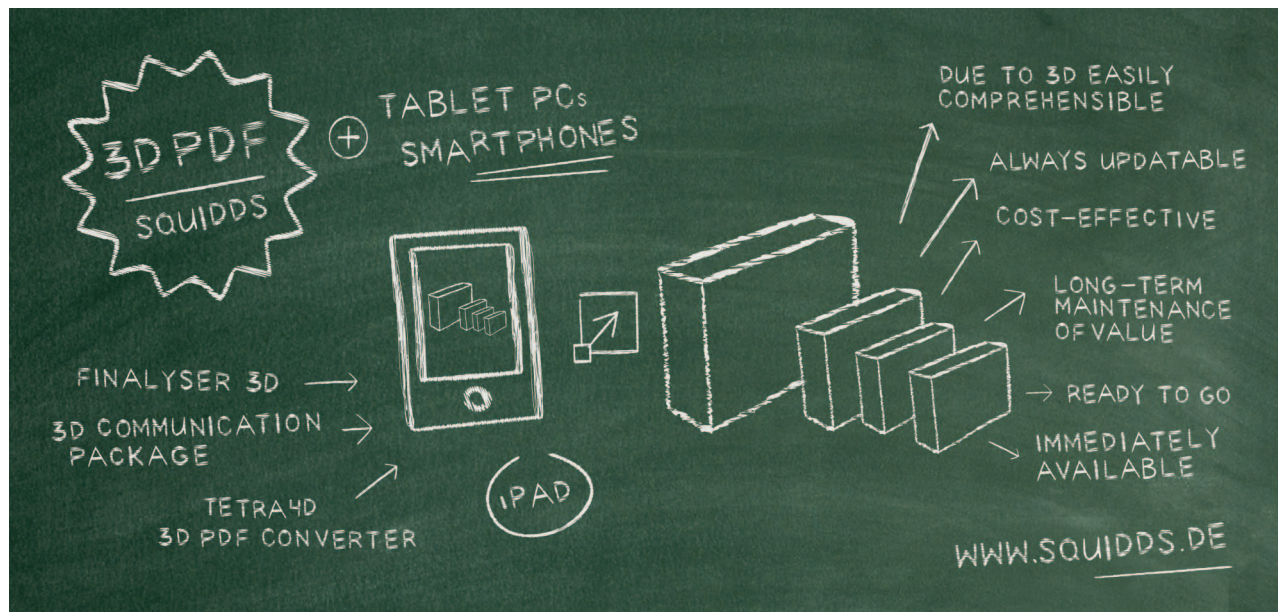


3D PDF in Technical Documentation



Here to stay: 3D PDF.

3D PDFs are gaining ground in technical documentation, where they are used not only to save time and money, but also to improve quality and timeliness. The benefits are felt not only by end users, but also by the enterprise itself.

Nowadays, 2D PDFs containing static graphics and simple visuals are used across the board. The aim of a graphic is to support textual description within technical documentation, or even to replace it, at best. This saves not only translation costs, but also the time otherwise needed for explanation. However, not all 2D graphics are able to convey the content that the reader needs in order to understand the technical documentation. 3D graphics are completely different – their versatility allows workflows to be presented concretely in the form of animations, and nested objects to be displayed in detail with the aid of different viewing options.

Myriad applications

Mechanical engineers, especially, can use 3D PDFs in practical ways to provide clear, understandable visualisations of complex processes, individual assemblies or machinery parts on a computer screen, or at the machine itself, e.g. using mobile terminals, and to make them easily accessible. The Otto Bihler machinery factory in Halblech, Germany already uses 3D PDFs intensively in its technical documentation to depict complex interrelationships efficiently and lucidly – and interactively as well, if necessary. It is also possible to integrate individual components selected from the 3D graphic into a separate dynamic order form “at the push of a button” using an ordering function in the 3D PDF – without the user himself having to input anything. Ordering errors due to wrongly entered articles thus become a thing of the past.

Ideal: 3D Communication Package

All this is made possible by the 3D Communication Package containing the complete Adobe Technical Communication Suite 3.5, plus Tetra 4D, Deep Exploration, the Finalyser®, DITA Cookbook® 3.0 and perfectly integrated 3D services.



With the complete 3D package, it is now possible to edit 3D animations. CAD data are prepared for documentation with Adobe Photoshop® CS5, Tetra 4D or Deep Exploration. With just a few clicks, you bring up 3D textures, generate 2D graphics for printing, or define 3D views and animations. These pre-processed 3D animations and 2D graphics are then integrated simply and easily into Adobe FrameMaker® 10 with the 3D solution and published as PDFs for manuals, flyers or as online help systems – in one workflow step.

New 3D services in Finalyser®

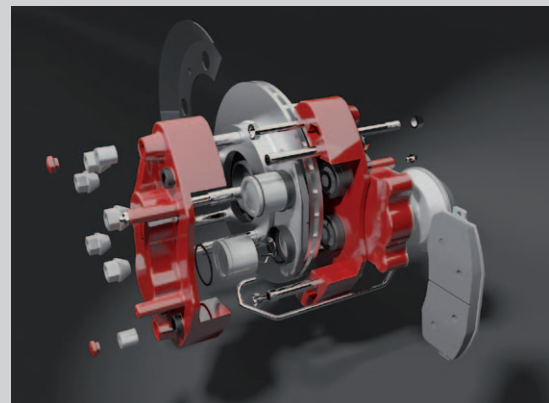
New features include the 3D services in Finalyser® for FrameMaker 10. A convenient tool for automation and individual workflow optimisation, the universally acclaimed plug-in and extended script collection has now been widened to include 3D services. This means that 3D functions are now provided that are not included out of the box in FrameMaker. It is now easy to embed animated or dynamic 3D graphics into a document and to link them to text passages. The desired animation or 3D graphics view is displayed by a mouse click on the defined passage. The plug-in also allows an article field to be inserted that immediately displays details of an article in response to double clicking on individual elements in the 3D graphic. These details can then be inserted directly into a linked order form. To ensure a clean printout, the “Insert 2D Picture” function can be used to superimpose a 2D graphic over the 3D graphic already imported – while keeping the 3D graphic on screen. All that is now needed is to store the document as a 3D PDF – finished!

Alternative: 3D PDF Converter from Tetra 4D

For those who do not work with FrameMaker, the 3D PDF Converter from Tetra 4D is the ideal solution for producing interactive 3D PDF documents from native 3D CAD data.

The 3D PDF Converter simply plugs into the menu bar of Acrobat X Pro and is then available to the user without detours via external programs. Data can also be exported from 3D PDFs into neutral 3D formats so that 3D data can also be used in other applications.

In addition to many established formats, the 3D PDF Converter also supports some new CAD formats such as Inventor 2011/2012, SolidWorks 2010/2011, Solid Edge ST3, Siemens NX 7.5, Siemens JT 9.5 and CATIA V5R20.



3D PDF and exploded view: brake

3D PDF – format of the future

The future belongs to 3D. Be it in audio-visual media such as 3D cinema, 3D television, or technical documentation in the form of 3D PDFs – it is time to latch onto this trend. The team at SQUIDDS is at your service and can provide expert, bespoke guidance. We identify the products that match your processes and support you in optimising your documentation workflow. With an extensive range of services and products tailored to your specific needs, SQUIDDS is the experienced partner at your side when automating technical documentation.

Further information can be found here!

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| 3D Communication Package: | www.squidds.de/en/3dpdf |
| Finalyser®: | www.finalyser.com |
| Tetra 4D - 3D PDF Converter: | www.tetra4d.de |
| Deep Exploration: | www.squidds.de/en/deepexploration |
| Adobe FrameMaker 10: | www.framemaker10.de |
| Tips & Tricks: | www.workflowblog.de |
| Success Stories: | www.workflowblog.de |

In order to get more information visit www.squidds.de/en or send an E-mail to kontakt@squidds.de.