Configuring

Defining Passthrough printer objects

Passthrough printer objects represent printers that can print jobs in formats such as PCL, PostScript, and PDF. Jobs are assigned to Passthrough printers using these scheduling properties: **Customer name**, **Job size**, **Location**, **Media**, **Output bin**, **Output format**, **Punch**, **Folding**, **Binding**, and **Staple**. The AFP Support feature adds **Class**, **Destination**, and **Form** to the scheduling properties. Other scheduling properties may be defined in a configuration file. For Passthrough printers, RICOH ProcessDirector runs a command that is defined for the printer. RICOH ProcessDirector monitors the response to the command, but cannot report status of the job that it sent.

To define a Passthrough printer object:

1. Click the **Administration** tab.

2. In the left pane, click **Devices ⟹ Printers**.

3. Click **Add ⟹ Passthrough Printer**.

4. On the **General** tab, fill in values for all the required fields.

   > ⬇ Note:
   > - The value of the **Printer command** property depends on the print commands that are available on your system. Use the value of the **Printer name** property as the value of the printer option of the command.
   > - Because Passthrough printers cannot automatically determine the values of job properties, you must pass them to the printer. You can pass the values of job properties in either of these ways:
   >   - By using symbols or RICOH ProcessDirector methods in the value of the required **Printer command** property, or in a script named in that value
   >   - In a file that you specify as the value of the optional **Control file template** property, only if the printer command uses a control file.

5. On the **Scheduling** tab, enter the values that you want RICOH ProcessDirector to use to assign jobs to this printer. Leave the values blank or **Not set** for any properties that should not be used for scheduling. Those values match any values specified by the corresponding job scheduling properties.
   If you want to schedule jobs to a printer based on media, keep these items in mind when you set the **Media supported** property:
   - If you choose specific media, only jobs that use that media can be scheduled to this printer.
   - If you choose **Ready media objects**, only jobs that require the media that is currently loaded in the printer can be scheduled to the printer.
   - If you choose **All media**, all jobs can be scheduled to the printer, regardless of what media is loaded.

6. Click **OK**.

7. If the parent server of the Passthrough printer runs a Red Hat-derived operating system, create a print queue with the same name as the Passthrough printer:

   > ⬇ Note:
   > - Make sure you meet these pre-requisites:
   >   - You have configured CUPS.
   >   - You have permissions in CUPS to manage printers.

   1. Log in as the root user.

   2. Use a browser and access `https://hostname:631/admin/`, where *hostname* is the host name or IP address.

   3. Click **Add printer**.

   4. Go to **Other Network Printers** and select **LPD/LPR Host or Printer**.

   5. In the connection field, type the hostname or IP address of the system where the LPD input device is defined. For example:
      `lpd://hostname/queue`

      where *hostname* is the host name or IP address and *queue* is the queue name.

   6. Click **Continue**.

   7. In the **Add Printer** dialog, enter the name, description, and location of the printer.

   8. Click **Continue** to select the printer make and model.

   9. Click **Add Printer**.

   10. Set the default options in the next dialog and click **Set Default Options**.

8. If the parent server of the Passthrough printer runs SLES 12.0, create a print queue with the same name as the Passthrough printer:

1. Log in to the operating system as the root user.
2. Start YaST.
3. Click **Hardware ⇒ Printer**. With **Printer Configurations** highlighted, click **Add**. Click **Connection Wizard**, and then select **Line Printer Daemon (LPD) Protocol**.
4. In the **IP Address or Host Name** field, type the host name or IP address of the physical printer.
5. Type `PASS` in the **Queue Name** field. Select the printer manufacturer, and click **OK**.
6. In the **Set Arbitrary Name** field, type the name of the Passthrough printer. This name must be unique on this Linux system. Although printer names are case-sensitive, Linux does not allow you to define multiple printer names that are alike except for case. For example, you cannot define one printer object called `OfficePrinter` and another called `officeprinter`.
7. Select a printer driver, then click **OK**.

Examples of the Printer command property

You can set the **Printer command** property of a Passthrough printer to use an `lpr` command. These commands set the value of the `-#` flag to the value of the **Job.Copies** property of the job that is being printed. Both use the **getCurrentFile** method to return the file name and path of the file in the job spool directory that is in the specified data format. Substitute the name of the printer for *printerName*.

```
lpr -P printerName -#${Job.Copies} ${getCurrentFile(pdf)}
lprpdf -pprinterName -#${Job.Copies} ${getCurrentFile(pdf)}}
```

If the requested data format is PDF, and if the spool ID for the job is 1000006, the file name resolves to `/aiw/aiw1/spool/default/1000006/1000006.print.pdf`. If the name of the printer is *officeprinter* and the value of the **Job.Copies** property for this job is **2**, the printer command resolves to:

```
lpr -P officeprinter -#2 /aiw/aiw1/spool/default/1000006/1000006.print.pdf
```

Or

```
lprpdf -pofficeprinter -#2 /aiw/aiw1/spool/default/1000006/1000006.print.pdf
```

> **⊙ Note:**
> - Printers support different `lpr` options, so the printer might not honor all options requested.

Parent topic: [Defining printer objects](#)