GXPDFBACKDROP.INI Sections and Settings

1. Introduction

In order to configure some advanced features of the PDF file conversion using a PDF converter within GX.EXE a new INI file, GXPDFBACKDROP.INI, must be created in the GX folder. The PDF printing option within GX is fully described in Technical Note IN333 which should be read in conjunction with this document. Although this document duplicates some sections of IN333 we include the sections and settings here for reference purposes.

As its name implies the GXPDFBACKDROP.INI file was initially employed to specify one or more backdrops for use with a PDF print but has evolved to specify other useful settings (e.g. the font name). Note that the PrintViewAddPrinterNumber registry option must be enabled for the particular printer number in order for the GXPDFBACKDROP.INI file to be recognised.

At the time of writing the location (in the GX folder) and the name of the GXPDFBACKDROP.INI file are both fixed. It is **NOT** possible to replace "GXPDFBACKDROP.INI" by a GX.EXE command line override. Furthermore, it is not possible to allow the "GXPDFBACKDROP.INI" file to be replaced by the filename defined in the GXHOSTS.INI.

Important Note: The installation of the Global Windows Explorer (GX) does not create a GXPDFBACKDROP.INI file. This file must be created if you are adding a PDF Printer for the first time on a PC.

2. GXPDFBACKDROP.INI File Sections

The following sections are supported in the GXPDFBACKDROP.INI file:

Section	Description
[5 <i>nn</i>]	The individual [5nn] sections of the GXPDFBACKDROP.INI file
	specify the settings for a single printer unit. For example, section
	[504] defines the settings for printer 504.

3. Settings in the GXPDFBACKDROP.INI File [5*nn*] Section

The various [5nn] sections of the GXPDFBACKDROP.INI file specify the settings for a single printer unit. For example, section [504] defines the settings for printer 504. The settings can range from [500] to [599]. This format allows the settings to be specified on a per printer basis (e.g. the settings for printer 500 can be different from the settings for printer 501).

3.1 Backdropn

Each Backdrop setting specifies a backdrop image to be displayed on every page of the print report. This image is displayed before any text, hence the standard text from the

report will overstrike the image. A sequence of images can be specified by setting up Backdrop1, Backdrop2, etc., provided the index numbers are consecutive. Note that Backdrop1 is printed first, Backdrop2 is printed next and so on. For example:

Backdrop1=f:\myimages\watermarklogo.bmp Backdrop2=.\imagefiles\companylogo.bmp

In the second example above, the Backdrop2 folder name is relative to the current GX folder.

Note that either an absolute pathname or a relative pathname must be specified. A simple filename setting of the following form will not be recognised:

Backdrop1=watermarklogo.bmp

The following image files types are supported: BMP, JPEG and ICO.

3.2 Border

The Border setting controls the display of a single pixel border around the entire page.

The default setting is On.

3.3 PageNumber

The PageNumber setting controls the display of some page number information at the foot of each page.

The default setting is On.

3.4 FontName

The FontName setting specifies the font to be used to display the text in the print report. This setting must specify a TrueType font and, preferably, a fixed pitch font.

The default setting is Courier New.

3.5 FontPointSize

The FontPointSize setting specifies the font size to be used to display the text in the print report.

The default setting is 10.

3.6 Landscape

The Landscape setting specifies whether the report should be printed in landscape (On) or portrait (Off) mode.

The default setting is On.

3.7 LinesPerPage

The LinesPerPage setting specifies how many lines must be fitted onto the page. This effectively fixes the line height and characters are centred within the line height. A special value of 0 is used to indicate the line height is specified by the height of characters in the selected font.

The default setting is 66.

3.8 Margin

The Margin setting specifies the size of the border around the entire printed page.

The default setting is 32.

Note that if this value is reduced and the PageNumber setting is enabled there may be insufficient room to display the entire page number block at the foot of the page.

3.9 CentreJustify (GX V3.6a, or later)

The CentreJustify setting controls the position of text within the page.

The default setting is On.

3.10 Preview (GX V4.1g, or later)

This option can be used to suppress the show option that is normally executed after the nascent PDF file is closed. When this setting is disabled the report is printed, **to the default Windows printer**, instead of being displayed by the Adobe reader.

The default setting is On.

3.11 NoPrint (GX V4.2e, or later)

This option suppresses both the show and print options that are normally executed after the nascent PDF file is closed.

The default setting is Off.

The following table summarises the "Preview" and "NoPrint" options:

Preview	NoPrint	Comments
On (default)	Off (default)	The newly created PDF file is displayed by the Adobe Reader.
Off	Off (default)	The newly created PDF file is printed to the default Windows printer without being displayed.

Don't care	On	Suppress both the display
		and printing of the newly
		created PDF file.

3.10 Example settings

For an 80 column print of up to 66 lines per page use the following settings:

[520]
FontName=Courier New
FontPointSize=11
Landscape=Off
LinesPerPage=0
Border=On
PageNumber=On
Margin=32

For a 132 column print of up to 66 lines per page use the following settings:

[520]
FontName=Courier New
FontPointSize=10
Landscape=On
LinesPerPage=66
Border=On
PageNumber=On
Margin=32