SEALSYSTEMS
THE DIGITAL PAPER FACTORY

Printer Management made easy!

➕ In the following user report, you can read about the challenges faced by the leading manufacturer of plant construction and mechanical engineering, SMS Siemag, in the course of optimizing the management of 400 output devices of the central output management system.

➕ You will learn how SMS Siemag managed the administration and distribution of a variety of multifunction printers and large format plotters.

➕ And you'll learn how valuable controlled printer management is concerning installation, maintaining and removing output devices for many different output systems.

SMS SIEMAG
SMS group

The Situation

At SMS Siemag around 400 output devices from a simple office printer to the newest generation of multifunction printers and large format plotters have to be administered.

These devices must be installed, maintained and removed on multiple spooling systems like SAP® systems, Microsoft Windows® print servers and PLOSSYS® output management servers.

Managing 400 devices on various widespread system environments posed some serious challenges for the system administrators at SMS Siemag: Daily administrational work like the installation of a new device on multiple systems, or the modification or deletion of devices regularly took a lot of time and effort.

The continuous synchronization of all device and system parameters was too problematic as well. An in-house developed solution based on a Microsoft Access database was used to cover these requirements. Nevertheless there were several employees needed to install and distribute a new device on the desired output systems in the framework of a defined workflow.

To reduce the high expenditure of time and the resulting costs, the IT department was tasked with finding a solution for efficient device administration covering multiple locations and systems.

The Requirements

All in all the requirements of SMS Siemag regarding the administration of output devices were:

- Simplification
- Economization
- Automation
- Increasing process transparency and security

The IT team from SMS Siemag quickly found the ideal solution to realize these goals: easyPRIMA from SEAL Systems. easyPRIMA („Easy Printer Management") is a companywide central database for definition and administration of all output devices on all system environments (SAP, Windows, Output Management Systems) and locations.

From company-specific processes at SMS Siemag there were also some additional requirements which were considered with the consultants from SEAL Systems on location. Additional specific requirements of SMS Siemag were:

- User-friendly import of existing device templates into easyPRIMA
- Adaption of the authorization concept for creation of new devices to company-specific rules
- Automation of assignment and deletion of ports
- Definition of printers used by the board of directors as "hidden devices"

After a productive exchange of requirements and information, SEAL Systems decided to include the additional requirements into product development. Shortly after, the new standard version easyPRIMA 2.0 was released including all changes discussed.

The Solution

After the installation of easyPRIMA was finished, the existing device information was imported from the target systems using the synchronization functionality of easyPRIMA. These were then stored in the central database in a system-neutral format. This way, all operating information from the 400 output devices can now be edited, distributed, viewd or deleted centrally – quickly and easily through a user-friendly web interface.

A clear structuring of the underlying print infrastructure featuring multiple levels (queues, systems, system groups, location and more) and an integrated grouping functionality enables the operator from the start to navigate with ease while having all relevant information available at a glance. Integration of local administrators can be done with a user and rights administration according to company-specific requirements.

New devices now have to be installed only once on easyPRIMA. Template-based operating simplifies this process significantly. From there, the new devices can be distributed to all connected system environments at the push of a button. This way, new printers can be installed and distributed without the need for detailed knowledge about the target system(s). Removal or modification (f.e. change of location) of devices on the corresponding target systems is done in the same way. Using easyPRIMA, the operative administrational expenditures in printer management can be reduced by up to 90% companywide.

A resume by SMS Siemag:

"Where several employees were busy with the installation of a single printer within the framework of a workflow, there is now a single push of a button. Synchronization and administration of our whole fleet of output devices is warranted at all times. Printer management has become an effortless, clearly arranged task and can be done from a central point of administration."

Matthias Dietermann, Project Manager, SMS Siemag

About SMS SIEMAG

SMS Siemag AG is part of the SMS Holding GmbH. This is the holding for a group of companies internationally active in plant construction and mechanical engineering relating to the processing of steel and nonferrous metals. Worldwide more than 13,000 employees generated sales totaling EUR 3.5 billion. Plants, machines, services and process know-how from SMS Siemag are used in the steel, aluminum and nonferrous metal industry worldwide. Together with sister companies, SMS Siemag offers a full range of products and services under our SMS group roof.

About easyPRIMA

What is easyPRIMA?

easyPRIMA is a central database for the administration and distribution of all printer data and configurations on multiple system environments (SAP, Windows, Output Management)

What does easyPRIMA do?

With the integration of easyPRIMA companies can drastically reduce the average time spent administering, installing, modifying or removing output devices on all systems from 4-8 hours to 5-15 minutes per device.

Who needs easyPRIMA?

All companies who need to manage 100 to 50,000 output devices on disparate system landscapes and all administrators who control comprehensive printer configurations on multiple system environments.

Contact

Do you have more questions?

**Adalbert Nübling,
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