

Vector Graphics Art Files - Conversion

Required for most printing processes

There are mainly two types of computer graphics: **RASTOR** and **VECTOR**. This determines how the image will be rendered, either in pixels (rastorized) or points, curves, lines and shapes (vectorized). The image's file type can sometimes be an indicator of which graphics format is used, but not always.

WHY DO WE NEED A VECTOR IMAGE?

Rastor images, made up of many small pixels, when enlarging and reproducing will become distorted, blurry, or "pixelated". Because vector images utilize mathematical coordinates (vectors) to "map" an image, it can be enlarged and reproduced to any size without distortion.

Many graphics applications can generate either rastor or vector images, so an image file could be a **COMPOUND** image, having a mixture of formats. The 'SVG' file type is always vector format only.

Always Vector Graphics File Extensions

.svg -Scalable Vector Graphics	.svgz -XML Compressed SVG
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Common Compound Graphics File Extensions

(there are many, but these are the most common)

.eps -Encapsulated PostScript	.ai -Adobe Illustrator
.pdf -Vectorized PDF	.cdr -Corel Draw

Screen printing and thermal heat transfer printing vendors typically will ask for an 'EPS' file. Most will also accept 'PDF' if it is in vector format.

A file that we think is vector should be checked to see if it is usable.

A print-ready file must be:

1. 100% vector graphics
2. Solid elements (all elements for print must be separate solid elements for each color required).
3. If it is multicolor, then the colors must be separated.
4. Preferably .eps or .pdf

Checking a file for usability:

Send the image to Safety Smart Gear for an evaluation.

Email to: LOGO@safetysmartgear.com

Converting Your Image To Vector

Safety Smart Gear will be happy to convert your artwork to vector format for a nominal fee.

(Note: For NASCO orders only -- NASCO will accept non-vector art)

If the image has any additional issues, such as design changes, complexity or color problems, a cost estimate will be returned for making the artwork ready for print.