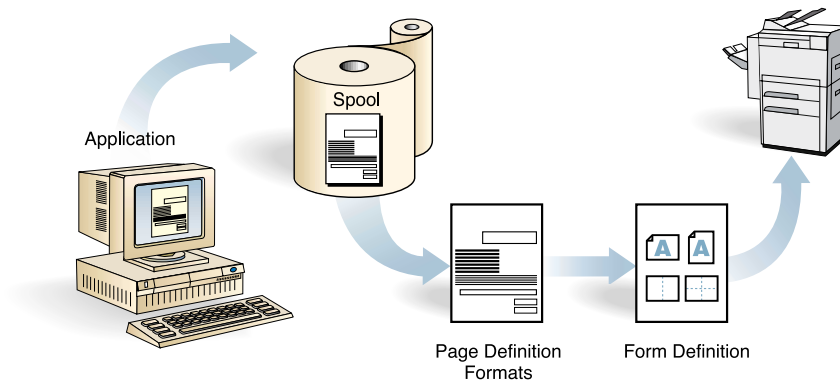


IBM Page Printer Formatting Aid



With IBM Page Printer Formatting Aid, you can use page and form definitions to convert your existing business communications to electronic documents

Highlights

- **Fully integrated, application-independent formatting for iSeries output**
- **Enables dynamic transformation of existing output applications**
- **Supports all the elements required for electronic communications (bar codes, outline fonts, images, overlays)**
- **Enables you to take advantage of integrated AFP print management, IPDS reliable delivery, and iSeries e-output capabilities**

The IBM® Page Printer Formatting Aid (PPFA) for iSeries makes it easy for you to transform your existing printed documents into dynamic electronic applications. PPFA is an application-independent tool that lets you convert output using Advanced Function Presentation™ (AFP™) page and form definitions.

Page and form definitions

Page and form definitions are AFP resources that specify extensive formatting options for spooled line data files. This is an industry-standard programming language that separates document formats from the line-of-business application and maps the

output to full electronic pages. PPFA for iSeries is a compiler that creates AFP page and form definition objects from source statements. You can write these statements in a command line interface and PPFA will automatically create electronic documents from your existing application output.

Application independence

PPFA is application independent so you don't have to make any changes to your existing program. Unlike many other application-independent formatting solutions, the page and form definitions are specified directly to the iSeries printer file, creating a fully integrated, one-step process.

Page and form definitions can be processed on any AFP system, including MVS®, VM™, VSE™ and AIX®. This makes it easier to transfer applications and print jobs to and from iSeries systems in multi-platform environments.

Document functionality

PPFA-generated page and form definitions are used to produce complex document layouts

Capabilities

- Full-function electronic output, including typographic fonts, bar coding, image and electronic forms
- Application-independent, no changes required to application program
- Fully integrated, dynamic changes produced by the application program
- High performance, one-pass process
- Industry standard architecture for print formatting language
- PPFA/400 compiler only required on development system, runtime support built into OS/400®
- Designed to transform preprinted form applications with support for customized copies
- Provides same field-level capability of Data Description Specifications (DDS), including field positioning, rotation, color, font and bar coding
- Compatible with internally described or externally described applications
- Support for all major bar code symbologies
- Supports advanced function of AFP/IPDS™ printers
- Record format architecture (V5R1) extends application-independent formatting to DDS data and Java™ server applications

Prerequisites

- Print Services Facility™/400 (PSF™/400), a feature of OS/400
- Intelligent Printer Data Stream™ (IPDS) printer, or equivalent capability

Complementary Products

- Infoprint® Server for iSeries
- Facsimile Support for iSeries
- Content Manager Common Server for iSeries
- AFP Font Collection / Type Transformer for Windows™
- Content Manager OnDemand for iSeries
- iSeries Client Access Family

incorporating electronic forms, images, outline fonts and bar codes. You can create custom designs for your business communications and implement forms and bar codes to re-engineer the way you do business.

Because page and form definitions are part of the AFP architecture, they allow you to take advantage of the management capabilities, output flexibility, print enhancements and the viewing, faxing and archiving options of Advanced Function Presentation.

Taking formatting to the next level

With Version 5 of OS/400, iSeries page and form definitions are significantly extended. A new application interface (record format) provides for easy

formatting of raw DDS output or Java server data. In addition, applications formatted with page and form definitions can now be queued as AFP, opening up all of the “downstream” functions available with AFP information.

IBM Service and Support

IBM is the expert in iSeries printing and information presentation. Look to IBM to ensure you can deliver the output of e-business.

For more information

To learn more, contact your local IBM Printing Systems representative, visit ibm.com/printers or call (800) 358-6661, option 3.



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