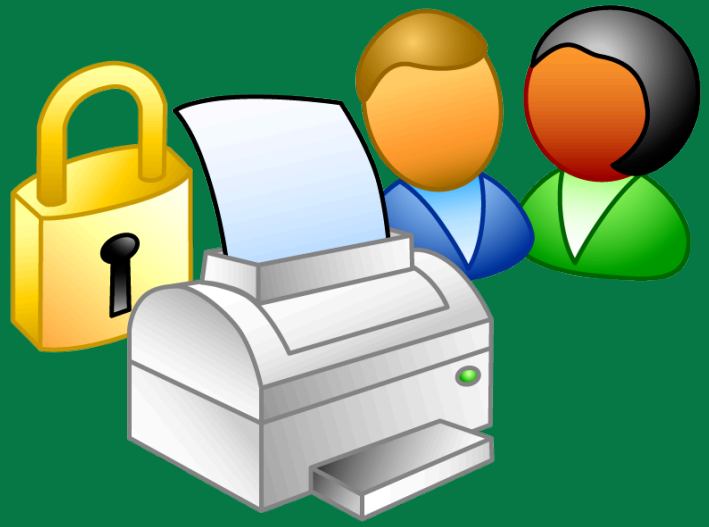
PaperCut NG

Chris Dance

November 2006



PaperCut™

Print and Internet Control

PaperCut™

Overview

- Overview of PaperCut NG
- Why we offer a Mac Version
- The story of our Mac “adventures”

About Me:

- Main Mac Developer
- I’m based in Melbourne, Australia
  (yes – it’s early in the morning!)

Copyright © 2006 - PaperCut Software Pty. Ltd.

PaperCut™

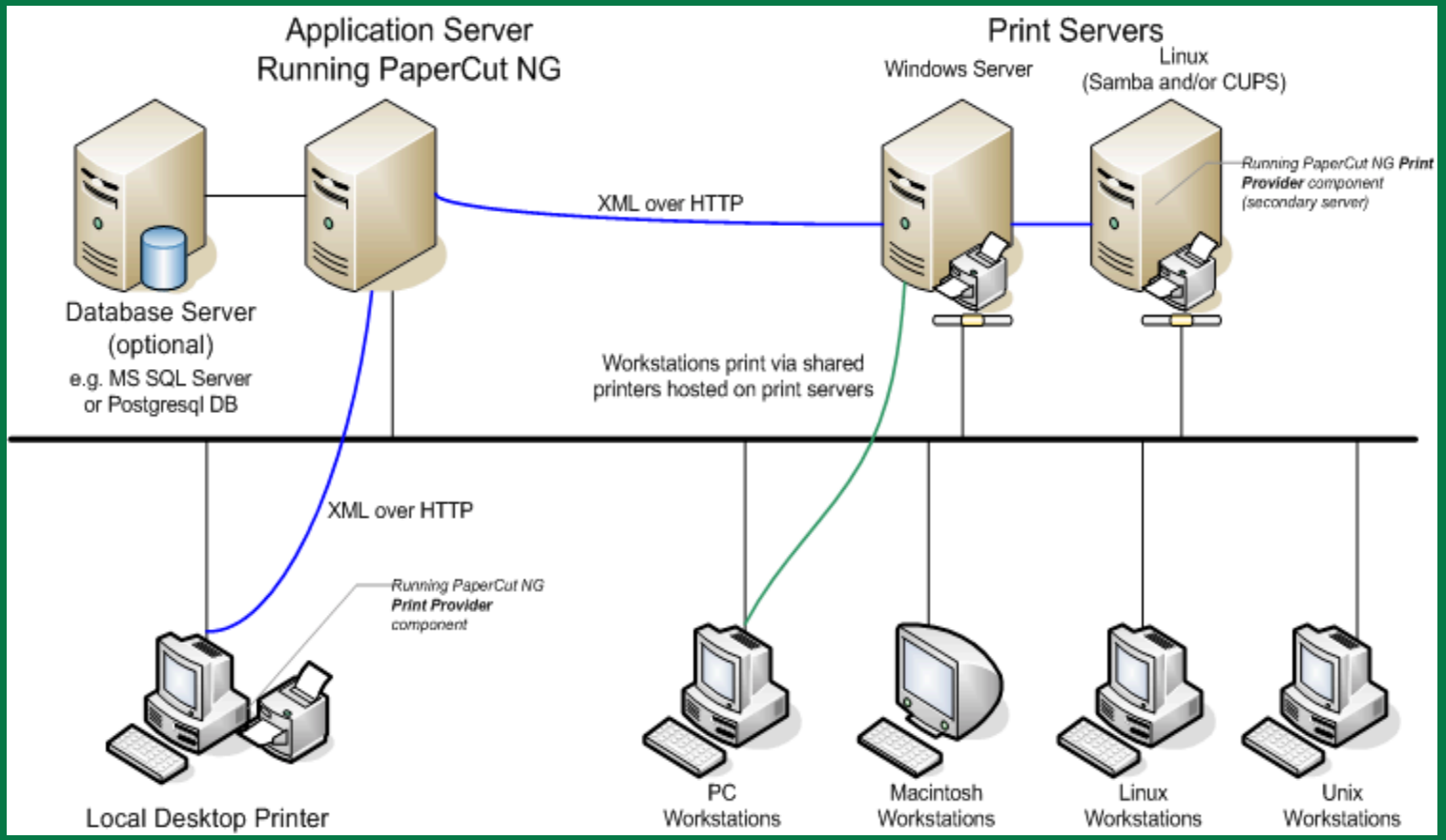
PaperCut NG

- What is PaperCut NG?
  - A multi-platform print control solution
  - Supports Mac, Windows, Linux and Unix
  - First version released in 1998 with a cross-platform rewrite in 2005
  - A complete modern solution supporting networks of all sizes
  - In use in thousands of education based organizations across 60 countries

Copyright © 2006 - PaperCut Software Pty. Ltd.

PaperCut™

Architecture



Copyright © 2006 - PaperCut Software Pty. Ltd.

PaperCut™

Apple Mac Support

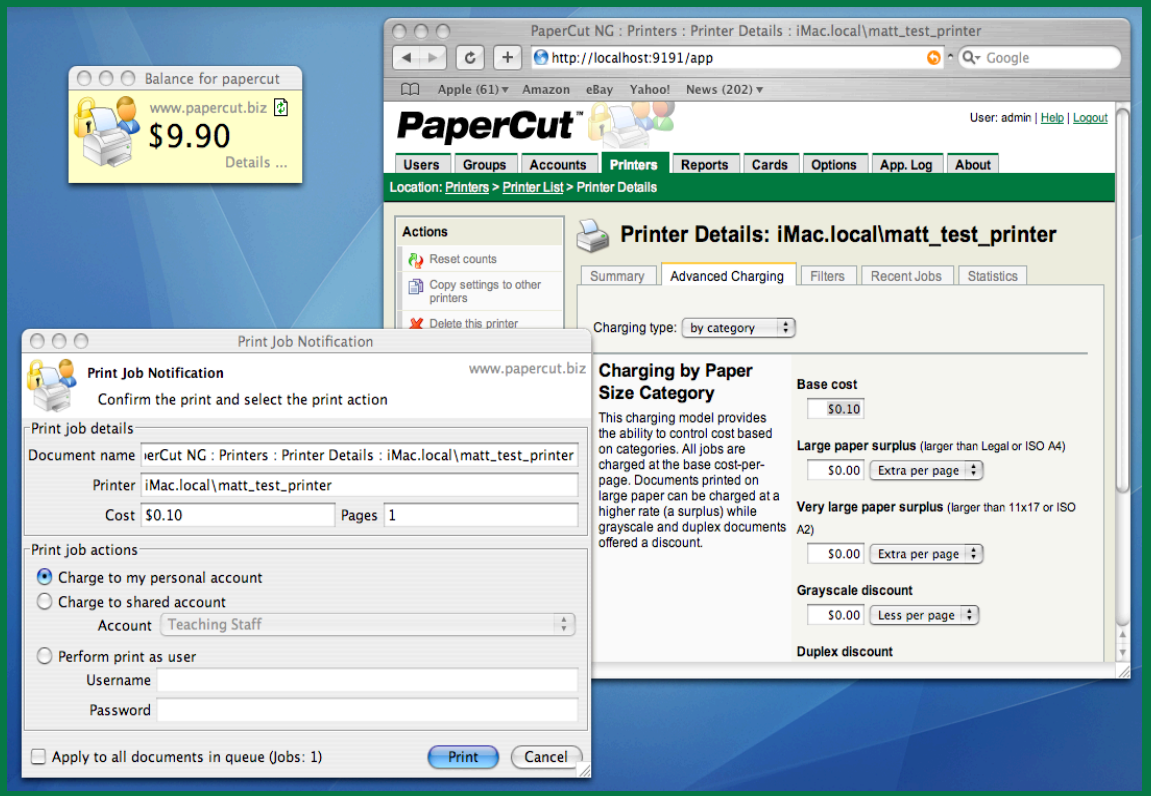
- Mac support at **all** application levels
- Mac version has all the same features as the Windows and Linux versions
- All platforms are equal – the Mac version is not a 2nd class citizen 12-months behind!
- Integrates with CUPS on the server level
- A Universal Application

- Open Directory and Local NetInfo integration

Copyright © 2006 - PaperCut Software Pty. Ltd.

PaperCut™

Key Features



- Advanced cost models
- Browser based admin
- Optional client software
- Shared accounts
- Release station
- Pre-Paid Voucher system
- Web Services and API (external systems, credit card payment gateways, integration with 3rd party systems, etc.)

Copyright © 2006 - PaperCut Software Pty. Ltd.

PaperCut™

Key Features Cont.

- For networks of all sizes
  - supports clustering
  - external databases (e.g. Postgresql)

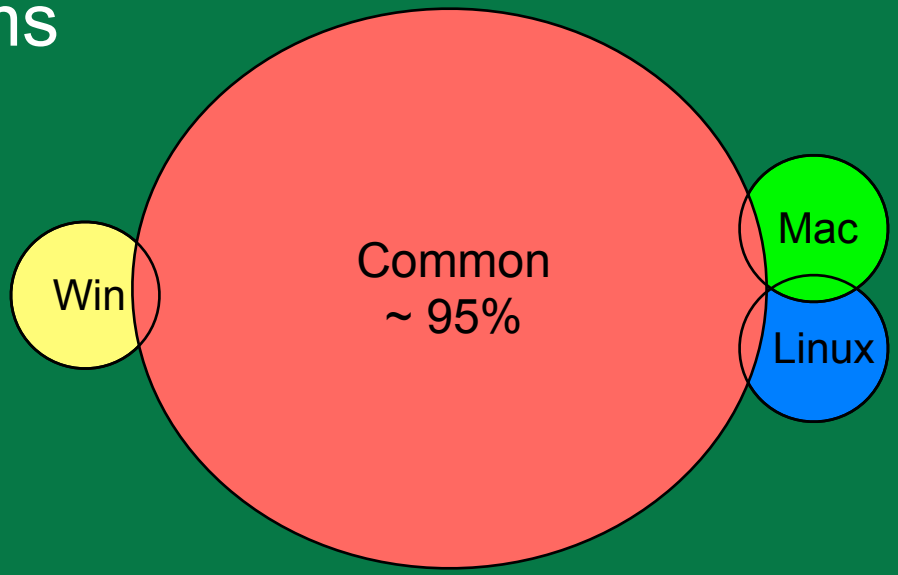
- Source Code Access
  - Customer have access to core source code
  - Source code already used to submit Mac client improvements.

Copyright © 2006 - PaperCut Software Pty. Ltd.

PaperCut™

Our Mac Adventures

- Not a “port” but a true cross platform project
- 95% source code is shared between all platforms



- Tools: GCC, Java, Eclipse, Perl, Shell Script

Copyright © 2006 - PaperCut Software Pty. Ltd.

PaperCut™

Positive Experiences

- Fantastic community support during the testing phase
- Realistic changes proposed by most testers
- UNIX underpinning providers the “power” complex server-side applications require

Copyright © 2006 - PaperCut Software Pty. Ltd.

PaperCut™

Negative Experiences

- An installer bug accidentally deleted one tester's entire / Applications directory! Oops!
- Understanding culture – is the command-line "acceptable"?
- GUI administration limits CUPS configuration
- Lack of authentication in print queues
- Hard to access some Mac API's from Java
- More developer documentation needed!

Copyright © 2006 - PaperCut Software Pty. Ltd.

PaperCut™

Future Development

- Simple installer for Mac Laptops
- Desktop Widget
- Authentication via login hook
- Client messages via Growl
- Option to prevent client from being accidentally quit
- Testing on Leopard

Copyright © 2006 - PaperCut Software Pty. Ltd.

PaperCut™

- Website: http://www.papercut.biz/
- Developer Blog: http://www.papercut.biz/blog

Copyright © 2006 - PaperCut Software Pty. Ltd.