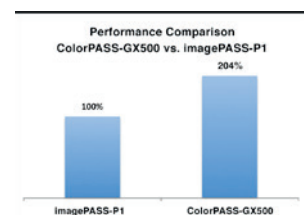# Canon ColorPASS-GX500 Server vs. imagePASS-N1/P1 Server

Because the investment horizon for a new digital printing system is from three to five years, it's always good to consider both current and future needs of your print environment when deciding on a new digital printing system. EFI™ offers two Fiery® server platforms for the Canon imageRUNNER ADVANCE C7500 and C5500 Series — the external ColorPASS-GX500 Server, and the embedded imagePASS-N1/P1 Server. These two server platforms vary by the level of colour-management controls, automation, productivity, workflow integration and expandability they offer. This document helps you understand the benefits of an external Fiery server, how it meets your current needs and how it offers built-in flexibility for future growth.

ColorPASS-GX500 Server only: Standard features

The Canon ColorPASS-GX500 Server comes with standard features that add productivity, quality and new services to your production environment. These features are not available on the imagePASS-P1 Server.

1. Faster turnaround times

To maximise your engine capacity, you need a high-powered digital front end to process and drive data fast enough to minimise engine idle time. More robust and powerful hardware specifications make the ColorPASS-GX500 Server more than 2x faster than the imagePASS-P1 Server, making them the best choice for demanding production environments.

2. Flexible variable data printing (VDP) services

The robust, open, flexible, and scalable Fiery solution supports all leading VDP formats including PDF-VT and PPML and works with all leading VDP composition software and formats for seamless workflows. The faster processing speed also makes offering VDP services more profitable.

ColorPASS-GX500 Server only: Standard features (continued)

3. Perfect PDF printing in a pure PDF workflow

Fiery external servers include the Adobe® PDF Print Engine (APPE) interpreter for end-to-end native PDF workflows. This allows consistency and flexibility from design to output in hybrid digital and offset print environments, and also ensures correct representation of colour spaces and transparencies.

4. Inline tab separations

Create and insert tab sheets directly into documents at Fiery Command WorkStation® by entering the text for each tab and specifying the location of the tab at the last possible stage in the print submission process.
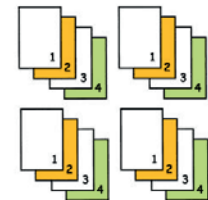
5. A way to offer pad printing

With external Fiery servers, operators can print pads with ease from a single-page job, and with minimal manual collation of the printed output.

6. Integration with transactional printing workflows

The Fiery external server can adapt to legacy transactional printing workflows with features such as Set Page Device to define media pulls and map the output destination, and Sequential Print to ensure the order of the final output is correct.

7. Windows® Embedded 8.1 Pro OS flexibility

Fiery external servers comply with the latest corporate IT standards and provides more efficient administration and implementation of security patches. You can also easily implement standard industry practices such as running anti-virus software.

ColorPASS-GX500 Server only: Optional features

The Canon ColorPASS-GX500 Server offers optional software and hardware solutions that add advanced prepress, makeready, automation and workflow integration for high-production print facilities. These features are are not available on the imagePASS-P1 Server.

1. The ability to identify file problems before it's too late

Preflight, a feature in the Fiery Graphic Arts Package, Premium Edition, quickly checks for missing spot colours, VDP elements, or low resolution images. It prevents problem jobs from printing and helps troubleshoot issues faster.

2. A powerful makeready option to produce differentiated output

Add Fiery JobMaster to offer advanced PDF makeready capabilities such as insertion of tab pages without the need to design them in the native application, multi-bank and bleed-edge tab setup, page merging, media assignment, finishing, page numbering, plus hard-copy scanning and cleanup. This allows you to produce jobs completely inline and reduce labour costs on manual tab insertion.

3. A centralised production workspace for operators

Operators can make pre-production changes from a local monitor, keyboard and mouse. Or you can upgrade to the Integrated Fiery Workstation with a custom furniture stand. The local monitor displays the Fiery Ticker for an at-a-glance view of the printing status at a distance.

4. Secure storage for print files

The optional removable hard disk drive allows you to lock the server drive into the system for normal operation and remove it to a secure location after powering down the server.

imagePASS-N1/P1 Server: Optional features

While these features are standard on the Canon ColorPASS-GX500 Server, you may add them as options to the imagePASS-N1/P1 Server. Be sure to compare the cost of the embedded server with these options added for a more accurate comparison to the external server.

1. Accelerated job submission that eliminates touch points

Full workflow automation in the job submission process with Hot Folders and Virtual Printers reduces errors and saves time, while allowing operators to give more attention to other jobs that require specific finishing and colour settings.

*Standard on imagePASS-N1, optional on imagePASS-P1

2. Superior photographic prints

Image Enhance Visual Editor, a Command WorkStation plug-in, allows operators to make last-minute edits to a selected image without having to open the image in applications such as Adobe Photoshop®.

3. Automated Web-to-Print submission, and integration with EFI MIS systems

Fiery servers are certified by CIP4 job definition format (JDF) IDP-ICS. By adhering to this standard, Fiery servers integrate seamlessly with EFI MIS and Web-to-Print systems as well as with industry-leading third-party prepress workflow solutions such as Agfa :Apogee, Heidelberg Prinect and Kodak Prinergy. This helps you more efficiently deliver job specifications, update job status in real time, track job costing data and validate equipment usage.

4. Don't touch what you can automate

Use Fiery JobFlow™ Base to build easy-to-use workflows. Perform essential job processing tasks, submit files to the proper location or just drag and drop right on to the workflow, and archive jobs at various processing stages for later reuse. Receive email notifications on the job processing steps, as well as manage workflows for maximum productivity.

Comparison of ColorPASS-GX500 and imagePASS-N1/P1 Servers

FIERY PLATFORM	FIERY PRO80 — GX500	FIERY E300 — N1/P1
Fiery Software	Fiery FS200 Pro	Fiery FS200
CPU	Intel Core i5-4570S Processor (2.9 GHz up to 3.6GHz)	Intel Celeron Processor G1820, 2.7 GHz
Operating System	Microsoft Windows Embedded 8.1 Pro	Linux
RAM	4 GB	2 GB
Hard Disk Drive (HDD)	2x1 TB SATA	500 GB SATA
Removable HDD	OPTIONAL	Not Available
Removable Storage	DVD-RW/CD-RW	Not Available
VDP Formats	PPML 3, PDF/VT-2, VPS, Fiery FreeForm™	Fiery FreeForm
Adobe® PDF Print Engine (APPE)	INCLUDED	Not Available
Sequential Print	INCLUDED	Not Available
Set Page Device	INCLUDED	Not Available
PDF/X Output Intent	INCLUDED	Not Available
Pad Printing	INCLUDED	Not Available
Insert Tab	INCLUDED	Not Available
Rush Process	INCLUDED	Not Available
Fiery Integrated Workstation (stand, LCD display, keyboard and mouse)	OPTIONAL	Not Available
Fiery JobMaster	OPTIONAL	Not Available
Fiery Graphics Arts Package, Premium Edition	OPTIONAL	Not Available
Preflight	OPTIONAL (with Graphic Arts Package, Premium Edition)	Not Available
Fiery JDF	INCLUDED	OPTIONAL (with Productivity Package)
Integration to EFI MIS and Web-to-Print systems	INCLUDED	OPTIONAL (with Productivity Package)
Softproofing	OPTIONAL (with Graphic Arts Package, Premium Edition)	OPTIONAL (with Productivity Package)
Fiery JobFlow	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL (requires Productivity Package)
Fiery Impose	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL
Fiery Compose	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL
FEATURES THAT ARE AVAILABLE AT AN ADDITIONAL COST ON IMAGEPASS-N1/P1		
Fiery JobFlow Base	INCLUDED	OPTIONAL (with Productivity Package)
Fiery Productivity Package	Not Available	OPTIONAL
Fiery Hot Folders/Virtual Printers	INCLUDED	OPTIONAL (Standard for N1)
Fiery Image Enhance Visual Editor	INCLUDED	OPTIONAL (with Productivity Package)

Values may change for your particular Fiery server and print engine combination.
Check the availability of specific features with your Fiery server sales representative.