



## Add plain paper OMR and image-based data collection into your application software

ScanTools® Plus Link software development kit (SDK) now offers the optional ScanFlex™ module, which accommodates scanning forms printed on plain paper. The ScanFlex module is designed to be used in conjunction with the optional PrintFlex™ module of NCS Design Expert™. This gives you the flexibility to print forms designed using NCS Design Expert on a local printer, printing as many forms as you want, whenever you want. ScanFlex adapts to the less tight printing tolerances of local printing and is designed to be used with OpScan iNSIGHT™ 2/4 scanners.

The primary function of ScanTools Plus Link SDK is to efficiently and seamlessly integrate both OMR (optical mark read) and image-based scanning functionality into applications you have developed. This software represents the latest in creative data collection from Pearson NCS and is compatible with all Pearson NCS scanners. With ScanTools Plus Link SDK you can collect traditional OMR data and, in a single pass through the scanner, capture and archive important images for later retrieval and review.

With every product, Pearson NCS brings experience, value and commitment to the development of new hardware and software—assuring speed, accuracy, and ease of use.

### A Snapshot of ScanTools Plus Link SDK Features

- Clip and capture images
- Link captured images to scanned OMR data
- Read machine- and hand-printed numbers via ScanTools Plus and Real Time OCR™

- Event-driven asynchronous scanning
- Auto-configure software to match that of the scanner
- Use built-in scanner diagnostics
- Suppress or replace error messages
- Access your data files during scanning

### One Convenient Tool—Two Types of Data

Customers who have used earlier versions of our Link SDK software for embedding OMR data collection into software applications, will be glad to know that this version of ScanTools Plus Link SDK has the same accuracy, functionality, and flexibility of earlier versions.

The added benefit is that now you can also gather critical, related images all in a single pass through the scanner. You can:

- Use all of the traditional OMR data collection tools you've come to rely on in your ScanTools Link SDK software. This includes grid definition and rotation, and edit/conversion profiles.
- Clip comment sections on surveys, short and essay answers on tests, and signatures on documents, and tie them back to OMR data.
- Read machine- and hand-printed numbers from scan forms to identify students, groups, or employees. The Real Time OCR (optical character recognition) module allows you to validate and correct questionable characters.

## Easy-to-Use Interface

ScanTools Plus Link SDK software is built using a convenient Microsoft® component object model (COM) architecture. Customers who are upgrading from earlier versions of ScanTools Plus Link can easily develop replacements for their user exits.

## Sample Programs

Sample programs are included in the software for assistance in developing your own application.

- VB.Net samples that include a scanning utility, data file editor, and scanning configuration utility, demonstrate how to collect OMR and image-based data.
- A sample program with implementations in Visual Basic® 6.0 and Visual C++ 6.0, which demonstrates how to collect OMR data only. This sample has code to configure a scanner and scan forms, as well as view and modify the contents of a data file.

Additional sample programs are posted on the Pearson NCS support Web site as they become available.

## For Pearson NCS Authorized Value Added Resellers

When you include ScanTools Plus Link SDK with your custom application software, your end users benefit too. They'll get more efficient, accurate data collection available only by using Pearson NCS software and scanners. And they will be able to tap into the full range of benefits and functionality associated with the software's OMR and image-based data collection capabilities. In addition, your customers will be able to add custom scan forms with minimal programming effort.

## Increased Efficiency

Because ScanTools Plus Link SDK is the most sophisticated, easy-to-use OMR and image-based scanner interface programming product, you'll be able to more efficiently develop and customize end user applications. This means you'll have more time to sell to and support your customers. Plus, your customers will be more likely to upgrade from an older OMR scanner to full-featured Pearson NCS image-based scanning solutions.

## System Requirements:

### *PC Hardware*

- Pentium® processor – 866 MHz minimum
- Minimum system memory of 128 MB (256 MB recommended)
- Minimum hard drive free space of 650 MB (1GB recommended)
- Video adapter with 24-bit color (65K colors minimum)
- Monitor at 1024 x 768 resolution
- CD-ROM drive for installation

### *Operating System Requirements*

- Windows NT® 4.0 (Service Pack 6a)
- Windows® 2000 Professional (Service Pack 4)
- Windows XP Professional (Service Pack 2)

In addition to these options, use of the Data Services features requires MDAC 2.8 (Service Pack 1) to be installed. The OLE DB supports OLE DB v2.5 and ADO v2.5.

### *Development Platforms Supported*

Applications may be developed using any development platform that supports Microsoft COM components. Supported platforms include:

- VB 6.0 (Service Pack 6)
- VC++ 6.0 (Service Pack 6)
- VB.NET
- Visual C#

Pearson NCS' engineering and production processes for data collection systems and forms are ISO 9001 certified.



Pearson NCS  
1313 Lone Oak Road  
Eagan, MN 55121

Phone: 651-683-6000  
Toll-free: 800-447-3269  
Fax: 800-347-7226

All non-U.S. inquiries  
Phone: + 651-683-6346  
Fax: + 651-683-6301

PearsonNCS.com  
info-ncs@pearson.com