# Setting Up and Tuning SNMP Communication

If you are printing to network printers you may choose to control how your Infoprint servers issue Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) requests. You can use your Infoprint Administrator's GUI to specify:

- Whether or not to attempt SNMP communication with a printer
- The name of the SNMP community to which the printer device belongs
- How many times to retry failed SNMP requests
- How many seconds to wait for an SNMP printer response before timing out.

The following SNMP attributes can be modified through the Infoprint Administrator's GUI to setup or tune the SNMP communication with network printers.

## Set SNMP at Startup (snmp-discovery-during-startup)

Setting `snmp-discovery-during-startup=false` ensures a fast start-up of your Infoprint AIX server, while ensuring that the Actual Destination information displayed is from when the server was last shut down. This status will not become accurate until Infoprint Manager polls each actual destination. When you accept the default on this server attribute (`snmp-discovery- during-startup=true`), the Infoprint AIX server does an SNMP query on each SNMP printer to obtain the most recent status. These SNMP queries can cause long start-up times, especially if there are many SNMP printers and some of them are either powered off or disconnected.

To display the current settings for the following SNMP printer attributes, select the SNMP tab located on the printer properties notebook.

## Use SNMP (use-snmp)

This attribute defaults to ″yes,″ but you may want to set it to ″no″ under the following types of conditions:

- Printer is off-line: the printer is turned off or removed from the network for an extended period of time and you don't want to use system resources to poll the device.
- Performance: it's taking too much time to query and poll the SNMP status.
- Invalid status/defaulting: the destination status is being reported incorrectly and you want to disable SNMP while service investigates the problem.

## Community name (snmp-community-name)

Use this attribute to indicate the name of the SNMP community to which the printer belongs. The name must match one of the community names configured in the printer.

## Number of times to retry (snmp-retry-count)

Use this to specify the number of times to retry an SNMP request if it fails. The higher the number of retries, the more possible traffic there will be on the network. Use higher numbers for remote printers. Increasing this number too much may cause reduced performance.

## Timeout (snmp-timeout)

Use this to specify the number of seconds the server should wait for the printer to respond to an SNMP request. If the printer is remote(on a different subnet), this number may need to be increased from the default. The amount of increase depends on a number of network factors, including routing and network loading. Increasing this number too much may cause reduced performance.

## Working with SNMP Printers

The following printer attributes may not need to be set if you are printing to SNMP Printers:

- input-trays-medium
- media-supported
- output-bin-number
- plexes-supported
- printer-model
- psf-tray-characteristics
- sides-supported