



IBM Xport Services Offering

IBM® Advanced Function Printing™ (AFP™) is a rich, open, system-managed solution that allows you to print high-quality output on a variety of IBM Intelligent Printer Data Stream™ (IPDS™) printers.

With AFP, you can increase your printing productivity by:

- Minimizing printer operator time by providing system management of resources and error recovery
- Minimizing programmer resources when implementing new applications or changing existing output design by providing the customer with page formatting capability
- Increasing customer satisfaction with tailored, sophisticated communications that customer service personnel can view online
- Distributing output wherever it is needed instead of printing it in a central location

Many Xerox printer customers would like to migrate to an AFP solution to leverage these benefits. Others desire a multi-vendor environment. IBM Xport Services is an offering that helps make that transition to AFP easier.

A Smooth Migration

Xport Services maximizes the productivity of your data processing resources by automating much of the migration from Xerox XPPM to IBM IPDS and by providing a solution for distributed printing in a Xerox print environment. Xport also facilitates the coexistence of Xerox and IBM IPDS printers.

Xport is an application program that resides on a RISC System/6000® (RS/6000®) server using Print Services Facility™ (PSF™) for AIX®, Printing Systems Manager (PSM) or InfoPrint™ Manager as a print driver. The result is a powerful, multi-function print server that accepts numerous data streams, including Xerox Production Printer Mode (XPPM), as input and outputs to a variety of IPDS and PCL printers. The printer server can accept the following data streams:

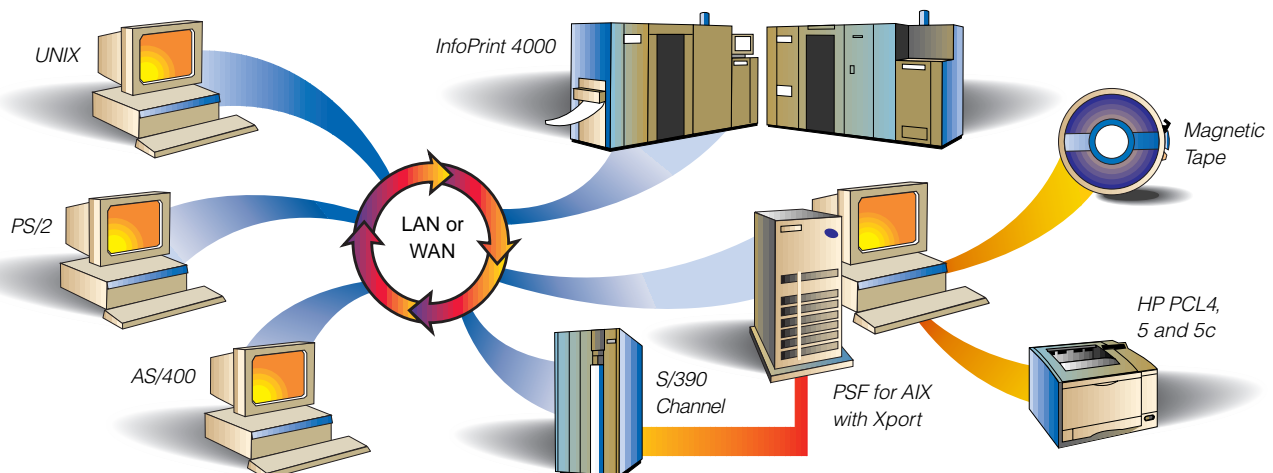
- Xerox line data and conditioned line data (LCDS)
- Xerox metacode
- PostScript
- PCL
- AFP line data
- MODCA:P

Data can be sent to the server via MVS™ Download, S/390 Channel (3211 data stream), TCP/IP (FTP/LPR) or other file transfer protocols.

A Complete Solution

The Xport solution includes professional services to help customize the system and train personnel to use it. The Xport application system also provides several tools to make your migration to AFP a smooth transition, including:

- Resource conversion tools
- Resource libraries
- An easy-to-use Graphical User Interface (GUI)
- A job management/spooling system
- A Xerox data stream interpreter



Resource Conversion Tools

Xport provides conversion tools that are automatically invoked to create the appropriate AFP resource objects (overlay, font or page segment) when Xerox forms, fonts, images and logos are loaded into the Xport print server. Resources are converted only once, as they are loaded, and not each time they are used. These resources can then be used with new or existing AFP applications as well as with Xerox data streams.

Resource Libraries

Xport includes a font library containing over 200 Xerox compatible fonts. These fonts have been tuned to match the metrics of the corresponding Xerox fonts as closely as possible. You can use your existing Xerox resources as well — just load them on the server like you would load them on a new Xerox printer. You can change the way your document looks without changing the application because Xport can automatically substitute the new resources.

Graphical User Interface

The graphical user interface (GUI) ties together all the components of the system, providing you with a single, easy-to-use point of access to system functions. The GUI allows you to manage the progress of jobs through the conversion and printing process. Users can start, hold and reprint jobs, and manage printers and print resources through simple drag-and-drop operator actions. Activities such as redirecting output to a different printer or reprinting a selected page range can be accomplished with a few keystrokes. Xport also features a command line interface that provides access to a subset of functions from non-graphical displays.

Job Management System

The Xport GUI includes a job spool and spool management functions. The Xport spool automatically receives jobs to be processed from other hosts. The job then may be manually or automatically processed through the system.

The spool is divided into several types of queues to manage the jobs through the system. Depending on the server configuration, multiple data streams from a variety of sources may be received from multiple interfaces, converted and printed to multiple printers concurrently.



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Xerox Data Stream Interpreter

The XPPM data stream interpreter reads Xerox Line Data, Conditioned Line Data (LCDS) or metacode and converts it to a fully formatted AFP data stream. It interprets any embedded DJDEs in the data stream and applies formatting instructions from the resource tables. The data stream interpreter allows three levels of print fidelity depending on application needs.

Reap the Benefits of AFP

With Xport, you can print your Xerox applications on an IBM IPDS printer today. Xport provides an effective distributed print solution or acts as an easy-to-use migration tool to help you reap the benefits of a complete IBM AFP print solution. For more information on IBM Xport Services, call your local IBM-authorized representative or our Printer Selection Center at 800-358-6661.

IBM Xport Services Offering at a glance

Hardware Requirements	Minimum: RS/6000 7025F40 or equivalent with: 166 MHz, 4.5 GB disk 256 MB memory 8 mm tape drive Internal CD-ROM P70 color display with graphics card 2 Ethernet or Token-Ring adaptors
Software Requirements	AIX 4.1.4 PSF for AIX 2.1, PSM or InfoPrint Manager
Optional Software	AFP Font Collection — Page Printer Formatting Aid for AIX or S/390® to generate form and page definitions. This is required if the auto-N-up feature is to be used. PS/2-based: — AFP Print Driver for Windows® to create AFP documents and resources from Windows forms and image applications — Elixir or Isis resource programs to build and modify AFP resources
Supplied Fonts	Xerox A03 font set, Avant Garde, Baskerville, Century Schoolbook, Futura, Helvetica, Optima, Palatino, Times, Roman and Univers

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