



A county Fire Service has installed a WML PdfPlus to enhance their stores printing, improving procedural compliance.

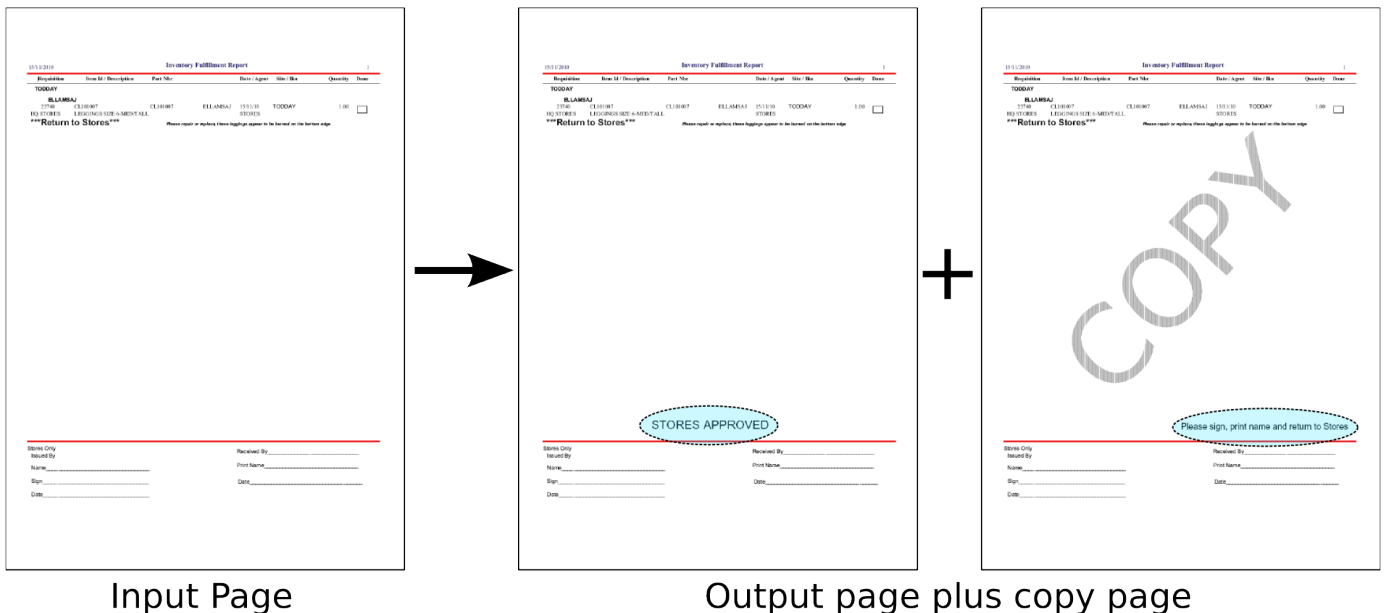
Staff at the central stores for a major UK Fire Service maintain supplies to fire stations across their region. This involves procuring supplies, distributing supplies to the stations and handling returned equipment.

They had an existing printing system which would print out various reports from a database-driven web-based application to help staff to carry out this work. Typically, two copies of each document are required and their system would print out duplicates.

It was recognised by Fire Service staff that two identical copies of each page was not a suitable system. It presented the problem that staff had to manually stamp COPY on the duplicate.

The Fire Service were introduced to the WML PdfPlus, which was able to accept the un-modified output from their existing application, and apply a COPY watermark to duplicate pages of each document.

With the PdfPlus, stores printouts can also include an instruction to the staff member at the station (on the duplicate), and a text stating that the main page is the approved original.



Benefits to Fire Service Stores

Each page is duplicated, with the output collated, so that the copy directly follows the original.

The duplicate has a COPY watermark added, so staff don't have to apply it manually.

On fulfillment reports, the duplicate has the instruction "Please sign, print name and return to Stores" added to help maintain correct working practices.

The original has the statement "STORES APPROVED" added to signify that this is an approved document.

The reports are available in PDF format, if electronic archiving is required.

PdfPlus can be used with multiple printers, with the purchase of additional licence credits.

Implementation details

The PdfPlus is installed as a simple black box - a small network-attached computer, about the size of a book. It acts as if it were the printer, receiving data from the application. It applies the watermark and texts, then sends the data on to your choice of printer.

The only change to the existing application was to ensure that prints were made via a Windows printer queue with a PostScript printer driver.

PDF format

The PdfPlus uses PDF as its internal format. As a consequence, all documents output by the PdfPlus can be archived in PDF format, as well as being printed to any standard printer.

Other example applications

Original prints, copy archives: Duplicate input to a second queue with a "copy" template to apply a COPY watermark. Copies are archived to a

Windows share, originals print out and are mailed to the customer.

Scanned document identification: Scanned prescriptions have the current date, time and the scan location overlaid before being centrally printed in the pharmacy. Pharmacists can easily identify the origin of each prescription when they need to clarify details.

Replace legacy forms solution: Replace a printer-based forms solution with a printer and application-independent PdfPlus to overlay transactional data onto PDF forms.

Advanced applications

The PdfPlus has many additional features which were not required for this implementation. For details of other features, such as archiving, hot folder data collection, print reports and logical triggering, please refer to the PdfPlus datasheet which is available from our website at <http://www.wmltd.co.uk/>

Licencing options

A single licence key unlocks any optional modules (such as the Prescribe emulation) along with a number of "licence credits".

Each licence credit enables: The use of an IP address; Archiving on one queue; An input hot folder on one queue. A credit can be freed from one use and reassigned without penalty.

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