

Em Software Releases Popular Database Publishing plug-ins for CS4

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Em Software are pleased to announce the release of the InData, InCatalog and Xtags plug-ins for Adobe InDesign CS4. The popular database publishing products have previously been available for InDesign CS through CS3 and as XTensions for QuarkXPress - Xdata, Xcatalog and Xtags - from version 3.0 and higher.

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InData is a document building tool that bring the full layout, design, typographic and picture publishing power of InDesign to bear on all data-driven repetitive publishing tasks. InData works like a "mail merge on steroids." Users write simple text statements to import and format their text and graphics. Then, InData's menu-driven tools, in a few clicks, build documents at hundreds of pages per hour.

InDesign's typographic controls can be used for each variable field and for any intervening text, to get just the right look for a user's data. InData has a powerful English-like scripting language. Users can put any field from their data source in any order in the text flow, force page breaks, generate headers/footers, apply master pages as needed and more.

InData's scripting language can be used to build simple or complex rules for including or excluding fields, pictures and static text. And there are no limits on data: records and fields can be as many and as long as needed. InData is perfect for product catalogs, financial and legal reports, conference guides, abstracts, real estate guides, trader and swap magazines, classified advertising, timetables, phone books, educational course listings, TV guides and much more.

InCatalog is powerful bi-directional linking tool for creating transparent links between documents and databases. With these links in place, users never have to enter or update their data in two places (documents and database), but can simply update one or the other from the most current version. InCatalog is used to update prices, graphics, or product information and even to change versions or swap languages automatically. With InCatalog, users can be assured that their documents will always reflect their latest database contents.

Once links are established with the the easy-to-use linking tool, changes can be made either in the document or the database, and the changes pushed in the other direction with no extra work. (No intermediate steps such as report creation and extraction are needed.) InCatalog's intuitive linking palette can be used to establish links between any database element and any document text element, from a single character to a phrase to a paragraph to a whole story, or any picture element. With pre-linked modules in libraries, users can drag a module, fill in a key value in one link, and watch InCatalog fill in the whole module interactively.

Using InCatalog, users never have to worry again about whether they've gotten all the price changes before a big catalog release, or whether, in the last-minute rush to get the catalog out the door, they've forgotten to update a few prices in the database that were updated in the document. Users can define any number of price styles per publishing project using full tagged text for arbitrary formatting, and apply styles per-link. InCatalog's links are invisible to a printed layout (but visible while users are working).

Linked elements can be moved between documents freely without loss of linkage.

Users can enable tagged text support for any given link, to capture the full InDesign Tags document formatting of any data element. InCatalog can be used to update pictures, automatically resizing them to fit their destination frame in various ways, or to be left sized as-is. And users can direct InCatalog to their picture folders, using aliases/shortcuts in their project control folder. A "fuzzy lookup" can be enabled which even finds picture files with filename prefixes or file types/suffixes.

Users can script all of InCatalog's updating operations under Mac OS or Windows for powerful workflow automation and InCatalog can read and write the full Unicode character set (that InDesign supports), in various encodings including UTF-8.

Xtags is a powerful import and export text filter supporting the full Quark XPress Tags language plus its own extended tags, for even more document-building power. With Xtags, users can build any text content with full styling (the same as XPress Tags), anchor and fill picture and text boxes, build and fill unanchored boxes, size picture contents to containing boxes, size boxes to content (text or picture) in various flexible ways, translate text and tags on input, use macros to reduce typing, apply master pages and spreads, and more.

For output, Xtags will save the contents of any text story, including anchored text and picture boxes, and will also save the structure and content of any selected text, picture or group boxes. Xtags is perfect for picture-based data publishing, books, classified ad building, code conversion, and much more.

InData, InCatalog and Xtags for InDesign CS4 and earlier versions, as well as Xdata, Xcatalog and Xtags for QuarkXPress, are available now through Em Software. Phone: toll-free (US) 877 984 1010.

Em Software:
<http://www.emsoftware.com>

Em Software, Inc., founded in 1990, develops, markets, and supports data-driven publishing plug-ins for QuarkXPress and Adobe InDesign. Em's tools bring all the layout, design, typographical and picture publishing power of the two major desktop publishing applications to all data-driven repetitive publishing tasks, enabling highest-quality, hands-off building (and later updating/extracting) of: directories, phone books, price lists, financial reports, catalogs, conference guides, abstracts, real estate guides, trader and swap magazines, classified advertising, and much more.

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