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# United States Patent [19]

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[54] **DEVICE INDEPENDENT SPOOLING IN A PRINT ARCHITECTURE**

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[58] Field of Search ..... 395/114, 115, 395/117, 157, 164, 110, 112, 101

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

Print jobs are automatically and transparently spooled in a device-independent format, such as an enhanced metafile format. The enhanced metafile format provides a format into which documents are readily converted and which occupies a minimal amount of storage space. Each spooled print job is asynchronously printed relative to a program that requested the print job. Such spooled print jobs are despoiled in a background processor mode. An operating system provides the resources for converting a print job into enhanced metafile format and spooling the print job in the enhanced metafile format.

**10 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets**



























