



activePDF[®] Server[™] SP7 Release Notes

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About this Document

This document contains the notes for the release of activePDF Server version 3.5.2 service pack 7 (SP7), which includes a list of included fixes and instructions for installing the service pack.

Fixes

The following issues have been fixed in Server SP7:

- Fixed an issue with thread count for Microsoft Windows® Server 2003 where CPU utilization incrementally increased due to stacked APServer and isass.exe processes.
- Added new optional function in the COM interface called GetExclusiveAccess to address a latency issue on multi-processor machines, occurring between the completion of the creation of a PostScript® file and the execution of WSTPPDF.EXE.
- Updated Configuration Editor interface to permit updating of most activePDF Server registry entries.
- Supports new "EnableWatcher" registry entry that replaces the IgnoreWatcher flag, which is now turned off by default and should not be turned on unless explicitly advised by activePDF Technical Support.
- Fixed an issue with MFC class libraries and hyperthreading, specifically deleting thread local data when the application closes normally, causing an application popup window to occur as a result of a "Memory could not be read" error occurring in WSPTPDF.exe.
- Fixed an issue with APServer.exe leaking handles after every document processed.
- Created an option for file information to be read in memory rather than written to disk in the form of APX files, thus preventing latency issues on machines with a hard drive/processor speed discrepancy.
- Added a registry setting called VMSize to enable increasing the amount of virtual memory allocated to the conversion library to accommodate extremely large PostScript files.

Installing Server SP7

Use the following instructions to install activePDF Server SP7.

To install activePDF Server SP7:

1. Log on as a Local Administrator.
2. Download the necessary file from **www.activePDF.com**.
NOTE: You may be prompted to enter your member logon information before beginning the download.
3. Close any open applications.
4. Click **Start > Run**, type **services.msc /s**, and then click **OK**.
5. Right-click the **Print Spooler** service, and then click **Restart**.
NOTE: Restarting the Print Spooler service will restart all system-printing processes.
6. Click **Start > Run**, type **X:\apsvr352sp7.exe** (substitute the appropriate location), and then click **OK**.
7. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation.
8. Restart your machine.

New Features

This section provides an overview of the new options available and the changes to the existing options.

Additions to the Server Configuration Editor

The following options have been added to the activePDF Server Configuration Editor in Server SP7. Previously, these options were only available by editing the Windows registry.

- **Standard Pool Size:** Controls the size of the standard printer pool.
- **APX Location (file based):** Specifies a location for the APX file that is known to be accessible within Terminal Services. During each conversion, APX files are generated, which contain the activePDF Server configuration settings for each job, which are specified in the Server Configuration Editor or Programmatically. By default, these files are stored in X:\WINDOWS\activePDF or X:\WINNT\activePDF, depending on the version of Windows you are currently using. When using Terminal Services, the location of these files may not be accessible, which can prevent PDF generation.
- **“Windows” directory:** Specifies the location of the Windows directory. By default, the APX files generated during each job are stored in X:\WINDOWS\activePDF or X:\WINNT\activePDF, depending on which version of Windows is currently installed. Under Terminal Services, the default Windows or WINNT directory is specific to the current User, and may not be accessible.
- **Override VM size (blank for default):** Specifies the amount of virtual memory allocated to the conversion library to accommodate extremely large PostScript files. This can be used to increase performance and may prevent large conversions from hanging.
- **Server I/P Port:** By default, activePDF Server requires port 53535 to remain open. You can use this option to instruct activePDF Server to run under a different port.
- **PDF Extension:** Specify the extension to apply to your generated document. By default, the extension is .PDF.

- **Conversion buffer size:** Specifies the size of the buffer available during conversions.
- **Job Peek Minutes:** Specifies a timeout in minutes that the current print job cannot exceed.
- **CPU Threshold:** Sets the number of available processors that can be used during conversion. This number cannot exceed the number of physical processors available to the machine.
- **Process Priority:** activePDF Server allots a portion of CPU time for each print process, which is based on the assigned priority. Setting this option enables you to control the processing level for these priorities, which may increase activePDF Server performance in certain environments or implementations. You can use this in conjunction with Disable Priority boosting for greater control.

Value	Description
0	Normal level processing
1	Idle level processing
2	High level processing

NOTE: If Disable priority boosting is selected and Process Priority is set to 1 (IDLE), PDFs can only be generated during the IDLE cycle.

- **Single threaded printer name:** Specifies a printer name to apply to the printer generated by activePDF Server. As this printer is generated as single threaded only, all print jobs run through this printer will process using a single threaded model, regardless of the environment. This can be used to control the flow of the printing process under heavy load.
- **Enable crash watch thread:** Replaces the IgnoreWatcher flag, which is now turned off by default and should not be turned on unless explicitly advised by activePDF Technical Support.
- **Substitute no fonts:** Depending on the information included in the PostScript file, fonts may be may be translated to an alternate type or equivalent during the PDF generating process to help limit unnecessary information in the PDF. Setting this

option prevents activePDF Server from performing these substitutions. This can be useful if you have generated a PostScript file to include a specific set of fonts, and would like them to appear unaltered in your PDF. You can use this in conjunction with Embed Base 14 fonts and Disable font sub-setting for greater control when generating PDFs

NOTE: Due to licensing and limitations imposed by the PDF format, some fonts may not be embedded or subset in the resultant PDF.

- **Embed Base 14 fonts:** Setting this option instructs activePDF Server to embed the Base 14 Fonts, as specified by the activePDF Server PDF library, in the PDF. The Base 14 Font list was created as a list of fonts that are always assumed to be included with any PDF reading software. Since these fonts should be available in the PDF reading software, they are not embedded to limit the resultant PDF file size. Despite the standard list and the common names, there are multiple versions of each Base 14 Font. The differences between the versions is slight, but can alter the appearance of text or formatting in the PDF when viewed on a system other than where the PDF was generated. You can use this in conjunction with Substitute No Fonts and Disable Font Sub-setting fonts for greater control when generating PDFs
- **Disable font subsetting:** Font sub-setting specifies that only the information necessary for displaying the font characters displayed in your input document will be included in the PDF. By default, activePDF Server will subset fonts to limit the file size of the resultant PDF. Setting this option will instruct activePDF Server to embed all fonts, with the exception of the Base 14 Fonts. You can use this in conjunction with Substitute No Fonts and Embed Base 14 fonts for greater control when generating PDFs.

NOTE: Due to licensing and limitations imposed by the PDF format, some fonts may not be embedded or subset in the resultant PDF.

- **Ignore NOTDEF fix:** This option relates to a specific issue with previous builds of activePDF Server in which the ConcatenateToExisting property did not work. This is due to the way in which files are opened post conversion process to adjust spacing, which can prevent segments of the PDF form from being written. This issue has since been corrected and should not be turned on unless explicitly advised by activePDF Technical Support.

- **Enable PrintDirect flag:** By default, activePDF Server will begin generating the PDF only after all pages of the document have been spooled. Setting this option instructs the specified printer to begin printing after the first page of the document is spooled. This can be used to provide increased control over the printing process and may help when printing large documents.
- **Disable priority boosting:** Setting this option disables the operating system from increasing the process priority level. Under unaltered operations, the process priority may be increased from Idle to Normal or Normal to High. This can be useful for controlling the overall process flow, and when used in conjunction with the Process Priority option, may provide a performance increase.

NOTE: If Disable priority boosting is selected and Process Priority is set to 1 (IDLE),

- **Debug Mode (requires service restart):** This option enables activePDF Server's Debug Mode, which generates an additional log file, APSPDF.LOG, and should not be turned on unless explicitly advised by activePDF Technical Support.

NOTE: This option requires a service restart. Only select this option when directed by an activePDF Technical Support Representative. This option can also be set using the activePDF Technical Support Tools (APTechTools) software.

- **In Memory APX Files:** Instructs activePDF Server to generate the APX files In Memory, thus preventing latency issues on machines with a hard drive/processor speed discrepancy.

Changes in the Server Configuration Editor

The following changes have been applied to the Server Configuration Editor.

- **Registered edition name:** (Where edition name is either Standard Version or Professional Version.) Previously, there were two separate editions of activePDF Server available for purchase, Standard and Professional. activePDF Server Standard has since been discontinued and rolled into the Professional edition. This message indicates the edition of activePDF Server that is currently installed and remains primarily for users of activePDF Server Standard.

NOTE: Some features may not be available when using Server Standard. Server Standard has been discontinued and as such, we do not support its use with service pack 7. For further information, please contact activePDF Sales at sales@activePDF.com.

- **Please use the License Manager to update activePDF Server:** Previous editions of the Server Configuration Editor contained a License button, which enabled you to apply thread increases. This message is an indication that the License button is no longer available so you will need to use the activePDF License Manager to apply additional upgrades. Information regarding the license manager is available at <http://store.activepdf.com/licensemgr.asp>.

Running Server SP7 in .NET

The activePDF Server COM Interop Wrapper for Server SP6 will not work with Server SP7. In order to use Server SP7 in a .NET environment, you will need to download the latest build of the COM Interop Wrapper available at <http://www.activepdf.com/support/troubleshooting/>.

To update the COM Interop Wrapper, you will need to replace the existing SP6 `APServerNET.DLL` on your system with the SP7 `APServerNET.DLL` located in the `APServer-NET.ZIP` file.