

## Features Comparison of Acrobat Forms Software

There are only a few software offerings that enable a user to post data into Acrobat-based forms. The following compares 3 of the 4 products. The 4<sup>th</sup> product is not listed because its price starts at \$3,000, has fewer features than PF-Merge, and is command-line based only.

**Postscript:** One of the products (???) has been removed from comparison due to legal reasons. The following was our assessment; we recommend that you use the features list in the chart to evaluate each product.

	<b>Features</b>	<b>PF-Merge</b>	<b>???</b>	<b>Variform PDF</b>
1	Tedious Programming	None needed. Save cost /time.	X	Recurring manual data exports required for Text
2	Do pdf Text field	X	X	X
3	Do pdf Checkbox	X		
4	Do pdf Radiobutton	X		
5	Do pdf Listbox	X		
6	Do pdf Combobox	X		X
7	Merge Images	X	X	X
8	Databases supported	Over 10, 5 Enterprise-class. Live Connection.	Restricted by ADO's limitations. See notes #8 below.	ODBC <sub>#8</sub> . Text data (data staled, upon export from database)
9	Time to deployment	minutes	weeks/months	days
10	Email PDF	X		
11	Fax PDF	option		
12	Scheduler	free/option		
13	Password/Encryption	X		
14	Save Fields Mapping	X		
15	Print Utilities	X		
16	Join Utilities	X		
17	Multilingual Support	X		
18	Forms Flattening	X	X	X
19	Set fields to Read/Write	X		
20	Memory Management	X, for 100mb's PDF		
21	Price	\$249 +	\$648	\$349
22	Upgrades	Mostly free		\$maintenance plan

1. If programming is needed, the programmer must have these skills: Acrobat libraries, Perl, C++, Visual Basic, Databases.
2. Only PF-Merge handles multilingual data.
- 3-6. Provides a richer forms design possibilities. The millions of forms out on the Internet use these types of fields.
8. ODBC and ADO are not able to display the database's native data types. User has to mix and match the versions of ODBC/ADO with the target database's version. This may results in dozens of mix and matches to consider. Each mix and match does not always work perfectly, resulting in show-stoppers that easily ruin a programming project.
- 10/11. These are some of the features our corporate customers requested. PF-Merge listens to customers and provides what are needed. The competitors' solutions are closed architecture, resulting in inabilities to provide useful add-ons features.

PF-Merge is a trademark of Pureforms, Inc.

Variform PDF is a trademark of ArtsPDF/Latana.