

Gaining control of output throughout the enterprise with a powerful, Web-based system



IBM Production Output Management for the Enterprise



Highlights

- ***Enables print submission from Web or Windows® applications***
- ***Provides Web-based print management and administration***
- ***Integrates existing technology for enterprisewide print management***
- ***Authenticates users against existing directory services***
- ***Enables integrated, digital print accounting and charge-back***
- ***Provides network security integration***

Facing enterprisewide distributed print challenges

Corporations, companies and other entities with large, geographically and technologically distributed print networks face daunting control and authorization issues. What are each department's usage patterns? Where are backup printers located should primary printers go offline? Is there a way to track the costs of printing within the organization? These are the questions facing information technology (IT) managers and strategists as they begin to analyze the true costs of printing.

Studies suggest that the true cost of printing may be up to ten times the seven cents per page that is easily identified. And at a true cost of 70 cents per page, total annual printing

costs can equal 6-15% of a company's revenues.¹ The costs of paper, toner, printers and electricity are readily assessed, but companies have not traditionally focused on the associated costs of handling documents in the enterprise. Creating and staffing a help desk, lost productivity due to downtime of print assets and the inefficient use of print by certain departments all contribute greatly to the high costs of enterprise printing. Implementing a system to manage and control these "hidden" costs can have a significant impact on an organization's bottom line.

IBM® has the solution for meeting these enterprisewide output management challenges. IBM Production Output Management for the Enterprise begins with a custom, in-depth analysis of your print environment. IBM consultants then work with you to implement a Web-based, security-rich, unified print management system with a single point of control to help facilitate the output of your business. Providing "one-stop" shopping for your output management strategist, this integrated solution can help you increase asset utilization and staff efficiency, while helping to reduce or eliminate some of those hidden costs embedded in the corporate print function.



Providing important benefits to your output environment

IBM Production Output Management for the Enterprise brings many benefits to distributed printing. These benefits include:

Job cost accounting—accounts for print usage and assigns print costs, from a corporate to an individual user level. Information provided by the solution can help you accurately predict usage trends, uncover bottlenecks and define the costs associated with each print job. You can potentially turn a cost center into a profit center by providing billable printing services to other departments.

Job routing and control—routes and controls print jobs at the user level to maximize employee and asset efficiency.

Job redirection—audits the flow of data and redirects print jobs to online devices.

Help desk enhancements—creates a central point of control for the entire print function, where printer and queue status and other functions can be remotely monitored through a Web browser. These enhancements help you bypass problem areas by rerouting print jobs to alternate output sources, reducing staffing and increasing service.

Print flexibility—allows the system to reroute print jobs to the nearest online device, which can be virtually any make or model. Backup printers need not be identical to the primary machine.

Detailed cost allocation reports—provides the information required to improve the cost-per-page ratio and to identify other areas where cost savings may be realized.

Improved efficiency—results in reduced asset downtime, paper and toner waste, and reduces the need for help desk intervention to lower overall printing costs.

Meeting your specific goals with solution customization

IBM Production Output Management for the Enterprise is a services offering and can be completely customized based on your environment and business goals. The solution is fully scalable and can be integrated with other systems. Your consultant will assess your requirements, and relying on past implementation experience, can design a solution that's right for you. Each solution is backed by IBM service and support to help ensure maximum uptime.

Getting a quick start

When it comes to realizing benefits such as achieving greater control and lowering costs, time is always of the essence. To help customers achieve production output management benefits quickly, IBM developed a "quick start" solution for the enterprise. This pre-packaged solution is a configurable services offering that incorporates the full set of features and real-world learning from past production output management implementations. The "quick start" solution can be rapidly deployed and can serve as a foundation for growing and adapting to challenging business needs.

For more information

To learn more about IBM Production Output Management for the Enterprise and how you can benefit from our solutions, contact your IBM sales representative, or visit:

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¹Ferretting Out the Hidden Costs of Enterprise Printing," Joseph F. Kovar, CRN Enterprise Partner, September 7, 1999.

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