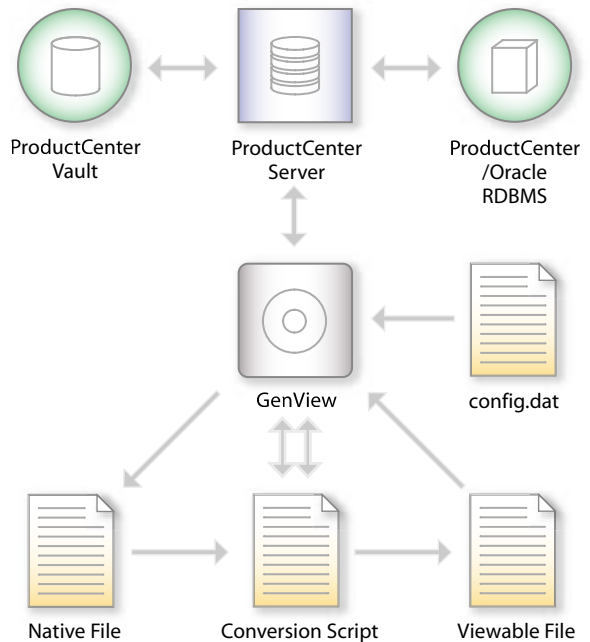


ProductCenter™ GenView™

Automatically Generate a Viewable Format of Any File from ProductCenter™

Typically, you'll have a larger number of people that need to access your product data than those that actually create it and not everyone has access to the authoring application to access needed information. SofTech's **ProductCenter™ GenView™** automates document conversion into common viewable file formats, such as Adobe® PDF (Portable Document Format), on demand or automatically in response to an event, such as product release or at a prescribed time of day.

In turn, these viewable files can be viewed by any authorized employee, on any platform, without the need of the more costly authoring application. Take an example where a programmer wants to view a manual written in Microsoft® Word on a UNIX-based system where Word is not supported. ProductCenter GenView can generate a PostScript® file of the manual, store it in ProductCenter and associate it with the original Word document. Then anyone, including the programmer on the UNIX system, can view the manual using a free PostScript viewer such as Ghostscript™. As a result, with ready and secure access to current and complete information at any time, communication and collaboration are enhanced to accelerate product delivery.



ProductCenter™ GenView automates viewable file generation to extend the reach and therefore, maximize the value of your product information.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Automates viewable file generation from a query, list, or in response to an event such as file check-in or product release**
- **Maximizes product information value, putting current information at the fingertips of users where and when they need it**
- **Links viewable files to the original and all other associated documentation managed in ProductCenter**

Benefits of Automating Viewable File Generation with ProductCenter GenView

Generating Viewable Files is Automatic

You simply provide ProductCenter GenView with a list of files or a search criterion and it quickly generates, adds, and links the viewables to the original files. For utmost convenience, you can set GenView to

run automatically after a ProductCenter event, such as when a user adds, checks in, or alters a file, or when a user submits, approves, or disapproves a file.

Create Viewables One at a Time, From a Query, or in Batch Mode

You can create a viewable file on demand from a single input file named on a command line or via a query, for example, to create a viewable file of each drawing file modified in the past week. You can also automatically generate viewable files from a list file specified on the command line that ProductCenter GenView opens and processes in batch mode. This can be done at pre-determined intervals, for example, on a nightly basis.

Generates a File You Can View

ProductCenter GenView provides the infrastructure to get copies of all required source files, then invokes a customer supplied third party

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IMPROVE THE MANAGEMENT OF DATA THAT DRIVES YOUR PRODUCT SUCCESS...

application to perform the conversion, and next stores the viewable. For example, if you use *ProductCenter™ Pro/Engineer Integrator* and want your users to have access to Pro/Engineer® drawings, you could create a script that uses *Pro/Batch* to convert the Pro/Engineer drawing to a PostScript® file. Then use a second utility, such as *ps2pdf* (a freeware utility provided with Ghostscript), to convert the PostScript file to a Adobe® PDF file.

Simple to Set Up

Before using ProductCenter GenView, you set up a configuration file with information on the user, the ProductCenter database, the classes to search, your working directory, and the conversion program you want to use. After that, simply execute GenView with the name of the configuration file and any optional command-line parameters and GenView does the rest.

Easy Customization

You can quickly change the parameters in the configuration file at any-time to address the changing needs of your users. Or create additional configuration files if, for example, you have more than one database or you want to copy different attributes to different file types.

Copy Attributes from the Original file

You can select the attributes you want to copy from the original file to the viewable file. You can select common and custom attributes, or user-defined attributes.

Copy Permissions from the Original File for Security

Using the configuration file, you can select the types of permissions you want to copy from the original file, granting access permission to one or more users or to groups.

Retrieve the Original File from Another System

By default, ProductCenter GenView adds and retrieves the original files to and from ProductCenter. However, you can use another script or executable to add or retrieve a copy of the original files to or from another product management system.

Run Scripts Before or After GenView Runs

You can create a script to clean out your working directory before ProductCenter GenView starts or notify users that certain viewable files are ready after GenView finishes. Environment variables are available for any script you use with GenView so that you can retrieve the files by name, type, and attribute or change the name and class of the output file.

“People are able to retrieve convenient PDF viewables of what they need, when they need it, and be guaranteed it’s the latest, correct revision.”

■ Gregg Wilder,
Kollsman Manager of Design Engineering

Keeps you Informed

You can gather information in a log file and choose what the level of information you want to display.

ProductCenter™

SPECIFICATIONS

Version: 8	Web Client: Netscape®, Microsoft® Internet Explorer.
Client: Microsoft® Windows® 2000/NT/XP, Sun Solaris™, HP-UX	Web Server: iPlanet™ Web Server, Microsoft® Internet Information Server, Apache™ Web Server
Server: Microsoft® Windows® 2000/NT, Sun Solaris™, HP-UX	Database: Oracle®



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