

PING® Tees Up With InfoPrint's MAPPING Suite for Cost Savings and Increased Productivity

Leading golf club manufacturer selects InfoPrint to help streamline order processes and a worldwide centralized base station

PHILADELPHIA, PA.: April 1, 2009 – InfoPrint Solutions Company, the joint venture between IBM and Ricoh, today announced that PING®, the market leader in the manufacturing of golf clubs for 50 years, has selected InfoPrint's MAPPING Suite to handle the formatting and printing of all order instructions and barcoded shipping labels. This Mapping Suite provided PING with one, centralized and automated solution for composing their documents and then sending the desired output to available thermal printers at facilities either in North America, or an international site. This quickly enabled the manufacturer to see high levels of cost savings.

InfoPrint's MAPPING Suite is a complete, personalized business communications software system that manages document design, print management and multichannel electronic document delivery. PING has implemented this solution to ensure consistency throughout its worldwide locations in the U.S. and Japan. With this offering, PING can take advantage of one, centralized Windows-based server to format the output. Once this is complete, the information will be processed by the MAPPING Output Server, residing on the same Windows-based server, which will manage and deliver the print jobs on available thermal printers.

"By implementing the InfoPrint MAPPING Suite, we have seen great improvements in our cost saving efforts which can be strongly attributed to the suite's global centralized base station that enables us to keep a closer eye on our print jobs," said Michael McCurrey of PING. "With this solution, we are now able to monitor and manage our printers remotely from a global perspective. Tying this together with the extreme ease of implementation and the ROI of the deployment, we see a true recipe for success."

Prior to installing InfoPrint's MAPPING Suite, PING was using remote PC workstations for printing to locally attached printers, an infrastructure that required a high amount of costly IT support to maintain. They were also without remote management capabilities and had no way to implement load balancing. With InfoPrint's MAPPING Suite, PING was able to eliminate the PCs on the production floor, while taking advantage of advanced remote management tools, both of which have resulted in proven reductions in IT spend. MAPPING also delivered to PING worldwide Unicode support which allows them to use virtually any font, including double-byte, without the requirement of purchasing separate font cards.

"During our first analysis of the PING printing environment, we realized that there was definite room to help reduce spend on printing," said Mark Middendorf, Product Manager at InfoPrint Solutions Company. "We worked closely with their team to ensure that the steps we were taking to reduce costs would work in both their U.S. and Japan-based facilities. Through our work, we were able to install a system that allows PING to monitor and enable print from a global perspective at a much lower cost than they were previously able to do."

InfoPrint's MAPPING Suite is a key component to InfoPrint's solutions portfolio. It provides professional-class personalized document design, reduces or eliminates the need for preprinted forms and allows for a variety of multichannel delivery including print, Web, email and archive. MAPPING also integrates seamlessly with other business processes in order to leverage existing investments and improve asset utilization. Through its native support for multiple datastreams, the InfoPrint MAPPING Suite also increases output flexibility through delivering one, centralized print management and monitoring solution capable of printing to impact, thermal/RFID and laser.

The InfoPrint MAPPING Suite offering is based on InfoPrint's collaboration with Mapping S.A.S, a French software company. For many years, Mapping and InfoPrint have been working together to offer a unified multiplatform output management solutions worldwide.