

FaxFinder Client API

Introduction

The FaxFinder Client API provides an interface to automate fax sending using the existing FaxFinder Client. The interface is not an API in the traditional sense (for a specific programming language), but is instead comprised of three Windows command line tools: `ffsend`, `ffstatus`, and `ffabort`. `ffsend` reads a text file describing the fax and submits the job to the FaxFinder Client for sending. `ffstatus` queries the FaxFinder Client and prints status information for submitted fax jobs. `ffabort` allows the user to cancel a fax job. Examples of using the interface are detailed below.

Sending a Fax

Create a send specification file: see format below.

Run `ffsend.exe <spec_file>`

`ffsend.exe` prints a job number to stdout

Capture the job number to use for status monitoring

Returns exit code of 1 on error, 0 on success

Run `ffstatus.exe <job_number>` to monitor status of specific job

Prints status information to stdout

Returns an exit code of 1 on error, 0 if success

If run without options, `ffstatus.exe` will print the status of all known current and past jobs

Specify `"-d <delim>"` option for delimited output using string `<delim>`

The output fields are as follows:

Job Number, Recipient Name, Fax Number, Status Code, Status Description, Status Details

Status Code and Descriptions are:

0, Complete

1, Queued

2, Active

3, Retrying

4, Failed

The Status Details field gives the same strings provided by the GUI client.

Aborting a Fax

Run `ffabort.exe <job_number>`

This will abort all faxes associated with job `<job_number>`. This includes both in-progress and queued faxes.

`ffabort.exe` prints "Aborting job `<job_number>`"

Returns an exit code of 1 if job doesn't exist, 0 if success

Run `ffstatus.exe` to confirm job has been aborted

Restrictions

Requires the FaxFinder Client to be running (`ffsend.exe` submits the fax job to the FaxFinder Client for sending)

`ffabort.exe` aborts an entire job (all recipients)

Only accepts fax-formatted TIFF files for documents

Fax send specification file format

The general format is:

```
---ObjectName  
Field1: Value  
Field2: Value  
---ObjectName2  
Field1: Value
```

Valid object names: CoverPage, Recipient, TiffDocument

CoverPage fields: CoverPageSubject, CoverPageFilename, CoverPageNotes

Required fields: CoverPageFilename -- This should be the name of the cover page style as found in the FaxFinder Client.

Recipient fields: Name, VoicePhoneNumber, FaxPhoneNumber, Organization, Address, City, State, ZIP

Required fields: Name, FaxPhoneNumber

TiffDocument fields: Filename

Required fields: Filename

A send specification file requires a minimum of one Recipient and either a TiffDocument or CoverPage.

The file may contain multiple Recipients and multiple TiffDocuments.

The file format is case-sensitive.

Empty lines or lines consisting of only whitespace are ignored. A line starting with '#' is also ignored (useful for comments).

To generate a multi-line CoverPageNotes field (or any field), a label may be used as shown in the example file. Specifying '<<LABEL' will read all lines until 'LABEL' is found by itself on a line.

Sample send specification file

---CoverPage
CoverPageSubject: A Fax
CoverPageFilename: BoldComplete
CoverPageNotes: <<EndOfNotes

Hello,

Here is your fax.
EndOfNotes

A Comment

---Recipient
Name: Multi-Tech Employee
VoicePhoneNumber: 763-555-1212
FaxPhoneNumber: 763-555-1111
Organization: Multi-Tech Systems
Address: 2205 Woodale Dr
City: Mounds View
State: MN
ZIP: 55112

---Recipient
Name: Another recipient
FaxPhoneNumber: 763-555-2222

---TiffDocument
Filename: C:\faxes\fax.tif