

GMG ColorProof Custom Media Support

Imprint

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1. Getting Started

1.1 About this Document

As a closed system, the GMG system comprising GMG ColorProof, GMG proof media, printer calibrations, printer drivers, and proof profiles developed by GMG ColorExperts guarantees highest print quality and color accuracy. However, GMG also offers starter kits that allow you to easily create your own custom printer calibrations and use custom media with satisfying print results. You can use our profiling tools GMG ProfileEditor and GMG SpotColor Editor to create your own printer-media specific color profiles.

This document gives you an **overview** on what you need to do to efficiently use custom media and explains how to basically set up custom media and custom color management sets in GMG ColorProof. It provides a check list comprising all steps required for proofing with custom media. This document does **not** explain how to create a printer calibration or proof profile.

- ▼ The creation of a **printer calibration** file is explained in detail in our printer and driver specific **How to Create a Printer Calibration from a Starter Kit**
- ▼ The creation of a **proof profiles** is explained in detail in our **Contone** and **DotProof** tutorials

1.2 Custom Media Support

The following table lists all printers and printer drivers supporting **custom** media in ContoneProof mode.

Note DotProof can only be supported with GMG Driver.

<i>Printer series</i>	<i>Driver</i>	<i>DotProof</i>
Canon iPF	Canon Driver	
Canon iPFs	Canon Driver	
Canon iPFs	GMG Driver	x
Epson 40-76-96	GMG Driver	x
Epson x400	GMG Driver	x
Epson x450	GMG Driver	x
Epson x800	GMG Driver	x
Epson x880	GMG Driver	x
Epson x890	Epson Driver	
Epson x890	GMG Driver	x
Epson 11880	GMG Driver	x
Epson x900	Epson Driver	
Epson SC-P7000, 9000	Epson Driver	
Epson WT7900	Epson Driver	
HP 5000	GMG Driver	x
HP 5500	GMG Driver	x
HP Z3200	HP Driver	
HP Z6200	HP Driver	
Roland VersaUV LEC-330, 540	GMG Driver	x
Roland VersaUV LEJ-640	GMG Driver	x
Roland VersaCAMM VS-300, 420, 540, 640	GMG Driver	x

Printer series	Driver	DotProof
Mimaki UJF 706	GMG Driver	x

1.3 What Do I Need for Using Custom Media—Check List

The following check list is provided to give you an overview on all required steps. Please follow the "See also" links for further details. Some links will guide you to separate tutorials.

The column header in the following check list table shows the intended purpose: Proofing according to a custom **Proof Standard** (ContoneProof/ DotProof), using a custom **Medium**, and using a custom **Medium + Spots**. For each custom medium, for example, you need to follow the steps marked with an **x** in the **Medium** column.

Proof Standard	DotProof Standard	Medium	Medium+ Spots	Required steps	Application	See also
		x	x	Add a new medium to the database.	GMG ColorProof	"Adding a Custom Medium" on page 7
		x	x	Choose a suitable media type and print mode .	GMG ColorProof	Printer specific starter kit tutorial
		x	x	Set up the printer hardware and software settings.	GMG ColorProof	
		x	x	Check the selected media type and print mode (overinking).	GMG ColorProof	
		x	x	Create the full gamut file.	GMG ProfileEditor	
		x	x	Create a new printer calibration file.	GMG ProfileEditor	
		x	x	Create the gamut file.	GMG ProfileEditor	
		x	x	Add a calibration set with the created printer calibration file to the database.	GMG ColorProof	"Adding a Custom Calibration Set" on page 9
		x	x	Use GMG CaliWizard or GMG AutoCali Wizard to calibrate the printer with the new calibration set.	GMG ColorProof	Printer specific starter kit tutorial
x	x	x	x	Create an MX4 proof profile .	GMG ColorProof, GMG ProfileEditor	<i>GMG-HowTo_Contone_Proof_Profile_en.pdf</i>
	x			For DotProof/FlexoProof: Create an MX5 proof profile .	GMG ColorProof, GMG ProfileEditor	<i>GMG-HowTo_DotProof_Proof_Profile_en.pdf</i>
x	x	x	x	Add a new proof standard with the created MX proof profile(s) to the database.	GMG ColorProof	"Adding a Custom Proof Standard" on page 12
x	x	x	x	Add a custom control strip for the required print standard to the database.	GMG ColorProof	"Adding a Custom Control Strip" on page 13
			x	For each spot color you want to use, create a spot color profile .	GMG SpotColor Editor	<i>GMG-SpotColorEditor_QuickStartGuide_en.pdf</i>

<i>Proof Stand- ard</i>	<i>DotProof Standard</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Medium+ Spots</i>	<i>Required steps</i>	<i>Application</i>	<i>See also</i>
			x	Add a new spot color set with the created spot color profiles to the database.	GMG ColorProof	"Adding a Custom Spot Color Set" on page 15

2. Custom Media

2.1 Adding a Custom Medium

→ Duplicate an existing media type and use this as a template.

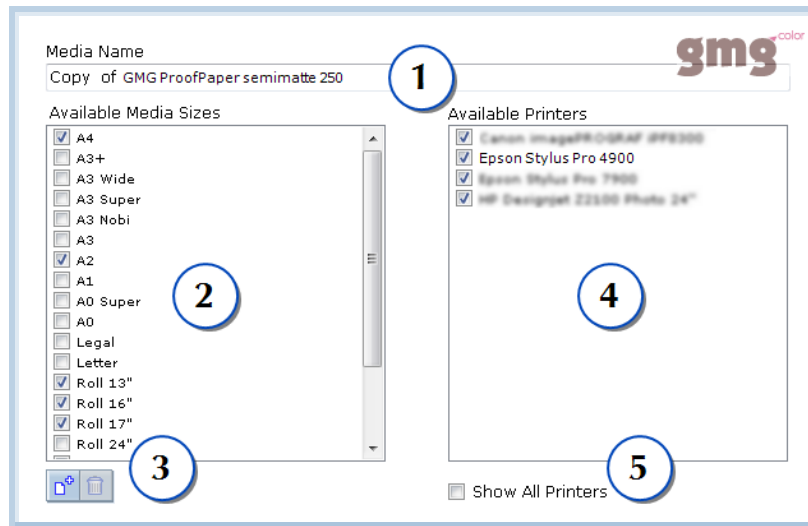


Fig. 1 Adding a custom print medium to the GMG ColorProof database.

You can set up custom media types under any name (1). You can then define available media sizes as a global property of this media type, for all printers (2). You can also define new custom media sizes (3) or delete sizes (for all printers).

The media type (with all sizes) needs to be assigned to printer types (4). In our example, the print medium is assigned to all available printer types.

Select **Show All Printers** (5) to update the list with **all** printers supported in GMG ColorProof.

How to add custom media

1. On the navigation panel on the left of the main program window, click **Database**.
2. On the **Proofing Conditions** tab, right-click an existing media type in the list and select **Duplicate**.
—OR—
Create a new media type from scratch by clicking **Database** menu > **Media** > **New**.
3. Enter a **Media Name**.
4. In the **Available Media Sizes** list, select the media sizes that you want to support with this print medium.
5. In the **Available Printers** list, select all printers you want to use with this medium.
6. Click **OK** to confirm the settings.
The new media type is added to the database. In the next step, you need to define the **Advanced Media Settings**.

How to define the Advanced Media Settings

→ In the **Database** view, right-click the new print medium in the **Media** list and select **Advanced** from the context menu.

Define parameters such as the media thickness. If you are unsure, keep the default settings and change the settings only if you experience any problems. For all printers using a **Parent Paper** parameter, select a **Parent Paper** from the drop-down list.

2.2 Media Synchronization between Printer and Software

Some printers with a **bidirectional** connection can send information about the currently loaded print medium to GMG ColorProof. For these printers, you can **synchronize** the print medium selected in the software printer with the print medium selected on the printer panel. This feature minimizes paper usage and ensures reliable print results.

For printers without this synchronization capability, you need to manually select the correct media.

Canon imagePROGRAF printers

1. Set up your Canon imagePROGRAF printer in the **Output** view > **Available Printers**. Make sure you have established a **bidirectional** communication (TCP/IP).
2. Click the **Configure Printer** button to open the printer configuration settings.
3. Click the **Advanced Settings** view on the left and select the option **Synchronization with Medium in Printer**.
GMG ColorProof will now automatically use the print medium selected on the printer panel. If the print medium is not available in the database, a warning will be shown.

HP Z printers

The media synchronization for HP Z printers offers three options to ensure identical media settings.

<i>Available options</i>	<i>Description</i>
Put Jobs on Hold	In case that the print medium selected in the software printer does not match with the print medium loaded in the paper tray, all jobs for the printer will be put on hold and are restarted automatically after paper change.
Use Loaded Medium	Synchronization with the printer is activated. The print medium loaded in the paper tray is used. An error message will inform you if the medium cannot be found in the GMG ColorProof database.
Ignore Loaded Medium	Synchronization with the printer is deactivated. The media type selected in the software printer is used. (not recommended)

3. Custom Calibration Sets

3.1 Calibration Sets

A calibration set contains all files and information required to calibrate a set of printer and media types, for all supported measuring devices. Due to different printing technologies, there are different calibration file formats (**MX3**, **MXC**, or **MX4**).

Each time a printer is calibrated, the corresponding MX printer calibration file is updated in the database. If no valid calibration file is available, the printer shifts into status **Not Calibrated** and all jobs are put on hold until the printer is calibrated again.

For a reliable and good print quality, a printer should be calibrated in regular intervals. Each calibration set contains **Quality Criteria** to validate and determine the calibration status.

Calibration Set settings

Page	Description
Properties	General data such as the name and the version number. The Printer ICC Profile has been included for an optional ICC based color management, defining the conversion from the intermediate Lab color space to the printer color space.
Print Settings	List with all printer-medium and print mode combinations covered by the calibration set. Select an item in the list to show the details on the right side of the page. Each printer type within a calibration set has been assigned with a Reference Print Mode . After calibrating the reference mode, it is possible to switch the print medium or print mode without having to calibrate the new combination. Changing the Reference Print Mode will not change the calibration set ID, so that you can conveniently use the same calibration set with different print settings on different computers.
Measurement	<p>The Measurement tabbed page of a calibration set lists all printer calibration files for all supported measuring devices.</p> <p>The Initial Calibration file serves as a starting point of a calibration containing averaged output values to reduce the number of iterations otherwise required. After calibrating the printer for the first time, the link to the initial calibration file is broken and an updated system copy is used for all following calibrations. You can restore the link to the initial calibration file by resetting a calibration.</p> <p>The gamut and full gamut file play a key role in the process of calibrating a printer. The full gamut file is saved within the calibration file and thus not visibly linked in the calibration set. The gamut is linked to the calibration set in the GMG ColorProof database and represents the color space of the printer-medium combination.</p>
Quality Criteria	<p>The Calibration Tolerances in each calibration set have been defined with care to ensure predictable and accurate colors. All criteria can, however, be changed or deactivated. With the Reset button, you can reset your changes again to GMG default values.</p> <p>Maximum Age is the time span after which a recalibration is required, set to ensure a regular recalibration process for premium proof quality.</p> <p>Delta E is the distance between output and target color. The higher Delta E, the stronger is the deviation from the target color.</p> <p>Delta L refers to the luminescence, that is, to the Black (K) channel. The higher Delta L, the stronger is the deviation of the luminescence from the target color.</p>

3.2 Adding a Custom Calibration Set

You need to set up one calibration set for **each** printer-medium combination and hardware parameter (such as the ink set) that directly affects the colors you are going to use. You can create a new calibration set by duplicating and modifying an existing calibration set or create a calibration set from scratch. In this chapter, you will learn how to create a new calibration set from scratch.

How to add a custom calibration set

1. On the **Database** menu, point to **Calibration Sets**, and click **New**.
The New Calibration Set dialog is displayed.

2. On the **Properties** page, enter a **Name** for the calibration set.
3. Enter a **version number**.
The version number serves as a unique identifier if you have several versions of the same set. It is advisable to use a naming convention, for example, V1, V2, V3, and so on, but you can enter any string you like.
4. Optional: Select an **ICC Printer Profile** if you want to use an ICC based color management.

How to define the Print Settings

1. Click the **Print Settings** page.
2. On the toolbar, click the + button to add new print settings.
3. Select the **Printer** you want to use from the drop-down list on the right side.
The printer type is displayed in the tree view on the left side.
4. In the tree view on the left, click the next node (< undefined >) to bring up the **Medium** drop-down list and select the print medium you want to use.
The default **Print Settings** for the printer-medium combination are displayed as end node.
5. In the tree view, click the **Print Settings** (print mode) node to show the properties of the printer-medium combination on the right side.
6. Adjust the default properties (e.g. the print mode) as required.
7. Optional: Add as many **Print Settings** as you like and choose a **Reference Print Mode** for calibration.
Due to this functionality, you can use the same printer calibration file for multiple color modes or media with similar properties.

How to add printer calibration files to the calibration set

1. Click the **Measurement** page.
2. Click the + button to add a measuring device and the corresponding printer calibration and gamut file.
3. Select the measuring device that you will use for this printer from the list.
4. In the **Initial Calibration** column, click the browse button, browse your folders, and select the printer calibration file.
5. In the **Gamut** column, click the browse button, browse your folders, and select the corresponding gamut (CSC) file. (Do **not** select the full gamut file.)
6. To set up more measuring devices, repeat steps 2 to 5.

How to set up quality criteria for the printer calibration

1. Click the **Quality Criteria** page.
2. Select the quality criteria for this calibration set. If the quality criteria are not met anymore, print jobs using this calibration set will be put on hold until the printer is successfully recalibrated.
3. If you are calibrating a color mode with White for printing a **white undercoat**, activate the option **Add Coating Channel**.
When calibrating a printer, the coating is always printed in **Full Frame** mode.

4. Custom Proof Standards

4.1 Proof Standards

The introduction of standardized characterization data opened the possibility to offer **optimized Device-Link profiles** for diverse printer-medium combinations. These profiles are the core of our **proof standards** which hold all information required for the color management of certain printer–medium combinations, each complying with a specific **print standard**, for example, ISO Offset 39L.

GMG ColorProof provides you with all world-wide accepted standards and a wide range of printer-medium combinations. In case your combination is not supported, you can easily set up your own standards with **custom** MX DeviceLink profiles (created in GMG ProfileEditor), or, alternatively, use ICC profiles.

All proof standards are **protected** via a **checksum**: If a profile used in a proof standard has been altered, jobs based on this proof standard will not be printed anymore and you will be informed by a job error message.

Tip With a GMG OpenColor licence, you can also set up GMG OpenColor proof standards with multicolor profiles for simulating spot color overprints (see "GMG OpenColor Proof Standards").

Color Management settings

<i>Group</i>	<i>Short description</i>
MX Based	(Default) DeviceLink profiles for ContoneProof (MX4) and DotProof (MX5) are used for the color management. Soft-proofing is based on the Output Intent ICC profile. If no Output Intent ICC profile is defined in the proof standard, soft-proofing will be based on the MX profile.
ICC Based	ICC profiles are used for the color management (only ContoneProof mode available). The Output Intent ICC profile from the proof standard defines the input color space and the Printer ICC profile from the calibration set defines the output color space.
MXN Based	OpenColor profiles are used for the color management. An MXN based color management in regular proof standards allows you to manually select a specific profile. In OpenColor proof standards, the profile cannot be manually selected, but is automatically retrieved from the OpenColor database, or calculated "on demand".

Linked calibration sets

The **Calibration Sets** page shows all calibration sets linked to the proof standard. Together with the proof standard, a calibration set ensures a consistent representation of colors, counterbalancing deviations caused by varying environment conditions.

Select a calibration set in the list to display all relevant information such as the **Print Settings** on the info pane on the right. You can link or remove calibration sets by using the buttons on the toolbar.

Tip You can also link **custom** calibration sets to GMG proof standards without the need to duplicate the standards first. Please note that the GMG Standard Proof Logo will not be printed within a job or image label when you are using a custom calibration set.

GMG ProofControl Inline print standards

GMG proof standards are already **preconfigured** with all GMG ProofControl print standards, ready-to-use for a proof verification with GMG ProofControl Inline . If you want to use **custom** GMG ProofControl print standards, you can easily generate them directly within a proof standard as described in topic "Creating Custom ProofControl Standards".

4.2 Adding a Custom Proof Standard

You can add a custom proof standard by duplicating and modifying an existing proof standard or create a new proof standard from scratch. In this chapter, you will learn how to create a proof standard from scratch.

How to add a custom proof standard

1. On the **Database** menu, point to **Proof Standards**, and click **New**.
The New Proof Standard dialog is displayed.
2. On the **Properties** page, select a print standard from the **Name** drop-down list, for example, ISO Coated v2 (39L), or enter a custom name.
3. Enter a **Version** number.
The version number serves as a unique identifier if you have several versions of the same proof standard. It is advisable to use a naming convention, for example, V1, V2, V3, and so on, but you can enter any string you like.
4. On the **Color Management** page, select the color management mode you would like to use for this standard.
(**MX based** color management is recommended for highest-quality prints.)
5. For MX based color management, select an **MX4** proof profile for **ContoneProof** or **PhotoProof**.
6. Optional: For **DotProof** mode, select an **MX5** proof profile.
(DotProof is supported only by MX based color management.)
7. Select an **ICC Output Intent** profile for soft-proofing.
8. Optional: For an **ICC based** color management, select an **ICC Output Intent** profile to define the input color space and the rendering intent.
The output color space is defined by the **ICC Printer** profile from the calibration set.
9. On the **Calibration Sets** page, click the + button on the toolbar to link a calibration set to the proof standard.
(A proof standard can also be linked to multiple calibration sets. Use the **Custom Filter** to show only calibration sets for your printer and/or calibration sets that share the same printer and media type.)
10. Click **OK** to confirm your choice.

How to link GMG ProofControl standards to a proof standard

Tip To support different measuring conditions, for example, different control strips or measuring devices with and without UV cut filter, you can link **multiple** print standards to the same proof standard.

1. On the **Proof Verification** page, click the + button on the toolbar to add a print standard and the corresponding XML file.
2. In the **Target Values > Filter** column, select the filter settings used when measuring the control strip.
3. In the **Target Values > Backing** column, select the backing method used when measuring the control strip.
4. In the **Target Values > ProofControl Standard** column, click the browse button and select the corresponding XML file.
5. To set up more measuring conditions, repeat steps 1 to 5.

5. Custom Control Strips

5.1 Adding a Custom Control Strip

To create a custom control strip, you need a suitable image (TIFF) file and optionally a control strip XML file for GMG ProofControl (containing the patch definitions).

Control strip images for ContoneProof

Control strip image files for ContoneProof must meet the following requirements. After the import, the control strip can be used in vertical and horizontal orientation.

- ▶ 8-Bit CMYK TIFF

Control strip images for DotProof

For each screen ruling, raster dot shape, and screening angle that you are going to print, a **separate** control strip is required. For example, you need to import two separate custom control strips for printing one image with 50 lpi screen ruling and another image with 100 lpi screen ruling.

Because it is possible to use control strips in horizontal and vertical orientation in GMG ColorProof, you need to import **two** separate control strip image files for one DotProof control strip: One image in **horizontal** and one in **vertical** orientation.

Control strip image files for DotProof proof mode must meet the following requirements. The images should be produced by the **same** imagesetter used for the plate making of the images that will be proofed together with the control strip. The RIP and the RIP settings used directly affect the color and visual appearance of the printed image.

- ▶ 1-Bit CMYK TIFF
- ▶ Two images with the following naming convention are required for a DotProof control strip. <name> is a placeholder for any custom name. The <name> must be identical for both files. <color channel> is a placeholder for the color channel of the separated 1-bit file: **Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black**.
 - ▶ <name>_<color channel>_K0.tif: control strip in the desired layout
 - ▶ <name>_<color channel>_K90.tif: the same image, but rotated by 90 degrees. The image needs to be rotated in the RIP program that is used for the plate making, do **not** use an image editor.
- ▶ All files with identical image size and resolution

How to add a custom control strip

1. Click the **Database** button on the navigation panel on the left of the main window.
2. On the toolbar, click the **New Control Strip** button.
3. Enter a **Name** for the control strip.
4. Under **Import Control Strip**, click the browse button and select all image files that are required for the new control strip (one 8-bit file for ContoneProof, eight 1-bit files for DotProof).
5. Select the **Measuring Device** you are going to use for measuring this control strip from the drop-down list.
6. Select a **Control Strip Type** from the drop-down list.
Control strips of the **Proof Standard** type are used for verifying the color accuracy of a proof. Control strips of the **Printer Calibration** type are used for checking the printer calibration.
7. Optional: Select a GMG ProofControl control strip XML for verification in GMG ProofControl.
8. Check the preview and click **OK** to import the image files and add the control strip to the database.

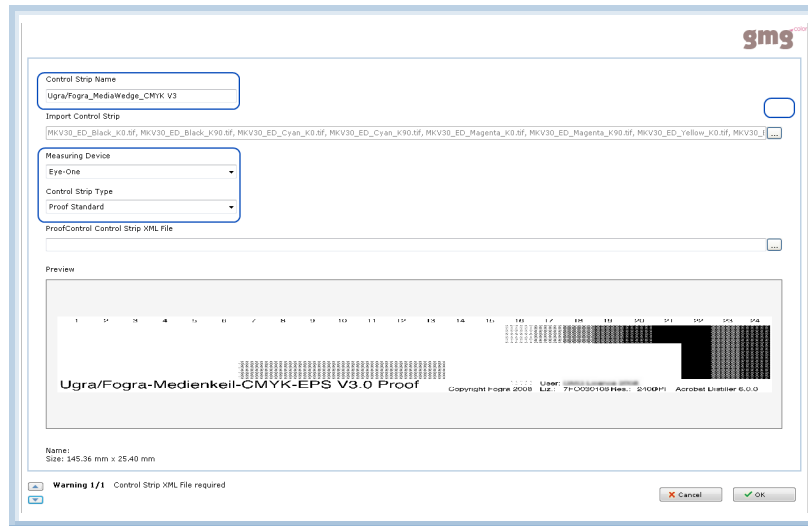


Fig. 2 Custom DotProof control strip ready for import.

The screenshot shows an example for a DotProof control strip consisting of eight files. The eight 1-bit TIFF separations for the DotProof control strip have been successfully loaded.

Following the confirmation by clicking OK, the control strip will be added to the GMG ColorProof database.

You can then use the new control strip for a manual job or workflow.

6. Custom Spot Colors

6.1 Spot Color Sets

A spot color set contains all information required for the color management of spot colors for a certain set of printer and media types. Each spot color set in GMG ColorProof is linked to a spot color **database** (*.db3). GMG ColorProof provides you with spot color databases for widely used spot colors, for example, from Pantone, DIC, or HKS.

Example: The spot color set **PANTONE® GOE coated - Ex880 GMGsemimatte250** includes all spot colors of the **PANTONE® GOE coated** set for **Epson Stylus Pro x880** printers and GMG ProofPaper semimatte 250.

As spot colors extend the limited gamut of the printing machine and the print result is considered to be independent of the printing condition, the print standard is not relevant for spot colors and thus not linked within a set. Each spot color set is, however, linked to at least one calibration set.

6.2 Adding a Custom Spot Color Set

You can manage and set up your own spot color databases in the GMG SpotColor Editor, a separate program integrated in GMG ColorProof. You can then import spot color sets from the custom spot color database into GMG ColorProof. GMG SpotColor Editor is a profile editor for spot colors and has a very similar functionality as GMG ProfileEditor has for CMYK process colors. Creating custom spot colors requires similar steps as for creating a custom MX4 proof profile.

How to add a custom spot color set

1. On the **Database** menu, point to **Spot Color Sets**, and click **New**.
The New Spot Color Set dialog is displayed
2. On the **Properties** page, enter a **Name** for the spot color set.
3. Enter a **Version** number.
The version number serves as a unique identifier if you have several versions of the same spot color set. It is recommended to use a naming convention, for example, V1, V2, V3, and so on, but you can enter any string you like.
4. On the **Import** page, click the browse button and select a spot color database (**db3**).
(The **Information** tab provides more information and a preview of the spot color set. You can browse all spot color sets in the spot color database and select the one that includes the desired spot colors.)
5. On the **Calibration Sets** page, click the **+** button on the toolbar to link a calibration set to the spot color set.
(A spot color set can also be linked to multiple calibration sets. Use the **Custom Filter** to show only calibration sets for your printer and/or calibration sets that share the same printer and media type.)
6. Click **OK** to confirm your choice.
The new spot color set is displayed in the **Spot Color Set** list in the **Database** view.

Tip For more information on custom spot colors, please refer to our separate Quick Start Guide of GMG SpotColor Editor: *GMG-SpotColorEditor_QuickStartGuide_en.pdf*.
