



Pcounter PRO

Intelligent Copy & Print Management





Pcounter PRO:

The best solution, the lowest cost, no compromise...

Pcounter PRO is a flexible and highly scalable print and copy management solution. Pcounter PRO provides a wide range of cost control and cost recovery capabilities, eliminating waste and misuse, resulting in dramatic cost savings across your organisation. Pcounter PRO is ideal for identifying areas of document related cost within any organisational structure, helping to justify the rationalisation and re-allocation of print and copy resources and then enforcing a print policy based on sensible rules and restrictions.

Education

Pcounter PRO is used in schools, colleges and universities to eliminate waste, provide quota management and cost recovery options. Pcounter PRO also provides the means to account for staff and department usage for total budgetary control.

Public Sector

Pcounter PRO provides monitoring, accounting and reporting around cost centres. This enables budgetary control to be implemented over what is typically an unaccounted resource.

Professional

For architects, engineers, surveyors, solicitors and accountants Pcounter PRO provides project costing and client-billing capabilities. This ensures that all copy, print and plotter output is accounted for and charged where appropriate.

Corporate and Finance

Pcounter PRO is ideal for providing department accountability with options for ensuring security and confidentiality of all printed output.

Pcounter PRO can help you:

- Make dramatic cost savings through the elimination of waste and misuse
- Measure the total volume of print and copy activity across your enterprise
- Determine which users are printing the most and restrict what users can print with printing policies
- Identify which printers are being under or over utilised and enforce the use of printers with the most appropriate capacity
- Control the release of print jobs with secure "pull-printing"*
- Enforce payment for printing, either internally or externally, to recover printing costs
- Report on who printed what, where, when and how many

**Pull printing is the ability to print to a general print queue and then release the print job at any compatible device.*

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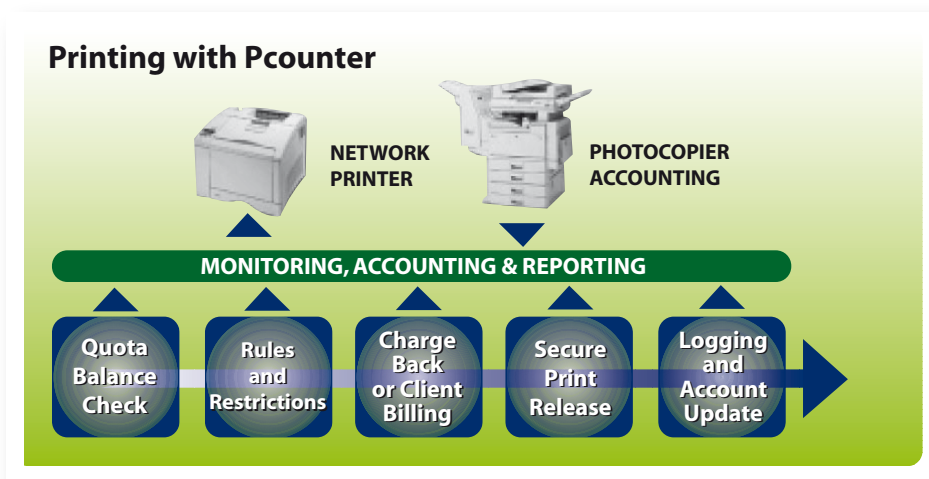
Photocopier Accounting

Pcounter PRO uses the Monitor PC20 photocopier control terminal to track and account for walk-up copying. The operator panel of the copier is locked, denying access, until the user logs in at the PC20 terminal with an ID number mapped to their network login, or a card swipe. (Mag-stripe and Mifare proximity cards are supported)

Once the user is authenticated, they can use the copier, with limits and/or quotas optionally enforced, and can be asked to enter a charge-code, cost-centre or client number. All details of the copy transaction are logged centrally along with print data, so all reporting can reflect both print and copy activity at device level, user level and across the enterprise.

Secure print option with "Pull-Printing" capability

At the same copier control terminal, once the user is authenticated, they can view any print jobs waiting to be printed and either authorise the release of the print job or delete it. Users can release jobs to a device of their choice, often referred to as "Pull-Printing", from the PC20 copier control terminal.



What Make and Model of copiers are supported?

Most commercial grade copiers that support a "foreign interface" port are supported. This port is traditionally used for attaching the copier to a coin box.

The Pcounter PRO PC20 control terminal can track information passed to it by the "foreign interface port" such as Colour vs. B&W, as well as different paper sizes and duplex information.





Print Auditing

The first stage of managing any situation is to monitor and measure. In the context of copying and printing this means establishing the types of documents users are printing, how many copies they print as well as when and where they print. This information enables a print policy to be established that accounts for expenditure and minimises waste and misuse. Device utilisation can be analysed to ensure appropriate placement and use. Pcounter PRO records an audit trail of all copy and print activity enabling accurate assessment of usage and informed decision making.

The following detail is available:

- User name
- Originating workstation
- Date and time
- Cost
- Features used (e.g. colour, duplex)
- Document name
- Destination printer/copier
- Page count
- Paper size
- Cost centre, client code/sub-code

Reporting

Reports are available by user or by device, sub-totalled into various categories. E.g. printer by user, client code, number of jobs/pages per hour/per day. Reports are totalled showing number of print jobs, number of pages and cost. Output can be specified to screen, printer, HTML, CSV or as an email attachment.

Example: User Print Totals

User/Printer print totals: 14/01/2006 to 15/09/2006					
User	Printer	Jobs	Pages	Cost	
MBMNZ/DavidM	Q_H13_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	4	4	0.600	
MBMNZ/DavidM	Q_CO8_INKJET_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	5	6	0.900	
MBMNZ/DavidM	Q_HUMSR_OOMBB_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	1	2	0.100	
MBMNZ/DavidM	Q_EXAMS_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	2	4	0.200	
MBMNZ/DavidM	Q_CASTLE3_KONICA_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	2	2	0.100	
MBMNZ/HowardM	Q_P05_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	1	1	0.050	
MBMNZ/HowardM	Q_HUMSR_OOMBB_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	1	2	0.100	
MBMNZ/HowardM	Q_H13_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	2	2	0.300	
MBMNZ/HowardM	Q_LRC_LASER_2.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	2	2	0.100	
MBMNZ/HowardM	Q_CO8_INKJET_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	1	1	0.150	
MBMNZ/HowardM	Q_ADMIN_KONICA_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	1	1	0.050	
MBMNZ/HowardM	Q_LRC_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	2	9	0.450	
MBMNZ/HowardM	Q_D03_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	3	4	0.200	
MBMNZ/HowardM	Q_LRC_DESKJET_2.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	1	1	0.200	
MBMNZ/MikeN	Q_D03_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	1	1	0.050	
MBMNZ/MikeN	Q_HUMSR_OOMBB_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	2	3	0.150	
MBMNZ/MikeN	Q_D14_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	4	20	1.000	
MBMNZ/MikeN	Q_ACSUP_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	1	3	0.150	
MBMNZ/MikeN	Q_CO2_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	1	3	0.150	
MBMNZ/MikeN	Q_LRC_LASER_2.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	1	1	0.050	
MBMNZ/MikeN	Q_LRC_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	3	7	0.350	
MBMNZ/SimonA	Q_J268_INKJET_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	5	40	6.000	
MBMNZ/SimonA	Q_D14_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	1	2	0.100	
MBMNZ/SimonA	Q_CASTLE3_KONICA_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	1	2	0.100	
MBMNZ/SimonA	Q_H13_LASER_2.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	1	7	0.350	
MBMNZ/SimonA	Q_HUMSR_OOMBB_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	2	16	0.600	
MBMNZ/SimonA	Q_H13_LASER_1.Printers.AlphaLab_Clg	3	3	0.450	
Totals		54	149	13.200	

Report Choices

Warning: Mixing numerical formats Pages and Currency will result in unreliable cost totals!

Reports

- Users
 - Printer
 - Client code
 - Paper size
 - Color usage
 - Duplex usage
 - Media type
 - Job type
 - Non-billable jobs
- Printers
- Client codes
- Groups
- Account balances

Report: Users

☒ Date range from: 14/09/2006 12:00 a.m. To: 14/09/2006 11:59 p.m.

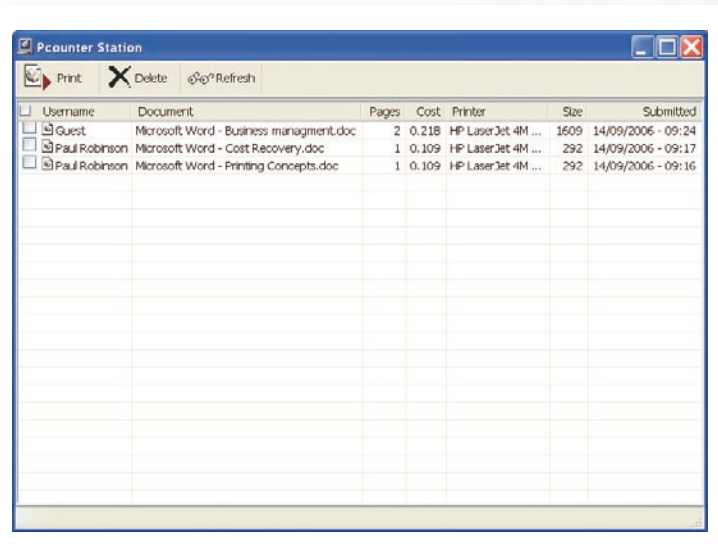
Preferences...

Create report Close

Secure, controlled release of printing

Pcounter Station is an additional piece of software that runs on a dedicated Windows PC to provide controlled, secure release of print jobs. After users send print jobs from other workstations, they can use the Pcounter Station PC to select the jobs they wish to release to a printer of their choice. This ensures all print jobs are delivered securely to the user who has requested them.

- Users who print and then realise they don't need what they just printed can cancel the print job at the release station. This ensures only what is actually wanted is printed, eliminating waste and saving significant costs.
- Secure release overcomes the common excuse that staff need their own printer for security and confidentiality, reducing the number of printers needed.
- Controlled release ensures that users don't have to wait at the printer wondering when their print job is coming or if it has already printed.



Cost recovery options



For organisations wishing to charge for printing, a wall-mounted value loader is available for adding value to a user's Pcounter PRO account. Users identify themselves using a keyboard, or card swipe to input their ID. The unit then validates the user details and displays their current credit balance. When the user enters cash into the machine, this updates their Pcounter PRO credit balance immediately. All transactions are logged for auditing and control purposes.





Print Policies

Enforcement of Print Policy

It is not necessary to charge for printing to save money. By implementing a print policy based on sensible restrictions print volumes could be reduced by up to 50% using one or more of the following measures:

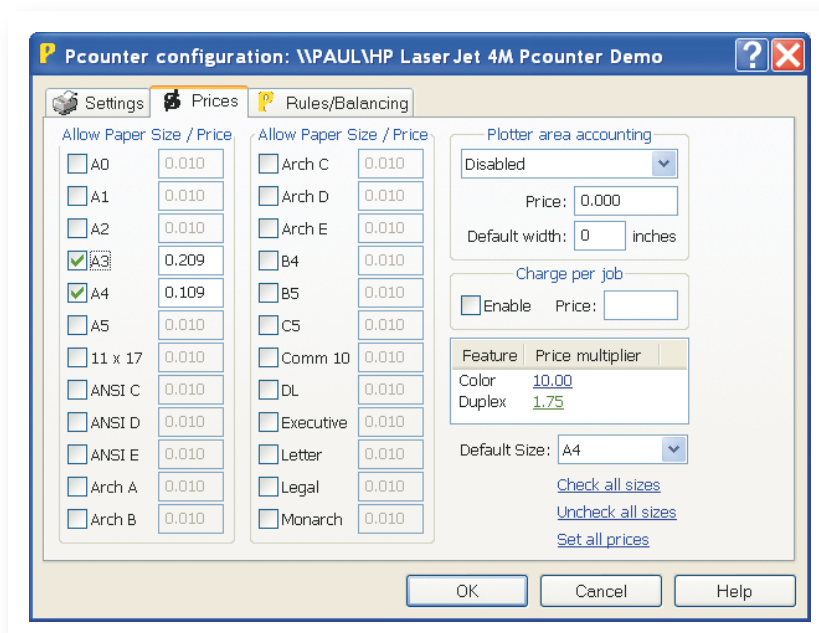
- stopping duplicate print jobs
- stopping printing directly off the internet
- redirecting print output to appropriate high volume devices
- forcing users to confirm that what they request is really what they want (page count and cost)
- enforcing cost awareness by using quotas/limits based on value
- enforcing page count or copy count limits per printer

Charging

Prices can be set by device and paper size with multipliers for colour or duplex usage. Plotter usage can be priced per square foot or square metre.

Printer Management

Policies can stop incorrect paper sizes and printer languages being used – e.g. to prevent postscript being sent to PCL-only devices. Intelligent load balancing across Windows based network printers and re-direction for printers which are “down” is possible using Print Policies.



Rules and Restrictions

Pcounter PRO provides real-time enforcement of restrictions that help to limit waste and misuse. By examining set criteria on print jobs, certain actions can be triggered.

Criteria:

- Number of pages or number of copies
- Size of print job (bytes)
- Paper size used
- Colour, mono, duplex
- Type of document (e.g. HTML, PowerPoint)

Actions Available:

- Delete or pause the print job
- Send to back of the queue or reschedule to print later
- Re-direction for load levelling and lowest cost output
- Do not charge
- Delete duplicate print jobs

Quota Management

Print "credit" can be assigned to users and when that credit is exhausted, action can be taken such as stopping further printing until the credit is replenished.

Balance notification

Facilities are available to enable users to check their print balance at any time. Automatic notification options include:

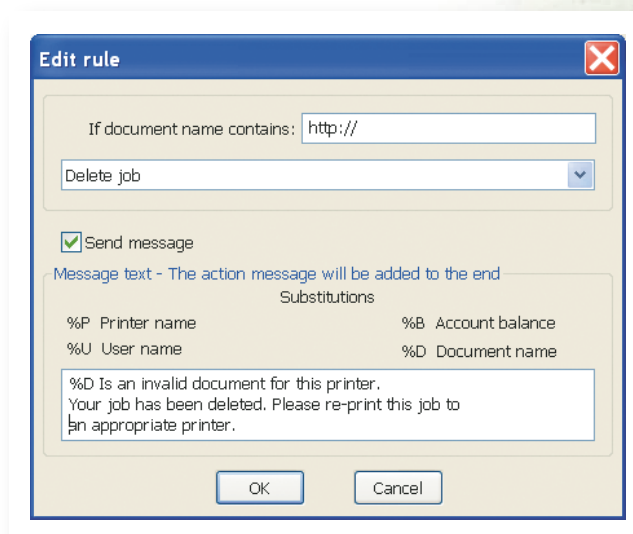
- After every print job
- When credit is exhausted
- When balance goes below a specified level

Print job confirmation

This forces users to confirm they really want what they requested. When a print job is requested, a message can be sent to the user asking them to confirm acceptance of the page count and the cost of the print job prior to it being accepted for printing.

Client Billing / Charge Back

Pcounter PRO has a 'Popup' feature to enforce the use of charge codes, client codes and matter numbers that can be used to allocate each print job to a specific cost centre, for example department, project or client.



Edit rule

If document name contains:

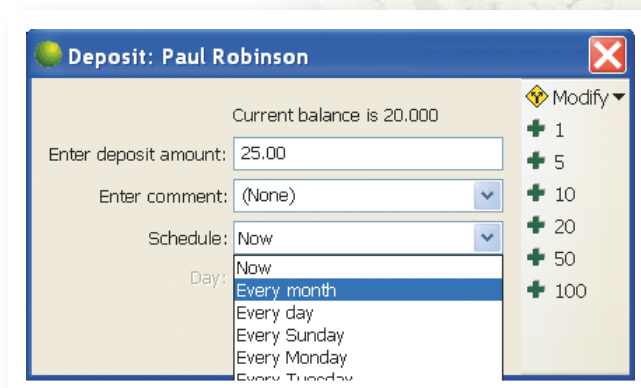
☒ Send message

Message text - The action message will be added to the end

Substitutions

%P Printer name %B Account balance
%U User name %D Document name

%D is an invalid document for this printer.
Your job has been deleted. Please re-print this job to
an appropriate printer.



Deposit: Paul Robinson

Current balance is 20,000

Enter deposit amount:

Enter comment:

Schedule:

Day:

Every day
Every Sunday
Every Monday
Every Tuesday

Modify ▼

- + 1
- + 5
- + 10
- + 20
- + 50
- + 100





What customers say

"We have found Pcounter to be one of those investments that has paid for itself as soon as it is installed. Pcounter provides us with the control and accountability of printing that is now essential in our environment."

"There are the brilliant features that we never realised we wanted – deleting duplicate jobs, moving large jobs to the back of the print queue, logging jobs to departments and so on. Using Pcounter our printers seem to 'behave' better."

"Following the introduction of Pcounter, we reduced paper usage by 65%."

"We have been delighted with Pcounter - it makes our whole network printing service extremely robust and reliable."

"We recovered £25,000 from students for printing in our first year of operation."

"Wastage has been cut by about 90% since Pcounter went on the system. Instead of emptying 3 rubbish bins of waste paper per fortnight, we are now emptying them 3 times per year."

Technical Data

- Supported on all Microsoft Windows / Active Directory servers.
- Supported on all Novell NetWare and NDPS servers.
- Works with Samba on Linux.
- Accounts for both Windows server based printing and local Windows PC based printer activity.
- Supports accounting of print jobs from any network workstation including MAC and Unix clients.
- Supports accounting for any PCL, Postscript, HPGL, Epson ESC/P, ESC/P2, ESC/PAGE, Ricoh RPCS and Canon BubbleJet & Image Runner printers.
- Pcounter PRO Web Client enables communication support for MACs and other non-Windows clients.
- No user set-up required – auto detects users' login.
- Server requirements: sufficient to run the operating system and services. The introduction of Pcounter PRO will not incur any tangible overhead on the processing or resources.

Pcounter PRO

Authorized Reseller:


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