

This is the next in our series of Question & Answer Information Sharing emails provided by Xplor MidAtlantic Region and our sponsoring vendors. These vendors, the "Friends of MAR" have made financial commitments to support MAR and the educational and networking events we offer our members and prospective members.

Carlton Stewart, Xplor Mid Atlantic Region member, discussed this **products/services/solutions** with **NearStar Incorporated a Dallas Texas based** company and passes along what he learned.



**Q:** NearStar is widely known for its print workflow management software, can you describe the capabilities of your newest product NearStar ATOM?

**A:** NearStar Accounting Tracking Operations Management integration platform, otherwise known as ATOM, enables an end-to-end accounting and tracking solution that gives customers the ability to easily compile job accounting and SLA information while meeting operational needs to capture and display real-time workload statistics by tracking print job as it flows from station to station.

**Q:** Most of my output is U.S. Mail. Are you able to integrate ATOM with the US Postal Service and take advantage of USPS verification service?

**A:** Yes. With ATOM, it is possible to track individual mail pieces with an intelligent mail barcode and verify delivery at the mail-piece level. While the USPS is responsible for capturing IMB verification data and transmitting the information to the customer, ATOM is able to read the transmitted USPS files into its database and reconcile individual records and report exceptions.

**Q:** My print operation spans several facilities in several regions. What products does NearStar offer to balance workload among a variety of devices and provide a Disaster Recovery configuration?

**A:** NearStar DataServer High Availability/Fault Tolerant and Disaster Recovery solutions offer unmatched distributed printing across the enterprise. By implementing DataServer on a fault-tolerant cluster architecture our customers can maximize uptime and reliability over standalone server configurations most commonly implemented. DataServer HA/FT for cluster systems provides a high

degree of availability in a single location and a cost-effective implementation when compared to installing dedicated solutions multiple locations.

Similarly, DataServer (DR) provides an unattended stand-by instance of your production system at a remote disaster recovery facility. NearStar's implementation of disaster recovery for print is unique in the marketplace. The production DataServer system will automatically route jobs directly to the DataServer DR system. In the event of a disaster, the print already sent will be queued and ready for printing at the DR location, thus allowing the DR staff to start processing jobs immediately upon notification.

**Q:** Several of our internal customers are mainframe users. What products and services do you provide to facilitate secure mainframe print?

**A:** Our JES DataGateway software is installed on the mainframe and is a secure and economical TCP/IP based solution that supports both JES2 and JES3 systems. It has been recently enhanced to provide AFP support with the integration of IBM's ACIF and continues to support other print streams such as IBM line data and Xerox LCDS/Metacode. Additional security features include the transmission of sensitive data to other locations using data encryption and compression.

For further information about ATOM, DataServer and JES DataGateway, and other NearStar products and services, please contact Chris Parker ([chrisparker@nearstar.com](mailto:chrisparker@nearstar.com)) 972-221-4068 ext. 207 or visit [www.NearStar.com](http://www.NearStar.com).