

# Using PrintMulti for the ZUGFeRDComposer

---

New: Generate [EPC QR codes \(Girocodes\)](#) with a Powershell script and [Zint](#) or with a Python script and the [segno](#) module.

Further down in this document, you will find a [section](#) on this topic.

## Advantages

When printing to a virtual PrintMulti printer (in the example, 'XRechnung'), PrintMulti takes care of all the necessary tasks for generating the digital invoice

- Generating a PDF file with a PDF printer, e.g. PDF Architect ('Microsoft Print to PDF' does not generate PDF/A documents)
- Filtering the texts from the printer data stream
- Invoke the composer, if necessary with customized output paths that may contain user, computer name, etc.

Further possibilities

- If necessary, further processing of the generated invoice such as sending to Peppol, sending by email, etc.
- Further standard PrintMulti features such as physical printing on several printers, e.g. from different trays, can be combined.
- **PrintMulti is available free of charge on client operating systems.** (A license is required on servers)

## Disadvantages

PrintMulti is not easy to configure.

Saving to network drives often causes problems due to the dubious rights that a print processor in Windows receives. If you experience any problems, please refer to the [Quick Guide/Troubleshooting document](#).

## Installation...

---

is only briefly described here.

Please take a look at

- [Quickguide/TroubleShooting document](#)
- [Manual](#)

The steps are.

1. Install the latest version of PrintMulti from the [download page](#)
2. Install a suitable version 3 printer e.g. the HP Color LaserJet 8550 PCL from [HP drivers](#).  
As port, select a fixed file port as described in the installation documents.

3. Assign **PrintMulti** as print processor in the advanced settings of the printer (ideally, you should still keep the print jobs after printing. In this case, you can use **SPLViewer** to see graphically what has been printed).
4. Install a PDF printer. In the example, **PDF Architect 9** is used. We used the free version. You can also use **Microsoft Print To PDF** for testing purposes. However, this cannot generate PDF/A. You have to replace the corresponding place in **PrintMulti\_XRechnung.ini**.
5. PrintMulti is configured using ini files. It is possible to use a separate configuration file for each PrintMulti printer. The link is defined in the registry.  
In the file **PrintMulti\PrintMulti\_XRechnung.ini** everything is already set up so that you can get started right away with the just installed printer **XRechnung** and the installation of the files in the folder **C:\ZUGFeRDComposer**.  
In order for the configuration file to be used, the registry file 'UseThisConfigurationForXRechnungPrinter.reg' still has to be executed so that the link is written to the registry. PrintMulti should now be ready for use and you can print one of the Word or LibreOffice examples on the **XRechnung** printer and you should then find a PDF and an XML file in the subdirectory **C:\ZUGFeRDComposer\XRechnung**.

## Girocode with PrintMulti

---

The **PrintMulti\_XRechnung.ini** file already contains almost everything (and many comments) you need to generate the code and embed it in the generated PDF.

In the **Girocode** subdirectory, you will find two scripts, one for **Powershell** and one for **Python**.

**We accept no liability if incorrect codes are generated!**

The procedure is the same for both options:

1. The name of a PNG file is generated, which will later contain the QR code.
2. In the 'ExecuteSectionCreateGiroCode' section, the necessary text is extracted from the invoice text using regular expressions and transferred to the corresponding script together with the file name from point 1.
3. If all the transferred data complies with the regulations, the transferred file contains the corresponding code.
4. Log files are generated in the directory **C:\ProgramData\PrintMulti\Log**. You can prevent this by removing the output redirects at the end of the active **ExecuteCmd**.
5. The content of the file is now embedded in the output. This can be a PDF or a physical printer. This happens in **ObjectQRImage**. Here, you may need to adjust the position and size.
6. The digital invoice is generated with the ZUGFeRD Composer.
7. Temporary files are deleted again if the corresponding sections are active.

In addition to the PrintMulti installation, the following must also be done:

For both methods:

1. The following constant in `PrintMulti_XRechnung.ini` must be set to 1  
`!CreateGiroCode=1`
2. Exactly one of the three `ExecuteCmd` commands in the `ExecuteSectionCreateGiroCode` section may be active.  
`ExecuteCmd=powerShell.exe ...`  
`;ExecuteCmd="%PythonPath%" ...`  
`;ExecuteCmd=py ...`

For the Powershell option:

1. Extract `Zint` and adjust the path in the Powershell script if `zint.exe` is not located in `C:\Tools\Zint\zint.exe`.
2. As indicated in the INI, the virus scanner may be triggered. For example, Windows Defender did not like the fact that a PowerShell script was called from a spooler process. As a result, the spooler process was terminated without further ado. You may need to add an exception. In addition, as with all PowerShell calls, you must take care of the ExecutionPolicy.

For the Python option:

1. You must install Python, including the `segno` module, both as **administrator and for all users**.
2. If the Python launcher `py.exe` is installed, just activate the corresponding command.  
**If not**, you must configure the path to Python.exe in the ini file, e.g. `!PythonPath=C:\Program Files\Python314\python.exe`

## Note

You could also use PrintMulti without digital invoice printing. The extracted account details are usually fixed, and only the amount to be transferred in a fixed format and the reference or purpose are dynamic. Whether the two pieces of data can be extracted from your invoice form using regular expressions depends very much on the form itself. Since PrintMulti outputs all recognised text in a single line without spaces, this should work in most cases. Please also read the comments in `PrintMulti_XRechnung.ini`.

## Troubleshooting

---

If something is not working, open the file

`C:\ProgramData\PrintMulti\Log\DbgLog.csv`

If it does not exist, the configuration file was not found or the printer was assigned the wrong print processor.  
If it exists, search for **Error** entries.

If something goes wrong with the Composer, consult the file

`C:\ProgramData\ZUGFeRDComposer\ZUGFeRDComposer.log`

If one of the scripts fails, examine the log files in

`C:\ProgramData\PrintMulti\Log` Good luck

