



DETROIT INDESIGN USER GROUP
MEMBER SNIPPETS

Join us November 8 at Schoolcraft College for our next information packed meeting. Kevin Donley from Grand River Printing & Imaging will show you how to make print-ready documents with Acrobat 8 and PDF/x.

You still have a chance to win InDesign CS3! The calendar/holiday card design challenge deadline has been extended to October 26.

We'd love to hear from you! Share your favorite resources, submit articles, book and DVD reviews, and upcoming events to dgniewek@schoolcraft.edu with "Detroit InDesign User Group Newsletter" in the subject line.

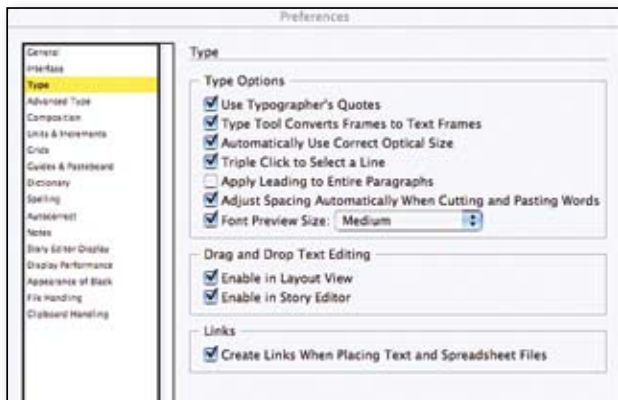
—Donna Gniewek, Chapter Representative

A NEW FEATURE FOR TABLES

—by Chita Hunter, Adobe InDesign Certified Expert

Importing tables and spreadsheet data now has a new dimension in InDesign. Previously, once a table or an Excel spreadsheet was imported into InDesign, any changes made to the data in the original file was grounds for a new import. Now, just as with a linked image, table and spreadsheet data can be updated with a click of the Update icon in the Links palette.

You'll have to remember to check a preference prior to placement of the file or you'll spend some time scratching your head, wondering why this new feature isn't working for you. The path to this setting is Edit>Preferences > Type > Links > Create Links When Placing Text and Spreadsheet Files.



Once set, an imported Excel spreadsheet is linked back to the original file. Any data changes made and saved to the original file will show in the InDesign document once the Update icon is selected in the Links palette. As with all modified linked files, an alert icon appears next to the file name in the Links palette if the original file has been modified. Just select the Update icon for the new changes to show in the InDesign document.

| | | | |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Employee: | | | |
| Lodging | | | |
| Phone/Fax | | | |
| Employee Meals | | | |
| Tips | | | |
| Other: | | | |
| Business Meals | | | |
| Entertainment | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | |
| Totals | \$37.00 | \$46.00 | \$44.00 |

Excel

| | | | |
|----------------|----------|----------|-----------------|
| Employee Exp: | | | |
| Lodging | \$134.00 | \$134.00 | |
| Phone/Fax | \$15.00 | \$15.00 | |
| Employee Meals | \$25.00 | \$15.00 | |
| Tips | \$10.00 | \$5.00 | |
| Other: | | | |
| Business Meals | \$40.00 | \$55.00 | |
| Entertainment | \$50.00 | \$30.00 | |
| Miscellaneous | \$56.00 | \$25.00 | |
| Totals | \$330.00 | \$316.00 | \$46.00 \$44.00 |

InDesign

This is a great plus. Not only can the data auto update because of this new feature, but any formatting changes made to the Excel spreadsheet update as well. So, if you decide to change the font, font style, cell color, line type, etc., in the original file, all of these attributes will update along with the data.

My experience with this feature found the Excel table to import and update perfectly. I performed one minor tweak to set the right indent of type in the cells because InDesign handles type so much more elegantly than Excel. And, at first glance, it looked like the cells double-line did not translate over into InDesign, but upon closer look, it did just fine.

ASK CHITA

Q: At the September 18 InDesign User Group meeting, after commenting on the new formatting features of tables in InDesign, and the new ability to update data of an imported Excel table, an attendee, Rick, asked:

"That's great that we can update the Excel data, but if we change the formatting of the Excel table can we update that as well?"
At that time I had not explored this feature, so I suggested that Rick send me an email, and I'd respond to his question. Well, I never got the email from Rick, but I remembered his question. ☺

A: Read the feature article "A New Feature for Tables" for my response to Rick's question. What I did find while exploring my way around, is that you may see subtle differences in how the table text looks in InDesign versus Excel because InDesign handles text better than any other application available today.

HTH
Chunter

For answers to your InDesign questions, email: askchunterid@mac.com. Chita Hunter is a Software Trainer and Presenter on Adobe products, and is an Adobe Certified Expert in InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator and InCopy.

RESOURCE CORNER

Time to explore the Adobe Web site:

www.adobe.com/designcenter/

Pick the product you would like more information about. The InDesign Design Center includes CS3 workflow guides, free video workshops, Quark to InDesign CS3 Conversion guide and InDesign tutorials.

www.adobe.com/products/creativesuite/design/

Lots of information/links at the bottom of the page to tutorials, articles, top support issues, resources, events and downloads. Remember to choose the desired product. And the Flash version is more interactive.

MEMBER REVIEWS

Adobe InDesign CS3 HOW-TOs— 100 Essential Techniques

Authors: John Cruise and Kelly Kordes Anton

Publisher: Adobe Press

ISBN: 0321508955

The *Adobe InDesign CS3 HOW-TOs—100 Essential Techniques* book is written in a concise and easy to understand format. Topics are logically grouped into chapters with visuals supporting the text where needed, especially for the more complex functions of the software. Lots of basic information is presented and well as tips and terminology in sidebars on many pages. This is not a book that covers any topic in depth if that is what you were looking for.

I would recommend this book to any new InDesign CS3 user and anyone who currently is upgrading their software version and wants to get up to speed fast. The book covers Adobe InDesign CS3 for both the Windows and Macintosh systems.

—*Donna Gniewek, InDesign User Group Member, Detroit*

Chuck Green's Ideabook

www.ideabook.com

Tutorials, links and an enewsletter option.

Pantone

www.pantone.com

Lots of color information under the Color Think Tank including the latest color trends. Become a member of MyPantone for even more tips and techniques.

www.pantone.com/pages/ptv/ptv_main.aspx

Mini documentaries, tips from leaders in the creative industries and instructional videos on how to get the most out of your Pantone products.

Group Member Discounts:

Adobe Press

Save 30% on all Adobe Press titles, and receive free ground shipping in the continental United States.

www.adobe.com/adobebooks

Peachpit Press

Save 30% on Peachpit Press titles.

www.peachpit.com/indesignusers

O'Reilly

Save 30% on O'Reilly, No Starch, Paraglyph, Pragmatic Bookshelf, SitePoint, and Syngress books purchased directly from O'Reilly. Members are also entitled to a discount on O'Reilly conferences and tutorials. Order online at www.oreilly.com or by calling 800-998-9938. Members should use discount code DSUG.

Total Training

Save 20% when you purchase any Total Training video series. Call 800-547-0138 or go online at www.totaltraining.com to redeem. Enter offer code save20ugall.



UPCOMING EVENTS

“Let’s Talk Paper”

October 16, 2007; 2 p.m.

Free Webinar

Margie Dana moderates this discussion with paper expert and PaperSpecs president Sabine Lenz. Learn about uncoated papers in the first of a 3-part series. Sponsored by Neenah Paper, the free webinar will enlighten buyers and designers alike.

Register at www.paperspecs.com/webinar/101.htm

Color Management in Print & Internet Workflows

October 16, 2007, 2 p.m.

Free Educational Webcast/2007 series

Additional upcoming webcasts and previous ones available on demand.

www.dynamicgraphics.com

Detroit InDesign User Group Meeting

November 8, 2007; 6:30–9:15 p.m.

Schoolcraft College

Livonia, MI

Topic: Acrobat 8 and PDF/x

www.indesignusergroup.com/chapters/detroit/

Michigan’s Full on Flash Fest

November 10, 2007; 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Schoolcraft College

Livonia, MI

A Michigan Flash community building event!

Early registration price \$25; students \$12. All tickets will be \$30 at the door on the day of the event. Includes lunch.

www.miflashfest.org/

***The InDesign Conference/The Pixel Conference/
The Vector Conference***

February 26–March 1, 2008

Miami, FL

www.barrycon.com/conference.php

***CS3: The Creative License eSeminar Series
for Print Professionals***

Online events presented by Adobe; noon–1:30 p.m.

www.adobe.com

Cross Media Publishing with Adobe Products

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Transparency

Thursday, October 25, 2007

3D Graphics for Packaging and Structural Design

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Adobe PDF Print Engine

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Adobe Acrobat 8 Preflight and Fixups

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Quark to InDesign

Thursday, November 29, 2007

AIGA Third Thursdays

Join us for the monthly AIGA meet and greet.

For dates and location, go to www.detroit.aiga.org.

If you are hosting an event in the area, or know of something happening that is relevant to Detroit graphic designers, please send your information to programming@detroit.aiga.org, and we will pass it along in our monthly missive to our membership.



Michael Jakab - Agency Collective Lecture

Tuesday, October 16, 2007; 6–8 p.m.

Eastern Michigan University

Halle Library Auditorium

Ypsilanti, MI

Free

www.detroit.aiga.org/events/373/

LUST: Lecture + Presentation

Wednesday, October 24, 2007; 7–9 p.m.

College for Creative Studies

Wendell W. Anderson Auditorium

Detroit, MI

Free

www.detroit.aiga.org/events/375/