



# Legacy Transforms Drive High-Speed PostScript Printers, Reprint Process and Archive System



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Tom Baron  
University of Arizona

## University of Arizona

Located in the heart of Tucson on 352 acres, the University of Arizona (UA) has approximately 35,000 students enrolled from all 50 states and more than 100 foreign countries. UA’s Center for Computing and Information Technology (CCIT) supports the Research, Instructional, and Administrative Application needs of the University. Its mission is to provide central print services for the entire campus. Solimar Systems interviewed Tom Baron, Resource Information Analyst, for CCIT to discuss his experiences with implementing new print equipment with a Solimar print server solution. Baron has filled many roles over the past 33 years at UA, including Operations, Facilities, Problem Management, Production Management, and Printing Services.

Prior to the Solimar solution, UA's production environment included two Xerox 4850's for Xerox LCDS applications and two HP8100's for network PostScript reports. Increased printing demands for checks, invoices, manuals, reports for Payroll, Human Resources, Student Services, Bursar, Purchasing, and Financial Services prompted CCIT to look for a way to improve turnaround. To address this requirement, CCIT issued an open RFP for faster equipment and a centralized print management solution. The new solution needed to not only handle the growing print volumes of over one million pages per month, but improve overall print operations.

A solution that included products from Solimar Systems was selected to meet the requirements. Two 110 page-per-minute network printers were chosen as the horsepower and Solimar's flagship product, Print/Director, was selected as the front-end driving force. Print/Director converts UA's existing legacy Xerox LCDS/Metacode print data into the PostScript needed by the new printers and provides centralized job management for improved flexibility and ease of operation.

Baron summarizes the implementation of their new equipment, "By going to a Solimar solution, we were able to convert to PostScript printers, double our print speed, and continue with our current legacy forms, fonts, and logos. We were able to take our existing legacy libraries over to Solimar and have our existing production printing continue with no interruptions in service to our users. Without this feature, we were looking at about six months to convert our legacy forms and code to another product."

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## Business Profile

### University of Arizona

One of the nation's top ranked universities implemented the Solimar Print/Director system to convert DJDE/Metacode applications to drive multiple production PostScript printers.

### Industry

Education

### Geography

Tucson, AZ

### Business Solution

- Output Management
- Device Connectivity
- Data Stream Conversion

### Solimar Products

- Solimar Print/Director
- Base system with XIMAGE
- BUS/TAG Input
- TCP/IP Input and Output
- XCHANGE::PostScript
- SOLindexer™

### Benefits

- Enabled flexibility to seamlessly print any application to any printer without application programming expenses
- Re-purposed print streams to enable electronic document distribution and management
- Provided fast and easy Xerox .FRM form creation and editing using familiar Windows applications
- Reduced overall print center costs of labor, toner, and maintenance



UA's Print/Director configuration consists of two BUS/TAG inputs on a single system to handle the IBM mainframe's two LPAR definitions. Solimar's XCHANGE™ modules provide the seamless conversion of legacy Xerox data into PostScript and PDF. The PDF output is used for reprints and electronic storage and distribution. TCP/IP is used to receive network PostScript applications from over 170 servers and drive the destination printers.

The results of the Solimar solution improved print operations beyond processing capabilities. Baron explains, "By going to a Solimar PostScript solution, we now have the best of both worlds. We continue with our legacy DJDE applications, and have the benefits of being able to also route PostScript files directly to these printers. We now have full-page graphic capabilities. We can create PDF files from print files, and FTP them to other hosts. We can take a form created in MS Word, PowerPoint, or any common desktop software and by using Solimar's XIMAGE™ software, create a form that can be used immediately on these printers. The quality of forms after being converted through Solimar is as good or better than before."

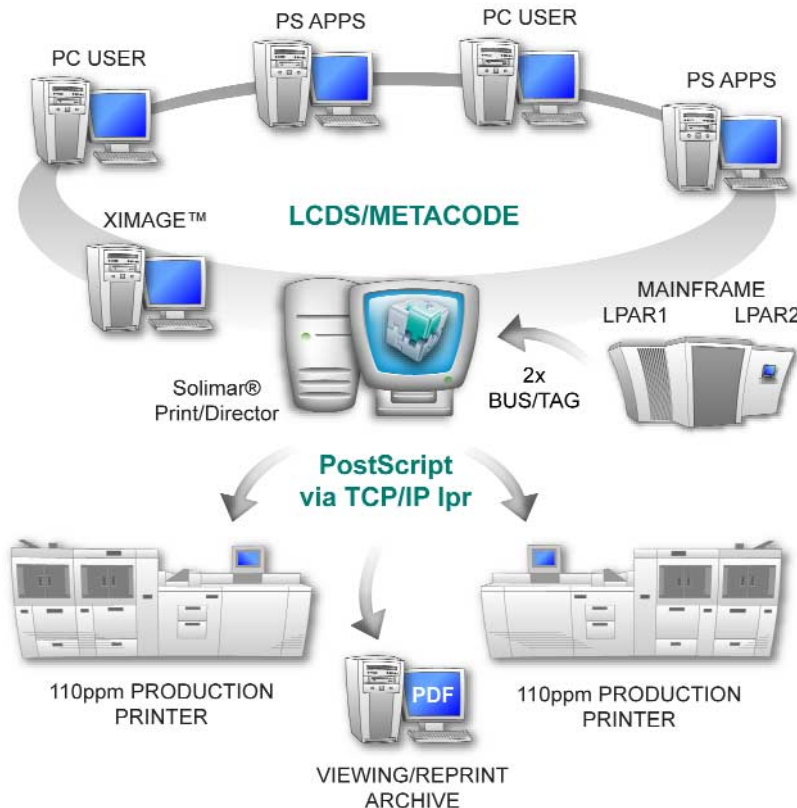
Centralized print management with Print/Director's feature-rich and flexible GUI interface has improved day-to-day operations. Baron describes the benefits, "The operators love the drag-and-drop reprint queue. Any lost outputs, or required extra copies, etc., can be reprinted quickly and easily without having to resubmit the job. Drop down windows make it easy to follow the status of print jobs."

The Solimar solution has also reduced costs associated with print images, toner and maintenance, especially compared to the HP8100's. Print/Director includes a Windows driver that creates Xerox forms from any Windows application. Baron expands on other benefits realized with having the increased throughput and complementary Solimar products, "Speed is double our previous setup. When one printer is down for maintenance, we do not fall behind in printing. We save a lot of time by converting a Word document to a form image with Solimar XIMAGE. This has been very helpful when doing graphs and pictures on United Way Campaign forms."

Baron also attests to Solimar renowned technical support, "I've always received excellent quick service when dealing with Tech Support. They have been very helpful. I could not ask for better service."

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