



- Questions
- Tags
- Users
- Badges
- Unanswered
- Ask Question

Stack Overflow is a question and answer site for professional and enthusiast programmers. It's 100% free, no registration required.

Take the 2-minute tour



PDF conversion service



asked 5 years ago

viewed 462 times

active 2 years ago



2

I need to develop a service able to convert MS Office and Open Office documents to PDF. And the PDF's also need to be commentable when opened in ADOBE Reader.



I have used a piece of software from www.neevia.com. And it does the conversion, but is not able to make the PDF's commentable and is therefore useless in my scenario.



1

Ideally I would like a piece of software that is monitoring a directory, and when a file is committed to that directory, the software detects this, fetches the file, converts it, and puts it in another directory. This way I can programmatically put the file I want converted in the IN folder and monitor the OUT folder to fetch the file when converted.

So do anyone know a piece of software capable of converting MS Office and Open Office files to commentable PDF's?

- pdf
- service
- ms-office
- openoffice.org
- file-conversion

share improve this question

edited Nov 12 '09 at 21:22

asked Nov 6 '09 at 13:36

Related

- 5 [Generate ODT/DOC\(X\) and convert to PDF, without OO.o/MS](#)
- 2 [pdf to ebook conversion](#)
- 2 [Blacklining of pdf files](#)
- 1 [Server side library for conversion of office files to pdf with added stamp/watermark](#)
- 8 [What is a good option for converting Office Documents to PDF or Image](#)



Martin Beckett

64.2k 10 117 201



Thelmdal

43 6

add a comment

6 Answers

active oldest votes



2

It sounds like you're after the "Extend Features In Acrobat Reader" document rights feature that's part of Acrobat Professional. If you want a programmatic way of doing it then Adobe LiveCycle is the only game in town. This is one of the features that Adobe keeps for itself and no third party is legally allowed to provide it.



share improve this answer



add a comment

answered Nov 6 '09 at 22:51



yu-chen-pdfonline-com

116 2



1

You could programmatically, using office automation, print documents to a postscript printer driver to get a postscript file, then use GhostScript to convert the PS file to PDF. Not sure of the commentable features supported by Adobe Reader as opposed to the full version of Acrobat, but it should create a reasonably well supported PDF file.



share improve this answer

add a comment

answered Nov 6 '09 at 13:41



Mark Redman

11.6k 13 44 98

-1 From MS Office to PDF

0 How to get rid of the white background of MS Visio files by PDF-Conversion?

-1 How to convert a MS Office DOC/XLS/PPT & PDF to image on Android

1 Automate Word/Powerpoint to PDF

0 How can I convert old xif image files (Pagis, Xerox) to PDF (or another format.)

Hot Network Questions

- Distributive property on fractions
- What is available to mitigate the damage of physical blows?
- How to fill the space outside of an image after rotating it
- Are older mathematics textbooks still "valid"?
- Is the size of the genome across species roughly the same?
- Prime Nerd Sniping Pattern
- Could a human engineer comprehend alien electronics?
- Which symmetric cipher is best for studying?
- When should I pass or return a struct by value?
- Predicting the products of radical chlorination of alkanes
- Windows NT after Windows 9x
- [href overlapping following text](#)



A-PDF may do what you want, it's web site claims it can convert office docs into PDF including batch



conversion with watching a folder.

share improve this answer

answered Nov 6 '09 at 13:58



Ian Ringrose

21.6k 21 141 236

add a comment



Both Office 2007 and OpenOffice can save directly to PDF, so you could automate that process.

However, changing the "document rights" of the PDF to allow commenting is something that only Adobe Acrobat can do. (This is Adobe's way of selling more product). There are other 3rd-party tools out there that claim to be able to do it (google change pdf +"document rights"), but I can't vouch for any of them.

share improve this answer

answered Nov 6 '09 at 13:59



Gary McGill

9,325 8 51 91

imgtfy.com/?q=change+pdf+%2B%22document+rights%22 – Cory Nov 6 '09 at 14:14

I'm actually willing to buy Acrobat Pro to get this functionality, but it seems they do not offer any kind of software running as a service that is capable of automating this process easily. – TheImdal Nov 6 '09 at 14:19

add a comment



I believe the commentable features are part of the PDF software, and not the file. Adobe Professional will allow to add comments, while the reader has less capabilities.

share improve this answer

answered Nov 12 '09 at 21:26



David Robbins

6,993 4 34 71

add a comment

- [overlapping following text](#)
- [What does it mean for one's soul to "be like dust to everyone"?](#)
- [Dealing with students who sent empty emails but the homework attached](#)
- [Is it 'OK' to use the root user as a normal user?](#)
- [Counter counter](#)
- [How to assign exp for indirect kills](#)
- [Use 3 films \(front, side, top\) for motion tracking?](#)
- [Derivative of a function w.r.t. another function.](#)
- [Why do soft drinks fizz?](#)
- [Placement of "done"checkbox button](#)
- [Word for winning because the competitors were miraculously all worse](#)
- [What is a writing that writes down every single word what one is thinking, called?](#)
- [Do I need to add "one" in the following sentence?](#)



Hmmm, you can develop your own or just buy it off the shelf. My company (shameless plug) has a product that does server based PDF Conversion for common Office formats and can be invoked via a web service.



[Blogged about it here](#). Making office work reliably on the server (32bit/64bit, Win2K3/Win2K8) is challenging to say the least.

share improve this answer

answered Dec 3 '09 at 14:28



Muhimbi

2,207 1 13 26

add a comment


Your Answer


B B B B B B B B B B B B

Sign up or [log in](#)

Post as a guest

 Sign up using Google

 Sign up using Facebook

 Sign up using Stack Exchange

Name

Email

[Post Your Answer](#)

By posting your answer, you agree to the [privacy policy](#) and [terms of service](#).

Not the answer you're looking for? Browse other questions tagged [pdf](#) [service](#) [ms-office](#) [openoffice.org](#) [file-conversion](#) or [ask your own question](#).

 [question feed](#)

[tour](#) [help](#) [blog](#) [chat](#) [data](#) [legal](#) [privacy policy](#) [work here](#) [advertising info](#) [mobile](#) [contact us](#) [feedback](#)

TECHNOLOGY

[Stack Overflow](#)
[Server Fault](#)
[Super User](#)
[Web Applications](#)
[Ask Ubuntu](#)

[Programmers](#)
[Unix & Linux](#)
[Ask Different \(Apple\)](#)
[WordPress Development](#)
[Geographic](#)

[Database Administrators](#)
[Drupal Answers](#)
[SharePoint](#)
[User Experience](#)
[Mathematica](#)

LIFE / ARTS

[Photography](#)
[Science Fiction & Fantasy](#)
[Graphic Design](#)
[Seasoned Advice \(cooking\)](#)

CULTURE / RECREATION

[English Language & Usage](#)
[Skeptics](#)
[Mi Yodeya \(Judaism\)](#)
[Travel](#)
[Christianity](#)

SCIENCE

[Mathematics](#)
[Cross Validated \(stats\)](#)
[Theoretical Computer Science](#)
[Physics](#)
[MathOverflow](#)

OTHER

[Stack Apps](#)
[Meta Stack Exchange](#)
[Area 51](#)
[Stack Overflow Careers](#)

Webmasters

Geography
Information Systems

Mathematics
Salesforce

Home Improvement

Emoticons
Arqade (gaming)

MathOverflow
more (7)

Game Development

Electrical Engineering

more (14)

Personal Finance &
Money

Bicycles

TeX - LaTeX

Android Enthusiasts

Academia

Role-playing Games

Information Security

more (10)

more (21)

site design / logo © 2015 stack exchange inc; user contributions licensed under [cc by-sa 3.0](#) with [attribution required](#)

rev 2015.6.22.2665