



**PDFTron PDF2SVG SDK™**  
**User Manual**

**Version 3.5**









### 1.1.2 What's New in Version 3.5?

- Generation of XML summary document describing important document components such as document metadata, bookmarks, annotations, etc. Using XSLT or any other XML processor, XML summary can be used to wrap separate SVG documents into a composite document for e-book style navigation and viewing or for further repurposing.
- Thumbnail generation option for fast navigation through multi-page documents.
- Improved support for PDF 1.7 and Acrobat 8 documents.
- Support for soft, explicit, and color-key masks.
- Better conversion of PDF forms and annotations.
- The conversion speed is significantly improved.
- Smaller file size of generated SVG output.
- SVG output is now faster to render in popular SVG viewers.
- Support for 128-bit AES (Advanced Encryption Standard) encryption and Crypt filters.
- Files with broken cross reference tables are now automatically repaired.
- Support for clipping user defined regions.

### 1.1.3 Why SVG?

#### **There are many benefits of converting your documents to SVG:**

- SVG is a W3C (Web Standards Consortium) standard format and is backed by a large number of companies and non-profit organizations.
- Free SVG viewers are widely available on major platforms and operating systems.
- Because SVG is based on XML, the document can be easily edited in a text editor. SVG XML content can be linked to back-end business processes such as databases, application servers, and other rich sources of real-time information.
- There are a growing number of affordable and powerful SVG authoring and editing solutions.
- Enhanced search capabilities. All text in SVG is stored in standard XML syntax and Unicode encoding that makes searching operations within a document or across large collections of documents a breeze.

### 1.1.4 Common Use Case Scenarios

- Server-based, on-demand encryption and decryption of PDF documents based on specific security requirements.
- Batch processing of PDF collections that require a uniform security and permission settings across many documents. PDF2SVG is particularly useful in assembling product catalogues, brochures, and forms.
- PDF content extraction and repurposing through SVG and XML.

### 1.1.5 Operating Systems Supported

- Windows Vista, 2003, 2000, XP, NT, 98; Mac OSX; Linux

### 1.1.6 System Requirements

- At least 10 MB of free disk space.
- Memory requirement is heavily dependent on the nature of the document being converted into an image file.

## 1.2 About This Manual

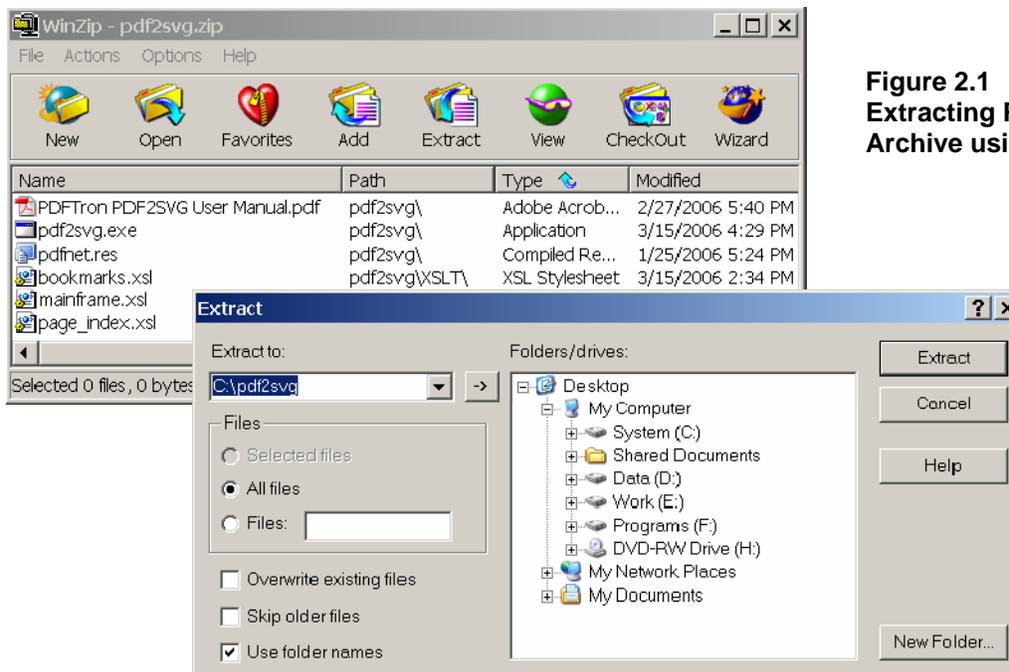
This manual is intended as a guide to the installation and use of PDF2SVG SDK.

- Section 1 introduces PDF2SVG SDK and describes the manual.
- Section 2 explains how to install, register and uninstall PDF2SVG SDK.
- Section 3 covers basic use of the PDF2SVG SDK and integration with third-party applications.
- Section 4 contains the PDF2SVG Command String Syntax, FAQ and Usage Examples.
- Section 5 contains the XML Summary Document
- Section 6 covers general PDF2SVG related questions.
- Section 7 is where you will find all the support information you may require, such as how to report a problem with the software.

## 2. Installing, Registering and Uninstalling PDF2SVG SDK

### 2.1 PDF2SVG Installation

PDF2SVG SDK is supplied as a download from a distributor or directly from [www.pdftron.com](http://www.pdftron.com). The release is packaged as a .zip file (pdf2svg\_sdk.zip). Unzip the archive in the desired location and make sure to preserve the directory (folder) structure when extracting the archive. In order to register the software, copy the license file provided to you into the "pdf2svg\_sdk" folder.



**Figure 2.1**  
Extracting PDF2SVG Archive using WinZip

### 2.2 Product Registration

After purchasing a license of PDF2SVG SDK, you will receive additional registration and license information via email.

To successfully register PDF2SVG SDK and remove evaluation restrictions, you only need to pass the license information during the call to PDF2SVGInit(). For example:

```
PDF2SVGInit("Joe Doe", "MyCompany", "sRLL4qr555sd63dnd");
```

The first parameter is your user name, the second parameter is your company name, and the last parameter is the license key supplied with your registration information.



### 3. Overview

PDFTron PDF2SVG SDK is a software component designed to convert PDF files to SVG, the open-standard W3C recommendation for high-end graphics on the web. The flawless conversion process creates web-ready SVG documents.

The SDK is available as a plain 'C DLL' and can be easily accessed from any programming language (including C#, VB.NET, C/C++, Java, VB6, Perl, Python, Ruby, Delphi, etc).

The entire API consists of only two functions and is very simple to use.

This section covers the basic use of PDFSDK SDK explaining all the available options.

#### 3.1 Working with PDF2SVG API

The API consists of only two functions: PDF2SVGInit and PDF2SVGRun.

PDF2SVGInit is called only once per process session to initialize the library and register the component. PDF2SVGRun can be called many times to process PDF documents or folders with PDF documents.

The following is the simplest application that can be built using PDF2SVG SDK:

```
// Using C# or C/C++
void main() {
    PDF2SVGInit("username", "company", "lic_key");
    PDF2SVGRun("-o c:/out c:/test/tiger.pdf", MyCallback, 0);
}
```

This application essentially executes a hardcoded operation. This operation converts 'tiger.pdf' to 'tiger.svg'. To convert all PDF documents in 'test' folder simply delete 'tiger.pdf' from the command string.

The first parameter of the PDF2SVGRun() function is a command string which is exactly the same as the general syntax used for the PDF2SVG Command-Line application. For a detailed explanation of all options, please refer to section 4 of this manual. The PDF2SVG Command-Line application is a great tool to get to know all the available options. In fact, building a command-line application using PDF2SVG SDK is as simple as the following listing:

```
// Using C#
static void Main(string[] args) {
    PDF2SVGInit("username", "company", "lic_key");

    String s = "";
    foreach (string arg in args) {
        s += arg + " ";
    }
    PDF2SVGRun(s, 0, 0);
}
```





## 4. PDF2SVG Command String Syntax

This Section includes the command string syntax, used both in the PDF2SVG Command-Line Applications as well as in PDF2SVG SDK.

### 4.1 Command String Syntax

The basic command string syntax is:

```
[options] file1 file2 folder1 file3 ...
```





## 4.3 PDF2SVG Command String FAQ

### 4.3.1 How to save converted files in a given folder?

By default, PDF2SVG saves converted files in the current working folder. To specify another output location, use the '-o' (or --output) parameter. For example:

```
-o "c:\My Output" 1.pdf 2.pdf 3.pdf
```

**Note:** If the specified path does not exist, PDF2SVG will attempt to create the necessary folders.

### 4.3.2 How can I control the output names of generated files?

By default, PDF2SVG creates a separate SVG file for every page in the document. The output filename is constructed using the name of the input PDF file, the page number, and appropriate file extension (i.e. svg or svgz). For example, the following command-line generates a sequence of SVG files starting with mydoc\_1.svg, mydoc\_2.svg, etc.:

```
mydoc.pdf
```

PDF2SVG allows output filename customizations using the '--prefix' and '--digits' options. For example, the following command-line generates a sequence of SVG files starting with newname\_0001.svg, newname\_0002.svg, etc.:

```
--prefix newname --digits 4 mydoc.pdf
```

The '--digits' parameter specifies the number of digits used in the page counter portion of the output filename. By default, new digits are added as needed, but the 'prefix' parameter could be used to format the page counter field to a uniform width (e.g. myfile0001.svg, myfile0010.svg, instead of myfile\_1.svg, myfile\_10.svg, etc).

To avoid any ambiguities in file naming, the prefix option should be used only for conversion of individual documents.

### 4.3.3 How do I create compressed SVG (SVGZ)?

To create compressed SVG (SVGZ), use '--svgz' as one of the command-line options. This option will instruct PDF2SVG for compress SVG using GZIP compression and to generate output files with the 'svgz' extension. For example,

```
--svgz in.pdf
```

### 4.3.4 How do I produce stand-alone SVG?

Some PDF documents use many small bitmaps to represent text or patterns. In this case, the converted SVG document will reference hundreds of external images. You may choose to embed these images within the SVG document using the '--embedimages' or ('-i') option.

By embedding images it is possible to create self contained SVG files (i.e. files without any references to external resources). Although it is sometimes desirable to create self contained files, this option can result in files that are slower to render in some viewers. The files with embedded



All even pages can be selected using the 'e' (or 'even') string. For example, the following line converts all even pages:

```
--pages even in.pdf
```

Similarly odd pages can be selected using the 'o' (or 'odd') string. The following line converts all odd pages in the document and every page in the range from 100 to the last page:

```
--pages odd,100- in.pdf
```

#### 4.3.8 How do I batch-convert files?

PDF2SVG supports batch conversion of many PDF files in a single pass. To convert all PDF files in a given folder(s) you can use the following syntax:

```
myfolder1
```

The '--subfolders' option can be used to recursively process all subfolders. For example, the following line will convert all documents in 'myfolder1' and 'myfolder2' as well as all subfolders:

```
--subfolders myfolder1 myfolder2
```

By default, PDF2SVG will convert all files with the extension '.pdf'. To select different files based on the extension use the '--extension' parameter. For example, to convert all PDF documents with a custom extension '.blob', you could use the following line:

```
--extension .blob --subfolders myfolder1
```

#### 4.3.9 How can I show/hide crop marks or the trim region?

A PDF page can define as many as five separate boundaries to control various aspects of the imaging process:

- The media box defines the boundaries of the physical medium on which the page is to be printed. It may include any extended area surrounding the finished page for bleed, printing marks, or other such purposes. It may also include areas close to the edges of the medium that cannot be marked because of physical limitations of the output device. Content falling outside this boundary can safely be discarded without affecting the meaning of the PDF file.
- The crop box defines the region to which the contents of the page are to be clipped (cropped) when displayed or printed. Unlike the other boxes, the crop box has no defined meaning in terms of physical page geometry or intended use; it merely imposes clipping on the page contents. The default value is the page's media box.
- The bleed box defines the region to which the contents of the page should be clipped when output in a production environment. This may include any extra bleed area needed to accommodate the physical limitations of cutting, folding, and trimming equipment. The default value is the page's crop box.
- The trim box defines the intended dimensions of the finished page after trimming. It may be smaller than the media box to allow for production related content, such as printing instructions, cut marks, or color bars. The default value is the page's crop box.
- The art box defines the extent of the page's meaningful content (including potential white space) as intended by the page's creator. The default value is the page's crop box.





The summary document can be used as a map of the abstract document that contains many SVG files representing document pages, as well as outline tree and annotations describing how different document parts are related.

In most cases, the summary document is further consumed by an XML consumer/processor (e.g. XML DOM/SAX Library or XSLT). For example, an application may read XML summary to create database records for archiving purposes. Another application may implement interactive navigation through SVG pages using the document outline.

Yet another example of the XML wrapper consumer is an eBook generator that converts the XML Summary Document to HTML. The generated HTML would wrap converted SVG files and would provide web-based eBook interface for navigation between different pages, including bookmark tree, thumbnail index, etc. The end result would look as follows:

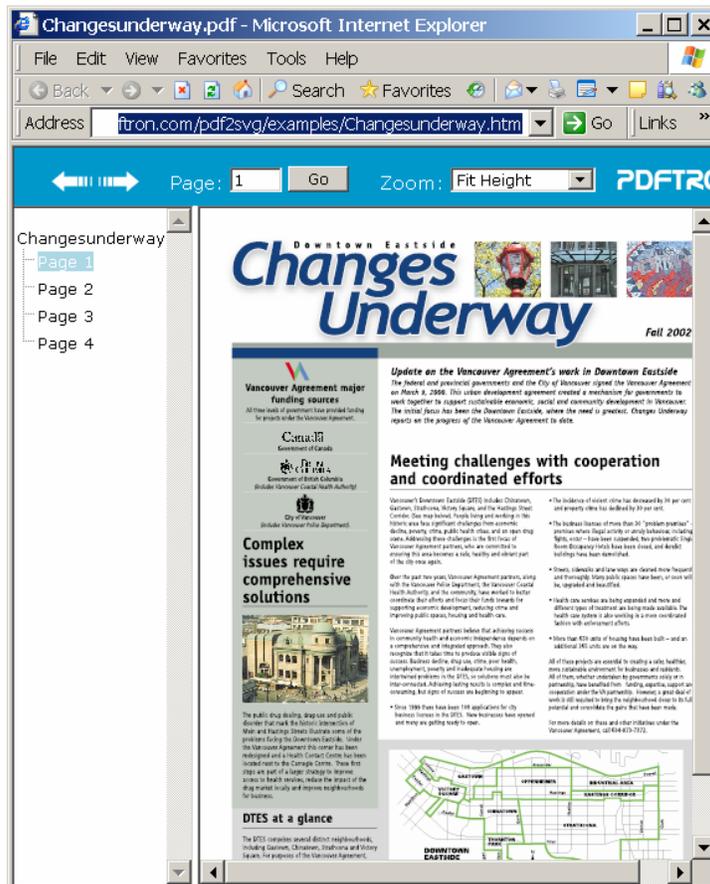
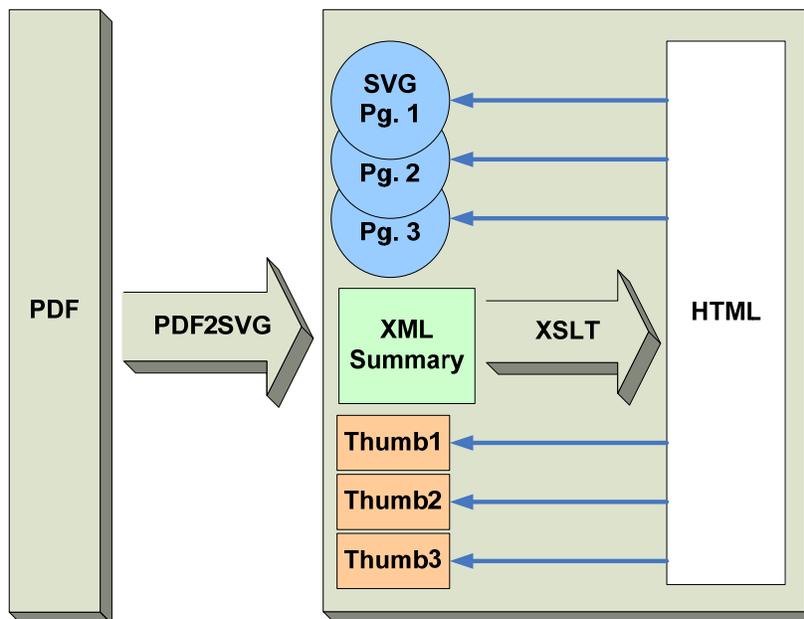


Figure: SVG wrapped in an HTML web-browser eBook.

The process used to create HTML eBook wrapping converted SVG-s is illustrated in the following figure:



Using PDF2SVG, a PDF document is converted to a set of SVG images and their thumbnails, as well as the XML Summary Document. The fastest way to create HTML wrappers around SVG is using XSLT. XSLT is a very simple language for transforming XML documents. A simple XSLT transform may look as follows:

```

<?xml version='1.0'?>
<xsl:stylesheet version='1.0'
xmlns:xsl='http://www.w3.org/1999/XSL/Transform'>
  <xsl:output method='html' indent='yes' doctype-public='-//W3C//DTD HTML
3.2 Final//EN' />
  <xsl:template match='/'>
    <HTML>
      <HEAD>
        <TITLE>HTML SVG Wrapper</TITLE>
      </HEAD>
      <BODY>
        <xsl:apply-templates select='doc/info' />
        <HR />
        <xsl:apply-templates select='doc/pages' />
      </BODY>
    </HTML>
  </xsl:template>

  <xsl:template match='info'>
    <table border="0" cellspacing="0" cellpadding="4">
      <tr><td>Title:</td><td><xsl:value-of select='title' /></td></tr>
      <tr><td>Author:</td><td><xsl:value-of select='author' /></td></tr>
      <tr><td>Subject:</td><td><xsl:value-of select='subject' /></td></tr>
      <tr><td>Keywords:</td><td><xsl:value-of select='keywords' /></td></tr>
      <tr><td>Creator:</td><td><xsl:value-of select='creator' /></td></tr>
      <tr><td>Producer:</td><td><xsl:value-of select='producer' /></td></tr>
    </table>
  </xsl:template>
  
```

```

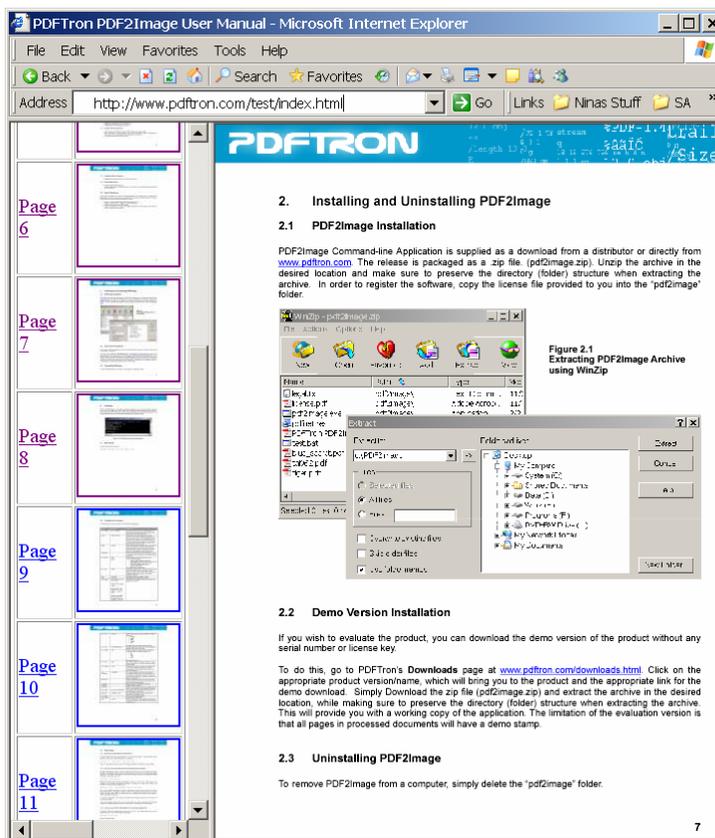
</table>
</xsl:template>

<xsl:template match='pages'>
  <TABLE BORDER="1">
    <xsl:apply-templates/>
  </TABLE>
</xsl:template>

<xsl:template match='page'>
  <TR>
    <TD><A TARGET="view" HREF="{@href}">Page <xsl:value-of
select='@id' /></A></TD>
    <TD><A TARGET="view" HREF="{@href}"><IMG
SRC="{thumb/@href}" /></A></TD>
  </TR>
</xsl:template>
</xsl:stylesheet>

```

The above XSLT template will create an HTML page containing general information about the documents such as it title, subject, keywords, etc. The HTML will also contain a thumbnail index of all pages in the document. Clicking on page labels or on thumbnails will open SVG graphics in the right pane of the browser window. The final result would look as follows:



To run XSLT transforms you can use your favorite XSLT processor. As a starting point, PDF2SVG distribution comes with a sample project illustrating how to run XSLT transform using Microsoft .NET Framework.



substitution procedures, the results may differ from one viewer to another. To avoid font substitution errors, make sure to create PDF documents with embedded fonts.

#### **6.7 Why is a white space separating neighboring pictures?**

In some cases, SVG viewers that support anti-aliased rendering produce line/space artifacts at neighboring picture elements (e.g. for image tiles or polygons sharing common edges). These artifacts are not a byproduct of PDF2SVG conversion, but are produced due to anti-aliased rendering in the SVG viewer. To eliminate anti-aliasing artifacts you can try to disable 'high-quality' rendering option in your SVG viewer.

#### **6.8 Can I integrate PDF2SVG with my client/server application?**

PDF2SVG SDK has a simple-to-use API that can be easily integrated into any third-party client and server-based applications. PDF2SVG SDK is available as a .NET component or as a cross-platform C library. For more information on licensing the PDF2SVG library, please contact a PDFTron representative at [info@pdftron.com](mailto:info@pdftron.com).

#### **6.9 Does PDF2SVG SDK have any dependencies on third party components or software?**

PDF2SVG SDK is a completely component and does not include any dependencies on any third-party components or software.

## 7. Support

### 7.1 Reporting Problems

If you encounter a problem or question regarding PDFTron PDF2SVG SDK that is not addressed on PDFTron's website, please submit a problem report to PDFTron's Support group at <http://www.pdftron.com/reportproblem.html>.

When submitting a problem you will be asked to provide the following information:

- Contact details
- Product and Version of the product
- Detailed description of problem
- Problem file(s)
- Whether you have an AMC (Annual Maintenance Contract) subscription
- Any other information that may be related

### 7.2 Contact Information

To contact PDFTron directly, you can use the contact information below:

PDFTron Systems, Inc.  
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Vancouver, BC, V6K 1P5  
Canada

Tel: 1-604-730-8989  
Fax: 1-604-676-2477

Web site: [www.pdftron.com](http://www.pdftron.com).

Email Contacts:

General Business Inquiries: [info@pdftron.com](mailto:info@pdftron.com)  
Licensing, Sales Inquiries: [sales@pdftron.com](mailto:sales@pdftron.com)  
Product Support: [support@pdftron.com](mailto:support@pdftron.com)  
Website related questions: [webmaster@pdftron.com](mailto:webmaster@pdftron.com)