Imager

Folder 2 Folder Conversion Server
Version 2.42
User's Guide

Table of Contents

Introduction

Metasoft Imager Folder 2 Folder Conversion Server is a Microsoft Windows NT-based product using our core document conversion technology. Users simply create Windows documents using such common applications as Microsoft Office (.DOC, .XLS, .PPT), Notepad (.TXT), Adobe Acrobat(.PDF), Imagenation/Myriad (.DWG, .PLT) - and drop them in the "IN" folder. F2F does the rest behind the scenes. The documents are automatically converted to one of the following formats TIF/PCX/DCX/PDF, and placed in the "OUT" folder ready for use by other applications. Potentially any file format can be converted provided there is a native application associated with that file format.

Description of Imager F2F

There are four main parts to the Imager F2F product:
- Monitor
- Service
- Document Conversion Toolkit (DCT)
- Print Capture Driver (PCD)

Monitor: The Monitor application is what you run from the Start menu; it controls the options, service start/stop, and monitors the service.

Service: A service is comparable to an application but a service runs in the background and is always running. The Imager F2F service calls the DCT with settings for the current conversion.

Document Conversion Toolkit (DCT): Imager F2F's DCT uses the settings from the service to call native applications which print to the PCD.

Print Capture Driver (PCD): A PCD is comparable to a print driver but instead of printing to a printer the print job is outputted to a file. With the Imager F2F PCD called "Imager SDK DocCnvrt Driver" it will output files to the "OUT" folder in the specified format, by default TIFF files.

Installation

1. System requirements:
   Platform: Windows NT/2000/XP/2003
   Software Pre-Installed: Microsoft Office 2000 or up (for converting office documents)
                              Acrobat Reader 5 or up (for converting PDF documents)
                              IrFanView or Kodak Imaging (for converting image documents)
                              Spicer Imagenation or IGC Myriad (for converting CAD files)
2. If you have already installed any of these products, please uninstall it and reboot your computer:
   a. Metasoft Imager Print Capture Driver
   b. Metasoft Imager Document Conversion Toolkit
   c. Metasoft Imager Folder 2 Folder Conversion Server
   d. Metasoft Imager Legal Imager
3. Run Setup.exe and follow the on screen installation instructions.
4. Run File Configuration to configure supported input formats.
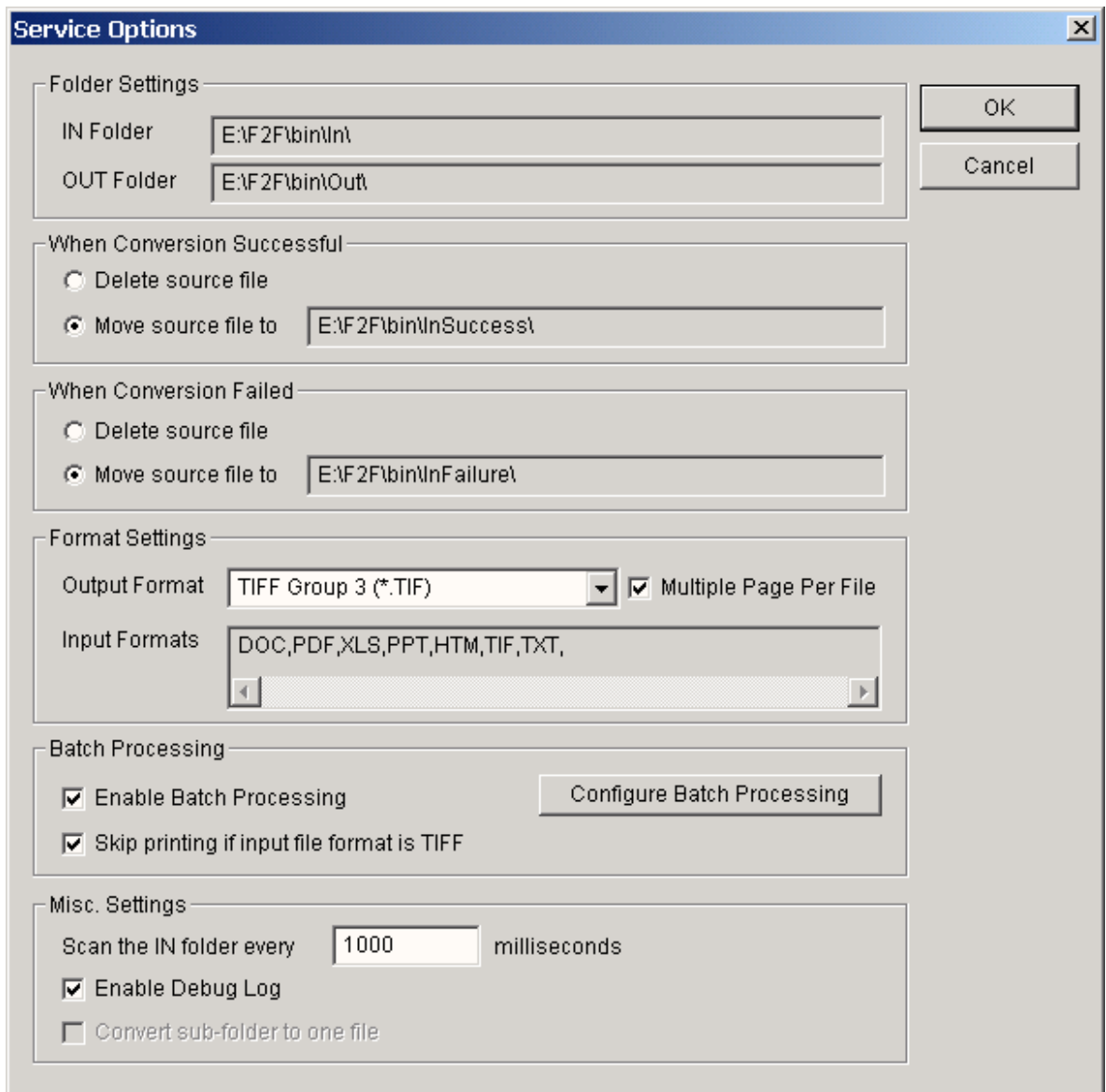
Start Imager F2F

1. Open Imager F2F through the start menu. You will find Imager F2F by default at: Start | Programs | Metasoft F2F | F2F Monitor.
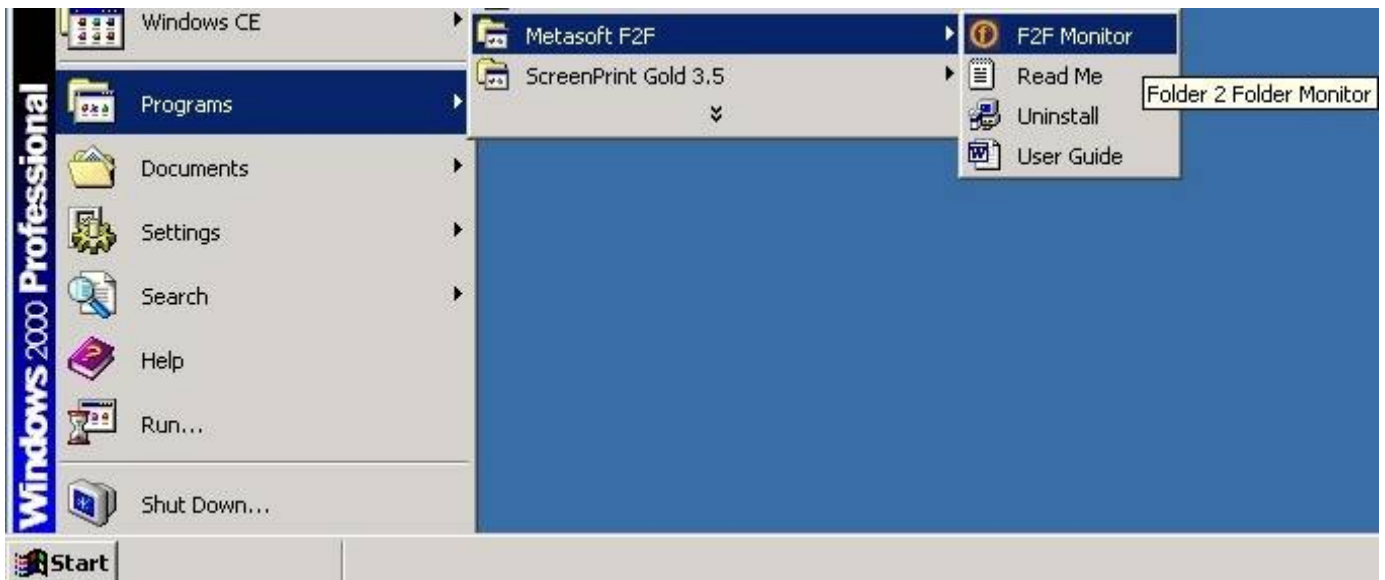
Once launched Imager F2F will look like:
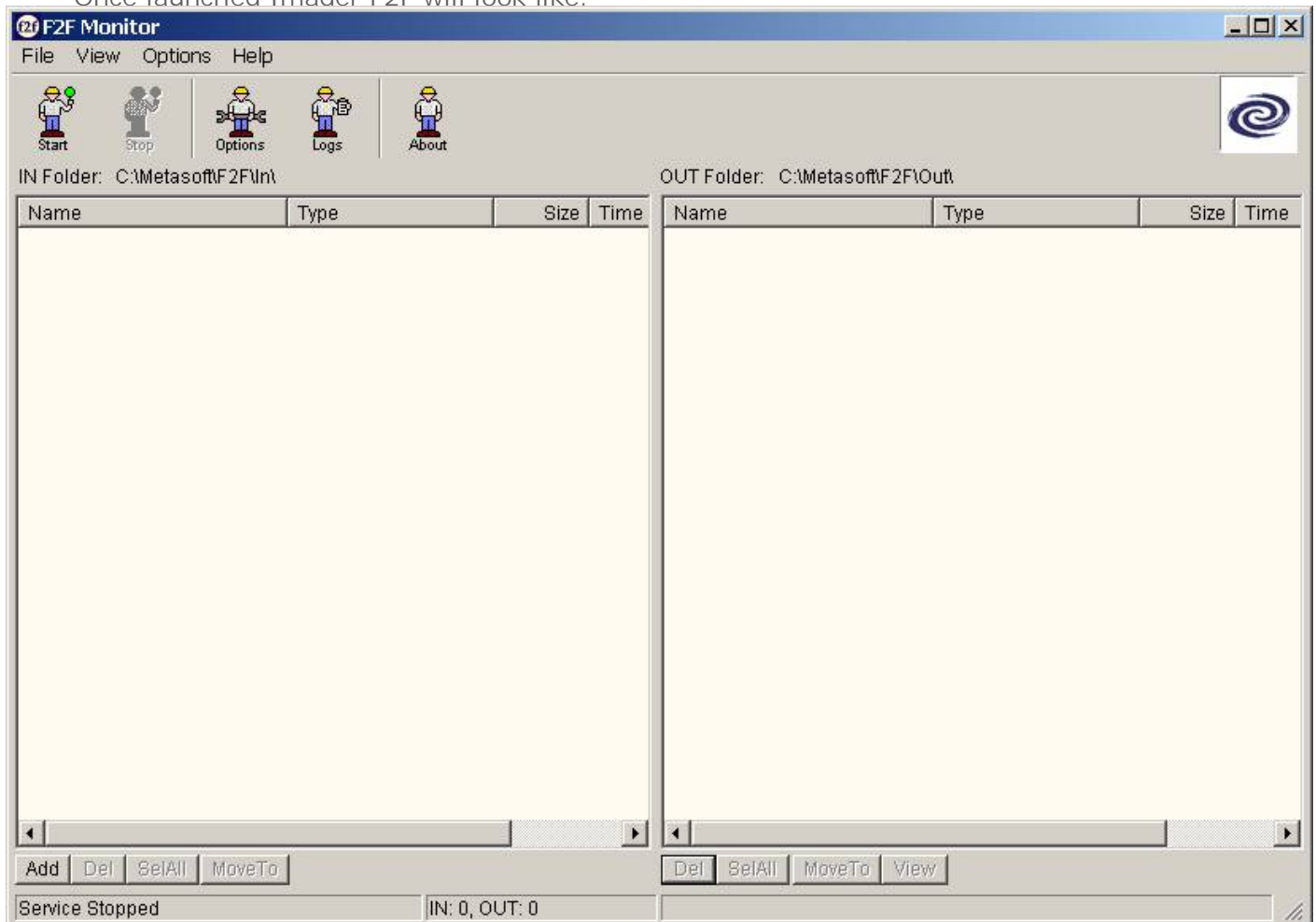
2. Configure Imager F2F via the Options dialog. Option Dialog accessed by clicking on Options Button or through Options | Service Options

Service Options

Folder Settings
IN Folder   E:\F2F\bin\In\
OUT Folder   E:\F2F\bin\Out\

When Conversion Successful
○ Delete source file
⦿ Move source file to   E:\F2F\bin\InSuccess\

When Conversion Failed
○ Delete source file
⦿ Move source file to   E:\F2F\bin\InFailure\

Format Settings
Output Format   TIFF Group 3 (*.TIF)   ▼   ☑ Multiple Page Per File
Input Formats   DOC,PDF,XLS,PPT,HTM,TIF,TXT,

Batch Processing
☑ Enable Batch Processing   Configure Batch Processing
☑ Skip printing if input file format is TIFF

Misc. Settings
Scan the IN folder every   1000   milliseconds
☑ Enable Debug Log
☐ Convert sub-folder to one file

OK
Cancel

a. To prevent a user from specifying there root drive ex. "C:\" as the IN folder, both the IN and OUT folders cannot be configured in the Monitor. To change the IN or OUT folder settings, you will need to change the following entries in the registry [using REGEDIT or a similar program] HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Metasoft\f2fService:
    i. InFolder
    ii. OutFolder
Make sure that you do not specify a root drive ex. "C:\" as all files in the root drive will be processed.
b. Supported input formats can be configured in F2F Monitor | Menu | Options | Supported Input Formats. Note each format requires a native application.
c. Options can be changed even when the conversion Service is running. It will take effect when the next conversion starts.
d. F2F can generate non-searchable Adobe Acrobat Document (PDF).
3. Start Conversions. Start Conversion accessed by Clicking on Start Button (not Start menu button) or by File | Start Service.

4. A simple test: Drag a .doc file and drop into the IN folder and check the OUT folder for output files. If you get something that looks like the following picture then your conversion was successful. You can tell if the conversion was successful by the text shown on the status bar, or by checking the Processing Log. The Processing Log contains information about previous conversions and can be opened by clicking the Logs button or by View | View Processing Log.
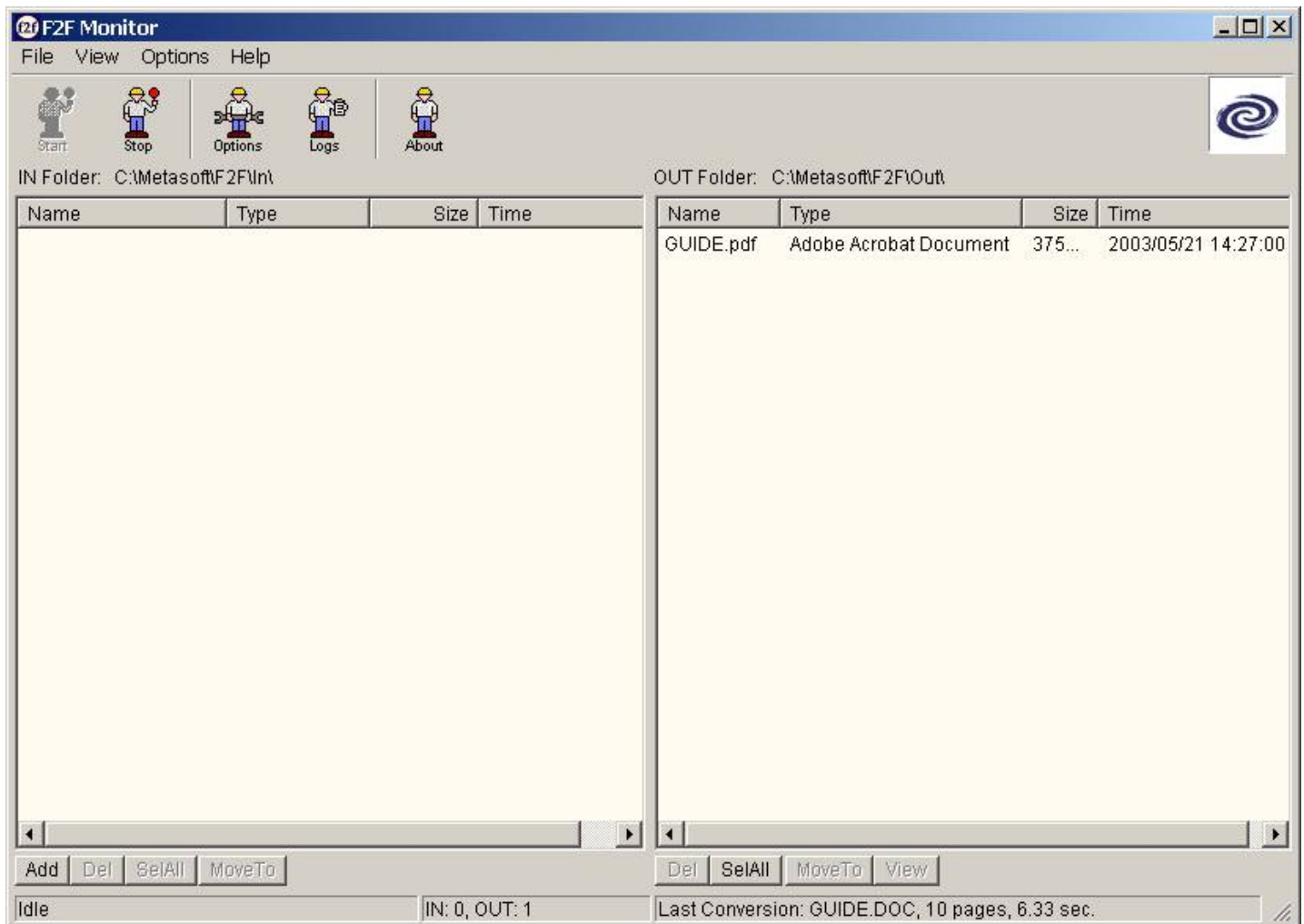
5. You can View, Delete, Move the output files via the function buttons beneath the "OUT Folder".
6. You can drop a ZIP file into the "IN Folder", all printable documents in the Zip will be converted into one (TIF/PDF) file in the "OUT Folder".

Batch processing

Batch Sequence

All actions listed in "Batch Sequence" will be applied to each converted TIF/PDF file sequentially.
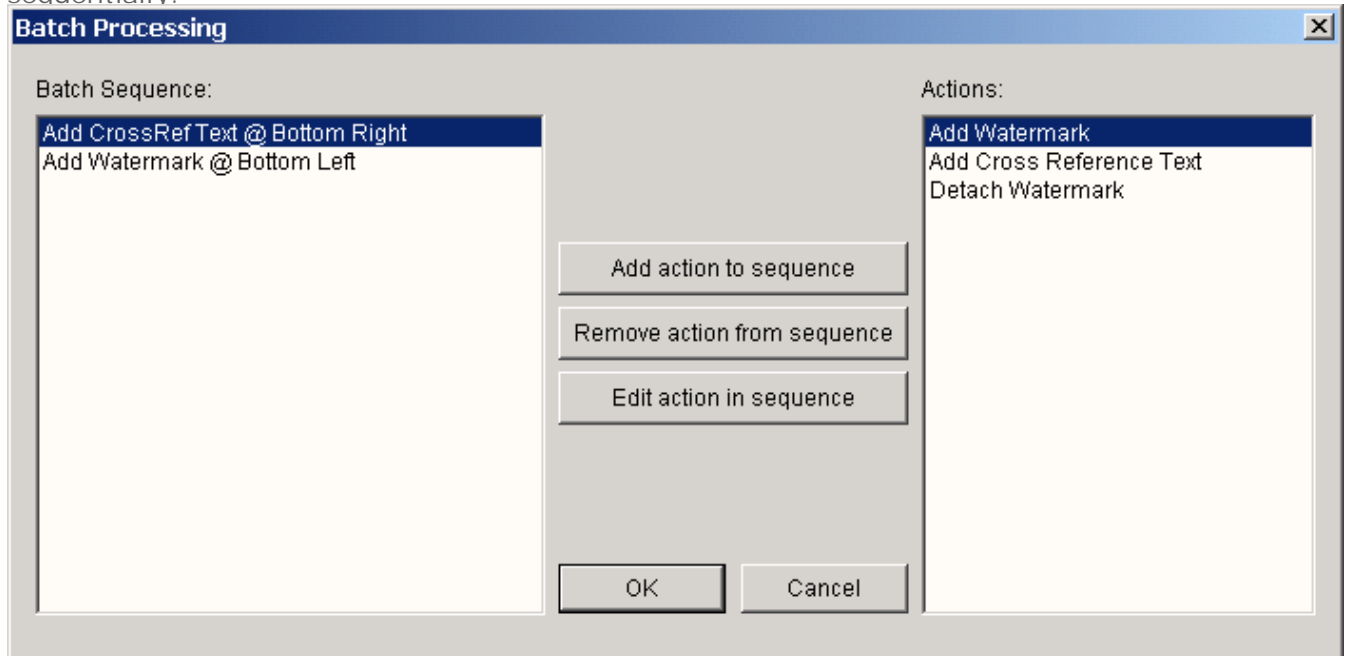
Action: Add Watermark

Add a user specified bitmap (BMP/TIF file) to each output page;
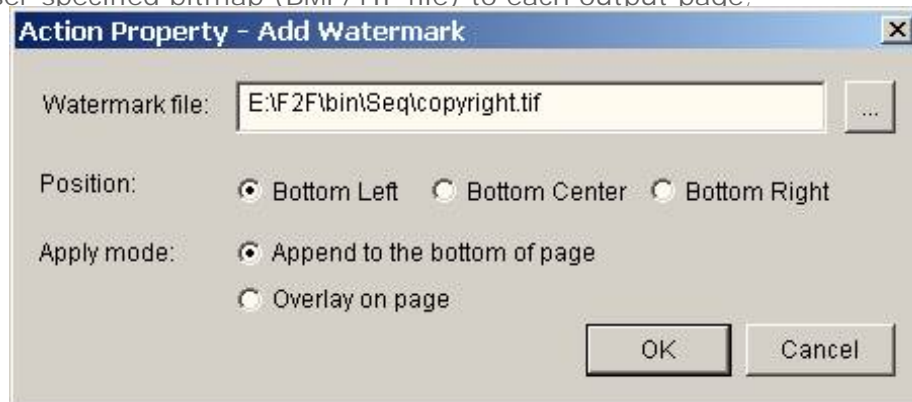
The workflow:
1. Load the 'Watermark file' and get its height in pixels;
2. If "Apply mode" is "Append to the bottom of page":
    a. 'Append' blank lines to the output page such that the number of lines is equal to the height of the 'Watermark file';
    b. Overlay the image of the 'Watermark file' to the output page in the proper position;
3. If "Apply mode" is "Overlay on page"
    a. Overlay the image of the 'Watermark file' to the output page in the proper position;

Action: Add Cross Reference Text

Add user defined cross-reference text to each output file.

Cross Reference Text will be configurable via the following dialog:
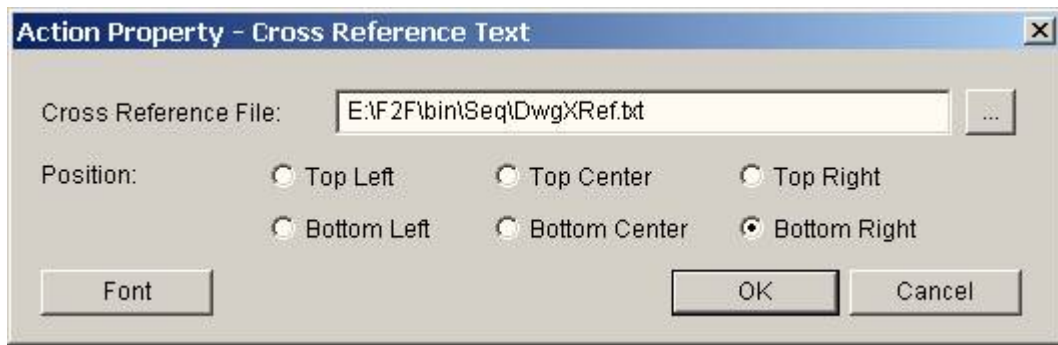
Cross-reference file consists of a list of records defined as:

        <File name prefix>, <Text>

The workflow:

1. For each input file (in the IN folder), find its <File name prefix> in the Cross-reference file and get its <Text>;
2. Create a bitmap stamp with the <Text> and font defined in the Action Property dialog;
3. Overlay the bitmap to each output page in the proper position;

Action: Detach Watermark

      Detach a watermark from each output page. The watermark must be added to each page by "Add Watermark" action in "Append to the bottom of page" mode.
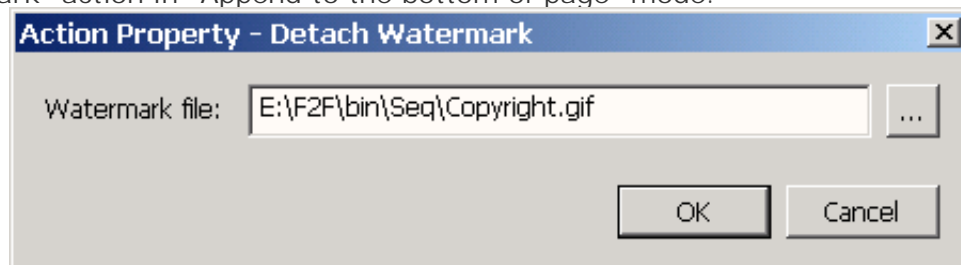
The workflow:

1. Load the 'Watermark file' and get its height in pixels;
2. Remove a band of image (with the height = Watermark image's height) from the bottom of the output page;

Note: In order to 'detach' a previously 'appended' watermark from a TIFF file properly, you'd better select 'Skip printing if input file format is TIFF" switch.

Input File Configuration

The File Configuration program is integrated into Imager F2F and accessible by Option | File Configuration. When FileConfig starts up it will look something like:

File Configuration

Supported Formats:

Enable	Extension	FileType
☐	.CPP	C++ Source file
☑	.HTM	Microsoft HTML Document 5.0
☑	.PDF	Adobe Acrobat Document
☑	.PPT	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
☑	.TIF	Fax Image Viewer
☑	.TXT	Text Document

OK
Cancel

Extension: .PDF   File Type: Adobe Acrobat Document

Settings: "C:\Program Files\Adobe\Acrobat 5.0\Acrobat\Acrobat.exe" /t "%1" "%2" "%3" "%4"

Add Format   Restore   Test   Advanced
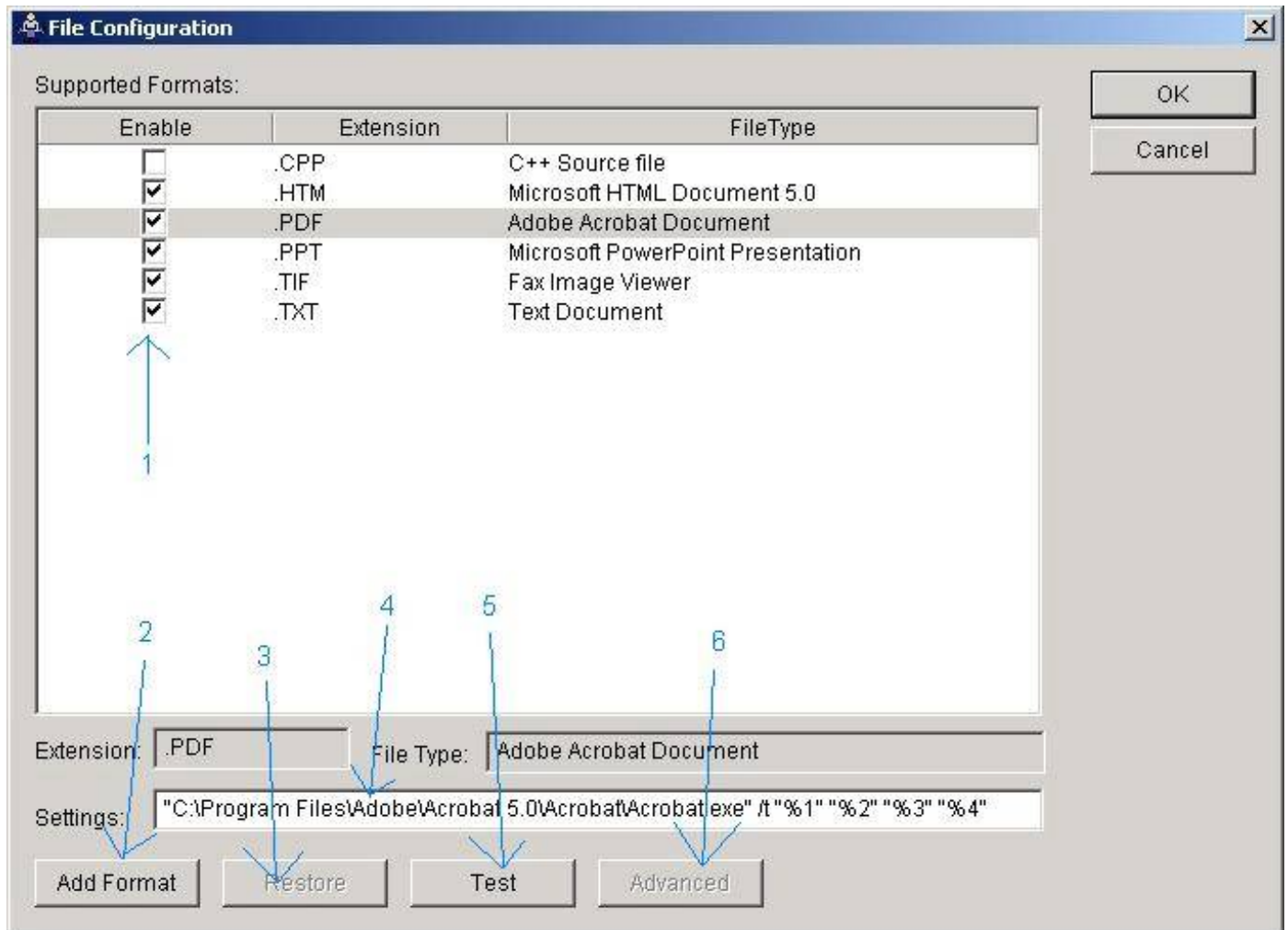
1.) Formats checked will be in the Supported Formats list
2.) Will add a format to the list
3.) Restores the printto settings for the current selection
4.) The current printto settings
5.) Test the current printto settings
6.) Advanced printto settings (DDE settings)

If you want to add support for a file format click add format and add the extension. A native application must be associated with that extension.
If you want to remove support for a file format uncheck the checkbox next to that file format.
It is suggested that you test file formats before saving changes.

Specifications

Supported output formats:
>   TIFF Group 3
>   TIFF Group 3 (2D)
>   TIFF Group 4
>   TIFF Pack Bits
>   Intel DCX
>   ZSoft PCX
>   Adobe PDF (Non-searchable)
>
>   The F2F Plus version also support the following output formats:
>   Adobe PDF (Searchable)
>   HTML
>   RTF
>   Text

Supported output resolutions (DPI):
>   204x98 / 204x196 / 300x300 / 400x400 / 600x600

Supported input formats:

Category	Formats	Native Applications
Office	DOC, RTF, HTM, HTML, XLS, CSV, PPT, WRI	Microsoft Office 2000 or XP
Adobe Acrobat	PDF	Adobe Acrobat Reader
Postscript	PS, EPS	GSView
Imaging	BMP, PCX, JPG, JPEG, JPE, GIF,TIF, TIFF, XIF, DCX	Kodak Imaging or IrFanView
Text	TXT, LOG, INI, INF, BAT, CPP, C, H, BAS, ASP	Notepad or Wordpad
CAD	PLT, DWG, DXF, DWF	Spicer Imagenation IGC MyRiad
Compression	ZIP	F2F Built in

Error Codes

Error Code	Category	Description
-1	DCT	Reserved
-2	DCT	DCT Daemon timeout
-3	DCT	User cancelled from console
-4	DCT	Cannot access the output file
-5	DCT	DCT Daemon is not running
-6	DCT	DCT Daemon error
-10	DCT	Failed creating output folder
-11	DCT	Output file already exists
-12	DCT	Input file cannot be found
-13	DCT	Input file is not printable
-14	DCT	PrintDoc.dll cannot be found
-15	DCT	Conversion function cannot be found in PrintDoc.dll
-16	DCT	Reserved
-17	DCT	Reserved
-18	DCT	Input file is not specified
-19	DCT	Failed renaming output file
-20	DCT	Failed unzipping file
-21	DCT	MetaZipDll.dll cannot be found
-22	DCT	Unzip function cannot be found in MetaZipDll.dll
-23	DCT	PDFILCNV.EXE cannot be found
-24	DCT	No printable file found in the input zip file
-25	DCT	Reserved
-26	DCT	Failed printing Excel file
-27	DCT	Tif2PdfDll.dll cannot be found
-28	DCT	Conversion function cannot be found in Tif2PdfDll.dll
-29	DCT	Native application – Myriad – cannot be loaded
-30	DCT	Failed retrieving system directory
-49	DCT	DCT conversion timeout
-100	OCR	OCR engine (FR) is not installed
-101	OCR	OCR engine failed locating input file
-102	OCR	OCR engine unspecified failure
-103	OCR	OCR engine failed recognizing input file format
-300	F2F	Cannot create communication pipe
-801	F2F	Not supported OS
-802	F2F	Not enough memory
-803	F2F	F2F is already running (Multiple instances are not allowed)
-804	F2F	F2F demo period expired
-805	F2F	Reserved
-820	F2F	Failed finding input file
-821	F2F	Failed creating directory
-822	F2F	Failed copying file
-823	F2F	Failed renaming file
-824	F2F	Failed deleting file

FAQ

Q: My Native Application (ex. Microsoft Word) is closed when a conversion is taking place. Can I stop this?

A: No, there is no way to stop Imager F2F from doing this. Imager F2F will close all windows of the associated native application that you have open before and after a conversion.

Q: Installation of Imager F2F performed successfully, but clicking on Start button comes up with an error: "Service [Imager F2F] cannot be started. The service did not start due to a logon failure".

A: This is because it's the first you want to run a service under a specific user account on this computer. The current fix is to go to Control Panel | Administrative Tools | Services. Double Click on the Service called 'Imager F2F'. Go to the Log On Page. Make sure "This Account:" is checked. Re-enter your login user name and password. Click OK. If a message pops up that "The account <domain>\<user> has been granted the 'Log On As A Service' right" then this has been completed successfully. You can then start the service.

Q: Files are not being converted; I keep getting DCT engine timeout. Other conversions are successful.

A: Run File Configuration following instructions from above. There are two possibilities for the problem. One, the "Printto setting" is setup incorrectly. Two, when you native application opens the document; there is a dialog that waits for your input. To solve this, run each native application once after their installation.

Q: During installation, I get an error when "Configure Port" or "Add Printer".

A: You might have other Imager products installed before. First uninstall all these products:
1. Imager Print Capture Driver
2. Imager Document Conversion Toolkit
3. Imager F2F Conversion Server
4. Legal Imager

To make sure the driver are removed:
1. From the Printers panel, remove all Imager printers (assuming one exists)
2. Run 'RegEdit' from Start | Run and remove the following key entries:
   - HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE/System/CurrentControlSet/Control/Print/Monitors/Fax Monitor Port
   - HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE/System/CurrentControlSet/Control/Print/Environments/windows NT x86/Drivers/Version-3/Imager SDK Fax Print Driver
   - HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE/Software/Microsoft/Windows NT/CurrentVersion/Print/Printers/Imager SDK DocCnvrt Driver

Now, reboot and reinstall F2F.

Q: How to convert CAD files via Spicer Imagenation?

A: Imagenation (www.spicer.com) is a universal document viewer which can be used by F2F to print various document formats including CAD files. Imagenation supports more than 200 formats.

User needs to change the "Printto" settings manually with the following steps (taking DWG as an example):
1. Install Imagenation;
2. Launch Imagenation; open a DWG file; print it via "Imager SDK DocCnvrt Driver" once;
3. Go to Windows Explorer | Tools | Folder Options | File Types | DWG | Advanced;
4. Add a "printto" action if it doesn't exist;
5. Change its setting to (path may be different):
   a. Action = printto
   b. Application used to perform the action = C:\Spicer\Image\Image.exe "%1"
   c. Use DDE = checked
   d. DDE Message = OpenDocwin(0,0,"%1","",0,0,0) PrintDocwin(0,3,0,0,1,0,1,0,1,1,0)
   e. Application = IMAGEnation
   f. DDE Application Not Running = OpenDocwin(0,0,"%1","",0,0,0) PrintDocwin(0,3,0,0,1,0,1,0,1,1,0) CloseDocWin(0,0) Terminate()

g. Topic = Imaging
6. Go to F2F Monitor | Options | Supported Input Formats; Add "DWG" format.

Q: How to convert PLT files via IGC Myriad?
A: Myriad (www.myriadviewer.com) is a universal document viewer which can be used by F2F to print
PLT files:
1. Install Myriad 6.2 under C:\Program Files\IGC\MYRIAD;
2. Launch Myriad; open a PLT file; print it via "Imager SDK DocCnvrt Driver" once;
3. Add the following code into section [mymacro] in C:\Winnt\myrcom32.ini:
    cmd1=ff_load("%1P")
    cmd2=print_settings(TRUE, "", EXECUTE_PRINT_SIZE_15X11, 1,
                    execute_print_scale_page, 100, FALSE, FALSE, FASLE,
                    execute_print_orient_landscape, execute_print_document,
                    execute_print_range_all, 0, 0)
    cmd3=print(EXECUTE_PRINT_QUICK)
    cmd4=delete_item("%1P")
    cmd5=close_session()
4. Go to F2F Monitor | Options | Supported Input Formats; Select "Associate PLT format with IGC
    Myriad".

Q: How to change the output resolution (DPI), paper size and orientation?
A: All these settings can be configured in the DCT Printing Preferences dialog:
        Start | Setting | Printers | Imager SDK DocCnvrt **Driver | Printing Preferences**…