

Print Environment Overview

Despite the printing improvements that have been made by the major virtualization vendors, printing remains one of the biggest headaches facing system administrators. Printer driver management, 32-bit to 64-bit architecture transitions, and print-related helpdesk calls are but a few of the problems affecting the daily grind of the typical sys admin. From a user's perspective, inability to print, printing to the wrong location, slow print jobs, and even server crashes greatly affect user experience and productivity and circles back to the sys admin for resolution.

triCerat is the only print solution vendor with a proprietary printing protocol called triMeta Format (TMF), designed to maximize portability, compression, and compatibility in server-based, virtual, and workstation environments. This guarantees 100% printer compatibility and access to the full functionality of any and every printer. Simplify Printing, which includes ScrewDrivers, extends printing capabilities by enabling printing via network print servers, enhanced security and compression, as well as tools specifically designed to help manage a fully customized print environment.

Features

True 'Driverless' Technology: The TMF protocol overcomes the limitations of EMF, XPS, and PDF formats permanently.

Full Range of Client Support via Print Server: Includes a print server plug-in, which allows all clients in a server-based computing session to print regardless of OS, fat/thin client, Windows, Mac, Linux, UNIX, & smart phones.

Compression: Typical compression rates are over 90%. Images can automatically be compressed into JPEG or PNG with the ability to scale out and optimize compression vs. speed or quality.

Exporting: Supports a variety of options like saving print jobs as a PDF, BMP file, or printing to a client-side PDF printer.

User Assigned Printers: Allows users to assign their printers from an allowed list.

Spool File Director: Spools to a specific disk for optimum space.

Multiple Naming Schemes: A customizable printer naming option to keep printer names unique on the server but compatible with applications. Print server printers can also be shared between all users on one server if required by the application.

100% Local Printer Compatibility: Prints to any available local Windows client printer without administrator intervention.

Visibility of Printer Functionality: Sees all standard printer properties including trays, duplex, collation and resolutions etc.

Font Embedding: Embedding font data into the print job when the fonts are not available on the client or print server. If font embedding is not possible, different rendering will be used to ensure output quality.

32-bit and 64-bit Compatibility: Clients can be loaded with standard 32-bit drivers and print from a 64-bit application server or vice versa.

Image Compression: Images can be compressed by adjusting the Color Quality and converting standard BMP to JPEG/PNG, proprietary feature called Minspool, or Greyscale.

Print as an Image: A workaround for users to quickly resolve any graphic, layout, or font issue by spooling and rendering the entire document in an uncompressed BMP format.

Proximity Printing: Printers can be assigned to Internet Protocol (IP) addresses, IP ranges, and client names.

Multiple Printer Assignments: Administrators can choose how printers are made available to the user and what they can change.

Extended Settings: Includes default print spooling, recapturing default printer settings, client/server default communication, deletion of printers on session disconnect, printer creation prior to login.

Central Simplify Console: Provides a centralized console to manage printer configurations.

Option to Integrate with Simplify Suite: triCerat has a total desktop management system called Simplify Suite that is controlled in the Simplify Console, from profiles and desktop security to CPU management.

Benefits

Reduce Printer Support and Cost: Eradicates the need to manage printer drivers on the server and enable users to print from whichever device that has the agent installed.

Granular Print Management: Different server configurations can be assigned based on user, group, OU etc. from the Simplify Console, which is integrated into the Active Directory (AD).

Increased Server Performance and Reliability: The printer driver is optimized for a multi-user environment and has a small footprint on the server, eliminating spool crashes caused by incompatible printer drivers. Server performance is enhanced as only one driver needs to be loaded on the server. TMF streams the print job to the printer during the spooling process, which eradicates the print spool file spikes on the network that affect performance.

Easy Installation: Simplify Printing and ScrewDrivers are simple yet powerful solutions that install and configure with ease, resolving printing problems quickly and permanently with minimal effort.

Increased User Satisfaction: Workers get fast print jobs from any device and can access printer functionality from any location.

Reduces Human Error: Multiple printer naming options reduce waste and sensitive documents from being printed in the wrong location.

Printing for Roaming Users: Printers can be assigned to a client IP range, giving roaming users access to the nearest printer at any time.

Printing for Any Device: Print server support enables users to print from any device, including thin clients and smart phones.

Simplify Printing or ScrewDrivers?

ScrewDrivers is a standalone product as well as being included with Simplify Printing, virtualizing Windows clients attached to printers. ScrewDrivers is a great point solution for Simplify Printing with additional functionality including printing via a printer server (no client side install), printing to non-Windows clients, Active Directory integration, IP address range printer assignment, and central management from the Simplify Console.

Components

SQL Server: used for storing configuration information and hosts the Simplify Database. Not required for ScrewDrivers standalone product.

Simplify Suite (Printing): executable installed on each Terminal Server (physical or virtual) that requires Simplify Printing functionality.

Simplify Console: maintains connection with SQL server ODBC data source and queries the AD. Installed on the TS or any workstation.

Print Server: requires agent install on every print server. Printers need to be installed and connected. Windows Print Cluster is supported.

- If using client printers, an install on each Windows client is required and this communicates through virtual channels of the ICA or RDP protocols.

