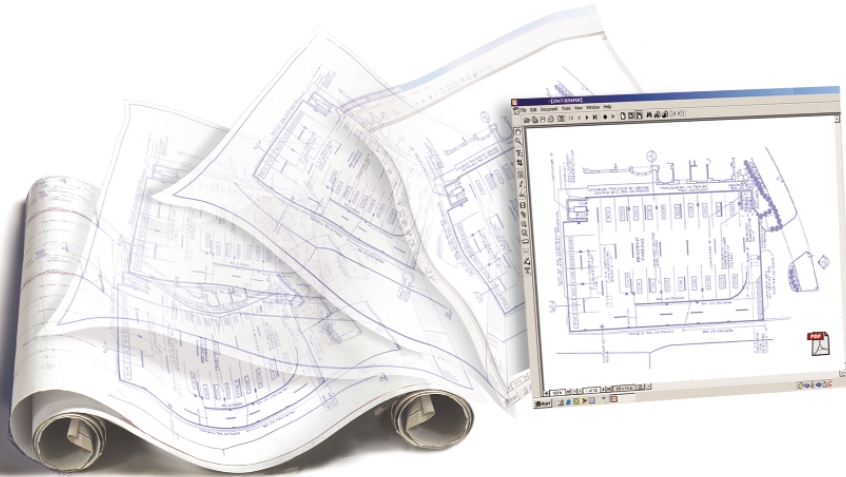# Layton Graphics Announces Release of CAD2PDF™ Translator

Converts Native AutoCAD and MicroStation Files to Text-searchable PDF

Key Benefits

Batch convert AutoCAD® and MicroStation® files to text-searchable vector resolution PDFs.

PDF files can be distributed and viewed for FREE using Adobe® Acrobat® Reader. Or use Adobe® Acrobat® 5.0 to view, redline, review, mark-up, digitally sign and secure PDF files.

Create searchable libraries of PDF engineering documents allowing almost instant access to any drawing.

Additional customized plug-ins to the full version of Acrobat allow you to take full advantage of the power of PDF.

CAD2PDF Product Features

▸ CAD2PDF plots text-searchable PDFs from AutoCAD and MicroStation drawings (including text that is not in the horizontal orientation).

▸ CAD2PDF plots PDFs from native CAD drawings in a one-step rendering process.

▸ CAD2PDF allows users to send native CAD files directly to the server for rendering.

▸ CAD2PDF is server based and allows users to:
  - *Submit multiple page sizes in a batch rendering process*
  - *Specify any plot scale or plot size at submission*
  - *Specify the means for determining plot range (graphic elements, levels,...)*

▸ CAD2PDF is configured to support customer standards for fonts, line styles, line weights, and colors.

▸ Add-on functionality to the CAD2PDF product include:
  - *Automated hyperlinking and bookmarking of PDF files*
  - *Embedding of scale in drawings that allow for measurement of distance and area*
  - *Support for PDF creation from HPGL, TIFF and CALS.*
  - *Custom plug-in's for add-on functionality to customer specifications*

▸ Layton Graphics offers product customization to ensure deployment is a success.

The CAD2PDF Translator converts native AutoCAD (DWG) and MicroStation (DGN) files to fully functional PDF files that can be readily consumed by the free Adobe® Acrobat® Reader or Adobe® Acrobat® 5.0. These PDFs retain vector resolution and convert text in CAD files to text-searchable PDFs. In addition, Layton Graphics offers services for creating automatically generated bookmarks and hyperlinks that allow customers to easily navigate through large engineering projects.

"Imagine searching on and finding any drawing within your entire plant within a few seconds, and delivering this drawing to customers or partners that can view the CAD file in non-proprietary PDF using the free Reader," said Phil Lee, executive vice president, Layton Graphics. "With our technology, Fortune 1000 accounts and government organizations can potentially save millions of dollars in labor productivity by streamlining how CAD data is accessed and distributed. To our knowledge, no other product exists that will allow you to convert CAD files to PDF with vector resolution and searchable text and distribute this non-proprietary data via a free Viewer."

The CAD2PDF Translator is server based software that can batch convert thousands or millions of CAD drawings to PDF. The CAD2PDF server sits on the customer network and manages both file conversion and updating of searchable indexes. Layton Graphics hopes to convince large organizations that storing and distributing their heterogeneous engineering data in PDF is a much more efficient model than converting CAD to CALS, TIFF or other raster-based file formats. "Working with CALS or TIFF files is not much better than working with paper," said Andy Skillen, business development manager at Layton Graphics. "CALS and TIFF are dumb images. With PDF you can search across libraries of drawings to quickly find whatever you are looking for. And our customers need to be able to zoom-in on drawing details to work with the data."

The CAD2PDF Translator can be preordered directly from Layton Graphics. The product is scheduled for initial release in May.