

# IMPACT

Intelligent Management, Printing, Archiving, Composition & Translation

E-Newsletter from SolimarSystems.com

## Focus on PDF

by Matt Murphy

Adobe's Portable Document Format, PDF, is one of the most widely used data formats for storing and displaying data. PDF has exploded in popularity during the last decade because of its platform independence, high document fidelity, flexibility, and usefulness. Adobe's support for PDF has been underpinned by the distribution of millions of free copies of the Acrobat Reader. **Bringing the power of PDF to the corporate data center, the Solimar Print/Director System NT provides strong support for PDF by making production and indexing of PDF files fast and easy.**

There are many demands driving the need for PDF in the corporate data center. Some of these demands include archiving, reprinting, and proofing documents, as well as distributing documents electronically by email or browser. By offering clients digital renditions of print data, service bureaus have found PDF to be a strong secondary revenue stream and a compelling customer satisfaction service. Insurance companies and securities firms use PDF to streamline and improve

customer service. **Statement and bill presentment systems leverage PDF to deliver documents at light speed rather than through the postal system.**

As a robust production print server, the Solimar Print/Director accepts data from mainframes, AS/400s, TCPIP networks and many

other host computers. As data is passed through or converted for printing on production and distributed printers, the Solimar server will automatically create compact, indexed PDF files of the print data at thousands of pages per minute. This process eliminates the need for manual scanning of hard copy.

Adapting readily to the varied demands of the corporate data center, **the Solimar Print/Director creates compact, accurate PDF files.** Moreover, the program has numerous features to cover a range of client requirements.

For accuracy, Print/Director creates Type 3 fonts automatically when converting PCL or Xerox documents to PDF. These bitmapped fonts provide an exact rendition of the original output. For some clients who prefer outline fonts for the slightly better display and processing performance of Adobe Acrobat, Print/Director also supports the mapping of fonts to Type 1 fonts which can be embedded or referenced from the fonts resident in the viewer. When an exact document reproduction is needed, Type 3 fonts are the best choice; however, if some setup work is ok and a very slight loss of fidelity is acceptable, then Type 1 fonts will look better on the screen and pages will display faster. In addition, documents containing Type 1 fonts can be smaller if PDF size is critical.

**A special capability of the Solimar Print/Director is its ability to simulate pre-printed color form stock within a PDF file.** Such paper is commonly used in invoicing applications. In fact, the program is able to simulate



## Focus on PDF (continued)

multiple pages of pre-printed stock and to image them on the appropriate pages by processing feed drawer selection commands in the print datastream. Static backsides of the pre-printed stock can also be simulated, even when the application prints as a simplex document. Not only does this capability provide the recipient with a document that looks like the original printed page, but it also shortens preproduction proofing and approval cycles.

**Beyond converting and creating accurate PDF documents at production speeds, Solimar Systems also provides PDF indexing tools.** The SOLindexer suite of products enable end-users to manage and locate information within PDF documents quickly. These products are plug-ins for Acrobat and Acrobat Reader. Achieving superior response compared to a full text search tool, a client uses SOLindexer to display search results in a split second from indexed fields like a name or account number. The plug-ins allow sub-documents to be extracted and printed in convenient ways. In fact, they allow pages beyond 65,536 in a document to be printed, which Acrobat is unable to do directly. For integration with archive systems, these same plug-ins can create an external index file containing the indexed information and pointers back to the PDF document and

page numbers where the search result information is located. **This allows an archiving system to track records that span multiple PDF files.**

With the increasing popularity of PDF format and the requirements of companies to manage large volumes of electronic data, Solimar Systems is continually developing new products and features to meet and exceed the needs of our customers.

Contact the Solimar sales team to discuss how PDF technology can enhance your production environment.

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