



#### Power Up Your Toolkit with the Zebra Printer SDK Link-OS Multiplatform SDK

Steven Si

Sr. Software Engineer



#### How do users benefit from unmatched value





#### BETTER PERFORMANCE

Enable your printers to perform at their peak for simple, effortless printing.

#### SUPERIOR MANAGEABILITY

Simplified yet powerful tools for easy remote management of any size printer deployment.

#### **EASY INTEGRATION**

Our printers integrate into your existing technology architecture — painlessly.



#### How do users benefit from unmatched value





![](_page_2_Picture_4.jpeg)

## The most intelligent printer operating system in existence

![](_page_3_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_3_Picture_2.jpeg)

Zebra's one-of-a-kind enterprise printer operating system that powers Print DNA capabilities: The ZPL standard Consistency across all models

Cloud connectivity Secure low-latency connection

Battle tested wireless Over 20 years of experience

Unicode Ready for global solutions

Extensible Link-OS has evolved to meet modern needs

![](_page_3_Picture_9.jpeg)

#### The Link-OS Printer family

ZD510-HC

![](_page_4_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_4_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_4_Picture_3.jpeg)

**ZD500R** 

**ZD421 Series** 

![](_page_4_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_4_Picture_7.jpeg)

**ZD411 Series** 

ZD611 & ZD621 Series

![](_page_4_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_4_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_4_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_4_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_4_Picture_15.jpeg)

**ZQ300 Plus Series** 

ZQ511 & ZQ521 Series

![](_page_5_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_5_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_5_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_5_Picture_3.jpeg)

**Browser Print** 

# INTEGRATE

![](_page_5_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_5_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_5_Picture_8.jpeg)

## Link-OS Multiplatform SDK

- Android, Windows, iOS, Linux
- Xamarin cross platform support
- Java, .Net, Objective C
- Extensive Source Code & Free License

#### **Benefits**

- 1. One Development toolkit for multiple OS's, printers
- 2. Frequent updates & new features
- Comes with source code, documentation 3.

![](_page_6_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_6_Picture_10.jpeg)

## Link-OS Multiplatform SDK

#### **Rich functionalities**

![](_page_7_Picture_2.jpeg)

| <b>Printer Discovery</b><br>USB, Bluetooth, BTLE<br>or Network | <b>Printer Connectivity</b><br>USB, Bluetooth, BTLE<br>Network, WebSocket | Printer Status<br>Checking<br>Errors, Warning,<br>Alerts | Wh<br>SD |
|--|---|--|----------|
| <b>Printer Conversion</b>                                      | Graphics Conversion   | <b>Template Filling</b>                                  | Wa       |
| True Type to ZPL   | PNG & BMP to ZPL  | Fill ZPL templates                                       |          |
| Font   | Graphics  | with variable data                                       |          |
| Printer Management   | Command Mode  | Simplified Pairing                                       | On       |
| Create/send  | Scriptable command  | Using the Print  |          |
| profiles/Printer OS's  | line  | Touch feature  |          |

#### **Developer Demos, Sample Code & Documentation**

Both Source Code and Compiled demo code for commonly used features Sample code for all major functions Extensive API documentation that embeds within IDE platforms

#### ere to get it K ○ <u>Link-OS<sup>™</sup> Multiplatform SDK</u>

- o Android, iOS, Xamarin
- PC (Java, .NET, .NET/Xamarin)
- $\circ$  WebServices

#### Ways to find it:

- <u>https://www.zebra.com/us/en/software/</u> printer-software/multiplatform-sdk.html
- Launchpad

#### **Online Documentation**

o http://techdocs.zebra.com/

![](_page_7_Picture_15.jpeg)

#### Link-OS SDK

The Link-OS SDK makes creating powerful printer apps simple and straightforward.

#### Android Android BTLE Xamarin IOS PC Web Services Samples

## **Printer Discovery**

#### USB, Bluetooth<sup>®</sup>, BTLE, Network

![](_page_8_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### • USB

ZDesigner Driver USB Connection
 UsbDiscoverer.getZebraDriverPrinters(discoveryandler);
 Direct USB Connection

UsbDiscoverer.getZebraUsbPrinters(discoveryandler);

#### Bluetooth

BluetoothDiscoverer.findPrinters(discoveryandler);

#### Bluetooth Low Energy

BluetoothLeDiscoverer.findPrinters(discoveryandler);

39

#### Network

NetworkDiscoverer.findPrinters(discoveryandler);

```
package test.zebra.sdk.discovery.examples;
import java.util.ArrayList;
import java.util.List;
import com.zebra.sdk.printer.discovery.DiscoveredPrinter;
import com.zebra.sdk.printer.discovery_DiscoveryException;
import com.zebra.sdk.printer.discovery.DiscoveryHandler;
import com.zebra.sdk.printer.discovery.NetworkDiscoverer;
public class NetworkDiscovererExample {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        DiscoveryHandler discoveryHandler = new DiscoveryHandler() {
            List<DiscoveredPrinter> printers = new ArrayList<DiscoveredPrinter>();
            public void foundPrinter(DiscoveredPrinter printer) {
                printers.add(printer);
            public void discovervFinished() {
                for (DiscoveredPrinter printer : printers) {
                    System.out.println(printer);
                System.out.println("Discovered " + printers.size() + " printers.");
            }
            public void discoveryError(String message) {
                System.out.println("An error occurred during discovery : " + message);
        };
        trv {
            System.out.println("Starting printer discovery.");
            NetworkDiscoverer.findPrinters(discoveryHandler);
        } catch (DiscoveryException e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
    3
```

## Printer Connection – Printing

USB, Bluetooth<sup>®</sup>, BTLE, Network

![](_page_9_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### package test.zebra.sdk.comm.examples; import com.zebra.sdk.comm.Connection; import com.zebra.sdk.comm.ConnectionException; import com.zebra.sdk.comm.TcpConnection: import com.zebra.sdk.printer.ZebraPrinter; import com.zebra.sdk.printer.ZebraPrinterFactory; import com.zebra.sdk.printer.ZebraPrinterLanguageUnknownException; public class TcpConnectionExample { public static void main(String[] args) throws Exception { new TcpConnectionExample().sendZpl0verTcp("1.2.3.4"); new TcpConnectionExample().sendCpclOverTcp("1.2.3.4"); new TcpConnectionExample().printConfigLabelUsingDnsName("PrinterName"); 3 private void sendZpl0verTcp(String theIpAddress) throws ConnectionException { // Instantiate connection for ZPL TCP port at given address Connection thePrinterConn = new TcpConnection(theIpAddress, TcpConnection.DEFAULT\_ZPL\_TCP\_PORT); try { // Open the connection - physical connection is established here. thePrinterConn.open(); // This example prints "This is a ZPL test." near the top of the label. String zplData = "^XA^F020,20^A0N,25,25^FDThis is a ZPL test.^FS^XZ"; // Send the data to printer as a byte array. thePrinterConn.write(zplData.getBytes()); } catch (ConnectionException e) { // Handle communications error here. e.printStackTrace(); } finally { // Close the connection to release resources. thePrinterConn.close();

#### • USB

#### - ZDesigner Driver USB Connection

Connection conn =

new DriverPrinterConnection(printerName);

#### Direct USB Connection

Connection conn =

new UsbConnection(usbDirectAddress);

#### Bluetooth

Connection conn =

new BluetoothConnection(btMacAddress);

#### Bluetooth Low Energy

Connection conn =

new BluetoothLeConnection(btMacAddress);

#### Network

Connection conn =

new TcpConnection(ipAddr, portNum);

## Printer Status Connection – Not for Printing

#### Bluetooth<sup>®</sup>, BTLE, Network

![](_page_10_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Bluetooth

**Connection** statusConn =

new BluetoothStatusConnection(btMacAddress);

#### Bluetooth Low Energy

Connection statusConn =

new **BluetoothLe<mark>Status</mark>Connection(btMacAddress);** 

#### Network

Connection statusConn =

new TcpStatusConnection(ipAddr,

TcpStatusConnection.DEFAULT\_STATUS\_TCP\_PORT);

#### Connection for Status & SGD (JSON) Only

| 1<br>2<br>3          | <pre>mport com.zebra.sdk.btleComm.BluetoothLeStatusConnection; mport com.zebra.sdk.comm.Connection; mport com.zebra.sdk.comm.ConnectionException;</pre>  |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|--|
| 4                    | <pre>import com.zebra.sdk.printer.SGD;</pre>   |  |  |
| 5<br>6<br>7<br>8     | <pre>mport android.app.Activity; mport android.content.Context; mport android.os.Bundle;</pre>   |  |  |
| 9<br>10<br>11        | ublic class BluetoothLeStatusConnectionExample extends Activity {  |  |  |
| 12<br>13<br>14       | <pre>protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {     super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);</pre>  |  |  |
| 15<br>16<br>17       | <pre>String theBtMacAddress = "00:11:BB:DD:55:FF";<br/>Context context = getApplicationContext();<br/>sendJSONOverStatusChannel(theBtMacAddress, context);</pre>   |  |  |
| 10<br>19             | 7  |  |  |
| 20<br>21<br>22<br>23 | <pre>private void sendJSONOverStatusChannel(final String theBtMacAddress, final Context context) {     new Thread(new Runnable() {         public void run() {             Connection thePrinterConn = null:             Connection thePrinterConnection theP</pre> |  |  |
| 24                   | try {  |  |  |
| 25<br>26<br>27       | <pre>// Instantiate a status only connection for given Bluetooth® MAC Address.<br/>thePrinterConn = new BluetoothLeStatusConnection(theBtMacAddress);</pre>  |  |  |
| 27<br>28<br>29       | <pre>// Open the connection - physical connection is established here. thePrinterConn.open();</pre>  |  |  |
| 30<br>31<br>32<br>33 | <pre>// This sends down _ISON to the status channel to retrieve the 'appl.name' setting String firmwareVersion = SGD.GET("appl.name", thePrinterConn);</pre>   |  |  |
| 33<br>34             | System.out.println("The firmware version is : " + firmwareVersion):  |  |  |
| 35<br>36             | <pre>} catch (Exception e) {     // Handle communications error here.</pre>  |  |  |
| 37                   | e.printStackTrace();   |  |  |
| 30<br>39             | // Close the connection to release resources.  |  |  |
| 40                   | if (null != thePrinterConn) {  |  |  |
| 41                   | try {  |  |  |
| 42                   | thePrinterCon.close();   |  |  |
| 43<br>44             | <pre>catch (connectionException e) {</pre>   |  |  |
| 45                   | }  |  |  |
| 46                   | }  |  |  |
| 47                   |  |  |  |
| 48<br>49             | }) start()*  |  |  |
| 50                   | }  |  |  |
| 51                   |  |  |  |

## **Multichannel Connection**

#### Status Channel and Printing Channel

#### Bluetooth

- Classic

MultichannelConnection mConn = new

MultichannelBluetoothConnection(btMacAddress);

– BTLE

MultichannelConnection mConn = new

MultichannelBluetoothLeConnection(btMacAddress);

#### Network (TCP)

MultichannelConnection mConn = new

MultichannelTcpConnection(ipAddr);

#### Network (WebSocket)

MultichannelConnection mConn = new

MultichannelRemoteConnection(uniqueId);

```
ZEBRA TECHNOLOGIES
```

```
private void runMultichannelDemo() {
   hasPrintJobFinished = false;
   final MultichannelBluetoothLeConnection multichannelConnection = new MultichannelBluetoothLeConnection(btMacAddress);
   try {
       multichannelConnection.open()
       new Thread(new Runnable() {
           public void run() {
               int statusQueryCount = 1;
               List<String> odometerSettings = Arrays.asList("odometer.total_label_count", "odometer.total_print_length");
               PrinterLanguage pl = null;
               LinkOsInformation linkOsVersion = null;
               try {
                   pl = PrinterLanguage.getLanguage(SGD.GET("device.languages", multichannelConnection));
                   linkOsVersion = new LinkOsInformation(SGD.GET("appl.link_os_version", multichannelConnection));
                } catch (Exception e1) {
                if (pl != null && linkOsVersion != null) {
                   try {
                       while (multichannelConnection.isConnected() & !hasPrintJobFinished) {
                           long startTime = System.currentTimeMillis();
                           final Map<String, String> odometerValues =
                               new SettingsValues().getValues(odometerSettings, multichannelConnection.getStatusChannel(), pl, linkOsVersion);
                           final long totalTime = System.currentTimeMillis() - startTime;
                           final int count = statusQueryCount++;
                           runOnUiThread(new Runnable() {
                              public void run() {
                                   updateGui(odometerValues, null, totalTime, count);
                   } catch (ZebraIllegalArgumentException e) {
                    } catch (ConnectionException e) {
       }).start()
       new Thread(new Runnable() {
           public void run() {
                try {
                   // Send the "^XA" to open the channel and sleep to hold the channel open while querying the
                   // Sleep for 2 seconds after sending the end of the label to let the user see the print job
                   // finish while querying the status.
                   multichannelConnection.getPrintingChannel().write(beginningOfLabel.getBytes());
                   multichannelConnection.getPrintingChannel().write(endOfLabel.getBytes());
                   hasPrintJobFinished = true:
                } catch (ConnectionException e) {
                    hasPrintJobFinished = true;
   } catch (ConnectionException e) {
       helper.showErrorDialogOnGuiThread(e.getMessage());
   } catch (Exception e) {
       helper.showErrorDialogOnGuiThread(e.getMessage());
    } finallv {
       while (!hasPrintJobFinished) {
           DemoSleeper.sleep(100);
       try {
           if (multichannelConnection != null) {
               multichannelConnection.close();
       } catch (ConnectionException e) {
           helper.showErrorDialogOnGuiThread(e.getMessage());
```

## Multichannel Connection – Cont.

**Status Channel and Printing Channel** 

![](_page_12_Picture_2.jpeg)

 SDK automatically uses the proper channel for certain API calls

#### The status channel is automatically used for

- getCurrentStatus()
- SGD.SET, SGD.GET & SGD.DO

private void nonBlockingStatusReportingOverMultichannel(String theIpAddress) throws Exception {
 try {

// Instantiate Multichannel connection for simultaneous printing and status reporting at given address
Connection mChannelPrinterConn = ConnectionBuilder.build("TCP\_MULTI:" + theIpAddress + ":9100:9200");

// Opens the connection - physical connection is established here.
mChannelPrinterConn.open();

// Creates a Link-OS printing with the given connection
ZebraPrinterLinkOs linkOsPrinter = ZebraPrinterFactory.getLinkOsPrinter(mChannelPrinterConn);

// This is sent over the printing channel (9100 by default) and will block the printing channel until the
// label format is completely sent.
String labelFormatStartCommand = "^XA";
link0sPrinter.sendCommand(labelFormatStartCommand);

String labelBody = "^F050,50^ADN,36,20^FDHello World!^FS"; linkOsPrinter.sendCommand(labelBody);

// This is sent over the status channel (9200 by default) and will return immediately even though the
// printing channel is in use.
// If a TcpConnection were used instead of a MultichannelTcpConnection, this would not be possible.
PrinterStatus status = link0sPrinter.getCurrentStatus();

System.out.println("The printer PAUSED state is : " + status.isPaused);

Thread.sleep(5000);
// Send the end of label command to finish and print the label.
String labelFormatEndCommand = "^XZ";
linkOsPrinter.sendCommand(labelFormatEndCommand);

// Close the connection to release resources.
mChannelPrinterConn.close();

} catch (ConnectionException e) {
 // Handle communications error here.
 e.printStackTrace();

![](_page_13_Picture_0.jpeg)

Zebra DevCon 2023

#### Printing Channel

**ZebraPrinter** printer =

ZebraPrinterFactory.getLinkOsPrinter(printingConn);

```
PrinterStatus status = printer.getCurrentStatus();
```

**Note**: Calling getCurrentStatus() on the printing channel might be blocked by an ongoing ZPL printing.

#### Status Channel

ZebraPrinter printer =
ZebraPrinterFactory.getLinkOsPrinter(statusConn);

PrinterStatus status = printer.getCurrentStatus();

#### Multichannel

ZebraPrinter printer =

ZebraPrinterFactory.getLinkOsPrinter(multiConn);

Or

```
ZebraPrinter printer =
```

ZebraPrinterFactory.getLinkOsPrinter(multiConn.getStatusChannel());

```
PrinterStatus status = printer.getCurrentStatus();
```

![](_page_13_Picture_17.jpeg)

## Printer Configuration

SGD (SET-GET-DO) or a File

#### SGD.SET

// Set the device.languages on the printer to ZPL
SGD.SET("device.languages", "zpl", conn);

```
// Set the media.type on the printer to label
SGD.SET("media.type", "label", conn);
```

#### SGD.GET

// Get the link\_os version from the printer
String osVersion = SGD.GET("appl.link os version", conn);

// Get the firmware version from the printer
String fwVersion = SGD.GET("appl.name", conn);

#### • SGD.DO

// Reset the printer
SGD.DO("device.reset", "", conn);

![](_page_14_Picture_10.jpeg)

#### • Configure with a file

- Put SGD configuration commands in a file.
- Send the file with the SendFileContents () API over the Printing Channel

```
Connection conn = null;
try {
    conn = discoveredPrinterUsb.getConnection();
    conn.open();
    ZebraPrinter printer = ZebraPrinterFactory.getLink0sPrinter(conn);
    PrinterLanguage pl = printer.getPrinterControlLanguage();
   // Send the config file
    printer.sendFileContents(getConfigFilePath().getAbsolutePath());
} catch (ConnectionException e) {
    setStatus(e.getMessage() + e.getLocalizedMessage(), Color.RED);
} catch (Exception e) {
   // Do nothing
} finally {
    if (conn != null) {
        try {
            conn.close():
        } catch (ConnectionException e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
```

#### Printing Label

#### **Recommended Common Workflow**

- Discover the Printer
- Open the Connection 2.
- 3. Check/Set the Language to ZPL
- Check the Printer Status
- Send the ZPL Label (or File) to the Printer 5.
- Check the Printer Status Again 6.
- **Close the Connection**

public void sendZpl0verTcp(String theIpAddress) throws ConnectionException, InterruptedException { // Instantiate connection for ZPL TCP port at given address Connection conn = new TcpConnection(theIpAddress, TcpConnection.DEFAULT ZPL TCP PORT);

ZebraPrinter printer = null;

```
trv {
```

// Open the connection - physical connection is established here. conn.open();

// Set the language to ZPL SGD.SET("device.languages", "zpl", conn);

// Get the printer instance printer = ZebraPrinterFactory.getLinkOsPrinter(conn);

```
// Check the status
if (printer.getCurrentStatus().isReadyToPrint) {
    // Print a Hello World label.
    String zplHelloWorld = "^XA^F050,50^ADN,36,20^FDHello World!^FS^XZ";
```

```
// Send the data to printer as a byte array.
conn.write(zplHelloWorld.getBytes());
```

```
} catch (ConnectionException e) {
    // Handle communications error here.
```

```
e.printStackTrace();
```

```
} finally {
```

3

}

```
// Check the printer status again
```

```
if (conn != null) {
   PrinterStatus status = printer.getCurrentStatus();
    while (status.isReceiveBufferFull ||
```

```
status.isPartialFormatInProgress ||
status.numberOfFormatsInReceiveBuffer != 0) {
```

```
Thread.sleep(200);
status = printer.getCurrentStatus();
```

// Close the connection to release resources. conn\_close();

![](_page_16_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Link-OS Multiplatform SDK
  - https://www.zebra.com/us/en/support-downloads/printer-software/link-os-multiplatform-sdk.html
- Online Documentation
  - <u>https://techdocs.zebra.com/link-os/</u>
- Samples on GitHub
  - Android Samples: <u>https://github.com/ZebraDevs/LinkOS-Android-Samples</u>
  - iOS Samples: <u>https://github.com/ZebraDevs/LinkOS-iOS-Samples</u>
  - Other Samples: <u>https://github.com/ZebraDevs/Zebra-Printer-Samples</u>

# Questions

18

![](_page_18_Picture_0.jpeg)

## Thank You

ZEBRA and the stylized Zebra head are trademarks of Zebra Technologies Corp., registered in many jurisdictions worldwide. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. ©2023 Zebra Technologies Corp. and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

![](_page_18_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_4.jpeg)