Registry settings

Introduction

eDocPrinter PDF Pro supports multiple printer profiles in the multi-user environment natively. Each eDocprinter instance has its own per-user settings stored in HKEY_CURRENT_USER and default global setting in HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE with its corresponding printer profile name.

The specific printer profile HKCU and HKLM setting are stored in

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles\[Profile Name]\
and
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles\[Profile Name]\

correspondingly, where the [Profile Name] is the printer instance name.

For example, the printer "eDocPrinter PDF Pro" has its per-user settings in
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles\eDocPrinter PDF Pro

Administrators can deploy MUST settings on per name-value basis or apply FlagProhibitHKCU policy in a specific property page subkey in HKLM to enforce specific profile settings for all users. In addition, administrator can also apply FlagProhibitHKCU policy in a specific property page subkey in HKLM to hide the property page showing from all users. Since Ver 6.80 build 6067, administrators can deploy MUST settings on per name-value basis in HKLM to all eDocPrinter instances for all users.

Instead of utilizing GPO (Group Policy) to deploy settings to all Windows systems or users, centralized settings could be achieved by remote registry settings from a specific server. A special registry setting [RemoteRegSever] can be set as a server name or IP address for reading settings from a remote server's HKLM. When enabling this feature (it requires ADV pack license), the eDocPrinter instance will load the global default settings, per-profile MUST settings, and all-profile MUST settings from the remote server's HKLM instead of the local machine.

Where settings of printer profiles stored

Generally speaking, each user has its own setting in his HKCU. The default global settings are stored in the HKLM of the Windows system. HKCU settings will override the global settings unless there are MUST settings defined in the corresponding subkey in HKLM. Each eDocPrinter instance has its own profile settings in the corresponding profile subkey in each user's HKCU.

For example:
The settings for all edocprinter instances of the current user are stored in
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles

The global default settings for all edocprinter instances of are in
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles

Each eDocPrinter profile instance has its settings in the subkey of the same as the printer instance name. For example, the default [eDocPrinter PDF Pro] printer of the current user has its settings in **HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles\eDocPrinter PDF Pro**

When users modify setting from the property pages, it will save settings in its corresponding profile subkey in HKCU. When administrators use PropAdm to modify global default HKLM settings, it will save in the corresponding profile subkey in HKLM.

For example, if an extra eDocPrinter instance called [My ERP PDF printer] is created by the administrator,
Its per-user settings will be in
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles\My ERP PDF printer
Its HKLM default settings will be in
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles\My ERP PDF printer

For office addin settings, there is no multi-profile entry. These settings are stored in per-user (HKCU) and HKLM registry entries like below.

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Word Addon
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Excel Addon
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\PowerPoint Addon

The 5.0 is a fixed entry. It is not related to the version of eDocPrinter.

Default settings

Each eDocPrinter printer instance has its own per-user profile setting in HKEY_CURRENT_USER and its global per-machine profile setting in HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE. The global default settings for all users are stored in the HKLM of the Windows system as stated. The current user settings will override the default settings from HKLM.

MUST settings

Due to HKCU settings will override the default settings from HKLM. Administrators may enforce per name-value setting by adding MUST settings for a specific printer profile or all printer profiles. For example, administrators may add a MUST "eDocPrinter PDF Pro" profile like:
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE \Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0*MUST*\Profiles\eDocPrinter PDF Pro

Administrators can then add name-value pairs for storing mandatory settings for the specific property page in the corresponding subkey in this MUST profile. These mandatory settings will be enforced when loading property pages or printing jobs to avoid any changes by users.

In the following example, administrators add the 2 name-value pairs in MUST registry entry to force encrypt the PDF files created for the eDocPrinter PDF Pro printer instance.

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE \Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0*MUST*\Profiles\eDocPrinter PDF Pro\Security
EnableOwnerPasswd   True
OwnerPasswd   *****

As a summary, MUST settings will override HKCU settings. This MUST profile approach is available since Ver. 6.16 build 3902. It supports for storing mandatory name-value settings for a specific printer profile. From Ver. 6.80 build 6067, administrators can deploy MUST settings on per name-

value basis in HKLM to all eDocPrinter instances for all users. As shown below, adding value True of the setting CmdAutoDetect in MUST\Links will force all eDocPrinter instances turning on embedded commands detection.

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE \Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0*MUST*\Links
CmdAutoDetect   True

This MUST approach is different from the FlagProhibitHKCU policy, which disables reading HKCU settings for the whole property page (subkey), e.g., "Security" or "Email". By this approach, administrators can set mandatory profile setting in per name-value basis. Administrator can enforce some necessary specific settings instead of disabling reading the whole property page settings in HKCU. Users are still able to modify other values not specified in the MUST profile registry.

Administrator can just force a specific entry to be False instead of disabling reading the whole sub-category settings in HKCU. As before, the profile settings in HKLM are global default settings. The profile with prefixed \MUST\ in HKLM will be the mandatory settings. By default, it will not affect old settings since there is NO MUST entries set in HKLM.

Combined with group policy, administrators can deploy MUST settings as registry values to group of computers defined. In addition, administrators may centralize MUST and default settings to read from remote HKLM registry in the remote server specified by RemoteRegServer.

Export and import settings

Users can import and export its eDocPrinter instance settings or specific profile settings from the corresponding Windows registry entry. Users can use export and import functions from the File menu of the Windows regedit.exe to backup and restore profile settings. For example, the registry key path for storing profile settings of the printer instance [eDocPrinter PDF Pro] is

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles
Its corresponding key path for storing default HKLM settings is
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles\

Window reg.exe can be used as a command line to export and import profile settings. This is useful for automatically backing up and restoring settings. The following examples exporting and importing profile settings by reg.exe command line:

Exporting the current user settings of all eDocPrinter profiles:
```
C:\>reg export HKCU\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles\ c:\backup\allreg.txt
```

Exporting the current user settings of a specific eDocPrinter profile:
```
C:\>reg export "HKCU\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles\eDocPrinter PDF Pro"
c:\backup\defaultedoc1.txt
```

Importing setting from a backup setting file:
```
C:\>reg import c:\backup\allreg.txt
```

[
Windows regedit.exe:

Window regedit.exe can be used as a command line to export and import profile settings. This is useful for automatically backing up and restoring settings. The command line example for export settings is like

C:\profiles>regedit.exe /e c:\profiles\exp1.txt
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles

Importing setting from a backup file:
C:\profiles>regedit.exe /s c:\profiles\backupreg1.txt
]

In addition to the regedit.exe, administrators may need use addprn.exe (in eDocPrinter installed directory) to create edocprinter instances for silently deploying or migrating instances with settings to new systems. For example, administrators can run the following command line to add a new printer instance,

C:\eDocPrinter PDF Pro>addprn azm "edocpdf1" "edocport1"

where "edocpdf1" is the printer profile name and "edocport1" is the printer port name, which is optional.
In Ver 7, users can also call addprn32.exe to export and import settings.

(1) Export settings of edocprinter profiles: (available since Ver 7.03 Build 7109)
addprn32 ge "the file path" "edocprinter name" HKCU/HKLM

For example, the command line
C:\>addprn32 ge "C:\backup\hkcu1.txt" "eDocPrinter PDF Pro" HKCU
will export the current user's "eDocPrinter PDF Pro" profile settings to the file path assigned.

(2) Import settings of edocprinter profiles: (available since Ver 7.03 Build 7109)
addprn32 gi "the file path of profile settings"

For example, the command line
C:\>addprn gi "C:\backup\hkcu1.txt"
will import the registry settings in the file.

FlagProhibitHKCU

The entry "FlagProhibitHKCU" is a special name-value setting for forcing the whole subkey (property page) settings to be read only from HKLM. The per-user settings in HKCU will be omitted when this flag is set. For example, by setting the special flag "FlagProhibitHKCU" to "True" in

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE \Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles\eDocPrinter PDF Pro\Security

it will enforce the driver to read only global settings from the corresponding key entry in HKLM when showing property pages or printing jobs. Since Ver. 6.16 bulid 3902, a MUST setting approach has been added to support enforcing per name-value mandatory settings. Unless necessary, it is not recommended to use FlagProhibitHKCU since it will not load user settings at all. Please use MUST profile settings instead.

FlagProhibitShowPage

The entry "FlagProhibitShowPage" is special name-value pair for hiding property pages in the printer preferences UI dialog. For example, by setting the special flag "FlagProhibitShowPage" to "True" in

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE \Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles\eDocPrinter PDF Pro\Security

it will hide the property page of Security. As a result, users cannot modify or viewing the specific property pages which are hidden. Administrators can use the PropAdm utility to set this value.

PropAdm

"PropAdm" is a simple Windows utlity providing a simple user interface for Administrators to control the global settings of eDocPrinter PDF Pro for multi-user environment in HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE (a.k.a. HKLM). Hence users have to own Administrator permission to run this utility to changing settings in HKLM.

This utility provides showing property pages with settings in HKLM instead of the HKCU. Hence administrators can assign the default settings in HKLM in UI directly without using editing the registry directly.

By the proprietary flag of FlagProhibitHKCU, administrators can force all users must use the settings from HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE and cannot override them from the user interface by their own settings in HKEY_CURRENT_USER. Since Ver 6.16, we recommend administrators using "MUST" profile settings for per key-value enforcement instead of "FlagProhibitHKCU". Currently, administrators have to manually editing the registry for adding using "MUST" profile and its per-key value settings.

For the special Watermark category, the settings in HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE are for mandatory settings. That means administrators can force the global watermark be printed to all PDF documents created from all users in the machine. For example, administrators can force all PDF documents printed with a company logo with a hyperlink to company website.

After installation, "PropAdm" will be installed in the same directory as eDocPrinter PDF Pro by default. There is a shortcut in the "eDocPrinter PDF Pro" group in "Windows -> Start -> Programs".

RemoteRegServer setting

Since Ver 6.24 build 4398, a special setting "RemoteRegSever" can be set to as a server name or IP address for loading settings from a remote server's HKLM. When enabling this feature (it requires ADV pack license), the eDocPrinter instance will load the global default settings, per-profile MUST settings, and all-profile MUST settings from the remote HKLM registry which is in the remote server specified instead of the local machine.

RemoteRegServer can be enabled on per printer instance or all printer instances depending on the configuration.

For example, setting

RemoteRegServer
to
"Server name"
in
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0
will enable remote registry policy for all eDocPrinter instances.

Or enable this feature for a specific eDocPrinter profile by adding

RemoteRegServer
to
"Server name"
in a specific printer profile
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\ITEKSOFT\eDocPrinter\PDF\5.0\Profiles\[Profile name]

Administrators can also change this value by PropAdm. It requires the "Remote Registry service is turned on in the remote server. In addition, this feature requires the local workstations have permission on reading the server registry. Normally, it requires workstation is logged in the active directory and administrators may need to add "Software\ITEKSOFT" key in HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\ SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\ Control\SecurePipeServers\winreg\AllowedPaths in the server for allowing other workstations or machines to read the centralized settings of eDocPrinter because ordinary users account may not have permission to remote reading the HKLM registry. (Please refer http://support.microsoft.com/kb/314837/ for more details.)

It may induce some side-effects if network connection failed or time-out. For example, if enabling RemoteRegServer, but the network connection failed or the server is not responding. In such cases, it may take 20~30 seconds trying to connect before timeout. (i.e. showing property pages may delay due to this time-out period) This timeout behavior is from Windows system for loading networking resources.

When enabling this feature (requiring ADV pack license), the eDocPrinter will load the HKLM default settings and HKLM MUST settings from the remote server HKLM instead of the local machine.

Administrators may also utilize the GPO (Group Policy) to force the HKLM settings for group computers without using RemoteRegServer.

Mandatory watermark and global watermarks settings

In addition to per-user watermarks defined in HKCU, administrators can create predefined watermarks in default setting of the printer profile in HKLM to allow all users to view and select predefined watermarks. The watermarks defined in HKLM profile will be automatically shown in the watermark list with a prefix "Global\" in the watermark page in the all user accounts in the machine.

In addition to the global watermarks, administrators may enforce stamping a global watermark for all PDF created if WatermarkEnable is True in the profile settings in HKLM. In such case, the WatermarkSelected defined in the profile setting in HKLM represents the global mandatory watermark. These settings are separated from embedded commands or registry settings in HKCU. Users can also stamp extra watermarks no matter the mandatory watermark is enabled or not.

Administrators can define global watermarks for selecting without worrying about users modifying since these are defined in HKLM. By this method, administrators can enforce mandatory watermark stamped for all PDF files created for document tracking or similar purpose. For example, administrators may have a mandatory company logo stamped on all PDF files created. Or administrators may force to have some invisible watermark stamped on all PDF created for automatic document post-processing.