



PrintBOS for SAP

Innovative Enterprise Output Management and Design

SAP Printing and Forms Design Challenges

ERP implementation projects are generally complicated and take a long time to complete. One of the more costly aspects of an ERP project is the form design, on-going changes to the output forms and printing management from SAP applications.

Familiar challenges are:

- Adding new printers to queues and spool management
- Design and modifications of forms for printing in different printers
- Different languages and different font sets printing from SAP
- Dynamic templates design
- Connectivity between SAP systems and other enterprise systems like CRM, PDM, Financial systems etc. Multiple data and information sources create immense problems when trying to print them or combining them into one electronic document.
- SAP RDI (Raw Data Interchange) forms multi-level data hierarchy recognition and processing. The SAP RDI protocol stores multi-level hierarchy meta-data on each form. This hierarchy is hard to process to most common spooling systems.
- XSF is the SAP's XML output data interface for the SAP Smart Forms, and actually, XSF serves as the successor of SAP RDI. XSF is an XML interface for printing SAP Smart Forms. Although XSF is fully compliant with XML, its structure is not readable and not supported by many spooling systems.
- Transformation of SAP outputs to Barcode formats

Many of these challenges are overcome today by investing expensive resources like SAP implementers in long customization projects.

Each new design or modification to SAP forms is very time-consuming and requires great effort.



PrintBOS SAP Module – Cost Effective SAP Output Management

PrintBOS SAP module enables SAP application clients a seamless solution for printing and archiving challenges.

Key solutions provided by PrintBOS:

Challenge	PrintBOS solution
Adding new printers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PrintBOS server is the interface to any new printer • Swift addition of new printers through PrintBOS administration module
Forms design and changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovative and easy to use forms design using SAP standard outputs • Short training and no SAP application knowledge is required • SAP RDI (Raw Data Interface) support as well as PCL or XML • IDOC support in coming version 4.5 • More flexibility and customer-oriented forms creation (quick and not expensive) • High level and high quality formats with dynamic forms, graphics, and color design of forms
Different languages support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to all European languages even if not installed on the printers
Font support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PrintBOS server supports all common fonts, even if not installed on printer
Integration with other enterprise software systems (Billing, CRM, PDM etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swift processing of data by PrintBOS server from many systems into the desired form • Integration with leading and customized Billing, CRM, Catalog, Inventory and PDM systems
RDI multi- level hierarchy data recognition and processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RDI compatible and RDI multi-level data formats recognition and processing abilities
SAP to Barcode transformations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swift integration of barcodes in any kind of form – electronic and hardcopy • Printing of bar-coded forms in any printer (even in printers that do not support Barcode printing)



Overview

PrintBOS transforms the design, delivery and management of business-critical documentation into a highly efficient and simple process. PrintBOS enables enterprises to generate documents based on raw data inputs accessed from multiple sources.

The PrintBOS server seamlessly integrates with a broad variety of host environments such as Mainframe, AS/400-iSeries, Unix, Linux, Windows and DOS.

PrintBOS transparently intercepts print jobs and applies graphic formatting to create and distribute attractive customized forms, reports, labels, faxes and cheques that incorporate a range of graphics and text functions. A powerful interface for design and processing of standard and customized labels and barcodes, based on alphanumeric strings in the raw output, is included.

PrintBOS serves as a LPD Server or a Windows printer driver enabling automatic routing of jobs to any destination printer fax server, e-mail server, archive, or SMS-enabled cellular phone. A script language allows the user to define if/then actions for maximum job flexibility and to interface with other applications via APIs.

Unique Features

- ◆ Easy to install
- ◆ Easy to use
- ◆ Database-driven archive
- ◆ Web-based interface for preview, document release etc.
- ◆ Self-learning of printer functions and implementation of capabilities
- ◆ Simple solution for dynamic placement of information in forms
- ◆ Remote configuration and monitoring
- ◆ Scripting tool for ultimate flexibility

Easy and Versatile Document Design

The PrintBOS Template Designer is a versatile and efficient design tool that features a full Windows “look and feel” interface, including right mouse click function and floating windows. Users create templates based on a native print job output and apply elements from style sheets to ensure a consistent corporate image. Data and output fields from the raw data file are “dragged and dropped” onto the design template - no data mapping or modification in the host application is required!

Centralized, Flexible Routing Management

PrintBOS serves as a printer driver and engine enabling centralized management of both designed and undesigned jobs. A Windows-compatible printer driver captures print jobs from any host application and routes them to the PrintBOS queue where their print status and destination is assigned. A tree-view metaphor makes routing definitions simple. Document routing can be determined by queues, groups, users, templates and destinations.



The same print job, as a formatted graphic or raw text, can be printed and/or sent by fax, e-mail, SMS (Short Message Service) to cellular phones (text mode only), and/or stored in a dynamic archive server. A Web-based interface supports preview, release, management and archive sessions.

Supported Modules and Tools:

- SAP
- Printing
- E-mail Server
- Fax Server
- Web-based Archive
- Script Language
- Cheque Printing
- SMS Module
- LDP Server Functionality
- iSeries Virtual Printing

Supported Environments

PrintBOS can intercept print jobs from a wide range of host environments, including, but not limited to:

- IBM iSeries (AS/400)
- IBM RS/6000
- IBM Mainframe
- HP®-UX
- Hewlett-Packard
- Solaris
- AIX®
- SGI IRIX

In addition, special overlays have been customized for use with commercially available applications, such as SAP, JD Edwards, and BAAN. A library of cheques and labels templates is also available to assist in the fast and easy development of professional-looking corporate documents.