

Horizon® Imager Image Concatenation

**Technical Brief
1.9.1 Software**

Overview

Image Concatenation is a software feature which reassembles a stitched image that has been broken into multiple smaller sized images for printing on standard film sizes. Image concatenation allows the stitched and reassembled image to be printed on a single sheet of Codonics long film, either 14" x 36" or 14" x 51". Without this feature, the set of multiple smaller films must be joined together manually by a technician. Concatenation works only with images sent using DICOM.

Image Concatenation is not the same as stitching. It does not de-skew, match sizes, or do any of the advanced features of stitching. Image concatenation is intended to work on images which have already been stitched.

Image Concatenation Setup and Use

Concatenation is invoked by setting up specific *Called AE Titles* on the host system and, optionally, on the Horizon. Only images sent to a concatenation AE Title will be concatenated; other images will be unaffected. The images must be sent in sequence; typically, this automatically happens on the host system. Concatenation assembles a maximum of nine images.

AE Title Specification

The form of the concatenating AE Title is **xIMGCATname**, where **x** is determined by the number of expected images, and **name** is a unique series of numbers and letters. Valid values for **x** are 2 through 9; **name** is a series of numbers and letters up to nine characters long which identifies the host system. If multiple hosts are being configured to send concatenated prints to one imager, each host must have a **unique** concatenation AE Title. Note that this uniqueness requirement applies only to concatenation AE Titles.

Examples:

AE Title	Meaning
2IMGCAT1	Expect two images from host system number 1.
3IMGCAT1	Expect three images from host system number 1.
3IMGCAT_CRFFLOOR3	Expect three images from the host system on the third floor.
3IMGCAT_CRFFLOOR4	Expect three images from the host system on the fourth floor.
2IMGCAT36	Expect two images from host 36.
2IMGCAT51	Expect two images from host 51 (Set the media size & type in the custom job setting menu in order to force printing to 51" film).

Media Selection

By default, 14" x 36" **DirectVista®** Film is used when two images are concatenated. If three or more images are concatenated, 14" x 51" **DirectVista** Film is used. The media size and type can be selected in the Horizon Control Panel's Custom Job Setting **Media...** menu. See the Horizon Imager Technical Manual for more information on creating and editing Custom Job Settings.

Crop Anchor and Scale Factor

Image Concatenation can only utilize three Crop Anchor settings, North (default), Northwest, and Northeast. The other six settings will be translated into the most logical of the available three.

- ◆ West or Southwest will translate to Northwest
- ◆ Center or South will translate to North
- ◆ East or Southeast will translate to Northeast

The DICOM setting of Decimate/Crop/Fail is ignored. Image Concatenation will always Crop if the images to be printed are larger than the available canvas.

Image Concatenation is a substitute for the Scale Factor mechanism, therefore any Scale Factor specified along with Image Concatenation is ignored.

Border Removal

Typically each 14" x 17" section includes a defined, single-color border on the top and bottom of the image. Image Concatenation will detect this border and remove it per the following:

- ◆ The bottom border is removed from the first image.
- ◆ The top border is removed from the last image.
- ◆ Both the top and bottom are removed from any middle image(s).

Removing or canceling jobs

Performing a **Purge Print Jobs** from the control panel will remove fully-concatenated jobs. If a user accidentally sends a print job to the incorrect concatenation AE Title – leaving a partially-filled concatenation – the job will automatically be removed after three minutes of no activity to that AE Title.

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