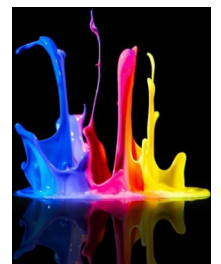# PDF is PERFECT!
Want to know why?

FILE SUBMISSION

THE PDF/X-4 FILE FORMAT

It is very easy to create PDF files that are completely useless in a print environment. The solution is to define a set of rules that forbid use of certain PDF functions that are irrelevant for printing purposes and to enforce others that improve its usefulness in print. This set of rules is called PDF/X, a series of well-defined subsets of the PDF standard that promise predictable and consistent PDF files.

What is a PDF/X-4 file?

• The use of transparency is allowed.

• All colour data can be grayscale, CMYK, named spot colours, RGB, Lab or ICC-profile based.

• Fonts will be embedded in the file.

• OPI is not allowed in PDF/X-4 files: all image data must be embedded.

• If there are annotations (sticky notes) in the PDF, they should be located outside bleed area.

• Only a limited number of compression algorithms are supported, JPEG 2000 being one of them.

• Encryption cannot be used.

• Separate flag (meaning a switch is either ON or OFF) that details whether the PDF/X-4 file has already been trapped or not.

• The MediaBox defines the size of entire document.

• The ArtBox or TrimBox defines the extent of printable area.