

## Setting Up and Tuning SNMP Communication

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If you are printing to network printers you may choose to control how your Infoprint Manager servers issue SNMP requests. You can use the **Infoprint Manager Administration GUI** to specify:

- Whether or not to attempt SNMP communication with a printer.
- The name of the SNMP community to which the printer device belongs.
- How many times to retry failed SNMP requests.
- How many seconds to wait for an SNMP printer response before timing out.

When you create an SNMP printer, you must specify either the fully-qualified printer name or the Internet address in the **TCP/IP address** field (**destination-tcpip-internet-address** printer attribute). If you create an SNMP printer with an abbreviated printer name, Infoprint Manager responds with the SNMP connection lost message when you attempt to enable the printer.

The following SNMP attributes can be modified through the **Infoprint Manager Administration GUI** to either set up or tune the SNMP communication with network printers.

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### Set SNMP at start up (snmp-discovery-during-startup)

This attribute is a server object, so you must select the server that you want to configure, then use the **Server→Properties** menu to open the **Server Properties Notebook** and select the **SNMP** tab.

Setting `snmp-discovery-during-startup=false` ensures a fast start-up of your Infoprint Manager server, while ensuring that the **Actual Destination** information displayed is from when the server was last shut down. This status will not become accurate until Infoprint Manager polls each actual destination. When you accept the default on this server attribute (`snmp-discovery-during-startup=true`), the Infoprint Manager server does an SNMP query on each SNMP printer to obtain the most recent status. These SNMP queries can cause long start-up times, especially if there are many SNMP printers and some of them are either powered off or disconnected.

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### Setting SNMP printer attributes

To modify the Infoprint printer attributes cited below, select the actual destination that you want to configure and use the **Printer→Properties** menu to open the **Printer Properties Notebook**, and select the **SNMP** tab.

#### Use SNMP (use-snmpp)

This attribute defaults to **yes**, but you may want to set it to **no** under the following types of conditions:

- **Printer is off-line:** the printer is turned off or removed from the network for an extended period of time and you don't want to use system resources to poll the device.
- **Performance:** it's taking too much time to query and poll the SNMP status.

- Invalid status/defaulting: the destination status is being reported incorrectly and you want to disable SNMP while service investigates the problem.
- TCP/IP-attached PSF printers that are not SNMP printers.

## TCP/IP address

Either the fully-qualified printer name or the Internet address that you specified when you created the printer. You can change this value if you need to. If you create an SNMP printer with an abbreviated printer name or try to change the address to an abbreviated printer name, , Infoprint Manager responds with the SNMP connection lost message when you attempt to enable the printer.

## Community Name (snmp-community-name)

Use this attribute to indicate the name of the SNMP community to which the printer belongs. The name must match one of the community names configured in the printer.

## Number of Times to Retry (snmp-retry-count)

Use this to specify the number of times to retry an SNMP request if it fails. The higher the number of retries, the more possible traffic there will be on the network. Use higher numbers for remote printers. Increasing this number too much may cause reduced performance.

## Timeout (snmp-timeout)

Use this to specify the number of seconds the server should wait for the printer to respond to an SNMP request. If the printer is remote (on a different subnet), this number may need to be increased from the default. The amount of increase depends on a number of network factors, including routing and network loading. Increasing this number too much may cause reduced performance.

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## Working with SNMP Printers

The following actual destination attributes are set automatically if you are printing to SNMP Printers:

- **input-trays-medium**
- **media-supported**
- **output-bin-numbers**
- **plexes-supported**
- **printer-model**
- **psf-tray-characteristics**
- **sides-supported**

For example, if you define an SNMP printer to Infoprint Manager and change the size of the paper in the printer at the printer device, the SNMP support updates the appropriate actual destination attributes on the list above. However, if you set any of these printer attributes explicitly either in a **pdset** command or the **Infoprint Manager Administration GUI**, the SNMP support will not override your setting.

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