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Installation and System Requirements

Installation

LinkOptimizer Installer will place all required files into the following folder:

Adobe InDesign C.../Plug-Ins/Zevrix

System Requirements

Adobe InDesign CS5 and later

macOS 10.8 or later

For the most up-to-date info, please visit http://zevrix.com/LinkOptimizer.php

Launching and Running LinkOptimizer

Select the Zevrix->LinkOptimizer menu.

To assign a keyboard shortcut to the LinkOptimizer menu:

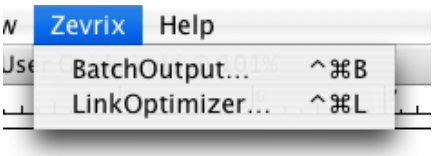
Go to Edit->Keyboard Shortcuts->Work Area->Scripts, locate the LinkOptimizer menu and assign a shortcut.

LinkOptimizer is a standalone application. You can also launch it like any other application from the Finder or Dock.

Running LinkOptimizer

LinkOptimizer is a *plug-in application* - a more advanced type of plug-in. It provides a true integration of an InDesign plug-in combined with versatility of a separate application. When you launch LinkOptimizer, its icon appears in the Dock, and the software behaves like a standalone application.

IMPORTANT:
When LinkOptimizer is running, your computer should not be used for any other activity. If you attempt to use another program, or hide Photoshop or InDesign, it may cause LinkOptimizer to stop with an error during processing.



InDesign menus with shortcuts assigned



STEP-BY-STEP USAGE INSTRUCTIONS

1

Launch LinkOptimizer

Choose the Zevrix > LinkOptimizer menu.

You can also launch LinkOptimizer like any other application from the Finder or Dock.

2

Choose InDesign document(s)

You can have LinkOptimizer always process the active InDesign document, or choose to batch-process multiple files.

3

Adjust Settings

...or just select the desired preset.

4

Analyze Document

Click the “Analyze Document” button.

LinkOptimizer will go through the links of InDesign documents in its queue to determine which ones require to be optimized.

5

Process

Click the “Process” button.

LinkOptimizer will start copying your original images, if required by the Backup and Relinking Settings.

LinkOptimizer will then automatically open each image in Photoshop and perform the required operations, such as resizing, cropping, adjusting the image resolution, sharpen, changing image format etc.

LinkOptimizer then will reimport the image into the InDesign document (if required) and update the link.

LinkOptimizer processes an image in Photoshop, reimports it into InDesign document, and then moves to another image. It ensures that even in the case of an unexpected event, such as a Photoshop crash, your images will remain properly positioned in the document – whether after being processed by LinkOptimizer or in their original position.

When the processing of all the links is finished, the results will be displayed in the Links window.

IMPORTANT:
When LinkOptimizer is running, your computer should not be used for any other activity. If you attempt to use another program, or hide Photoshop or InDesign, it may cause LinkOptimizer to stop with an error during processing.

Choosing InDesign Files To Process

Process active InDesign document only

When this option is selected, LinkOptimizer will automatically keep the active InDesign document on the list and process only this document. Batch processing is disabled and you can't add other documents to the list.

Uncheck this option to enable batch processing.

Batch processing

To enable batch processing, make sure to uncheck the "active document only" option (see above).

You can add InDesign documents to LinkOptimizer's list in the following ways:

 From LinkOptimizer

 From the standard system navigation dialog
Note: InDesign books (.indb) can also be added

 The current front document in InDesign

 All documents open in InDesign

 From the Finder

-Drag-and-drop the selected files on the LinkOptimizer file list or its icon in the Dock

-Control/Right-click the selected InDesign files in the Finder and choose Open With > LinkOptimizer contextual menu

Note: InDesign books (.indb) can also be added

 **Remove selected files from the list**

Remove the selected files from the list. You can use the Shift or Command keys to select multiple files.

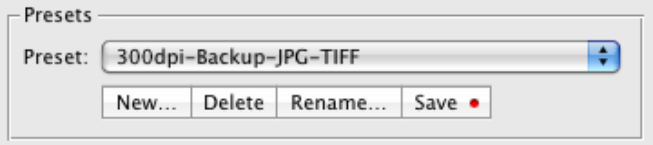


Remove all files from the list.

NOTE:
To replace the list of existing files instead of adding new files to the list,.hold the Option key when performing any of the operations to add InDesign files.

SETTINGS

PRESETS



You can save current settings into presets.

Click New to create a new preset based on current settings.

When you modify the selected preset settings, the Save button becomes enabled and the red dot appears. Click the button or press ⌘-S to save the changes. If you don't save the changes, they'll be dismissed when you choose another preset or quit LinkOptimizer.

Export/Import Presets

Use the action (cogwheel) menu to export presets or import previously exported presets.

OPTIMIZE RESOLUTION

Target Effective Resolution

The desired effective resolution for images in the document.

The difference between the image effective resolution and the target has to be at least 10 dpi for the image to be considered for optimizing.

For example, if target resolution is 300 dpi, LinkOptimizer will consider images with effective resolution of 310 dpi and higher and ignore lower resolutions for downsampling.

Scale images and change resolution to target

Under these settings, LinkOptimizer will:
-Scale and crop images in Photoshop
-Change resolution to target
-Reimport image to InDesign at 100%

This options provides the best optimization, but is only suitable for a single document (see example below):

Before LinkOptimizer

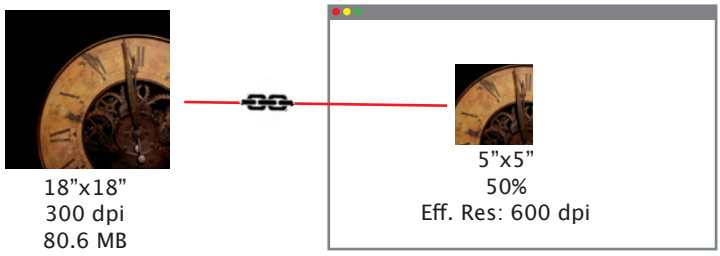


Image was placed in InDesign, scaled down by 50% and cropped.

After LinkOptimizer

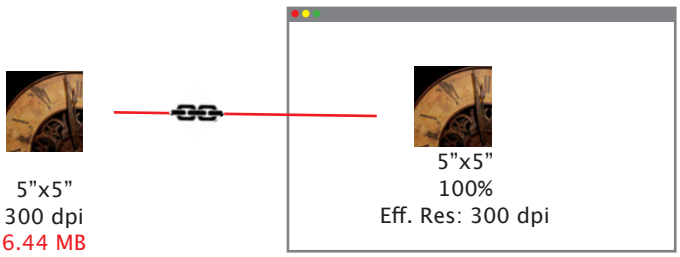


Image was scaled and cropped in Photoshop to match its dimensions in InDesign, while maintaining the resolution of 300 dpi.

It was then reimported to InDesign at 100% and placed into exact same position.

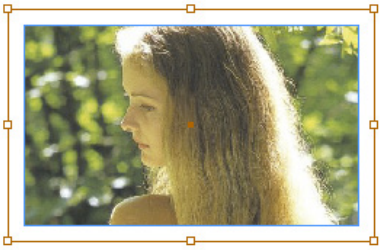
The image size reduced from 80.6 MB to 6.44 MB

Crop images to InDesign dimensions

Check to crop images in Photoshop.

Safety bleed

Specify the amount of image bleed you'd like to preserve outside of image frame in InDesign (see image on the right). You can choose to specify the bleed in points, inches or millimeters.



A safety bleed example

Change only resolution to meet target in InDesign

Under these settings, LinkOptimizer will not scale or crop images, but only change their resolution.

Choose this option to optimize multiple documents of similar design at once by optimizing one of them. The dimensions of original images won't change and images will update properly across the documents. Once images are updated, their effective resolution will match the target resolution.

Example:

A catalog produced in multiple copies for various "zones". Copy is different across the documents – for example, prices or language, – but images are the same. Optimizing one of the InDesign documents will optimize all the rest of them once the images are updated (see example below).

Note: LinkOptimizer will only update links in the processed InDesign document. Images in other documents must be updated manually.

Before LinkOptimizer

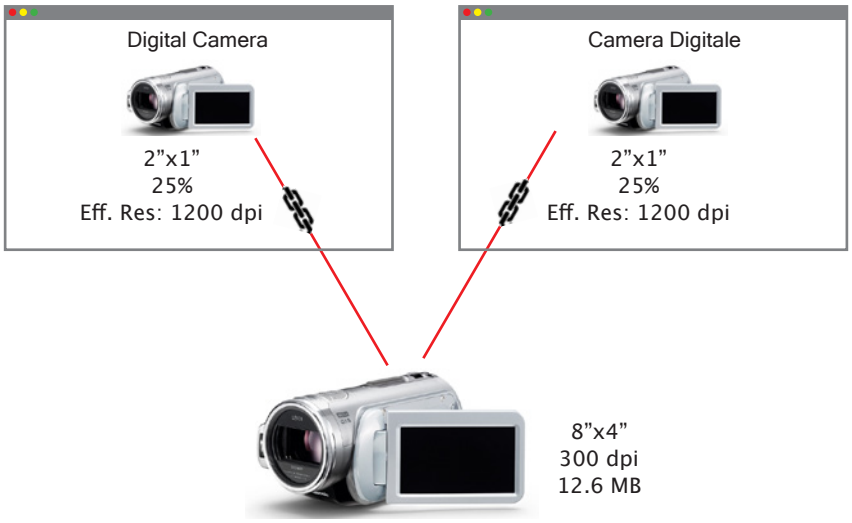


Image is linked to two documents of similar design but different languages. It often happens that the image position is not exactly the same in both documents.

Using the "Change only resolution..." option, we can optimize one document and make the image update properly in another one.

After LinkOptimizer

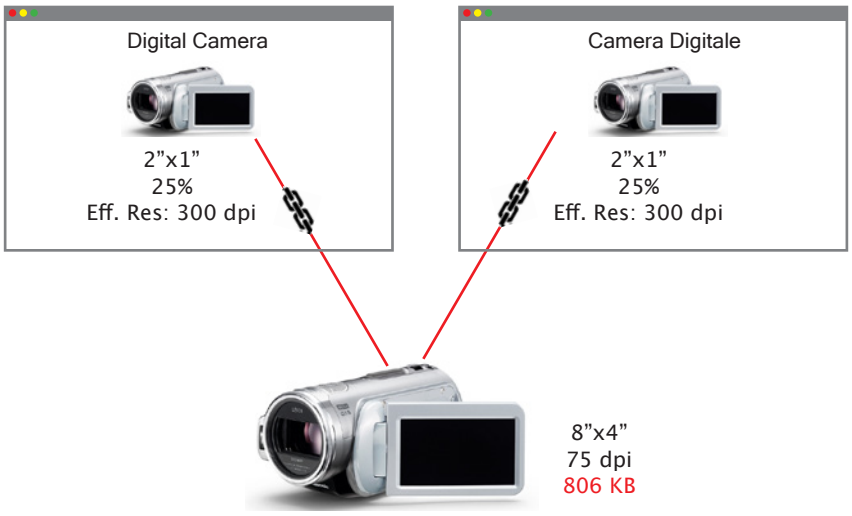


Image resolution was reduced from 300 to 75 dpi, but its dimensions didn't change so it updates properly in all documents it's linked to.

Its effective resolution after scaling by 25% is 300 dpi.

The image size reduced from 12.6 MB to 806 KB.

Resampling

Allow upsampling

Optimize links whose effective resolution is lower than the target. It may result in increased image resolution and size.

Resampling Method

Choose Photoshop resampling method for downsampling and upsampling.

Bicubic: best for smooth gradients.

Bicubic Sharper: best for reduction.

Bicubic Smoother: best for enlargement.

Please refer to Photoshop documentation for more info on resampling methods.

EDIT IMAGES

Process all images regardless of resolution settings

All links in the document will be edited as required by the settings even if their resolution/size should not be optimized.

Convert color

The colors will be converted in Photoshop using the Image > Mode command, unless you check “Convert to profile” (see below). The option “Convert RGB and CMYK to Profile” will convert all RGB and CMYK images to the selected color profile (below).

Convert to profile

The image will be converted in Photoshop to the selected ICC profile using the Convert to Profile command.

NOTE: In this case, the “Convert color” pop-up menu only defines which images to convert. The target conversion is defined by the selected profile. For example, if “RGB to CMYK” is selected, all RGB images will be converted to the selected profile regardless of its color space. If “All to Grayscale” is selected, all images will be converted to the selected profile.

For the detailed info on the conversion settings, please refer to Photoshop documentation.

Apply Sharpening

Apply Sharpening filters in Photoshop.

Merge layers

You must check this option if you have images that use Layer Styles (such as Drop Shadow, Outer Glow etc). If you leave layers unmerged in such images, the layer styles will not be scaled properly by Photoshop.

Merge visible

Check this option to merge all visible layer of the image into one layer.

NOTE: If you have images with only one layer, this option will not take effect and the layer styles will not be scaled properly. For single layer images with layer styles, you need to create an extra empty layer before processing with LinkOptimizer so the Photoshop’s Merge Visible command can be executed.

Flatten image

Check this option to flatten images.

Delete hidden layers

Hidden layers will be deleted.

NOTE: Not all hidden layers will be deleted if there are conditions that normally prevent Photoshop from deleting layers.

CONVERT IMAGES

Process all images regardless of resolution settings

All links in the document will be converted as required by the settings even if their resolution/size should not be optimized.

Convert from... to...

Select which image formats you’d like to convert. The images will be saved using the Conversion Settings (see below).

NOTE:
You can resave images into the same format, for example convert TIFF into TIFF. This may be required if you run certain actions in Photoshop to avoid the Options dialog on saving. Or if you want to resave all TIFFs with LZW compression etc.

Resave all JPEGs in Photoshop

All JPEG images will be resaved from Photoshop using the current Conversion Settings (see below). Otherwise, Photoshop may present the Save As dialog for JPEGs that have never been saved from Photoshop before, such as images that came directly from digital camera.

Conversion Settings

Specify Photoshop settings for saving images as TIFF, Photoshop EPS and JPEG. For the detailed settings info, please refer to Photoshop documentation.

NOTE: If you convert images to Photoshop PDF, the effective resolution of the resulting PDF files will not be reported by LinkOptimizer after processing. That's because InDesign doesn't report the resolution of PDF files regardless of their contents.

BACKUP AND RELINKING

Relink optimized images in InDesign

Optimized images will be relinked to InDesign document.

Overwrite original images

Original images will be optimized and overwritten. You have the option to back up the originals before processing.

Back up original images before processing

Check this button to back up the images before processing. LinkOptimizer will automatically copy original images to the selected folder (see below) while displaying detailed information about the backup process.
Note: Only images selected for optimizing will be copied.

If this option is unchecked, LinkOptimizer will overwrite original images during processing without backing them up first and will warn you before the processing starts.

Copy images to folder

Choose Folder...

Select the folder where LinkOptimizer will back up the original images.

Ask before processing

LinkOptimizer will prompt for the folder location every time you click the Process button.

Folder in document's folder

Compose the desired folder name. The folder will be automatically created in the InDesign document's folder.



You can delete tokens and drag them inside the field. To add custom text, just type it anywhere in the field. To add tokens, use the menu on the right side of the field.

Leave original images untouched

Copies of original images will be optimized and relinked to the InDesign document. Original images will be left intact.

Duplicate original InDesign document

Compose the name of the duplicate document. LinkOptimizer will automatically create the duplicate document with the new name. This document will be processed leaving the original untouched.

Note: If you process an InDesign book, the duplicate documents will not form a new book after processing. You'll need to combine them into a new book manually. This process will be automated in a future update.

Save optimized images to folder

Select location for optimized images. For control descriptions, see **Copy images to folder** above.

Optimize images for external use only

Images will be copied to another folder and optimized without being relinked to InDesign document. InDesign document and original images will remain intact. You can use this option to repurpose the images for Web or other projects.

Copy images to folder

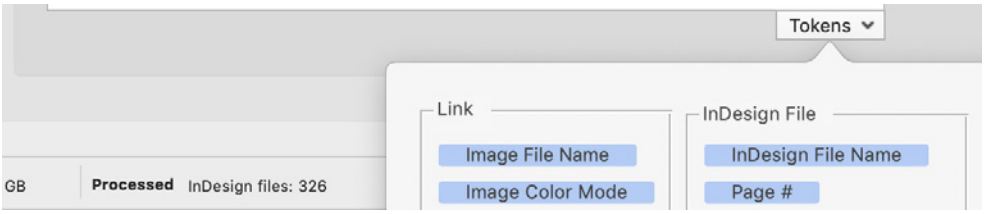
Select location for optimized images. For control descriptions, see **Copy images to folder** above.

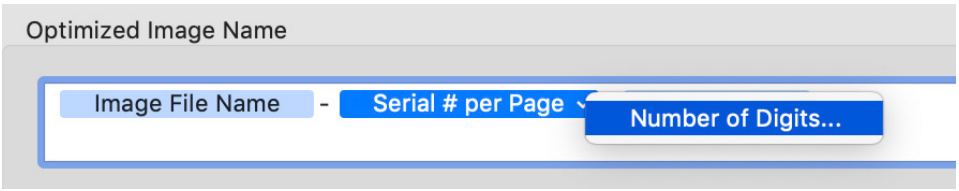
Optimized/Backup Image Name

Compose the variable name of optimized (or backup) images.

To add custom text, just type it anywhere in the field. To add tokens, use the menu on the right side of the field. Tokens behave like single characters in the field: you can select, delete, and copy/paste them.

Some token have additional options available once you drag them into the name field. You can access them via a popup menu that appears in the token. For example, “Serial # per Page” and “Random Number” tokens have an option to specify the number of digits of the values they represent.





ADVANCED

Process images placed multiple times

If an image placed in your document multiple times, it will be duplicated in the Finder as many times as required. Each instance of the image in the document that requires to be processed will be relinked to a separate copy of the image.

The name of each duplicate will be appended with the “_LOcopy<#>” string. The original image will always remain intact in the Finder. It ensures that every instance of the image that doesn’t require processing, will always remain linked to the original image.

Note: If you process **multiple InDesign documents** with the option to **Overwrite original images**, LinkOptimizer considers duplicate links across all documents in the batch (because their originals will be overwritten thus affecting all InDesign documents). In all other situations, duplicate links are considered per each InDesign document only.

Run Photoshop Action before saving image

LinkOptimizer will run the specified action before saving each image. You can choose to run the action before or after processing of the image by LinkOptimizer.

You need to enter the Action Set Name and Action Name exactly as they appear in the Photoshop Actions palette.

Layers

Choose to process or ignore specific layers in InDesign document.

LINKS

Analyzing Links

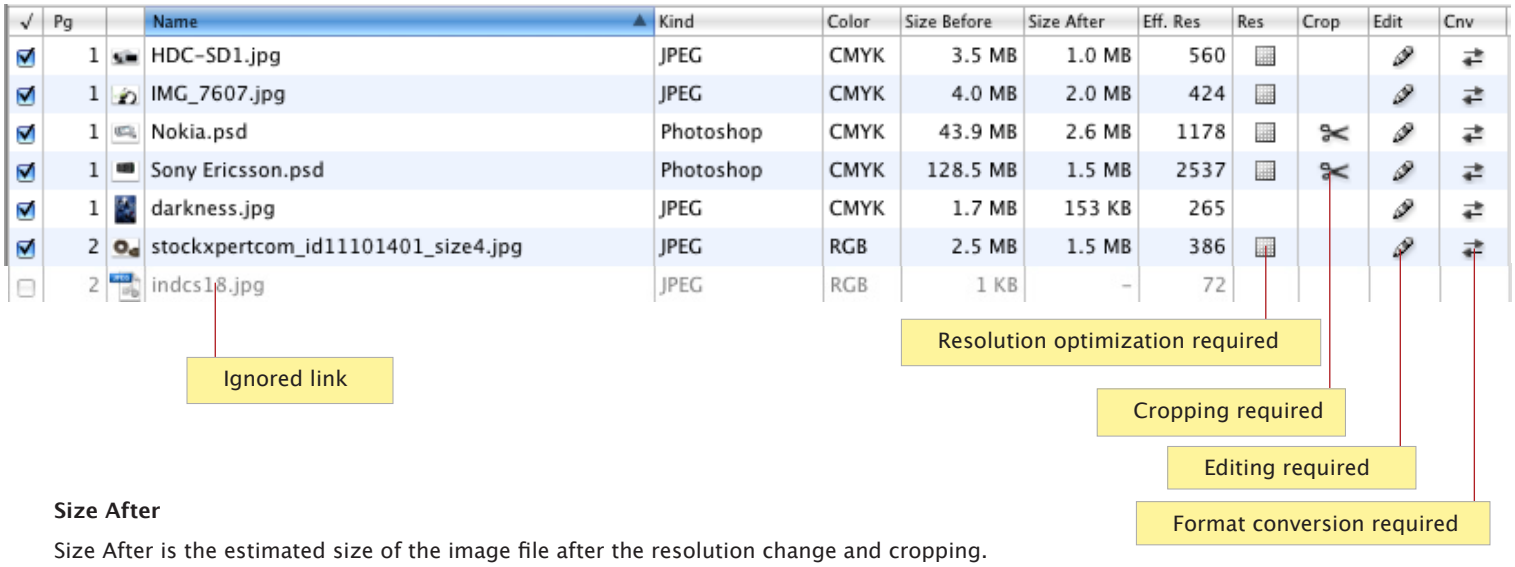
Once you click the "Analyze Links" button, LinkOptimizer goes through all the links of the front document to determine which ones require to be optimized.

LinkOptimizer will always analyze the links of the front document currently open in InDesign.

Results of the analyzing will be displayed in the LinkOptimizer window. Uncheck the ☑ button if you don't want to process the link.

You can check/uncheck multiple links: select multiple links and click the Check [√] button. To select all links, press Cmd-A.

IMPORTANT:
If you modify your document after it has already been analyzed, you must analyze it again to avoid improper processing of links.



Size After

Size After is the estimated size of the image file after the resolution change and cropping. This number doesn't take any editing and conversion settings into account because it's often impossible to predict how they will affect the file size.

NOTE:
Rotated and flipped images will not be cropped. They also will not be rotated or flipped in Photoshop.

NOTE:
Image previews are not supported in InDesign CS/CS2.

LinkOptimizer ignores the following links:

-EPS files produced by a vector drawing or layout program

-PDF, PICT and some other formats normally not intended for optimizing

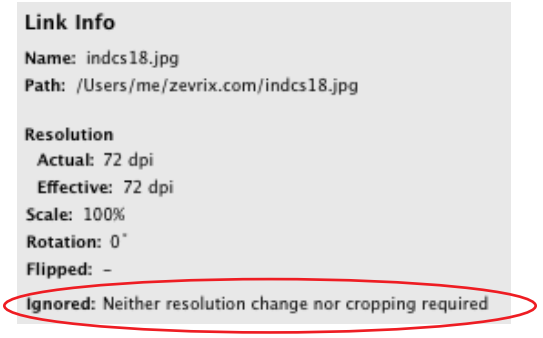
-Modified, missing and embedded links

-Images with certain types of text wrap and clipping paths applied

-Any image whose resolution InDesign doesn't report for some reason (it can happen, for example, to some raster EPS files originated on PC). Such images are not listed in the Links table.

-Skewed images will not be optimized for size and resolution

-Flipped images in InDesign CS/CS2.



Select link to view its attributes, including the reason why it's ignored

[1]On some international non-English systems, it can occur that LinkOptimizer will not recognize monochrome images and they will be marked for processing along with the grayscale and color images. If you encounter this issue, please report it to support@zevrix.com. This issue has been fixed for the German and French systems.

HISTORY / LOGS

History

LinkOptimizer logs all processing into History. Click the History button to view logs for each processed file.

All the logs are stored in this folder:

~/Library/Application Support/Zevrix/LinkOptimizer/History

Jun 13, 2009 06:27:42 AM		0706iphone_main_LOcopy1.tif	Applying Unsharp Mask
Jun 13, 2009 06:27:42 AM		0706iphone_main_LOcopy1.tif	Closing and saving
Jun 13, 2009 06:27:42 AM	⊗	0706iphone_main_LOcopy1.tif	Saving an image failed. This error is caused by Photoshop and/or system issues. Possible solutions: relaunch Photoshop/InDesign, move images to another location or restart the computer. Error: General Photoshop error occurred. This functionality may not be available in this version of Photoshop. - Could not save ‚Äú0706iphone_main_LOcopy1.tif‚Äù because the file is locked. Use the ‚ÄòGet Info‚Äô comman
Jun 13, 2009 06:27:42 AM		0706iphone_main_LOcopy1.tif	Done with error image
Jun 13, 2009 06:27:42 AM		0706iphone_main_LOcopy2.tif	Starting Photoshop processing
Jun 13, 2009 06:27:43 AM		0706iphone_main_LOcopy2.tif	Applying Unsharp Mask

Support

All licensed users of Zevrix Solutions products, as well as the ones who run it as a trial, are entitled to free technical support by e-mail. Technical support inquiries answered within one business day.

With any support inquiries, questions and suggestions, please send e-mail to **support@zevrix.com**.

www.zevrix.com

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