



**Title: Printing Double-sided, Full-bleed Sign
Blanks with the Gerber Solara ion™ &
Gerber Cat | UV™**

Product: Gerber Solara ion & Gerber CAT | UV

Document Number: ANote 2010-ion & CAT UV-006

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Summary: The example in this procedure shows you how to print an
18" x 24" (457.2mm x 609.6mm) double-sided, full-bleed sign
blank with the Gerber Solara ion & Gerber CAT | UV.

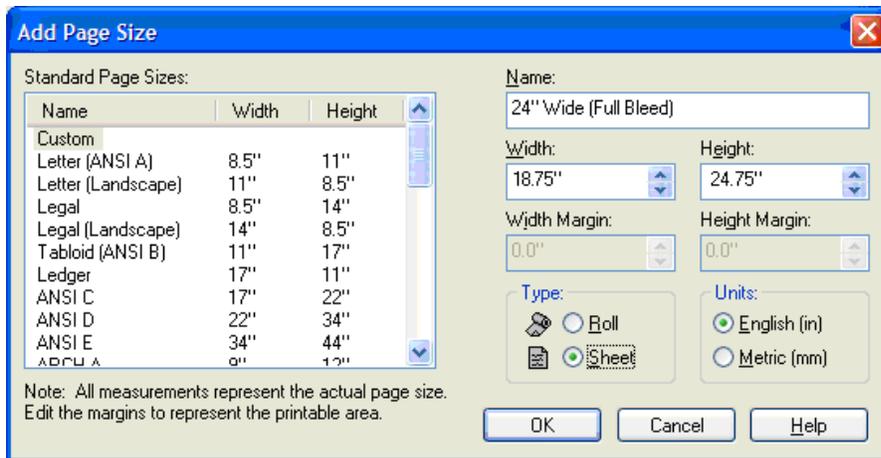
Step 1

Measure the sign blank to make sure that you know the exact height and width of the substrate. In this example the sign blank is exactly 18" (457.2mm) wide and exactly 24" (609.6mm) high.



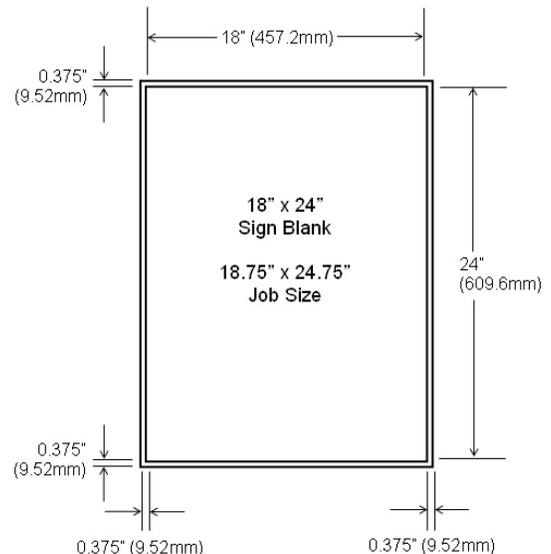
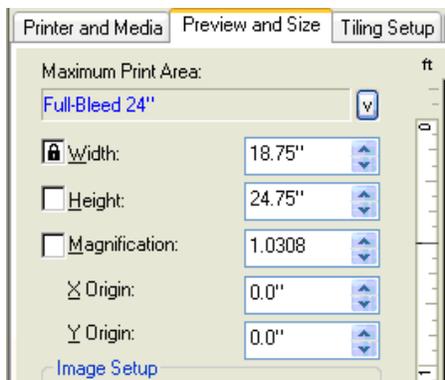
Step 2

In Onyx RIP-Queue, click Configure Printer. On the Page Sizes tab, click Add to create a new, Custom page size. Enter a width and height that is 0.75" (19.05mm) larger than the exact width and height of sign blank that you measured. In this example the width to enter is 18.75" (476.25mm) and the page height to enter is 24.75" (628.65mm).



Step 3

Either in Onyx (or in your design program), resize the job by 0.75" (19.05mm) in each direction. So an 18" x 24" (457.2mm x 609.6mm) job would be resized to 18.75" x 24.75" (476.25mm x 628.65mm) to allow the printing to go 0.375" (9.52mm) beyond the sign blank on all sides.



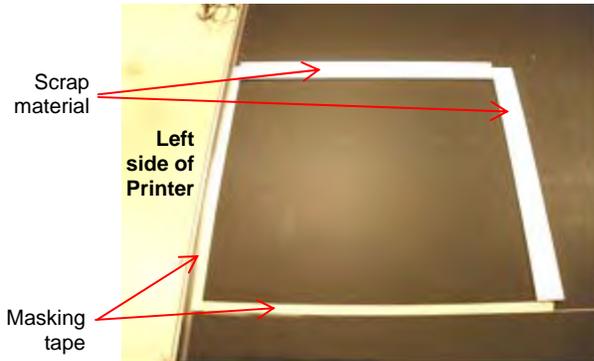
Step 4

Load the sign blank by aligning it to the table alignment marks/holes. Press the Load/Unload button on the printer when finished.

Step 5

In order to protect the job from printing directly on the table, you need to protect the printer's flat bed with tape and scrap material that is at least 1/2" (12.7mm) wide. Standing in front of the printer, apply masking tape on the front and left side of the printer around the edges of the sign blank. Use scrap material on the right and back sides. **Note that the graphic orientation sent from the RIP is opposite the printer orientation. See the illustration on the following page.**

The scrap material must cover the full width and length of the sign blank so that there are no gaps between the sign blank and the masking tape or scrap material. The scrap material used to protect the table on the sides of sign blank should be approximately the same height as the substrate on which you are printing in order to properly protect the print heads. Thicker scrap material will cause carriage strikes. Thinner scrap material is acceptable as long as it is within 1/16" (1.6mm) of the substrate thickness.



Front of Printer

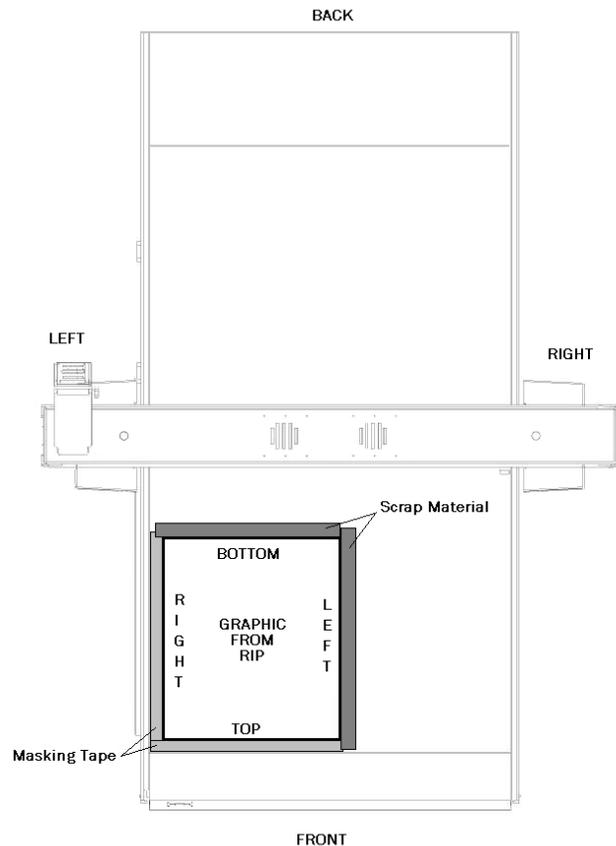
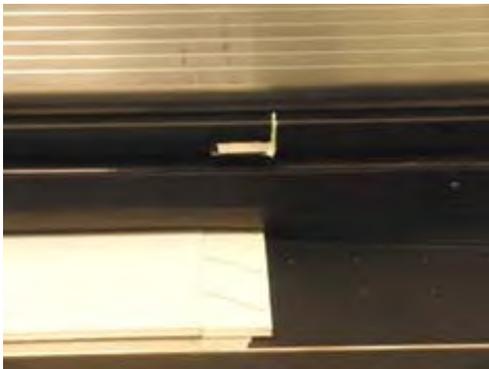


Front of Printer

Step 6

Using the new page size, send the job to the printer and start printing by pressing the Run Job button in the Solara ion. When the Solara ion or CAT | UV asks you to move the UV shield, move the UV shield so that it is aligned with the scrap material, not the substrate's edge.

Note: It is important to align the UV shield with the scrap material so that the printer does not inadvertently print on the shield and result in ink build-up that can cause head strikes.



Step 7

When the first side is complete, flip the sign blank over left to right (if the top of the job is located at the front of the printer as shown in the previous illustration). Place the sign blank in the same location as the first side, completely inside the masking tape and scrap material. Repeat printing on this side.

Step 8

Remove all masking tape and scrap material so that the ink does not build up too high and scratch the heads.

Note: The scrap material on the back and right sides of the sign blank should be removed after every job; the masking tape at the edges of the table can be used a few times since it is thinner than the sign blank. Just be sure to remove and replace the tape whenever the ink build up starts to approach the height of (or is higher than) the sign blank on which you are printing.

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