

Configure PDF IFilter in WSS 3.0

There are various posts around on setting up MOSS 2007 to use the PDF IFilter, and some stuff on Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 as well. I've found a method which works for me, so I wanted to put this together in one place – not least of all so I can find it when out on site with a client.

Out of the box neither WSS 3 nor MOSS 2007 will index content located in Acrobat PDF files, so you need to set up the IFilter. I've also found that that PDF files loaded prior to the installation of the filter won't be re-crawled automatically, so to be on the safe side you might want to kick off a full crawl.

Here is what I've found works for WSS 3.0:

1. First, you need to download the Adobe PDF IFilter 6.0, which you can find at this URL. You should also get hold of a suitable Icon to use with PDFs, so that when they are listed in a document library they are easily recognisable. There is a 17 x 17 one available on the Adobe web site here.
2. Once you've downloaded the IFilter, install it on your WSS 3.0 server, and then follow the instructions on registry settings in Microsoft KB Article 927675. I've always found that providing the Adobe IFilter installed properly, the only setting I need to add is the Search Extensions one listed in step 2. Also note step 5 re stopping and re-starting the search service.
3. Now you need to set up the Icon file. If you downloaded the icon file in step 1 above, you will have a file called pdficon_small.gif. You need to copy this onto your WSS 3.0 server, into drive:\Program Files\Common Files\Microsoft Shared\Web Server extensions\12\TEMPLATE\IMAGES.
4. Next you need to edit the XML file which WSS uses to link file extensions to icons. This file is called DOCICON.XML and is located at drive:\Program Files\Common Files\Microsoft Shared\Web Server extensions\12\TEMPLATE\XML. Navigate to that folder and locate the file. I would suggest making a backup copy first, then opening the file in NotePad. You need to add a mapping key for PDFs at the bottom of the file, above the </ByExtension> closing tag. The new key will be **<Mapping Key="pdf" Value="pdficon_small.gif" OpenControl=""/>** (note that XML is case sensitive so make sure you use same case as previous entries). Then save the file.
5. That's pretty much it, but if you already have PDFs uploaded to your WSS server I would recommend starting a full crawl. You can do the with STSAdm, the command syntax is **Stsadm -o spsearch -action fullcrawlstart** .

No Adobe PDF Documents are Returned in the Search Results when you Search a Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 Web Site

SYMPTOMS

Consider the following scenario. You search a Microsoft Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 Web site for content that is located in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) documents. However, no PDF documents are returned in the search results. You experience this symptom even though the content that you search for is located in PDF documents in the Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 Web site.

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CAUSE

This issue occurs if the Windows SharePoint Services Search service in Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 is not configured to crawl PDF documents.

RESOLUTION

Important: This section, method, or task contains steps that tell you how to modify the registry. However, serious problems might occur if you modify the registry incorrectly. Therefore, make sure that you follow these steps carefully. For added protection, back up the registry before you modify it. Then, you can restore the registry if a problem occurs. For more information about how to back up and restore the registry, click the following article number to view the article in the Microsoft Knowledge Base: 322756 How to back up and restore the registry in Windows

To resolve this issue, make sure that the Windows SharePoint Services Search service is configured to crawl PDF documents on each server on which the Adobe PDF IFilter is installed. To install the Adobe PDF IFilter and to configure the Windows SharePoint Services Search service, follow these steps:

1. Download and then install the Adobe PDF IFilter from the Adobe Web site:
2. Add the following registry entry, and then set the registry entry value to **pdf**:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Shared Tools\Web Server  
Extensions\12.0\Search\Applications\<GUID>\Gather\Search\Extensions\Ex  
tensionList\38
```

To do this, follow these steps:

- a. Click **Start**, click **Run**, type **regedit**, and then click **OK**.
- b. Locate and then click the following registry subkey:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Shared Tools\Web Server  
Extensions\12.0\Search\Applications\GUID\Gather\Search\Extensions\E  
xtensionList
```

- c. On the **Edit** menu, point to **New**, and then click **String Value**.
 - d. Type **38**, and then press ENTER.
 - e. Right-click the registry entry that you created, and then click **Modify**.
 - f. In the **Value data** box, type **pdf**, and then click **OK**.
3. Verify that the following two registry subkeys are present and that they contain the appropriate values.

Note: These registry subkeys and the values that they contain are created when you installed the Adobe PDF IFilter on the server.

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Shared Tools\Web Server  
Extensions\12.0\Search\Setup\ContentIndexCommon\Filters\Extension\.pdf
```

This registry subkey must contain the following registry entry:

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Name: Default

Type: REG_MULTI_SZ

Data: {8315BA54-B69F-4275-AE11-31CB6359EB09}

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Shared Tools\Web Server
Extensions\12.0\Search\Setup\Filters\.pdf

This registry subkey must contain the following registry entries:

- **Name:** Default
Type: REG_SZ
Data: (value not set)
- **Name:** Extension
Type: REG_SZ
Data: pdf
- **Name:** FileTypeBucket
Type: REG_DWORD
Data: 0x00000001 (1)
- **Name:** MimeTypes
Type: REG_SZ
Data: application/pdf

4. Upload the PDF documents to the Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 Web site.
5. Stop and then start the Windows SharePoint Services Search service. To do this, follow these steps:
 - Click **Start**, click **Run**, type **cmd**, and then click **OK**.
 - Stop the Windows SharePoint Services Search service. To do this, type **net stop spsearch** at the command prompt, and then press ENTER.
 - Start the Windows SharePoint Services Search service. To do this, type **net start spsearch** at the command prompt, and then press ENTER.
 - Type **exit** to exit the command prompt.

Note: If the Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 Web site already had PDF documents before you installed the Adobe PDF IFilter on the server, you may have to perform an additional step. After you install and configure the Adobe PDF IFilter on the server, modify a property of the existing PDF documents on the server. For example, modify a metadata property such as the title, or upload the PDF documents to the Windows SharePoint Services Web site again. When you do this, the Windows SharePoint Services Search service crawls the existing PDF documents again.

You can find the GUID in the registry by searching for the Adobe filter DLL. To do this, follow these steps:

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1. Click **Start**, click **Run**, type **regedit**, and then click **OK**.
2. Search for "acordif.dll."
3. You should find one of the following subkeys:

```
HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\CLSID\{8315BA54-B69F-4275-AE11-31CB6359EB09}\InProcServer32
```

```
HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\CLSID\{E8978DA6-047F-4E3D-9C78-CDBE46041603}\InProcServer32
```

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