HTML2PDF & ZUGFeRD

HTML2PDF is an application which uses the embedded Edge WebView2 control to allow users to click a button to convert HTML pages to PDF files with using eDocPrinter post-processing functions like Prompting SaveAs Dialog with Destination control (Merge by Append to/Insert Before), Stamping Watermarks, Applying Encryption, Overlaying with PDF templates, Digitally Signing, Sending by Email, Uploading to Cloud, and etc. Rather than printing as images directly from Chromium based browsers (like Chrome or Edge), the HTML2PDF conversion keeps all text information (selectable) using embedded fonts.

System requirements:

HTML2PDF requires Microsoft Edge Webview2 control (using the same Edge browser engine), which are pre-installed within latest Windows 11/10 with the Edge browser. Users click the HTML2PDF shortcut or run the html2pdf.exe in the installed directory as illustrations attached. Browse a webpage or local html and click to ribbon buttons to convert HTML to a PDF file.

Embedded commands:

HTML2PDF supports detecting embedded commands (in a specified CSS class or plain content) in HTML files directly. It supports workflow automation by embedded commands as normal applications like document editors including Word/Wordpad/Text Editors, ERP/CRM/Excel/SQL/Database report applications, but not limited to. The commands detection in HTML files by matching CSS classes gives advantages on keeping HTML layouts when converting to PDF files.

[HTML as a template] - When the option [HTML as a template] is turned on, the HTML file opened will be treated like as a mustache/handlebars template. When converting to PDF, it will use the data source provided to populate variables (merging fields) to render the template to a HTML page for saving as a PDF file. It supports JSON as the data source format. When the option [HTML as a template] is turned on, embedded commands in the HTML template can contain the variables (fields) in the mustache/handlebars syntax, i.e. {{}}. These commands like other parts of the HTML template will be rendered using the JSON data source first before processing and converting to the PDF file.

ZUGFeRD mode:

In ZUGFeRD mode, HTML2PDF supports converting to PDF e-invoices compliant with ZUGFeRD/Factur-X by embedding the factur-x.xml by embedded commands or attachments from UI. It also support using zx commands in the HTML to populate variables and fields for dynamically instantiating the factur-x xml template.

[HTML as a template] - When the option [HTML as a template] is turned on, the HTML file opened will be treated like as a mustache/handlebars template. When converting to ZUGFeRD PDF, it will use the data source provided to populate variables (merging fields) to render the template to a HTML page for saving as a PDF file. It will automatically load the factur-x xml template using the same filename as the HTML but with .xml file extension. The data source will also be used to populate the variables (merging fields) to render it as a compliant factur-x.xml for embedding into the result ZUGFeRF PDF file.

It supports JSON as the data source in the [HTML as a template] mode. When converting to PDF, users can input the data source by JSON format for populating the variables in the template HTML and XML. By this way, it is not necessary to use the zx. commands to embed fields values in the HTML file. The flow will automatically embed the factur-x.xml rendered into the PDF file converted from the HTML rendered by the data source. (JSON2HTML, JSON2XML)

ZUGFeRD Form App:

[HTML2PDF App Mode]

The app mode for html2pdf.exe (by Edge Webview2) requires html2pdfPlugin interface defined in the app's HTML/JS pages for working with the html2pdf.exe and eDocPrinter post-processing. It demonstrates the flexibility and extensibility of Html2PDF. Users may save as to customize the Html/JS app by using standard/popular web dev tools.

[ZUGFeRD Form App by HTML2PDF]

A simple and intuitive ZUGFeRD invoice form app (by html/js) is available for directly filling, editing, or adding items in the HTML2PDF App Mode. Users can run the shortcut [ZUGFeRD Form] from Windows Start menu of eDocPrinter or directly by the command line

'html2pdf.exe --zug' to open html2pdf in the ZUGFeRD form app mode. Users can fill and then print to create ZUGFeRD compliant PDF invoices.

[ZUGFeRD Form App by HTML2PDF- Adding items & Auto calculating]: In the ZUGFeRD invoice form app, users can directly click the + button in the form to add a new line item with specifying the product description and unit price. The total amount and VAT will be calculated automatically when filling the form.

[ZUGFeRD Form App by HTML2PDF- Logo]: In the ZUGFeRD invoice form, users can directly click the logo image to upload a new image as the logo or drag&drop an image to the logo to update it.

[ZUGFeRD Form App by HTML2PDF- Comments]: In the ZUGFeRD invoice form, users can add extra comments or information in the optional field under the payment terms.

[ZUGFeRD Form App by HTML2PDF- Creating ZUGFeRD PDF]: In ZUGFeRD invoice form app, users can directly click [Create ZUGFeRD] ribbon button to convert the form into a ZUGFeRD compliant PDF file. When converting to ZUGFeRD PDF, it will use the data fields in the form to calculate and generate the factur-x.xml to embed in the PDF created.

[ZUGFeRD Form App by HTML2PDF- Customization]: In the ZUGFeRD invoice form, users can directly modifying the form content and data, e.g, the seller's and buyer's info, directly in the UI. After editing, users can save the form as a new HTML template for convenience. Next time, users can select the user customized form app page from the ribbon toolbar as a new app.

[ZUGFeRD Form App by HTML2PDF- factur-x.xml]: When converting to ZUGFeRD PDF, it will automatically load the factur-x xml template using the same filename as the app html page but with .xml file extension. (e.g. index.xml/app.xml) The data fields filled will be used to populate the variables (merging fields) to render it as a compliant factur-x.xml for embedding into the result ZUGFeRF PDF file.

