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Requirements for IPP Notifications

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ABSTRACT

This document is one of a set of documents which together describe all aspects of a new Internet Printing Protocol (IPP). IPP is an application level protocol that can be used for distributed printing on the Internet. There are multiple parts to IPP, but the primary architectural components are the Model, the Protocol and an interface to Directory Services. This document provides a statement of the requirements for notifications as part of an IPP Service. The full set of IPP documents include:

Requirements for an Internet Printing Protocol
Internet Printing Protocol/1.0: Model and Semantics
Internet Printing Protocol/1.0: Protocol Specification
Rationale for the Structure of the Model and Protocol
for the Internet Printing Protocol

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1.0 Scope

The scope of this requirements statement is for end users. This document does not address requirements specific to print administrators or operators. However, we fully expect the notification mechanisms defined in support of the requirements set forth in this document to be extendible to print administrators and operators as well.

2.0 Terminology

It is necessary to define a set of terms in order to be able to clearly express the requirements for notification services in an IPP System.

2.1 Job Submitting End User

A human end user who submits a print job to an IPP Printer. This person may or may not be within the same security domain as the Printer. This person may or may not be geographically near the printer.

2.2 Job Submitting Application

An application (for example a batch application), acting on behalf of an end user, which submits a print job to an IPP Printer. The application may or may not be within the same security domain as the Printer. This application may or may not be geographically near the printer.

2.3 Security Domain

For the purposes of this discussion, the set of network components which can communicate without going through a proxy or firewall. A security domain may be geographically very large, for example - anyplace within IBM.COM.

2.4 IPP Client

The software component on the client system which implements the IPP protocol.

2.5 Job Recipient

A human who is the ultimate consumer of the print job. In many cases this will be the same person as the Job Submitting End User, but this need not always be the case. For example, if I use IPP to print a document on a printer in a business partner's office, I am the Job Submitting End User, while the person I intend the document for in my business partner's office is the Job Recipient. Since one of the goals of IPP is to be able to print near the ultimate recipient of the printed output, we would normally expect the Job Recipient to be in the same security domain as, and geographically near the Printer. However, this may not always be the case. For example, I submit a print job across the Internet to a Kinko's print shop. I am both the Submitting end User and the Job Recipient, but I am neither near nor in the same security domain as the Printer.

2.6 Job Recipient Proxy

A person acting on behalf of the Job Recipient. In particular, the Job Recipient Proxy physically picks up the printed document from the Printer, if the Job Recipient cannot perform that function. The Proxy is **by definition** geographically near and in the same security domain as the printer. For example, I submit a print job from home to be printed on a printer at work. I'd like my secretary to pick up the print job and put it on my desk. In this case, I am acting as both Job Submitting End User and Job Recipient. My secretary is acting as a Job Recipient Proxy.

2.7 Notification Recipient

Any of: Job Submitting End User, Job Submitting Application, Job Recipient, or Job Recipient Proxy.

2.8 Notification Recipient Agent

A program which receives events on behalf of the notification recipient. The agent may take some action on behalf of the recipient, forward the notification to the recipient via some alternative means (for example, page the recipient), or queue the notification for later retrieval by the recipient.

2.9 Notification Events

Any of the following constitute events that a Job Submitting End User can specify notifications be sent for:

- Any standard Printer MIB alert (i.e. device alerts)
- Job Received (transition from Unknown to Pending)
- Job Started (Transition from Pending to Processing)
- Page Complete (Page is stacked)
- Collated Copy Complete (last sheet of collated copy is stacked)
- Job Complete (transition from Processing or Processing-stopped to Completed)
- Job aborted (transition from Pending, Pending-held, Processing, or Processing-stopped to Aborted)
- Job canceled (transition from Pending, Pending-held, Processing, or Processing-held to Canceled)

2.10 Notification Registration

It should be possible for end users to “Register” for notifications of certain types of events, independent of Job Submission. An end user may register for

- All Job Traps
- All Traps (Job and Printer)
- None (Reserves a slot in some limited stable of “notification hosts”)

2.11 Notification Attributes

IPP Objects (for example, a print job) from which notification are being sent may have attributes associated with them. A user may want to have one or more of these associated attributes returned along with a particular notification. In general, these may include any attribute associated with the object emitting the notification. Examples include:

number-of-intervening jobs
job-k-octets
job-k-octets processed
job impressions
job-impressions-interpreted
job-impressions-completed
impressionsCompletedCurrentCopy (job MIB)
sheetCompletedCopyNumber (job MIB)
sheetsCompletedDocumentNumber (job MIB)
Copies-requested
Copy-type
Output-destination
Job-state-reasons

2.12 Immediate Notification

Notifications sent to the notification recipient or the notification recipient's agent in such a way that the notification arrives immediately , within the limits of common addressing, routing, network congestion and quality of service.

2.13 Queued Notification

Notifications which are not necessarily sent immediately, but are queued for delivery by some intermediate network application, or for later retrieval. Email with store and forward is an example of queued notification.

2.14 Notification over Reliable Transport

Notifications which are delivered by a reliable, sequenced delivery of packets or character stream, with acknowledgment and retry, such that delivery of the notification is guaranteed within some reasonable time limits. For example, if the notification recipient has logged off and gone home for the day, an immediate notification cannot be guaranteed to be delivered, even when sent over a reliable transport, because there is nothing there to catch it. Guaranteed delivery requires both queued notification and a reliable transport. If delivery of the notification requires process to process communications, each session is managed in a reliable manner, assuring fully ordered, end-to-end delivery.

2.15 Notification over Unreliable Transport

Notifications are delivered via the fundamental transport address and routing framework, but no acknowledgment or retry is required. Process to process communications, if involved, are unconstrained.

2.16 Human Consumable Notification

Notifications which are intended to be consumed by human end users **only**. They contain no machine readable encodings of the event. Email would be an example of a Human consumable notification.

2.17 Machine Consumable Notification

Notifications which are intended for consumption by a program **only**, such as an IPP Client. Machine Consumable notifications may not contain human readable information.

2.18 Mixed Notification

A mixed notification may contain both human readable and human readable information.

3.0 Requirements

3.1 A Job Submitting End User must be able to specify zero or more notification recipients when submitting a print job.

3.2 When specifying a notification recipient, a Job Submitting End user must be able to specify one or more notification events for that notification recipient.

3.3 When specifying a notification recipient, the Job Submitting End User must be able to specify either immediate or queued notification for that notification recipient. This may be explicit, or implied by the method of delivery chosen by the Job Submitting End User.

3.4 When specifying a notification event, a Job Submitting End User must be able to specify that zero or more notification attributes be sent along with the notification, when that event occurs.

3.5 Common delivery methods, e.g. email, must be supported.

3.6 There is no requirement for the IPP Printer receiving the print request to validate the identity of an event recipient, nor the ability of the system to deliver an event to that recipient as requested (for example, if the event recipient is not at work today).

3.7 However, an IPP Printer must validate its ability to deliver an event using the specified delivery scheme. If it does not support the specified scheme, or the specified scheme is invalid for some reason, then it should respond to the print request with an error condition.

3.8 There must be a class of IPP event notifications which can flow through corporate firewalls. However, an IPP printer need not test to guarantee delivery of the notification through a firewall before accepting a print job.

3.9 A mechanism must be provided for delivering a notification to the submitting client when the delivery of an event notification to a specified Notification Recipient fails.

3.10 There must be a mechanism for localizing human consumable notifications.

4.0 Scenarios

4.1 I am sitting in my office and submit a print job to the printer down the hall. I am in the same security domain as the printer and of course, geographically near. I want to know immediately when my print job will be completed (or if there is a problem) because the document I am working on is urgent. I submit the print job with the following attributes:

- Notification Recipient - me
- Notification Events - all
- Notification Attributes - job-state-reason
- Notification Type - immediate

4.2 I am working from home and submit a print job to the same printer as in the previous example. However, since I am not at work, I cannot physically get the print file or do anything with it. It can wait until I get to work this afternoon. However, I'd like my secretary to pick up the output and put it on my desk so it doesn't get lost or mis-filed. I'd also like a queued notification sent to my email so that when I get to work I can tell if there was a problem with the print job. I submit a print job with the following attributes:

- Notification Recipient - my secretary
- Notification Events - print complete
- Notification Type - immediate

- Notification Recipient - me
- Notification Events - print complete
- Notification Attributes - impressions completed
- Notification Type - queued

4.3 I am sitting in my office and submit a print job to a client at an engineering firm we work with on a daily basis. The engineering form is in Belgium. I would like my client to know when the print job is

complete, so that she can pick it up from the printer in her building. It is important that she review it right away and get her comments back to me. I submit the print job with the following attributes:

- Notification Recipient - client at engineering firm
- Notification Events - print complete
- Notification Type - immediate
- Notification Language - French

4.4 I am in a hotel room and send a print job to a Kinko's store in the town I am working in, in order to get a printed report for the meeting I am attending in the morning. Since I'm going out to dinner after I get this job submitted, an immediate notification won't do me much good. However, I'd like to check in the morning before I drive to the Kinko's store to see if the file has been printed. An email notification is sufficient for this purpose. I submit the print job with the following attributes:

- Notification Recipient - me
- Notification Events - print complete
- Notification Type - email

4.5 I am printing a large, complex print file. I want to have some immediate feedback on the progress of the print job as it prints. I submit the print job with the following attributes:

- Notification Recipient - me
- Notification Type - immediate
- Notification Events - all state transitions
- Notification Attributes - impression completed