



*freeColour registered non-profit association*

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## **FreeColour – the political dimension**

- hundreds of proprietary colour systems for many branches (printing, architecture, textile, self-adhesives,...)
- colour trademarks (e.g. Nivea, Milka, UPS,...)
- copyright protection

## Licence Conditions Pantone

*„Written permission from PANTONE Inc.'s Licensing and Trademark Department is required prior to reproduction or digital display of a PANTONE Color with trademark and/or copyright identification ...”*

*(...)*

*“... any cross-referencing, in whole or in part, to any PANTONE Color system, including, but not limited to, the PANTONE numbers and PANTONE Colors, by third parties, may be a violation of PANTONE, Inc.'s proprietary rights and is strictly prohibited.”*

*(all Pantone fandecks)*

## License Conditions RAL

*„...The colour collection RAL CLASSIC and the remaining products are protected by copyright.“*

*„For the protection of its intellectual property RAL gGmbH is obliged to legally pursue and prevent all unauthorized use. The infringement of industrial property rights and copyrights (...) results in civil law consequences but also constitutes a criminal offence.“*

*(RAL-K7)*

## **FreeColour – the Chance**

Mathematical colour systems (RGB/HEX, HSB, CMYK, Lab, HLC) are copyright free

→ No licensing (e.g. in software), free distribution

Mathematical colour systems are fully calculable

→ Harmonies, intermediate colours

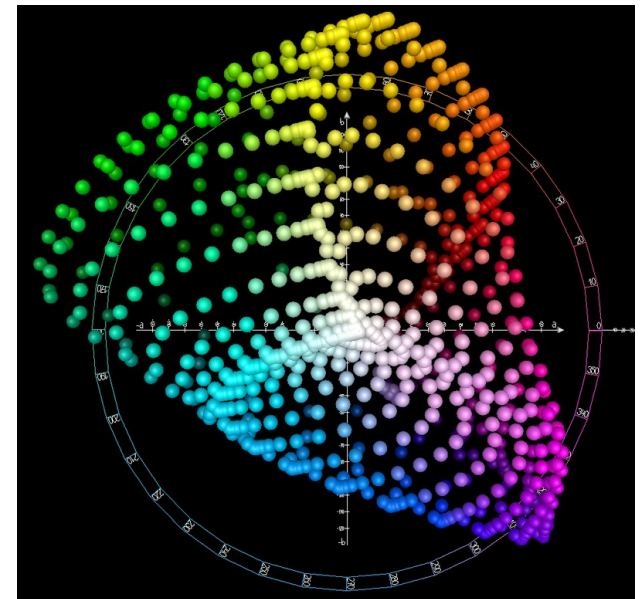
→ Comparison with other systems or models is easily possible

Mathematical colour systems are available on every computer!

(ICC colour management is integrated in Win/Mac/Linux/...)

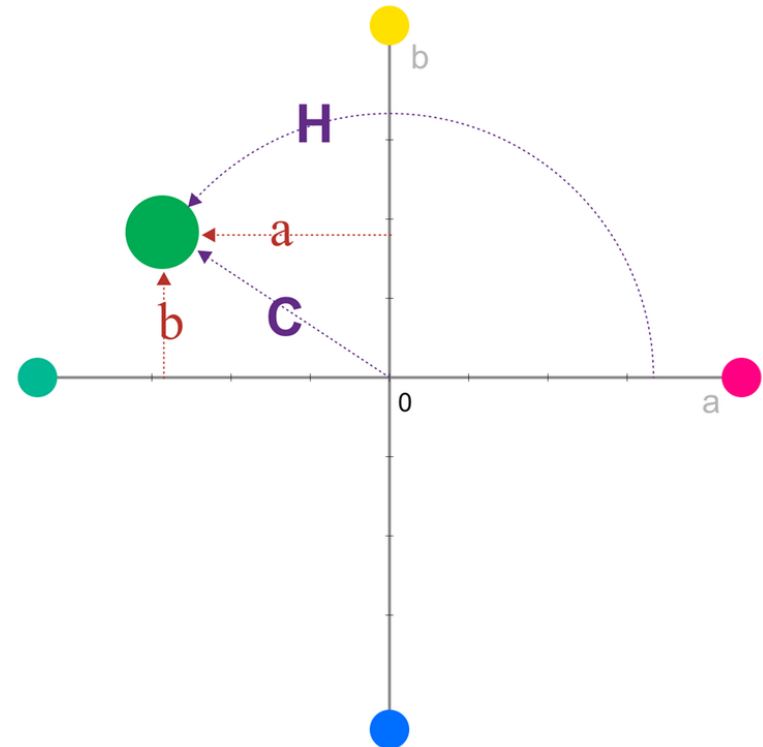
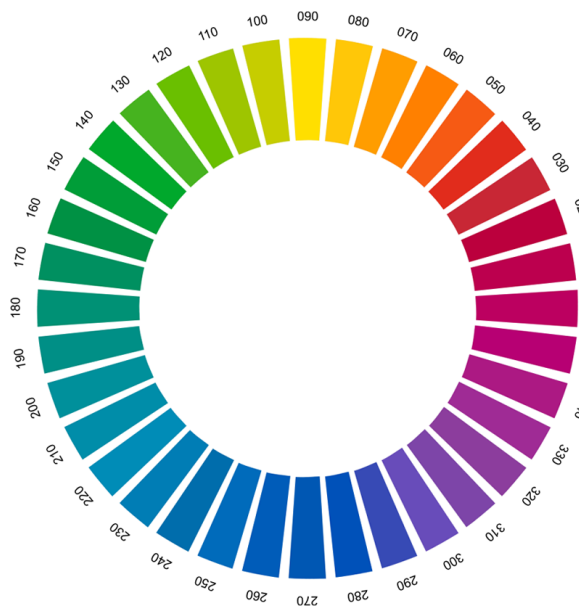
## The CIELAB 1976 colour model

- + Fully calculable
- + Full Gamut, every possible colour
- + Perceptive
- + Standard in colour measurement
- + Included in many softwares
- Lab values are not easy to understand



## We prefer CIE-HLC (LCh) coordinates

transformation of Lab into their polar coordinates  
easy to understand as Hue (base colour), Lightness, Chroma  
(Saturation)



# HLC Color Specification



**L**

**H 60**

90

85

75

65

55

45

35

25

15

**C**

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130

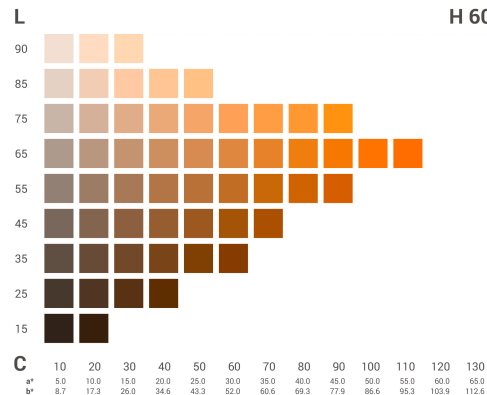
a*	5.0	10.0	15.0	20.0	25.0	30.0	35.0	40.0	45.0	50.0	55.0	60.0	65.0
b*	8.7	17.3	26.0	34.6	43.3	52.0	60.6	69.3	77.9	86.6	95.3	103.9	112.6



## Who we are

- non-profit association, founded 2016 in Oldenburg/Germany
- approx. 50 members,
- Swiss and German colour professionals,
- Some specialized global acting Commercial Color Companies
- The Scribus Project
- purpose according to statutes: „Promotion of open and free colour communication“

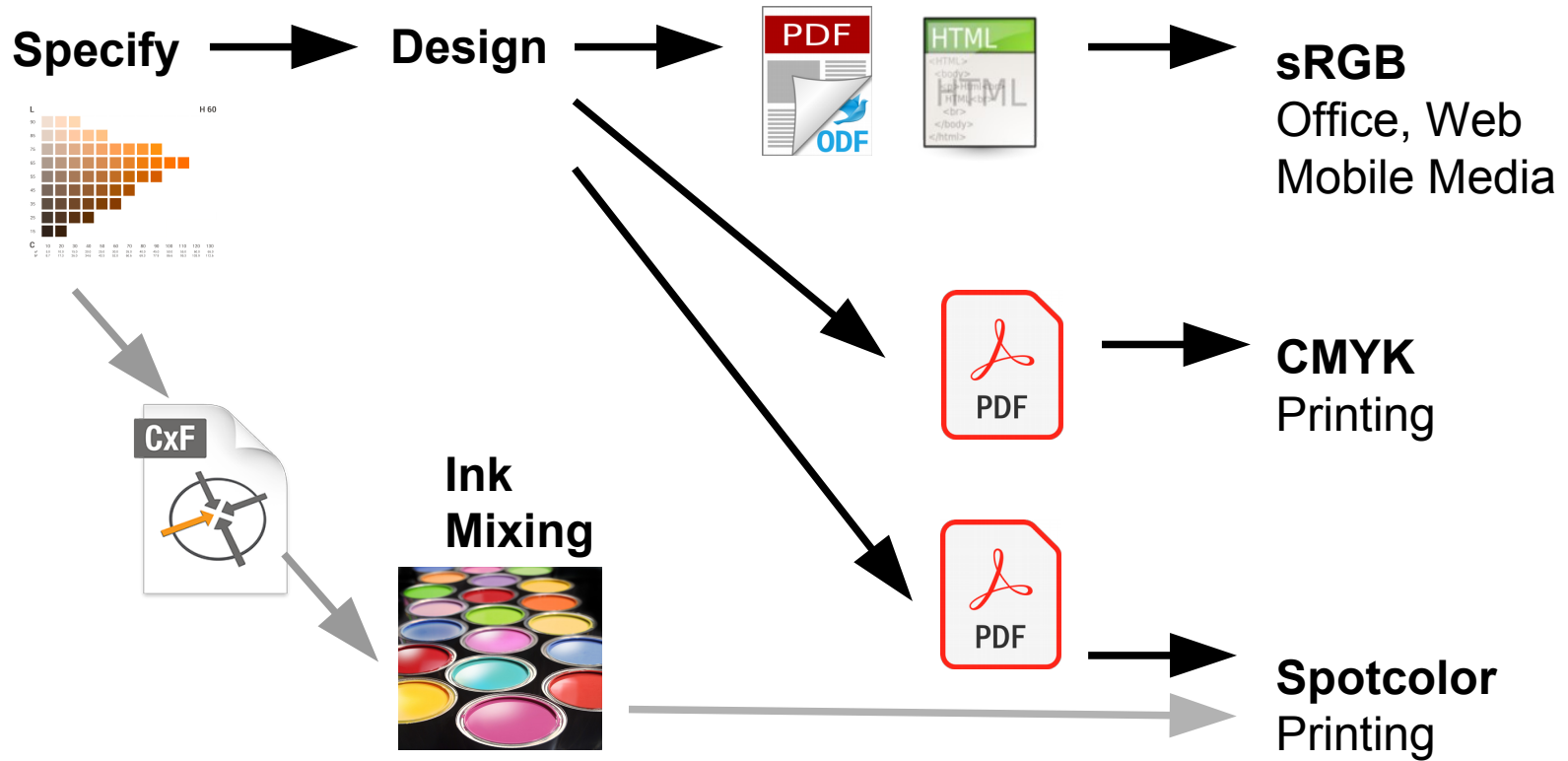
# Serving an Ecosystem of Commercial Applications, as also the Libre Graphics Community



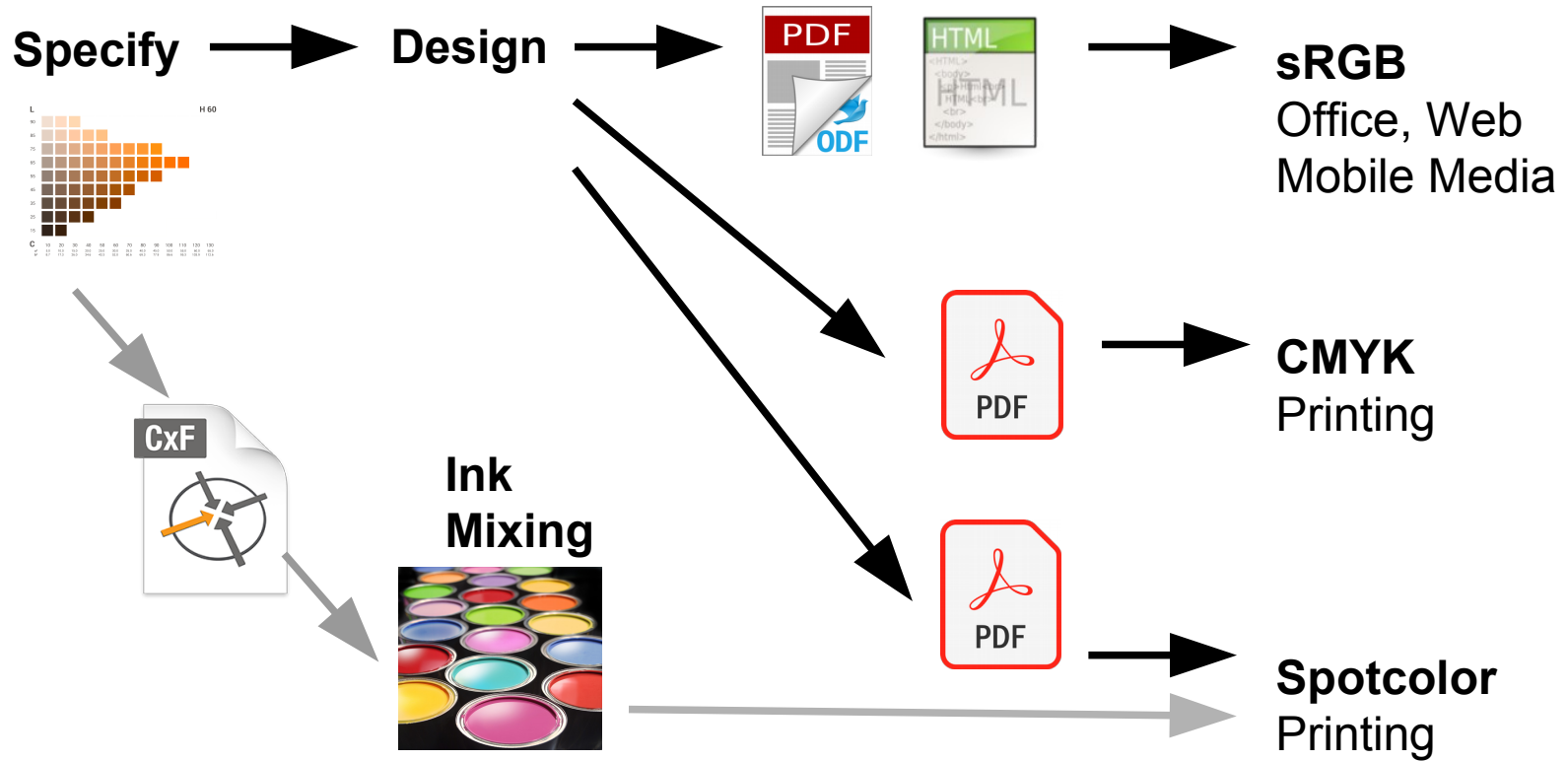
C	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130
L*	39.12	52.24	62.15	69.01	73.49	76.54	78.92	80.72	81.98	82.74	83.08	82.99	82.54
a*	13.24	18.11	21.06	22.85	24.11	24.95	25.38	25.50	25.38	25.12	24.75	24.29	23.72
b*	15.07	18.72	20.38	21.28	21.62	21.44	21.18	20.81	20.31	19.68	18.92	18.08	17.14



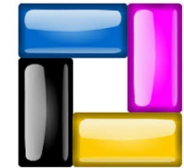
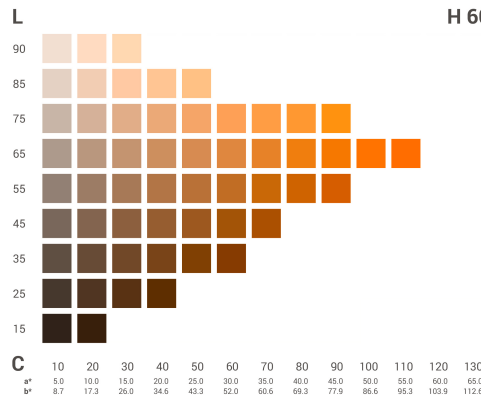
# HLC Colour Workflow



# HLC Color Workflow



# Serving an Ecosystem of Professional Applications as also the Libre Graphics Community



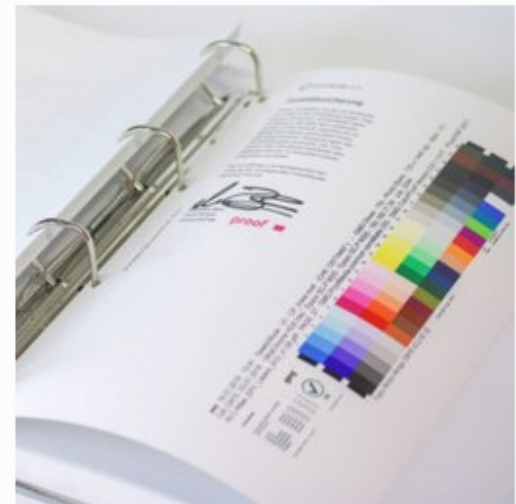
## Project: HLC Colour Atlas



Ringbuch



Einzelseiten H90 und H100



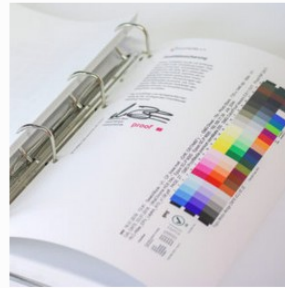
Prüf-Protokoll



Ringbuch



Einzelseiten H90 und H100



Prüf-Protokoll

## **HLC Colour Atlas (PDF&Print)+ HLC Colour Libraries**

- **HLC / Lab Colour Space – Systematical Grid**
- **PDF and Colour Libraries under Creative Commons Licence incl. The spectral CxF data**
- **Printed Atlas Targeting the Professional Users**
- **Produced with High End Proofing Systems**
- **average DeltaE00 $\approx$ 0,5, maximum DeltaE00 $\approx$ 2,1**
- **sRGB- and CMYK color values (FOGRA39, FOGRA51, FOGRA52)**
- **Quality reports**



→ [www.freiefarbe.de](http://www.freiefarbe.de)

→ [www.freecolour.org](http://www.freecolour.org)