



Print Solutions from Atac

Newsletter for Asia Pacific Region

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Pitney Bowes Output Manager Maintenance Releases

Pitney Bowes have implemented regular Output Manager software Maintenance Releases in between the usual annual version releases. A Maintenance Release contains all fixes implemented since the last main version.

Maintenance Releases are issued roughly monthly. Since version 2.5 was released in first quarter 2016, there have been 19 Maintenance Releases, designated 2.5.1, 2.5.2 etc. up to 2.5.19.

A Maintenance Release is available in two distinct formats. The first is a full, stand-alone install package which can be used to install a new machine from scratch, or install to a new folder on an existing machine.

The second format is a zip of the "bin" folder, usually located at `\mgrx.x\bin`. This type of Maintenance Release can only be used to upgrade an existing installation by dropping all files and folders into the current bin folder, overwriting files with the revised versions.

This second form of Maintenance Release, the zipped "bin" format, is useful for updating an existing system without requiring users to recreate their Developer or Remote Client shortcuts etc. You just need to bring the Output Manager system down, copy the Maintenance Release files into the bin folder, then restart Output Manager; 5 minutes max.

Contact Atac for advice and assistance for obtaining and implementing a Maintenance Release.

Barr IPDS Converter

Barr's IPDS Converter can replace your expensive IPDS printer with no HOST changes required. Simply turn off the IPDS printer and install IPDS Converter to a Windows PC with the same IP address as the IPDS printer.

Your HOST will continue to send print as normal, but it will be received by the PC with Barr IPDS Converter. PSF will be unaware of the destination change.

The Barr IPDS Converter software converts the print received into PDF files which can be viewed or printed to local printers from any Windows PC. PDF file naming and folder placement can be assigned based on job attributes. Barr IPDS Converter runs as a Windows Service so it starts when the PC does; it's not necessary for anybody to login and start things off.

The IPDS Converter software emulates a large number of Cut Sheet and Continuous Forms IPDS printers as well as supporting most versions of PSF and InfoPrint Manager. Additionally, IPDS print streams from LRS VPS/IPDS and Océ Prisma software are supported.

Pricing is per connection and speed of output. Contact Atac to discuss your requirements and organise a free Trial, with unlimited support, to prove the product in your environment.

OM & OE 64-bit Functionality

Pitney Bowes' Output Manager and Output Enrichment (previously Emtex VIP and VDE) will run on either 32-bit or 64-bit Windows. If a 64-bit environment is detected, the 64-bit executables in `\mgrx.x\bin\x64` are used (if they exist) in preference to the 32-bit versions in `\mgrx.x\bin`.

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You can delete or rename any 64-bit executable and the 32-bit version will be used instead. You can even delete or rename the \mgrx.x\bin\x64 folder completely so only 32-bit code is executed.

Whenever any hotfixes or patches are issued, they always contain both 32-bit and 64-bit code, if applicable. Remember to update both folders.

What does 64-bit give you? The ability to exceed 2GB of RAM, which is the absolute limit for a 32-bit single process. If you are processing full colour jobs and have large mailpieces (10,000+), then you'll already be nudging 2GB to hold all sides in memory.

With a 64-bit machine, memory per process is effectively unlimited (16TB), so mailpieces of practically any size can be processed without any special handling. This is useful now that continuous roll-feed printers are providing full-colour output at near offset press quality. Most laser work is migrating to continuous inkjet with bigger and bigger print runs being created to achieve the greatest cost savings.

OM & OE both fully support a 64-bit environment, allowing you to take advantage of large memory spaces and faster processing. Contact Atac to discuss the benefits of 64-bit processing today.

Q & A

Q. If a PDF file does not contain a font (MSung-Light-Acro) and can only be viewed properly after installing the "Extended Asian Language font pack for Adobe Reader XI", can we somehow include/embed the font in Emtex when generating the PS-out?

A. Yes. Emtex always creates print output with all resources embedded. You'll need to setup a TTFONTS.MAP file pointing at the folder containing the font so Emtex can retrieve it and display/produce correct output.

Q. I have tried to use the EXTRACT function on DATASOURCE and also tried to use MESSAGE CONSOLE to display the content but both failed. What is the proper syntax?

A. Any entry in the profile can be extracted by putting "PROFILE_" in front of it. By convention, we call a parameter in the profile to be extracted VDEINFO_etc, then extract it as PROFILE_VDEINFO_etc. But this is only convention, so the profile's DATASOURCE name can be extracted as PROFILE_DATASOURCE.

Q. Our Barr system outputs files received from the mainframe to disk. The filename written comprises multiple fields coded like this:

<NJHGJNAM>_<NDHGFORM>_<NDHGCLAS>_<NJHGETS>. The last field NJHGETS contains the received date/time. Do we have any control over the format, i.e. MM/DD/YYYY or DD/MM/YYYY etc.?

A. The files written out have the field names replaced with the actual values stored for each field. NJHGETS is a date/time object which will format the output based on the Regional settings for date and time format. Note that this is per user, so if the SpoolCore Service has a user account itself, the Regional settings for the SpoolCore user account apply. Login as the SpoolCore user to verify/set the date/time formats as required.

Feedback

Your feedback is valuable to Atac and helps us provide the high standard of service which you have come to expect from us, and which we are proud to deliver. Whether you have questions about our product range, a story to share regarding your experiences, or you would like to comment on our newsletter, just send us an **email**.

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