Take Mobile Print to the Next Level

How agile document workflow helps you
respond faster and improve service

Parmetech
Office Technology Solutions

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We're All
Mobile Now

If you think the mobile workforce is in the minority, take another look.

Even if you're office-based, you've almost certainly checked email on your smartphone. You've logged on remotely to your company network to securely download a document. Or you've joined a conference call on your tablet.

Mobile has gone mainstream, and we're all getting in on the act. In fact, it's estimated that by 2020, mobile workers will make up almost three-quarters of the total U.S. workforce.[1]

This is great news, because mobile is good for business. It's a key part of digital transformation; it makes processes more efficient, and it makes it easier to respond to customer needs on the fly.

And it means employees are more flexible, happier in their work and a lot more productive.

"Mobility has become synonymous with productivity both inside and outside the workplace."

Brian Bassett, IDC research analyst

Join Meeting...

1. IDC Forecasts U.S. Mobile Worker Population to Surpass 105 Million by 2020

From Mobile Print to Document Workflow

Employees on the move or working from home need to access and print documents anywhere, at any time, on any device.

Organizations should plan now to integrate their mobile workflows into existing work processes. And while printing is certainly important, it's part of a much bigger picture.

This is not just about document output – it's about document processes. And it's about designing a strategy that makes it easier to get things done.

We're moving beyond the realm of documents to information – the very lifeblood of any organization, no matter what your size.

For instance, it might make sense to replace paper forms with mobile forms and liberate your employees to collect data while they're mobile and get it into systems faster.

But by analyzing the process around the form, you learn when in the workflow they may need to print, what path the document takes, as well as where inefficiencies lurk. Then you can address these issues in your mobile strategy.

Meet the 'Hybrid Document'

In the digital age, we need to redefine our concept of the document.

Think about a contract. First it's accessed and completed online. Next, it gets printed out for signature. Finally, it might get scanned and made digital again.

To manage these hybrid documents, you need detailed workflow analysis to see how documents get created, moved around and changed as employees and customers interact with them. Make sure your print services provider can help you navigate between the paper and digital worlds.
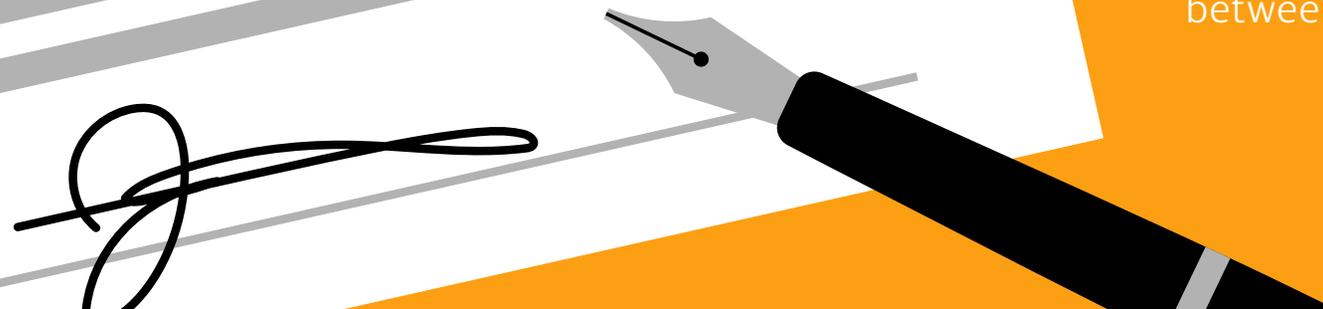
Security vs. Mobility:
A Delicate Balancing Act

Empowering mobile workers and making them more productive is a big win. But productivity and ease of use need to be balanced with security and control.

🔓 A robust mobile print solution keeps users connected without compromising the security and integrity of documents and the network.

A document security focus needs to incorporate practices such as:

- Documents securely held until users log in and release them

- Access policies that block or allow mobile print

- LDAP authentication for accounting and user tracking

- Secure card reader technology for "pull" printing

Most important, a mobile print and document workflow solution shouldn't add to the workload of IT teams by increasing the number of support calls. That's one of the advantages of working with a managed print provider. The provider carries the support burden.

A Seamless Experience for Mobile Users

Ease of use will encourage adoption of mobile solutions, so what does ease of use actually look like?
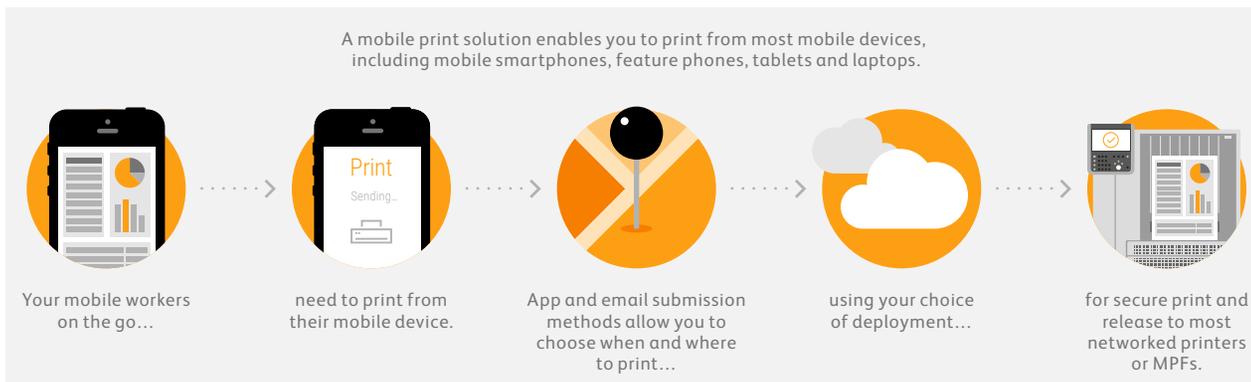
For mobile users, it means printing is push-button simple, with no complex configuration or manipulation.

There should be no printer driver download. And there needs to be a simple and intuitive way to set preferences and select media. In practice, printing a document from your smartphone should be as easy as sending an email.

Additionally, you want a solution that's cross-platform, with a mobile app for iOS, Android and Windows devices.

Finally, your mobile users shouldn't have to struggle to print large or complex files (spreadsheets, PDFs, presentations).

The bottom line is that printing on the move should be as easy and straightforward as printing in the office. And for clients and visitors, printing on site at your premises should be fast, secure and friction-free.

A mobile print solution enables you to print from most mobile devices, including mobile smartphones, feature phones, tablets and laptops.

Your mobile workers on the go…

Print
Sending…

need to print from their mobile device.

App and email submission methods allow you to choose when and where to print…

using your choice of deployment…

for secure print and release to most networked printers or MPFs.

The Rise of the
Smart Multifunction Device

Think of today's intelligent printers as time-saving "workplace assistants," then imagine all these devices sharing the same user interface.

Through standard and custom apps, the technology adapts to suit you, not the other way around. It helps you integrate print and digital workflows and move them along quickly and securely.

So employees take less time to get work done, while making more time for high value work in the office or from the road.

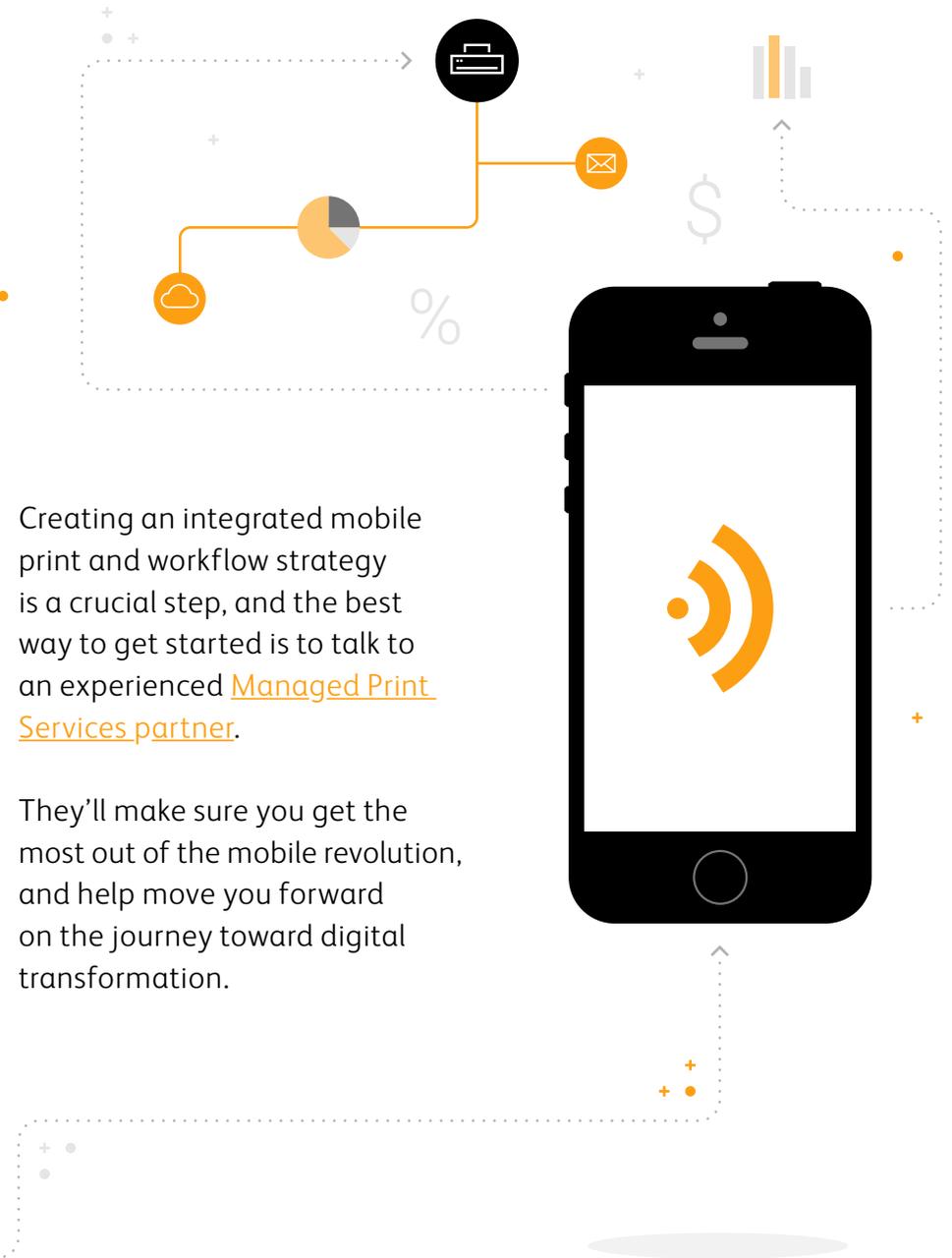These capabilities take employee mobility to next level:

- Mobile print options. The ability to connect and print from multiple devices is critical for today's workers. Some Managed Print Services (MPS) providers offer options for secure, accurate printing from most mobile devices to any printer or multifunction printer, regardless of brand.

- Mobile printing via the cloud provides full support for local and remote locations and controls visitors' printing access. Offerings range from basic free services to more advanced for-fee solutions.

- Mobile link from an app. Some next-generation MPS providers offer a free mobile app that lets workers scan, email and fax from an Android or iOS-based mobile device to certain multifunction printers. The app also lets them send data to and print from cloud storage.

- Wi-Fi printers. Mobile workers can print to certain printers and multifunction printers from a mobile device without connecting to a network.

Join the Mobile Revolution Today

The mobile revolution is in full swing, with over 8 billion devices around the world[2] (that's expected to rise to 11.6 billion by 2021).

This brings tremendous opportunities for organizations of all sizes to be more agile, productive and successful.

But with those opportunities come some big challenges, as organizations adapt to accommodate a whole new way of working. Mobile printing is part of a far bigger picture that involves document workflow, business processes and information access.

Creating an integrated mobile print and workflow strategy is a crucial step, and the best way to get started is to talk to an experienced Managed Print Services partner.

They'll make sure you get the most out of the mobile revolution, and help move you forward on the journey toward digital transformation.

About our Partnership with Xerox

Working side-by-side with Xerox, we apply our expertise in image processing, analytics, automation and user experience to engineer a flow of work customized to improve the productivity and efficiency of your operations.

We create meaningful innovations and provide business process services, printing equipment, software and solutions that make a real difference for our customers.

Visit our website to learn more or contact us for more information:

✉ contact@parmetech.com

📞 (800) 727-6383

🌐 www.parmetech.com

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