Frequently Asked Questions
Modernization Projects and the LRS Output Management Solution

Q. I have high-speed printing needs that are currently met with the application that we are modernizing. Can these needs be met in the new environment?
A. Handling legacy data streams is a specialty of our environment. The LRS solution can convert and pass them to any device as long as that device is attached to the IP network.

Q. Our organization has thousands of printers defined to our mainframe, and the application we are migrating prints to all of them. How many print servers will we need to handle the volume?
A. Normally, the LRS solution can handle many thousands of devices with a single server.

Q. I am limited to 36 printers because individual devices are tied to the CLASS parameter. Can the LRS solution get around this limit?
A. Yes. LRS can use other JES parameters to enhance routing and make the number of devices limitless.

Q. Can I use the same print hardware after modernization?
A. The answer depends on the hardware you are using. Some hardware is specific to an environment, such as channel-attached printers. The LRS solution allows you to deal with existing print data streams and direct them to IP addressable print hardware.

Q. I currently use screen printing as part of my business process. Will this facility be available in the new platform?
A. The modernization vendor you use has a lot to do with this. When you list your requirements for a modernization project, it's important to note print issues like this which are specific to your business process. Normally, LRS can work with you or the modernization vendor to make this type of feature available.

Q. How is my current VTAM output captured and printed?
A. This depends on the platform to which you are migrating. In each case, however, LRS provides methods to capture output and massage it so that it can be printed on IP based devices.

Q. I have years of reports stored in my current legacy archive system. Is there any way I can avoid losing all of this data when I modernize my applications?
A. Yes, LRS has worked with many customers to migrate their legacy archive systems utilizing the LRS open systems solution. We are able to help migrate all of your reports while maintaining their original attributes.

Q. What type of experience does LRS have in doing legacy archive migrations?
A. Over the last four years, LRS has helped more than 20 customers migrate their data to LRS solutions. We have experience migrating Mobius, BMC Control-D, CA-View and CA-Deliver, CA-Bundl, RMDS, and others.

Q. We use CA-View (formerly SAR) for archiving. Are the reports in LRS archival solution viewable before printing?
A. Yes. Documents in the archive can be viewed before printing. They can also be viewed instead of printed, and you can print without viewing.

Q. When the LRS solution sniffs legacy data from products such as CA-View, does it sniff the actual data or the attributes of the report?
A. Our solution sniffs the actual data to determine the nature of the data stream, and makes the decision about the type based on that analysis. Our solution also has access to the JES attributes, which it can use for any number of possibilities.

Q. Can you discuss how you handle LCDS resources across several print platforms? Are you able to retrieve resources from multiple libraries to handle different resources with the same name, especially fonts?
A. In a Xerox environment, each printer may have its own resource set, and some of these resources may have the same name but be different in their nature. After we offload the resources from the printer, we can keep these resources in distinct libraries and then use some criteria at print time to resolve which library contains the correct resources.

Q. We are moving some applications to the SAP® environment and may need to re-host others. Can you handle both? When should I engage LRS?
A. LRS has a formal relationship with SAP, and we offer solutions that handle output from SAP applications as well as applications from numerous other vendors. You should engage LRS early in your project to conduct a proper analysis of your output environment and design the right solution.

Q. We store PDFs on the mainframe. What solution do you provide for this?
A. Our Enterprise Output Server (EOS) can archive and often index PDF files. We can also resolve PDFs to a print-ready data stream if they need to be printed. Our solution can also compress PDF data for storage.

Q. How are definitions in CA-Deliver handled?
A. Report definitions in CA-Deliver, and any other archive system, can be migrated to the EOS platform. Your stored data can either be moved or grandfathered, depending on what's best for your environment. We have a team specifically trained to perform this migration.

Q. Since your solution can sniff the data stream, can I choose to send data "as is"?
A. Yes. We use certain standards to deal with data stream issues, but we remain flexible. The way you send the data stream can be determined by how the administrator wants to deal with it.

Q. Can you migrate PageCenter® data from the mainframe to SAN storage?
A. Yes, we can extract and store PageCenter data. A better solution than straight SAN storage, however, would be storing the data in the EOS. This way the data is compressed and can be indexed for quick retrieval.

Q. Does the EOS have anything comparable to the VPS/Email solution on the mainframe?
A. Yes, email functionality is inherent in the EOS.

Q. Is it best to have a production server and a backup in case of hardware or software issues?
A. Many of our customers run the EOS in a clustered environment for just this reason. We classify this as a best practice rather than a requirement.

Q. When the LRS solution converts output to PDF, can it reformat the resulting document? For example, can it produce one page per record or even separate PDF files per record?
A. Yes, the LRS solution can produce PDF files that way. Conversions are flexible in the EOS, so the "page per record" can be physical (separate files) or logical (the user is only given access to a particular page).