

Adobe® PDF Library SDK



Overview

The Adobe PDF Library software development kit (SDK), fully compatible with Acrobat DC, is a low-level library that contains a powerful set of C/C++ APIs. It allows the robust and proven functionality of Adobe PDF to be embedded within custom software such as print publishing and other projects and processes that require rich documents. Systems integrators, independent software vendors (ISVs), enterprise IT developers, and others can leverage the core capabilities of the Adobe Acrobat® line of products to develop low-cost, robust, and supported solutions.

The flexibility of the Adobe PDF Library allows developers to tightly embed Adobe PDF functionality within client and/or server solutions. The library also provides a consistent, reliable, accurate, and supported implementation of the latest Adobe PDF specification.

Support for Acrobat and Adobe PDF

The Adobe PDF Library SDK supports the version of PDF generated in Acrobat DC software. Guaranteed to remain current, the Adobe PDF Library helps save time and money by allowing developers to focus on building business solutions rather than acquiring a deep understanding of the PDF specification. Because the library is fully Adobe PDF compliant, applications based on Adobe PDF Library technology are compatible with Adobe Acrobat, Reader®, and LiveCycle® ES software. PDF 1.7 and 2.0 support allows PDF files of virtually any size to be created with the PDF Library.

Enabling complex workflow processes

The Adobe PDF Library facilitates complex publishing and document workflows, enabling embedded PDF solutions. Available on a broad range of platforms, it is ideal for embedding Adobe PDF capabilities into server applications that require high-performance Adobe PDF processing. Using the Adobe PDF Library, your applications can dynamically generate, manipulate, access, and print Adobe PDF documents in multi-threaded server environments. Adobe PDF documents can be created or processed using application-specific data from within server applications, allowing your solutions to leverage back-end processes while more securely reaching out to customers and partners.

The Adobe PDF Library is an excellent choice for high-volume, scalable solution areas such as document management, knowledge management, prepress workflows, document archival, business reporting, electronic statements, paper-to-digital conversions, content management, content extraction, indexing, and searching.

Adobe PDF—universal format for electronic document exchange

With a track record of more than 20 years, Adobe PDF is the standard for more secure and reliable distribution and exchange of electronic documents and forms around the world. It is a universal file format that preserves the fonts, images, graphics, and layout of any source document, regardless of the application and platform used to create it. Adobe PDF files are compact and complete and can be shared, viewed, and printed by anyone with free and ubiquitous Adobe Reader. With over 1 billion downloads, Adobe Reader is the global standard for reliably viewing, printing, and commenting on PDF documents. Any PDF document created with the Adobe PDF Library can be exchanged, enabling business, engineering, and creative professionals to participate in collaborative, business-to-business integrations that improve productivity and help lower costs. The PDF Library can allow applications to control the print stream, providing rich integration and preserving rich content. See www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/adobe.pdf.html for more information on Adobe PDF technology.

Adobe PDF Library SDK benefits

- Exceptional quality and reliability of proven Adobe PDF technology
- Ability to create PDF files of virtually any size on both desktop and server environments
- Compliance with the latest Adobe PDF specification
- Interoperability with Adobe products
- Consistent support on a broad range of platforms
- High-performance, scalable and optimized PDF processing
- Supports PDF 2.0 features, New Era Characters and UTF-8 Character Encoding
- Mac Builds are BAST v3 signed following Apple Notarization Guidelines
- ICU libraries upgraded to the latest version i.e. 64.2

Multiplatform support

The Adobe PDF Library is supported across the following platforms:

- Microsoft® Windows® (32 bit and 64 bit)
- Mac OS (64 bit)
- Linux® (64 bit)

OEM partner solutions

As a leader in publishing technologies, Adobe has built an extensive network of original equipment manufacturer (OEM) partners.

Licensing the PDF Library

The Adobe PDF Library is available from Adobe and the following Adobe partners:

- For CAD customers, from Tech Soft 3D, www.techsoft3d.com
- In Japan, from EAST, www.est.co.jp
- In North America, Europe, and the rest of the world, from Datalogics, Inc., www.datalogics.com

Functionality

The Adobe PDF Library uses the same core PDF technology upon which Acrobat is built. Therefore, it provides programmatic access to most of the functionality included in Acrobat. The Adobe PDF Library operates efficiently on multiple-CPU systems in a thread-safe manner, with excellent memory management. It also provides an in-memory file system to boost the performance of high-volume PDF processing applications.

Availability

The Adobe PDF Library is available to OEMs, ISVs, systems integrators, and enterprise IT customers and partners through a license agreement. Major revisions of the PDF Library are synchronized with major releases of Acrobat and Adobe PDF. The Adobe PDF Library is available to customers predominantly through our channel partners: Tech Soft 3D for CAD customers (www.techsoft3d.com), EAST in Japan (www.est.co.jp), and Datalogics throughout the rest of the world (www.datalogics.com).

Support and maintenance

Full developer support is available for all PDF Library licensees. Adobe PDF Library maintenance updates are released on a regular basis and are available to all current licensees under a maintenance plan.

Adobe PDF Library SDK Features

Features	Description
Create	Dynamically generate Adobe PDF files of over 200 by 200 inches and 2GB in size from a wide range of sources.
Edit	Control parsing and manipulation of content in Adobe PDF files.
Assemble documents	Insert, delete, and extract pages from an Adobe PDF file. Merge several Adobe PDF files into a single file.
Use fonts	Embed and subset fonts for reliable viewing and printing. Supports a wide range of Unicode and double-byte fonts, including Arabic, Chinese, Cyrillic, Hebrew, Japanese, and Korean.
Implement prepress workflows	Enable prepress workflows using Adobe PDF that support color management, transparency flattening, color separation, and querying about permissions for font embedding.
Print	Utilize server-based, high-volume printing and variable data printing.
View and render	Render high-performance Adobe PDF pages.
Linearize and optimize	Create Adobe PDF files for delivery via the web.
Compress	Create compact Adobe PDF files. Supports JPEG2000, CCITT, LZW, Flate, and JBIG2.
Provide security features	Password-protect PDF files to restrict viewing, printing, and editing, Support Unicode Passwords
Extract content	Extract text, metadata, images, and graphics from Adobe PDF files.
Search and index	Create indexes of Adobe PDF files. Supports a wide variety of languages, including Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Japanese, and Korean.
Provide layers	Enable the creation of optional layers for selective viewing of contents.
Convert to PDF/A	Use the PDFProcessor plug-in to convert an existing PDF into a PDF/A-1a and PDF/A-1b compliant file.
Convert to PDF/X	Use the PDFProcessor plug-in to convert an existing PDF into a PDF/X-1a and PDF/X3 compliant file.



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