

*SIGIMAGE and *SIGFOLDER

Reserved fields for overlaying a signature image onto a printed form

System iDocs Form Suite (FMGSR6) — Field/Map Maintenance and the spool print engine

Programs [FMR2540](#) (Map Field Maintenance), [FMR2501](#) (Select a Reserved Field Name), [FMR2505](#) (print/overlay engine)

Audience Form designers and form maintenance administrators mapping fields on a form

Overview

[*SIGIMAGE](#) and [*SIGFOLDER](#) are two of the reserved field names available when mapping fields on a form (alongside things like [*DYNMACPTH](#) and [*PDFPASWRD](#)). Together they let a form overlay a signature image — a signer's or payee's signature stored as a PNG/JPG/JPEG/BMP file in the IFS — onto the printed output, the same way a form overlays a font, a barcode, or a static logo.

[*SIGFOLDER](#) tells the print engine *where* to look for signature images. [*SIGIMAGE](#) tells it *which file* to pull from that folder and *where on the form* to print it. Neither field does anything by itself — they work together, and [*SIGFOLDER](#) is optional if the default folder configured for the form is already correct.

How the two fields work

[*SIGFOLDER](#) — Signature Image Folder Path

A data-capture field. When you map it onto a form, its **Map Type** defaults to **2 – XY Mapping**: the engine reads whatever text sits at the mapped Row/Column position on the source spool page and treats it as an IFS directory path. If that captured text is non-blank, it overrides the folder configured on the **Configure Dynamic Path** window for this print run only — nothing is saved back.

[*SIGFOLDER](#) can also be set up as **Map Type 6 – Field Map** (an F7 map-field/key lookup) instead of a fixed XY position, if the folder needs to be derived from a database lookup rather than printed text on the page. Most forms just use the Map Type 2 default.

[*SIGIMAGE](#) — Signature Image

A placeholder/trigger field. Its **Map Type** defaults to **5 – Dynamic Macro**. The value the field resolves to at print time (however it's mapped — an XY position, a database field, a dynamic macro) is used as the image **file name**, not printed as text. The **Horizontal Position** / **Vertical Position** you set for this field is where the image gets overlaid on the page.

Both fields require a single-line mapping. From Row must equal To Row when you map [*SIGIMAGE](#) or [*SIGFOLDER](#) — the same rule that applies to [*TOTALPGS](#), [*DOCPAGE](#), and the other reserved fields. If From Row and To Row differ, F4 rejects the prompt with "Reserved field requires a single line."

Resolving the image path at print time

The print engine ([FMR2505](#)) builds the full path as:

`<Signature Image Folder> / <captured value> . <Signature Image Type>`

For example, folder `/idocs/signature-images`, a captured value of `4471203` (an account or signer ID pulled off the form), and type `PNG` resolves to `/idocs/signature-images/4471203.PNG`. The engine checks the file exists, converts it to PCL, and overlays it at the [*SIGIMAGE](#) field's Horizontal/Vertical Position. If the file isn't found, it logs "Cannot find signature image ..." and the form still prints — just without the signature.

Configuring the default folder and file type

From the `*SIGIMAGE`/`*SIGFOLDER` field's Map Field Maintenance screen, press **F13=Configure Path** to open the **Configure Dynamic Path** window. This is the same window used to set the dynamic macro path (`*DYNMACPTH`); it now also has two signature-specific prompts:

Prompt	Purpose
Signature Image Folder	Default IFS directory the engine looks in when <code>*SIGFOLDER</code> isn't mapped, or the mapped value comes blank
Signature Image Type	Default file extension: <code>PNG</code> , <code>JPG</code> , <code>JPEG</code> , or <code>BMP</code> .

These defaults live in data area `DSSIGIMAGE` in the library list. If it doesn't exist yet, it's created automatically the first time this window is saved (or the first time a form needs it), defaulting to folder `/idocs/signature-images` and type `PNG` — and that folder is created in the IFS automatically if it doesn't already exist.

Fig. 1 — **Configure Dynamic Path** (F13), showing a form's Signature Image Folder and Signature Image Type alongside the existing dynamic macro Path.

Adding `*SIGIMAGE` / `*SIGFOLDER` to a form

- From `GO IDOCS`, option 1 (`WRKIFDFRM` — Work with Forms and Reports), take option **8=Work with map fields** against the form.
- Select an existing field (option 1) or add a new one, and position on the **Field Name** prompt.
- Press **F4=Prompt** to open **Select a Reserved Field Name**. Page down to the bottom of the list to find `*SIGIMAGE` and `*SIGFOLDER`, and select one with option **1**.
- Set **From Row/To Row** to the same value (single-line rule above). For `*SIGIMAGE`, set **Horizontal Position/Vertical Position** to where the signature should print.
- Press **F13=Configure Path** if this form needs a different default folder or image type than what's already configured.
- Press **F10=Save**.

Fig. 2 — **Map Field Maintenance** (`FMR2540`, panel FM2540S2) — the Field Name prompt (top) is where F4 opens the reserved field list, and F13 opens Configure Dynamic Path. Fig. 3 — **Select a Reserved Field Name** (F4 prompt on Field Name), scrolled to the last page — `*SIGIMAGE` and `*SIGFOLDER` are the last two entries in the list.

Quick reference

Field	Default Map Type	What it captures	Effect at print time
<code>*SIGFOLDER</code>	2 – XY Mapping (also usable as 6 – Field Map)	Text at the mapped Row/Column, treated as an IFS directory path	Overrides the configured Signature Image for this document, if non-blank
<code>*SIGIMAGE</code>	5 – Dynamic Macro	Whatever value the field resolves to (e.g. a signer/account ID)	Used as the image file name; overlaid at the Horizontal/Vertical Position

Behavior in Merge processing

The **Work with Form Applications** menu ([FM0465C1](#)) has two separate "merge" options, and they do not treat [*SIGIMAGE](#)/[*SIGFOLDER](#) the same way:

Option 15 — Merge with Spool File (supported)

This option ([MMRGSPLF](#)) duplicates/pages an existing spool file and routes it through the output queue tied to the form application — it just feeds an existing spool file into the normal iDocs spool-routing path, which lands on the same [FMR2505](#) overlay engine used for plain printing. [*SIGIMAGE](#)/[*SIGFOLDER](#) resolve exactly as described above: path build, the [access\(\)](#) existence check, PCL conversion, and overlay all work identically.

Option 20 — Merge with database map (not supported)

This option ([FMR5005](#) → [FMR5007](#) → [FMR5006](#)) builds the spool page directly from database-selected records instead of overlaying an existing spool file. It resolves fields through a separate, fixed special-field table ([FSPCLFDP](#), maintained by [FMR5025](#)) that only understands [*USER](#), [*DOCNAME](#), [*DOCTEXT](#), [*DATE](#), [*TIME](#), and [*PAGENBR](#) — [*SIGIMAGE](#)/[*SIGFOLDER](#) aren't in that list, and [FMR5006](#) never reads the field's Map Type or calls any of the signature-image logic (no reference to [sigImageDir](#), [checkingfolder](#), or [IMG2PCLR](#) anywhere in it).

Signature fields go silently blank on a database-map merge If a form has a field mapped to [*SIGIMAGE](#) or [*SIGFOLDER](#) and that form is run through **option 20 (Merge with database map)**, the field's position still exists on the page, but no image lookup happens and no error is logged — the signature area simply prints empty. There is no current workaround short of routing the document through a spool-based merge (option 15) or plain print instead.

Troubleshooting

"Reserved field requires a single line" From Row and To Row don't match. Set both to the same row number and press F4 again.

Signature missing from the printed form, no error Check the job log / message log for *"Cannot find signature image ..."* — the engine skips a missing file rather than failing the print job. Confirm the file exists at [<Signature Image Folder>](#)/[<captured value>](#).[<Signature Image Type>](#) and that the extension case/type matches what's configured on Configure Dynamic Path.

Accepted image types PNG, JPG, JPEG, BMP — set on the Configure Dynamic Path window's Signature Image Type prompt.

Generated from FMGSR6 (FMR2540.SQLRPGLE, FMR2501.RPGLE, FMR2505.RPGLE) and FMD2501/FMD2540 DDS source. Screenshots captured from a live INFDEV72 session via the drive5250 tool.