

## R260 Color Printing with MIS Pigments

Color printing with MIS color pigments in the R260 is up and running.

The MIS K4 color pigments work very well in the 260 as long as a good profile is used -- more on that below. They can be purchased in bulk from MIS at [http://www.inksupply.com/arcink\\_k4.cfm](http://www.inksupply.com/arcink_k4.cfm) and loaded into the empty carts above (not the LK and LLK, obviously). This is a very economical and archival alternative for the R260. These same inks will soon be available in R260 carts, pre-loaded by MIS.

The MIS K4 color inks are not very close to the OEM Claria inks in terms of color balance. As such, they need to be printed with a good profile. While MIS and others will, no doubt, make ICC profiles for these inks, I have explored a new method of color profiling that uses the Photoshop tools that have worked so well for B&W profiling. The results are surprisingly good. The new profiles are carried on Photoshop adjustment layers and, while color printers are not accustomed to applying a profile via dragging a layer, they result in prints that compare favorably with those printed with the profiles built into the Epson driver for its Claria inks.

The profiles for the R260 and MIS K4 color inks are carried on layers that are on 2 images. The images contain the instructions regarding the settings and use of the profiles. These can be downloaded in a Zip from [www.PaulRoark.com/BW-Info/260-Color-Printing-Layers.zip](http://www.PaulRoark.com/BW-Info/260-Color-Printing-Layers.zip) Save the images to a convenient image folder for opening in Photoshop.

The matte paper profile works for what we used to know as Epson Enhanced Matte (EEM – now replaced by Ultra Premium Presentation Paper Matte), Photo Rag, Premier Art 205, and Epson Matte Heavy Weight, at least. These are the only papers I've tried. The usual driver controls, including the color, contrast and brightness sliders, remain available to fine tune prints.

There are 2 glossy profiles. One is for RC types of papers and works on Kirkland glossy and the Epson Premium Glossy series, at least. These are the only RC papers I've tried.

The second glossy profile is for the FB papers – Crane Silver Rag and Innova F. (Premier Art Platinum is not recommended. Not only does it need a different profile, but its dmax is low without a rip. It does very well with the soon to be released RC-PKN and QTR Black Only mode.)

The profiles, in fact, were made with RC-PKN loaded. It is not available yet, but K4-PK will work, just making the deep shadows slightly warmer. K4-PK will be the warm PK for the R260 setup.

While applying profiles from an adjustment layer is not standard practice, the procedure works very well. Comparisons with a popular profiling software package, as well as the Epson OEM inks and built-in profiles can be seen at [www.PaulRoark.com/BW-Info/Profile-comparison.pdf](http://www.PaulRoark.com/BW-Info/Profile-comparison.pdf) .

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9-21-07