

Configuring

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Workflows for printing

You can define a workflow that lets you track a job that contains PDF data through the system.

The primary function of a PDF workflow depends upon the target printer.

- If the target printer is a Ricoh PDF printer or a TASKalfa printer, the workflow can send a job and a job ticket to the printer. The printer uses the information contained in the JDF job ticket to complete the job, which lets the user view real-time status and job progress.
- If the target printer supports LPD or another protocol, the workflow can use the **PrintJobs** step to send a job to a printer that uses that protocol. The **PrintJobs** step uses job properties to schedule the job to an appropriate printer. If more than one printer can print the job, the **PrintJobs** step balances printer loads.
- If the target printer receives jobs or JDF job tickets through hot folders, the workflow can send the job to a Passthrough printer device. The printer device has a **Printer command** property that copies the job into a hot folder that is associated with the printer.
- If the target printer is a Kodak printer, the **PrintJobs** step can send the PDF file, with inserted KDK commands, to the printer. The Cut Sheet Support for Kodak feature is required.
- If the target printer is a Xerox printer, the **PrintJobs** step can send the PDF file, with inserted XRX or XPIF commands, to the printer. The Cut Sheet Support for Xerox feature is required.
- If the target printer is a custom PDF printer, the **PrintJobs** step converts the PDF file to PostScript and sends a PostScript data stream to the printer. The data stream can contain device-specific PostScript commands.

Another function of the workflow can be to combine small PDF files into one larger file. Adding the **BuildPDFFromZIP** step to a PDF workflow lets you concatenate PDF files contained in a `.zip` file into a larger PDF file. The smaller files are added to the new file in the order they are in the `.zip` file. The hot folder input device that processed the input file can create the `.zip` file. Alternatively, you can package the files as a `.zip` file before they are submitted.

In this section:

[Defining a workflow to print a job](#)

To print a job on a printer, you must create a workflow that uses the PrintJobs step.

[Defining a workflow to copy a file to a printer hot folder](#)

You can define a workflow that accepts a print job in a format such as PDF or PostScript or a JDF job ticket and copies it to a hot folder that is associated with a printer.

[Defining a workflow to print to a Passthrough Printer](#)

You can define a workflow that accepts a print job in PDF or PostScript format and sends it to a Passthrough printer.

[Printing PDF and PostScript files on the InfoPrint 5000 printer Models AS1 and AD1/2](#)

To send PDF and PostScript files to the hot folders on the InfoPrint 5000 printer Models AS1 and AD1/2 with RICOH ProcessDirector for Linux, you can set up a workflow that uses the **CopyToFolder** step.

Parent topic: [Preparing to use workflows](#)