CoolSpools

By Ariadne Software

Datasheet

Version V6R1M0

Overview

CoolSpools is a powerful but highly cost-effective information management toolkit for IBM system i.

CoolSpools helps you give your users and customers the information they need, when they need it, how they need it.

- ***Still mailing statements, invoices, etc. to your customers?***

  With CoolSpools, you could email them a smart-looking PDF incorporating a company logo or other graphic instead, or let them download a spreadsheet from your website.

- ***Still sending out reports to your users on paper through the internal mail?***

  With CoolSpools, you can save time and money by emailing them a PDF or let them access a spreadsheet on your company server instead.

- ***Need to interface data into a Business Intelligence tool, EDI server etc?***

  With CoolSpools, you can easily produce extracts from your database in the formats you need, such as CSV, XML, fixed-width text etc.

Product options

CoolSpools consists of the following product options, which can be purchased individually or as a complete package.

Option Number	Option Name	Overview/Comments
*BASE	Base	• Basic common components shared by all options • A mandatory, no-charge prerequisite that must be installed before any other product option.
1	Spool Converter	• Converts system i spooled files to a variety of formats, including: ➢ PDF ➢ Excel ➢ XML ➢ HTML ➢ text ➢ CSV ➢ RTF ➢ TIFF
2	Email	• Sends email from the system i. • Supports: ➢ multiple attachments ➢ all IFS file systems (not just /QDLS) ➢ long file names
3	Spool Admin	• Manages and distributes system i spooled files: ➢ automatically, using rules you define ➢ in batch, processing selected sets of spooled files ➢ online, using a simple but powerful and customizable work-with display
4	Database	• Extracts data from system i physical, logical and DDM files. • Also supports SQL, Query/400 and QM Query input • Outputs to: ➢ Excel ➢ XML ➢ text ➢ CSV ➢ PDF (requires Spool Converter)
5	NetServer Toolkit	• An easy and convenient way to create and manage NetServer file and printer shares • NetServer file shares are a great way to access PDFs, Excel files etc. stored on your system i from a PC.

Prerequisites

Hardware

CoolSpools runs only on IBM system i (iSeries, AS/400) servers.

No PC is required to run CoolSpools but you will most probably want to access files created by CoolSpools from a PC. This can be done easily using NetServer file shares, which can be created and managed using product option 5 „NetServer Toolkit“ (a no charge feature).

Files created by CoolSpools can either be stored locally on the system i or sent automatically to a Windows server (using either FTP or the /QNTC file system) or to a UNIX server (using FTP).

You need to allow around 600Mb of disk storage for a full installation (all product options).

Operating System

The minimum release required to run CoolSpools Version 6 is OS/400 V5R3M0.

If you are running OS/400 V5R2M0 or earlier, you cannot run CoolSpools V6. However, earlier versions are still available which can run on OS/400 V5R2M0 or older versions of OS/400. Contact support@ariadnesoftware.co.uk for further details.

Product Option *BASE – CoolSpools Base

Option Number	0000
Feature Code	5001
Option Name	CoolSpools Base
Short Description	Base functionality. Common functions shared by and required by all product options.
Product Abstract	• A no-charge prerequisite for all other product options. • Includes: ➢ shared programs and service programs ➢ security options (manage access to product features) ➢ product maintenance (install options, apply fixes) ➢ define styles used by CoolSpools Spool Converter and CoolSpools Database when formatting Excel, XML or HTML output • Includes some useful free functionality, such as: ➢ ZIPDTA command to zip system i stream files, save files and database files. ➢ UNZIPDTA command to unzip the contents of a zip file.
System requirements:	• OS/400 V5R3M0 or above (if you require a version that can run on V5R2M0 or earlier, contact mailto:support@ariadnesoftware.co.uk)
Download	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/CoolDown.htm
User Guide	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/docs/CoolSpools_Base_Option_User_Guide_V6R1.pdf
Prices URL	FREE!

Product Option 1 – CoolSpools Spool Converter

Option Number	0001
Feature Code	5002
Option Name	CoolSpools Spool Converter
Short Description	Converts system i spooled files to stream files in a variety of formats.
Product Abstract	Looking for a quick and easy way to move away from distributing system i reports and documents on paper? CoolSpools is the answer! CoolSpools can save your organization time and money by letting you distribute, archive and publish reports electronically. Still sending out customer documents by snail mail? CoolSpools converts your spooled files to PDFs and let you email them securely. Still splitting internal reports by hand and distributing them in the internal mail? CoolSpools splits your reports into multiple Excel spreadsheets and lets you save them on a server for easy access. Easy to integrate with your existing batch applications: just add a single command! No complex setup!
Input formats supported	System i (iSeries or AS/400) spooled files in any of the following formats: • *SCS • *AFPDS • *IPDS • *LINE • *AFPDSLINE • *USERASCII (HP PCL data stream) • Note that many similar products cannot support anything more than simple *SCS • Some similar products do support AFP but only by converting the output to an image, which means that the PDF results are not searchable. CoolSpools converts text to text!
Output formats supported	Stream files in one of the following formats: • PDF (Adobe Acrobat) • Excel spreadsheet (Excel 97-2003 .xls or Excel 2007 .xlsx file) • XML • CSV or other delimited file format (e.g. tab-delimited, semicolon delimited etc.) • Plain text (ASCII or EBCDIC) • HTML • RTF (compatible with Word and other WP programs) • TIFF

	• Compressed spooled file archive (for saving and restoring spooled files) • New spooled file (i.e. duplicate, split or subset a spooled file)
Output locations supported	• By default, stream files are written to the system i IFS • Depending on the IFS file system selected, this could mean the output is stored: ➢ locally on the system i (e.g. /root or /QDLS file system) ➢ on a Windows PC or server (/QNTC file system) ➢ on another system i (/QFileSvr.400 file system) • Also supports output to an FTP server, which would enable the output to be sent to any system running an FTP service e.g.: ➢ a Windows server ➢ a UNIX server ➢ another system i
System requirements	• OS/400 V5R3M0 or above (if you require a version that can run on V5R2M0 or earlier, contact mailto:support@ariadnesoftware.co.uk) • No PC necessary (all conversion runs exclusively on the iSeries) • A NetServer file share is recommended for accessing files stored on the system i from a PC (e.g. in Adobe Reader, Excel etc.)
Additional options/features	• Splitting ➢ Spooled files can be split into multiple output files (PDFs, spreadsheets etc.) based on criteria you define ➢ e.g. split a large spooled file containing a batch of invoices into separate invoices on change of invoice number ➢ no modification of your print application is necessary • Merge and append PDFs ➢ combine multiple PDFs ➢ supports PDFs not created by CoolSpools ➢ append to an existing PDF • Generate PDF bookmarks (outline index) • Set PDF security (encryption, password protection, limit ability to change or print etc.) • Add graphics to PDF (e.g. company logo, a watermark or a scan of the pre-printed form) • Add digital signatures to PDFs • Define styles to control the use of fonts, colors, shading etc. when outputting to Excel, XML or HTML formats • Use CoolSpools variables and CoolSpools functions, e.g.: ➢ set file name based on spooled file attributes (e.g. user data, spooled file name etc.) ➢ set file name based on contents extracted from the file at run time (invoice number, customer code etc.) • Several flexible ways of defining the email addresses to which output should be sent where these cannot be pre-defined: ➢ lookup on a file using data taken from the spooled file

	(e.g. use customer number as a key) ➢ run a piece of SQL using data extracted from the spooled file as variables to return one or more email addresses ➢ use an exit program to return the email address(es), having received data items from the spooled file as parameters • Use exit programs for pre- or post-processing, e.g. to interface into an indexing application or document management system • Simple command interface makes integration with existing systems simple • API available for more complex applications
Download	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/CoolDown.htm
User Guide	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/docs/CoolSpools_Spool_Converter_User_Guide_V6R1.pdf
Programmer Guide	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/docs/CoolSpools_Programmers_Guide_V6R1.pdf
Prices URL	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/pricing.htm

Product Option 2 – CoolSpools Email

Option Number	0002
Feature Code	5003
Option Name	CoolSpools Email
Short Description	Send emails from your system i using a simple command or an API
Product Abstract	Provides email functionality from your system i (iSeries, AS/400) making it possible to communicate with users and customers from your applications and use email to distribute: • customer documents • user reports • data extracts • alert messages and notifications
Input formats supported	Attachments can be any of: ➢ Database files (converted first to Excel or another PC-compatible format using CoolSpools Database) ➢ Spooled files (converted first to PDF or another PC-compatible format using CoolSpools Spool Converter) ➢ Database files (ASCII text or raw EBCDIC text) ➢ Stream file from anywhere in the IFS
Output formats supported	• MIME-format email • Delivery can be either by: ➢ Mail Server Framework (MSF) and SMTP ➢ SMTP alone
Input locations supported	• Attachments can be taken from any part of the IFS ➢ /root ➢ /QDLS ➢ /QNTC ➢ /QSYS.LIB ➢ etc. ➢ Note that IBM's SNDDST only supports /QDLS
System requirements:	• OS/400 V5R3M0 or above (if you require a version that can run on V5R2M0 or earlier, contact mailto:support@ariadnesoftware.co.uk) • No PC necessary (all conversion runs exclusively on the iSeries) • A NetServer file share is recommended for accessing files stored on the system i from a PC (e.g. in Adobe Reader, Excel etc.)
Additional options/features	• Supports HTML-format messages (SNDDST only support plain text) • Message can be read from a stream file (e.g. an HTML document) • Allows multiple attachments per email (SNDDST can only handle one) • Attachments can be database file members or stream files from anywhere in the IFS (SNDDST only supports database members

	and “shared folder” files (QDLS)) • Supports long file names for attachments (SNDDST attachment names are limited to 10 or 8.3) • Call using simple command interface or API • Use email address list “objects” to send to unlimited recipients • Send calendar invitations in iCal or vCal format to schedule meetings (compatible with Outlook) • Save emails for re-sending • Create an email based on a previously sent email • Integrates with CoolSpools Spool Converter and CoolSpools Database to allow output to be emailed directly
Download	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/CoolDown.htm
User Guide	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/docs/CoolSpools_Email_User_Guide_V6R1.pdf
Programmer Guide	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/docs/CoolSpools_Programmers_Guide_V6R1.pdf
Prices URL	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/pricing.htm

Product Option 3 – CoolSpools Spool Admin

Option Number	0003
Feature Code	5004
Option Name	CoolSpools Spool Admin
Short Description	Manage and convert spooled files quickly and easily, either using automatic rules, online or in batch.
Product Abstract	• Manage, convert and distribute spooled files • Automatically: ➢ **Spooled file monitor** jobs are defined that "watch" output queues for new spooled files being created ➢ New spooled files created with a "ready" status on a watched outq are automatically detected and processed ➢ Processing occurs based on **spooled file rules** and **spooled file scripts** that you define. • Online: ➢ WRKSPLFPDM (Work-with Spooled files PDM-Style) command ➢ Provides a PDM-style "work with" for spooled files ➢ Highly flexible and customizable interface ➢ Select spooled files by: user, name, job, date, outq, usrdta etc. etc. ➢ Use customizable options to convert, email or otherwise operate on the selected spooled files. ➢ PDM-style F13 to repeat an option to run against all selected spooled files ➢ Control user authorities to options and commands • Batch: ➢ RUNSPLFCMD (Run Spooled file Commands) command ➢ Allows a set of spooled files to be selected and have an option or command run against each spooled file in turn ➢ e.g. select all spooled files on an outq and convert them all to PDF and email them ➢ e.g. select all spooled files owner by user X over n days old and archive them then delete them
System requirements:	• OS/400 V5R3M0 or above (if you require a version that can run on V5R2M0 or earlier, contact mailto:support@ariadnesoftware.co.uk)
Download	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/CoolDown.htm
User Guide	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/docs/CoolSpools_Spool_Admin_User_Guide_V6R1.pdf
Programmer Guide	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/docs/CoolSpools_Programmers_Guide_V6R1.pdf

Product Option 4 – CoolSpools Database

Option Number	0004
Feature Code	5005
Option Name	CoolSpools Database
Short Description	Extracts data from system i database files to stream files in a variety of formats.
Product Abstract	Converts system i (iSeries or AS/400) database files to native Excel spreadsheets, CSVs or other delimited file formats (e.g. tab-separated), fixed-length text files and HTML tables. Integrates with Query, QM Query and SQL to let you save the output from those functions in any of the supported formats. It does all this without the need for a PC, so conversions can be easily built into your overnight batch applications to run automatically and there's no need for users to run PC file transfers during the day. Select and sort records; include, exclude and sequence fields; apply numeric, date and time editing.
Input formats supported	System i (iSeries or AS/400) database files: • physical files • logical files • DDM files • SQL statement defined on the command string • SQL statement read from a source file • Query (*QRYDFN) • QM Query (*QMQRY)
Output formats supported	Stream files in one of the following formats: • Excel spreadsheet (Excel 97-2003 .xls or Excel 2007 .xlsx file) • XML • CSV or other delimited file format (e.g. tab-delimited, semicolon delimited etc.) • Text (ASCII or EBCDIC, using fixed-width columns) • HTML • PDF (Adobe Acrobat). Requires Spool Converter.

Output locations supported	• By default, stream files are written to the system i IFS
	• Depending on the IFS file system selected, this could mean the output is stored:
	  ➢ locally on the system i (e.g. /root or /QDLS file system)
	  ➢ on a Windows PC or server (/QNTC file system)
	  ➢ on another system i (/QFileSvr.400 file system)
	• Also supports output to an FTP server, which would enable the

	output to be sent to any system running an FTP service e.g.: ➢ a Windows server ➢ a UNIX server ➢ another system i
System requirements:	• OS/400 V5R3M0 or above (if you require a version that can run on V5R2M0 or earlier, contact mailto:support@ariadnesoftware.co.uk) • No PC necessary (all conversion runs exclusively on the iSeries) • A NetServer file share is recommended for accessing files stored on the system i from a PC (e.g. in Excel etc.)
Additional options/features	• Field selection ➢ specify a list of fields to include ➢ specify a list of fields to exclude • Sequencing ➢ specify sort keys, ascending or descending • Record selection ➢ specify a query selection string • Define styles to control the use of: ➢ fonts ➢ colors ➢ number formats ➢ shading ➢ borders etc. • Applying conditional formatting to Excel cells ➢ e.g. color high values red and low values green • Control Excel column widths • Set Excel print attributes (scaling, headings, footers etc.) • Simple command interface makes integration with existing systems simple
Download	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/CoolDown.htm
User Guide	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/docs/CoolSpools_Database_User_Guide_V6R1.pdf
Programmer Guide	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/docs/CoolSpools_Programmers_Guide_V6R1.pdf
Prices URL	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/pricing.htm

Product Option 5 – CoolSpools NetServer Toolkit

Option Number	0005
Feature Code	5006
Option Name	CoolSpools NetServer Toolkit
Short Description	A simple and convenient way of creating and managing NetServer file and print shares. **FREE!** This is a no-cost option.
Product Abstract	NetServer file shares are the easiest way to access stream files saved on your system i from a PC, e.g. to open PDFs created by CoolSpools in Adobe Reader or Excel files created by CoolSpools database in Excel. A file share is similar to a Windows network share and allows a directory to be made available to be accessed from the network. PC users can then map a network drive to that share just as you might to a share on a Windows server. NetServer Toolkit is a free add-on tool which enables you to create file and print shares on your system i and manage their use. The alternative is to use IBM's System i Navigator, which is slow and cumbersome and requires a high-spec PC to be available.
Download	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/CoolDown.htm
User Guide	http://www.ariadnesoftware.co.uk/docs/CoolSpools_NetServer_Toolkit_User_Guide_V6R1.pdf
Prices URL	FREE!