Terminal Services Overview

Purpose
This document describes terminal services in general and provides a brief description of Microsoft Terminal Server and Citrix MetaFrame. It also provides information about auto-created printers (a terminal server technology) and Xerox’s driver recommendations for terminal server environments.

Terminal Services
Terminal services broadly describes a technology that allows a client to connect to a server so that the server hosts the client’s desktop and/or applications the client can access. The client is either fat or thin (see note below) and connects to the terminal server with terminal emulation software. The two primary functions of terminal servers are “remote desktop” and “published applications.”

Note: A thin client is typically a network computer without a hard disk drive that depends on a terminal server for all of its operations. A fat client includes a disk drive and usually has an operating system and can function independently of a terminal server.

Remote Desktop
A terminal server can host a user’s desktop. This typically occurs with (but not restricted to) non-Microsoft based operating systems such as Unix or Linux as well as thin clients that do not have an operating system of their own. The advantages of remote desktop include a single location for all user data backup, one operating system to maintain, and streamlined support.

Published Applications
In addition to remote desktop, a common use of a terminal server is for published applications. A published application environment allows each client to have its own operating system but maintains some or all of the applications that the client uses on the terminal server. The advantage of published applications is a single location for maintaining programs that clients need to access. This makes software upgrades simple as they only need to be performed on the server, and ensures that all users are using the same version of all published applications.

Terminal Servers by Product
The two terminal server products covered briefly in this document are Microsoft Terminal Server and Citrix MetaFrame.

Microsoft Terminal Server
Windows NT 4.0 contains a separate server operating system named “Windows Terminal Server 4.0” that is required to provide terminal services to clients. Windows 2000 and

This document applies to these Xerox products:

- WC Pro 32/40 Color
- WC Pro 65/75/90
- WC Pro 35/45/55
- WC M35/M45/M55
- DC 555/545/535
- DC 490/480/470/460
- DC 440/432/425/420
- DC 332/340
- DC 265/255/240
- DC 220/230
- DCCS 50
2003 however have the ability to add terminal service functionality at any time via Add/Remove Programs. Microsoft’s Terminal Server offers a basic suite of features and acts as the core for all terminal service operations on the server.

**Citrix MetaFrame**

Citrix MetaFrame is a terminal service suite and an application you install on a server. Microsoft Terminal Server must be installed on the server prior to installing MetaFrame. MetaFrame accesses the basic functionality of Microsoft Terminal Server but also extends the features and manageability. MetaFrame has both Service Packs (SP's) for bug fixes and Feature Releases (FR's) for enhancements. You must review both the SP and FR levels when gathering technical information for troubleshooting purposes. For a description of MetaFrame functionality visit http://www.citrix.com.

**Auto-Created Printers**

Auto-created printers are virtual printers created to utilize your locally installed printers during a terminal server session. When logged onto a remote desktop session, you are using the server as if it were your local operating system. In a terminal server environment, certain items such as printers, applications, or other devices installed locally on a fat client would not typically be available from within your terminal session. One method used to enable printing in a terminal server environment is auto-created printers. Auto-creation is a technology that allows you to create a virtual printer object in the Printers Folder of the session. Only you can see the virtual print object of the auto-created local printer. The printing preferences from the local printer objects typically transfer to the virtual printer object during creation. Preferences transfer with varying results.

**Note:** To auto-create a printer object, the printer drivers installed on the client PC must also exist in the driver library on the terminal server. Many ways exist to add a driver to the driver library.

**Driver Recommendations**

We recommend you download the latest version of the PostScript Standard Interface or Xerox User Interface driver from http://www.xerox.com for use in any terminal server environment. Some products have both Standard Interface and Xerox User Interface drivers available. If the driver for your MFD has both available, choose the Xerox User Interface.

**Note:** In an enhanced driver is available, do not use it in a terminal server environment.

**Additional Information**

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