[0009] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PostScript, PS Interpreter

[0010] http://download.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/2d/printing/index.html

[0011] http://www.coralind.com/hfhtml/help/java/printer/HFHelp.htm

[0012] Printer Protocol Interpreter DGL, Programmer's Reference Manual for DGL, a Datamax DPL Printer Protocol Interpreter (2006, 2009)

Summary of Invention

Technical Problem

[0013] The present invention has been made in view of the aforementioned shortcomings. Conditions may exist that impede the usefulness or ability for a computer to be connected to a printer at any given time.

Solution to Problem

[0014] In order to solve the aforementioned problem, the present invention focuses on providing a solution to the foregoing shortcomings.

[0015] In a first aspect, there is provided a method for operating a printing device, the method comprising: providing a connection between a computing device and the printing device, wherein the printing device is configured with a software application; executing, by the computing device, instructions that configure the computing device to provide the software application on the computing device; receiving, by the computing device, at least one first input from a first user, the at least one first input being in the software application provided on the computing device; generating, by the computing device, at least one command associated with the at least one first input; and transmitting, from the computing device to the printing device, the at least one command, wherein the printing device operates in response to the at least one command substantially in the same manner as it operates in response to at least one second input received, from a second user, in the software application provided on the printing device, wherein the at least one first input in the software application on the computing device corresponds to the at least one second input in the software application on the printing device. An embodiment~~A first aspect~~ of the present invention includes a method for operating a printing device ~~is disclosed~~. A connection is provided between a computing device and the printing device, wherein the printing device is configured with a software application. Instructions are executed on the computing device, which provide the software application on the computing device. The computing device receives at least one input in the software application on the computing device, and transmits to the printing device at least one command associated with the at least one input. The printing device operates in response to the at least one command substantially in the same manner as it operates in response to at least one second input received in the software application provided on the printing device. The at least one first input in the software application on the computing device corresponds to the at least one second input in the software application on the printing device.

[0016] In a second aspect, there is provided a system for operating a printing device, the system comprising: a printing device; a software application configured with the printing device; a computing device that is communicatively coupled to the printing device, wherein the computing device is programmed and configured to: execute instructions that configure the computing device to provide the software application on the computing device; receive at least one first input from a first user, the at least one first input being in the software application provided on the computing device; generate at least one command associated with the at least one first input; and transmit to the printing device the at least one command, wherein the printing device operates in response to the at least one command substantially in the same manner as it operates in response to at least one second input received, from a second user, in the software application provided on the printing device, wherein the at least one first input in the software application on the computing device corresponds to the at least one second input in the software application on the printing device. An embodiment ~~second aspect~~ of the present invention includes a system for operating a printing device. A printing device and a software application configured with the printing device are provided. A computing device is provided that is communicatively coupled to the printing device, wherein the computing device is programmed and configured to: execute instructions that configure the computing device to provide the software application on the computing device; receive at least one first input from a first user, the at least one first input being in the software application provided on the computing device; generate at least one command associated with the at least one first input; and transmit to the printing device the at least one command. The printing device operates in response to the at least one command substantially in the same manner as it operates in response to at least one second input received, from a second user, in the software application provided on the printing device. Moreover, the at least one first input in the

software application on the computing device corresponds to the at least one second input in the software application on the printing device.

[0017] In a third aspect, there is provided a method for operating a non-application enabled printing device, the method comprising: providing a connection between a computing device and a non-application enabled printing device; executing, by the computing device, instructions that configure the computing device with an application enabled printing device software application; receiving, by the computing device, at least one first input from a first user, the at least one first input being in the application enabled printing device software application provided on the computing device; generating, by the computing device, at least one command associated with the at least one first input; and transmitting, from the computing device to the printing device, the at least one command, wherein the non- application enabled printing device operates in response to the at least one command. An embodiment ~~third aspect~~ of the present invention includes a method for operating a non-application enabled printing device. A connection between a computing device and a non-application enabled printing device is provided. Instructions are executed on the computing device that configure the computing device with an application enabled printing device software application. At least one first input is received by the computing device from a first user, the at least one first input being in the application enabled printing device software application provided on the computing device. At least one command associated with the at least one first input is generated by the computing device, and the at least one command is transmitted from the computing device to the printing device. The non- application enabled printing device operates in response to the at least one command.

[0018] In one or more embodiments, each of the computing device and the printing device is configured to communicate via a wired or wireless connection over a communication network.

[0019] In one or more embodiments, the instructions include firmware that is installed on the printing device.

[0020] In one or more embodiments, the printing device is configured with AEP capability.

[0021] In one or more embodiments, the printing device is not configured with AEP capability.

[0022] In one or more embodiments, the computing device transmits a request to connect to the printing device, the connection is provided as a function of the request.

[0023] In one or more embodiments, the computing device receives from a second computing device, software to be installed on the printing device, and the computing device transmits the software to the printing device.

[0024] In one or more embodiments, the computing device receives from the printing device an identification of the printing device, and uses the identification of the printing device to provide the software application on the computing device.

[0025] In one or other embodiments, the computing device connects to a second computing device, and transmits to the second computing device the identification, and receives from the second computing device the instructions that, when executed by the computing device, provides the software application on the computing device, as a function of the identification transmitted to the second computing device.

Advantageous Effects of Invention

[0026] The teachings herein provide a system and method for remote printer-related connectivity, including to and from an input/output device such as a keyboard, touchpad,