

PrinterSetup

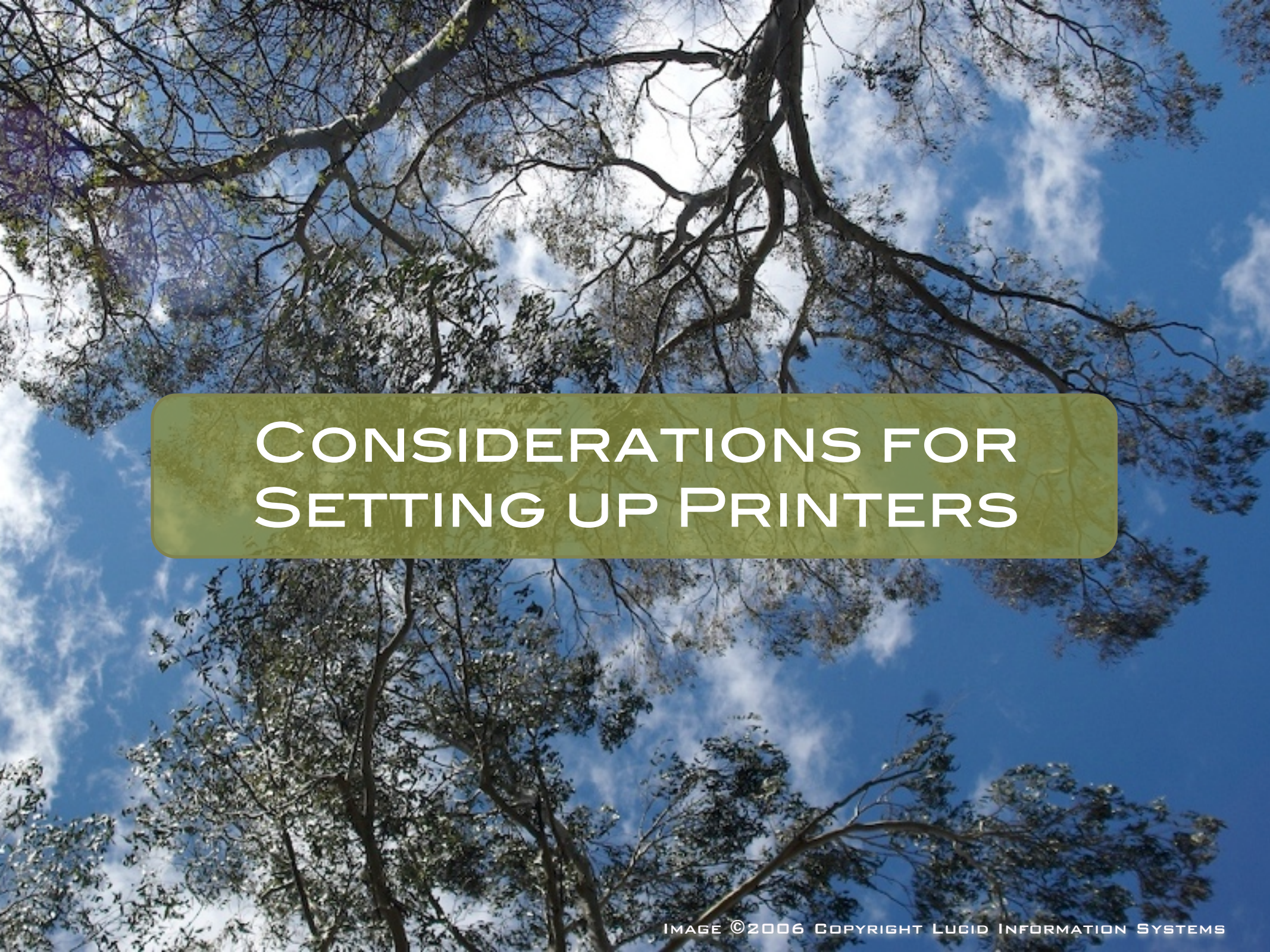
open-source printer setup system

A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of several trees with green foliage and dark trunks, set against a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The perspective creates a sense of height and growth.

WHAT IS PRINTER SETUP?

What is Printer Setup

- Automates the setup of printer queues.
- Designed to save systems administrators time.
- Is in an early stage of development.
- An open source system released under the GNU GPL, allowing you to freely customize the system so that it meets your requirements.



CONSIDERATIONS FOR SETTING UP PRINTERS

Considerations for Setting up Printers

- Each workstation will probably require multiple print queues.
- Workstations may be moved from one location to another.
- Printers, print-queues and workstations change.

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PRINTER SETUP OPTIONS

Possible Printer Setup Methods on Mac OS X

A few options for the setup of print queues

- Manual Setup of Printers
- Work Group Manager
- Setup Printers on Image
- PrinterSetup
- Radmind
- Build Your Own System

Pros and Cons of Solutions

- Manual Printers Setup

Con	Pro
Setup can be tedious on a number of machines.	Flexible.
Changes can be extremely time consuming.	Easy to Implement.

Pros and Cons of Solutions

- Setup Printers on Image

Con	Pro
Slow to implement changes.	Flexible, easy to implement.
Multiple Images may complicate updates.	Management is centralized.

Pros and Cons of Solutions

- Radmind

Con	Pro
Similar workstations each require a separate command file, even if the only difference is the printer configuration	Works quite well, and is flexible
Changing one printer may require extensive changes to many load-sets	Changes are able to be quickly deployed. Machine probably just needs to be rebooted.

Pros and Cons of Solutions

- **Work Group Manager**

Con	Pro
Using both the location and the user to configure the printers is not possible.	Easy to Deploy.
Currently PPD's are only supported via OpenDirectory (10.4 Server and 10.4 Client).	Changes can be quickly deployed (Modifications are applied at login).
Moving workstations between rooms can be time consuming.	Centralized Location for Print Queue Management.

Pros and Cons of Solutions

- **PrinterSetup**

Con	Pro
Initial deployment is more complex than other solutions	Provides great flexibility
Project is in infancy, and this provides perhaps too much flexibility.	Changes can be quickly deployed (Modifications are applied immediately)

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FINDING A SOLUTION

Which Printer Setup System to Use?

Will depend on your requirements and constraints.

- Time you have available to deploy solution.
- Time available to maintain the system.
- Importance of the systems flexibility.

Why Some People Like PrinterSetup

- Print queues are easily altered.
- Simple changes such as new PPD's, or a queue name change are quickly and easily deployed.
- PrinterSetup is open source. You can configure and change it as required.

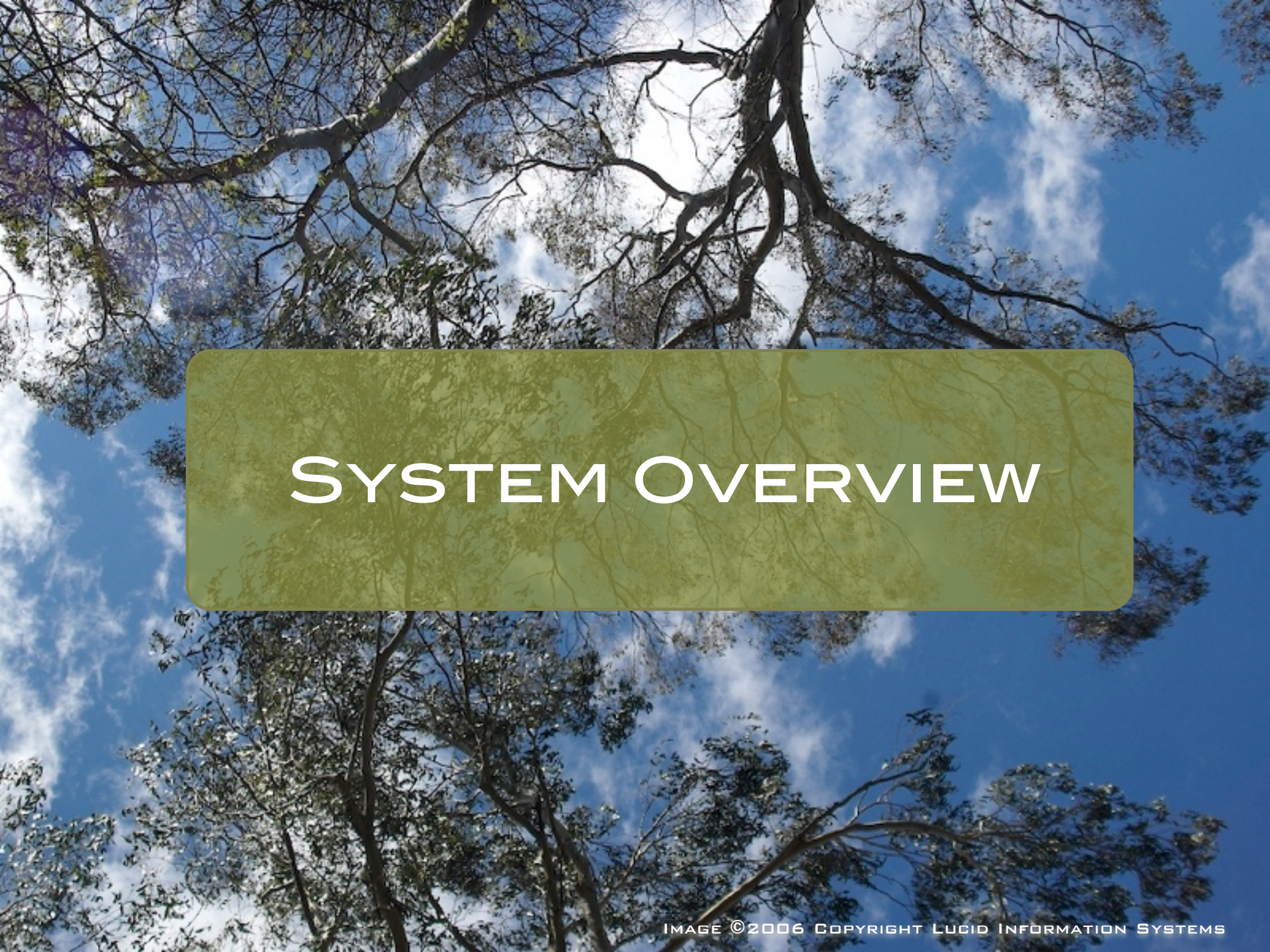
Why Some People Don't Like PrintSetup

- Requires you to use the terminal.
- Some people prefer to directly edit the cups configuration files.
- Still under development (edges are rough).

Think Big!

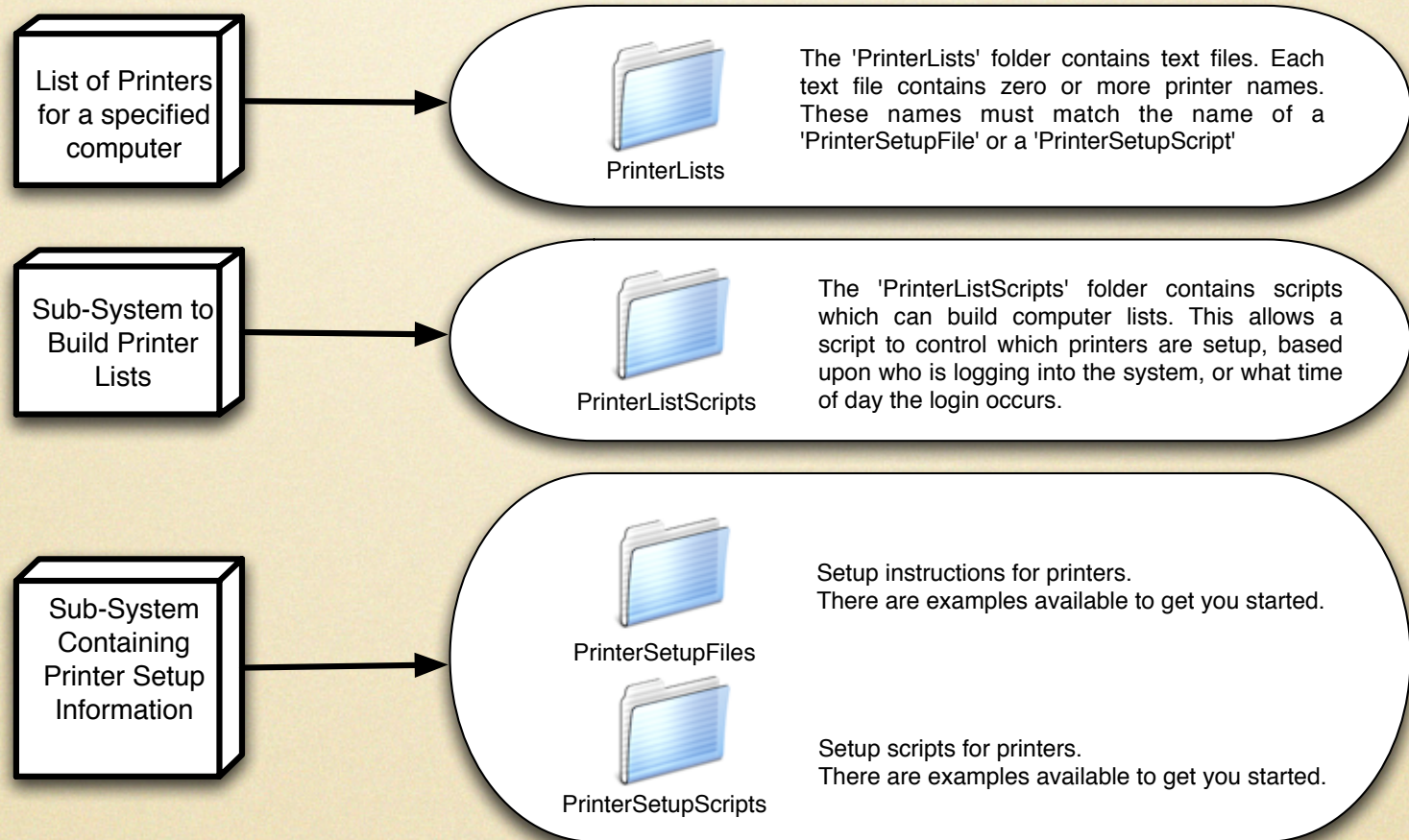
When deploying printers you need to keep the big picture in mind. Invest time now to save time later.

- System images will change and you will have to setup the printers again.
- Printers may move between rooms, or a bunch of computers may need to be moved, this means work.
- Being able to easily deal with change is important!

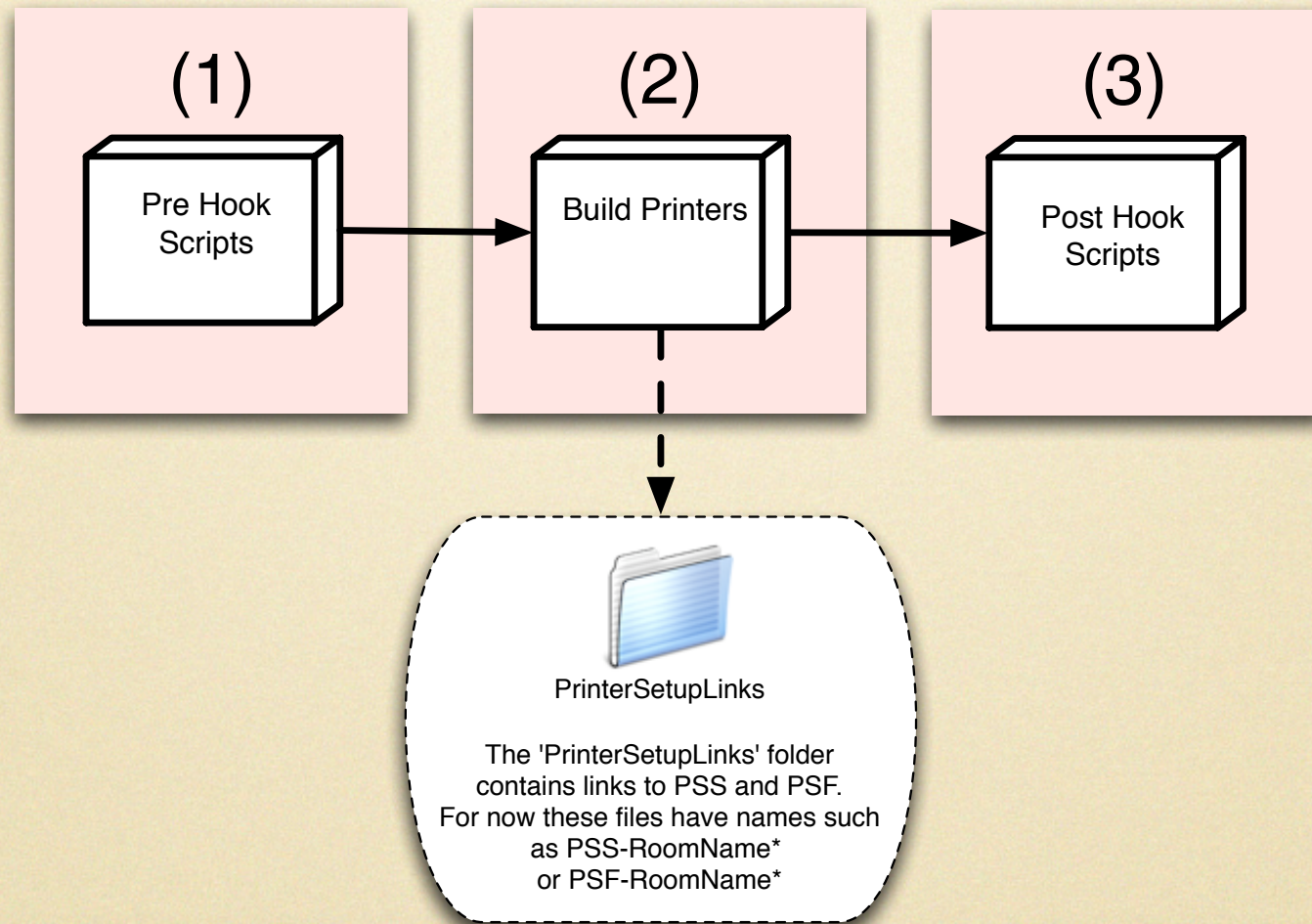
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SYSTEM OVERVIEW

System Overview



Component Execution Order



PrinterSetup

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