Secure cloud printing & scanning for business

uniFLOW online
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Cloud services can transform how today's businesses work, optimizing processes while reducing capital spending. uniFLOW Online is a secure public cloud-based printing and scanning solution for organizations of all sizes designed to manage entire environments. The solution aims to reduce overall costs and increase security.

• Are you still sourcing and maintaining server hardware for your print infrastructure?
• Are your employees able to print and scan documents securely?
• Are you able to provide mobile print solutions to employees?
• Are you aware of how much users print, copy, scan and fax?
The cloud is evolving

Cloud computing allows businesses to reassess how their products are designed and manufactured, and review how their customers purchase products and how processes and markets work.

Those businesses that embrace cloud services are driven by opportunities to increase flexibility within their markets and to benefit from computing resources whilst spending less. In addition, the cloud can re-balance competition between large and small enterprises by equipping small to medium-sized businesses with previous unavailable technologies.

Cloud investment continues to grow
71% of enterprises plan to grow public cloud spend by more than 20 percent in the next year.

Cloud services have become an indispensable part of modern businesses
96% of enterprises are using cloud services.

Public cloud solutions is key for digitalization
38% of enterprises see public cloud as their top priority.

* RightScale 2018 State of the Cloud Report
Challenges for cloud-based services

Cloud doesn’t have to be game-changing in order to be useful. Moving local print and scan management to a fully public cloud-based system reduces infrastructure management costs significantly in comparison to current platforms. There are a number of practical challenges for business and IT leaders such as:

- **How is system security maintained?**
  Using cloud-based print services can create data-protection challenges.

- **How to avoid security breaches?**
  People who share network devices expect their documents to remain private.

- **How can employee productivity be guaranteed?**
  Printing just from PCs is no longer sufficient. Employees require mobile printing and document scanning functionalities.

- **How can an organization maintain an overview of costs?**
  Administrators require comprehensive reporting on user behaviour.
uniFLOW Online

uniFLOW Online has been developed from the ground-up to leverage the benefits of the Microsoft Azure™ cloud platform, providing superior enterprise platform security, scalability and resilience for organizations.

- **Local print jobs and regional data centers:**
  Secure print jobs can stay within the customer’s local network, ensuring that documents are always safe. All data remains within the region; it is not exported to other legal jurisdictions.

- **Increase document security:**
  By providing secure access to devices, uniFLOW Online ensures confidential documents will not fall into the wrong hands.

- **Increase office productivity:**
  Employee productivity can be increased by providing mobile printing, print from cloud and scanning facilities for users where they are needed.

- **Control and reduce printing and copying costs:**
  With uniFLOW Online administrators can track and assess printing, copying, fax and scanning costs directly in the cloud and allow costs to be allocated to individual users, devices or departments.
Unique technologies which make the difference

Being an integral part of the Canon multifunctional devices, uniFLOW Online adds value to these devices and by this helps to increase office productivity and control costs. The integration is reinforced by the simple setup process and management of users directly from the device, relieving the IT overheads. The heart of the solution builds the cutting-edge cloud environment, which makes servers dispensable and strengthens businesses for the future.

Integrated part of Canon devices

Designed to boost productivity in the office, Canon multifunctional devices and printers offer organizations of all sizes a wide range of impressive devices built on an intelligent platform to support and complement every stage of the document life cycle. uniFLOW Online extends Canon devices with access control, secure printing, easy to use scanning capabilities and integrated cost tracking.

Tenant and user management

Getting started with uniFLOW Online could not be easier with tenant creation and adding devices initiated from Canon devices. In order to reduce pressure on small IT departments, user creation and management can also be carried out from Canon devices by end-users. In addition, all companies benefit by being able to manage their tenant, including devices and users, centrally in the cloud.

Cloud-based infrastructure

uniFLOW Online has been developed from the ground-up to enhance the benefits of cloud technology. All tenants are logically isolated from each other and the public cloud ensures the latest version is always available, providing superior enterprise platform security, scalability and resilience. When using uniFLOW Online’s innovative technology there is no requirement for a local server. Print jobs are stored locally on the client's PC or a supporting Canon device. This allows print job release even when there is no connection to uniFLOW Online. Optionally print jobs can also be stored in uniFLOW Online.
Answering today’s business needs

Flexible authentication

Document security is preserved as a user has to be physically next to a device to gain access to it. To release print jobs or to use the available scan profiles users simply authenticate using their company proximity card/ mobile phone, a PIN code, a combination of both, their image + optional PIN code or by entering their department ID or department ID + PIN code.

Print confidential documents securely

With uniFLOW Online users are able to print confidential documents securely. Print jobs stay in a users’ personal secure print queue until the user releases them after authentication at a device or until the print jobs is delegated to another user. Print jobs follow users from device to device allowing the release of print jobs on any printer within their location. Users can also alter finishing options directly at the device before printing.

Print documents from cloud storage services

uniFLOW Online enables users to print their cloud stored documents directly from connected devices. Folder browsing and an option to change finishing options at the device are available. Documents can either be printed directly or saved to the personal print queue for later printing. Users can print from Box, Dropbox, Evernote®, Google Drive™, Microsoft OneDrive®/ OneDrive® for Business and Microsoft SharePoint® Online.
Send print jobs from anywhere

Users have different means to submit their mobile print jobs, e.g. conveniently using the uniFLOW Online Print & Scan app, web upload and mail. Regardless of location, users can use their smartphones or tablets to print documents securely. All submitted jobs appear in a user’s secure print queue and, after printing, are accounted and charged for. All mobile print jobs are also displayed in the ‘My queue’ widget. Whilst the job remains in the secure print queue users can also delete the print job using the app or the widget. Guest users can securely submit their print job using Mobile Printing for guests.

Secure document scanning

With uniFLOW Online users can scan documents directly to a variety of scan destinations. The lean and intuitive user interface of the workflows help to bring about immediate gains in productivity. The scan workflow ‘Scan to Myself’ is pre-created. Users can also scan directly to Concur® or one of the following cloud-based destinations: Dropbox, Google Drive™, Box, Microsoft OneDrive®/ OneDrive® for Business, Evernote®, Microsoft SharePoint® Online, Rakuraku Seisan (Japan only) and Therefore™ Online.

Track print, scan and copy costs

uniFLOW Online allows administrators to track their organization’s printing, copying, faxing and scanning costs enabling the allocation of costs to individual users, devices and departments. Cost centers allow print, scan, or copy charges to be allocated to different projects or cases. They can be assigned on a per job selection or based on defaults for users, devices or locations. Budgets are the perfect way to charge users for the costs of their print and copy activities. If the budget is exceeded, printing/copying can be stopped altogether, and users are notified that their funds have run out. In addition, different reports can be created and reported.
Global technology leaders predict that cloud computing will be the first of the three most disruptive technologies to impact the global business-to-consumer marketplace over the next years.¹

29% of business and IT leaders indicate that security is a significant challenge.²

A recent study by the IDC showed that “75% of users say the business value of mobile printing is similar to PC printing, and another 15% say it’s actually greater.”³

¹ KPMG (October 14, 2015): KPMG Technology Innovation Survey 2015
² RightScale 2018 State of the Cloud Report
³ cf. International Data Corporation (IDC) (July 2015); https://www.idc.com/getdoc.jsp?containerId=prUS25785715
Immediate benefits

Gain control over costs

The volume of printing that occurs in an office can be surprising. One of the best ways to cut down unnecessary costs is to ensure users print only what they need. uniFLOW Online’s serverless print management solution helps administrators take complete control of printing and copying activities. It can highlight expenditure by users and pinpoint areas where costs can be scaled down. Thanks to its unique technology, immediate financial benefits are realized by the elimination of local print servers and reducing the burden on IT departments.

Help save the environment

uniFLOW Online can help to reduce environmental impact and support sustainability initiatives by optimizing printing procedures and improving internal processes that rely heavily on paper. This solution prevents unnecessary paper waste as users can only print what they need. Finishing options can be changed at a device before printing so saving reprinting and false output. uniFLOW Online can help reduce power consumption of the print infrastructure by eliminating ‘Always On’ print servers across an entire organization.

Increase security

uniFLOW Online prevents unauthorized use of the device by restricting printer access to authorized users only. This prevents any breaches of data and misuse as print, scan, copy and fax functionalities are unavailable to unauthorized visitors or employees. Protecting information is a key to any data loss prevention policy. Should sensitive information e.g. contracts or staff payroll find its way outside an organization its reputation and brand image are likely to be damaged and could incur heavy fines. Using a single driver, uniFLOW Online enables users to print confidential documents securely using any connected device.

Improve office productivity

uniFLOW Online enables employees to print from mobile devices or from cloud services and to scan directly to a variety of scan destinations giving greater flexibility in office workflows. As well as facilitating new working processes the print and scan infrastructure provides enhanced support so users can retrieve print and scan results faster and easier. Print jobs can also be modified on demand before being released, saving valuable time.