

Printing from ERP Applications

[Back to Administrator procedures](#)

You can send PostScript or PCL output from your ERP software to Infoprint Manager to be printed. If your ERP software resides on a Windows system, you should submit the jobs through a Windows gateway printer. If your ERP software resides on an AIX system and you do not have Infoprint Manager for AIX installed, you should use the lprafp Line Printer Client (LPR) and the Infoprint Manager Line Printer Daemon (LPD).

Submitting ERP print jobs from a Windows system

Defining the Windows gateway printer

Your ERP print jobs will be submitted to a Windows gateway printer that is associated with the appropriate PostScript or PCL driver for your printer. Follow these steps to define your Windows gateway printer:

1. Create or select an Infoprint actual destination that will accept the data stream that you will be sending to the printer (PostScript, PCL, or AFP).

This actual destination can be almost any type of Infoprint printer (Passthrough, BSD, IPP, PSF) that you can create using the Infoprint Manager Administration GUI. If you don't want to use the default queue and logical destination, create them and associate the actual destination with them.

2. Install the appropriate PostScript or PCL printer driver on the system that your Infoprint Manager server resides on.
 - If you will be sending PostScript data to an AFP printer, you can use the IBM Network Printer 17 driver, which you can download from the IBM Printing Systems website.
 - Otherwise, you can install and use the driver that came with your printer.

Follow these steps to install the driver on your system.

- a. Insert the CD or disk containing the driver into the correct drive.
- b. Start the Windows **Add Printer** wizard and create a local printer. When you have to select a port, select FILE:.
- c. When the wizard gives you a list of manufacturers and printers, select either the IBM Network Printer 17 or the driver that came with your printer.
- d. Finish the wizard without printing a test page or making this printer the default.

Once you finish the wizard, you can delete this printer; the driver will still be installed.

3. Open the Management Console and create a Windows gateway printer.

In the **Target destination** field, select the destination that you created or chose in 1. In the **Windows driver name** field, select the driver that you installed in 2. Remember the **Share name** that you choose; you will need it later. Refer to the Management Console online help for additional information.

Adding the Windows gateway printer to the system you want to print from

Once the Windows gateway printer is created, you can add it to the desktop of the system that you want to print from. Then you will be able to submit your print jobs directly to it. Follow this procedure to add the Windows gateway printer to the desktop.

1. Use the **Add Printer** wizard to add the Windows gateway printer to your desktop as a network printer. When you are prompted for the name of the printer to connect to, find or enter the **Share name** of the Windows gateway printer you created. Finish the wizard.
2. Once the connection to the Windows gateway printer is created, you can print to it just as you would to any other printer.

Submitting ERP print jobs from an AIX system

If your ERP software resides on an AIX system, and you don't have Infoprint Manager for AIX installed, you need to set up an appropriate Line Printer client (LPR) on the AIX system and an appropriate Line Printer Daemon (LPD) on the Windows system. If you want to use the advanced printing options (such as `formdef` and `pagedefs`) that Infoprint Manager provides, you must use **lprafp** on your AIX system and the Infoprint Manager LPD on your Windows system.

lprafp is a version of LPR that allows you to use `-o` options to specify advanced print options when you submit jobs to Infoprint Manager. You can download an **lprafp** sample code package (including a compiled version of the code that can be used on AIX version 4.3.3 and higher) from the IBM Printing Systems website at <http://www.ibm.com/printers>. IBM Printing Systems does not provide support for the package.

The Infoprint Manager LPD is installed and activated with your Infoprint Manager for Windows NT and Windows 2000 server. It is the only LPD that properly processes the `-o` options that **lprafp** submits. If you use a different LPD (such as *TCP/IP Print Services*, the LPD that is shipped with the Windows operating system), the `-o` options that you send will be lost.

Note: The LPD supplied with the Windows operating system (TCP/IP Print Services) does support a `-o` option, but it is not the same. This `-o` option specifies the binary option.

For additional information about the Infoprint Manager LPD, refer to Using the Infoprint Manager Line Printer Daemon (LPD).

If you use the Infoprint Manager LPD, you will only be able to LPR print jobs to Infoprint Manager destinations, not to Windows printers. If you use a different LPD, you will only be able to LPR to Windows printers. To submit a job to Infoprint Manager, you will have to set up a Windows gateway printer.

If you cannot use **lprafp** and/or the Infoprint Manager LPD, you can use the standard LPR and a different LPD to submit jobs from an AIX system to your Infoprint Manager for Windows NT and Windows 2000 system. However, you will not be able to use advanced print options.

Important:

1. Do not use this procedure if you have Infoprint Manager for AIX installed on your AIX system. If you have Infoprint Manager for AIX installed, you should

use the Infoprint Manager AIX Client to submit print jobs from AIX systems to your Infoprint Manager servers. In addition, you should consider setting up an interoperating environment so your Infoprint Manager servers can work together.

For additional information on interoperability, refer to *Configuring for Interoperability on an Infoprint AIX Server*

2. When you issue the **lpr** command, you must specify the option that designates *binary* or *already-formatted* data. For example, on AIX you must use the **-l** (lower case "L") option on the **lpr**.

To submit ERP jobs from an AIX system to Infoprint Manager for Windows NT and Windows 2000, you must complete two tasks:

- "Install and configure **lprafp**"
- "Verify that the Infoprint Manager LPD is running"

Install and configure **lprafp**

The **lprafp** sample code package is available for free download from the IBM Printing Systems website at <http://www.ibm.com/printers>. Use this procedure to locate and install the package.

Note: The compiled version of **lprafp** for AIX will only run on AIX 4.3.3 and above. If you have a lower version, you must use a different LPR client and will not be able to use advanced printing options.

1. Navigate to <http://www.ibm.com/printers> in your web browser.
2. Under **Resources for**, click **Infoprint Manager**.
3. On the Infoprint Manager Family Home Page, click **Infoprint Manager for Windows NT and Windows 2000**.
4. On the Infoprint Manager for Windows NT and Windows 2000 home page, select **Downloads** from the list under **Product Resources**.
5. On the Downloads page, find **lprafp** and click to download.
6. Use a zip utility to unzip the package.
7. Open the README file and follow the instructions for installing the package on a UNIX system. Skip steps 4 & 5 of the instructions, because you will be using the already compiled version of **lprafp**.

Verify that the Infoprint Manager LPD is running

1. On the system that your Infoprint Manager server runs on, open the Infoprint Manager Management Console.
2. Select **Edit -> Service Configuration**.
3. In the **Service Configuration** dialog, find **Run Infoprint Manager LPD service** check box.
 - If the box is checked, the Infoprint Manager LPD is already running. Click **Cancel** to dismiss the dialog.
 - If the box is not checked, click **Cancel** and continue with step 4.
4. In the Management Console, select **File -> Stop Server**.
5. After the Infoprint Manager server has stopped, click **Edit -> Service Configuration** again.
6. Click the **Run Infoprint Manager LPD service** check box to select it.
7. Click **OK**.
8. Select **File -> Start Server** to restart the Infoprint Manager server.

| [Back to Administrator procedures](#)