






Getting started with FineLine PC PrintForm

Download & install the **server software for UNIX**

- ▶ Click on the **Download** button at the top right of the PrintForm web page to go to the PrintForm download page.
- ▶ Click the appropriate link for your UNIX operating system (SCO OpenServer 5 or 6, SCO Unixware 7, Linux, or IBM AIX) and specify the folder into which the downloaded file should be saved.
- ▶ Move the downloaded file to your UNIX system, preferably into the /tmp directory.
-  Moving a file between Windows and UNIX is usually accomplished with FTP, a shared folder, or our FineLine PC DataPipe software. If you do not know how to move a file from your PC to UNIX, contact your system administrator.
- ▶ Once the downloaded file is on your UNIX system, as the superuser, decompress it with one of the following commands, substituting *pfm00r00* with the name of the downloaded file. Note that the end of the filename must either be an uppercase Z or a lowercase gz depending on the type of file that was downloaded:
 - .Z Extension:** `compress -d /tmp/pfm00r00.Z`
 - .gz Extension:** `gunzip /tmp/pfm00r00.gz`
-  Once the file is decompressed, the filename no longer ends in .Z or .gz
- ▶ Make the file executable by typing: `chmod 755 /tmp/pfm00r00`
- ▶ Execute the installation program by typing: `/tmp/pfm00r00`
-  Installation of this software on a system which already has the package installed will not affect any existing data or settings; it will just update the programs.
- ▶ Run the **server configuration program** command as the superuser: `flform -config`
-  Documentation detailing the configuration program settings and the UNIX design / preview / print commands is displayed by pressing ? at the server configuration menu.

Getting started with FineLine PC PrintForm (continued)


Download & install the **client software for MS Windows**


-  The UNIX server software must be installed and licensed (with either the limited evaluation or a full purchased license) before the PC client can be executed since a valid network connection between the PC and UNIX server is required.


- ▶ Click on the **Download** button at the top right of the PrintForm web page to go to the PrintForm download page.

- ▶ Click the link for MS Windows (2000, XP, Vista, or later) and specify the folder into which the downloaded file should be saved.

- ▶ Run the downloaded installation program by double-clicking it, and answer the installation prompts. When the PrintForm software starts and the connection dialog is displayed, enter the IP address of the UNIX server and either your name or a description of your PC, and click the “*Save/Connect*” button.

-  The Windows installation program will need to be run on every PC that will use the PrintForm software.

-  Each PC to use PrintForm must have its network PC name registered in the server software (from the UNIX configuration menu). If an unregistered PC tries to connect to the server, an error is displayed on the PC and an entry is added to the registration table listing the PC name, IP and date so it can easily be authorized by the UNIX server’s system administrator and the PC can simply connect again.

-  A PC error about being unable to connect indicates that either the PrintForm UNIX server software is not installed, an incorrect UNIX server IP was entered on the PC, or a firewall is blocking the connection between the PC and the UNIX server.

An introduction to the 3 PC programs


The FineLine PC PrintForm package consists of the following 3 PC programs:


1. **Tray Connect** - This is the program that resides in the system tray (the area in the lower-right of your screen, next to the clock). This program starts each time the PC is rebooted and connects to the UNIX server, waiting for commands. A number of options are available from a menu displayed when the PrintForm tray icon is right-clicked, including shutting it down (i.e. disconnecting from the UNIX server), connection configuration, PC printer assignment, and license information (*About...*).

-  Double-clicking the PrintForm icon on the desktop starts this program.

Getting started with FineLine PC PrintForm (continued)


- 2. Screen Preview & Print** - When a command is run on the UNIX server to either display a form / text report / PDF or to print it directly without user interaction, this program performs the task.


 This program cannot be started directly on the PC; it is only started by the UNIX server issuing a print command.


 This program requires that the PrintForm Tray Connect program is running and is connected to the UNIX server, and that the PC is registered to use the software.


- 3. Form Designer** - The graphical form designer provides the ability to modify existing form layouts or create new forms “from scratch”. Since not every user should have the ability to modify form layouts, the UNIX configuration program is used by the system administrator to control what users are authorized to access the form designer.

Since FineLine PC PrintForm is designed to extract text from current UNIX reports and place it on modern graphical forms, designing forms is usually accomplished by executing a UNIX command to open the designer on a PC with a specified matching UNIX report, so the areas linking the text on the form to the report can be viewed and modified in the designer. Details on this and other UNIX PrintForm commands are available in the *Server Documentation* option on the UNIX server configuration menu.

 If you have permission to design forms, you can edit an existing form layout directly from the PC without requiring a UNIX command to be run by right-clicking the PrintForm connect program icon in the tray, selecting “*Open Form Designer...*”, and selecting the form from the list that is displayed.

 Accessing the designer directly from a PC as explained above disables the ability to modify links to the UNIX report since no report data is displayed. Also, since no report text is available, the text objects in the form will all be empty, drastically reducing the “What You See Is What You Get” preview ability of the designer. This option should only be used when changes to shapes, static text, or static graphics are required.

 The form designer requires that the PrintForm Tray Connect program is running and is connected to the UNIX server, and that the PC is registered to use the software.

 The form designer can only be opened once on each PC so any commands to open it a second time are discarded.

 A detailed help system is available from within the form designer from the *Help* menu or by pressing **F1**.