



Rogue Nation: How Many PDF Tools Occupy Your Workplace?

Multiple PDF tools in the workplace can create more problems than they solve. Consolidating PDF solutions is a smart decision and one that is better for your business.

KOFAX



Introduction

Redundant software solutions have a tendency to accumulate at organizations. Separate divisions, departments or companies that have been acquired may use myriad applications to solve their own unique business needs, unaware that another group already licenses a similar or related solution. As a result, some large companies may end up with more than 5 to 8 different PDF applications within their organization with the goal to reduce that to one standardized solution which fits every user's need. This example may sound extreme, but many companies face similar challenges.

It isn't always apparent that some applications share the same capabilities, especially when these applications are licensed across large-scale organizations. As such, rogue licenses can often slip under IT's radar.

This scenario often occurs with PDF editor tools and applications. There are numerous vendors that provide full-functionality PDF editors, and many line of business solutions include simplified PDF features. Imagine how easy it is for a department to adopt a specific application for document sharing, workflow or storage, not knowing that another department recently addressed the same or similar need. Both may have successfully solved that group's problems but with entirely different applications, each with its own benefits and limitations.

So why does it matter? Consider these long-term disadvantages.

IT costs and resources. It is always in IT's best interests to manage the cost and resource allocation associated with application licenses. The cost of multiple applications can add up quickly from the burden of installing to managing and maintaining updates, support and training. Then there is security—how many of these applications present potential threats that require monitoring?

These costs increase over time, especially if one application could have potentially addressed all of an organization's PDF needs.

Overpaying for a solution. Sometimes, organizations will overpay for an application with features they don't necessarily require in an effort to fill an immediate need. This may happen as individuals or small departments make investments on their own or frequently when procurement processes emphasize brand recognition or best value per license rather than which application will perform best based on current requirements.

This approach can lead to higher than necessary costs and investments due to the different number of PDF applications you have to manage. Furthermore, these licenses can be challenging to audit, becoming more expensive and leading to the threat of unplanned usage fees and fines. If PDF seats become limited, the organization may have to choose which employees have access and which do not, and that can lead to lower employee productivity, inflated costs or both.



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Unforeseen technical issues. Some companies may choose a less expensive PDF tool only to find it is no longer compatible with their software applications or that the external PDF documents that they receive and files that they send cannot be opened or lack accurate formatting. Relying on a mishmash of freeware and cheap tools can ultimately lead to compatibility headaches, introduce long-term security concerns as hackers try to infiltrate systems and the inevitability that this approach will eventually become obsolete to a growing organization. Better to choose a proven solution from a reliable provider that will stand the test of time.



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Quality control. No two PDF solutions are created equal or tuned to the same output quality. This means the whole company produces potentially bespoke PDFs with different OCR accuracy, formats and compression rates, ultimately leading to poor search results, inconsistent document quality and document storage issues.



The Kofax Approach

Reconciling multiple PDF solutions: Narrowing to the best choice

How can organizations consolidate PDF solutions and make the right choices in terms of costs and functionality? In other words, how can they find the right PDF solution for long-term business success?

Consider that many organizations may have accumulated applications from smaller vendors that ultimately have limited capabilities or added headaches when it comes to customer support and long-term viability. By contrast, companies may be paying a high price for an application from a leading vendor, even though many of the features go unused. In this situation, due to cost, companies may limit the number of licenses deployed, forcing employees to go outside of the approved IT approach to get their work done.



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Fortunately, cost-effective options like Kofax Power PDF help organizations reconcile these conflicts and narrow the field to one solution that fits their needs and budget.

The following are some of the characteristics any company should look for when making this choice.

Usability. Having one common solution simplifies training and ensures user adoption across the entire organization. Employees do not need to learn different applications for different processes, saving valuable time and reducing manual reconciliation when they miss critical steps because they don't know how to use the application.

Kofax Power PDF is built for the business user, avoiding steep learning curves and supporting workflows in as few clicks as possible. It offers a familiar Windows interface that is intuitive to most users on day one, which helps drive adoption, minimizes questions and training, and maximizes individual productivity.

Volume licensing. In many cases, additional functionality requires a higher cost per license—even if all the features and functionality aren't necessary. Plus, complicated agreements can make it difficult to manage needs as the organization grows.

With Power PDF, Kofax endeavors to provide a simple, cost-effective pricing model that makes it easy to put a robust PDF solution within reach of the entire organization. Power PDF simplifies the licensing process and provides an easy-to-control investment model. And as you need to deploy more users, Kofax provides a predictable way to plan and budget for any company's growing PDF needs.

Ease of deployment. The right solution not only has the features users need, but it also provides the tools, support and flexibility enterprises require to ensure smooth ongoing implementations. To support large enterprises, Kofax Power PDF comes with a custom installation and deployment kit that makes it easy to maintain enterprise-level governance and control.

The kit gives system administrators the ability to control the installable options for each department, dramatically accelerating and standardizing large deployments. The kit also allows for custom configurations for Microsoft SharePoint and other document management system connectors.



Make the Right Move to Power PDF

The key to reconciling multiple applications is having enough confidence in one solution to support your decision. With pricing designed to distribute robust PDF tools on virtually every desktop, world-class customer support and a licensing program that works, making the move to Power PDF makes business sense and eliminates the desire to “go rogue”.

To learn more about Power PDF, visit our website at kofax.com/products/power-pdf



About Kofax

Kofax enables organizations to Work Like Tomorrow™—today. Our Intelligent Automation software platform and solutions digitally transform content-intensive workflows. Customers realize faster time-to-value and increased competitiveness, growth and profitability by combining Kofax's cognitive capture, RPA, process orchestration, analytics and mobile capabilities while increasing business resiliency and mitigating compliance risk.



Work Like Tomorrow.™

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