



Columbus OM manages all printing throughout your organization from a single point of control, for early detection and prevention of output problems

Enterprise output management

Safe and timely delivery of your business documents

Disruptions to printing can have a severe impact on any organization. Columbus OM is a scalable output management (OM) system that keeps your printing processes running smoothly and protects your organization against costly print failures. Whether you are delivering business-critical output from your core applications or managing production printing, Columbus OM allows you to:

- Increase resilience by replacing disparate application-specific printing methods with a unified delivery management infrastructure
- Act on system warnings quickly and diagnose printing problems proactively – before they start affecting end-user productivity
- Switch from printing to multi-channel delivery by transforming your existing print spool output into the right format for digital channels
- Prevent costly outages by automatically recovering and rerouting output to an alternative device or digital channel if a printer fails
- Effortlessly extend the output capabilities of SAP® systems and other third-party applications
- Implement print accounting and reporting to support service level management, forecasting, billing and infrastructure optimization

Robust, flexible print delivery

Columbus OM reliably delivers documents and data from any business application, regardless of the technology platform, to any networked printer.

All print jobs and printers throughout your organization can be monitored and managed in real time, enabling any printing errors or bottlenecks to be detected and acted upon immediately.

Global installations on multiple distributed servers can be managed from a single point of control, providing massive scalability.

It is quick and simple to add new applications and printers to Columbus OM, helping you to maintain an efficient, enterprise-wide output infrastructure with minimal effort.

Columbus OM integrates seamlessly with SAP and other third-party systems to improve reliability, control and error recovery for all of your business-critical printing. No changes to your applications are necessary, so you avoid any risks, costs or business disruption.

Documents from your existing print streams can be transformed automatically into digital formats for multi-channel communications.

The Columbus suite, for enterprise information management:

Columbus Central
Digital orchestration

Columbus DoXite
Intelligent document composition

Columbus DW
Enterprise content management

Columbus OM
Enterprise output management

Columbus Z
Output management on IBM Z

Columbus Accounting
Embedded business intelligence

A single point of control

Columbus OM has an intuitive browser interface that displays the health of your corporate print infrastructure, including all printers, print jobs and queues, across all Columbus OM instances. Administrators can perform operational tasks, schedule changes, identify printing problems and take corrective action quickly, from one central location.

An enterprise control feature allows bulk changes to be made centrally and automatically applied throughout your printer network.

Automated recovery

In the event of a device or network failure, print jobs are automatically recovered and either reprinted or rerouted to an alternative device or digital channel, while keeping business users and IT teams informed. Automated alerts ensure no time is lost in resolving potential printing problems.

Format transformation

A powerful transformation engine converts documents into alternative formats such as AFP, PCL, PostScript, PDF, XML and image formats, enabling you to print on a wider range of printers and to quickly repurpose printed documents for digital delivery.

Automated splitting and bundling

Output such as reports can be combined or split to produce new documents without needing to modify the original documents or source applications. This approach saves time and effort, and also reduces paper waste by only printing the pages each user really needs.

Rapid throughput

Jobs can be load balanced automatically, across multiple printers, to minimize time to print and maximize throughput. Print jobs can be processed using a range of parameters, such as priority, paper type or a specific time to print.

Application integration

Columbus OM integrates with your business applications to bolster their output management capabilities and increase printing reliability. Additionally, information on device status and printing activity can be sent to other systems such as helpdesks and management frameworks to support your technical operations.

SAP output management

Columbus OM integrates with SAP systems using the certified External Output Management Systems (BC-XOM) interface, ensuring interoperability in line with SAP best practice. For extra flexibility you have the option of using managed or unmanaged gateways to exchange data between Columbus OM and SAP.

A device configuration feature for SAP reduces effort and errors by enabling you to configure printers just once, in either Columbus OM or your SAP system – and then synchronize any changes automatically across both systems.

Enterprise architecture

Columbus OM is quick to install and scales to support thousands of printers and applications. The Columbus OM server runs on Windows, Linux (including Linux on IBM Z and POWER systems) and other major UNIX variants.

Enterprise information management

Columbus OM integrates seamlessly with the wider Columbus suite, enabling you to manage printing and digital delivery from a single enterprise system.

Bi-directional communication between Columbus OM and Columbus Z allows assured delivery from the mainframe to the open systems environment and vice versa. Columbus Accounting, an embedded business intelligence framework, works with Columbus OM to provide rich reports on your printing environment, and enables accurate forecasting and capacity planning, service level monitoring, print optimization and usage-based billing.

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