

SpoolFlex reduces county payroll distribution by 98%. Now, with just one employee and a few keystrokes, paycheck distribution is done.

Overview: Direct deposit goal thwarted by proprietary printers

The Information Services Department in Marinette County, Wisconsin was ready to switch to direct deposit for the county payroll. As part of this, they wanted to avoid printing out the check stubs, but the document management system that interfaced with their IBM AS/400® could only print to proprietary printers. Printing documents to PDF was impossible, and emailing electronic documents was a convoluted and difficult process.

SpoolFlex by DRV Technologies (www.drvttech.com) made the goal of payroll direct deposit a reality. The report management software solved the electronic delivery problem by converting check stub information to individual PDF files and emailing them to each employee. Now county workers can receive their check information – encrypted for security – at work or at home.

Customer Profile: Marinette County, Wisconsin



You don't have to look far in Marinette County for water. Located on the northeastern edge of Wisconsin, Marinette County is bordered on the right by Green Bay and on the north by the Menominee River. Furthermore, because of the 14 stunning waterfalls scattered throughout the county, Marinette County is considered the "Waterfall Capital of Wisconsin."

From the county Web site (www.marinettecounty.com), residents of this rural county (pop. 40,000) can access city and county government information, while tourists can view the county's recreation and entertainment options.

But managing this Web site is just the tip of the iceberg for the Marinette County Information Services Department. Dean Marzofka, Director of Information Services, oversees a five-person staff responsible for all of the computers, software, and networking for 350+ county employees. Each county department has different technology needs, from the sheriff's call dispatchers to Health and Human Services to the public libraries.

Problem: A road block to implementing payroll direct deposit

Before SpoolFlex, county employees had to wait for the paychecks to be printed out and physically distributed. This process involved the IBM AS/400® printing the check information to a spool file, where it was picked up by their former document management software. The data was then merged and printed to a proprietary printer. Printing and distributing the checks in a timely manner took several employees.

Both the Marinette County Finance Department and Information Services Department were ready to move the payroll to direct deposit. But first they had to figure out how to electronically deliver check stub information from the AS/400 to the employees.

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Customer Profile

Information Services Department,
Marinette County, Wisconsin

Existing Technology

County employees use PCs running Microsoft Windows® to access in-house accounting software running on an IBM AS/400® platform.

Objective

Reduce time-consuming payroll check printing and distribution.

Solution

SpoolFlex by DRV Technologies

Benefits

Converts reports to PDF, Excel, HTML, and Word.
Distributes reports to file servers or via email.
Bursts one report into separate reports or combines multiple reports into one.
No programming required.
Very affordable (pays for itself in paper savings alone).

Cost

Less than \$5,000

Solution: DRV technical support seals the deal

Marzofka was venting his technology problems with an old friend who works in one of Honeywell's military divisions. The friend encouraged Marzofka to check out SpoolFlex.

"The first thing that caught my eye with SpoolFlex is that it allowed me to easily print out a document, email a document, and send a document directly to directories within our network on the Windows side of things," says Marzofka.

Another thing that sold Marzofka on SpoolFlex was DRV Technologies' in-house technical support. "They were very responsive to what was going on with us. When we have a problem and we call – they're right there, and they've always done that."

Since Marinette County began using SpoolFlex, Marzofka says, "We've saved easily 10,000 man hours a year. It's absolutely incredible." Payroll check printing is down 98% and no longer requires several employees. Now, with just a few keystrokes by one employee, check stub distribution is done.

As for paper handling in other areas of county operation, Marzofka says, "We've dropped that 100%. Everything goes from the AS/400 directly to the individual as a PDF file. They can print it out, email it forward, put it in a directory, and so forth."

SpoolFlex Saves Forests One Voucher at a Time

Before implementing SpoolFlex, the Marinette County Treasurer's Department kept a hard copy of every voucher and its accompanying purchase order. Every two weeks, the department generated 100 - 300 vouchers, which translated to 5,200 – 15,600 vouchers and purchase orders per year. As Marzofka noted, "You're looking at a whole bunch of deforestation."

Now SpoolFlex converts the purchase orders and vouchers to PDF, which are saved to a directory and emailed to the necessary departments instead of using inter-departmental mail. Say Marzofka about the Treasurer's Department, "They're just as pleased as punch with that."



Evaluation

The time to install, configure, and implement SpoolFlex was just four hours. The implementing programmer did call DRV Technologies' in-house technical support two times. But that was no hassle, Marzofka says, "Their insight and the skill set of their tech support is just phenomenal. The people that DRV Technologies has hired – they're just phenomenal. They're great to work with and very responsive."

Marinette County Information Services has also reduced their check printing. "We're finding time savings all over the place. SpoolFlex is that one piece of software that I have yet to find any downside to!"

"Everybody loves it. Everybody loves their check stubs in their email, at their homes, at their work, wherever they want it. It has allowed us to do things that we simply could not do before."

"DRV Technologies' support is literally – out of all the products we use – second to none."

"Anybody who does anything from an AS/400 or an iSeries should look into SpoolFlex, because I think they would absolutely be in love with it."

"SpoolFlex allows us to move data in a way that is cogent to our industry, our business. It doesn't matter how you want the data. SpoolFlex is like a conduit – a pipe – that allows us to bend it any which way we want."

*Dean Marzofka
Director of Information Services
Marinette County, Wisconsin*