RML Example 17: Pagecatcher

RML (Report Markup Language) is ReportLab's own language for specifying the appearance of a printed page, which is converted into PDF by the utility rml2pdf.

These RML samples showcase techniques and features for generating various types of ouput and are distributed within our commercial package as test cases. Each should be self explanatory and stand alone.

PageCatcher integration tests

This page tests out a number of tags added to make it easier to use PageCatcher templates.

It is important to see how these interact with the page template. So, this document has a purple stripe and text at top and bottom which is part of the template.

First and foremost is `<includePdfPages filename="filename.pdf" pages="1,2,7-12"/>`. This tag slurps in PDF pages into the current document. It begins by outputting a page break, and leaves you "on the final page" it draws.

By default the imported PDF file will probably be drawn "over the top" of the current page template. So, if you have a header or footer defined in a page template, and the imported page does too, the imported one will draw over it and not vice versa. See the examples on the next few pages.

However, if your page template defines TWO pagegraphics sections instead of one, the second one will be drawn AFTER any flowing content, which includes the imported pages. So, you can use a second pageGraphics section to mask out headers and footers in the imported forms if you really need to.

The engine will output a page break BEFORE the first new page, and leave you on the same page as the last imported one. This behaviour was chosen carefully to facilitate template switching. Commonly one has a standard header or footer running through a document, but may want to suppress or change it when including pages from other applications. You can precede includePages with a template change action, for example, `<setNextTemplate name="alt">`. This will mean that your new template is used for each page on which an included PDF is drawn. If you don't want one, define a template called 'blank' with one frame for content and no decorations.

After including pages, you will be left "at the top of" the last PDF page. You could therefore flow paragraphs over the top of it if you want. However, the most common use is simply to follow `<includePdfPages>` with `<nextFrame>` to move to the next page. Or, with `<setNextTemplate>` and then `<nextFrame>` to change back to your original page template for the next page.

The "pages" attribute can be omitted to import all pages, or can take strings like "`1`", "`1,2,3-5`" etc.

The next two pages show a UK Inland Revenue form, and also show switching to a different cyan-coloured template.

the print button for eBusiness
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RML2PDF Test Suite - Test #17

Inland Revenue

Authorising your agent

It is important that you complete these boxes so we can note our records.

Inland Revenue reference

National Insurance number

Evaluation copy ofReportLab PLUS. Contact ReportLab (www.reportlab.com) to purchase.

Please read the notes on the back before completing this authority.

This authority overrides any earlier authority given to the Inland Revenue. We will hold the information you give us until you tell us that the details have changed.

I, _____ *(please print your name)*

authorise _____ *(please print your agent's name)*

to act on my behalf in connection with any matters within the responsibility of the Inland Revenue.

Signature _____ Date / /

(please see note 1 on the back before signing)

• ***Please give your details here***

Full address _____

_____

_____

_____ Postcode _____

Telephone number _____

(If you are willing for us to contact you by phone)

• ***Please give your agent's details here***

Full address _____

_____

_____

_____ Postcode _____

Telephone number _____

Fax number _____

Agent's reference _____

Only for customers who have Self Assessment Tax Returns (not including companies)

If you use a paper version of the Self Assessment Tax Return, we will send your Statement of Account to you, but if you would like us to send it to your agent instead, please tick this box ☐

Please note, if your agent sends your Tax Return electronically, we will send a paper version of your Statement of Account to you, and your agent will receive an electronic copy.

After you have completed this form, please send it to your Inland Revenue office.

For official use

- Customer's records noted - *please complete the relevant boxes opposite*
- Form(s) 64-6A issued *Please '√'* ☐

_____ / /

Initials *Date*

	Please '√'	*Initials*	*Date*
Tax	☐	_____	/ /
NICs	☐	_____	/ /
Tax Credits	☐	_____	/ /
Others	☐	_____	/ /

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1 Who should sign the form

It depends who the authority is for. See the table below.

Who the authority is for	Who signs the form
Yourself (for your personal tax)	You
Companies	The secretary or other responsible officer of the company
Partnerships	The partner responsible for the partnership's affairs. It applies only to the partnership. Individual partners need to sign a separate authority for their own affairs.
Trusts	One or more of the trustees

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2 What else you should do

- If you have more than one agent acting with us on your behalf, please sign one of these forms for each one and send them to us with a letter telling us which agent deals with what for you. If you deal with more than one Inland Revenue office, please send it to just one office and we will pass on the information.

- If your agent doesn't deal with **all** your Inland Revenue affairs, please send a letter with this form giving us details of those that they do deal with.

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3 What the Inland Revenue does

- Once we have received your completed form we will start sending letters and forms to your agent. But sometimes we need to send them to you as well as, or instead of, your agent. Contact any Inland Revenue office if you would like information about what will be sent to you and/or your agent.

- We don't send anyone completing a Corporation Tax Self Assessment return a Statement of Account.

- We don't send National Insurance statements and requests for payment to your agent unless you have asked us if you can defer payment.

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4 Data Protection Act

The Inland Revenue is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act. We hold information for the purposes specified in our notification made to the Data Protection Commissioner, and may use this information for any of them.

We may get information about you from others, or we may give information to them. If we do, it will only be as the law permits, to

- check accuracy of information
- prevent or detect crime
- protect public funds.

We may check information we receive about you with what is already in our records. This can include information provided by you as well as by others such as other government departments and agencies and overseas tax authorities. We will not give information about you to anyone outside the Inland Revenue unless the law permits us to do so.

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The preceding 2 pages should have been the tax form. And I should now be on page 4! Let's add the same one again to check it does not complain:

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Inland Revenue

Now we add page 1 at 90 180 and 270

Inland Revenue reference

It is important that you complete these boxes so we can note our records.

National Insurance number

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Please read the notes on the back before completing this authority.

This authority overrides any earlier authority given to the Inland Revenue. We will hold the information you give us until you tell us that the details have changed.

I, _____ *(please print your name)*

authorise _____ *(please print your agent's name)*

to act on my behalf in connection with any matters within the responsibility of the Inland Revenue.

Signature _____ Date / /

(please see note 1 on the back before signing)

• ***Please give your details here***

Full address _____

_____

_____

_____ Postcode _____

Telephone number _____

(If you are willing for us to contact you by phone)

• ***Please give your agent's details here***

Full address _____

_____

_____

_____ Postcode _____

Telephone number _____

Fax number _____

Agent's reference _____

Only for customers who have Self Assessment Tax Returns (not including companies)

If you use a paper version of the Self Assessment Tax Return, we will send your Statement of Account to you, but if you would like us to send it to your agent instead, please tick this box ☐

Please note, if your agent sends your Tax Return electronically, we will send a paper version of your Statement of Account to you, and your agent will receive an electronic copy.

After you have completed this form, please send it to your Inland Revenue office.

For official use

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- Form(s) 64-6A issued *Please '√'* ☐

_____ / / _____

Initials *Date*

	Please '√'	*Initials*	*Date*
Tax	☐	_____	/ /
NICs	☐	_____	/ /
Tax Credits	☐	_____	/ /
Others	☐	_____	/ /

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Tax Credits	☐	_____	____/____/____
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Finally, we will show how the use of a second pageGraphics tags lets us mask over annoying headers and footers. Compare the mess at the bottom of page 5 with the cleaner version on page 7.

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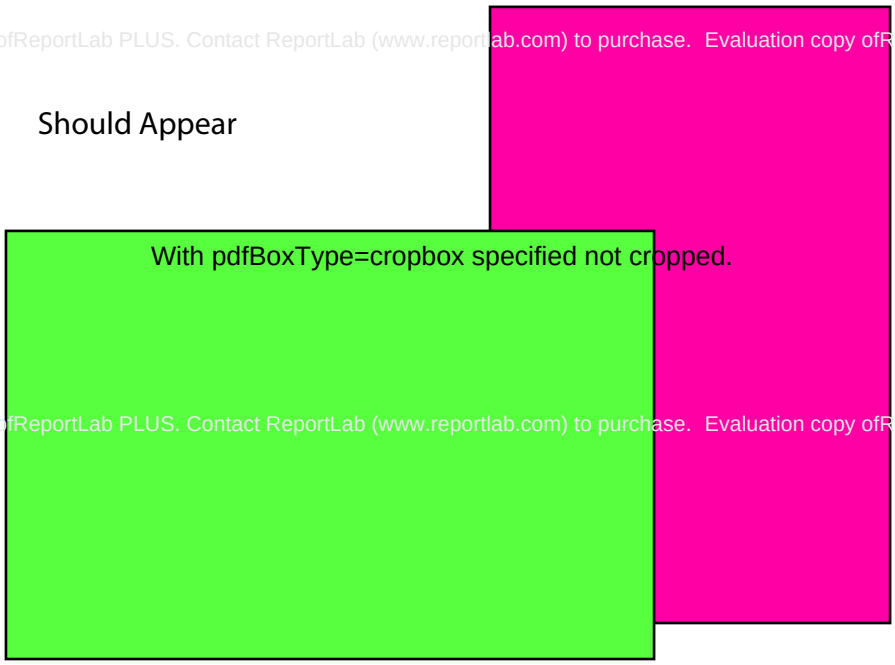

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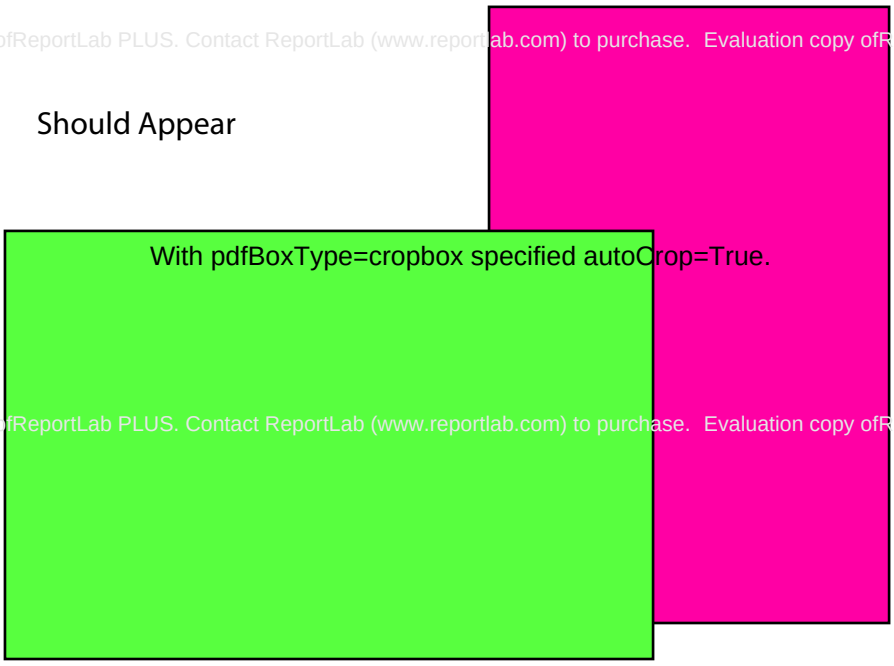

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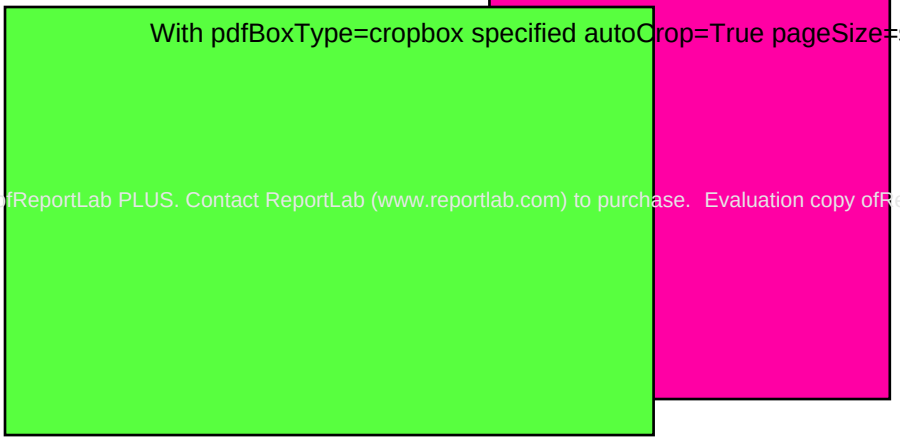

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Inland Revenue

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Signature _____ Date / /

(please see note 1 on the back before signing)

• ***Please give your details here***

Full address _____

_____

_____

_____ Postcode _____

Telephone number _____

(If you are willing for us to contact you by phone)

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Full address _____

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Agent's reference _____

Is pageSize A4 again?

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Please '√'

- Form(s) 64-6A issued ☐

_____ / /

Initials *Date*

	Please '√'	*Initials*	*Date*
Tax	☐	_____	/ /
NICs	☐	_____	/ /
Tax Credits	☐	_____	/ /
Others	☐	_____	/ /

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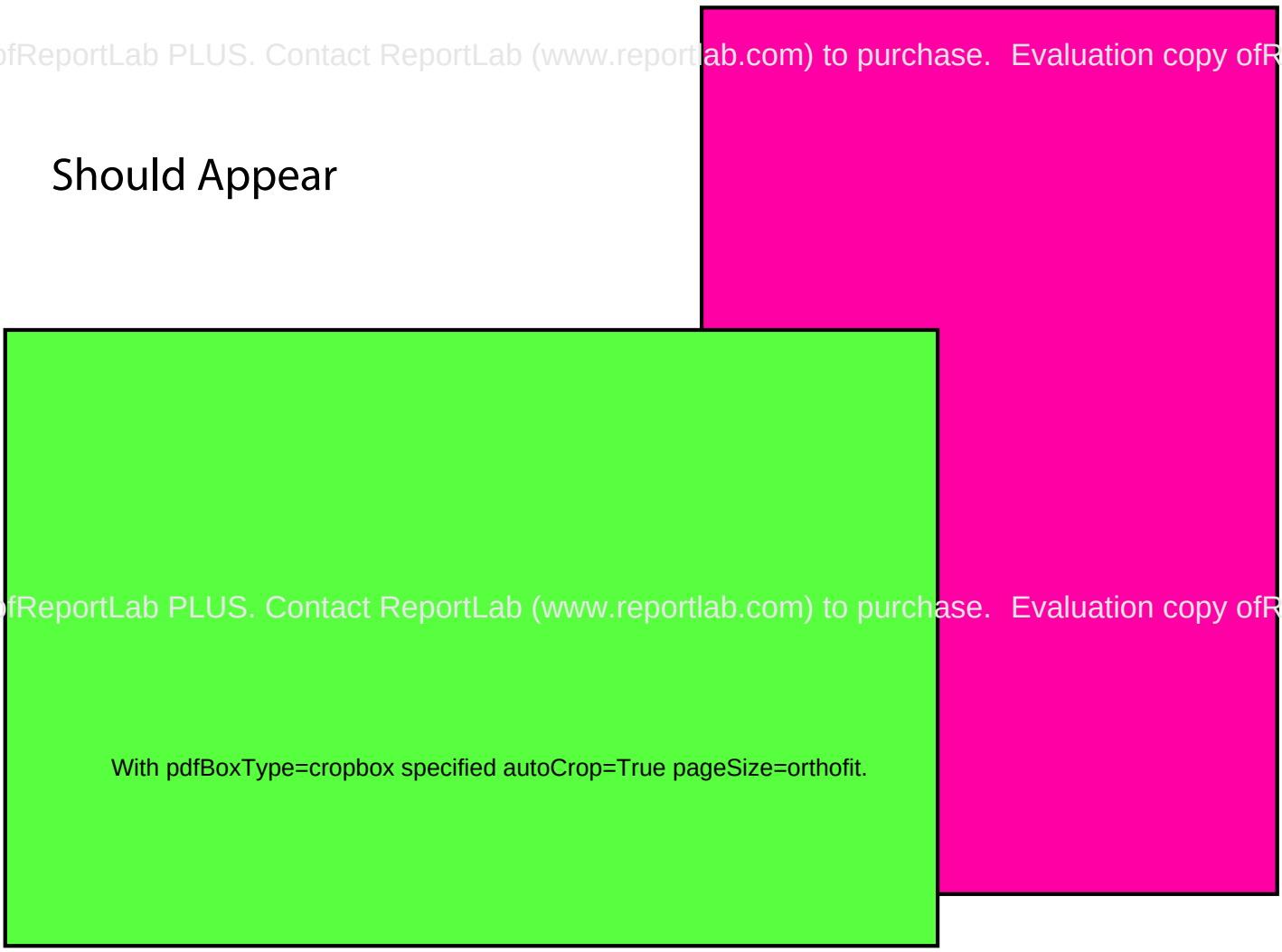

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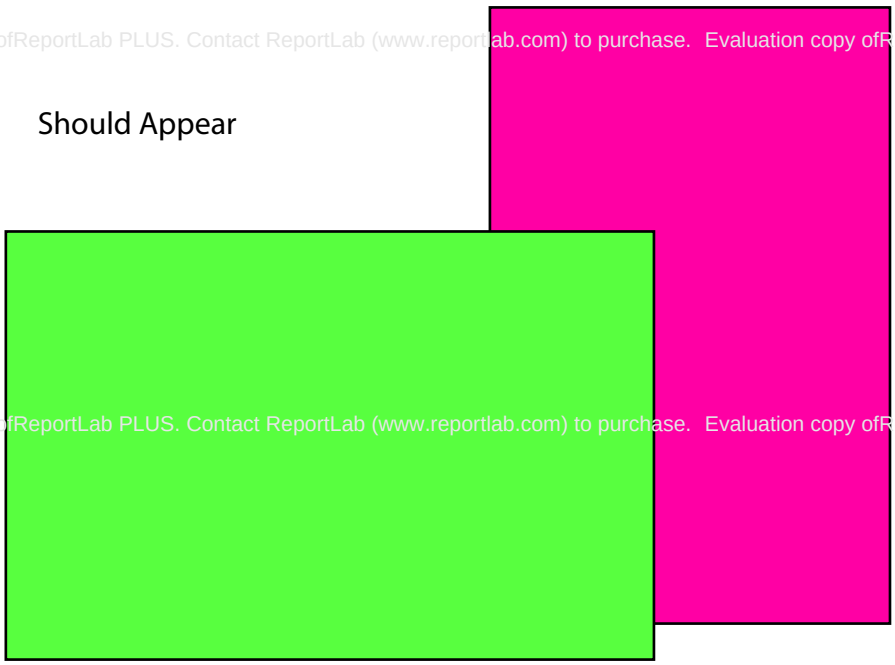

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