

Why I assigned various priorities to PrinterMIB objects

Rick Landau 20060724

Solve the big problem first. If we leave out some items that are useful, fixing that later is easy. Pick a target. Aim low, at least to start negotiations.

Just to show where my prejudice lies, I think that the big problem is shared office printers that are monitored and managed remotely.

- shared
- sheet-fed
- unattended
- monochrome and process color
- no options except duplex
- vanilla office printers

- monitored remotely (because they are shared, no operator)
- need info to present a reasonable status page
- need rich status reporting, roll-up plus details
- alarm common error conditions: paper, toner, jam
- need names of all media and supplies
- need items to help predict service needs: capacities, levels, counters

- sense and manage default behavior

- multiple inputs
- one or maybe two outputs
- no fancy finishing
- not production printers with operators

- not detecting options through the management interface
- not doing fancy discovery of printer capabilities on network ("find me a....")
- don't include details that can be inferred from model and version info

- assume reliable event devlivery
- not tied to SNMP polling strategy (e.g., ConfigChanges)