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An introduction to JDF

Profit? What profit?

- Customer demanding shorter turn round
- Profit margins down
- Too much wastage
- Jobs held up
 - for CSR to call customers
 - waiting for operators
- Re-keying information
 - in production & accounts

A fix for many

- Reduce need for staff intervention
 - increase duty time of expensive equipment
- Increase automation
 - under your control
 - migration path from existing equipment
- Improve communication with customers
 - no more guessing

JDF - the Job Definition Format

- A job ticket format for your whole workflow
- A standard
 - not a product
 - not proprietary
 - implementable by anyone - no license fee
- Built on XML
 - widely available tool sets
 - easy connectivity

Where does JDF come from?

- Developed & maintained by CIP4
 - International Cooperation for Integration of Processes in Prepress, Press and Postpress
- Published:
 - 1.0 April 2001
 - 1.1 April 2002
 - 1.1a September 2002



What does JDF cover?

- Now
 - eCommerce, pre-press, press, finishing, packaging
 - conventional & digital print
 - connections to MIS, etc.
- Planned
 - upstream as far as concept
 - downstream to delivery

What's in JDF?

- JDF includes:
 - everything in CIP3 PPF
 - everything in PJTF
- Extended MIS communications
 - management where it needs to be
 - every device talking to every MIS

What's in JDF?

- Product intent
 - for eCommerce, 'blind' exchange and pre-flight
- More controls for
 - digital printing, finishing ...

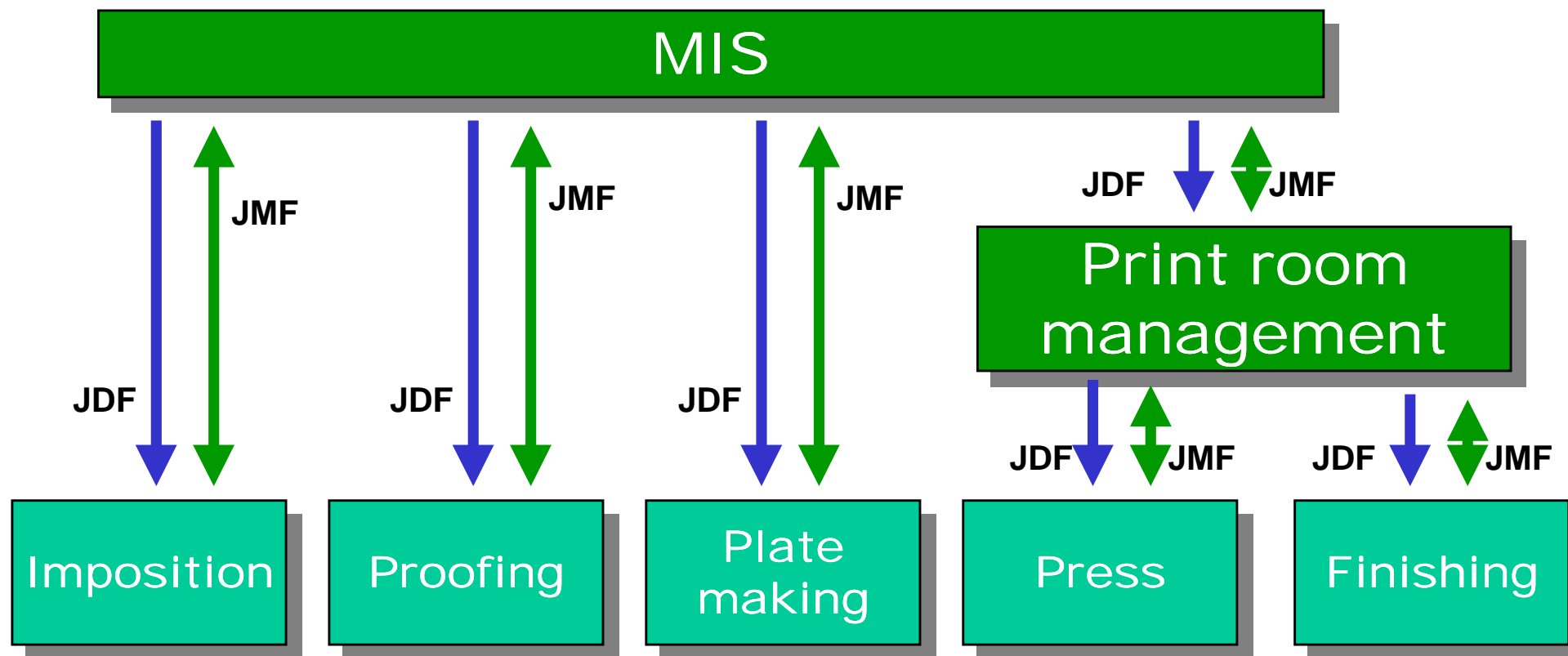
Current work in progress

- To be included in JDF 1.2
 - preflight
 - asset transfer
 - control of transmission of digital files
- Draft versions of both being validated in the field

JMF - Job Messaging Format

- Used to send immediate information
 - queries
 - status
 - progress
 - device capabilities

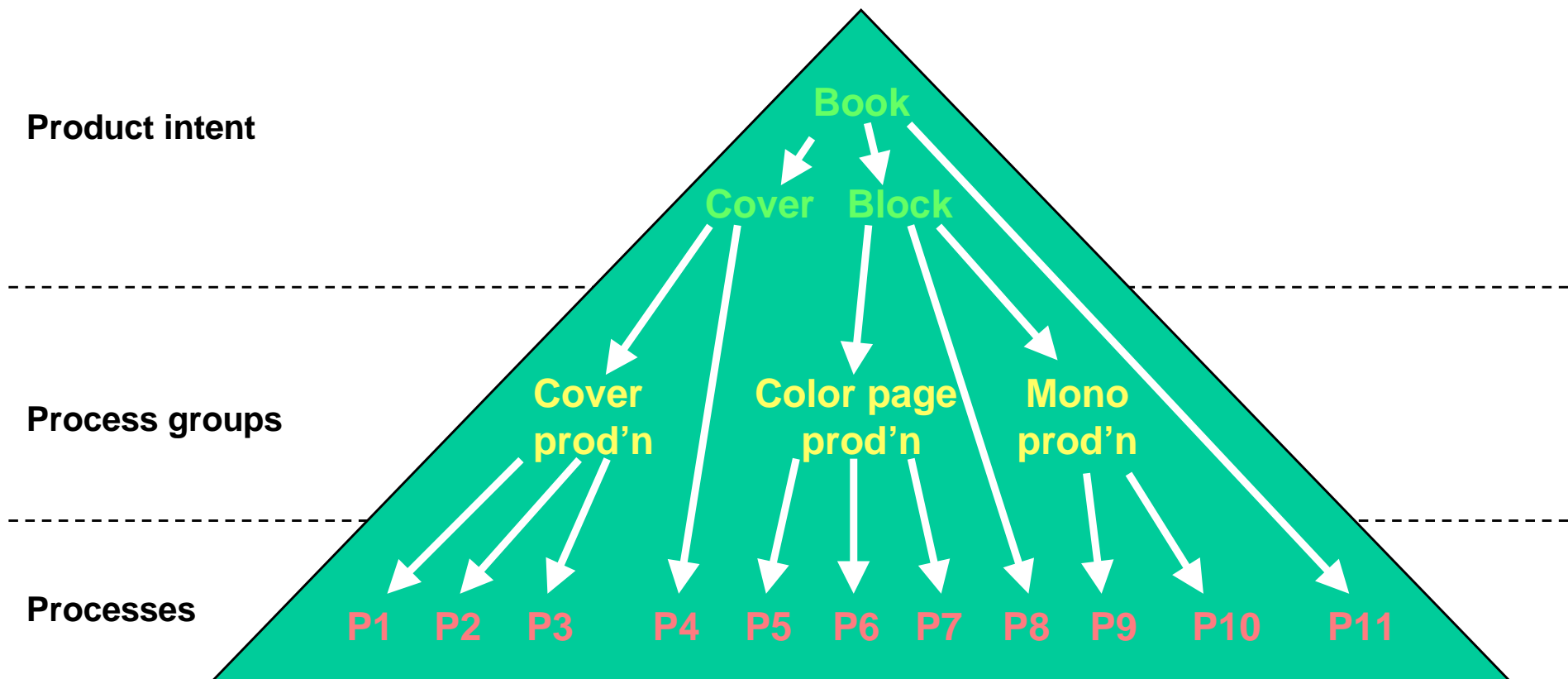
Conventional print architecture



What makes the JDF?

- Master/slave architecture
 - the MIS
 - based on decisions by planners/CSRs
 - includes information from eCommerce (if used)

How does a JDF file develop?



Enough theory - what can I buy?

- 22 JDF products at IPEX
 - Adobe, Agfa, Barco, Best, Fuji, HP, Optimus, PrintCafe, ScenicSoft, Screen, Xerox ...
- More at GraphExpo
- Many more in development

Is CIP4 doing anything else?

- Building bridges
 - IFRA
 - GCA (now IDEAlliance)
 - PODi
 - PrintTalk
 - ICC
 - CGATS SC6
 - UP3I
- Working closely with other bodies

I'm a vendor - help me!

- JDF schema
 - enables general XML tool sets
- Open source
 - parsing & editing JDF
 - free for use in
 - non-commercial products
 - commercial products from CIP4 members

How can I get involved?

- Join CIP4
 - keep up to date with developments
 - help define requirements
- Associate membership for pre-press, press, consultants, etc.
 - only \$150 per year!



A quick recap

- CIP4 - organization developing JDF
- JDF - job ticket format
- JMF - job messaging format

- CIP3 - precursor to CIP4, developed PPF
- PPF - file format used for ink key pre-setting, etc.

For more information

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