
InfoPrint Transform Manager V3.0 for AIX, Linux, and Windows

Overview

In today's global business environment, printing is a strategic decision—one that can have a profound effect on business growth and agility. The InfoPrint Transform Manager for AIX®, Linux®, or Windows® Version 3.0 software is designed to increase your print system flexibility and offload more of your IT/print environment. Now you can extend the simplicity and transparency of automated print datastream transformation to transform servers running on AIX, Linux, or Windows. Further, InfoPrint Transform Manager works in tandem with InfoPrint Manager, Ricoh ProcessDirector, and IBM InfoPrint Server for z/OS® to boost efficiency and help lower operating costs.

Advanced Function Presentation™ (AFP™) is an open, published standard in the print industry for printing variable data at very high speeds with exceptional integrity. In the past, AFP form definitions, page definitions, and other AFP objects made printing easy. Now complex variable data, images, SAP (OTF and ABAP), PCL, PostScript, and PDF files need to be converted to take advantage of secure and reliable AFP printing. This means you may need more processing power, possibly more than the existing server can provide.

InfoPrint Transform Manager can help provide this power. It allows PDF, PostScript, PCL, SAP (OTF and ABAP), and image formats (TIFF, GIF, and JPEG) to be automatically offloaded to a dedicated system for conversion to AFP, and then returned for printing. It can also convert AFP data into PDF. With transform bottlenecks reduced or eliminated, your print production workflow can run more efficiently, which can improve device utilization.

The enhanced InfoPrint Transform Manager is designed to integrate seamlessly with InfoPrint Manager for AIX, InfoPrint Manager for Windows, Ricoh ProcessDirector for AIX, Ricoh ProcessDirector for Linux, Ricoh ProcessDirector for Windows, and InfoPrint Server for z/OS to handle your data- and image-intensive transforms. The print server can automatically route appropriate print jobs to InfoPrint Transform Manager. When the jobs are complete, InfoPrint Transform Manager can return them for printing on AFP printers or on PDF printers (AFP to PDF transform).

The print server continues to manage and monitor print jobs, but it lets InfoPrint Transform Manager handle the bulk of the intense transform work, helping to improve the efficiency of the output workflow system. Transformation is transparent to job submitters or print operators.

With improved speed for PDF files, InfoPrint Transform Manager can help you slash processing time for complex, large files. A PDF rebuild capability can help bring non-compliant PDF files into compliance with the current PDF specification so they can be transformed at top speeds. The graphical user interface (GUI) can replace command line programming, so you can more easily oversee InfoPrint Transform Manager functions, such as font substitution.

InfoPrint Transform Manager allows print jobs to be spread across multiple cores on a single processor, across multiple processors, or across blade servers, so your processing power can grow with your needs. Start with an entry-level dual-processor server (at least two physical processors are required for the minimum configuration) or a blade server, and add more blades or processors when you need to increase transform processing power. InfoPrint Transform Manager offers automatic blade configuration to simplify installation with InfoPrint Transform Manager for Linux.

InfoPrint Transform Manager can also provide investment protection. Common Transform Technology, a core component of the software, allows future transforms to be integrated easily and quickly. In addition, InfoPrint Transform Manager strives to operate at the most current specification levels for the supported data stream transforms to help keep up with evolving requirements.

Build a foundation for the future with InfoPrint Transform Manager. Improved utilization and flexibility of transforms can help reduce complexity and help you optimize resource utilization. With consistent, high-speed transformation across multiple platforms using a dedicated server, you can streamline and accelerate the printing process.

Independent of hardware choices, the platform-independent Linux operating system complements the reliability of AFP technology and supports open, standards-based output. With InfoPrint Transform Manager V3.0, the AIX and Windows operating systems are also supported.

Announce and General Availability Dates

Planned Announce Date: March 12, 2013

Planned Availability Dates: March 15, 2013

At-a-glance

InfoPrint Transform Manager can help you:

- Convert large, complex PDF, PostScript, and PCL files into AFP with outstanding performance
- Offload the resource-intensive transform process from your production print server
- Provide consistent, efficient transform output across Ricoh servers and platforms
- Scale transform capacity as your workflows change to include new data streams that must be converted to AFP
- Convert AFP into PDF for electronic delivery of output

Brief Summary

InfoPrint Transform Manager is a scalable system that operates in AIX, Linux, or Windows systems. InfoPrint Transform Manager provides a powerful and cost-effective system for transforming print jobs

from the input format to the output format. When data and image transforms are required for Advanced Function Presentation printing or for conversion of AFP to PDF, print servers, such as InfoPrint Manager for Windows®, InfoPrint Manager for AIX®, Ricoh ProcessDirector for AIX®, Ricoh ProcessDirector for Linux®, Ricoh ProcessDirector for Windows® or InfoPrint® Server for z/OS®, can send transform requests to InfoPrint Transform Manager for processing across one or more transform servers. Once transformed, the data is automatically returned to the print server for printing or electronic delivery.

You configure the print servers so that print jobs that require transformation are sent to InfoPrint Transform Manager. The user interface lets you define both the print servers that are sending transform requests and the transform servers that are transforming the data. You can also use the user interface to start or stop transform servers and other functions.

Highlights

- Convert large, complex PDF, PostScript®, and PCL files into AFP with outstanding price/performance
- Convert AFP files into PDF for electronic delivery, web presentation, or printing on PDF printers
- Provide consistent, efficient transform output across InfoPrint™ print servers running Ricoh ProcessDirector, InfoPrint Manager, or InfoPrint Server for z/OS. Use multiple cores on a single processor, multiple processors, or blade servers—scale as your needs change
- Standardize print operations on the reliable, scalable, AFP architecture and supported IPDS printers
- Improve print production workflow and help lower total cost of print with a dedicated print data stream transform solution
- Install InfoPrint Transform Manager to run automatically with your print server, or run it stand-alone using a command line.

Item Numbers

The software will be announced in these countries on the dates indicated in the *Announcement Dates* and *Availability Dates* sections.

More detailed description of the software item numbers is available in the *Description* section.

5639-ITM InfoPrint Transform Manager V3.0

Item Number	Description
5639-ITM	InfoPrint Transform Manager
5639-ITM-OC001	Optional Features
5639-ITM-0001	InfoPrint Transform Manager
U001	
5639-ITM-OC002	Supply Features

Item Number	Description
5639-ITM-0001-AIX	Media Pack: InfoPrint Transform Manager for AIX
5639-ITM-0001-LNX	Media Pack: InfoPrint Transform Manager for Linux
5639-ITM-0001-WIN	Media Pack: InfoPrint Transform Manager for Windows
5639-ITM-E0001-AIX	Electronic Download: InfoPrint Transform Manager for AIX
5639-ITM-E0001-LNX	Electronic Download: InfoPrint Transform Manager for Linux
5639-ITM-E0001-WIN	Electronic Download: InfoPrint Transform Manager for Windows
5639-ITM-OC003	InfoPrint Transform Manager Software Maintenance 1 Year Registration
5639-ITM-0001-1REG	InfoPrint Transform Manager
5639-ITM-OC004	InfoPrint Transform Manager Software Maintenance 1 Year Renewal
5639-ITM-0001-1REN	InfoPrint Transform Manager- Software Maintenance 1 Year Renewal
5639-ITM-OC005	InfoPrint Transform Manager Software Maintenance 1 Year After License
5639-ITM-0001-1AFT	InfoPrint Transform Manager - Software Maintenance 1 Year After License
5639-ITM-OC006	InfoPrint Transform Manager Software Maintenance 3 Year Registration
5639-ITM-0001-3REG	InfoPrint Transform Manager - Software Maintenance 3 Year Registration
5639-ITM-OC007	InfoPrint Transform Manager Software Maintenance 3 Year Renewal
5639-ITM-0001-3REN	InfoPrint Transform Manager - Software Maintenance 3 Year Renewal
5639-ITM-OC008	InfoPrint Transform Manager Software Maintenance 3 Year After License
5639-ITM-0001-3AFT	InfoPrint Transform Manager - Software Maintenance 3 Year After License

Product Withdrawals

In addition to announcing InfoPrint Transform Manager V3.0, Ricoh is withdrawing InfoPrint Transform Manager V2.2 effective March 29, 2013.

End of service for InfoPrint Transform Manager V2.2 is March 29, 2014.

Description

InfoPrint Transform Manager handles data and image transform processing from print servers by balancing and managing transform requests across multiple transform servers. You interact with Transform Manager through a user interface on a Web browser.

InfoPrint Transform Manager includes these components:

Coordinator

The coordinator communicates with these print servers:

- InfoPrint Manager for AIX and Windows (as a separate product)
- Ricoh ProcessDirector for AIX, Linux, and Windows

- Infoprint Server for z/OS

The coordinator balances the transform requests across transform servers.

Transform server

The transform server manages these print data and image transforms:

- AFP
- PCL
- Adobe PDF and PostScript
- GIF
- JPEG
- SAP OTF and ABAP
- TIFF

The transforms convert the print data and image data to AFP. There is also a transform to convert AFP to PDF.

User interface

The user interface lets you define print servers to InfoPrint Transform Manager and start, stop, and manage the transform servers. If you install multiple, separately licensed InfoPrint Transform Manager systems, you can use the user interface from any installation to add and manage the transform servers from the other installations.

Limitations

- TIFF files larger than 2 GB are not supported
- InfoPrint Transform Manager does not provide full color support for PCL 6

Performance considerations

Transform execution speed varies with the data stream type, job length, output resolutions, and the density and complexity of the average page. Careful evaluation, including benchmarking key jobs, might be required to determine feasibility with a particular InfoPrint Transform Manager configuration. In particular, PostScript and PDF data streams vary greatly in complexity, and it should be expected that transform speeds for similar but different jobs may be significantly different, even on the same hardware configuration.

Customer Responsibilities

The customer is responsible for installing and using the InfoPrint Transform Manager according to documented procedures and for using the product in accordance with the Ricoh International Product License Agreement (IPLA), which can be found at this Web link:

<http://www.infoprint.com/licenses>

Accessibility

InfoPrint Transform Manager has the following capabilities for vision-impaired users:

- Communication of all information independent of color
- Documentation provided in an accessible format

InfoPrint Transform Manager has the following capability for users with mobility impairments or limited hand use:

- Operation using only the keyboard

Technical Information

Operating Environments

Software Requirements

- AIX 6.1TL06 with SP03 and above, 6.x where $x > 1$, and AIX 7.1 TL00 with SP03 and above, 7.x where $x > 1$ – 64-bit only
- Linux operating systems: SUSE Linux Enterprise Server (SLES) 10.0 SP3 and above, 64-bit, SLES 11.0 SP1 and above, 64-bit, Red Hat Linux 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, 6.1, 6.2, 64-bit only. Blades are supported only on SUSE Linux.
- Windows Server 2008 64-bit.
- Supported browsers include:
 - Mozilla Firefox 3.5.13 on AIX
 - Internet Explorer® 9 or later on Windows
 - Mozilla Firefox 5 or 6 On Linux

InfoPrint Manager V4.3 for AIX or later, InfoPrint Manager for Windows V2.3 or later, or PSF for z/OS V4R3 or another AFP print server is required to print the transformed AFP output of InfoPrint Transform Manager. If you want to install InfoPrint Transform Manager in graphical mode, an X Windows system is required.

InfoPrint Transform Manager V3.0 can be ordered for electronic delivery, and is managed with license keys.

Hardware Requirements

Ricoh recommends a server with the following minimum configuration. Your specific configuration needs will vary depending upon planned workloads.

- Intel® 64-bit platform (ITM will run in 32-bit compatibility) or IBM PowerPC (for AIX Operating System)
- Two 3.0 GHz or faster processors or a blade server with a minimum of two blades
- Minimum of 2 GB RAM

- DVD drive

Publications

InfoPrint Transform Manager for AIX, Linux, and Windows: Planning and Installing, G550-20160-01

InfoPrint Transform Manager for AIX, Linux, and Windows: License Information, G550-20158-01

Terms and Conditions

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Ordering Information

New Order Instructions

InfoPrint Transform Manager V3.0 is a configured product. To purchase a new license, specify new order as the order type and specify 1 or 3 years maintenance. The interface will automatically specify 5649-ITM-xxx as the base item and select the corresponding 1 or 3 year registration maintenance feature.

Note: You need *at least two* InfoPrint Transform Manager licenses since the minimum configuration requires a two-processor server. Order an InfoPrint Transform Manager V3.0 license for each processor on which it will be run. For example, an xSeries server with two processors requires two licenses.

Upgrade Instructions

All customers who have an existing license of InfoPrint Transform Manager and a current software maintenance agreement are eligible for a no charge upgrade to InfoPrint Transform Manager V3.0. To order the upgrade, contact your Ricoh representative. The Product Identifier is 5639-ITM.

InfoPrint Transform Manager for AIX, Linux, and Windows V3.0 consists of a base with no optional features. It is licensed per processor.

Note: You need at least two InfoPrint Transform Manager licenses since the minimum configuration requires a two-processor or two blade server. Order an InfoPrint Transform Manager V3.0 license for each processor on which it will be run. For example, a Windows server with two processors requires two licenses.

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