

# RTL to HP Accuracy

## Xitron Navigator Technical Note

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In some cases when the RTL PlugIn is used to run a large format Hewlett-Packard Inkjet a distortion in the length of the output will occur in the direction of the media path. Over the course of an 8-up signature the difference between the file size and the HP printed size can be up to 4 inches.

The reason for this is that where there is no ink for the entire width of the device, the plotter will reduce the amount of media fed through. This means that the actual output you get will be shorter although all the printed areas will be the same size as they are intended to be. The symptom is similar to adjusting the tracking on a line of type... the characters remain the same size while the space between them diminishes. It seems to be an undocumented and undesirable media saving function of some of the HP plotters.

The solution to this problem that we have found is to place a thin line down one side of the entire length of your output. Be sure the line is setup to print. This way you never have a blank break in the information being sent to the HP and it will always move the media the appropriate amount. This can be done from any layout application or imposition package.