

Making your transition to the world of electronic printing simple and easy.

IBM AFP PrintSuite for AS/400

IBM® AFP™ PrintSuite for AS/400® is a family of advanced print-enabling tools that facilitates moving your applications from traditional line-at-a-time printing to effective, full-page documents and reports... output that blends application data with a variety of fonts, electronic forms, images, and bar coding.

AFP PrintSuite for AS/400 consists of the following products:

- **Advanced Print Utility (APU)**, an end-user formatting system
- **Page Printer Formatting Aid (PPFA)**, a compiler for page and form definitions
- **AFP Toolbox**, a powerful set of high-function Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)
- **SAP R/3 AFP Print**, provides advanced printing capabilities for SAP R/3 applications

Why Electronic Printing

Companies using AS/400 computers are switching to electronic printing to achieve a number of very important benefits. Electronic printing can substantially reduce paper usage, document revision and control costs, and operator costs.

Documents encoded with bar codes, OCR, MICR, and image, facilitate the reengineering of workflow and reduce operational costs.

Electronic documents using fonts, image, and electronic forms are more effective and more readable than lines of print on fixed, preprinted forms. Electronic output, with information tailored to each customer, can communicate much more, and provide significant competitive advantage.

Why PrintSuite

AFP PrintSuite for AS/400 provides these benefits without imbedding your print formatting within the application. While AS/400 has long provided strong support for electronic printing via Data Description Specifications (DDS), this coding is part of the application programming. With PrintSuite, you can separate electronic print formatting from the application.

The AFP PrintSuite applications are integrated with OS/400® providing easy access to AFP. AFP benefits include integrated print management that, unlike other page data streams, is interactive with the printer. This provides efficient job management and full error recovery, ensuring that what you send to the printer gets printed quickly and completely.

AFP is a worldwide standard for medium- to high-speed electronic printing. It creates

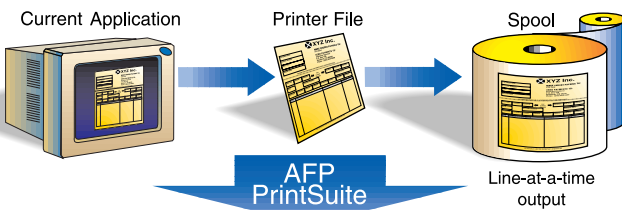
a structured, high-performance print data stream that is system and printer independent. It provides output flexibility, with support for view, fax, archive and desktop print. Additionally, AFP printing utilizes IPDS, which provides "industrial strength", system-managed printing even across the network.

Highlights

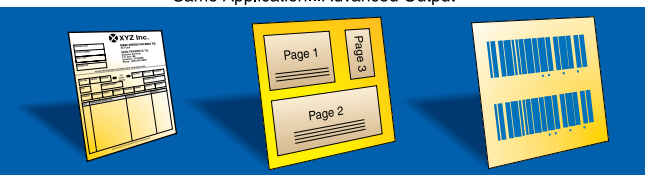
- **Implement full-page electronic output for your documents and reports without changes to your existing programs**
- **Take advantage of today's high-function electronic printers, and Advanced Function Printing (AFP)**
- **Assure the same reliability and control that you require in your printing environment**
- **Choose the PrintSuite product that fits your requirements**
- **Print to network IPDS printers with standard AS/400 reliability and control**



Software Solutions



Same Application...Advanced Output



Advanced Print Utility

Advanced Print Utility is an interactive end-user system for transforming existing SCS application output to advanced electronic documents. Advanced Print Utility requires no changes to the current application, instead working off the spool file created by the application.

Using an easy, intuitive interface, a new document design is built. The new document can incorporate electronic forms, image, fonts, bar codes, text and other elements. The existing output data

is brought up visually, and you can completely change the way it is placed on the page, including position, font, color, rotation and bar coding.

APU is designed to create complete electronic documents, with tailored page layouts and customized copies. For example, using the existing application data conditionally to select which page design and which copies are produced, APU easily creates all the required copies of a customer invoice, each tailored to its specific function.

Once the new output is designed, it can easily be put into production. The APU production system automatically monitors and intercepts current application output and transforms it into new electronic documents.

Features of Advanced Print Utility include:

- Design "fast path" to support typical output that has one page layout and multiple copies
- Ability to suppress output, such as prices and totals on a packing list
- Automatic creation of document copies, each of which can easily be customized
- Ability to create electronic form elements, such as lines, boxes, text and image
- Robust document and usability functions such as constant duplex forms, drawer selection by copy and much more
- APU Production system includes customization of application data, spool management and document distribution
- Preserves SCS capabilities such as highlight, bolding and underscore

Page Printer Formatting Aid

Page Printer Formatting Aid lets you create AFP form definitions and page definitions that map line-at-a-time output to full electronic pages. PPFA is the compiler that creates AS/400 page and form definition objects from source statements. The source is a print programming language that defines how

your existing print records will be reformatted into pages while adding electronic forms, image, copies, etc. Page and form definitions are specified directly in the AS/400 printer file. The next time the application is run, it creates full pages of AFP output based on those definitions.

Using PPFA means:

- No changes to the application programs
- Application output is changed dynamically, resulting in higher printing performance
- For multiple AS/400 systems, PPFA is required only on the development system. Run-time function is integrated into the AS/400 printer file
- Page and form definitions are compatible across numerous systems (including MVS™, VM™, VSE™ and AIX®)

Toolbox for AS/400

Toolbox for AS/400 lets you take full control over the power of the AFP print data stream, but do it using an easy, high-function set of Application Programming Interfaces (APIs).

AFP Toolbox is indispensable when you are formatting complex, electronic output with variable text, "floating" electronic forms, dynamic image and graphics or embedded indexing. If you already have a

programmed interface to full-page output, AFP Toolbox enables you to easily create an AFP output "driver".

Features of AFP Toolbox include:

- Create and dynamically control any design element on the page
- Control variable text, including positioning and justification
- Full bar code support

SAP R/3 AFP Print

SAP R/3 AFP Print dynamically transforms the output of R/3 applications, providing:

- Enhanced documents with electronic forms, images, logos, bar codes and fonts
- Access to the full range of Intelligent Printer Data Stream™ (IPDS™) printers, from 12 to 1002 IPM
- Intelligent error recovery, ensuring print jobs are printed completely and accurately every time

Summary

If you are still printing boring line-at-a-time output, but want to shift into the world of electronic printing, AFP PrintSuite is for you. With the choices offered by AFP PrintSuite for AS/400, you can move easily, smoothly, and without changes to your existing applications.

AFP PrintSuite for AS/400 at a glance

Capabilities/General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Full-function electronic printing — Supports advanced function of today's AFP printers — APU, PPFA, Toolbox and SAP/R3 AFP Print are separately orderable products
Capabilities/APU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Interactive end-user system — Application-independent — Visual redesign of existing output — Creates complex pages and copies simply and easily — Production system includes job customization, spool management and document distribution
Capabilities/PPFA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Dynamically changes existing output — Application-independent — High performance — Standard for mid- to high-volume electronic printing
Capabilities/Toolbox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Set of high-function APIs for high-level language access to AFP — Complete control over complex electronic pages
Capabilities/SAP R/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Access the capabilities of IPDS printers, including the wide AFP Print range of functions and fonts — Full management of printed output with PSF™/400 including resource management and error recovery
Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Print Services Facility™ for OS/400 — Intelligent Printer Data Stream (IPDS) printer or equivalent
Complementary Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — AFP Utilities — AFP Font Collection — AFP Workbench for Client Access/400™

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