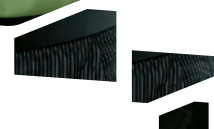# Pcounter

Category

Output Management

Characteristics

– Unified print room management
– Print policies and rules
– Product-based job processing
– Print queue management

TAKING CONTROL WITH
PROFESSIONAL OUTPUT MANAGEMENT

As comprehensive print tracking and accounting software, Pcounter enables enterprises to monitor the usage of network printers and assign costs to projects, departments, and users as well as client or student accounts.

Pcounter is the central hub for IT administrators who need to provide easy secure printing on devices and want to manage print volumes with intelligent software. The application integrates accounting, load balancing and queue management capabilities into a single cross-platform interface that works with both Microsoft Windows and Novell NetWare. Enhancing the standard functionality of print servers, Pcounter provides advanced options for queue management, tracks

all printing activity and makes available various functionalities to calculate, reallocate and visualise printing expenses.

By opting for Pcounter, enterprises can define print policies and rules to streamline print workflows and keep control of output volumes, can reliably allocate print costs, and can speed up print production with efficient print queue management.

Additional modules	
Pcounter Embedded	Personal print queue access via the bizhub touch screen; embeds functionalities like user authentication, pull-printing and accounting into the device display.
Pcounter Workstation Manager	Enables accounting of print jobs sent via direct print by monitoring print activities on devices not connected to Pcounter.
Pcounter Web Report	Easy web-interface access to advanced overviews, reports and graphs; facilitates statistics and analysis from any workstation within the network.
Pcounter Web Cashier	Enables staff without administrator rights to manage Pcounter user accounts from any workstation, e.g. deposit or withdraw money, create user accounts, print receipts, etc.
Pcounter WebPay	Lets users recharge their accounts via the Internet without involving staff; an important feature for academic institutions.
Pcounter Custom Data Kit	Enables Pcounter integration with existing information systems and business processes, by utilising the Pcounter API.
Pcounter Custom Data Kit Connect	Allows the customer to replace the Pcounter user account balance with an external database or micro-payment solution, which is then used by Pcounter.
Pcounter Print Release App	Lets users of iOS devices print documents from the Pcounter server on a connected MFP of their choice without preselecting a print queue.

KEY **FEATURES**

◆ Print policies & rules

– **Colour print control:** The application allows the customer to enforce clear colour print policies, for example to limit the use of colour. Using "Pcounter embedded", the same can be applied for colour copies.

– **Application-based print control:** This enables the customer to restrict the printing of certain document types, such as e-mails or websites, etc.

– **Printer failover:** It is possible to reroute jobs to printers that are available and ready to print, thus avoiding print queues due to "Out of toner" status or some other problem with the output device.

– **Green print policies:** Certain print modes, such as automatic duplex printing, can be set as default to stop wasteful use of paper caused by printing single-sided documents.

– **Automatic user notifications:** Users are automatically notified of any rerouting or changes of print parameters, enabling them to collect their prints directly when and where they are produced.

– **Custom rule-creation:** The selection of job conditions and triggers as well as related actions and notifications gives the administrator enhanced control mechanisms and the flexibility to create unlimited sets of print rules.
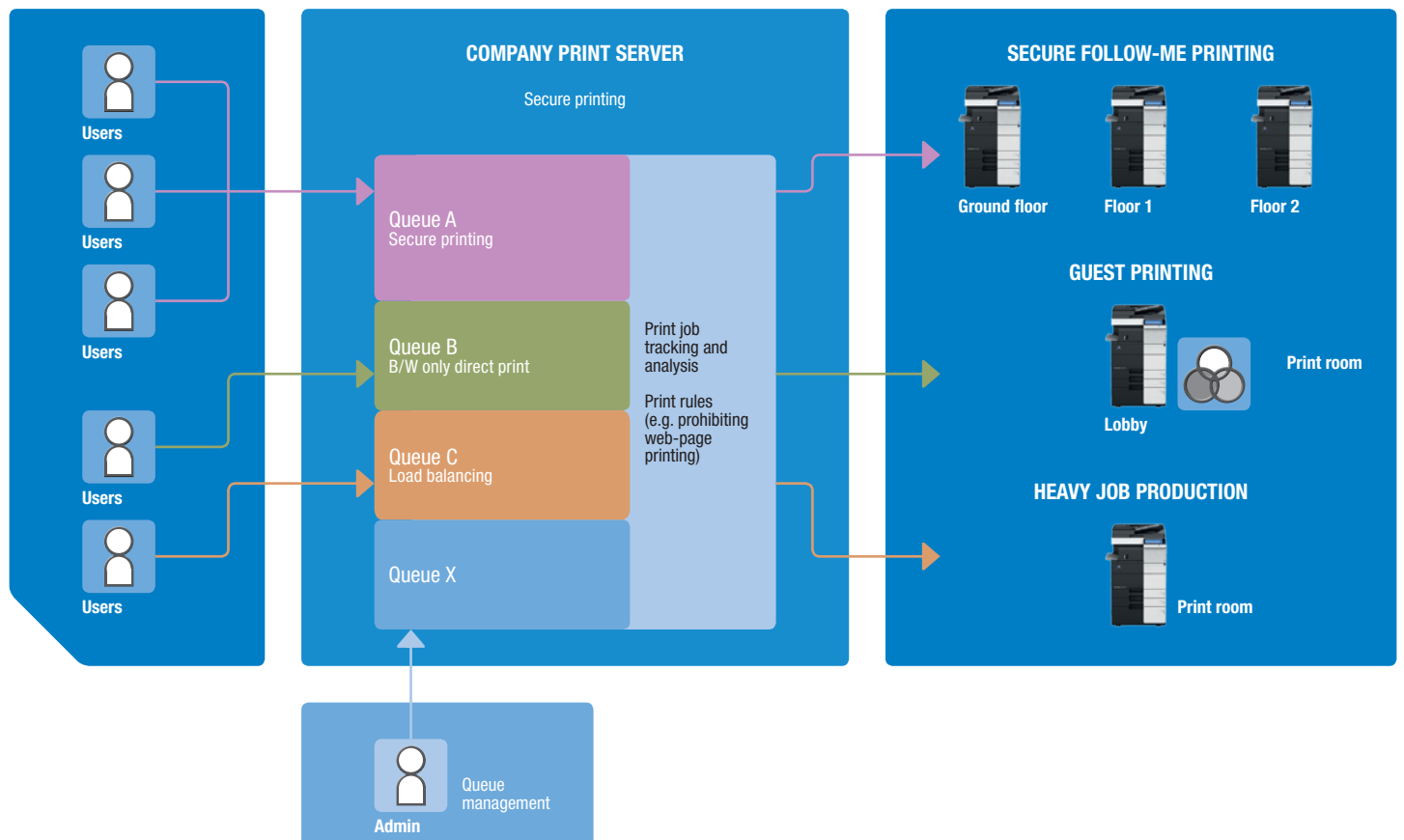
✒ Print queue management

– **Central management of print queues and settings:** All print queues and their properties can be managed centrally with this application, whether this concerns a simple print queue that routes print jobs to one particular printer, or one that holds the job(s) until authentication.

– **Flexible queue properties:** Each print queue can be set up individually in terms of job handling (wait for user authentication or pass jobs through unauthenticated), job and paper size limitations, print job notifications, and more. For environments with many printers, batch setting of print queues is also possible.

– **Secure print release:** This particularly useful feature for print queues means that print jobs are only released after authentication by the job owner at the output device via PIN code, card, or user credentials. User authentication helps avoid unnecessary printing as well as leaving confidential prints unattended in output trays from where they could easily get into the wrong hands.

– **Printing anywhere:** High printing mobility is ensured with the user's ability to select any connected device for on-demand print release. This gives users extensive printing flexibility and offers output alternatives if one device is busy when needed.

– **Storage management:** Devices can be programmed to automatically delete jobs in the secure print queue after a chosen time. This ensures that print volumes remain within the capacity limits of the available equipment.

– **Print preview:** This functionality of the Pcounter embedded module provides a preview of the first document page on the device panel before printing is started. In the display, one or more print jobs can conveniently be selected for production.

– **Load balancing:** Print jobs can be split among several printers for faster completion of the print run. Pcounter's load balancer option intelligently distributes print jobs to several print queues depending on the number of print jobs waiting, always guaranteeing performance at the highest level.

WORKFLOW

COMPANY PRINT SERVER

Secure printing

Users

Users

Users

Users

Users

Queue A
Secure printing

Queue B
B/W only direct print

Queue C
Load balancing

Queue X

Print job tracking and analysis

Print rules (e.g. prohibiting web-page printing)

Admin

Queue management

SECURE FOLLOW-ME PRINTING

Ground floor

Floor 1

Floor 2

GUEST PRINTING

Lobby

Print room

HEAVY JOB PRODUCTION

Print room

TECHNICAL **SPECIFICATIONS**

Pcounter – Version 2.71a for Windows, Version 5.53 for Netware

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Operating systems	Windows XP Professional (32/64)
	Windows Vista Business (32/64)
	Windows Vista Ultimate (32/64)
	Windows 7 (32/64)
	Windows 2003 Server (32/64)*
	Windows 2008 Server (32/64)*
	Windows 2012 Server (64)*
Memory	Sufficient to run the operating systems efficiently
CPU	Fast enough to run the operating system efficiently
Important information	Pcounter server requirements will follow the Microsoft print server specifications
	Supports accounting of print jobs from any network workstation including MAC and Unix
	Supports MS Windows Active Directory environments and Novell Netware eDirectory and NDPS environments
	Windows Cluster Support (Active/Passive)
Supported languages	English

Pcounter embedded – Version 3.2.0

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Operating systems	Windows XP (32/64)
	Windows 7 (32/64)
	Windows 2003 Server (32/64)
	Windows 2008 Server (32/64)
	Windows 2012 Server (64)
.NET Framework	.Net Framework 2.0 (minimum)
	.Net Framework 3.0 if bEST link has to be supported
Web browser	Mozilla Firefox
	Google Chrome
	Opera
	Microsoft Internet Explorer version 8 or higher
Prerequisites	Windows: Pcounter 2.62c (minimum)
	Netware: Pcounter 5.51a (minimum)
Important recommendations	A server operating system is recommended for the installation of Pcounter embedded.
	Windows Cluster Support (Active/Passive)
Supported languages	English, French, Italian, German, Spanish, Dutch, Swedish

* recommended operating systems

✎ Pcounter Web Report – Version 3.2.2

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Operating systems	Windows XP Professional SP3 (32/64)
	Windows Vista (32/64)
	Windows 7 (32/64)
	Windows 2003 Server (32/64)
	Windows 2008 Server (32/64)
Hard disk space	150 MB
CPU	Fast enough to run the operating system efficiently
.NET Framework	.Net Framework 3.51 (minimum)
Web browser	Internet Explorer
	Mozilla Firefox
	(Client web browsers must have the Microsoft Silverlight plug-in installed)
Prerequisites	Windows: Pcounter 2.62c (minimum)
	Netware: Pcounter 5.51a (minimum)
Supported languages	English, French, German
Important recommendations	A dedicated server for Web Report may be required in large environments, depending on the amount of users and data processing. If Pcounter logs files of 50−100 MB or greater per month it is necessary to have a dual core processor and 4−8 GB RAM (8 GB preferred).

✎ Pcounter Web Cashier – Version 3.2.1

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Operating systems	Windows XP Professional (32/64)
	Windows 2000 Professional (32/64)
	Windows Vista (32/64)
	Windows 2000 Server (32/64)
	Windows 2003 Server (32/64)
	Windows 2008 Server (32/64)
Memory	1 GB
Hard disk space	500 MB
CPU	Fast enough to run the operating system efficiently
Web browser	Internet Explorer 5.5 (minimum)
	Mozilla Firefox 1.0 (minimum)
	needs to be installed on client PC for accessing Web Cashier
Prerequisites	Windows: Pcounter 2.62c (minimum)
	Netware: Pcounter 5.51a (minimum)
Supported languages	English, French, German, Spanish, Danish

✎ Pcounter Mobile Gateway – Version 1.0.1

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Operating systems	Windows 2003 Server SP2 (32/64)
	Windows 2008 Server SP1 (32/64)
	Windows 2008 Server R2 (32/64)
	Windows 2012 Server (64)
Memory	1 GB
Hard disk space	5 GB
CPU	Recent server CPU generation (Intel Xeon 64 or equivalent)
Prerequisites	Pcounter 2.55 (minimum) for Windows has been installed and configured
	No anti-virus program monitoring or interrupting the Pcounter Mobile Gateway directories
Supported languages	English

✒ Pcounter Custom Data Kit (CDK) – Version 2.2.24 / Custom Data Kit Connect (CDK Connect) – Version 1.1.4.0

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Operating systems	Windows XP Professional (32/64)
	Windows Vista (32/64)
	Windows 2003 Server (32/64)
	Windows 2008 Server (32/64)
Hard disk space	20 MB (minimum and installed)
Prerequisites	The CDK and CDK Connect must be installed on the Pcounter data server (Windows) and the Pcounter server must have a valid Pcounter license with ongoing maintenance
Important recommendations	CDK log expert requires approximately 10 times the 20 MB hard disk space used by the Pcounter log (i.e. Log size is 1 MB = 10 MB required)
	CDK database may require 1 KB temporary disk space for each client code imported
Supported languages	English

✒ Pcounter WebPay Gateway – Version 2.9

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Operating systems	Windows XP Professional (32/64)
	Windows 2000 Professional (32/64)
	Windows 2000 Server (32/64)
	Windows 2003 Server (32/64)
	Windows 2008 Server (32/64)
	Windows 2012 Server (64)
Hard disk space	25 MB
CPU	Fast enough to run the operating system efficiently
Prerequisites	Windows: Pcounter 2.62c (minimum)
	Netware: Pcounter 5.51a (minimum)
Installation prerequisites	The WebPay Gateway must be installed on the same computer that hosts the Pcounter data server service. For Pcounter for Netware, the WebPay gateway must be installed on a Microsoft Windows computer with the Novell client
Supported languages	English

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