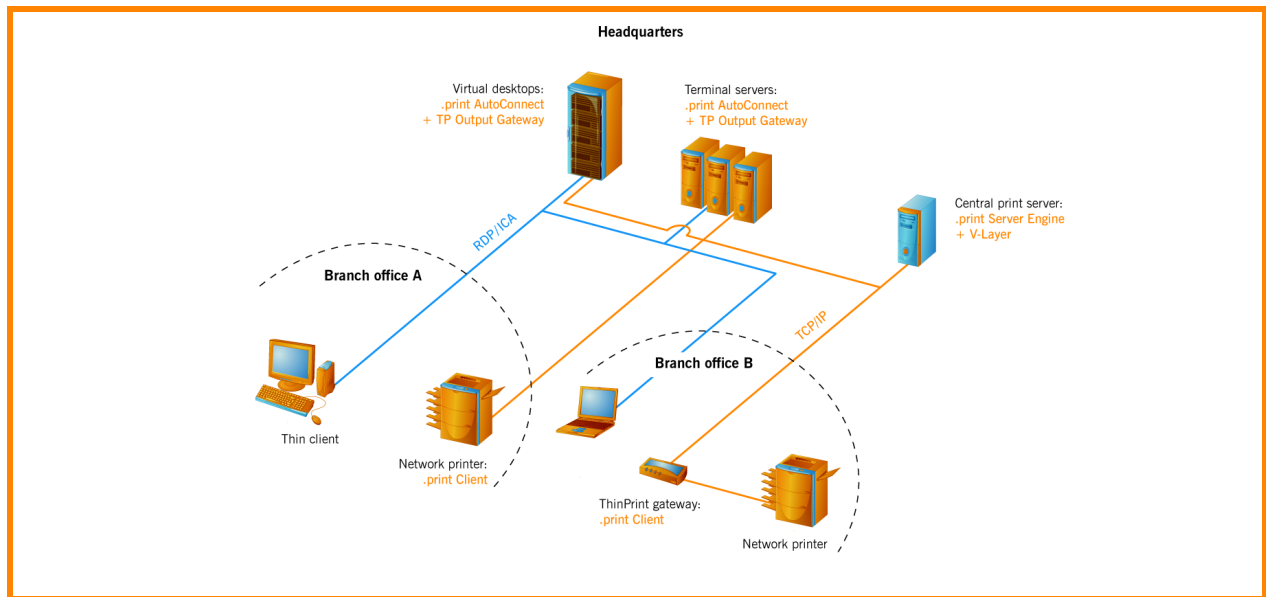


.print Engine feature comparison

ThinPrint .print ■ The new way of printing



ThinPrint .print is a two part software solution for print data management; it consists of a server and a client component. The server component is called the **.print Engine**; it compresses and encrypts all print data and sends it across limited bandwidth to the client component - called the **.print Client**.

The .print Engine can either be installed directly there where print jobs are generated – on PCs, terminal servers, virtual desktops and on so called Blade PCs – or on central print servers. This white paper introduces all .print Engine products and is intended to help in the selection of an appropriate product.

When reviewing the brief overview, please note that it is not possible to include every possible IT environment. For this reason, mention is made in the relevant places to other .print products and components such as the .print Host Integration Service, .print Connected Gateway, .print Virtual Channel Gateway and Desktop Extension.

Components of .print Engines

- .print Application Server Engine
- .print RDP Engine
- .print Server Engine
- .print Desktop Engine
- .print Engine for VMware View
- V-Layer Basic

.print Engine feature comparison

- Recommended server environments
- Supported client environments
- Support for additional .print components
- Network protocols
- SSL / TLS encryption
- Bandwidth control
- Driver Free Printing
- V-Layer

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Components of .print Engines

- .print Application Server Engine + .print Application Server Basic Pack* The **.print Application Server Engine** offers the broadest performance spectrum of all .print Engines for terminal servers and other application servers under Windows, e.g., web servers. It can be deployed both for pure Microsoft terminal servers and for Citrix servers. The .print Application Server Engine supports, for instance, bandwidth control, Advanced Adaptive Compression, SSL encryption, and tracking of print data as well as Driver Free Printing. Available print protocols are TCP/IP with and without .print Connection Service, ICA, RDP, and LPR/LPD. All printers – even those on central and local print servers – can be created automatically in the terminal sessions.
- The .print Application Server Engine is mainly intended for medium-sized to large terminal server environments as well as for web application servers. For small terminal server environments up to 20 users a user-based licensing can be chosen with the .print Application Server Basic Pack.
- .print RDP Engine* The **.print RDP Engine** is, in contrast to the .print Application Server Engine, specialized on the protocol RDP; it thus only supports Microsoft Terminal servers. All client printers are automatically created in the terminal sessions. The .print RDP Engine was designed so that there is no configuration necessary after installation (plug & play); it does not include bandwidth control and support of central print servers. The .print RDP Engine can use the encryption from the RDP data stream – also plug & play. Both Windows PCs and thin clients (preferential based on Windows CE) can be used as client machines.
- It is therefore particularly well suited for small to medium-sized terminal server environments.
- .print Server Engine + .print Printserver Basic Pack* The **.print Server Engine** is necessary when central (dedicated) print servers or web servers are in use; it enables, for instance, bandwidth control, Advanced Adaptive Compression, and SSL encryption of print data, Driver Free Printing and also V-Layer. Available print protocols are TCP/IP with and without .print Connection Service, ICA, RDP, and LPR/LPD.
- The .print Server Engine is suitable for all environments with central (dedicated) print servers under Windows. For small to medium-sized terminal server environments as well as for Desktop Blade and Virtual Desktop environments a user-based licensing can be chosen with the .print Printserver Basic Pack.
- The .print Server Engine or .print Printserver Basic Pack is recommended with Driver Free Printing to non-Windows machines (PCs, print servers, gateways, network printers) – called as V-Layer.
- AutoConnect can be configured with the help of group policies both on terminal servers as well as in the Active Directory.
- .print Engine for VMware View* If your virtual desktop environment has a central print server, you can use the economically priced **.print Engine for VMware View** instead of .print Server Engine. It offers Driver Free Printing, bandwidth control of print data, convenient use of the V-Layer, as well as port configuration in the MMC. In this instance, AutoConnect is configured in the Group Policies to map the printers.

V-Layer Basic The V-Layer component of .print Server Engine can also be purchased separately as **V-Layer Basic**. This component provides Driver Free Printing for terminal servers, virtual desktops and workstations. This means that native printer drivers need only be installed and administered on the central (dedicated) print server.

.print Desktop Engine In contrast to .print Application Server Engine, **.print Desktop Engine** does not support servers but real or virtual Windows desktops under Microsoft Virtual PC or Citrix XenDesktop as well as in Blade PC environments. Client printers are automatically created on the remote Windows desktop. Available print protocols are TCP/IP and ICA/ RDP.

The .print Desktop Engine was designed so that there is no configuration necessary after installation (plug & play). Both Windows PCs and thin clients can be used as client machines. Optional central print servers can be used; these are recommended with V-Layer (see .print Printserver Basic Pack).

Under VMware the .print Desktop Engine components are provided free of charge as part of the VMware Tools.

.print Engine feature comparison

	.print Application Server Engine	.print RDP Engine	.print Server Engine	V-Layer Basic	.print Engine for VMware View	.print Desktop Engine
Recommended server environments						
• Terminal servers with Windows Server 2003/2008/2008 R2 with/without Citrix XenApp	●	●	–	–	–	–
• Other Windows servers (2003/2008/2008 R2 including Cluster Services) as well as environments with central dedicated print servers	–	–	●	●	● ^a	–
• Windows Server 2008 R2 Server Core	–	–	●	–	–	–
• Virtual or real desktops with Windows 7, Vista or XP (x64)	–	–	–	–	–	●
Supported client environments						
• Windows 7, 7 x64, Vista, Vista x64, XP, XP x64, 2003, 2003 x64, 2000, NT 4, ME, 9x	●	●	●	●	●	●
• Linux, Java, Windows CE, 3.x, MS-DOS	●	● ^b	●	●	●	●
Plug-and-play installation	●	●	–	●	–	●
Unattended installation	●	●	●	●	●	●
User-based licensing	●	–	●	●	–	–
MMC configuration	●	–	●	●	●	●
AutoConnect configuration using Group Policies	●	–	●	●	●	●
SSL/TLS encryption	●	● ^c	●	–	–	●
Driver Free Printing	●	●	●	–	●	●
Native printing	●	●	●	–	●	●
Multiple printers per user	●	●	●	●	●	●
Bandwidth control	●	–	●	–	●	●
Network protocols						
• TCP/IP (sockets)	●	–	●	–	●	●
• ICA	●	–	● ^d	–	–	●
• RDP	●	●	● ^d	–	● ^d	●
• LPR/LPD	●	–	●	–	●	–
Supported .print components						
• AutoConnect	●	●	●	●	●	●
• Virtual Channel Gateway	–	–	●	–	●	–
• V-Layer	–	–	●	●	●	–
• Tracking Service	●	–	●	–	–	–
• Desktop Extension	●	●	●	–	●	●
• Connected Gateway	●	–	●	–	–	●
• Queue Manager	●	–	●	–	–	–
• Host Integration Service	●	–	–	–	–	–

a Central print servers in VMware View environments only

b Linux and Windows CE only

c Per encryption of RDP connection only

d Via .print Virtual Channel Gateway