



Company Profile

Company Name

Northcott Hospitality
International, LLC

Type of Business

Hotel and Restaurant Chain

Number of Locations

220

Application Profile

Operating System

Windows 2000

Financial Software

Platinum for Windows (PFW)
by Best 5.2

Other Altec Products

AP MICR – on demand check
printing

Northcott Hospitality eliminates the costs associated with preprinted forms!

Company Background

AmericInn International, LLC is owned by Northcott Hospitality International, a Minnesota - based company with headquarters in Chanhassen. Since the first AmericInn opened in the early 1980s, this hotel chain has grown steadily, with more than 220 properties currently open or under development. The AmericInn Lodging System continues to grow at a rapid pace, with expectations to develop properties throughout the United States in small to medium sized communities, along highways and interstates, and in resort destinations and large cities.

The Challenge

"Because of the size of our organization, our accounts receivable department faced some unique challenges," says Andy Fellows, network administrator for Northcott Hospitality International, LLC. "On a weekly basis, they were mailing invoices and statements from our headquarters in Chanhassen to the 220 AmericInn franchises throughout the U.S."

Northcott was spending excessive money on preprinted forms and postage. They were also using valuable resources to change and align different forms at the printer.

For example, when phone numbers or logos changed, they had to change their forms accordingly and the obsolete forms had to be destroyed.

In addition, Northcott employees spent a great deal of time retrieving preprinted forms from a storage area - a costly overhead to maintain.

The Solution

Northcott implemented *doc-link™* Output Manager for accounts receivable, an enterprise wide form-automation printing solution that automatically prints high quality, easy-to-read documents from laser printers, compared to the low-quality forms that are produced by impact printers on multi-part form.

Doc-link's intelligent recognition capabilities enabled immediate integration with Northcott's financial system, Platinum for Windows (PFW) 5.2 by Best. Northcott now prints their weekly invoices and statements directly from PFW onto plain paper from their laser printers. Now with Output Manager, they can automatically print as many invoices and statements as required and automatically route them to the relevant printers, anywhere throughout organization.



doc-link Profile

***doc-link* Output Manager features:**

Electronic Report Management

Multiple document/report types and templates

doc-link image repository

doc-link client scheduler

Multiple output methods and formats

The Solution (Continued)

The company is planning on using Output Manager to automatically email invoices and statements to their franchises, thus eliminating costly postage expenses.

Invoices and statements are captured and indexed automatically by *doc-link's* Electronic Report Management (ERM) engine. Documents from PFW 5.2 are married with a custom template replicating Northcott's original preprinted forms.

All documents processed by Output Manager, including reports, are automatically archived for viewing, printing, faxing, or emailing.

Because of *doc-link*, Northcott has eliminated all their purchase, storage and administration costs associated with pre-printed forms. Since it is non-invasive, *doc-link* can continue to be used even if Northcott switches to another financial software package or adds new business applications.

The Benefits

Northcott Hospitality used Output Manager to:

- ❑ *Directly distribute* the document in whatever method needed with the "click of a button."
- ❑ *Transmit via* email, fax, FTP, EDI or EFT to a LaserJet printer.
- ❑ *Utilize output formats:* HTML, TIFF, XML and CSV.
- ❑ *Save filing space.* Reduce dependence on file cabinets for storage.
- ❑ *Eliminate offsite storage.*
- ❑ *Increase customer and employee satisfaction* with immediate access to electronically stored and retrievable documents.
- ❑ *Save the cost of postage* – a cost that only continues to rise.
- ❑ *Easy to install and user friendly.* A paperless software solution that won't disrupt your IT department.
- ❑ *Provide a ROI* - return on investment in six to nine months!

"Output Manager has reduced our need for pre-printed custom forms, expensive mailing processes and time-consuming manual filing and retrieval."

Andy Fellows, Network Administrator
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