Intelligent Tools

Synergetic Data Systems Inc.

UNFORM 7.0

Laser Forms and
E-document Software

Document Delivery
Automation

Including Document
Archiving & Retrieval,
and Scanning

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If money is the *lifeblood* coming in
and going out of any enterprise, then
Forms and Documents and the
work-flow systems they follow
are the *information arteries,*
providing a controlled process of
converting resources into money.

In many cases documents are what
legally and financially protect
the assets of an enterprise
by providing proof of indebtedness
to and from other entities.

Information Technology professionals
are central to the process of designing,
maintaining, supporting, and increasingly,
in *evolving,* the technical systems
which form an integral part of the
enterprise's ongoing management of
valuable resources.

⇒ **SDSI partners with I.T. professionals,
developers and system integrators.**

⇒ **Evolving systems require Intelligent Tools**

Since the laser-printer revolution of the
early 1990's, when the cost of laser
technology reached the business mass
market, laser-forms creation software
has revolutionized the way enterprises
use paper resources to carry information
between interested parties.

⇒ **UnForm was first released in 1994 as
"page enhancement software" for
laser printers**

Internet technology has
further revolutionized how
documents and information
are exchanged between entities,
resulting in possibilities for
efficiency and money-saving
which *cannot* be ignored
by savvy ongoing enterprises.

⇒ **Over twelve years UnForm has evolved with
technology to include multiple modes of
document and report delivery, in addition to
its usual primary role as a dynamic
graphical text enhancement tool**

⇒ **In UnForm version 7.0, with document
archiving & retrieval, and a document scanning
client, UnForm's functionality clearly extends into
the arena of enterprise-level document
management solutions.**

⇒ *Laser*   ⇒ *Zebra ZPL for labels*
⇒ *Fax*   ⇒ *MICR-encoded laser checks*
⇒ *PDF*   ⇒ *Barcode*
⇒ *Email*
⇒ *HTML*
⇒ *Archive*

Comparisons of the costs of handling and mailing documents versus automated fax or email delivery show that *drastic* per-document cost reductions are possible with automated systems.

If the investment cost to bring the appropriate technology to the enterprise is reasonable, the pay-off period for the technology is usually measured in *months*.

⇒ *UnForm is the industry leader in price-to-feature ratio*

The evolution of technology creates opportunity, but it can also create perplexity when it comes to deciding a strategy for evolving systems. An enterprise, whether small, medium or large, can have a considerable amount of money invested in an existing business accounting or ERP system to automate its processes.
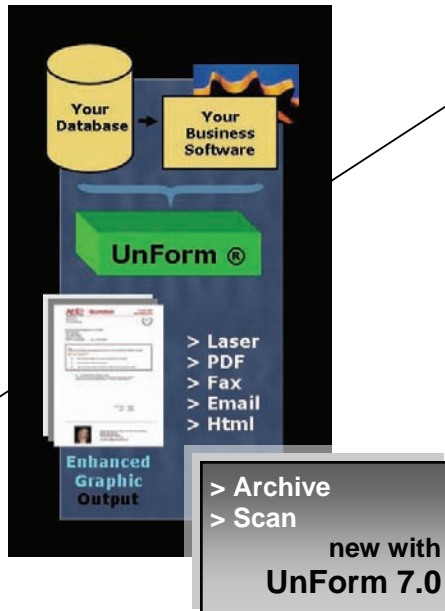
⇒ *UnForm's platform-independence and client-server architecture allow UnForm to be implemented without modifications to an enterprise's primary business software system*

Savvy I.T. professionals know the value of using proven independent software tools to automate specialized aspects of an enterprise's needs, without necessarily relying on a single-source software provider to implement a fully-integrated, but ultimately proprietary system.

UNIX   LINUX   WINDOWS

P L A T F O R M
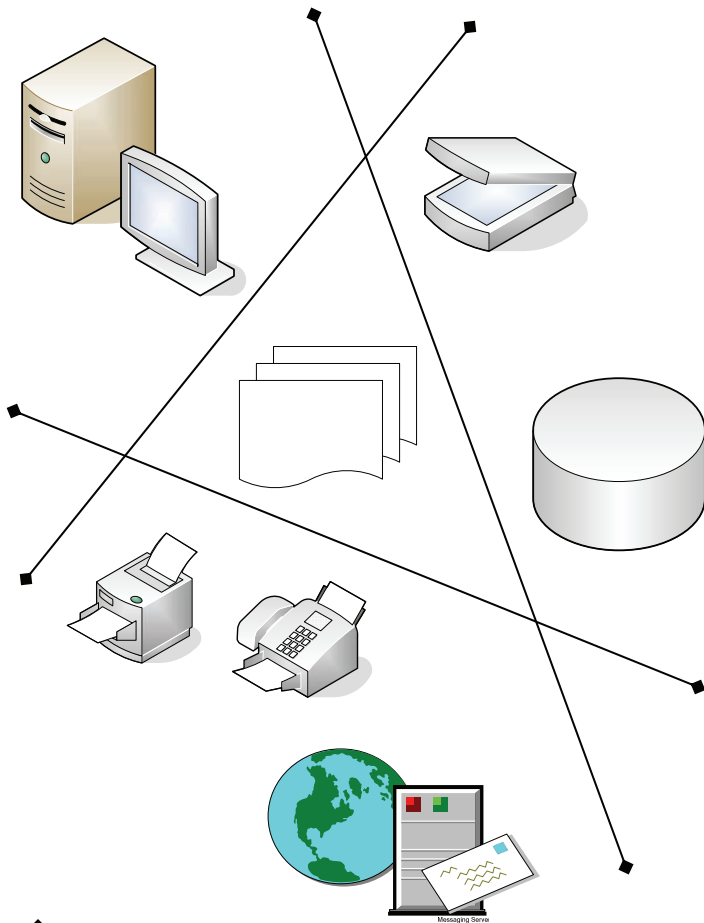
UnForm Product Overview

- UnForm is a flexible and powerful document enhancement software solution that can enhance forms and reports from any application, usually without application modification.

- Drivers are available for laser printers, Adobe Acrobat pdf output, bar code labels on Zebra® printers, and HTML report generation.

- UnForm was designed for developers as a tool to provide high quality printed documents from any application.

- UnForm eliminates the need for preprinted forms by enhancing existing documents with images, logos, and other graphical elements.

- UnForm includes intelligence that allows developers to build cost-effective processing logic into documents.

- UnForm allows the printing , faxing and emailing of identical copies of forms in the same processing cycle.

- Forms also can be structured to perform pre-specified tasks - such as calculations or data retrieval - within the document before printing.

- Significant is the ability for users of Unix applications to integrate electronic documents into their processing, and provide access to those documents via web browsers, email or Adobe Acrobat Readers on a variety of computer platforms.

- UnForm can produce a report in a PDF format and print the same report on any PCL5 or Postscript compatible laser printer and email the file via any email gateway. This is all accomplished without modifying the existing code of any applications.

- While most laser forms products offer static overlay capability, UnForm offers that ability, **PLUS** dynamic content-based features. For example, signature images can be added to individual purchase orders based on a buyer code. Words or patterns, such as "TOTAL", can become the anchor points for graphical elements such as boxes, font changes, or shade regions. Add to this a full programming capability, and UnForm is easily the most flexible and powerful document enhancement tool available.

> Laser
> PDF
> Fax
> Email
> Html

> Archive
> Scan

new with UnForm 7.0

Implementing improved business practices with 21st century information technology requires seamless integration of distinct technologies.

Intelligent Tools

UnForm Technical Overview

- UnForm uses an intelligent text analyzer to detect forms and reports that need to be enhanced versus output which passes through UnForm unmodified, resulting in a minimum amount of system configuration changes to implement UnForm. There is no need to define new printers, or to specify a printer name for each new form. UnForm assumes that your application already prints data in the correct positions on a form, and can add enhancements around the printed text, but it can move or erase this application data as needed.

- UnForm easily integrates with BBx, ProvideX, Informix, Progress, Oracle, C, Cobol, Thoroughbred, UniBasic, Pick and other development languages. UnForm is compatible with most all versions of Unix, Linux, AIX, HP-UX, Sun Solaris, Windows 2000, 2003 and XP.

- UnForm can be operated from the command line, or can be interfaced with any unix or linux application via pipes. For example, if an application currently prints to the spooler as "|lp –dprinter", it can print through UnForm to produce enhanced documents simply by changing the above pipe reference to "|unform |lp –d*printer*". UnForm scans the incoming text and determines what enhancements to apply dynamically.

- For Windows Networks, submitting jobs to the UnForm server can be via Direct TCP/IP Printing, which essentially allows you to configure UnForm as one or more virtual HP JetDirect printers.

- The document enhancement process is controlled entirely through a text configuration file known as a *rule file*, which contains any number of *rule sets*. Each rule set contains detection logic and document enhancement logic. The detection logic scans the page for literals or patterns of text, matching any print stream to a rule set. Once a rule set is matched, the job is processed with the specified enhancements added.

- Developers and administrators can create rules files using the optional GUI form-design tool, or any text editor, and typical laser forms can be developed in just a few hours.

- **IDE**—UnForm's GUI design tool offers a unique integrated design environment as a separate Windows client that can use sample data from your application, UnForm's print server, and the design tool itself to collectively automate the forms and document delivery design process.

Seamless Integration of Distinct Technologies

UnForm is a competitively priced application for the small- to mid-sized business market, but is scalable for large organizations as well. Despite its competitive price point, UnForm is a fast and feature-rich product with all the capabilities found in the most expensive competitive products on the market. UnForm's major features are listed below. Major features being introduced with UnForm 7.0 starting in June 2006 are prefixed by '**v 7.0:**'. More details on UnForm 7.0's extensive list of new features is contained on the following two pages.

Environment	Platform-independent client-server architecture | **Unix, Linux, Windows** **v 7.0: "auxiliary" Windows-based support server**
Optional Components	Windows-based graphical design tool | **IDE** **v 7.0: Document archive storage and retrieval** **v 7.0: Document Scanning Client**
Output And Delivery	**Electronic laser forms | Presentation-quality reports** Compatible with any **PCL-5** printer **v 7.0: Compatibility with any POSTSCRIPT printer** **Color** printer support Adobe Acrobat **PDF** forms, with encryption Control over PDF **Outline** display levels **Email** e-documents in PDF format automatically (login/password for authentication) Easily integrated with **FAX** software **v 7.0: FAX automatically via MS Fax Server** **HTML** reports **Barcodes** in most standard symbologies **ZEBRA** barcode label printer support **MICR** encoding for laser checks Ghostscript support for **.png**, **.tif** and other image output Dynamic **image conversion and scaling** capability
Document and Text Enhancement	Font change, attribute, erase, and move of any input text Boxes and lines of any dimension, with optional shading and edge width control Rounded box corners Grid options in box drawing **v 7.0: Angled Line, Circle Drawing** Graphical shading Case conversion Text additions in any device font, color, size, and position Shade regions in any device shade-grade and **color** Multi-line text handling
Control	Images, overlays, and attachments Multiple, unique copy control Printer bin, tray, duplex, dpi control Dynamic output device changes Integrated programming language Rich, full-featured expression library Run-time rule set merging Sub-job support

Intelligent Tools come from Intelligent Feedback

Besides numerous upgrades to the standard features of UnForm and the UnForm GUI Design Tool, UnForm 7.0 offers new components that supply the technologies to automate an enterprise-wide document delivery, document archiving and management, and document scanning solution that is scalable to meet the needs of any size business.

Here's a preview of the list of new features being built into this release, and further below is a preview of the list of features in the new optional document archiving & management and document scanning components.

Windows Support Server

UnForm's platform independence had previously prevented us from offering all the possible features we would like, as many utilities and tools are available only on a limited number of platforms (or just Windows in many cases), or may have high licensing costs. In some cases, older or more obscure Unix platforms simply don't have access to even the latest open source products. In response, UnForm 7.0 adds a free Windows-based support component that can run as a service on any Windows 2000 or higher computer on a network. The UnForm server, running on any operating system, can use this Windows support server to perform these tasks:

⇒ Image scaling and conversion, if no Image Magick or Image Alchemy is available on the server. Ghostscript conversions, if no Ghostscript is available on the server.
⇒ Database access via ODBC or OLE DB - code block functions are provided to establish database connections and execute SQL commands to retrieve data.
⇒ Microsoft Fax support - code block functions can be used to send a fax via a Microsoft Fax Server set up on the same machine as the the support server.

Postscript Driver

To support more laser printers, generates native postscript code that supports printer features such as duplex and tray selection, and downloadable Type 1 fonts. Unlike the PDF driver, or Postscript generated via Ghostscript, the PostScript driver is as capable as the PCL driver.

PDF Enhancements

Including support for JPG images, user and owner passwords, document-level embedded Javascript, annotations with support for text, rubber stamp, hyperlinks, and javascript styles, and flate compression on most platforms.

Other Base-Product Enhancements

⇒ GUI design tool expression wizards and user interface enhancements
⇒ Fax automatically
⇒ Angled Line, Circle Drawing
⇒ Many more minor enhancements

In the simplest sense, UnForm is an intelligent filter that captures data coming out of an application, transforms it and delivers it to one or many devices or recipients. Now, UnForm can simultaneously send the text and documents in the UnForm job to a powerful document management archival database with a flexible indexing structure and comprehensive browser front-end for subsequent archive retrieval.

Document Archiving And Retrieval

Storage / Security Capabilities and Features

⇒ Storage of both UnForm-generated documents and other documents using pre-defined and user-defined indexing schemes.

⇒ Storage as part of an UnForm job by setting command line parameters and/or specifying an archive command in a rule set.

⇒ Storage independent of an UnForm job via command line parameters, or via the user interfaces.

⇒ From UnForm, both text and formatted pdf versions are stored automatically, identified by a library, document type, and document ID.

⇒ Libraries are file-system based locations, and within the library, a document is uniquely identified by its type and document ID.

⇒ Multiple versions of the document can be stored (i.e. including, but not limited to, the text and formatted pdf noted above).

⇒ Indexing includes the obvious type/ID, plus date/time, and any number of user-defined 1- to 3-level categories.

⇒ Security is managed by library. All documents are encrypted and compressed when stored in the library. To access documents, a user login is required, and each login is granted read, write, or delete access to a given library.

⇒ An individual UnForm archive library has a theoretical capacity limit of 4.3 billion documents.

Retrieval Features and Capabilities

Retrieval can be by command line, or via a web browser interface. The browser interface provides both index-oriented browsing and full featured searching.

Searches generate lists of documents, which can then be further manipulated. In particular, a selected list can be exported to a pure html directory structure suitable for loading on other storage media, such as a CD/DVD, a zip file, a web site directory, etc. Imagine, for example, exporting all of a customer's invoices from a date range to a zip archive and emailing it to them. A more obvious example would be to off-load old documents to external storage, then purging them to free up disk space.

Document Scanning Client

Provides image management and uploading into a library.

Images can be scanned or imported from the PC's file system.

Both barcode recognition and OCR recognition assist in automating document identification.

Using VBScript, a developer can even automate the interpretation of such data and use database access or other coding logic to generate document property and indexing information.

Design and customize the appearance of forms and reports right from your Windows Desktop.

The UnForm® Form Design Tool is a Windows®-based tool used to design and individualize the appearance of documents from any application. Forms can be created quickly and efficiently right from your desktop, shortening the time to meet your unique requirements.

The Design Tool allows you to customize documents as well as determine the routing process to a variety of digital destinations. The designer is an easy to learn and use tool that lets you simply point and click and see your results instantly. Editing a logo, address, telephone number, watermark or even producing a completely new document is just a few minutes work with the graphical forms designer.

UnForm and the Design Tool offer a unique *Integrated Design Environment* that uses sample data from your application, UnForm's print server software and the Design Tool collectively during the form development process. Forms previously created for UnForm can also be edited with the UnForm Design Tool.

Key Features:

⇒ Integrated design environment, with syntax checking and command editors
⇒ Create rules-driven formats to automate the output process
⇒ Deliver documents customized to your requirements via print, e-mail, and fax
⇒ Easy to design and maintain high-level processing logic for complex forms
⇒ Drawing for graphical elements for your form based output
⇒ Document preview to review document formatting prior to installation
⇒ Easy layout for logos, watermarks, graphics and text

Free 30 day trial copies of UnForm and the UnForm GUI Design Tool are available on our website (www.synergetic-data.com). Trial copies are fully functional, and include full documentation and samples. SDSI offers free technical support for product evaluation.

Synergetic Data Systems, Inc. (SDSI) is a premier developer of unique horizontal software products for the Unix and Windows community. SDSI specializes in creating productivity enhancing products for developers and end users.

Since 1988, SDSI software has been implemented in over 8,000 installations at business organizations worldwide.

For more information or to download demonstration versions visit www.synergetic-data.com

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