

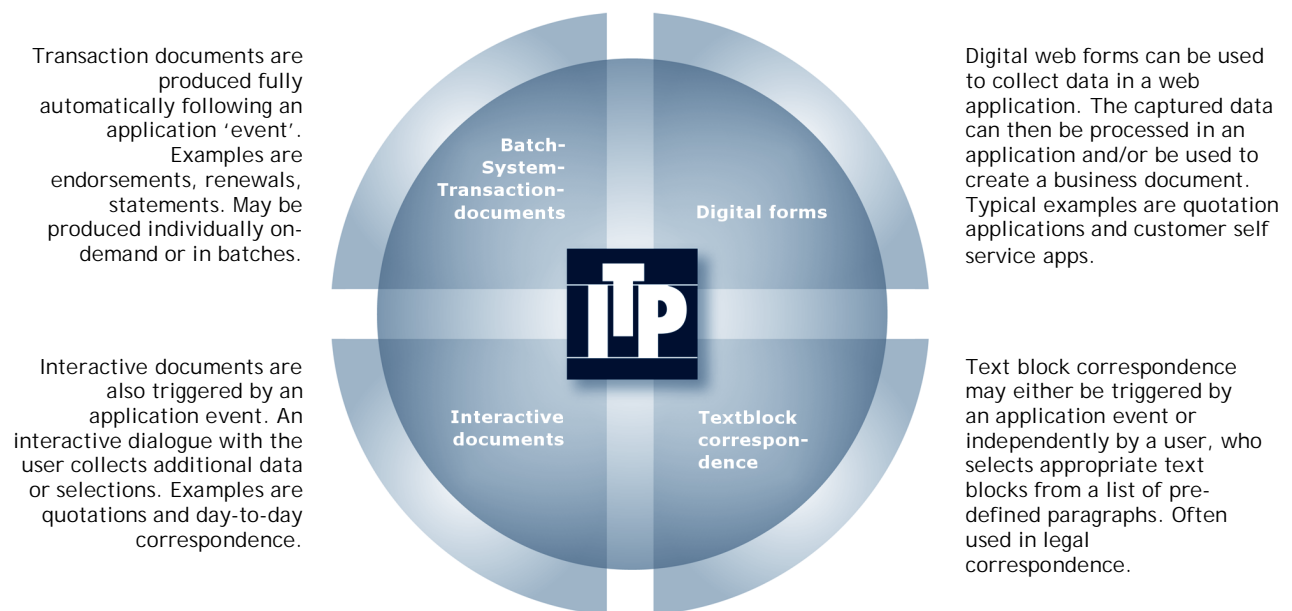
Document Output from SAP® based applications

Many core business processes involve the production of key documentation, such as contracts, endorsements, invoices and correspondence. In fact, we can say that there can be no business without documents. Consequently, many companies constantly seek ways to improve their document production processes and the quality of their documents. To maximize efficiency, organizations need to seamlessly integrate document generation with their core business applications.

One of the primary platforms for business applications is the SAP® Platform. Inevitably, there is a need to produce documents based on SAP data. SAP's own output solution, SAP SmartForms, is aimed at reporting and standard forms - not at producing mainstream documents and associated interactive correspondence.

ITP: Standard Software for Document Output from SAP applications

Aia Software is the producer of ITP: Intelligent Text Processing - software for the automated creation of business documents and correspondence. ITP is designed to meet the demands of today's businesses and it supports the four document production methods listed in the following diagram:



All four of these document production methods can be run on the same ITP Document Platform - using the same technology.

Aia Software's ITP and SAP business applications

ITP can be seamlessly integrated with SAP business applications. This means that SAP business data is re-used and that the document creation process is fully integrated with the SAP application. A Web Services interface is available to integrate the document generation process and to collect data using the SAP Exchange Infrastructure (XI). ITP/OnLine Server has received the SAP Powered by NetWeaver® certification, meaning that document generation applications can be seamlessly integrated with your other SAP NetWeaver portal applications.



The ITP Document Platform

Flexible

ITP's document design capabilities are extensive, combining the flexibility of a word processor-based development environment with the means to develop business rules of any complexity.

The system is fully server-based and the user-interface runs in a browser. An advanced repository system is available to develop, store and manage ITP model documents (super templates.) Document modeling does not require programming skills; trained end-users can manage ITP model documents.

Output Formats

Documents can be produced in all popular formats, ranging from native word processor format, PDF and email to printing formats such as PCL, PostScript and AFP. ITP is equally well equipped to produce mass output, for example, hundreds of thousands of insurance renewals or statements in batch as it is equipped to interactively produce complex business documents.

Certain documents may require user editing; ITP produces standard word processor documents that can be edited in word processors e.g. Microsoft Word or OpenOffice.org.

What about Mendocino?

Microsoft and SAP have announced their cooperation in the Mendocino project, aimed at connecting SAP applications with Microsoft Office. Today, Mendocino's focus is on managing corporate data from user desktops via Outlook and Excel but does not offer any Microsoft Word integration. Future Mendocino developments will most likely include Word functionality as well at which point ITP will be able to integrate with Mendocino.

Example applications:

1: Municipalities and Getronics PinkRocade

Independent Software Vendor Getronics PinkRocade supports Dutch municipalities and other decentralized public organizations. Their line of applications is SAP-based. Their users create documents such as tax assessments, correspondence and birth-certificates directly from their SAP applications using ITP. Over 100 Municipalities are using this solution on a daily basis.

2: IKB Leasing

IKB Leasing, based in Germany runs SAP software for their core business processes. Their solution includes a bespoke-developed leasing module using SAP-Workbench. This process heavily relies on ITP, creating 3,000 business documents per day. Examples are leasing contracts, correspondence, invoices and proposals. Authorized business users manage the content of the ITP models (super templates.)

*SAP NetWeaver is a trademark or registered trademark of SAP AG in Germany and in several other countries



The ITP Document Platform

ITP/OnLine Server: Advanced browser-based document production

ITP/OnLine Server is a web-based document creation and distribution solution that supports office workers in creating complex correspondence and other business documents. With its browser-based user interface and its use of API's, it can easily integrate with any business application and use data from any database.

ITP/Workstation: Document production based on PC word processors

ITP/Workstation is used for the creation of individual, interactive documents on a workstation. Typical examples are letters from a correspondence system, customized quotations, certificates, and statements.

ITP/Server: Server-based document production

ITP/Server is a server-based solution for running ITP automated documents to produce business communication. It can be used as a controlled batch environment or as an on-demand document production server. Typical examples are renewals of insurance policies, mass mailings, reminders, yearly statements and individual documents that are produced on demand but that do not require rich interaction.

ITP/MDK Repository: Model Document Library

The ITP/MDK Repository is a client-server application that provides a complete management and development environment for ITP model documents (templates). The server provides secure multi-user access to a central database that stores documents, building blocks and ITP models. The client application offers a structured view on the objects within the database. Documents and models are organized in projects and folders. This single view provides insight into the relationships between the objects.

ITP/SDK: Software Development Kit

The ITP/SDK allows for the development of ITP database descriptions. The definitions in these descriptions link the data fields in your model documents to the actual data retrieval implementations.

About Aia Software

Aia Software is the leading global supplier of Intelligent Text Processing software (ITP) for the production and distribution of business-critical document output based on application data. ITP solutions can easily and seamlessly be integrated into existing IT infrastructures. Aia Software delivers its services through an integrated network of branch offices in North America, the United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland and Australia. ITP business partners all over the world have qualified ITP consultants, trained to support customers with the installation and implementation of ITP for the creation, assembly and delivery of their professional documents.

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