



Academy ProPrint

Capita Software Services has built a partnership with the market leaders in printing technology, XL Print, to enable the highest level of printed documentation to be produced by local authorities using Academy applications. The XL Print product range has been integrated with existing Academy software to create Academy ProPrint.

ProPrint is the only application with data as its primary focus - providing processing capabilities that go beyond most application programming.

XL Print and Capita Software Services are working in partnership with many local authorities to enable the sharing of the design and production of common documentation such as housing benefit claim forms and notification letters. By reducing time, effort and costs, this allows a move towards a true bulk cost saving environment to meet the demands of the government's 'best value' initiatives.

ProPrint is equipped with several layers of sophisticated conditional processes. It incorporates a powerful field function and is ideal for applications such as the inclusion of dynamic images. It is fully colour-enabled and provides direct access to any common graphic format and available TrueType and Adobe scaleable fonts.

Summary of features

Fields

The field function is unique in its capacity to select and identify variable data as 'fields'. Fields can contain variable data or static text and can be inserted anywhere in a document by the use of conditional tests. Fields can be used for calculating new values from the application program, such as totals or taxes based on a total, and for creating charts. Field attributes (such as font or colour) can be altered.

Conditional processing

Delivers remarkable formatting capacity to completely alter the appearance of a single page within a large print run on the basis of the presence of a particular character or characters on that page.

Forms

Forms can be created that contain both static and dynamic line, box, circle, chart, graphic and text elements. Dynamic elements can be linked to the variable data on a page and set to behave dynamically (resize or float) according to the amount of data incorporated.

ProPrint Spooler

The ProPrint Spooler is the printer-control utility through which all ProPrint print jobs are passed, providing completely automated control of document production. Residing on a network client PC, the ProPrint Spooler is a network-oriented method of processing business documents based on a host or within a network. Simple ASCII, EBCDIC and even Xerox® DJDE (Dynamic Job Descriptor Entries) documents are automatically formatted into attractive and efficient documents.

Multi-threaded processing at optimal speed

The Spooler's multiple formatting engines provide concurrent processing and delivery of documents, resulting in higher throughput, in the order of 5000 pages per minute or more. The multiple formatting engines add intelligence to network printing needs, allowing the conversion of legacy data streams into efficient PCL or Post Script code to drive modern laser printers. Input is automatically accepted from any combination of Novell, TCP-IP (LPD), Windows 95 and Windows NT print queues; local or remote disk files and serial cable. Output can be printed to any available network printer, including Novell, TCP-IP (LPR) print queues; Windows 95 and Windows NT shared devices; local parallel port and local or remote disk files.

ProPrint Conversion Manager

The Conversion Manager is unique in its ability to take Xerox JDL, PDE, CME, FRM, FNT, IMG and LGO object resources and convert them to ProPrint in a 'once only' process.

Any application changes made in the future are done in Academy ProPrint; there is no need to change the JSL or FSL source languages.

Xerox bitmap fonts are converted into Windows resources that can be used by Academy ProPrint within its operating environment.

During the conversion process a mechanism is provided to create font families from the Xerox fonts. If these fonts are to stay in use, then ProPrint accesses them as if they were TrueType or Adobe fonts. Only fonts that are actually required are converted, offering a good opportunity to tidy up the Xerox font library. Once a Xerox application is in ProPrint, TrueType or Adobe fonts may replace the bitmap fonts. Once the converted Xerox fonts are replaced, they may be archived.