PTC Arbortext Layout Developer™ and Layout Editor™

Create layout-intensive documents with professional, high-quality output

PTC Arbortext Layout Developer enables you to automate the publishing of documents with complex layouts without sacrificing quality, while PTC Arbortext Layout Editor provides the facility to create or finish documents by hand.

PTC Arbortext Layout Developer and Layout Editor share a highly sophisticated, automated print composition engine that enables you to publish multilingual content which has diverse and demanding layout requirements. With this powerful solution, companies throughout the world are producing high volumes of rules-based pages in business areas such as technical documentation (owner, operator and service manuals, illustrated parts catalogs, and training materials); Scientific/Technical/Medical (STM) books and journals; government, financial and legal documents; as well as product catalogs, directories and advertising.

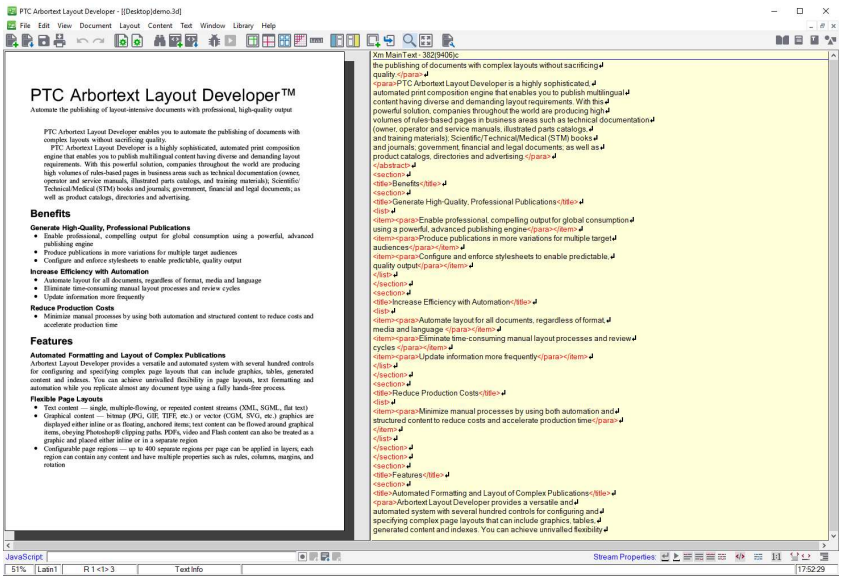
Benefits

Generate High-Quality, Professional Publications

- Enable professional, compelling output for global consumption using a powerful, advanced publishing engine
- Produce publications in more variations for multiple target audiences
- Configure and enforce stylesheets to enable predictable, quality output

Increase Efficiency with Automation

- Use Arbortext Layout Developer to create templates for automated document production either on the Desktop or within Arbortext Publishing Engine



- Automate layout for all documents, regardless of format, media and language
- Eliminate time-consuming manual layout processes and review cycles
- Update information more frequently

Achieve Perfect Quality within an Interactive Manual Environment

- Use Arbortext Layout Editor to perform manual tasks on composed documents or build documents by hand from templates
- Layout Editor provides a simplified yet customisable environment targeted specifically for manual composition work
- Documents in Layout Editor protect the template to ensure output consistency
- Content changes in Layout Editor can be saved to external files to allow round-tripping of content

Reduce Production Costs

- Minimize manual processes by using both automation and structured content to reduce costs and accelerate production time
- Reduce publication times by making minor corrections in real time rather than republishing the whole document

Features

Automated Formatting and Layout of Complex Publications

The composition engine within Arbortext Layout Developer and Arbortext Layout Editor provides a powerful, versatile and automated system with several hundred controls for configuring and specifying complex page layouts that can include graphics, tables, generated content and indexes. You can achieve unrivalled flexibility in page layouts, text formatting and automation while you replicate almost any document type.

Flexible Page Layouts

- Text content — single, multiple-flowing, or repeated content streams (XML, SGML, flat text)
- Graphical content — bitmap (JPG, GIF, TIFF, etc.) or vector (CGM, SVG, etc.) graphics are displayed either inline or as floating, anchored items; text content can be flowed around graphical items, obeying Photoshop® clipping paths. PDFs, audio, video and Flash content can also be treated as a graphic and placed either inline or in a separate region
- Configurable page regions — up to 400 separate regions per page can be applied in layers; each region can contain any content and have multiple properties such as rules, columns, margins, and rotation; page regions can be applied via anchor rules or inline commands; not only can page regions be at any location on (or off) the page and at any orientation, they can be tied together to allow groups of regions to always scale or move together

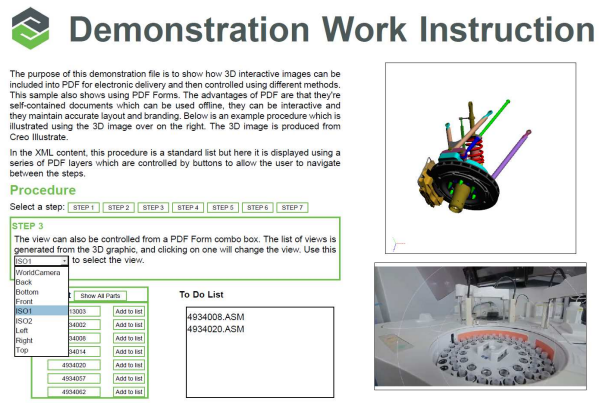
Typographic Controls

Typography can be controlled either by test results or by using inline instructions.

- Block level — inline column control, boxed sections, text-formatting property inheritance, rotation and aligned content
- Paragraph level — bi-directional text, horizontal and vertical justification, hyphenation, rule control, margins
- Text level — custom kerning and ligatures, combined fonts, word and letter spacing, character manipulation, baseline alignments
- Tables — nested tables, multiple alignment types and positions, inline column manipulation, position-based rule control, repeated headers and footers, position-based cell background colours

Interactive PDF

Create compelling and interactive end-user experiences by including 3D graphics, multimedia, PDF forms and Acrobat scripting directly from templates.



Create compelling interactive PDF output using Arbortext Layout Developer's ability to include 3D, multi-media and PDF forms as well as embedding Acrobat scripting into the output.

Manual Post-Composition Touch-Up

Adjust formatted output easily to fine-tune the design and reduce page count. The WYSIWYG view in Arbortext Layout Developer and Arbortext Layout Editor provides a real-time view of exactly how the output will look. Changes can be made to documents including text corrections, page layout tweaks and changing the formatting properties of text inline. The user interface in Layout Developer and Layout Editor can be customised to provide tools specific to your workflow and content models to maximise productivity. Text content is typically used in its original form so any changes made to the content stream can be saved or exported out of the document. Fully customisable change tracking can be applied, including multiple levels and specifying different markers on screen to print.

Large Volumes

Sustained stress tests for up to two million server-formatted pages per day.

Support for Multiple Language Formats

Unicode support and language-specific features allow Layout Developer to dynamically support global language formatting requirements. Includes support for all major Latin-based languages, as well as Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Thai, Arabic, Hebrew, and Cyrillic languages, with features including variable text flows, such as right-to-left and top-to-bottom, as well as regional formatting, such as Kashida, Ruby, Warichu and Yakumono. OpenType feature table support further extends language capabilities to ensure words and characters appear correctly in the output.

Arbortext Styler™ Integration

Use Arbortext Layout Developer from Arbortext Styler

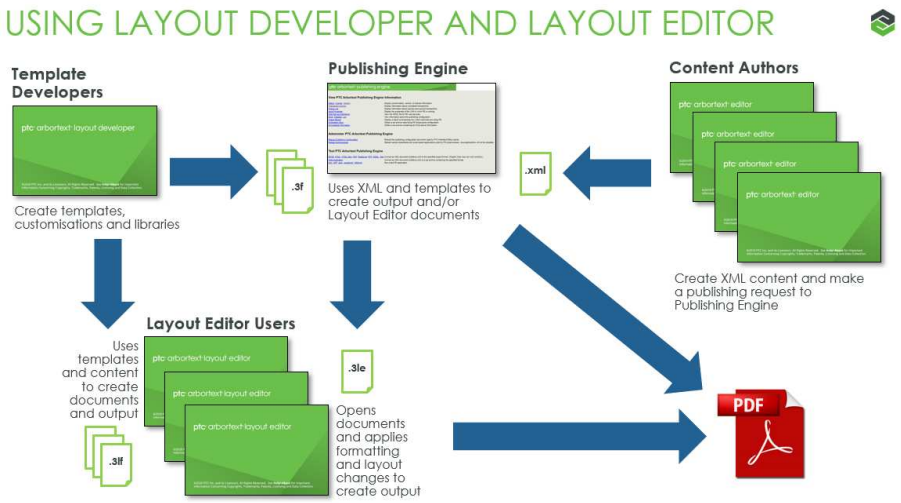
- Create stylesheets quickly — associate formatting properties with XML hierarchy and content-based conditions; create page layouts, and specify cross references, indexing and tables of contents
- Extend existing Arbortext Styler stylesheets — access Arbortext Layout Developer's rich functionality by utilizing Arbortext Styler's "source code edits"; APP functions; or associate an existing template with an Arbortext Styler stylesheet

Standards Support

Arbortext Layout Developer and Layout Editor support international standards, including SGML, XML, XSLT, XPath and SVG. They also enable XML/SGML standards to create end-to-end standards compliance in the composition process. Due to native support for XML, no pre-processing or file conversion steps are required when bringing in content from other information systems.

Open Architecture

Arbortext Layout Developer and Layout Editor enable you to easily integrate this solution with a wide range of databases, content management applications, and information technology products employed in many of your workflows. The JavaScript API and native use of XML technologies ensure easy uptake and learning of the software.

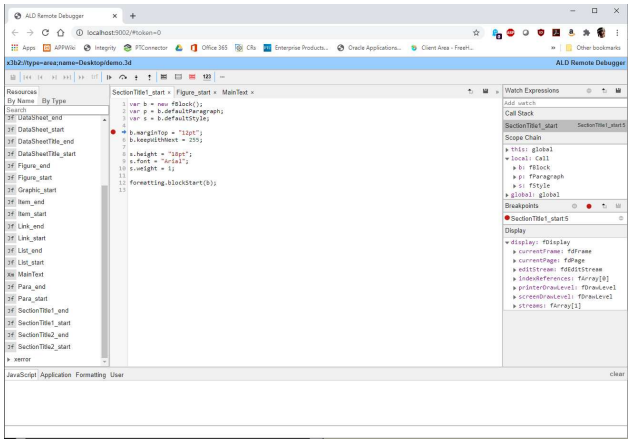


Software Versions and Installations

Arbortext Layout Developer

Layout Developer is the fully functioning application which allows users to:

- Create templates for deployment in Arbortext Publishing Engine, Layout Developer or Layout Editor
- Use the true WYSIWYG view to develop templates in real time so formatting and layout decisions can be validated immediately
- Develop code libraries for templates and customisations for Layout Editor
- Write and debug JavaScript code and other template components within the linked debugger which allows the user to step through their formatting process



Layout Developer provides a powerful debugging and code development tool

Arbortext Layout Editor

Layout Editor uses the same powerful formatting engine and is targeted towards manual document creation and finishing:

- Run or use templates to create documents interactively
- Open documents saved out from automated processes
- Edit and import text and graphic content to augment the composed document
- Manipulate and extend page layouts to achieve perfect results
- Apply inline formatting changes to tweak the look and feel of the document, saving lines and pages and achieving results which may not be possible through automation
- Use customisable actions, toolbars and interface areas developed to help users work efficiently
- Protected template code, removing the requirement users to know the development side of the template

Arbortext Publishing Engine

The print composition engine within Arbortext Publishing Engine is the same engine used inside Layout Developer and Layout Editor. This allows fully automated print composition using Arbortext Layout Developer templates, or Arbortext Styler stylesheets, depending on output requirements. Layout Editor files can be created from within Publishing Engine during formatting to allow finishing in Layout Editor.

Publishing Engine provides scalable, queue managed, automated document production from structured content and is integrated fully into the Arbortext family of products.

Learn More

For more information about Arbortext Layout Developer and the entire portfolio of Arbortext software products, visit: www.ptc.com/go/arbortext

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