Publishing Platform for Retail

Version 1.2

Technical White Paper

Contents

Change history

January 2023

- Updated information for version 1.2
- Instead of Microsoft .NET Core 3.1 Hosting Bundle, .NET 6.0.11 Windows Server Hosting is required for Single Sign-on (SSO) for PPR version 10.7 or later

July 2022

- Updated information for version 1.1
- Removed support for Microsoft Internet Explorer version 11 for PPR version 10.6 or later

January 2022

- Initial document release for version 1.0
- Added technical specification for PPR version 10.5

Overview

This document outlines the basic system requirements for Publishing Platform tools. The ideal hardware and software configurations for your organization depend on the size and type of your business. This information is intended as a general guideline. For additional advice on your specific needs, contact your service consultant.

Web client workstation and hardware requirements

Workstation Requirements

- Microsoft Windows 11, Windows 10, Windows 8.1 operating system
- Google Chrome^{TM} or latest Microsoft Edge browser or latest Mozilla Firefox
- Internet connection speed of at least 128 KBps

Recommended hardware specifications

- 2GHz processor
- 2GB RAM
- 5GB hard disk space

Supported browsers for In-Store Publisher

Browser support and prerequisites

Supported browsers

- Microsoft Edge
- Google Chrome^{TM}
- Apple Safari (in macOS operating system only)
- Mozilla Firefox

Notes:

- This release is not completely optimized for all small-screen or touch-screen devices.
- In non-Windows operating systems, including mobile devices, client-side printing is not supported.

Browser prerequisites

To let the application work properly, cache and local storage must be enabled.

Notes:

- Always set the Mozilla Firefox browser in Remember History mode.
- Some settings do not work in Incognito mode.

Getting started

Template designer workstation requirements

The following are the system requirements and hardware specifications:

System requirements
- Microsoft Windows 11
- Microsoft Windows 10 x64
- Microsoft Windows 8.1 x64
- Microsoft .NET Framework 4.5
- Microsoft ODBC Driver 17 for SQL Server (x64)

Hardware specifications
- 2GHz processor (or higher)
- 4GB RAM
- 5GB hard disk space

Application server requirements

Server requirements apply to various servers. There are web servers for production and staging that host the In-Store Publisher user interface, Lexmark Publishing Services, and Publishing Engine services (also called rendering services). These servers render and distribute print jobs to client machines in an In-Store Publisher system.

System requirements
- Windows Server 2022, 2019, 2016, or 2012 R2 SP1
- Microsoft Internet Information Server (IIS)
- Microsoft .NET Framework 4.8 (.NET 4.5 and 3.5 must also be enabled)
- Microsoft .NET 6.0.11 Windows Server Hosting for Single Sign-On (SSO)
- Microsoft ODBC Driver 17 for SQL Server (x64)
- Lexmark Universal Print Driver PostScript® 3 (PS3) emulation

Hardware specifications

For each server in a staging or production environment, the following are required:
- Two-or four-processor cores, 2GHz or faster
- 2GB RAM per core
- 60GB hard disk space
- 1Gbps Ethernet connection

  Notes:

  – The recommended number of servers depends on the clients usage and content.
  – We recommend validating based on the operating system version recommendation.

Database platform requirements

Database servers handle item, batch, sign, and user interface data. Publishing Platform for Retail supports the Microsoft SQL database out of the box, based on reference applications and sample use cases. However, it does not support other databases, although custom database integration support may be available. For more information, contact your service consultants.

System requirements

- Microsoft SQL Server 2019
- Microsoft SQL Server 2017
- Microsoft SQL Server 2016
- Microsoft SQL Server 2014
- Microsoft SQL Server 2012

Hardware specifications

- Database hardware depends on the volume and content stored in your database and the volume of signs printed.
- In a production environment, we recommend using a dedicated database server for Microsoft SQL Server configurations.

Note: For prerequisites and instructions for installing on Windows operating systems, see the *Publishing Platform for Retail Installation Guide*, available on the Product Documentation tab in the Customer Portal.

Print driver requirements

Printing type	Supported drivers
Windows printing	Windows print drivers are required for GDI and GDI+ outputs.
PostScript emulation or non-Windows printing	For direct PostScript emulation outputs, such as in non-Windows environments, a PostScript-emulation-enabled and IP-addressable printer is required unless printing to file.
Direct thermal printer	For direct custom thermal printer language outputs, an IP-addressable printer is required unless printing to file. **Note:** Another license is required for direct output to thermal devices. Contact your service consultants for a list of supported custom printer languages.

In-Aisle Publisher requirements

In-Aisle Publisher is used by employees in store aisles to perform price checks, build batches, and print or publish signs. You can perform these tasks from a device with a built-in scanner or by typing the bar code values using a mobile device.

Note: In-Aisle Publisher runs in the web browser and is not a native application.

The following HTML5-compatible web browsers are recommended:

- For macOS: Apple Safari 6 or later
- For Windows: Google Chrome™, Mozilla Firefox, or Microsoft Edge

- For mobile: Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge
- For Linux: Mozilla Firefox latest version is recommended

Application server requirements for Linux build

Server requirements apply to various servers. For Linux installation, the hardware requirement depends on the required load.

System requirements

- 64-bit Linux operating system, such as Red Hat Enterprise Linux 8.x or 7.x, or Ubuntu 18.04/20.04
- GCC 4.8.3 or later
- ODBC client drivers or software
- TargetDB (Oracle, IBM Db2, MariaDB) ODBC connector

Hardware specifications

For each server in a staging or production environment, the following are required:

- Two- or four-processor cores, 2GHz or faster
- 2GB RAM per core
- 60GB hard disk space
- 1Gbps Ethernet connection

  Note: The recommended number of servers depends on the client's usage and content.

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