

ClusterQue

balance and control

ClusterQue offers you an easy way to boost throughput, manage output, and make the most efficient use of your printing resources, whether from host or Windows applications. With many printers throughout your organization, does it seem extravagant to invest in further capacity just to meet peak usage, or have extra printers to cope with the monthly printing of invoices and statements and are idle the rest of the time? Wouldn't it be nice to always get your printout as quickly as possible, rather than getting caught behind someone's 300-page report?

For less than the cost of an additional HP 9000 LaserJet printer, ClusterQue helps you make the most of your existing printer pool, and get the most out of your printer investment. Sophisticated queue and printer management lets you optimize your printing processes, and cluster printers together to get impressive throughput for peak printing periods – for example, 6 HP LaserJet 9000 printers, normally available for general printing, provide up to 300 sides per minute when clustered together.

How ClusterQue works

The heart of ClusterQue is the print server, installed on a Windows NT/2000/XP Professional or Unix computer. Color or black and white HP LaserJet printers can be easily configured into flexible clusters to help the print server optimize how documents are output, while minimizing network traffic. Host applications print to ClusterQue using special client software, a comprehensive range of arguments. For Windows applications the clusters look like normal printer devices, and particular printing options are specified in the Print dialog (such as, which print stock is to be used, or that 3 copies are to be sent to one printer and an extra copy to another). Once a job is complete, or if there is a hardware error, the ClusterQue server notifies the user by email or using a Windows pop-up window. The ClusterQue Manager is a browser or standalone Java application that shows detailed information on the user's queues and printer status. It also allows the user to optimize and control how their print jobs are processed. ClusterQue is also integrated with HP's Web JetAdmin software to provide further administration capabilities. This allows administrators or help desk personnel to view the entire ClusterQue output landscape, and monitor and control such things as throughput load balancing, offloading, redundancy, and print job delivery assurance for specific printers.



characteristics

- provides the capacity/volume of “big-iron” printers for a fraction of the cost
- offers a solution that can be scaled up or down to meet changing user requirements
- ensures up time by providing backup capability
- optimizes printer throughput and usage, and maximizes control over the printing process
- automatic e-mail or pop-up window notification on job completion or hardware error.

areas of application

- high-volume transaction document printing, e.g. Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), Customer Relationship Management (CRM), Supply Chain Management (SCM), etc.
- for all types of documents, including invoices, statements, purchase orders,

special features

- supports both color and black and white LaserJet printers
- job splitting to distribute large print jobs across a cluster (available as standard for ASCII and PCL5 print jobs; job splitting for PostScript is available as an option)
- collation instructions are printed automatically
- ensures print jobs are only sent to functional printers
- queue management to stop print jobs, restart printing (from any page), re-route jobs to alternative printers or re-queue for delayed printing
- displays printer conditions for easy management from a single point of control – even remotely
- balances print load across a cluster to maximize use and reduce waiting times
- supports the assignment of priority, load and class to print jobs to optimize processes
- ideal for use with JetCAPS intelligent document formatting software, such as MegaForm

