Announcing ROPES Version 17

June 17, 2011

We are pleased to announce a new version of ROPES. ROPES Version 17 is now available to order for any new installation or trial. An upgrade kit is planned to allow all existing accounts running ROPES V10 or higher to migrate from your current release to Version 17. The upgrade kit will be available by August 2011. Migration from earlier versions of ROPES is supported, but requires a more complex process, which is outlined in the Conversion Guidelines manual for ROPES Version 17.

There are a number of new features being introduced. Here is a brief description of these features. Full descriptions and instructions for use are included in the new ROPES V17 product manuals, which can be downloaded from the ROPES Technical Support Download page.

All prior fixes have been applied

All fixes that were introduced in ROPES Version 16.0 PTFs or fixes have been applied as part of the Version 17.0 base release.

New Batch Utilities

A new batch utility program that incorporates the use of the ROPES External Call Interface services to allow for batch data maintenance of the ROPELPRP content. This provides a batch "ROLI" functionality. The ROPEICTL program is documented in the Utilities Guide.

A new batch utility program has been released to control the migration of data from previous releases of ROPES to the latest release. In the future all new releases of ROPES will include version-specific utility services when needed. The ROPEMIGR, ROPEMI16 and ROPEMI17 utilities are document in the Utilities Guide.

Support for IPV6

ROPES support for TCP/IP attached printers and print servers has been limited to IPv4 networking. With IPv4 numbers now all distributed in the public arena, and some organizations moving to IPv6 internally as well, we have added IPv6 support to ROPES. This support has been added to the LPR/LPD printer support as well as to the Direct Socket printer support. The IPv6 controls are provided both on the ROLI panels and in the batch utility. A master control for ROPES IPv6 support has been added to the ROMT Option 1|1 panel.

EXCI Generic Connections Supported

Previously, there was no way to use the ROPES EXCI Facility with generic connections. The interface was coded to require a specific connection with the NETNAME set to ROPEXPLR. This has been changed to allow the specification of *GENERIC as the NETNAME and to use *GENERIC in the ROPEXPLD table.

Product Concurrency

This version of ROPES becomes current as July 1, 2011. Support for ROPES Version 12 through ROPES Version 15 continues until at least September 30, 2011. Support for ROPES Version 16 continues until September 30, 2012. Support for these releases may be extended beyond September 30, 2011. Support for all versions prior to Version 12 has already been discontinued, but we will be glad to assist you in upgrading to a supported release, and we will make every effort to assist you in keeping your older release running while you upgrade.