uniFLOW

UNIFLOW IN HYBRID MODE
CONNECT TO THE CLOUD

Bridging the gap

uniFLOW's hybrid technology bridges the gap to the future by combining cloud and on-premise technology for managing printing and scanning processes. For cloud-ready locations organizations can deploy uniFLOW Online. However, on-premise servers can still be deployed in locations where migration to the cloud is not yet possible. By connecting a uniFLOW server to uniFLOW Online, printing and scanning for all locations, whether cloud and/or server, is managed centrally in uniFLOW Online under one single subscription model.

Key reasons for deploying hybrid technology

Tailor-made enhanced security
uniFLOW in hybrid mode provides a tailor-made security model whereby uniFLOW servers can be placed in high-security on-premise areas, and uniFLOW Online is deployed to make smaller branch offices more secure with cloud-based print and scan management to fit with a zero trust strategy.

Fit-for-purpose
Depending on local print and scan management requirements, organizations can mix and match server and cloud sites with uniFLOW in hybrid mode. Temporary locations can be integrated quickly into cloud sites, providing a secure print and scan environment across all locations.

Reduced workload and costs
Costs for purchasing local servers and their maintenance can be high, particularly when maintained by a third-party company. Cloud technology can replace servers in some areas and take advantage of an easily scalable cloud environment. Removing servers reduces time and costs spent on maintenance work.

uniFLOW hybrid at a glance

By combining cloud and on-premise technology, uniFLOW in hybrid mode provides flexibility to take advantage of on-demand cloud resources while simultaneously satisfying even the most complex business processes and security requirements.

Central management via uniFLOW Online

- Central reporting for all locations
- Central device management
- Central user management

One subscription model across locations

- Centrally manage subscriptions through uniFLOW Online

Leveraging cloud technology for printing

- Trouble-free Mobile Printing
- Convenient Mobile Printing for guests
- Additional job submission methods via uniFLOW Online
- One combined print job list

Leveraging cloud technology for scanning

- Cloud- and server-based scan workflows
- Innovative cloud processing technologies

Cloud based budget enforcement for educational environments

- Managing funds via the cloud
- Online payment to add funds

Central management via uniFLOW Online

The connection between uniFLOW and uniFLOW Online enables organizations to profit from a single system to manage devices, users, subscriptions and reporting across cloud and server locations. It reduces time spent managing users and updating devices with the latest uniFLOW applications while creating a complete overview of all locations' printing costs.

Central user management

In hybrid mode users can be managed centrally, whether assigned to a central server or cloud location. uniFLOW Online offers several synchronization options, allowing the administrator to decide whether the uniFLOW server or uniFLOW Online is the primary user data system.

Once users have been created, any changes of user data e.g. PIN codes or card numbers will be synchronized between the uniFLOW servers and uniFLOW Online in both directions so the administrative workload in maintaining the system is reduced. The administrator can also disable the synchronization of users and accounting data if the IT policy prevents sensitive data from travelling to uniFLOW Online. This ensures that only subscriptions are synchronized between uniFLOW and uniFLOW Online.

Central reporting for all locations

In order to create full cost transparency across locations and facilitate correct cost allocation, all accounting data from uniFLOW servers and Remote Print Servers can be uploaded to uniFLOW Online. A variety of reports are available in uniFLOW Online to provide comprehensive accounting across all locations.
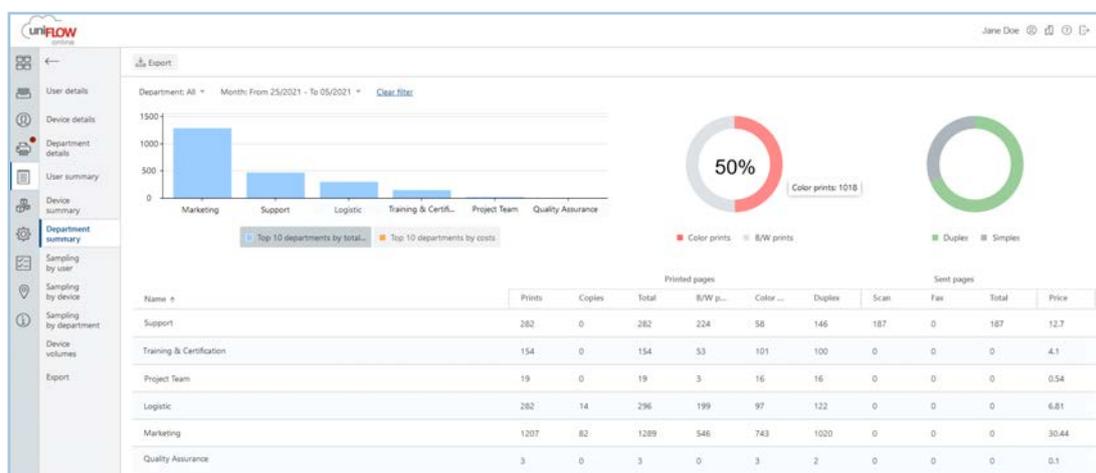
Central device management

The uniFLOW Online Device Setup Utility (DSU) allows administrators to effortlessly onboard new devices independent of their location (cloud or server). The application automatically downloads and installs the embedded applets on the Canon devices. Devices can be assigned to uniFLOW server locations based on predefined IP ranges. Device configuration at server locations is also central, via uniFLOW Online, using predefined templates.

One subscription model across locations

Historically, a lot of software products were licensed under a perpetual license model; the customer paid once then could pay an optional, annual maintenance fee in order to receive updated versions of the application, bug fixes and possibly some support. As more and more software is provided online, there has been a shift away from the limitations of perpetual software licensing to more sophisticated subscription models that are better suited to the software product being sold.

Centrally manage subscriptions through uniFLOW Online

uniFLOW in hybrid mode is licensed with subscriptions which are conveniently managed via uniFLOW Online. All devices across cloud and server locations are licensed with a per device subscription so no additional licensing is required for any uniFLOW server applications or optional modules. Once locations are cloud-ready, on-premise server technology can easily be removed and devices connected to the cloud without any need to change the commercial model.

Leveraging cloud technology for printing

In a hybrid setup, devices can be connected to a uniFLOW server and uniFLOW Online, leveraging the benefits of cloud and on-premise technology. In server locations users can profit from the mobile (guest) print capabilities and various alternative job submission methods of uniFLOW Online where all print jobs are combined in a single job queue.

Trouble-free Mobile Printing
Without any additional setup requirements, users can submit documents for printing from any location by simply uploading them via the uniFLOW Online portal or sending them via email. When sending documents via email, users are identified by their email address which is registered in uniFLOW Online. All submitted jobs appear in the user's secure print queue just as if the print job had actually been sent from their desktop.

Convenient Mobile Printing for guests
With just a single click to setup, guest users can securely submit their print jobs via email. They will then receive a return email with instructions as to how to retrieve their print job together with a unique temporary code to authenticate at the printer.

Additional job submission methods via uniFLOW Online
In addition uniFLOW Online offers other print job submission methods:

- Users can submit print jobs utilizing the "uniFLOW Online Print and Scan" app on their mobile devices. Print jobs can also be submitted by uploading a picture or uploading a file.
- The Chrome Extension allows students to print from their Chromebooks.
- Users can print to a single print queue and release their job through the Universal Print integration. Universal Print, developed by Microsoft, is a print service, that allows the central Windows Server print infrastructure to be moved to the cloud.
- In a uniFLOW hybrid environment print jobs from uniFLOW Online can be downloaded to the uniFLOW server and processed through workflows, such as the on-premise budget control used in educational settings.

Universal Print   Chrome Extension   uniFLOW SmartClient   E-Mail   uniFLOW Online Print & Scan app'   Web upload

uniFLOW online

One combined print job list

The hybrid setup allows Canon devices to communicate to both the uniFLOW server and uni-FLOW Online so users can view a single, combined list of their uniFLOW server print jobs and uniFLOW Online mobile/cloud print jobs at the device user interface.

uniFLOW server
secure print jobs

uniFLOW Online Mobile
Print jobs + printing via
uniFLOW Online submit-
ted jobs
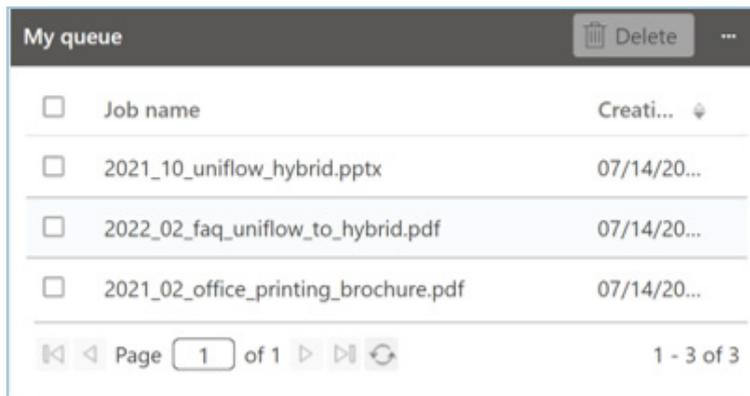
Users can view their submitted jobs in the uniFLOW Online portal.

Leveraging cloud technology for scanning

In a hybrid setup, devices can be connected to a uniFLOW server and uniFLOW Online, leveraging the benefits of cloud and on-premise technology. In server locations users benefit from various flexible scan workflows connected to on-premise DMS systems, in cloud locations they profit from powerful cloud-based processing of scans.

Cloud- and server-based scan workflows

uniFLOW hybrid technology means scan workflows can be provided to users configured on uniFLOW server as well as in uniFLOW Online, all on one single screen. By combining these the setup experience for capturing, processing and storing documents has been simplified.

If complex bespoke workflows are required, uniFLOW server workflows can be deployed. With the easy to configure cloud-based scan workflows fulfilling requirements, an organization will not need to invest in on-premise scan processing servers in each office location. Neither is any setup required for 'scan to myself' as it is available in uniFLOW Online by default. Additionally, the setup time of cloud destinations is reduced by using the easy to configure uniFLOW Online scan profile templates.

uniFLOW server for:
- Scan to local DMS systems
- Customized scan workflows

uniFLOW Online for:
- Scan to myself
- Scan to cloud
- My Filling Assit

Innovative cloud processing technologies

uniFLOW Online scan workflows also deliver innovative cloud processing capabilities, like Filing Assist and receipt scanning, that were previously unavailable in a standalone uniFLOW server. Filing Assist can scan batches of documents in one go and, once uploaded, document types are automatically recognized to then pre-populate file names and metadata. Back at the desk, users review the pre-populated data, editing the OCR result if required or select a different OCR block. Once approved, documents are submitted to their final destination.

# Cloud-based budget enforcement for educational environments

uniFLOW in hybrid mode has been developed to satisfy the specific needs of schools, colleges and higher education institutions. Whether you are a small primary school or a university with tens of thousands of students, uniFLOW hybrid's powerful budgeting system, managed centrally by uniFLOW Online, can provide printing, copying and scanning services to your students and employees while monitoring and, more importantly, charging costs correctly.

Managing funds via the cloud

Using the sophisticated tools found in uniFLOW Online's budgeting system, the burser can quickly and conveniently add funds provided by the college or university to student accounts at the beginning of a term. If funds are used up during this period, students can make a payment which the burser can use to top up the account.

Online payment to add funds

Your establishment might prefer the flexibility of allowing students to top up their accounts themselves via the powerful uniFLOW Online PayPal™ integration. Students can also view their transactions and download them to a .CSV file to store locally on their computer.

uniFLOW online

PayPal

User budget

uniFLOW Online budget system

Hybrid server

Hybrid device
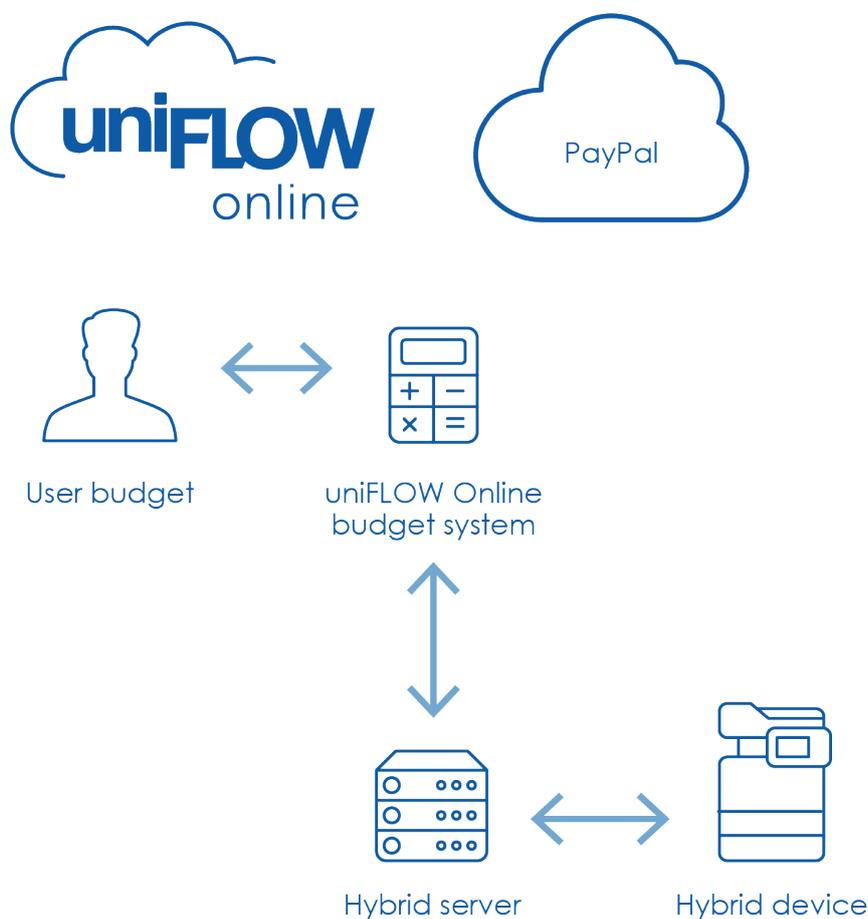
Ready for the cloud

uniFLOW in hybrid mode is a future-proof investment. The power of local servers is used where needed, while connecting to cloud locations quickly and effortlessly, profiting from its scalability without the need to add additional servers. Organizations can decide whether to move costly servers to the cloud over time to reduce maintenance work and IT costs on maintaining servers.

Saving time and effort

The hybrid functionality allows organizations to benefit from a single system to manage all reports and subscriptions across multiple sites. All mobile print jobs are handled via uniFLOW Online and no additional tools, systems, servers, or licenses are required for setup. This solution reduces setup and maintenance to an absolute minimum.

Reduce workload and cost

Costs for purchasing local servers and their maintenance can be high. The cloud can replace servers in some areas and take advantage of an easily scalable cloud environment. uniFLOW leverages legacy IT investments and connects them to cloud resources, enabling flexible scalability while reducing costs.

Help save the environment

uniFLOW can help to reduce environmental impact and support sustainability initiatives by optimizing printing procedures e.g. by routing large print jobs directly to the print room. By implementing smart printing policies, educational establishments can achieve higher environmental sustainability.