

*Control your printing so it  
doesn't control you.*



## Centralized Output Management

How can IBM® InfoPrint® Manager provide centralized output management for your enterprise?

A print shop maintains a high-volume print business with three IBM InfoPrint 4000 printers in continuous operation. Sometimes, lengthy jobs prevent the progress of shorter, more urgent jobs. IBM InfoPrint Manager provides a robust set of tools for checking print queues, promoting jobs, and for moving one or several jobs between queues. If the waiting time for a job in a particular queue is going to be longer than predicted, the administrator is alerted. Before using InfoPrint Manager, when one printer was down for necessary maintenance, a job that was partially printed and the jobs queued on that printer were often lost or delayed. With InfoPrint Manager, any operator can pause the partially printed job with a checkpoint so it can be resumed on another printer. The operator can also reschedule the queued jobs on the other printers.

A commercial print shop creates reports from documents that exist on the World Wide Web. Producing high-quality artwork in high-volume runs from the different output formats customers provide is a challenging task. InfoPrint Manager allows them to transform PCL, PDF, PostScript®, GIF, JPEG and TIFF files into the appropriate data format for printing with quality and consistency. The print shop operators are able to reuse processed (RIPped) jobs many times for different print runs, which helps reduce their printing costs.

Workgroup printing environments, such as the reproduction center at the local university, enjoy many InfoPrint Manager features, such as the ability to validate job scheduling requests, accounting and tracking. InfoPrint Manager ensures that

their scanned-in journal articles and college brochures are sent to printers that support the correct data stream and possess the requested capability, such as duplex or fanfold. Leveraging the capabilities of a scalable, server-based print management application, InfoPrint Manager reduces their printing costs by automating vital functions, simplifying user operation and facilitating electronic storage and reprinting. The university can print just enough copies of their course catalog each semester.

### Software Features

#### **Configure, Manage and Monitor from Anywhere:**

- Centralized management of printers and jobs through graphical user interfaces
- Optimized use of DCE for security and scalability in a distributed environment
- View, set or change the characteristics of printers and jobs in your enterprise
- View, set or change defaults for both printers and jobs in your enterprise
- Monitor the status of printers and jobs
- Start, stop, delete and move (reorder and resubmit) jobs
- Start, stop, forward space, back space or shut down printers

#### **Get Your Jobs to the Right Printers, Fax Machines and Other Destinations:**

- Intelligent routing of jobs based upon their characteristics, with the ability to manually override
- Support for fax and e-mail output
- Each printer defines how jobs should be scheduled, using a combination of the following:
  - jobs with the earliest print deadline first
  - jobs in the order they are submitted
  - jobs in the order of priority

### Highlights

- **Configure, manage and monitor from remote locations**
- **Get your jobs to the printers, fax machines and other destinations**
- **Operators get notified when events happen**
- **Balance printer workload**
- **Enhance printing with imposition and output finishing**
- **Support a wide range of printers**

- jobs in order of size, longest first
- jobs in order of size, shortest first
- Rich set of routing characteristics that match jobs to destinations, such as:
  - job size (select short jobs for higher cost per page printers)
  - data stream resolution (240, 300 and 600 dpi supported)
  - a job group (batch)
  - a printer model or name
  - a particular media (legal, letter, etc.)
- Control when jobs print by specifying:
  - a print-after time
  - a time by which the job must print or be discarded automatically
  - a job group (batch)
- Jobs scheduled only to destinations that support their characteristics, such as duplex and document format, which is determined automatically (PostScript, PCL, etc.)

infoPrint  
Manager

- InfoPrint Manager schedules jobs:
  - to destinations currently accepting jobs so that printers keep busy or
  - by notifying the operator to set up the printer so that jobs print in order

### **Operators Get Notified When Events Happen:**

- Automatic event notification of printer status and problems through either e-mail, messages or a file
- Each printer can be customized to notify specific personnel of specific events, such as when a printer requires operator attention
- Operator(s) can be notified with customized messages when jobs are submitted, start printing, and complete printing
- When jobs are submitted using the command line, users are notified through e-mail, messages or a file. They can choose from a rich set of significant events, such as when the job:
  - has been assigned to print
  - has been modified
  - has completed was cancelled by an operator
  - has failed

### **Balance Printer Workload:**

- Configure your printing environment to balance workload and maximize utilization
- Easily reroute jobs while changing supplies or performing preventative maintenance
- Save processed jobs for proofing
- Prevent loss of jobs by:
  - configuring to hold jobs that fail
  - configuring to automatically disable printers with problems
- Transform data and print concurrently
- Save processed (RIPped) files for efficient reprinting or for printing multiple copies

- Configure to retry jobs automatically upon network failures
- Printers can be pooled (clustered) to maximize utilization
- Support multiple formats on the same printer

### **Enhance Printing with Imposition and Output Finishing:**

- Customize and select separator pages (before, after and within jobs) to identify or find your job easily
- Customize and select accounting and audit logs to suit the needs of your business
- Achieve print shop half-tone quality that you can fine-tune to meet your needs
- Support for finishing devices, such as the IBM InfoPrint 60 Finisher
- Support for imposition (booklet, side-by-side copies, slit and merge, etc.)
- Receive data from multiple sources, including:
  - the LPR gateway
  - MVS® Download
  - fax
  - e-mail
  - PSF™ Direct
  - InfoPrint Manager for the Web (PRPQ)
  - InfoPrint Scan
  - InfoPrint Select
  - InfoPrint Submit
  - SMIT
  - Sun Solaris (through Application Integration Package)
  - Tape input

### **Input Data Stream Support:**

- Utilize existing hardware
- Support for multiple data stream transforms, including:
  - formatted line data
  - unformatted line data
  - AFPDS
  - Ditriff

- GIF
- JPEG
- SAP ABAP line data
- SAP OTF
- PCL
- PDF
- PostScript (Adobe® PostScript Raster Image Processor: PostScript Level 2 transform)
- TIFF

### **Output Data Stream Support:**

- IPDS™
- PostScript (from AIX- or BSD-attached printers)
- PPDS Hewlett-Packard Printer Control Languages (PCL4, PCL5, PCL5c)
- Page-level recovery for IPDS print stream output
- Support multiple document formats in a single job
- Support varying document-level characteristics

### **Scalability**

Grow your installation as needed by mixing and matching the tasks performed by an InfoPrint AIX server across different servers. An InfoPrint AIX server can perform any or all of the following:

- Processing commands
- Managing and scheduling jobs for printing
- Driving printers

For example, you can add new InfoPrint AIX server that just drives printers that are fed from the original server. InfoPrint Manager provides centralized management by allowing you to manage and monitor all these servers from a single location. To learn more about the distributed, interoperable InfoPrint Manager print solution, contact your IBM Printing Systems Company representative.



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## **IBM InfoPrint Manager: Centralized Output Management at a glance**

### **Software Prerequisites**

- IBM RS/6000® with AIX operating system 4.2.1 or 4.3
- Use of AIX windows (Motif) required for graphic version of InfoPrint Manager
- TCP/IP printer connection (Token-Ring, Ethernet, FDDI)

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