



PRE

PRAGUE ELECTRICITY COMPANY



Zbyněk Zbořil

PrintSoft Central & Eastern Europe, s.r.o. Prague

PRE has been a PrintSoft customer since 1995 and was the first PReS user in the Czech Republic. At that time the PrintSoft Czech office did not exist and support was provided from the PrintSoft Systems office in Munich.

In 1997 PRE began working closely with the new PrintSoft Czech office in Prague. Today PrintSoft products support all high-speed printouts in PRE together with the high capacity electronic archiving system and distributed printing of the documents.

INTELLIGENT DOCUMENTS

During the first years PReS was used as a document formatter only. Documents were standard offset pre-printed forms and the variable data was printed into pre-printed frames and tables. The lack of flexibility in this solution created disadvantages with tables and page overflows. In 1999 a project was launched to create a new invoice design. PRE, together with PrintSoft, designed a new style of "intelligent dynamic invoice" for general public electricity distribution billing.

The invoice was split into several logical units:

- Header
- Measured power consumption invoicing
- Non-measured power consumption invoicing
- Un-authorized power consumption invoicing
- Non-energy invoicing
- Advance payment calculation
- VAT (Value added tax) calculation

Each of these invoicing units had previously been a separate document with its own pre-printed form.

The invoices are tagged together by the PReS application from the logical units according to the logical structure and printed as a single document on "white paper" (the PRE logo is pre-printed only). As a result PRE has only two pre-printed forms today.

All the PRE documents were redesigned using this philosophy.

Today PRE produces all invoices, payment orders, reminders, etc., as "intelligent dynamic documents".

ELECTRONIC ARCHIVING

The redesign of the document was done in parallel with the creation of the electronic archiving system.

ViewPReS with PAF/PAX archiving format was chosen as the best archiving solution. The main advantage was the low storage requirement of PAF/PAX format and the fast access time of the ViewPReS archive.

The proposed solution had one disadvantage – In 1999 ViewPReS did not support other graphic formats (ver. 2). However, in accordance with the development schedule, PrintSoft delivered a complete solution with support for PDF, TIFF, JPG and BMP formats.

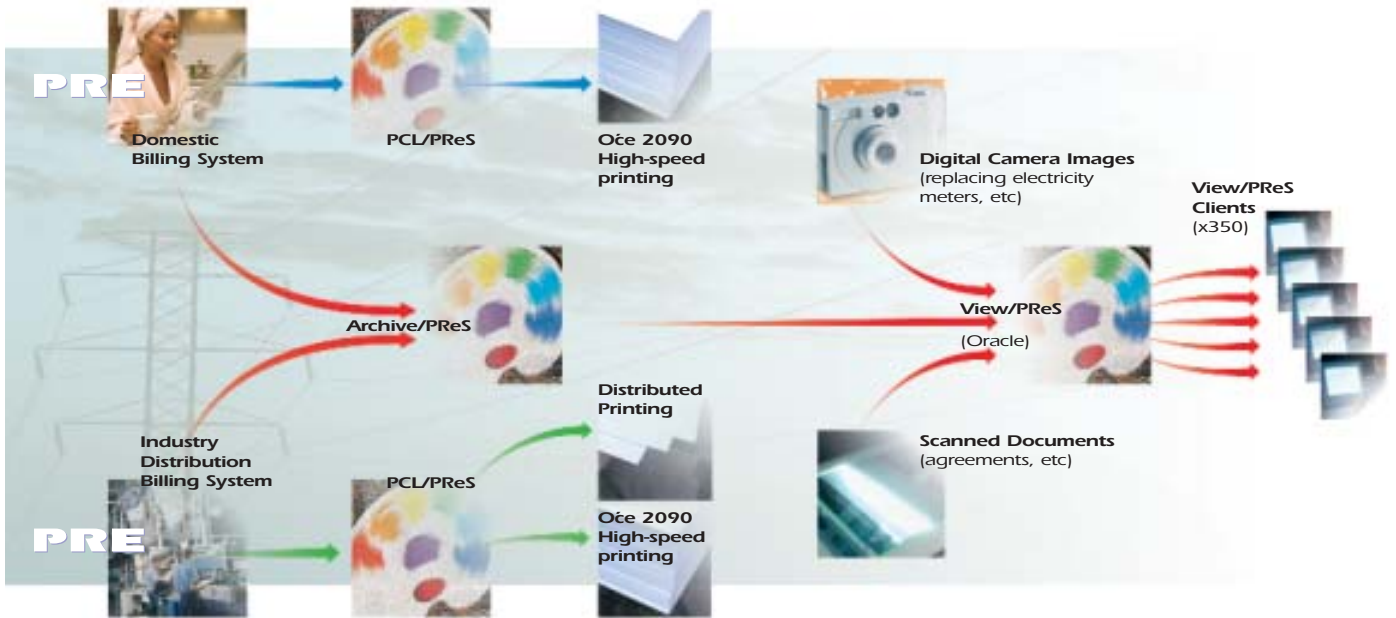
It is planned to use these for storage of scanned documents and photographic documentation which includes images produced when technicians make a photo record of meter replacement or meter damage with digital cameras.

COMPLETE SOLUTION FOR HIGH-SPEED AND LOCAL PRINTING

The use of PReS is split into two departments in PRE: General public distribution and Industrial distribution.

The Industrial distribution needs to be printed centrally by high-speed printers and locally in real time as well. The idea was that all documents generated from the billing software would be formatted by one system (PReS) for both types of output.

The billing software generates data with a description of the local printer location. PReS with scheduler is used for dynamic document generation. Local printing is done by LAN connection in PCL format. Documents are automatically stored electronically in ViewPReS (PAF/PAX or scanned format).



customer cooperation

Miroslav Hübner – IT director,
Pavel Nedvěd – integrated information system

Our cooperation with PrintSoft started in 1995 as standard business case: customer - supplier. During the time we have advanced the cooperation to the full outsourcing of developing of PReS application and maintenance support.

We cooperate in projection of

printing and electronic archiving technology and we use PrintSoft experience for building a high level of our customer care.

Because we feel that the invoicing and other mailings are one of the most important ways of communication with our customers, we demand a high

level of legibility of our documents.

In the near future we plan to change our printing and finishing technology from continuous printing to cut-sheet printing and we plan to use spot colour to reach even higher standard of our documents.