

# Newsflash – July 14, 2008

**3-Heights™ Product Family Version 1.70 released**  
**Direct .NET interoperability for all 3-Heights™ products**  
**ISO 32000 (PDF 1.7, "ISO PDF") standard published**

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## 3-Heights™ Version 1.70 Official Release

PDF Tools AG has officially released version 1.70 of the 3-Heights™ product family. Our world-leading suite of PDF processing tools has been upgraded with several new features, making our products even more usable and attractive. One of the major improvements of this release is the direct .NET interoperability for all API products (see next chapter).

### New Products

**The 3-Heights™ Document Converter Service is presented in its first final version.** This new product automatically converts various office document formats and images to PDF and PDF/A. A groundbreaking novelty is the **conversion of E-Mails including their attachments to PDF and PDF/A**. The Document Converter Service can be accessed in several ways: from the command line, by scripting, with hot folders or through an API. *Please have a look at the [product web page](#) for more information.*

**The first final version of our 3-Heights™ Java Document Viewer has been released.** This powerful and flexible component enables DMS and ECM systems for example to view, print and rasterize various document and image formats (PDF, TIFF, JPEG, BMP, JB2, JP2, JPX, PNG, GIF) and ASCII text. The support of XPS and other additional formats will be added in later versions. The Java Document Viewer is probably one of the first viewers on the market to support multi-page TIFF and many other PDF features described in the new ISO 32000 standard (see below), including Chinese, Japanese, Korean (CJK) fonts, patterns, shading, and transparency. *Check out the [product web page](#) for more details.*

### New Features

- **Enhancements to all 3-Heights™ products:** Major improvements have been made in various fields such as digital signatures, text encoding/decoding, font handling, color spaces, image format support, streamed objects and memory consumption.
- **3-Heights™ PDF Security Tool:** A new "signature" interface has been created. It allows the adding and enumerating of signatures in a document and the accessing of their properties.

*For a detailed description of all improvements, enhancements and new products covered in version 1.70 please refer to the [Release Notes](#) on our website.*

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## **Direct .NET interoperability for all 3-Heights products**

The 3-Heights™ product family is based on a kernel written in C++, for portability and performance reasons. All our API's, shell tools and services refer to this kernel. Each API supports a set of interface technologies: native C and Java JNI (all platforms) and COM (Windows platforms). The interoperability with .NET applications written in Visual Basic .NET or C# have so far been provided through a mechanism called COM interoperability.

### **New: Enhanced .NET interoperability**

From version 1.7.1.1 on, our 3-Heights™ API products support direct .NET interoperability providing an interface wrapper which can be directly accessed by .NET managed applications. This new technology offers a few advantages compared to the older concept:

- The technology can be used with ALL .NET languages: C#, Visual Basic .NET, Managed Extensions for C++
- Much better performance
- No need to register DLLs (which is still required by COM applications)
- Different versions of the same API product can now be installed on the same computer.

*You can find more detailed information on how this works and what is delivered with the SDK's and RTK's in the [Release Notes](#).*

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## **ISO 32000 (PDF 1.7, "ISO PDF") standard published**

On July 2, 2008, the ISO officially published the ISO 32000-1:2008 "Document management -- Portable document format -- Part 1: PDF 1.7" standard. This means, that the previous "proprietary" PDF specification developed by Adobe Systems is now publicly available in full detail, and ISO approved. **This gives the PDF format an even more important role** as the major format for digital documents ([ISO Press Release](#)).

PDF Tools AG, as the Swiss representatives in the ISO committee (TC 171), contributed 19 comments to the standard, which was the third largest contribution after the USA (125) and France (37), and followed by the U.K. (13) and Germany (11).

Our CEO, Dr. Hans Bärffuss, is convinced that "These changes make the handling and usage of PDF much easier for millions of users, worldwide". Unfortunately, it is hard to distinguish a standard compliant high quality PDF document from one with very poor quality. "The Adobe Acrobat reader will open almost any bundle of bytes that claims to be a PDF file", mentioned an industry expert lately. Nevertheless a low-quality PDF document can cause an unrecoverable loss of business critical data – and might become a nightmare to IT managers.

**As a PDF Tools AG customer you can benefit from the most reliable PDF generation and manipulation available on the market**, thanks to more than 15 years of PDF experience and months spent by our developers to comply with the standards, both for the PDF 1.7 and PDF/A generation. The results of this hard work are demonstrated in the newest release 1.70 of our 3-Heights™ products.

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