



A Division of UNICOM®Global

mySPAD

Output Device Administrator for SAP®

Putting  All Together.™

Background Information

Companies employing SAP® systems normally run multiple systems in parallel – in the case of large corporations with many branch offices, often several hundreds of SAP® systems – and need to manage thousands of printers along with their system definitions.

SAP® features an integrated spooling system. Printer configuration in the SAP® system is performed using the SPAD transaction. Users must log on to the respective SAP® system and require the associated SAP® spool administration access rights. And whenever devices are required to be available for various SAP® systems, as is often the case, they need to be configured in the different SAP® systems.

Even if just a few SAP® systems are operated in parallel, things quickly become complicated since printers and output channels need to be defined and harmonized with the operating system's output management or spooling systems on top of performing the normal SAP® system administration chores. All this management and maintenance work claims a large portion of the administrator's time that can be reduced significantly with mySPAD.

mySPAD: What it Is – and Why You Need it

mySPAD is a software product residing on the SAP® Web Application server. It offers a Web browser interface for the central management of printer master data for multiple SAP® systems, including, if required, printer master data of the output management or printer spooling system.

If you combine, for instance, mySPAD with Columbus OM from Macro 4 as an output management system, mySPAD exports the printer configuration to Columbus OM and synchronizes them with the SAP® systems.

Single Point of Printer Administration

Communication

The SAP® computers are integrated through the provision of RFC connections. mySPAD uses RFC to communicate with the SAP® systems, thus enabling the configuration of all printers connected to SAP® systems that support access via RFC.

Connection to the OM / Spooling Systems

mySPAD can be configured to interact with Columbus OM from Macro 4 as well as with other OM-systems or the basic printer spooling systems, like CUPS under Linux, the AIX spooling system and others. Connection scripts and batches are communicated to the SAP® using the SM69 transaction.

Functions

- mySPAD centrally manages printer master data of multiple SAP® and output management (OM) systems.

- You can use mySPAD to configure all printers connected to any SAP® and OM system accessible via RFC using the pre-designed shell commands tailored to the individual OM systems.
- When importing new printer definitions from SAP®, mySPAD suggests how to allocate them to existing printers in the OM system or provides a new definition based on the printer name newly imported from SAP®.
- Printer master data directly created in mySPAD are first saved and then always distributed to the specified target SAP® system and, as an option, also to the OM system. In both systems they are labeled as “centrally managed”.

“Centrally Managed” Label

With mySPAD you can assign the label “centrally managed” to printers connected to the SAP® and OM systems; printers marked this way are managed exclusively in mySPAD. This label can be revoked at any time for a single printer or a group of printers.

Benefits

- Even in small companies operating just a few SAP® systems, mySPAD greatly facilitates the definition and ongoing maintenance of printer networks by providing a central, browser-based interface for more effective and comfortable printer master data maintenance compared with the basic system.
- Defining the printer network in the SAP® system is a required task – which can be automated and run from a central location with mySPAD. As an additional benefit, instead of having to maintain further printer master data for different systems, as is the case with an output management (OM) system, the central mySPAD definitions radiate out to all SAP® systems and the OM system.
- Printer master data versioning and synchronization of printer master data from the different systems greatly improve the reliability and flexibility of a company’s printer administration workflows.

A User Statement

“The mySPAD application has proven to be highly flexible and versatile. It allows us to account for the breadth of the device landscape, the sometimes diverging demands placed on the output devices to be configured and the differences in the device properties for each system.

“The systems are managed centrally with great ease using mySPAD. The application optimally supports output device management. The reaction time and quality of the changes was significantly improved.”

If you do so, the local printer definition is once again managed and edited without mySPAD in the SAP® or OM system.

Whenever on-the-spot changes need to be made to a “centrally managed” printer in the SAP® area, this is still possible since the SAP® authorization concept is still in effect. This increases operating flexibility and reliability in the event mySPAD is not available.

Versioning

mySPAD performs versioning of its printer master data. If configured accordingly, a new version is created for a printer whenever settings are changed, and the previous version is saved. Users can view all versions and activate any of them. Also, when used exclusively, mySPAD synchronizes all systems, including SAP®, OM and mySPAD based on the versioned printer master data.

System Reconciliation

To facilitate automated importing of printers from SAP® systems, you can reconcile them with the printer already existing in mySPAD.

DETEC Software GmbH, Im Neugrund 16, 64521 Groß-Gerau, Germany

Phone: +49 6152 71230 **Fax:** +49 6152 7123199 **Email:** info@detec.com **Web:** www.detc.com

Trademarks and Registered Trademarks: www.detc.com/trademarks

All other brands or products are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective holders and should be treated as such.

Copyright © 2023 DETEC Software GmbH - a division of UNICOM Global - All Rights Reserved.