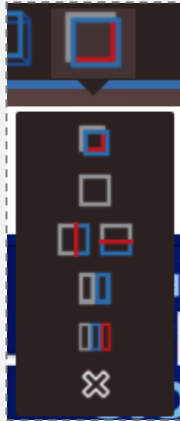


1 – Compare Overview

There is the ability to compare your approval document against another document (such as previous versions of artwork, dielines etc) within Greenlight.

To enable a document comparison mode, use the [Compare](#) option shown within the top menu bar. Clicking on the button will expand/collapse the compare menu.



The following different modes to compare documents are available within the menu (for more information on the functions of the individual compare modes see the dedicated sections of this document):

- Overlay
- Blink
- Slider Horizontal / Slider Vertical
- Side by Side
- Side by Side (Differences)

Alternatively, a document can be selected from the [Compare Document](#) select list above the top menu bar to switch on compare mode (using this will open the [Side by Side](#) compare mode).

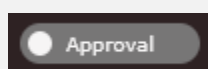
Compare Document: [Select Compare Document](#) ▾

The [Compare Document](#) select list can be used to control which document the [Approval Document](#) is compared against. The [Filter](#) box can be used to filter down the documents within the list as-you-type.

For documents with more than one page, selecting the name of the document will expand it to show all pages within the document and clicking the specific page will select that page for comparison.

Once a compare mode is activated the separations for both documents (if found within the documents) are combined and listed in the right-hand separations panel.

Comments can be viewed for either the Approval or Compare document, this is configured using the [Annotation Source Document](#) toggle option in the annotations side bar:



Displays the comments from the approval document only.



Displays the comments from the compare document only.

1 – Compare Overview (Continued)

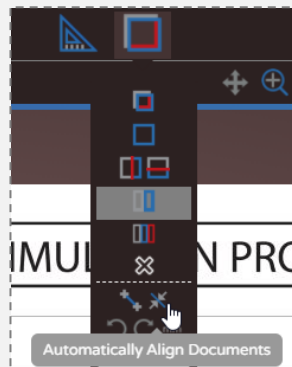
When comparing two PDF documents, the calculation of their alignment is based on your “Automatic Alignment Preference” (within the Settings cog).

The options are:

Always = The documents are always aligned based on matching content

On Request = The documents are aligned by their Trimbox, if defined. If no Trimbox is defined on either or both documents their offset is set to 0,0

You can choose to initiate automatic alignment yourself by choosing the option within the Compare menu:





The advantage of the automatic alignment is that it will help you to align similar documents which are positioned differently on the canvas or have a different page size.

Changing your Automatic Alignment Preference selection to "always" means that when selecting documents for compare, you do not need to activate the 'Automatically Align Documents' option – the system will do this automatically. (However, the drawback is that you may have to wait longer while every file is compared).

All technical tools are available when within comparison mode but the ability to approve and reject the document is hidden. It is only possible to add annotations to the document under approval.

To close compare mode once entered, either:

- Click on the **Deactivate Compare** option  within the Compare menu, or
- Select  [**Deactivate Compare Document**] within the **Compare Document** select list.

2 – Overlay Compare Mode

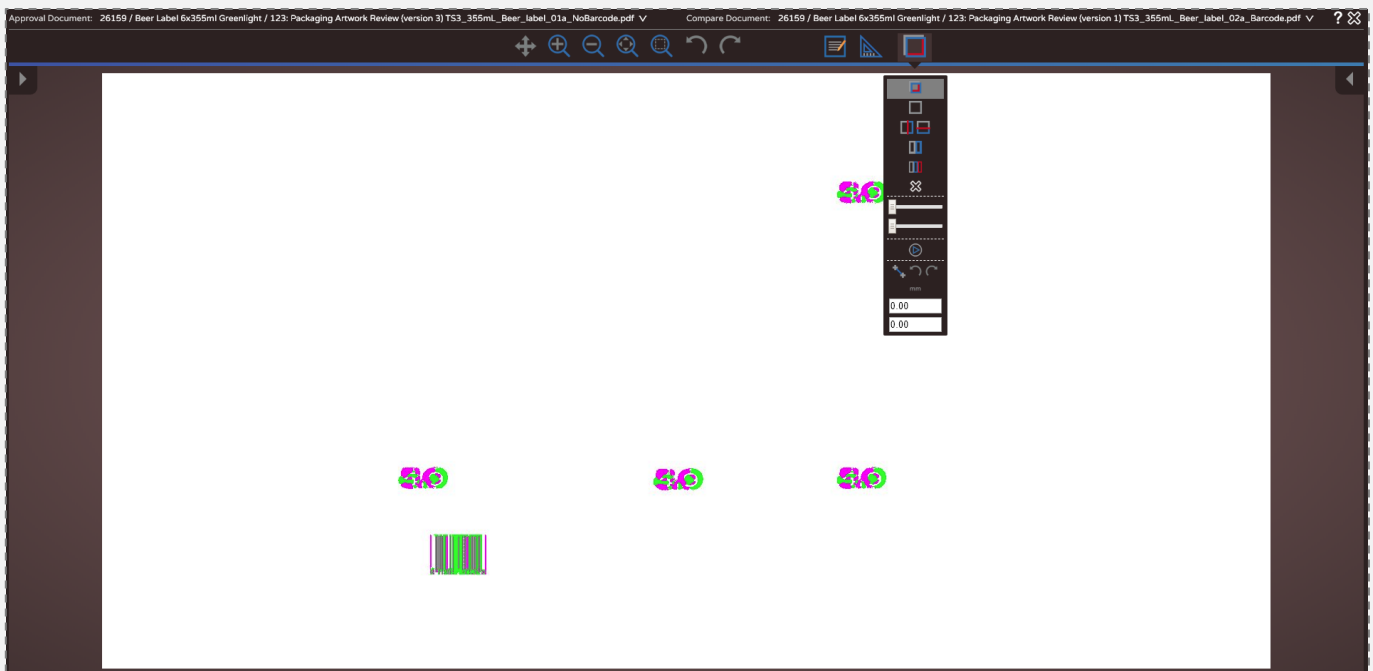
The **Overlay** compare mode is available for 2D files only.

Once selected, the view is refreshed and only the differences between the two files is left highlighted with the alike areas of the documents hidden from view.

The **Overlay Tolerance** slider within the Compare menu controls the threshold used to flag differences in pixel values. The range is between 0 & 255 (where 0, the default, is show all differences). As this is changed, any difference in pixel values which falls under the threshold are hidden.

The **Overlay Ghosting** slider within the Compare menu controls the opacity of the alike areas of the two documents. The range is between 0 & 100 (where 0, the default, shows the two documents as fully transparent and 100 is fully opaque).

The **Toggle Differences** option will animate the alternating of the highlight colour used to show the differences between the two documents. Once enabled, you can speed up or slow down the animation using the slider. Selecting pause will stop the animation.



3 – Blink Compare Mode

The **Blink** compare mode is available for 2D files only.

Once selected, the view is refreshed to show continually alternating images (every 1 second) between the approval and compare documents.

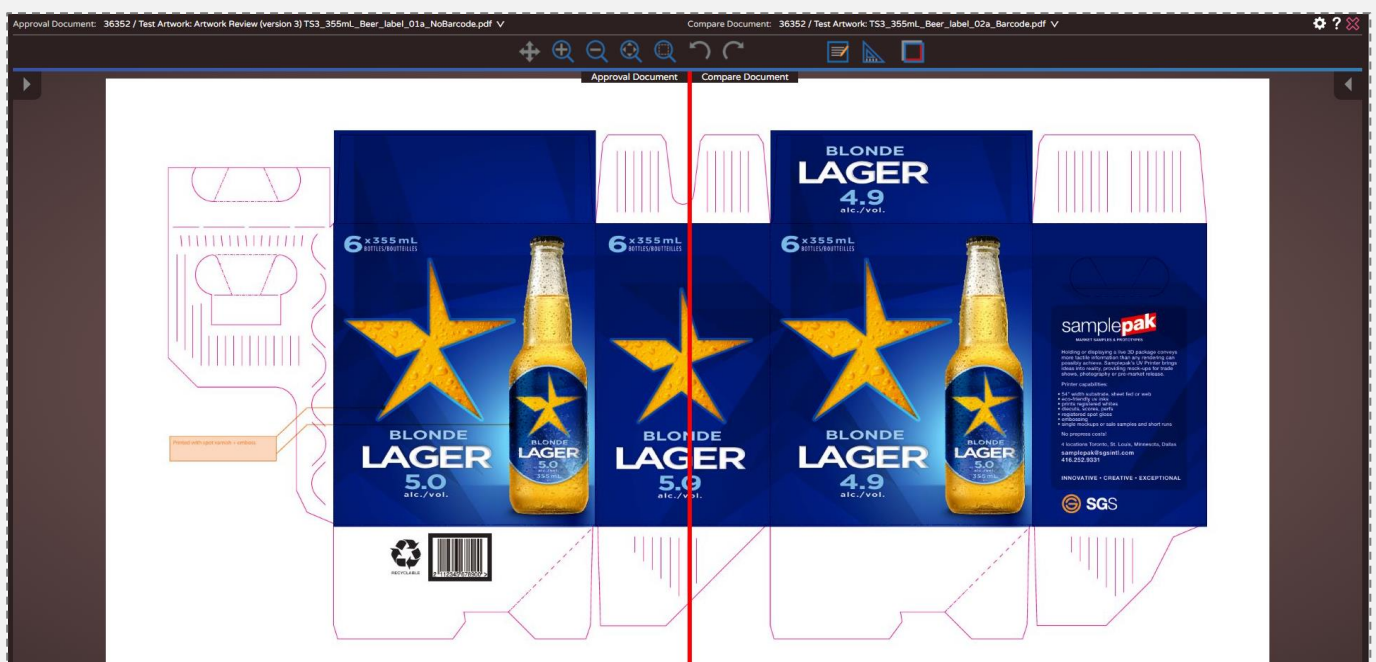
The **Blink Speed** slider allows you to increase or decrease the rate at which the approval and compare documents are alternated.

4 – Slider Compare Mode

The **Slider** compare mode is available for 2D files only and there is both a **Horizontal** and **Vertical** option for this mode.

If the **Horizontal** option is selected (as below), a slider will appear which can be dragged from side-to-side to compare the two documents. The current document is shown to the left of the slider and the compare document to the right.

If the **Vertical** option is selected, a slider will appear which can be dragged up and down to compare the two documents. The current document is shown above the slider and the compare document below.



5 – Side by Side Compare Mode

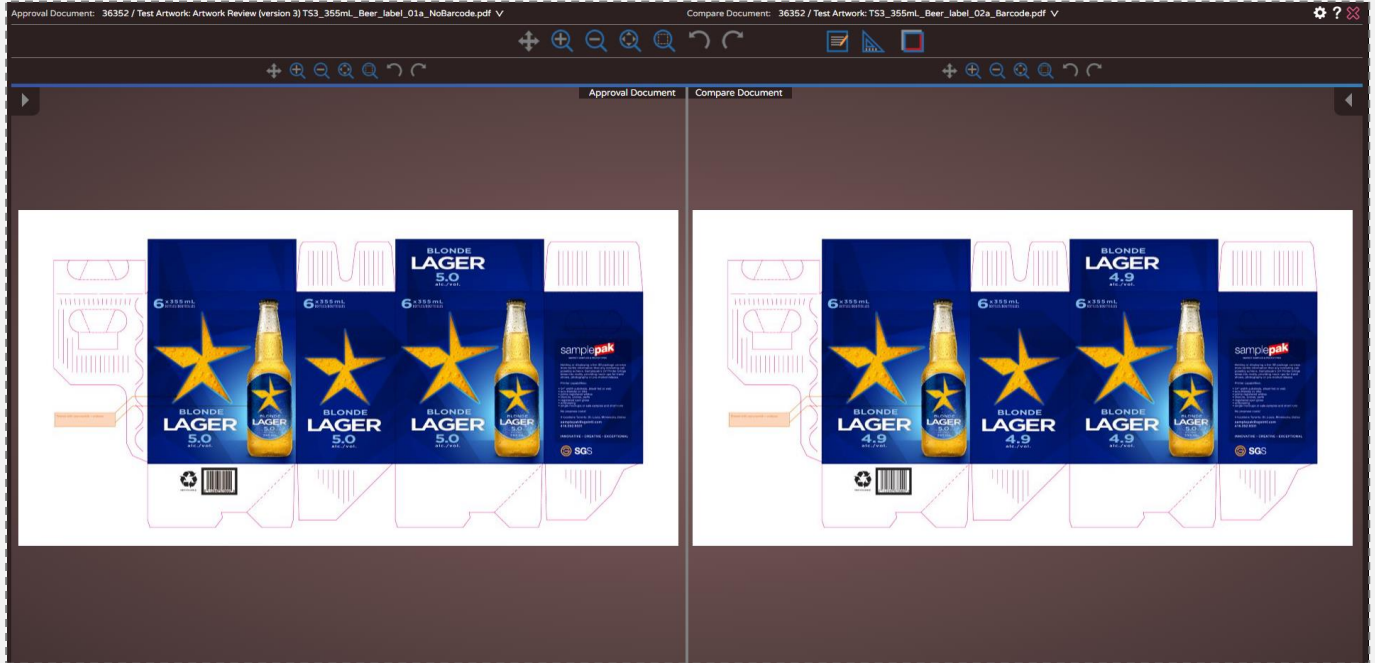
The **Side by Side** compare mode is available for both 2D and 3D documents. This is the default compare mode.

When selected, the view is updated to show the approval document (on the left) and the compare document (on the right).

An additional toolbar is also shown above the approval and compare documents to allow the documents to be individually manipulated. The same options are available as within the main toolbar, but selecting one only affects either the approval or compare canvas.

5 – Side by Side Compare Mode (Continued)

It is still possible to select the same options from the main toolbar and doing so will apply the selected function to both the approval and compare documents at the same rate.

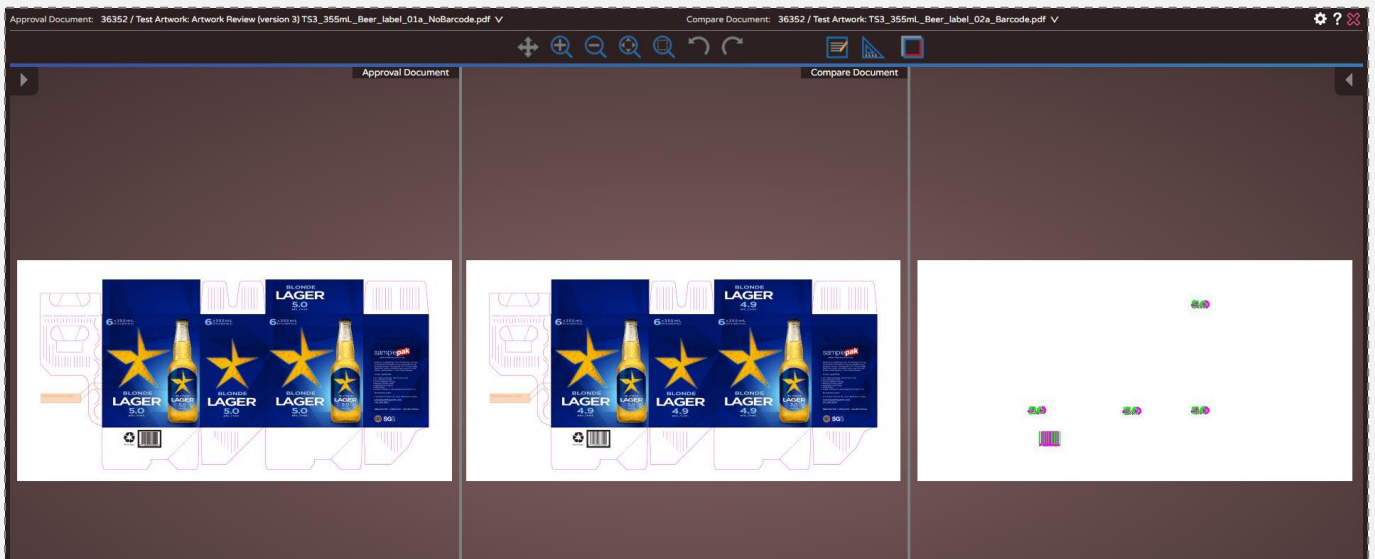


5 – Side by Side (Differences) Compare Mode

The [Side by Side \(Differences\)](#) compare mode is available for 2D files only.

When selected, the view is updated to show the approval document (on the left), the compare document (in the middle) and the overlay differences view (on the right).

The overlay differences view displays the same view as when in the [Overlay](#) compare mode (only showing the differences between the two files and allowing [Overlay Tolerance](#) and [Overlay Ghosting](#) to be altered and highlight of differences to be animated).

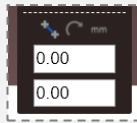


6 – Further Image Manipulation & Alignment Options

Within all comparison modes, three additional options are shown which allow further manipulation/alignment of the documents when using the Greenlight compare functions. These are as follows:

Offsetting Images

Two decimal validated fields (one for vertical offset and one for horizontal offset) are provided within the [Compare menu](#). These can be specified in [millimetres](#) or [inches](#) according to your own preference (switch between the two using the toggle above the fields).



The default for both fields is 0 and both positive and negative values can be entered. When alignment (automatic or Trimbox) the system will populate the offsets for you.

When you change the value(s), the compare document (and any differences view shown on screen) is adjusted by the amount specified in these fields.

A positive offset value in the horizontal (first box) offset will move the compare document to the right (compared with the approval document)


A negative offset value in the horizontal offset (first box) will move the compare document to the left (compared with the approval document)

A positive offset value in the vertical offset (second box) will move the compare document downwards (compared with the approval document)

A negative offset value in the vertical offset (second box) will move the compare document upwards (compared with the approval document)


6 – Further Image Manipulation & Alignment Options (Continued)


Point-to-Point Alignment

If an automated alignment fails, needs to be fine-tuned, or if you wish to perform a manual alignment, please select the **Point-To-Point alignment** option  in the compare menu drop-down. When selected, you are taken into the **Side by Side (Differences)** compare mode. However, the two slide out panels for annotations and separations are hidden from your view.

You will see an additional sub-menu above each of the three panels allowing alignment to be changed, cancelled or selected and the differences view refreshed.



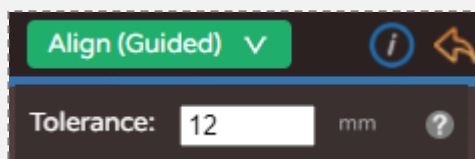
The **Alignment Marker**  is placed on both the approval document (left panel) and compare documents (middle panel) when this view is opened. You can change the alignment on one, or both, of the documents by clicking on the appropriate point in each of the documents to align the two.




You can also fine-adjust each of the of the alignment markers by selecting the **Fine Tune Alignment Marker** option  in the panel sub-menu.

The text fields next to the **Fine Tune Alignment Marker** option shows the current position of each of the **Alignment Markers** and will also you to manually update the position in either millimetres or inches. Selecting the toggle icon to the right of the text boxes will allow you to switch between the two measures.



Once you are happy with the marker position, select either:

- **Align (Manual)**: Aligns the documents to the exact position of the markers, or
- **Align (Auto/Guided)**: Aligns the documents automatically using common features and the approximate position of the markers. Change the alignment tolerance if needed, by clicking on the dropdown on the button, to narrow or broaden the search area:



The other options allow you to **Cancel Alignment** , **Confirm Alignment**  and **Reset Alignment** . Cancelling will return you to your previous compare mode and confirming will save the adjustments to the document alignments that you have made. Resetting the alignment will reset your changes without leaving compare mode.

Rotate (Compare Document)

Rotate Anticlockwise (Compare Document)  and **Rotate Clockwise (Compare Document)** options  are shown within **Compare menu**. Each time one of the options are selected, the compare document is rotated by 90-degree increments compared to the approval document. The approval document is not rotated, but the position and size are re-evaluated so that the whole document remains visible.