

July Developer Newsletter

BLACK ICE SOFTWARE

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Black Ice Software Releases the ColorPlus Lite Printer Driver™

In today's tough economy, ColorPlus Lite is the solution that provides businesses on Terminal Server and Citrix platforms a cost-effective yet high-quality and robust alternative for document and PDF conversion needs. ColorPlus Lite is licensed per server targeting one or two server installations. ColorPlus Lite is an alternative solution for full ColorPlus OEM version.

Black Ice Software Releases Version 10.41 of the Resource Tool Kit (RTK)

Version 10.41 of the RTK enable developers to install the RTK on any version of Microsoft Operating System for development. In earlier version of the RTK one had to install the RTK on the exact operating system to do development. For example, 32 bit Terminal Server (TS) version of the RTK has to be installed on a 32 bit TS operating system and could not be install on any other OS. Developers must pay special attention which RTK they are installing so driver files are not mixed up. Keep in mind that there are different driver files for Vista/XP and TS. Also, there are different driver files for 32 bit and 64 bit platforms.

Latest Modifications in the Black Ice Printer Drivers

The following modifications were made in the printer drivers:

- New demo registration dialog was created. This dialog is more convenient for users to register the demo printer driver manually.
- In case of PDF the print-

ing of graphical objects were fixed.

- In case of PDF there was a fix in printing of transparent images
- In case of PDF erroneous text positioning bug for rotated fonts was fixed.
- The new version of BiPDFP: 2.0.0.15 and

BiPDFInterfaceP.dll: 2.0.0.8 was added.

- Fixed displaying of UNICODE text in the start application parameter text box of printing preferences.

How to Install a 64-bit Printer Driver Using a 32-bit InstallShield Project

Because InstallShield creates 32-bit installs; functions of 64-bit dlls aren't able to be called directly from the InstallShield script. So only the 32-bit version of MyDll_NT.dll can be used in the installer project. The install dll has 2

project settings: NT RELEASE and NT RELEASE x64. The NT Release x64 configuration builds a 32-bit dll for installing 64-bit printer drivers.

If this install dll and 64-bit printer driver files are used

in the InstallShield project the printer driver will be installed flawlessly for 64-bit operating systems. For more information please check the InstallShield sample available in the printer driver resource toolkit.

How Output Filenames that are Only Numbers

There are several filename generation methods implemented in the Black Ice printer drivers. The following filename generation methods can be used for creating filenames with only numbers: Exact Filename, Exact Filename from registry or Exact Filename from

INI file. If the name of the output file is stored in the INI file or registry it can be modified freely between printings. In case of the Exact Filename method the filename can be get/set programmatically using the BlackIceDEVMODE.

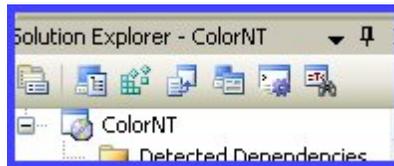
The filename generation method can be specified programmatically or through printing preferences. For more information please see the printer driver resource toolkit and printer driver documentation.

How to Change the Name of the Printer in the MSI Installer

MSI printer driver install samples are available in the resource toolkits for installing Black Ice printer drivers. Some properties of the printer can be set in the MSI install sample, for example names of the printer driver files, port name or port monitor name. The name of the printer can be specified also. These settings are stored in the registry and the install dll uses these settings when installing the printer driver. The MSI install writes the registry values before calling the install dll. The following steps demonstrate how to change the printer name for a Black Ice Color driver.

Open the MSI install project using Visual Studio 2005.

Open registry editor.



Go to HKCU\Software\[Manufacturer]\ColorNT\PrinterVariablesValues

Change the value of "PRINTER_NAME_MSI" (see screenshot below). This registry value contains the name of the printer to be installed. The install dll (MyDll_NT.dll) reads this value from the registry when installing the printer driver.



(In this example the printer name will be Black Ice Color)

Rebuild the MSI sample.

After these steps the Color printer can be installed with any name.