



# Zebra Printer Support

## *Enhanced Output Management with VPSX*

**Provide detailed Zebra device status information back to originating applications.**

**Solution interrogates Zebra printers for status prior to delivering each document.**



Manufacturing and supply chain management systems, as well as healthcare environments, rely heavily on

bar code stickers, RFID tags, and other specialty labels. Hardware provider Zebra Technologies Corporation is a leading manufacturer of devices that produce the output so critical to today's automated business processes.

### **Enhanced communication and feedback**

In many cases, the business applications that create these important documents connect to Zebra devices using primitive communication protocols that provide limited flow control and no feedback whatsoever. LRS® customers often stress the importance of this output and the value of knowing when these printers stop running. In response, the LRS development team has enhanced VPSX® software to communicate directly with Zebra printers using the printer's proprietary control language (ZPL). The enhancement provides detailed device feedback to an originating application

without hampering printer throughput. Identifying a label-printing problem in advance is much better than finding out about a problem as delivery trucks queue up for loading.

### **Superior delivery and flow control**

Mark Goddard, LRS Senior Manager and Software Architect, explains, "We've implemented the most sophisticated delivery/ feedback mechanism possible with these devices and believe it is superior to the support offered by other vendors." As an error occurs, the originating application receives the same level of information presented on the printer's display panel. Goddard adds, "With this solution, pop-ups can notify an SAP user of ribbon-out, paper-out, overheated print head, and other conditions as soon as they happen."

The VPSX server efficiently interrogates the Zebra label printer, checking its status prior to delivering each new document. If the device reports an error, the VPSX printer status will display 'Intervention-Required,' while providing a detailed message that describes the error condition and the number of labels currently in the

*With VPSX delivering output to Zebra printers, pop-ups can immediately notify an SAP user when ribbon-out, paper-out, overheated print head, or other condition exists.*

printer's buffer. The system halts delivery of documents to a device as soon as an error is reported, while VPSX automatic notification can inform responsible persons or a systems management tool about the issue. The solution can optionally redirect queued documents to an alternate printer—eliminating the danger of duplicate labels while also minimizing lost documents if the device is reset.

Manufacturing, logistics, supply chain management, and healthcare organizations using Zebra printers can immediately benefit when printing labels and bar codes from SAP, Oracle, and other critical applications.

**To learn more about the many advantages using VPSX and Zebra printers, contact an LRS marketing representative at 217-793-3800.**

