

 Key Functions for Comparison		V7 FormTrap	V8 FormTrap	Other System?			Comments
					Key		
Server (Enterprise Edition) under Windows 2012, includes ALL functions		Yes	Yes				How-FormTrap-Server-works.ppsx
	VM Partition	Yes	Yes				
	64-Bit	No	Yes				V7 is 32-bit programs run in a 64-bit Server
	Does not poll, entirely INACTIVE in the absence of data	Yes	Yes		*		
	Fully recoverable (unless printing overlaps with data transmission to the printer)	Yes	Yes		*		
	Special "batch" mode for huge volume jobs, effectively check point recovery	No	yes, ask		*		This is specified, customer or prospect required
Program (Small Business Edition) under Windows		Yes	Yes				
	Runs as a program, rather than Server, identical functions, layout, menus						
	Cheaper, with options for email, fax, archive (these are all included no charge with Enterprise)						
Linux Implementation, Red Hat or Debian (for system vendors only)		yes, ask	yes, ask				V8, system authors only
Input Methods, use any to all of these, in combination					*		
	LPR/LPD as a virtual printer	Yes	Yes				
	Shared Folder	Yes	Yes				
	Pipe	Yes	Yes				
	Quick Data Entry Session submission to FormTrap Server (QDE - see further down)	No	Yes		*		V8, QDE are auto-generated .net data entry forms
Input Formats to FormTrap XML (XML is the FormTrap intermediate format)					*		
	No changes required to your output (we have yet to be stumped)	Seldom	Yes				V7 handles most inputs, filter if not
	XML Conversion to FormTrap XML	No	Yes				
	Text files - any format, to FormTrap, incl:	Seldom	Yes				V7 handles most inputs, filter if not
	Linux, Unix, Windows	Yes	Yes				
	AS/400	Yes	Yes				V8 processes directly incl. CC controls
	Mainframe files	Yes	Yes				V8 processes directly incl. CC controls
	From PDF via PDF to Text interpreter	No	Yes				
	Regular Expression (RegEx) logic is applied across all input data recognition functions	No	Yes		*		You have programming ability DIRECTLY WITHIN forms
	Type of Document (FormTrap Server handles mixed document files)	No	Yes				V7 requires a file with common documents
	Elimination of subsequent page headers and inter-page connectors	Basic	Yes				V7 does this, separate function
	Record type within a document	Basic	Yes		*		V7 does this, one records required per optional area
	Areas within a record (allows "sometimes there, sometime not" areas, incl. comments)	No	Yes				V8 has areas within records, meaning all data handled in one record
	Formatting of data fields from original to XML, dates with month literals, amounts	Basic	Yes				V8, ICU (International Conventions for Unicode), includes translation
	Inclusion of arithmetically defined variables and formula (muParser)	Yes	Yes				V8, full-featured, powerful arithmetic muParser included
	Optionally concatenates repeated data (header comments, comments, serial numbers)	No	Yes				V8, outstanding for Comments and Serial Numbers
Intermediate format					*		Huge impact as this allows FormTrap to move with your system
	XML as an intermediate format	No	Yes				Common format REGARDLESS of the input version or vendor
	Identical XML files from varying inputs for different version and supplier input files	No	Yes				On a change in Vendor, ONLY the data extract is impacted
	Can send .XML to recipient (statements, POs) to re-process	No	Yes				Sending XML allows receiver to re-use your data
Forms and Formats							
	Runs in UTF-8, handles any language data incl. Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Thai	Yes	Yes		*		One system for ALL of your markets, from one site
	ERP and Accounting systems have these as features of their forms				*		V8, many of these will be missing in competitive systems
	Background (all pages)	Yes	Yes				Define common content - your logo, company name, doc. No.
	First Page Header (optionally different to subsequent pages)	Yes	Yes				Full "other party" and "common for the document" details
	Header Comments (optional)	Yes	Yes				These appear on the first page header "above" details
	Subsequent Page Header (Page 2 to last, optional, normally less data - context only)	Yes	Yes				These save space, use just for context (eg just Ship To Name)
	Document Page Footer (last page only - Totals)	Yes	Yes				Reserve space for totals only on the last page
	First page totals (optional, often with Checks/Cheques and remittance tear-off)	Yes	Yes				First page total for a check (cheque) and for Telco bills
	Duplex (with optional Page 2 footer opposite the Check/Remittance tear-off)	Yes	Yes				Checks (cheques) and other have a part-printed initial page
	Intermediate Page Footer (see below - Carried Forward)	Yes	Yes				Something like "Continued on Page 2"
	Multiple detail records	Yes	Yes				
	Carried Forward (with running totals)	Yes	Yes				Running total(s) may be calc'd. and printed
	Brought Forward (with Running Totals)	Yes	Yes				Running total(s) may be calc'd. and printed
	Multiple Detail Header (Bill section)	Yes	Yes				Telco bills have multiple sections, each with their own header ...
	Multiple Detail Footers (section totals)	Yes	Yes				... and trailer, which may include section totals

	Variable height (any of the above except Background)	No	Yes			V8 allows for "sometimes there" data (eg Header Comments)
	Details may split across pages - clauses, serial numbers, other long text items	No	Yes			V8 splits "deep" data across pages (eg serials, comments)
	Optional Leading Page(s) (e.g. Fax Header) containing document data	No	Yes			V8 allows any number of additional leading pages
	Optional Trailing Page(s) (e.g. Terms and Conditions) containing document data	No	Yes			V8 allows any number of additional trailing pages
	Totalling Reports					
	FormTrap will do these, provided Running Totals are defined	No	Yes			V7 can do this, harder to do
	Graph your figures and display as bar or pie graphs	No	Yes			V7 does not do this
	Bar Codes - output a PDF, print to any Barcode printer using a free Seagull Driver				*	V8 competes effectively with Bartender - no extra charge
	All of the regular barcodes, we'll build if you don't find what you require	No	Free			
	Outstanding routines for UPS/EAN-128 (SSCC Codes)	Yes	Yes		*	Automatic compression, AI's evaluated, doesn't print if wrong
	PDF417 - optional control over Security Level, Columns and element size	Yes	Yes			
	QR barcode - optional control over Version and Error Checking, and Scale	No	Yes			V7 does not have QDE barcode
	Use QDE (Quick Data Entry) to form 'manual' barcodes instantly	n/a	Yes			Equivalent of a GUI barcode program, or via FormTrap Server
	FTLabelPrint (separate program) available if PDFs or Windows Prints required	Yes	Yes			Runs inside the FormTrap server as well as a Windows app.
	Send the PDF to your supplier and have him print and apply to YOUR goods	Sep. prog.	Yes			V8, PDFs directly from FormTrap Server
	Insurance and Contracts				*	Justify, indent, multi-fonts/sizes/colors/highlights, page split
	Letter writing - AS/400 inputs	Yes	Yes			
	Handles user-set direction to a printer for each document	Yes	Yes			
	Contract formation - load your clauses into the Lookup Tables, format as required	Yes	Yes			V7, each clause in a substitution file
	Clauses multi-level indented, justified, include data elements into a clause	Yes	Yes			V7, substitution file has set indents
	Split contract clauses over page boundaries	No	Yes			
	HTML letter with PDF copy, renewals, linked web references & renewals	No	Yes		*	V8, HUGE printing and postal savings available, for ever
	Promotions and Web Selling				*	New funding sources and ROI
	HTML Email with Web References	No	Yes			V7 has no HTML facilities
	Structured (table-type) outputs of specials and products	No	Yes			
	QDE (Quick Data Entry) - automated data entry screen from FormTrap Form design	No			*	Stand-Alone or integrated V8 function for ANYTHING keyed
	Remote/Stand Alone @ \$US 150 per computer per year	No	Extra Cost			
	Email Express - use for standard emails, promotion, customer kudos and complaints	No	Yes			Appears as a fully-constructed response, in seconds
	Debtors letters, any other ultra-rapid letter formation, invoices, orders, etc	No	Yes			
	Full arithmetic for calculation, extension, discounts, GST/VAT calcs.	No	Yes			
	Numeric variables (eg GST or VAT Rate) from external Lookups	No	Yes			Allows inter-country or inter-state or inter-city variation
	Full lookups for paragraphs, products, suppliers, ship to etc.	No	Yes			
	Output is an identical XML files to FormTrap - use with or without FormTrap Server	No	Yes			Use FormTrap Server for guaranteed delivery and archive,
Outputs - Formatted documents						
	All languages, including Chinese, Japanese	Yes	Yes		*	
	Includes formatted month names in any language conversion, amounts to any convention	No	Yes		*	V8, International Conventions for Unicode Dates, translate
	Includes amounts to any convention (eg €1 234,56)	Yes	Yes		*	V8, International Conventions for Unicode Amounts
	One text object may contain many fonts, sizes, colors, highlights, styles	No	Yes			V8 full "word" style formatting, down to single characters
	Suppression of missing data and data literals	No	Yes			V8 suppression based on a single flag or individually via RegEx
	Conditional color selection and highlighting via RegEx	No	Yes			V8 fixed as well as Conditional selection via RegEx
	RegEx formatting of output using complex, multiple rules	No	Yes		*	V7, simple rules
	Alternate value for Output based on RegEx rules (eg Lookup-up Product Description, if present)	No	Yes		*	V8 RegEx for complex conditional printing (eg saluation)
	Print PCL5	Yes	No			Version 8 drops PCL5 (many vendors no longer provide PCL5)
	Print PCL6 (PCLXL) and PostScript	Yes	Yes			
	PDF (direct, searchable), these special version outputs available:	Image	Yes		*	V8 formats a searchable PDF
	PDF/A (embedded fonts)	n/a	Yes			V7 formats a PDF image
	PDF of minimum size that reads with Gmail, iPhone/iPad, Android	n/a	Yes		*	V8 has options allowing small, searchable PDFs
	Lookups and Substitutions					
	Single lookup file (XML), maintenance program for lookups	No	Yes		*	V7 uses individual .txt files, V8 has Lookup file & Prog.
	Issuing company demographics from a single source	Yes	Yes			
	Replace system product description from lookup (only if a lookup exists)	Yes	Yes			
	Use for translation (eg unit of measure to Chinese from English)	Yes	Yes			
	Use for delivery (eg customer number to Email address)	Yes	Yes			
	Contract clauses, output indented, justified	No	Yes		*	
	Variables may be included in lookup entries	No	Yes		*	Allows looked-up paragraph or clause to include data

	HTML coding (bold, font, color, size, etc.) may be included in lookup entries	No	Yes	*	Ideal for HTML output
	Split details across page boundary (contract clauses, serial numbers, products, comments)	No	Yes	*	V8, essential for contract clauses
	Email, plain text and/or HTML	Plain	Both	*	V8 has outstanding Email formats, incl. HTML tables
	MAPI	Yes	Yes		
	SMTP (incl. Exchange)	Yes	Yes		
	Gmail, Yahoo, others (TLS/SSL)	No	Yes	*	V8 includes TLS/SSL Email to Gmail, Yahoo, others
	Include other print or email documents automatically (typically product data sheets)	Yes	Yes	*	V8, build the entire document set, including covering letter
	Fax				
	Windows Fax Service	Yes	Yes		
	e-Fax	Yes	Yes		
	(proprietary fax - extra cost)	Extra Cost	Extra Cost		
	Delivery logic (multiple RegEx rules based on examining data for selective output)	Simple	Yes	*	V8, RegEx for delivery decision making, based on data content
Archive					
	Folder (multi-level, auto-built, eg ..\RB Smith\Accts\2015-16\Inv 175661 2016-06-13.pdf)	Yes	Yes	*	
	FormTrap Archive, extra cost, (may also be used outside of FormTrap, user-set indices)	Extra Cost	Extra Cost		Both have auto FireBird archive, use archive outside of FT
Your Own Programs run in FormTrap Server		Yes	Yes	*	
	Any programming language suitable for FormTrap Server computer	Yes	Yes		
	Input Filter (modifies input)	Yes	Yes		
	Output Filter (e.g. stapling)	Yes	Yes		
	Application (your program) runs as a service in FormTrap Server	Yes	Yes	*	Does not return control to FormTrap Server
On-Going Development		No	Yes		V7, bug fixes and changes due to Windows only
	FormTrap has been in continuous development for 20 plus years				V8, development is ongoing to remain always current
Available soon and in Development					
	QDE from part constructed FormTrap XML files, allowing manual intervention at production time	No	Yes		V8, Debtors Letter paragraphs based on Statement data

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