## PDFDevice Expelled Gremlins

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| **ID :** | 1853 | **Fixed in version :** | 3.9.0.1 |
| **Short Description:** | Pdf device produce a bad pdf | | |

**Full Description:**   We have a omnis report with owrite variable that does not produce a correct PDF.

Look at the 'Report FIle' attached with omnis

If you  print with Brainy PDF device it produce the not working PDFBrainyData.PDF

If you print with Omnis pdf device it produce a working pdfomnis.pdf

May be a problem related to owrite data?  Owrite data are done with previous version.

It is not reproducible with new data, it happens only with old datafile.

It's not urgent and critical at the moment.

**Comments :**   We have re-tested this report on macOS with PDFDevice version 4 alpha 1, and PDFDevice appears to produce a correct PDF file using the supplied Omnis report.

# PDFDevice Enhancements

**ID :** 1294     **Implemented in version :** 3.4.5.0

**Short Description:** PNG Transparency

**Full Description:** We include a signature in some of our reports. We use the jpeg field for it. Now we need to switch to png in order to get transparency support. I modified the report so the png signature is displayed. When sending the report to screen I have transparency, however, when the report is sent to the pdf device I get a black background for the image. I included a screen shot. The left signature is a jpeg and the right is a png, partially overlapping the other signature to show transparency.

Is transparency supported by PDF Device? Is there something I should do differently, or is this a bug?

**Comments :** Both raw PNG and CS32 images are now supported.

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**ID :** 1790     **Implemented in version :** 3.9.0.1

**Short Description:** JS-Client: using "assignpdf" and "showpdf"

**Full Description:** Would it be possible to get the example "PDFDeviceAndJSClient.lbs" showing its use with "assignpdf" and "showpdf"?

**Comments :** New examples are available on request and on our web site.

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**ID :** 1826     **Implemented in version :** 3.4.5.0

**Short Description:** PDFDevice renders transparent pngs with black background (rather than transparen

**Full Description:** When I put transparent images onto a report or in an owrite document, printing them to screen, or emailing - they look fine.

When I take the scan screen output and send to pdfdevice, the transparent png's have a black background -- so they don't render correctly.

In the zip archive, I've got some samples for you. There are two transparent png's called
- signatureBobTransparent.png
- tmCompanyLogo.png

just drag them onto an owrite document and then merge and print to PDF to see the issue. The file 'letter with two transparentimages.jpg is a screenshot of the two images on owrite document.

The file 'emailmergedfromowrite.jpg shows what things look like when I email it to myself - the images are perfect.

The file 'Transparent Image Test - Doug-Artsmanagmenet.... pdf' is the same document merged with owrite and printed to PDF using PDFdevice. ***this shows that PDF device doesn't deal with the transparent png very well.


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as a second test, I printed an omnis report to screen. refer to the file 'ReportPrintedtoScreen.JPG'. These are donation receipts and you can see the imae at the upper left and lower right of each receipt.

I used PDFDevice to print that screen report to to a PDF 'Charitable Receipts for Donor 2020-05-17.pdf' -- and you can see that the transparent images show with a black background.

Why is this important?    people are doing their work from home because of COVID.    a number have asked us to allow them to print ta receipts to PDF -- and so we did.   The user were going to send then to their office to print on paper with coloured background to make the receipts official.

the black background (which should be white) makes the receipts look less than stellar.

If i print the omnis report to the printer (and use OSX's print to PDF) - it managed to print the tranarent images properly.

so, I'm thinking this is a PDFDevice issue because I get the same results with merge from owrite and print report from screen.

on the other hand ...   it could be an omnis issue.

This behaviours is the same in Studio 10.1 and goes as far back as studio 5.2.3.   It does the same on windows.

My mac test machine is Mojave (latest patches)
M windows test machine is windows 10 (latest patches)

AttachedFile: PRintingTransparentPNGs.zip

**Comments :**    PDFDevice now supports 32 bit colour images with alpha channel.

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| **ID :** | 1830 | **Implemented in version :** | 3.4.4.1 |
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| **Short Description:** | Print in  multi-threaded environment | | |

**Full Description:**    Hello Brainy Data Support Team,
i have got the following scenario: 1st user is printing a long report as PDF. In the meantime a 2nd user prints a shorter report as PDF. When the 2nd user gets the PDF it contains a Page of the 1st users report. The 1st user gets a Omnis error message. I checked the documentation and found here (https://supportpublic.brainydata.com/documentation/html/pdfdevice/Designing%20PDFDevice.html#PDF%20Report%20Object)
that there is a way to print PDFs in a multi-threaded environment, but it does not work for me. I placed the PDF Device Object inside the Header of the Report and filled the $dataname with a row variable which contains all the $getparam(kDevPdfAll) with different FileNames when printing. Do you have any working example for me? Do i have the wrong PDF Device Version?
Thanks in advance
Christian Lachmund

**Comments :**    This issue has been resolved. There was a problem managing an internal chain of open output streams when streams where opened and closed out of sequence within a multi-threaded situation (i.e. Omnis Server use).

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| **ID :** | 1836 | **Implemented in version :** | 3.9.0.1 |
| **Short Description:** | Print multiple Reports into one file in multi-threaded environment | | |

**Full Description:**  Is there a way to print multiple Reports into the same File? Previously it worked with the commands $cdevice.$open() and $cdevice.$close() but after experiencing some problems due to multi-threading (CASE ID:1830) we had to change our code. With the new code only the last printed Report will show in the File. Any ideas?
Thanks in advance

**Comments :**  Dear Christian Lachmund,

Based on the current multi-threading design of PDFDevice, there is no safe way of doing this, short of putting Critical Blocks around your code that prints reports from remote tasks.

However, I agree that the current situation is not entirely satisfactory. I have been looking at using an external SDK feature that was added by Omnis Software for the Omnis PDF device. This feature allows an external device to store a data pointer with the current running task and the device is informed when the task closes so it can perform any tidying up. I could use this feature to link device parameters to the running task, thus removing them from global static space. There may be some performance issues I need to investigate further, but I think this is the right solution.

The downside is that this feature was not intended to be used by other components (it is marked as internal use in the SDK) and although I know how to use it, if I use this feature it will not be possible to use Omnis PDF alongside PDFDevice, especially not from within the same task. This is probably not a problem if a developer wants to use PDFDevice in remote tasks as they are unlikely to than also wanting to use Omnis PDF (especially if I provide the same feature set and more), but it is something I need to further discuss with Omnis Software.

Regarding time scale. I have marked this as high priority and plan to include it in the upcoming minor feature and maintenance release for PDFDevice. Regarding a minor feature patch, I will make this available as soon as I can for you to test, providing talks with Omnis Software go as planned.

Kind regards,
Michael

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| **ID :** | 1852 | **Implemented in version :** | 4.0.0.0 |
| **Short Description:** | Studio 10.2 Port | | |

**Full Description:**

**Comments :**  The studio 10.2 port required some additional changes besides rebuilding the component with a new SDK. Therefore, extra care must be taken when upgrading to this version, i.e. all features that are in use in your library should be tested.

Supported Platforms and Studio versions:
   macOS: Studio 8.1.7.2 through to 10.2
   winOS: Studio 4.3 through 10.2

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| **ID :** | 1856 | **Implemented in version :** | 4.0.0.0 |
| **Short Description:** | New BDPDF Server | | |

**Full Description:**  We have implemented new improved Omnis JS server support for winOS and macOS. Enhancements include new temp file support, printing direct to binary variable, printing multiple reports in server implementation, new server stack save device parameter handling and more. For detailed descriptions please refer to the version 4 documentation at https://supportpublic.brainydata.com/documentation.htm.

**Comments :**