

Re: Remote printing

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- *From:* "Mr. Arnold" <MR.Arnold@xxxxxxxxxx>
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<gilles27@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:1183533361.930515.289120@xx

Hello all.

I am currently working on a project which will allow our users to print invoices, delivery notes, etc. using Crystal Reports. The basic premise is that the print job details are saved into the database and then picked up by a windows service which polls the database regularly.

The problem I have is that our application is deployed on our own servers, which our customers then Remote Desktop to. Therefore the windows service cannot "see" the user's printer when it comes time to print.

The best solution I have so far is to place another service on the customer's intranet, which can then see their printers. This service would receive the print job via a TCP socket which it has opened.

The application is implemented in .NET so I have initially tried sending the Crystal Report document object down the wire – however this class is not serializable. I would also introduce a dependency on Crystal at the customer's end, which I'd rather avoid.

I've also tried using Crystal to create a pdf document, then sending the pdf down the wire. I can recreate the pdf at the other end but then have no way to print it using .NET. I believe I can use Acrobat via the command line but this introduces another dependency and seems a bit messy.

If anyone has any suggestions as to how I might get around this problem I'd be pleased to hear from them.

Re: Remote printing

If this is Windows Terminal Server farm you're talking about, then there should be a way to configure something in that respect for the remote client so that the remote client can use the printer local on his or her end.

The printer should be in the Printer Selection list just like any other printer that can be selected by an application to print to a local printer or networked printer, if it was running local to the client.

Terminal Server should be able to send the printout over the wire by itself as if that printer was local to the Terminal Server.

This can be done with Citrix Terminal Server and its clients. I don't see why the same thing cannot be done with Windows Terminal Server and its clients.

You should check with your Admins to see how this can be accomplished, because it should be there in some form so that an application that's running on the Terminal Server by the remote client can print to a client's local printer or network printer, by sending the printout to the client over wire to the client's local or networked printer, in a remote session.

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