

## Case Study ... PCL to PDF Conversion for NCS Pearson

### The Customer

*NCS Pearson provide innovative ideas and intelligent solutions to the data collection requirements of companies, government and educational institutions.*

*They provide the products, services, and technologies that customers in education, government, and business rely on to make their lives easier.*

### The Contribution

*NCS Pearson needed a tool which could convert printer output files from a software application into PDF files, to improve printing and provide for electronic distribution. THINKKronicity used the Python language and the ReportLab package to develop a flexible tool to meet this need. The tool runs on a server allowing users to send files for conversion, then get on with other work while the conversion is performed.*

*The PDF outputs are automatically enhanced, by:*

- *Adding a company logo to each page.*
- *Moving the table of contents from the end to the beginning.*
- *Adding blank pages to enhance layout.*
- *Adding bookmarks for easy on-line viewing.*
- *Adding document information.*

*The tool is readily configured through an XML configuration file.*

*Also, by utilising open source software and using a server based implementation, licence costs were minimal.*

### The Result

*This tool has not only enhanced the appearance of the printed reports, but has also provided compact electronic reports and saved many hours of manual handling by re-ordering the pages ready for client distribution.*

*The simplicity and reliability of the tool, combined with the ability to deliver the required throughput, ensure that this tool will continue to add value to NCS Pearson operations for years to come.*

*"We are extremely happy with the solution provided by THINKKronicity. We are now able to provide clients with a faster and more reliable product which better meets their needs. The ability of THINKKronicity to understand our requirements, recommend and implement functionality beyond our initial brief, and act as 'virtual' internal resource has been a great strength."*

*... Mr Mark Davis, State Manager Victoria -  
Market Research Services, NCS Pearson Pty Ltd.*

### The Quote

NCS Pearson

### The End

*Addendum: When the Market Research division of NCS Pearson was sold off to form I-view Pty Ltd this application was transferred as well and continues to be used to convert reports to PDF. So far the application has been running for over 7 years.*