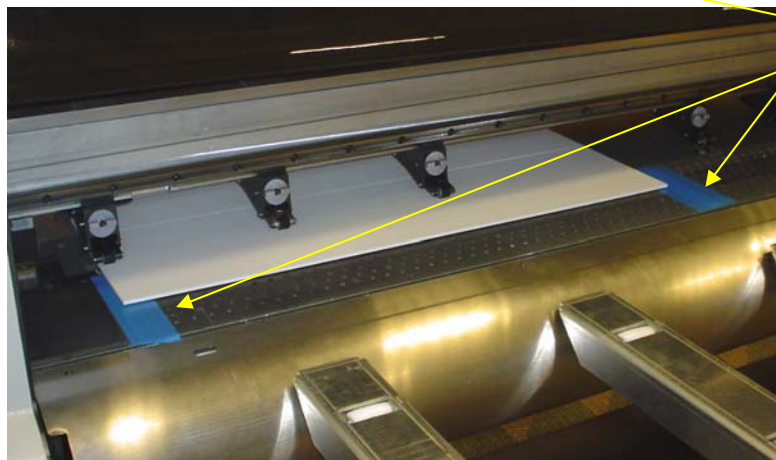
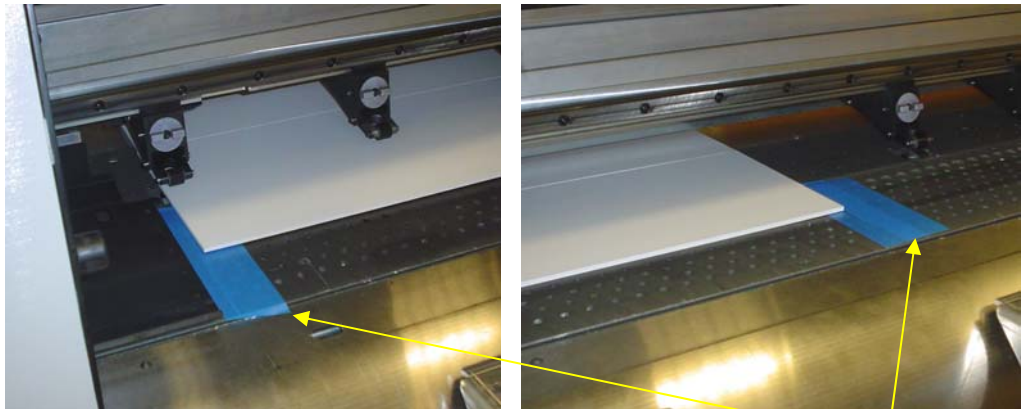
- 5 Engage the pinch wheels and close the main cover. Adjust the beam height as required.
- 6 Press F4, Rigid Bleed from the SELECT MATERIAL TYPE MENU that displays on the GERBER SOLARA UV2.



- 7** The following reminder message to apply tape to the platen displays. Press Enter to continue.

*** REMINDER ***
 INSTALL OVERSPRAY
 TAPE ON PLATEN
 LEFT/RIGHT MARGINS

- 8** Apply tape to the platen to keep the ink from adhering to the platen and entering the vacuum holes. Gerber recommends Scotch-Blue Painter's Tape for Delicate Surfaces #2080.
- 9** Apply the tape under the left and right side of the material width so that the material overlaps the tape 1/4" to 1/2" (6.35mm to 12.7mm). The used tape must be removed and new tape applied for each print job or the build-up of ink can contact the print carriage.



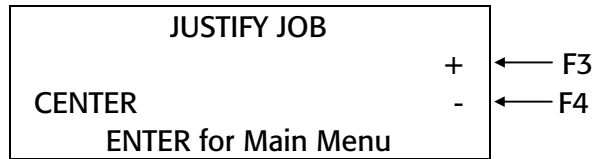
Scotch-Blue
 Painter's Tape
 for Delicate
 Surfaces #2080

- 10** On the SOLARA UV2 keypad set center justification. From the MAIN MENU press F4, Operate to open the JOB OPERATION menu.

F1 →

JOB OPERATION	
Justify	
Activation	Job Info
ENTER for Main Menu	

- 11** Press F1, Justify to open the JUSTIFY JOB menu.



- 12 Press F3 or F4 to toggle through the choices of LEFT, CENTER, or RIGHT until CENTER displays. Press the ENTER key to accept.

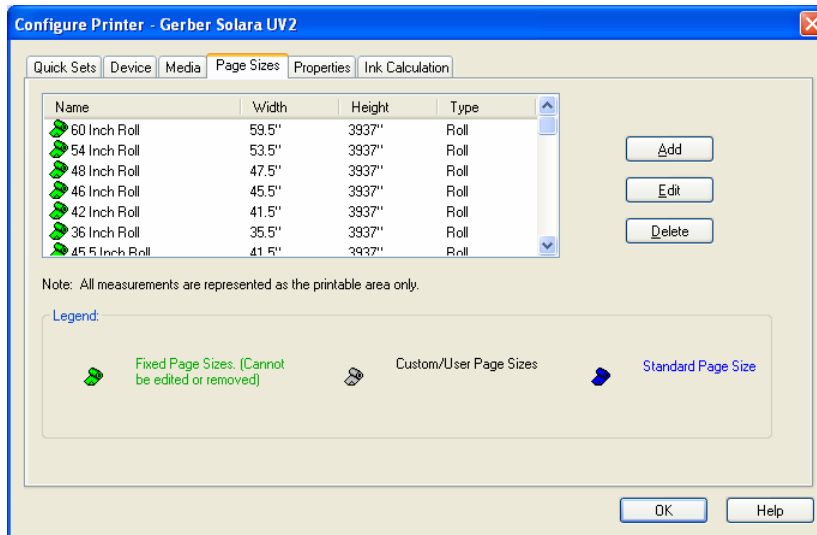
➔ To prepare the job file

- 1 In your design software (such as OMEGA™ or Adobe Illustrator®), create a job in which the background is 1/2" (12.7mm) longer and wider than the sign blank (not including the extensions).

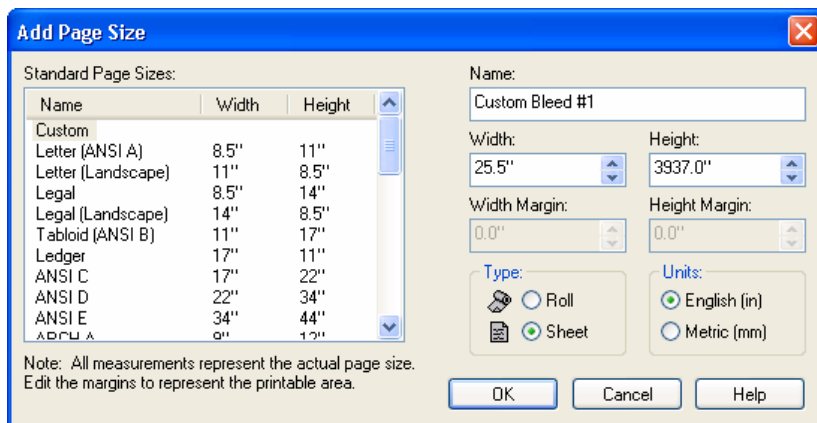


Note: The following instructions are for ImageRIP Plus or Pro by Onyx. If you use another RIP software your instructions will vary. Consult your software manual.

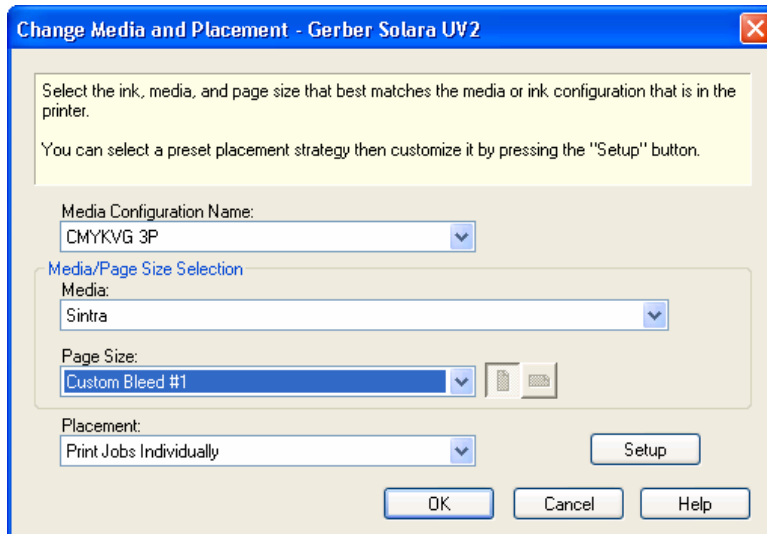
- 2 In ImageRIP Plus or Pro RIP-Queue, click Configure Printer to open the Configure Printer dialog box and choose the Page Sizes tab.



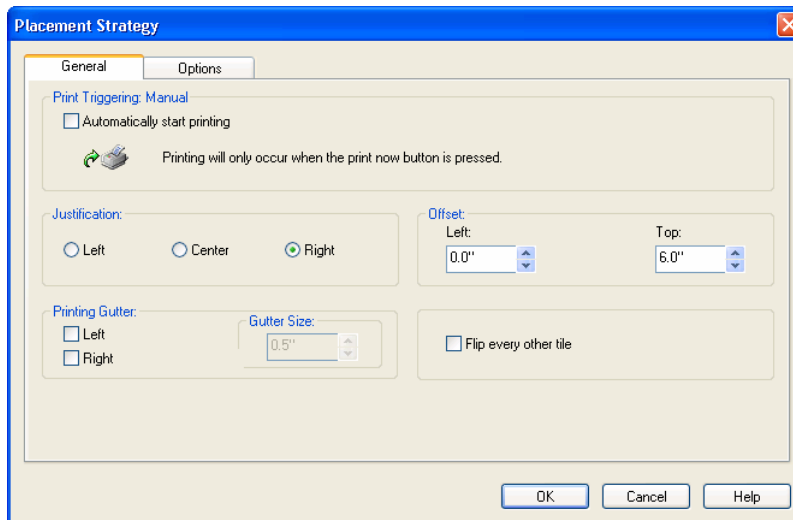
- 3 Click Add to open the Add Page Size dialog box where you can create a custom material size to match your sign blank.



- 4 Give the custom material a name and enter the width of the sign blank plus 0.5"/12.7mm (for the bleed margin) in the Width box. Leave the default height as is (3937.0"). Choose Sheet as the material Type. Click OK.
- 5 Select the printer to which the job will be sent and click the Change... button to display the Change Media and Placement dialog box.



- 6 Choose the Media Configuration Name (color profile), Media type, and page size that matches the custom material you previously created.
- 7 Select **Print Jobs Individually** from the Placement drop-down menu and click the Setup button to open the Placement Strategy dialog box.



- 8 Turn off Automatically start printing and select Right Justification. In the Top field of the Offset box, enter the length of the leading edge extension piece. This instructs the printer to print nothing (white space) on the extension. Click OK to close the dialog box.
- 9 Print the job as you normally would.

- 10 Remove the tape on the platen when the job is complete. Apply new tape to the platen if you are printing another full bleed job.



Note: You must remove any tape after printing. Reusing the tape can cause the ink build-up to contact the print head.

- 11 Remove the tape from the back of the sign blank and clean any adhesive residue with 99% isopropyl alcohol and a lint-free wipe.

Printing two-sided full bleed on rigid material



To print two-sided full bleed on rigid material

- 1 Follow the previous instructions for one-sided full bleed printing.



Note: Remove any tape applied to the platen during first side printing and apply new tape as described previously. Reusing the tape can cause the ink build-up to contact the print head carriage.

- 2 Remove the leading and trailing edge extensions and clean any adhesive residue from the back side of the sign material by wiping with a lint-free wipe moistened with 99% isopropyl alcohol.
- 3 Wait at least 15 minutes to allow the ink to fully cure.
- 4 Reattach the leading and trailing edge extensions to the printed side of the material using Scotch-Blue Painter's Tape for Delicate Surfaces #2080.
- 5 Apply Scotch-Blue Painter's Tape for Delicate Surfaces #2080 the full length of the printed image side (including the leading and trailing extensions) at the grit wheel locations. This will protect the printed image from being damaged by the grit wheels.



Tip: The following chart provides the locations of the grit wheels to assist you in applying the tape to the printed side of the job. The distance is measured from the scribe line on the left of the SOLARA UV2 platen to the left edge of each of the ten grit wheels. Each grit wheel is 0.5"/12.7mm wide.

Grit Wheel	Distance from left scribe line (in/mm)	Grit wheel	Distance from left scribe line (in/mm)
1	0.25" / 6.35mm	6	35.25" / 895.35mm
2	7.25" / 184.15mm	7	44.25" / 1123.95mm
3	14.25" / 361.95mm	8	47.25" / 1200.15mm
4	23.25" / 590.55mm	9	53.25" / 1352.55mm
5	29.25" / 742.95mm	10	59.25" / 1504.95mm

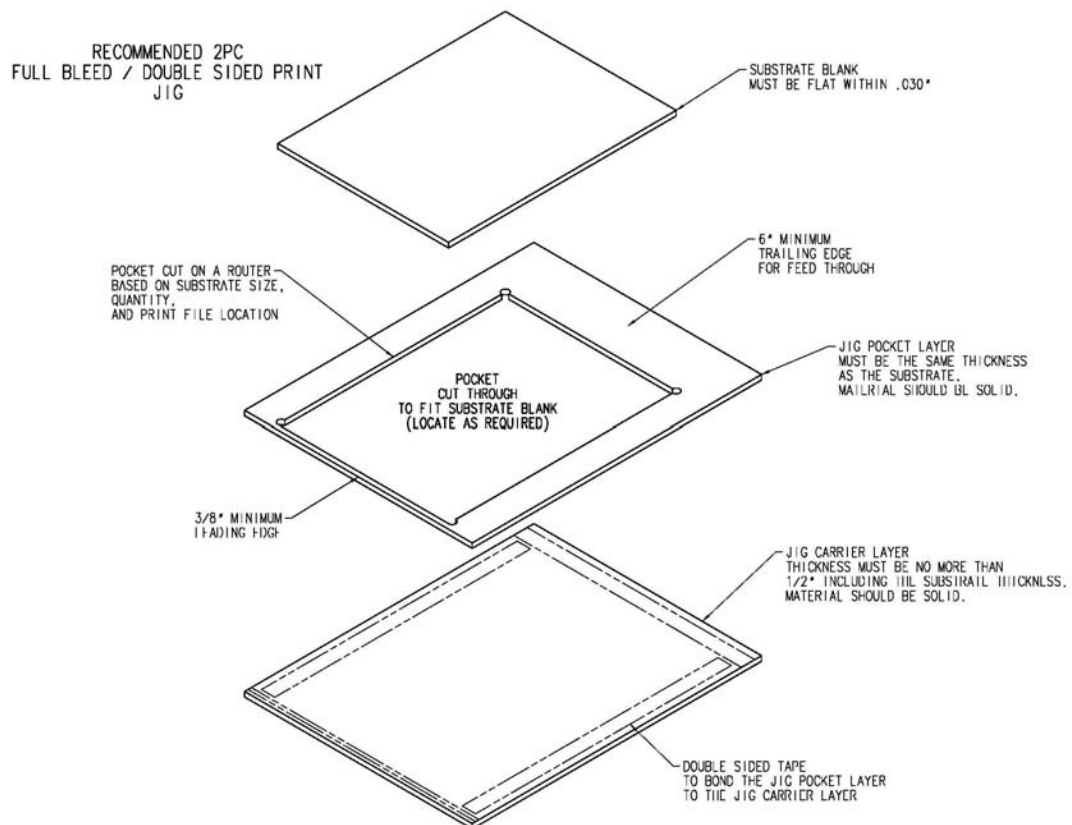
- 6 Load the material and print from ImageRIP Plus or Pro as previously described.

- 7 When printing completes, carefully remove all tape from the printed material and the GERBER SOLARA UV2. Clean any adhesive residue from the print and the machine using a lint-free wipe moistened with 99% isopropyl alcohol.

Creating a jig for full bleed/double sided printing

If you are printing a quantity of full bleed or double-sided prints, it may be helpful to construct a jig using a router. To construct a jig you will need the following items:

- ◆ Solid material for the jig carrier layer. Size should be larger than the sign blank including a 3/8" (9.27mm) leading edge margin and a 6" (152.4mm) trailing edge margin. Total thickness of the carrier layer and the jig pocket layer should not exceed 1/2" (12.7mm).
- ◆ Solid material for the jig pocket layer. Thickness must be the same as the sign blank thickness. Size should be larger than the sign blank including a 3/8" leading edge margin and a 6" (152.4mm) trailing edge margin. Total thickness of the carrier layer and the jig pocket layer should not exceed 1/2" (12.7mm).
- ◆ Double-sided tape or glue to bond the jig pocket layer to the jig carrier layer.
- ◆ Rigid sign blank material which is flat within 0.03" (0.76mm). Warped material may jam in the printer. Material that is bowed downward will scrape the platen. Material that is bowed upward will contact the print carriage.



To prepare the jig

- 1 In a design program such as OMEGA, create the vector art for the jig pocket layer. Locate the sign blank pocket on an oversized pocket layer so that there is at least a 3/8" (9.27mm) leading edge margin and a 6" (152.4mm) trailing edge margin. The side margins should be least 1/2" (12.7mm) thick. All dimensions can be larger than the minimum requirements as long as the jig fits within the Solara maximum dimensions of 60" (1524mm) wide. The pocket should be sized to hold the sign blank without shifting. Make note of all dimensions.



Tip: When creating a pocket for the sign blank, it is a good idea to cut finger access holes in the corners of the pocket. This allows you to remove the printed sign easily.

- 2 Create a carrier layer (rectangle) that has the same exterior dimensions of the pocket layer.
- 3 In the router software, assign the appropriate tool paths to cut the pocket layer and the carrier layer of the jig.
- 4 Load material of the same thickness as the sign blank on the router and cut the pocket layer.
- 5 Load material for the carrier layer on the router. 1



Note: The total combined thickness of the pocket layer and carrier layer cannot exceed 1/2" (12.7mm).

- 6 Cut out the carrier layer using the router.
- 7 Use double-sided tape or glue to bond the pocket layer to the carrier layer.
- 8 Insert the sign blank into the pocket and clean it in preparation for printing.
- 9 Load the jig into the GERBER SOLARA UV2.

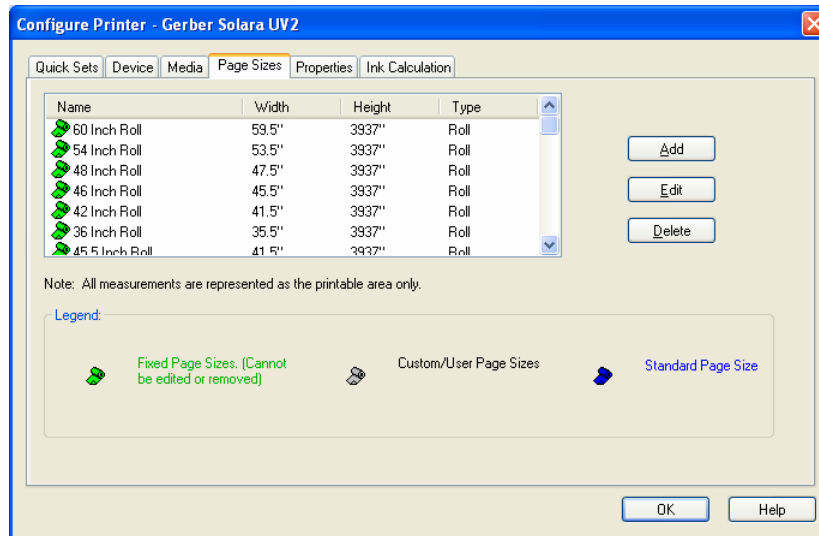
To prepare the job file

- 1 In your design software (such as OMEGA™ or Adobe Illustrator®), create a job in which the background is 1/2" (12.7mm) longer and wider than the sign blank (not including the size of the jig).

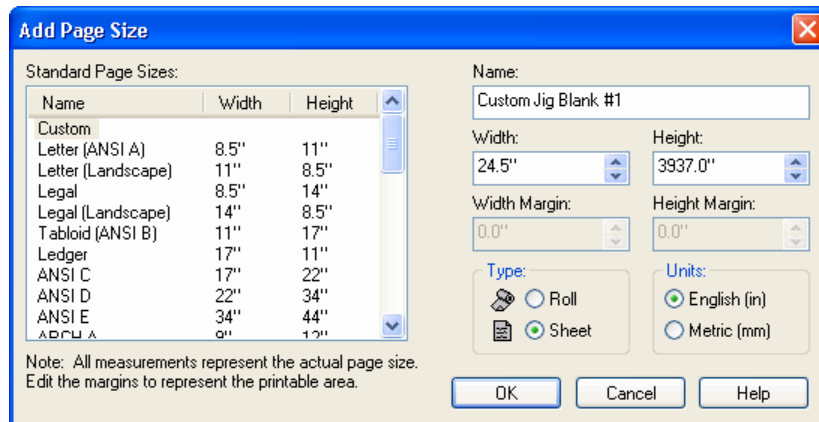


Note: The following instructions are for ImageRIP Plus or Pro by Onyx. If you use another RIP software your instructions will vary. Consult your software manual.

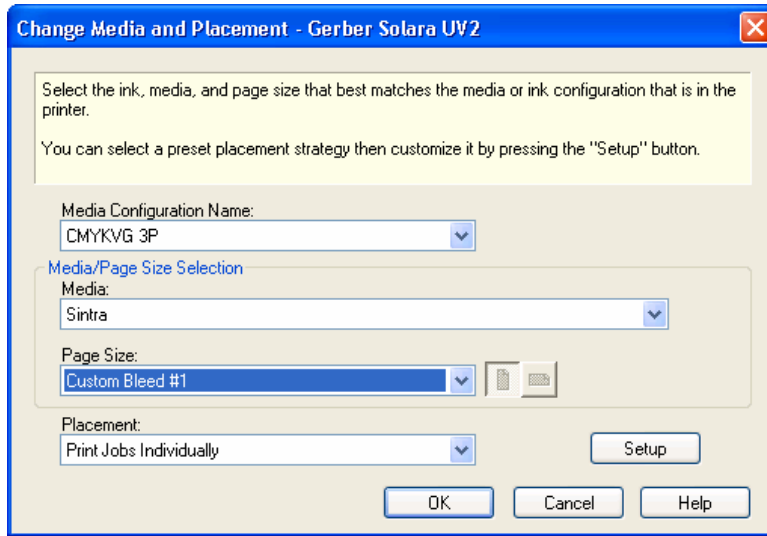
- 2 In ImageRIP Plus or Pro RIP-Queue.
- 3 Click Configure Printer to open the Configure Printer dialog box and choose the Page Sizes tab.



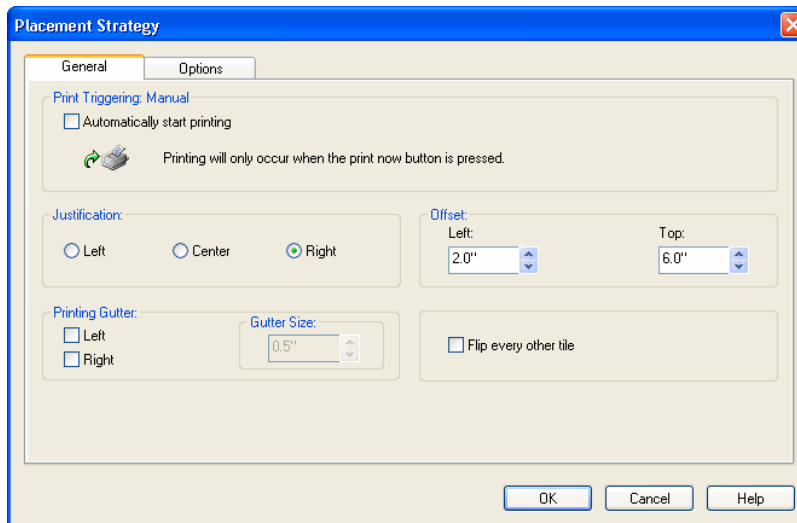
- Click Add to open the Add Page Size dialog box where you can create a custom material size to match your sign blank.



- Give the custom material a name and enter the width of the sign blank plus 0.5" / 12.7mm (for the bleed margin) in the Width box. Leave the default height as is (3937.0"). Choose Sheet as the material Type. Click OK.
- Select the printer to which the job will be sent and click the Change... button to display the Change Media and Placement dialog box.



- 7 Choose the Media Configuration Name (color profile), Media type, and page size that matches the custom material you previously created.
- 8 Select **Print Jobs Individually** from the Placement drop-down menu and click the Setup button to open the Placement Strategy dialog box.
- 9 Click the Setup button to open the Placement Strategy dialog box.



- 10 Turn off Automatically start printing and select Right Justification.
- 11 In the Left field of the Offset box, enter the jig's side margin.
- 12 In the Top field of the Offset box, enter the length of the leading edge margin. This instructs the printer to print nothing (white space) on the leading edge and side margin. Click OK to close the dialog box.
- 13 Print the job as you normally would.
- 14 If you are printing two-sided, lift out the sign blank and reinsert it printed side down.
- 15 Repeat the printing procedure described previously.