

Configuring

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Defining printer objects

Printer objects represent the printers in your environment that receive print jobs from RICOH ProcessDirector.

Different printer objects generate different output to send to the printer. RICOH ProcessDirector provides these printer objects:

- AFP printer*
- Use the Print Services Facility (PSF) printer driver to convert AFP print jobs into the Intelligent Printer Data Stream (IPDS) format.
  - Available if the AFP Support feature is installed.

- TASKalfa printer*
- Prints PDF data with JDF job tickets.
  - Available if the Cut Sheet Support for TASKalfa feature is installed.

*Custom PDF printer*  
Converts PDF to PostScript.

- Kodak PDF printer*
- Prints PDF files, including jobs that have been converted to PDF format.
  - Available if the Cut Sheet Support for Kodak feature is installed.

*Passthrough printer*  
Usually prints data streams such as PostScript, PDF, and PCL without doing any file conversion.

- PCLOut printer*
- Use the PSF printer driver to convert AFP print jobs into the IPDS format. Then they convert the IPDS format into Printer Command Language (PCL) format.
  - Available if the AFP Support feature is installed.

*Ricoh PDF printer*  
Prints PDF data with JDF job tickets or PostScript data.

*Ricoh TotalFlow printer*  
Prints PDF data streams without doing any file conversions. Produces a MIME package containing the PDF data and JDF job ticket.


- Xerox PDF printer*
- Prints PDF files, including jobs that have been converted to PDF format.
  - Available if the Cut Sheet Support for Xerox feature is installed.

Optional features add more types of printer objects.

RICOH ProcessDirector can get status on the job while it is printing by communicating directly with AFP printers and Ricoh PDF printers.

For Passthrough and PCLOut printers, RICOH ProcessDirector runs a command that is defined for the printer and monitors the response to the command. RICOH ProcessDirector cannot report status of the job that it sent.

Jobs are assigned to the printers using scheduling properties. Scheduling properties are job and printer properties that RICOH ProcessDirector compares to determine whether a job can be sent to a printer. The table shows the default job scheduling properties and their corresponding printer properties. If all the scheduling properties match, the job can be scheduled to the printer. Scheduling properties are added or deleted from this list by editing a scheduling properties configuration file.

 **Note:**

- A blank value for a job scheduling property matches all values for the corresponding printer property. A blank value for a printer scheduling property matches all values for the corresponding job scheduling property.

Scheduling properties

Job property	Printer property
Binding, with <b>Perfect</b> selected	Perfect binding capable
Binding, with <b>Ring</b> or <b>Ring and punch</b> selected	Ring binding capable
Customer name	Customer name

Job property	Printer property
Fold options	Folding capable
Job size (sheets)	Printer job size (sheets) supported
Media	Media supported
PLE Media	Media supported
Output bin	Output bins available
Output format	Output format
Preset name	Preset name
Punch	Punch capable
Requested location	Printer location
Staple	Staple capable
PLE Staple	Staple capable

⬇ Note:

- AFP jobs can request that the printer use a specific preset. When an AFP job arrives at a printer that supports this function, the printer switches to use that preset automatically. If your printer supports this function, do not use **Preset name** as a scheduling property; leave the printer property blank. If the **Preset name** printer property is set to any value, the preset is not sent to the printer with the job.

The AFP Support feature provides these additional scheduling properties:

#### AFP scheduling properties

Job property	Printer property
Job class	Printer class
Job destination	Printer destination
Job form	Printer form

Another way to print is to define a workflow that copies the print file to a directory defined as a hot folder for a printer. You do not need to define a printer object in this case because the workflow does not usually contain a **PrintJobs** step. Jobs that are processed with that kind of workflow do not use scheduling properties because scheduling applies only to the **PrintJobs** step.

#### In this section:

##### [Defining Ricoh PDF printer objects](#)

Ricoh PDF printer objects represent specific models of RICOH printers.

##### [Defining AFP printer devices](#)

AFP printer devices represent Intelligent Printer Data Stream (IPDS) printers. They print jobs in AFP format, including jobs that have been converted to AFP format.

##### [Defining PCLOut printer devices](#)

PCLOut printer devices represent Printer Command Language (PCL) printers. They print jobs that are submitted in AFP format and converted to PCL format.

##### [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.

##### [Defining Xerox PDF printer devices](#)

Xerox PDF printer devices represent specific models of Xerox printers that can print PDF files using XRX and XPIF (Xerox Printing Instruction Format) tickets. Jobs are assigned to Xerox PDF printers using scheduling properties.

##### [Defining Kodak PDF printer devices](#)

Kodak PDF printer devices represent specific models of Kodak printers that can print PDF or Postscript files. Jobs are assigned to Kodak PDF printers using scheduling properties.

[Defining TASKalfa printer devices](#)

TASKalfa printer devices represent Kyocera TASKalfa 15000c production printers with the EFI Printing System 50 option (EFI Fiery DFE). Jobs are assigned to TASKalfa printers using scheduling properties.

[Defining Custom PDF printers](#)

You define a Custom PDF printer when you want to print to a PostScript printer that is not on the list of supported Ricoh PDF printers. These printers include some Ricoh PostScript printers and PostScript printers from other manufacturers. Any printer with a PostScript Printer Description (PPD) file that describes its features and capabilities can be a Custom PDF printer.

[Configuring to send jobs to a printer that uses RICOH TotalFlow Print server](#)

Sending print jobs to a Ricoh TotalFlow printer requires specific configuration steps on the printer and in RICOH ProcessDirector.

Parent topic: [Configuring](#)