

pdf-tools.com releases version 1.70 of the 3-Heights products - new direct .NET interoperability

July 14, 2008 (Winkel/CH) – PDF Tools AG (www.pdf-tools.com) has officially released version 1.70 of the 3-Heights products for PDF processing. One of the major improvements is the new direct .NET interoperability for all API products. Several other new features have been added to all the products. Also, two products are presented in a final version: The 3-Heights Document Converter Service and the 3-Heights Java Document Viewer, which supports many PDF features described in the new ISO 32000 (PDF 1.7) standard, published by the ISO at the beginning of July. PDF Tools AG – as Swiss representative in the ISO committee – made important contributions to this new standard.

Direct .NET interoperability

From version 1.7.1.1 on, the 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 of COM interoperability. The technology can be used with all .NET languages (C#, Visual Basic .NET, Managed Extensions for C++), the performance is much better, there is no need to register DLL's anymore and different versions of the same API product can be run on a single computer.

First final version of the 3-Heights Document Converter Service

This new product will be officially launched in Europe at the DMS Expo 2008 in Cologne. It automatically converts various office document formats and images to PDF and PDF/A. The product also offers – as a groundbreaking novelty – the conversion of e-mails including attachments directly to PDF and PDF/A. The versatile Document Converter Service can be accessed from the command line, by scripting, with hot folders or through an API.

The 3-Heights™ Java Document Viewer - also released as a first final version - is a powerful and flexible component that 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. This viewer is 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, including Chinese, Japanese and Korean (CJK) fonts, patterns, shading and transparency. Improvements have been made to all 3-Heights products in various fields such as digital signatures, text encoding/decoding, font handling, color spaces, image format support, streamed objects and memory consumption.

Major contributions to the new ISO 32000 standard

After the USA and France, PDF Tools AG – as Swiss representative in the ISO committee – contributed the 3rd largest amount of comments to the standard (19), followed by the U.K. (13) and Germany (11). Dr. Hans Bärffuss, CEO of PDF Tools AG was satisfied that all these comments were accepted by the committee, "...making the handling and usage of PDF much easier for millions of users worldwide". The publication of the standard strengthens the position of PDF as the major format for digital documents. All previous "proprietary" specifications developed by Adobe Systems are now publicly available in full detail and ISO approved. The official name of the standard is "ISO 32000-1:2008; Document management -- Portable document format -- Part 1: PDF 1.7".

About PDF Tools

PDF Tools AG's team started developing PDF software together back in 1993. Founded as an independent company in 2002, PDF Tools AG today is a world leader in PDF programming and processing technology for customers in all market segments.

PDF Tools AG provides server-based software products designed specifically for developers, integrators, contractors, consultants, customizing specialists and IT-departments. Thousands of companies worldwide use the products directly and hundreds of thousands of users benefit from the technology indirectly via a global network of OEM partners. The tools can be easily embedded into applications.

Dr. Hans Bärffuss, CEO of PDF Tools AG, is an internationally acclaimed expert in PDF programming technology. He is Switzerland's representative in the ISO TC 171 working group for PDF/A (ISO 19005) and PDF 1.7 (ISO 32000). He is also vice president of the PDF/A Competence Center, which has been co-founded by PDF Tools AG.

The head office of PDF Tools AG is in Switzerland near Zurich, where the Software Development and European Sales Teams are located. A sales office in western Canada supports customers from the American and Pacific region. All products can be purchased directly on the internet (<http://www.pdf-tools.com/>) and free evaluation licenses are available online.

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