

Samba

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Chapter 1

Samba

1.1 Samba Print Spooler v1.0

Samba Print Spooler v1.0

by Robert Wilson

Introduction - What's this all about then?

Requirements - What you need.

Operation - How does it work then?

Features - What can the script do?

Installation - What to copy to where.

Options - Editing the settings.

Usage - How to start sps.rexx.

Disclaimer - Don't come running to me!

- Copyright - Remember who wrote this!
- Contact - Thanks, bugs, flames and all that welcome ;-)
- Bugs - Known bugs and limitations.
- Future - What's next?
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To make the most of this guide, please install NetLinks, beta 1 release 3

<http://www.dynamix.f9.co.uk/files/netlinks.lzx>

1.2 Introduction

Introduction
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Samba Print Spooler (SPS from here onwards) is an ARexx script which automates the process of sending print jobs from an Amiga running Samba to a SMB print server - for example a PC running Windows 95/98/NT.

This script was inspired by spooler101.lha by Jeff Crystal. Although I had some success using this program the limitation that it could not connect to printers on SMB servers that required a password made it useless when connecting to my NT server. I had thought of e-mailing the author, but I had a couple of hours free and decided to write my own enhanced version in ARexx. Then I thought I'd release SPS and had to write some docs, but as always the docs took three times as long as the script to write!

I have been using the following drivers and SPS to print to my HP DJ670C without any problems;

\* HP\_Deskjet670C by Peter Hutchinson

\* TurboPrint 5 using the HP\_Deskjet660C driver

## 1.3 Requirements

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## Requirements

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SPS requires the following items;

- * A working installation of Samba (this requires a TCP/IP stack such as MiamiDx or Genesis). If you need any help installing Samba then please take a look at my web site.
- * rexxtricks.library
- * reqtools.library
- * rexxreqtools.library
- * rexxsupport.library
- * rexxmast
- * An Amiga driver for the printer (selected in 'sys:prefs/printer' or 'turboprint:turboprefs')
- * CMD (normally found in your sys:utilities directory)

1.4 Operation

Operation

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SPS relies on CMD to "grab" the print data sent to the parallel port and then send it to a file. This file is written in a directory that is checked every 10 seconds by SPS. When SPS finds a file in this directory, it checks to see if it can get an exclusive lock on the file. If it can't get a lock then the script assumes that the print data is still being spooled to the file and therefore waits another 10 seconds before checking again.

When the script gets a lock on the file it is sent to the SMB printer using smbclient. The command used to connect to the printer is;

```
amitcp:samba/bin/smbclient \\server\printer -P -U username%password
```

Once connected the following commands are issued;

```
setmode graphics
print "spoolfile"
```

Note that "graphics" print mode isn't just for graphics, but for any binary data. Therefore all files which have been "printed" to a file with the Amiga printer driver will be sent as "graphics".

## 1.5 Features

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## Features

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It does everything that spooler101.lha can do and much more, such as;

- * Connect to password protected printers
- * Start CMD for you
- * Set CMD's tooltypes if you want to start it yourself
- * Uses reqtools requesters for most error messages

1.6 Installation

Installation

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- 1) Check that rexxmast is installed/running.
- 2) Copy sps.rexx to somewhere (rexx: would be good).
- 3) Install rexxtricks.library, reqtools.library, rexxreqtools.library and rexxsupport.library in libs:
- 4) To enable the 'auto retry' feature install autoclose.rexx. Read the docs for autoclose.rexx that are in the script header. Load the script into your favorite text editor/reader.
- 5) Set the options found in sps.rexx's header. Load the script into your favorite text editor and set the  
options

## 1.7 Options

### Options

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```
spooldir = 'Data:spool/'
```

Set this to your spool folder. This dir/drive/assign name MUST end in ":" or "/". Also the set path MUST be dedicated to the function of spooling files to the printer as ANYTHING found in this folder will be sent to the printer!

```
username = 'username'
```

Set this to your username on the print server. If not required (e.g. on a Win95/98 server set to '')

```
password = 'password'
```

Set this to your password on the print server. If not required (e.g. on a Win95/98 server set to ''

```
printer = '\\dynamix\DESKJET'
```

The printer name in the form of '\\server\printer'. Note that on Windows (95/98/NT) servers the printer name is ALWAYS UPPER CASE.

```
setcmd = 0
```

Set to 1 if you want SPS to set CMD's tooltypes. If you are running CMD from WBstartup then sps.rexx should be started before 'loadwb' in your startup-sequence or user-startup. However 'rexxmast' must obviously be running before that. You don't have to do this, but if you don't then SPS will change the settings after CMD has been run and therefore will have no effect until a reboot.

```
runcmd = 0
```

If you'd rather leave CMD out of WBstartup and let SPS start it for you then set this to 1. You do NOT need to enable 'setcmd' for this option to work. When SPS starts CMD all parameters are set as CLI arguments. However both can be set to 1 - it will not cause a problem.

```
cmdpath = 'sys:utilities/cmd'
```

Where can SPS find CMD? This setting is used by both 'setcmd' and 'runcmd'.

```
pubscreen = 'Workbench'
```

The name of the public screen where all requesters should open on.

1.8 Usage"

Usage

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From the shell type "rx sps" (without the quotes). This is assuming that sps.rexx is installed in rexx. Otherwise you will need to specify the path, e.g. "rx network:rexx/sps".

Once you know it works add the command to your user-startup, startup-sequence, "startnet" script or just start from the shell etc as required. Hey, this is the Amiga you can do it however you like ;-)

If starting from a script remember that SPS doesn't detach itself and therefore probably should be started something like;

```
run <>nil: sys:rexxc/rx rexx:sps.rexx
```



## 1.9 Disclaimer

Disclaimer  
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It works for me, it should work for you, but if I doesn't then it's not my fault. Use it at your own risk!

1.10 Copyright

Copyright
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Samba Print Spooler is (C) 1999 Robert Wilson. The script is released as Freeware ;-)

## 1.11 Contact

Contact  
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Okay, as you've probably already read my name is Robert Wilson.

To contact me about SPS please use any of the following methods;

- * e-mail - robert@dynamix.f9.co.uk
- * ICQ - 27523124
- * Phone - +44 (0)860 245212 (voice or SMS)
- * SMS - thelamp@genie.co.uk

For more info about these and other contact methods, please take a look at my web site;

- * <http://www.dynamix.f9.co.uk>

1.12 Bugs

Bugs
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TurboPrint 5:

When using TurboPrint 5, rather than using CMD I thought that it would be better (it's certainly quicker) to print directly to a file. However TurboPrint doesn't seem to lock the file when writing and this causes

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problems. I have to set TurboPrint to print to the parallel device (not TurboPar) and capture this with CMD.

Studio II:

None know ATM, but then I haven't tested SPS with Studio II so I don't know! Does anyone know if Studio II is still available?

## 1.13 Future

Future

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- * Multiple printer support. I already have this working using both standard WB printer drivers and TurboPrint ;-)
 - * Anyone else got some ideas?
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