

RE: Bidirectional Printing Windows 2003 Cluster

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.clustering/2006-06/msg00152.html>

- *From:* v-xuwen@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx (Vincent Xu [MSFT])
 - *Date:* Tue, 13 Jun 2006 05:41:31 GMT
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Hi Wayne ,

Sorry for delay in response due to the research.

Based on my research, I found some documents said that we unfortunately cannot guarantee the functionality of Bidir on a Cluster, but did you tried to connecting directly to one of the physical nodes to see if the Bidir works?

I found an article : How To Create a Shared Printer on Windows Clustering . Unfortunately, it was archived. I paste the steps here for your reference. You can have a check:

Create Cluster Group (Virtual Server) to Host Printer

1. If there is no existing group to host the printers, open Cluster Administrator. Right-click New , and then click Group .
2. Configure the group properties as appropriate for your cluster.
3. Add an IP Address resource, a Network Name resource, a Physical Disk resource, and a Print Spooler resource to the group. Configure the resources correctly for the intended use.

If a group exists to host the printers, ensure that a Print Spooler resource is correctly configured in the resource group. You should have no more than one spooler resource per resource group. The Print Spooler resource should depend on the Network Name Resource and the Disk Resource of the group. Create a folder on the shared disk to store spooled print jobs; this folder is usually named \SPOOL. In the properties of the Print Spooler, specify the full path to the spool folder.

Install Printer Drivers on All Nodes

Install the printer drivers once on each node for each make and model printer to be shared. For example, if you share 100 printers of the same make and model, you only install that printer drivers once on each node.

1. On the first node, click Start , point to Settings , and then click Printers .
2. Double-click Add Printer to start the Add Printer Wizard, and then click Next at the Welcome screen.

RE: Bidirectional Printing Windows 2003 Cluster

3. When prompted, click local printer to indicate that the printer is attached to the local node. Click to clear the Automatically detect and install my Plug and Play printer check box, and then click Next .
4. Choose a port for the printer. At this point, you can select any port (even a non-existent one) because you will delete this printer at later point. Click Next .
5. Click the make and model of the printer that you want to cluster. Click Have Disk to use a vendor-supplied driver, and then click Next .
6. Enter any printer name (you will soon delete this printer), and then click Next .
7. If non-Windows 2000 clients will access the printer, choose to share the printer. With this option, you can install non-Windows 2000 client drivers for the printer. Again, the share name is not important as you will soon delete the print .
8. Leave the location and comment boxes blank, and then click Next .
9. Because the printer is (most likely) not physically connected to the indicated port, do not print a test page. Click Next .
10. Click Finish . The node installs the printer drivers to the node.
11. If non-Windows 2000 clients will be printing to a shared printer of this make and model, right-click the icon for the newly created printer. Click Properties , and then on the Sharing tab, click Additional Drivers to install the additional drivers for the non-Windows 2000 client operating systems.
12. At this point, drivers for the make and model of the specified printers are installed on the node, along with necessary drivers for non-Windows 2000 client computers. Close the printer properties.
13. From the printers folder, delete the newly created printer.
14. Repeat steps 1 through 13 on each additional node in the cluster.

Create the Shared Printer(s)

1. From a remote computer or from a node in the cluster, click Start , click Run , type \\servername , where servername is the Network Name of the virtual server that contains the Print Spooler resource.
2. Verify in the title bar of the window that opens that you are using a remote connection. If you are performing this step from one of the nodes in the cluster, and you do not connect to the virtual server as described, the following steps will not work.
3. Double-click the Printers folder.
4. Double-click Add Printer to start the Add Printer Wizard. This time, create the actual shared printer. Click Next .
5. You should only have the Remote print server servername option available on this screen. If you have other options, you have performed the preceding steps incorrectly. In that case, click Cancel and start over, otherwise, click Next .
6. If you have previously created a port for this printer, click it in the list. Otherwise, create a new port for the printer by using the Standard TCP/IP port. Click Next .
7. If you create a new port, the New Port Wizard starts. Type the IP address of the printer and a port name, and then click Next to create the printer port. Complete the New Port Wizard and return to the Add Printer Wizard.

RE: Bidirectional Printing Windows 2003 Cluster

8. Click the make and model of the printer, and then click Next .
9. When you are prompted, choose to keep the existing driver. By choosing to use updated drivers you undo all of the work that you did previously to install the drivers on all of the nodes. Click Next .
10. Type the printer name (using the real name), and then click Next .
11. Choose to share the printer (using the real share name), and then click Next .
12. Type a location and comment for this printer as you would like them to appear in Windows 2000 Active Directory, and then click Next .
13. Choose to print a test page if you want to, and then click Next .
14. Click Finish to create the shared clustered printer in the virtual server.

Note : In Windows 2000, you only create the shared printer once on the virtual server. It does not matter which node owns the virtual server when you create the printer.

15. To create additional printers of the same make and model, repeat steps 1 through 14 for the additional printers.

Note: This steps also been tested on Windows Server 2003, they works.

Let me know the results. I'll try my best to be of assistance.

Thanks.

Best regards,

Vincent Xu
Microsoft Online Partner Support

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Thread-Topic: Bidirectional Printing Windows 2003 Cluster
thread-index: AcaMB9DSLW6Y6nIqTIm9KHBn7HZzZA==
X-WBNR-Posting-Host: 199.68.77.225
From: =?Utf-8?B?d2sxMg==?= <Wk12@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
References:
<85684280-CAD0-4774-AE05-C0C76B2462EE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

RE: Bidirectional Printing Windows 2003 Cluster

<X6HxpWGiGHA.1740@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Subject: RE: Bidirectional Printing Windows 2003 Cluster
Date: Fri, 9 Jun 2006 14:01:02 -0700
Lines: 113
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Priority: normal
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.3790.1830
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Path: TK2MSFTNGXA01.phx.gbl
Xref: TK2MSFTNGXA01.phx.gbl

microsoft.public.windows.server.clustering:15687

NNTP-Posting-Host: TK2MSFTNGXA01.phx.gbl 10.40.2.250
X-Tomcat-NG: microsoft.public.windows.server.clustering

Hi Vincent,

they are downloaded from HP's web site. I did a test with a Windows 2003 server by loading the same driver Bidirectional printing was available but when the the same driver is insttaled on the cluster Bidirectional

printing is

not available the box is greyed out. I dont think it caused by the driver.

"Vincent Xu [MSFT]" wrote:

Hi Wayne ,

Based on my research, it looks like the printer driver may have

disabled

the bi-direction feature when it is used in the cluster nodes.
What are

the

RE: Bidirectional Printing Windows 2003 Cluster

printer drivers, are they built-in drivers, or are they downloaded from

the

HP websites.

For the built-in drivers, it is possible that the bidirectional feature

has

been disabled in clustered spooler because of potential issues with bidirectional printing. See the following article:

278455 How to set up a clustered print server
<http://support.microsoft.com/?id=278455>

If it is a HP driver, please check with HP to see if the bi-directional feature is available on their supplied drivers in clustered printers.

More information for Language monitor

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The language monitor provides the common language that is needed for

the

client and printer to understand each other in bidirectional

communication

so that you can configure the printer and monitor printer status. You

can

request configuration and status from the printer, and the printer can

send

unsolicited status information (such as paper tray empty) to the

client.

RE: Bidirectional Printing Windows 2003 Cluster

Windows Server 2003 includes Pjlmon.dll, a language monitor that uses Printer Job Language (PJM). PJM is the language that implements the bidirectional communication; it does this by using a parallel port connection, such as one between a Hewlett-Packard LaserJet 5Si and the computer. Any bidirectional printer that uses PJM can use Pjlmon.dll.

If a printer uses a different printer language, the vendor can develop

a

language monitor for it. A vendor might also develop a language monitor

to

add data, such as printer-specific control information, to the print

stream

that is going to a unidirectional printer.

To take advantage of bidirectional printing, you need a bidirectional printer, and a correctly configured bidirectional port and port

monitor.

The standard port monitor supports bidirectional communication by

default.

Hope this helps!

Best regards,

Vincent Xu
Microsoft Online Partner Support

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Thread-Topic: Bidirectional
Printing Windows 2003
Cluster
thread-index:
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Printing Windows 2003
Cluster
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CDO for Windows 2000
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Priority: normal
X-MimeOLE: Produced By
Microsoft MimeOLE

RE: Bidirectional Printing Windows 2003 Cluster

V6.00.3790.1830

Newsgroups:

microsoft.public.windows.server.clustering

Path:

TK2MSFTNGXA01.phx.gbl

Xref:

TK2MSFTNGXA01.phx.gbl

microsoft.public.windows.server.clustering:15557

NNTP-Posting-Host:

TK2MSFTNGXA01.phx.gbl

10.40.2.250

X-Tomcat-NG:

microsoft.public.windows.server.clustering

I have a Windows 2003

Print cluster in our

environment It was built

using

the

Windows 2003 "guide to
Creating and Configuring a
Server Cluster

under

Windows Server 2003",
"Creating and Configuring a
highly Available

Print

Server Under Microsoft
Windows Server 2003
Using a Server Cluster"

and MS

article 278455 "How to
Setup a Clustered Print
Server".

However the "Enable
bidirectional support" is
grayed out on the port

tab

RE: Bidirectional Printing Windows 2003 Cluster

on

each printer. We use all HP printers and drivers so I know they have bidirectional support. You can also enable bidirectional support on a standard windows 2003 print server. Is there a reason this is not

available

or is there a way to make it available.

Thanks
Wayne