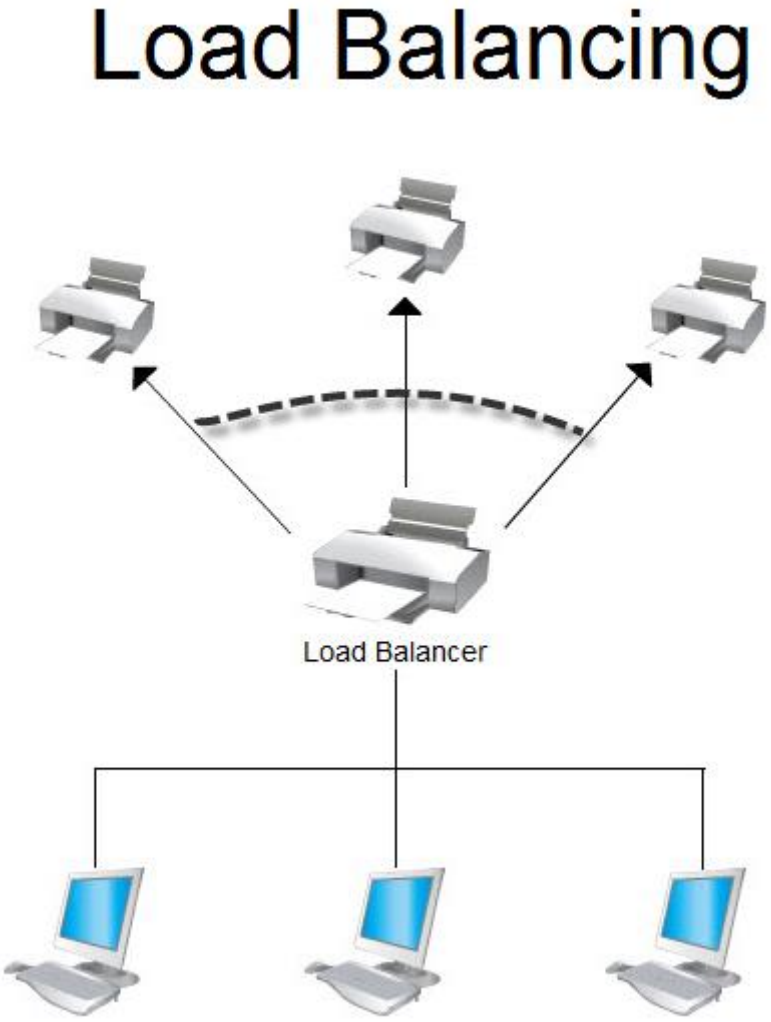
GoPrint Dynamic Printing

Load Balancing and Follow Me Printing

Load Balancing

With GoPrint Load Balancing, users print to a single printer installed on their computer called a Load Balancer. Print jobs are then equally distributed to each of the printers in the Load Balancing Set.

Using the printers SNMP fault detection signals, GoPrint can determine if there are; paper jams, low toner, busy printers, or when a printer is offline, and reroute jobs to the next available printer.



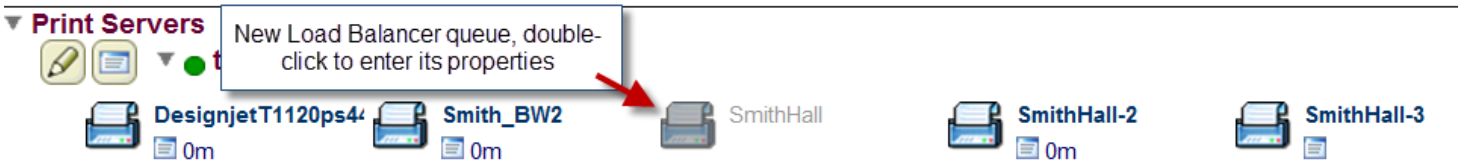
Step 1- Enable a Load Balancer Queue

1) Create a new printer on the GoPrint print server to be your Load Balancer. It's not a "real' printer but a virtual queue; this is the one users will be printing to from their lab workstations.

   - Use an LPT port
   - Share the printer and create a user-friendly name
   - Must use the same print drivers as the "real" queues

   Mac/Linux: edit your /etc/lpd/printcap or /etc/printcap config file and add a printer.

The new Load Balancer queue is displayed; double-click its icon to enter its properties:

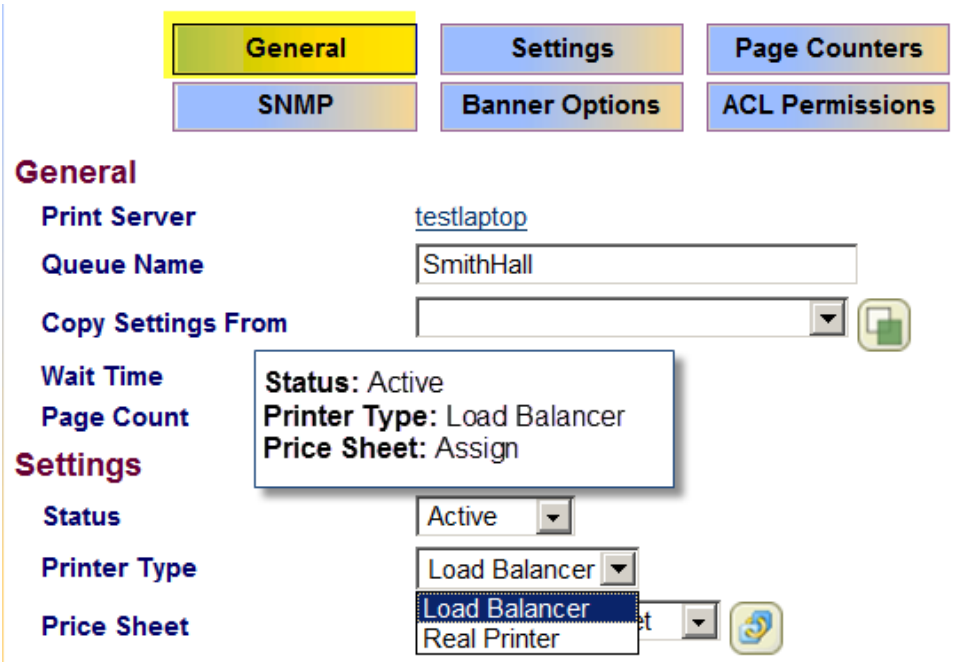


Status: Active

Printer Type: Load Balancer

Price Sheet: Assign

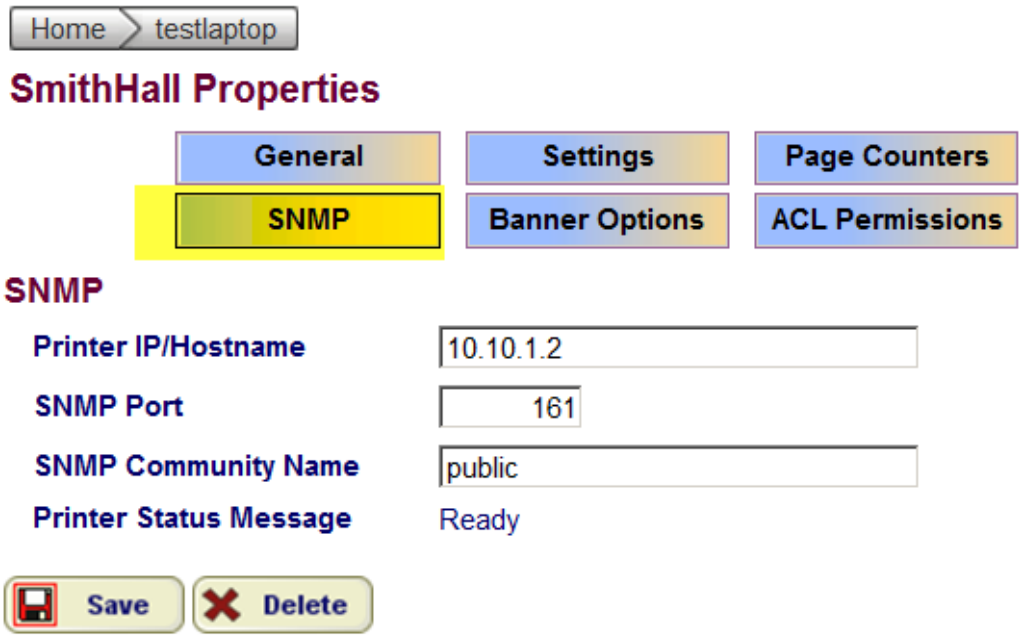
Save



Step 2 – Enable SNMP Fault-Detection

Navigate to the Properties sheet for each print queue and under SNMP enter its IP address in the Printer IP/Hostname field.

Save



Step 3 – Create a Load Balancing Group

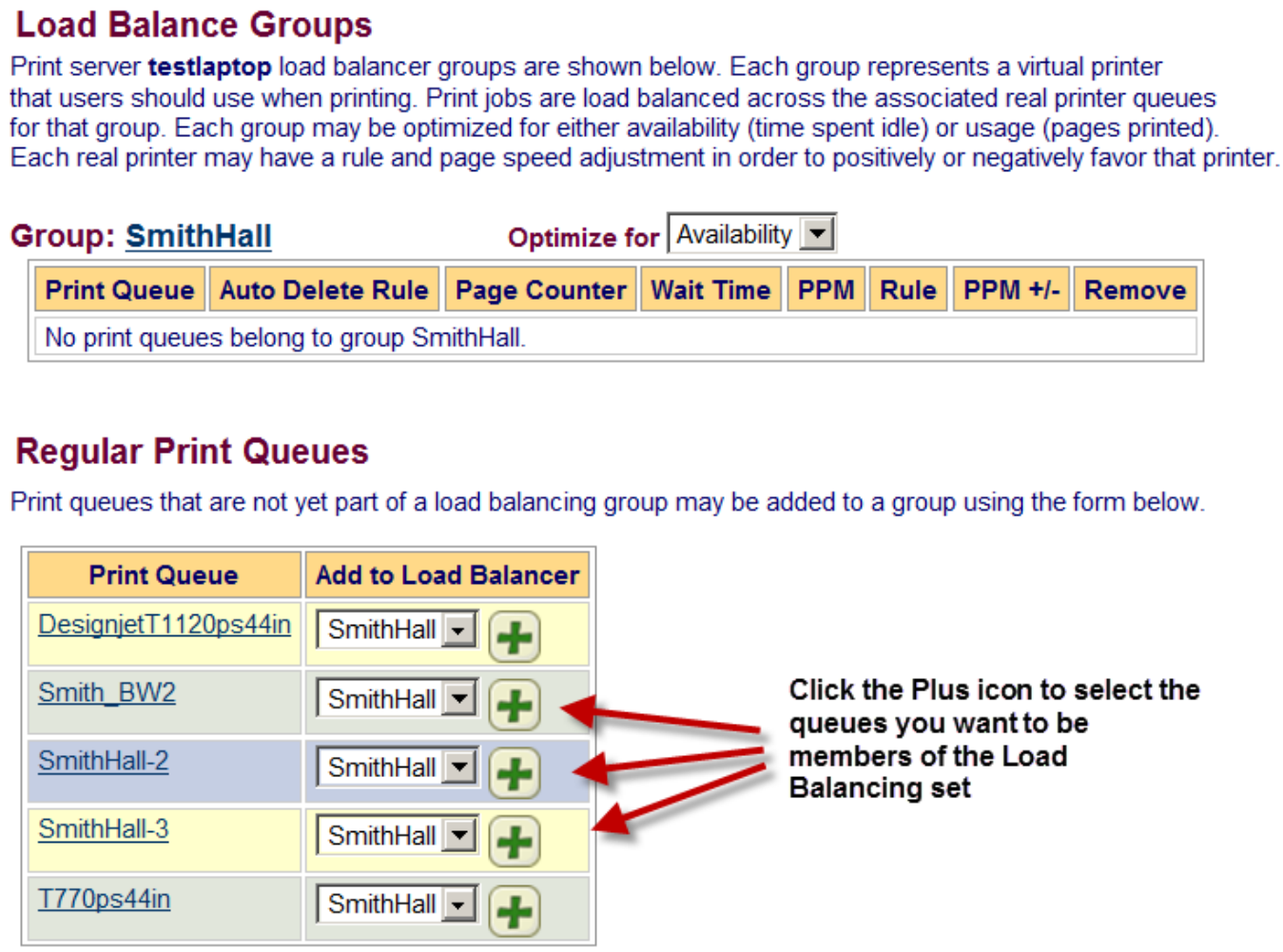
Go to: Printing – Load Balancing

The Load balancer Print Server listing appears:

Select your server

Step 4 – Add Print Queues to the Set

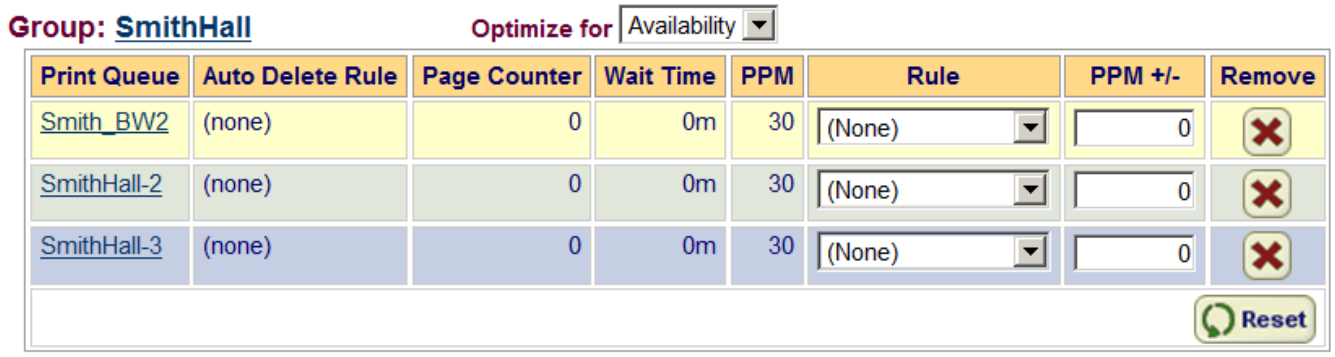
Click the green plus icon for each queue you wish to add to the load balancing group:



Once all queues are added, your Load Balancing set appears:

1) **Optimize For:** Select the default of Availability
2) **Rule and PPM +/-:** leave the defaults.

Save Changes



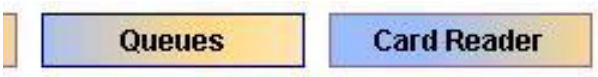
Rules and PPM (optional, not required)

Under the Load Balance Groups properties sheet, you can customize the way in which printers receive jobs. The algorithm uses a combination of pages per minute (ppm) and time to idle (tti) to decide which printer to send the job too.

For example, setting the ppm count to higher settings as compared with the printers in the load balancing group, print jobs would be directed to print to that particular queue.

You can also modify Rules that have been defined and the ppm settings to customize how you wish to handle printers using the load balancer.

Step 5 - Assign the Set to the Appropriate Print Release Station

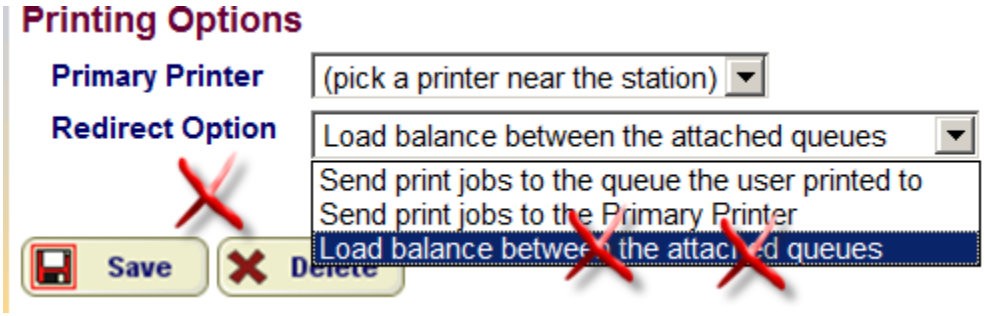


Add the queues, including the Load Balancer, to the Print Release Station Queues section in Control Center.

Save

Warning!

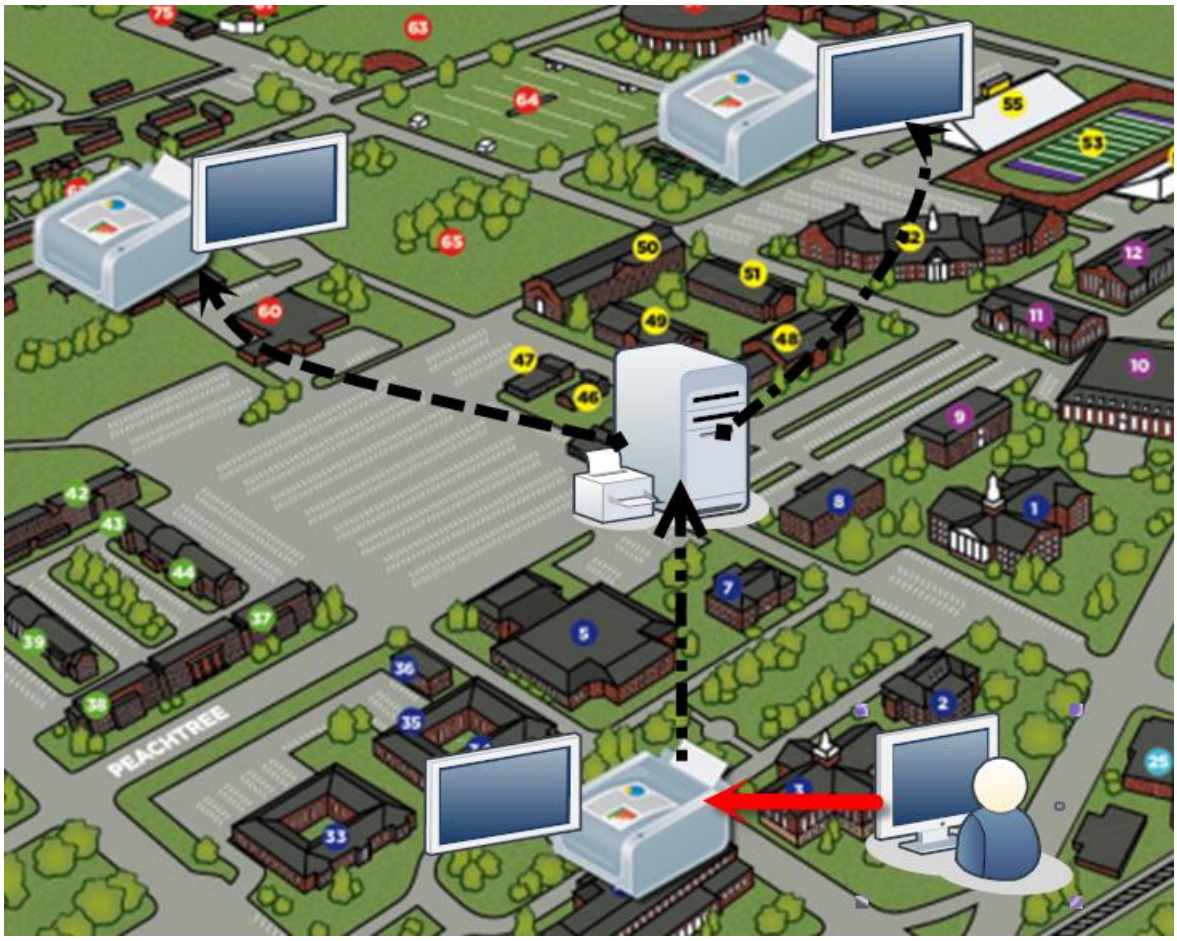
Do not select the "Load balance between the attached queues" option under the Print Release Station Printing Options. The features listed here are designed for Follow Me Printing as outlined on the following page.



Follow me Printing

How it works!

An end-user sends a print job to a GoPrint managed print queue from their workstation in the library and decides to pick it up at a GoPrint Release Station in the computer lab location near their classroom on the other side of campus. At this point, the user has the option to release the print job from any enabled location.



Requirements:

1. The physical devices must be similar or print drivers for each printer much match. Ex: PS, PCL drivers, color vs black white drivers.

2. The document print output options must be supported on the designation printer. Ex: duplex, oversize, multiple copies.

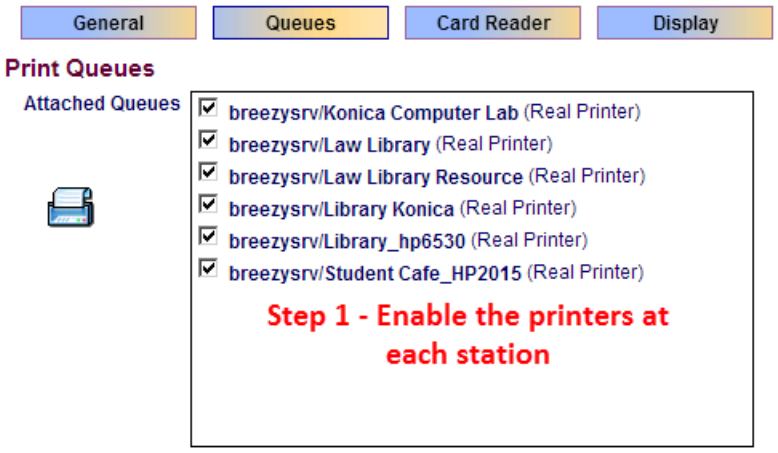
3. Each Print Release Station involved in Follow Me Printing must have the print queue enabled for each location; in contrast to the recommended settings of enabling only the printer adjacent to the print release station.

4. Does NOT require Load Balancing queues.

Step 1 – Enable the print queue at each print release station

With standard GoPrint configurations, it's recommended to enable only the printers that are local or near the physical Print Release Station, but with Follow Me Printing we want to achieve the opposite results by offering print jobs sent from any printer to display at any enabled Print Release station.

Reminder: each printer enabled at the station MUST be of like print driver and supported output formats or rendering issues will occur!



Step 2 – Select a primary Printer for that Station

Our goal here is select a printer that is physically near the Print Release Station and make that Primary Printer. Then we want to make sure all print jobs sent from other printers get redirected to the primary printer.

1. Select a Primary Printer
2. Redirect Option: Send print jobs to the primary printer