

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the file is a spool file format.

8. A method of printing a document encoded in a newer version of a page description language using a system comprising a computer and a printer coupled to the computer, wherein the printer is configured and arranged for operation with an earlier version of the page description language and has not been updated for the newer version of the page description language, the method comprising:

converting the document from the newer version of the page description language to the earlier version of the page description language using an updated printer driver that comprises a component for converting the document that incorporates information about the printer and substantially retains a same visual appearance when printed and compared to the document printed by a printer configured and arranged to print the document using the newer version of the page description language; and

printing the document, as converted using the updated printer driver, using the printer.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the information about the printer comprises information about capabilities or requirements, or both capabilities and requirements, of the printer.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein, prior to providing the updated printer driver, an original printer driver simply passed the document from the computer to the printer without substantial processing

11. The method of claim 8, wherein the newer version of the page description language comprises at least one fall-back structure to provide backward compatibility.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the updated printer driver is configured and arranged to ignore the at least one fall-back structure.

13. A computer-readable medium having processor-executable instructions for printing a document encoded in a newer version of a page description language using a system comprising a computer and a printer coupled to the computer, wherein the printer is configured and arranged for operation with an earlier version of the page description language and has not been updated for the newer version of the page description language, the processor-executable instructions when installed onto a system enable the system to perform actions, comprising:

converting the document from the newer version of the page description language to the earlier version of the page description language using an updated printer driver that comprises a component for converting the document that incorporates information about the printer and substantially retains a same visual appearance when compared to the document printed by a printer configured and arranged to print the document using the newer version of the page description language; and

providing the document to the printer.

14. The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the information about the printer comprises information about capabilities or requirements, or both capabilities and requirements, of the printer.

15. The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein, prior to providing the updated printer driver, an original printer driver simply passed the document from the computer to the printer without substantial processing

16. The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the newer version of the page description language comprises at least one fall-back structure to provide backward compatibility.

17. The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the updated printer driver is configured and arranged to ignore the at least one fall-back structure.

18. A system that is operative to print a document encoded in a newer version of a page description language, the system comprising:

a printer configured and arranged for operation with an earlier version of the page description language, wherein the printer has not been updated for the newer version of the page description language; and

at least one processor coupled to the printer for executing processor-readable instructions that enable actions, including:

converting the document from the newer version of the page description language to the earlier version of the page description language using an updated printer driver that comprises a component for converting the document that incorporates information about the printer and substantially retains a same visual appearance when printed and compared to the document printed by a printer configured and arranged to print the document using the newer version of the page description language.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein the information about the printer comprises information about capabilities or requirements, or both capabilities and requirements, of the printer.

20. The system of claim 18, wherein, prior to providing the updated printer driver, an original printer driver simply passed the document from the processor to the printer without substantial processing

21. The system of claim 18, wherein the newer version of the page description language comprises at least one fall-back structure to provide backward compatibility.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein the updated printer driver is configured and arranged to ignore the at least one fall-back structure.

23. The system of claim 18, further comprising a computer coupled to the printer, wherein the computer comprises the processor and the updated printer driver.

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