

CASE STUDY

Aspose.Words for .NET Case Study



modul**acht**

ModulAcht e.K.

Using Aspose.Words for .NET to convert from DOCX to PDF.

Robin Saberi, CEO, 14.04.2014

About ModulAcht

ModulAcht is a software development team which creates individual software for small businesses. Mostly we develop web applications including web UI and web-services. But we are also familiar with Windows Forms and Windows Services applications based on .NET.

Problem

For our main customer, we are developing the operating system they will use to administer the buying and selling of cars. With a need to generate documents easily, one of the main requirements was to have an easy-to-use template system.

Solution

As DOCX is an well-known file format which can be read and modified by many editors we decided to use DOCX as the import format, where content-controls can be used as placeholders.

The template engine can then be used to fill the placeholder with appropriate content and save the resulting file as a DOCX document. In a second step, the DOCX template will be converted into PDF format. After getting the template engine ready to use, it turned out that the conversion would be the main challenge. One of the components we had tested was Aspose.Words for .NET from Aspose which unlike some others does its job as expected.

Figure 1: The Template

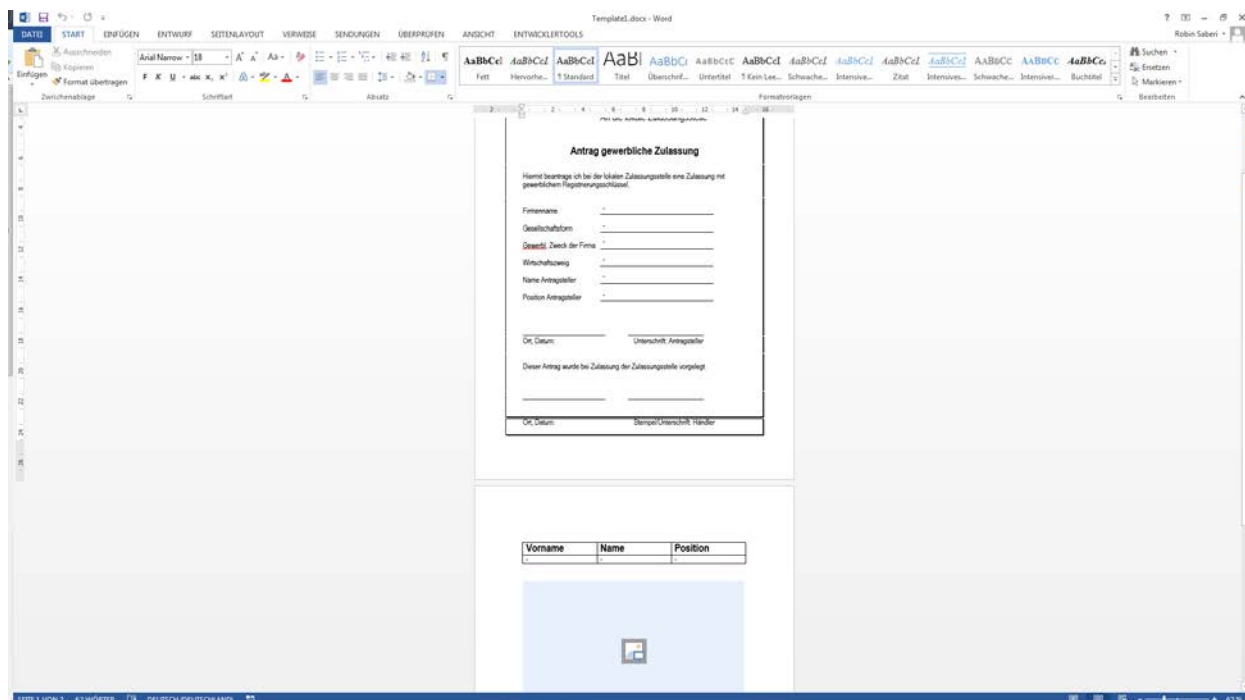


Figure 2: Placeholder replaced

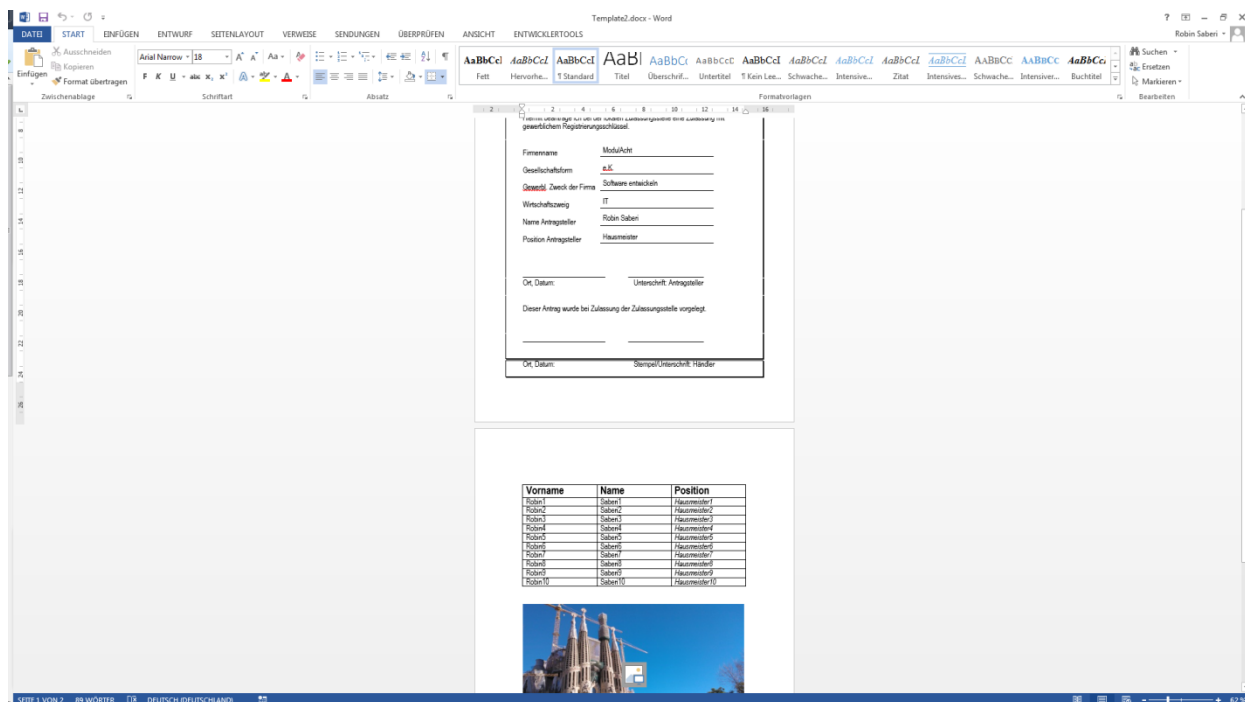
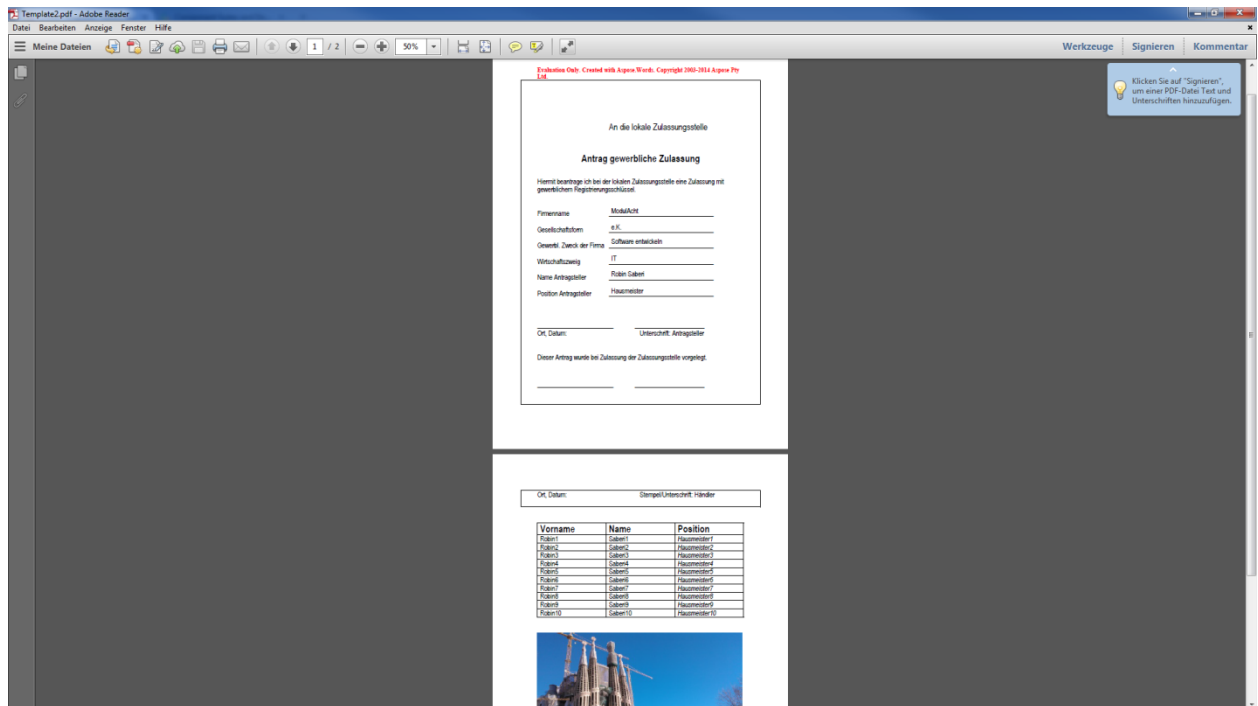


Figure 3: Resulting PDF



Experience

Finding a solution: We searched on the internet for DOCX to PDF converters, which is not as easy as it sounds. After filtering all the Interop wrappers only a handful of components remained to be tested. At the end only Aspose.Words for .NET created a result which really looks like the input DOCX. The really quick and competent support of Aspose helped us to solve some initial problems.

Implementation: Aspose.Words for .NET was the 4th component we tested. On our development machine, everything worked great, but after moving the code on to our test-server-machine, the resulting PDF did not look like the original DOCX file. Adjusting the settings didn't help so we decided give the support team of Aspose a try. After a short discussion in the live chat we started a new thread including a description, the input and the output file, in the Aspose.Words forum. Within less than 24 hours one of the support-team member told us that we would have to check whether the font we used in the DOCX file was available on the server machine, which it was not. After changing the font, the whole PDF looks exactly the same as the DOCX file.

Outcome: Choosing Aspose.Words for .NET meant an intuitive and easy to use software component and also getting a really friendly and straightforward software partner which is ready to help if you need help.

Next Steps

After getting our Test-Driver ready we will implement the template engine in our customer's software. Aspose.Words for .NET functionality will be used on many different places in this software to convert files into the PDF format.

Summary

A software which is doing its job, a friendly and competent support team and an obliging sales man... Testing any other component means to waste time!