Working with the Infoprint PPML Transform Program

Back to Administrator Procedures

With service update PTF U4743112 / APAR IY14601 (October 2001), Infoprint Manager for AIX provides a transform program to convert Personalized Print Markup Language (PPML) data streams into the Advanced Function Presentation (AFP) format that has been tailored for an IBM Infoprint Color 130 Plus printer. PPML is an emerging XML-based print data stream that is divided into subsets. Infoprint Manager for AIX supports the Graphic Arts Conformance Subset for processing objects within the data stream that can consist of PostScript, PDF, TIFF, and JPEG objects. Sample files that demonstrate the power of this transform are provided in the default directory of **/usr/lpp/psf/ppml2afp** with the names **samplePS.ppml**, **samplePDF.ppml**, **sampleJPEG.ppml**, and **sampleTIFF.ppml**.

Users can submit PPML jobs to Infoprint through the following methods:

- Hot folder interfaces from PC or Macintosh systems.
- Use of the **pdpr** command from the AIX command line.
- Use of the standard AIX print commands (**enq**, **lp**, **qprt**) from an AIX command line.
- Use of the **lprafp** command from other UNIX systems.

  Note: Infoprint does not support the `–odatatype=ppml` option.

For more information about how to submit PPML jobs to Infoprint Manager, refer to *Infoprint Manager: Reference*.

When a PPML print job is submitted to print on a PSF physical printer, Infoprint automatically invokes the transform. You can also run the transforms from the AIX command line without printing the generated output. You may find this useful if you intend to print the job later. Jobs print more quickly if they have already been transformed.

The PPML transform has options that you can use to specify processing information. For a list of the options or options and values for each transform, refer to *Infoprint Manager: Reference*. Configuration files, environment variables, and user-exit programs allow you to specify processing information for Infoprint to use when it invokes the transform automatically. You can also use configuration files and environment variables instead of typing options on the command line whenever you run a transform.

Customizing the PPML Transform

You can customize the transform for PPML data by specifying values in the transform configuration files. Table 1 shows the default configuration files that Infoprint provides. You can either modify these files or create your own.

Table 1. Default PPML Transform Configuration File

Data Stream	***Transform***	***Configuration File***
PPML	**ppml2afp**	**/psf/ppml2afp/ppml2afp.cfg**

Sample PPML Configuration File

Figure 1 shows an example of a configuration file for the PPML transform.

```
# ppml2afp configuration file


# KEYWORD          EQUIVALENT ppml2afp option                    PURPOSE
##############################################################################


ppml_server_port = 8251                      # -P      port number of the server
                                             #         running the PPML2AF transform

ppml_server_name = 127.0.0.1                 # -S      which server to connect with

ppml_work_directory = /usr/lpp/psf/ppml2afp  # -d      where PPML2AFP can store files

ppml_resolution = 600                        # -r      resolution of printer
```

Figure 1. Sample PPML Configuration File

The configuration file uses keyword equivalents of the transform options. Refer to *Infoprint Manager: Reference* for the keywords and values that you can specify in the configuration file.

Hierarchy of PPML Transform Options

Infoprint assigns a hierarchy to its use of options and configuration-file information when it runs the PPML transform program. The following lists the order in which Infoprint uses options and information specified in configuration files:

1. Any values you specify on the command line, including values in the configuration file you specify with the **-C** option.

   Infoprint commands process options from left to right. If you enter the same option more than once, Infoprint uses the last occurrence of the option to determine the value to use. For example, if you specify the following command:

   ```
   ppml2afp -Cconfig.file -r240 -r300 myfile.ps
   ```

   The **ppml2afp** command transforms the file using 300-pel resolution. Infoprint ignores the resolution value specified in the configuration file `config.file` and the first **-r240** option and value.
2. Values are specified in the default transform command configuration file, which is **/usr/lpp/psf/ppml2afp/ppml2afp.cfg**. Infoprint ignores values in the default transform command configuration file if you invoke the transform command indirectly by submitting a job to print.″
3. Default values that are built into Infoprint . These are the same as the transform defaults.

Index

Special Characters

C

F

H

I

P

T