iCONVERT™ | Job Events

AFP Transform Suite

iCONVERT is a unique print server technology that emulates AFP IPDS printers. iCONVERT dynamically transforms IPDS data received from any AFP application into a variety of output formats. The output is ideal for printers and archiving products that do not support AFP applications. iCONVERT can run as a standalone product or be combined with the Solimar® Print Director™ Enterprise for additional job management. Job Events is an optional add-on module that enables very sophisticated job management capabilities.

Installed in thousands of sites worldwide, iCONVERT™ is a powerful transform engine for AFP environments that functions most commonly in routing mainframe and AS/400 print reports directly to hundreds of networked desktop printers. This suite of products can also route reports to production PostScript printers, viewing stations and archive systems.

SOLIMAR SYSTEMS, INC

AFP Transform Suite

AFP Printer Emulation

- Emulates IPDS printers, supporting all IBM IPDS Towers
- GUI configuration for easy implementation and support
- LU1/SCS, LU3/DSC, IPDS data streams
- Converts inline resources and print data dynamically
- Parse, spool, rename and dynamic routing
- Supports page rotation, multiple paper sizes and duplexing
- Scale to fit page (non edge-to-edge printers)
- Supports highlight and full color Supports large file sizes (+2 GB)
- Can add HTML codes to ASCII output
- Customizable finishing commands
- Supports complete IBM font set
- Browser based monitoring
- Output formats include:
  - PCL - Composite "non-raster" output
  - PostScript - Composite "non-raster" output
  - TIFF - Multiple compression options
  - PDF - Type 1 and Type 3 font support
  - IPDS - Pass-through ASCII - Supports any matrix printer (IBM ProPrinter)

Communications/Connectivity

- Appears to host as printer logical units (LUs)
- Full bi-directional communication with host
- Supports IPDS error recovery and error messaging on printed output
- Supports up to 512 destinations
- Resource caching increases performance and reduces data transfer
- SNA connectivity includes: Channel (BUS/TAG or ESCON), Token Ring, Ethernet, SDLC, X-25, TCP/IP (lpr, FTP, "brick" protocol)

The iCONVERT suite provides support for IPDS transforms to PCL, PDF, PostScript and TIFF data streams and print files. iCONVERT communicates with the AS/400 and mainframe host(s), appearing as IPDS printers receiving data via TCP/IP or SNA. The system operates as a Service under Windows® XP Pro/Server 2003, and can run as a standalone print server or in conjunction with the Solimar® Print Director™ Enterprise (SPDE) for centralized print queue management. Conversion speeds can reach 6000+ pages-per-minute depending upon application complexity, network transfer speeds, and the Pentium print server specifications.

The AFP transform suite also provides dynamic routing of documents with optional job separation and file naming capabilities. Parsing, page counting, and dynamic naming of documents is supported with the Job Events Module.

NOTE: Although the term LU comes from the SNA world, it will still be use to describe a printer location for TCP/IP.

Job Events

Job Events is an optional component for iCONVERT. The Job Events Module provides the ability to detect specific information in AFP (AFPDS, ACIF, and IPDS) print data, act upon it in pre-defined ways, and pass it on to be delivered as instructed.

Job Events functionality can be used for a variety of applications including:

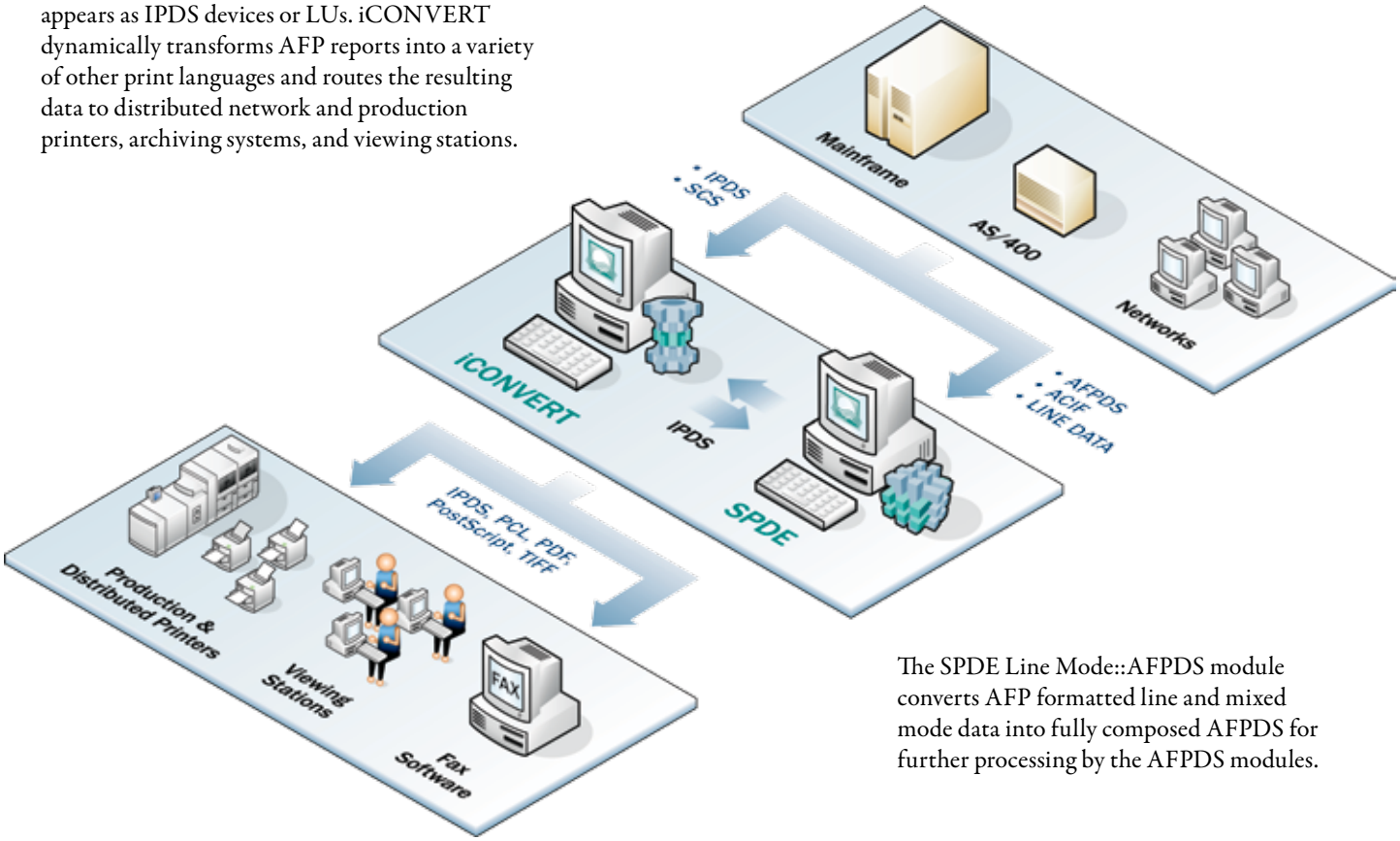
- Parsing and naming files based on information within the data
- Deleting specified pages
- Extracting information to name files for archiving and tracking
- Enabling load balancing across multiple devices
- Providing operator job control information for report distribution
- Adding bookmarks and electronic overlays to PDF output

AFP reports can automatically be sub-divided so that certain documents are routed to printers, while others are converted into an archiving format or both. Information extracted can be used to name files destined for archive systems or to control reprints. Job Events also provides a variety of choices for the type of information extracted. Information such as page counts, user ID, or sensing duplex pages can be used for distribution or removal from the data altogether.

Job Events uses a custom set of rules to scan AFP print data. When a rule is matched, the module can delete the page or parse the data and extract job names and other report details. This enables reports to be routed and processed automatically under program control.

AFP Connectivity and Transform Workflow

The system communicates with host systems and appears as IPDS devices or LUs. iCONVERT dynamically transforms AFP reports into a variety of other print languages and routes the resulting data to distributed network and production printers, archiving systems, and viewing stations.



The SPDE Line Mode::AFPDS module converts AFP formatted line and mixed mode data into fully composed AFPDS for further processing by the AFPDS modules.

AFPDS Transform Modules

The AFPDS modules of the Solimar Print Director Enterprise (SPDE) converts AFPDS data streams (and resources referenced in the data stream) from mainframes, AS/400s and network systems to IPDS, PDF or composite PostScript. This enables AFP print data intended for centralized mainframe printers to be proofed and used with a wide variety of archiving systems, viewing stations or the Internet. The AFPDS emulation modules facilitate increased flexibility in processing and presenting data traditionally locked in the mainframe, AS/400, or AIX world.

These modules accept AFPDS data, which is a binary stream of variable-length structured fields (records) that define a document and its resources. In IBM documentation, AFPDS data is also commonly referred to as MO:DCA-P (Mixed Object: Document Content Architecture-Presentation) data. The module also supports AFPDS Conversion and Indexing Facility (ACIF) data, where the AFPDS document data and all resources are concatenated in one file.

Supported AFPDS Features:

- MO:DCA-P IS/1
- BCOCA (1D and 2D)
- PTOCA PT1 and PT2 (all orientations and rotations)
- IM Images
- IOCA FS10
- GOCA DR/2VO
- Line mode and mixed mode AFPDS
- Overlays
- Page Segments
- Presentation Spaces (all orientations, rotations, etc.)
- Object Positioning, Trimming, ScalingCopies, duplex, offset stacking (jog)
- Media Source
- Converts inline resources and print data dynamically to PDF or PostScript resources

Available Options and Licensing

Add-on Licensing

- Distributed Print License (up to 50ppm)
- Midrange Print License (51-100ppm)
- Production Print License (over 100ppm)

Optional Add-on Modules

- Channel Input (BUS/TAG or ESCON)
- Job Events Module
- Type 1 PDF font substitution
- TIFF output
- Test and Development licenses

Components

iCONVERT

- Base System includes:
- PCL, PostScript, PDF
- TCP/IP connectivity

All modules are licensed separately.

About Solimar Systems, Inc.

Founded in 1991, Solimar Systems, Inc. is a leading developer of enterprise output management solutions for digital document creation, production and distribution. Installed in thousands of sites around the world, including nearly 50% of the Fortune 100, Solimar solutions satisfy a wide range of requirements by combining integrated connectivity, data stream transforms and optimizations, document re-engineering/ repurposing and sophisticated print queue management with secure web-based document presentment, distribution and tracking.

Experts in legacy and modern data streams, Solimar solutions provide essential infrastructure to a variety of industries including insurance, financial services, banking, pharmaceutical, telecommunications, healthcare, government, education, retail, manufacturing, utilities, distribution and print service bureaus.

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